

# How the Giant's Causeway Was Formed - Version 1

As a young boy, Fionn MacCumhaill (Finn McCool) had tasted the Salmon of Knowledge. He was very big and very strong. He was a great warrior and had even defeated monsters!

Fionn was having trouble with a giant from Scotland called Benandonner. They were bitter enemies and Fionn wanted to fight him. So, Fionn started to make a pathway from Ulster to the Isle of Staffa so that he could meet and fight the Scottish giant.

Fionn built his causeway using very unusual stone pillars. Most of them were hexagonal, so they tessellated to make an excellent pathway across the sea. They slotted together like jigsaw pieces.

Fionn, tired from all his hard work, lay down on the completed causeway and fell asleep. Deafening footsteps woke him and when he looked up he saw the huge Scottish giant begin to cross the causeway. The giant was twice as big as he was!

Fionn quickly returned to Ireland where his wife was waiting. He knew the Scottish giant wasn't far behind him and they needed a plan to outwit him! Fionn's quick-thinking wife handed him sheets and a blanket and told him to jump in the baby's cradle. She shaped one of the sheets into a baby's bonnet and placed it on Fionn's head. She wrapped the other sheet around him like a dress and threw the blanket on top. Of course, Fionn's arms and legs were sticking right out of the cradle, but his wife looked pleased with the disguise.

Suddenly, there was a booming knock upon the door and it was taken right off its hinges by the Scottish giant. Running to greet him, Fionn's wife told Benandonner that Fionn was not at home but that she expected him back soon. She invited him in.

As Benandonner entered the house, Fionn's wife asked him to be quiet because the baby was sleeping. She took him over to see the baby (which was of course Fionn himself!). The Scottish giant nearly choked. 'If that's the size of the baby, I don't want to fight the father!' he thought.



Terrified, Benandonner fled from Fionn's house. He ran back across the causeway to Scotland, ripping up many of the stone pillars as he went. He didn't want Fionn to be able to come to his home and challenge him. So, that is the story of how Fionn and his clever wife outsmarted the Scottish giant.

All that was left of the causeway were the stones on the coast of Antrim and some at the end of the path, at the Isle of Staffa. You can still see these amazing stones today.

