



Image credit: NASA

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Origami, but with Rocks

You say you can fold a piece of paper into the shape of a swan? That's nice. Mother nature can make all of the shapes you see in this ISS image from October of 2017 by folding ROCK!

Most of what you're looking at is part of the Cumbres de Monterrey National Park in the state of Nuevo León, in north-eastern Mexico. The rock itself was formed by the compression of layers of marine sediment during the Cretaceous period (145-66 million years ago), when the area was submerged under ancient oceans. This rock was then folded by tectonic forces during the Eocene period (56-34 million years ago) to create the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range.

Just to the right of image center is the Boca de Potrerillos archeological site, home to some 3,000 petroglyphs. The oldest of these rock engravings is thought to date back to around 8,900 BC.

The light colored area on the far right is Monterrey, considered by many to be Mexico's most culturally diverse and 'cosmopolitan' city.



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