



# CRUZIANA

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL-EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK - MONTHLY REPORT

**In this issue:** The first Geo-Hotel in Portugal rise from the boulders of Monsanto – The Landscape Festival 2015 – International Congress of Physical Activity – Orvalho GeoTrail celebrates 10 years – ...and more!



Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/ Hei

## **Geo-stories of our places and people: Montes da Senhora**

Strolling in the fresh gallery of alder trees of the Alvito Stream, the crystal-clear water emanates fresh from the imposing Talhadas Mountain, to following it afterwards during all the year round to the Portas de Almourão Geomonument. Here there's no lack of water, and there's also no lack of impressive horizons in the quartzite ridge, which looks like a gigantic wall. To tell the truth, the Talhadas mountain was a strategic defence for thousands of years, with traces of large defensive structures, the legendary “Buraca da Moura” that highlights the immemorial exploration of the mineral resources or, more recently, and already in Portela da Catraia, the defensive structures of the Defence Lines of Talhadas-Muradal. Built in 1762 during the War of the Seven Years, among them stands out the Fort of Batarias on the Royal Road, which linked Castelo Branco to Lisbon and crossed the Alvito Stream in the beautiful Alvito Bridge, an imposing construction from the 19th century. In Catraia and during the referred period occurred an important battle, the “Alvito Clash”, between the Portuguese troops commanded by the Count of Lippe and the French-Spanish army. Here, pass the hiking trails “Through the Defensive Line” and “Travel across the Bones of the Earth”, which allow us to discover a beautiful olive oil press moved by an enormous water wheel, the colourful lemon groves of Rabacinas or the vineyards of the Catraia Cimeira, three of the main local products, aside from the forest. But it is the delicious cherry that dominates the plateau of Montes da Senhora, west from the Talhadas Mountain. During the Cherry Festival that is held in May, tons of cherries are picked and sold, bringing greater joy to this sunny and airy land. Montes da Senhora spreads itself along the plane in six settlements surrounded by cherry groves and vegetable gardens. Half way between settlements lies the great centenary olive tree, with a perimeter of 6m, and people say that it's the most ancient one of the Beira region, nowadays a living monument of public interest protected by law and protecting the Church of Nossa Senhora do Pópulo.

In this territory of 33,73km<sup>2</sup>, 11 settlements are lived by 748 inhabitants. The Talhadas Mountain, right next to it presents a significant potential for Nature and sport activities. The Castro summit defensive structures easily combine themselves with the 7 forts from the War of the Seven Years to create an archaeological-scenic tour with great interest. Certainly not least important is the local seasonal products organization, which allows providing experiences and flavours that can be extended throughout the year, through promotional festivals for the products or through the certification and trading in new markets with origin quality brand, or even through an offer framed with the local gastronomy.

### References

CATARINO, M.A. – Concelho de Proença-a-Nova.

METODIEV, D. & ROMÃO, J. 2008. Novos dados sobre a estrutura em sinclinal complexo de Vila Velha de Ródão (bordo SW da Zona Centro-Ibérica). Museu Laboratório mineralogia e Geologia, Universidade do Porto, 13: 30-34.



Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/ Hei

METODIEV, D., ROMÃO, J., DIAS, R. & RIBEIRO, A. 2009<sup>a</sup>. Sinclinal de Vila Velha de Ródão (Zona Centro-Ibérica, Portugal): litostratigrafia, estrutura e modelo de evolução da tectónica Varisca. *Comunicações Geológicas*, 96: 5-17.

MONTEIRO, M. & PEREIRA, A. 2008. O Forte das Batarias sobre a Ribeira do Alvito (Proença-a-Nova). *Análise preliminar da intervenção arqueológica*. *Açafa-Online* 1, 75pp.

NETO DE CARVALHO, C. & RODRIGUES, J. 2012. Património Geológico de Proença-a-Nova: caracterização e gestão no âmbito do Geopark Naturtejo. *Açafa Online*, 5: 178-230.

RIBEIRO, O. 1942. Notas sobre a evolução morfológica da orla meridional da Cordilheira Central entre Sobreira Formosa e a fronteira. *Boletim da Sociedade Geológica de Portugal*, I(III), 123-144.

VILHENA, M.A. 1995. *Gentes da Beira Baia – Aspectos Etnográficos do Concelho de Proença-a-Nova*

The Editor  
Carlos Neto de Carvalho  
Scientific Coordinator  
Geologist

Cover: (Project Objectiva: Geopark)



# ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



**1 May- The first Portuguese Geo-Hotel rise from the boulders of Monsanto** The Monsanto GeoHotel School is located in the territory of the Naturtejo Geopark Meridional Meseta. It's the first Portuguese Geopark, taking part in the European and Global Geoparks Network, under UNESCO auspices, extending itself in a territory with 4624 km<sup>2</sup>. It chosen geoconservation, education and geotourism as its priorities, all of them supported in a geological heritage of reference.

