Imagine a time before the canyon’s oldest rocks formed. Some of Grand Canyon’s oldest rocks contain fragments of still older rocks.

Imagine looking inside the Vishnu Schist.

The Vishnu Schist was deposited as ocean sediments. Tiny crystals of zircon found within this rock are 3.8–1.75 billion years old. They were transported from distant continents by ocean currents.

You are on the Trail of Time, a geology timeline trail where 1 meter = 1 million years.

Walk left 1.6 km (1.0 mi) to the birth of our planet near Maricopa Point

Walk right 1.1 km (0.7 mi) to Grand Canyon’s oldest rocks, just past Grand Canyon Village.