AMBER.FOSSILS.IM

Which amber?

Official pages name deposits carefully, and keep a younger cousin in view.

Amber is "derived from resin-bearing trees that once clustered in dense, now extinct forests." The names themselves — amber, Baltic amber, fossil resin, succinite, resinite — "have confused as much as they have clarified."

The official story	Official wording
Baltic	The most famous deposit, also called succinite. There is "no definite conclusion about the botanical source." It is "not derived from the modern species of Pinus." An extinct ancestral tree is "probably the only solution."
Dominican	AMNH "houses a very diverse collection of amber fossils from the Miocene of the Dominican Republic."
Cretaceous holdings	AMNH holds about 10,000 pieces from Lebanon (c. 125 Ma), Myanmar (c. 100 Ma), Alaska (95 Ma), New Jersey (c. 90 Ma), and Alabama (ca. 85 Ma). Those are collection ages, not a complete world list.
Copal	AMNH holds Zanzibar copal described as subfossil resin. Official pages place it on a continuum with amber, not behind a single official cut-off date.

A short quiz

1. Do official pages know which modern tree made Baltic amber?
2. What age does AMNH give its Dominican collection?
3. Are the five Cretaceous ages a complete world list?

Answers. No — there is no definite conclusion, and it is not modern Pinus. Miocene. No — they are published ages for AMNH holdings.

Wording from the J. Paul Getty Museum, "What Is Amber?", and the American Museum of Natural History, Amber Collection, checked 18 November 2026. amber.fossils.im is independent of both museums. Typographic sheet: no photographs inside.