In a region with great cultural heterogeneity, the Geology is a unifying element for the territory and is used as a sustainable development strategy of great scale, in a pioneer project in Portugal.

Monsanto, land with millenary history of conviviality with the boulders, preserved a genuine popular architecture, as well as a cultural legacy rich in legends of enchanted Moorish and fabled monsters that live inside the rocks. In this way, the Geomorphological Heritage of Monsanto presents an added value by its Human dimensions, so well known, and natural, which seek to conciliate themselves in the perspective of creating relevant touristic products for Naturtejo Geopark Meridional Meseta.

During the settlement of the village of Monsanto, the existent boulders from the crag were being used for house walls, ramparts and paths. The population has always been living closely with the immense granitic landforms, adapting them or resigning to the space between them, left by the erosion.

The history, present and future of this territory, are relevant reasons for the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco, through its Superior Management School of Idanha-a-Nova and the Municipal Culture and Development Centre to create the GeoHotel School. Allying theoretical formation to practice, in a space filled with authenticity, the aim is to create a motivating environment, to offer a stay with refinement and to disclose the natural and cultural rich heritage. In Monsanto, the Templar nights are linked to legendary fauns, wolf tales, does, gods and goddesses... which announce themselves in several voices, during the trail(s) and charm us. There are interesting trails for all ages; the material and immaterial heritage is unique, which ennobled/ennobles the imaginary of the place. The GeoHotel School of Monsanto as accommodation unit seeks to offer a space that favours the landscape fruition and the region's know-how. It is valued the Innovation and Quality, taking advantage of the matrix richness and with ingenuity and art it's intended to renew, recreate... icons, tales, games, rituals, gastronomy. The GeoHotel School of Monsanto will always be a space where the comfort is present. Let yourself be captivated by this region and unveil all its beauty. It's a natural thing to be inspired by all that awaits you. Additional information and bookings in [www.monsantoghe.com](http://www.monsantoghe.com).

**1 to 2 May– Touristic program by the Naturtejo Geopark.** In the scope of the Divina Santa Cruz Fair of Monsanto 14 tourists organized themselves to know Naturtejo Geopark. They started to meet the town of Penamacor, which is part of Naturtejo Geopark's expansion program, with the geologist Mariana Vilas Boas. She made the introduction to the landscape of the Viewpoint of Quartel Geosite. Afterwards, was followed a visit to the town of Penamacor where they admired the monumental area of the Castle, its imposing Donjon and the landscape greatness that can be sighted from it; the gracious Former Chamber House, constructed above the Town Gate; the strong medieval wall and the Clock Tower; Already beyond walls, they encountered the unique and elegant Pillory and, right below, the magnificent Manueline Gateway of the Mercy Church, an expression of the Portuguese late goth. Descending the narrows streets, they discovered the Saint Tiago Church, which, similar to the Mercy Church, dates back from the XVI century. It's the main temple of Penamacor. In its surroundings can be found some of the town's most interesting examples of civil architecture.

Followed by the guides of the company ActiGeo, they visited after the Thermal Spa of Termas de Monfortinho. In the afternoon, it was the time for the Traditional village of Penha Garcia, to admire the popular architecture, the community oven, the Castle of Penha Garcia and the Viewpoint overlooking the Ponsul River, fulfilling the hiking trail PR3-Fossils Trail. On the next day they strolled in the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha, the ancient Roman City of Civitas Igaeditanorum, through a smooth walk on foot passing by the Cathedral, Pole Press, Roman Bridge, Templar Tower and the Wall. The remaining day was well spent in the Divina Santa Cruz Fair, in the National Monument of Monsanto.



**1 to 3 May – Divina Santa Cruz Fair: Medieval Fair of Monsanto.** The Divina Santa Cruz Fair is back with one more exciting “time travel”, in the Historical Village of Monsanto. It's the return of one of the Country's best Medieval Fairs. Monsanto returns to the Templar Town times and, dressed accordingly, breathes history, tradition and the entire cultural heritage from the considered “most Portuguese village of Portugal”. Hosted by the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality and the Parish Union of Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha, with the support of Naturtejo Geopark, the Fair transport its visitors to the medieval times, in an unique scenery to live and feel the history. The entertainment will happen all the time, with historical recreations, street entertainers, music and dancing, the castle assault, tournaments, medieval market, parades through the streets, fears, witches, revelries, games and small taverns with “foods and beverages”. To enrich this medieval journey are the local population traditional festivities of the Divina Santa Cruz, a true Spring celebration, which offers and excellent opportunity to discover or revisit its ways, costumes and traditions. The Saturday afternoon had the live transmission of the show “Aqui Portugal” (RTP1), live from Monsanto, which was a great opportunity to disclose a little more the Naturtejo Geopark.

**1 to 2 May – Students from Applied Geology and Environment from the Science Faculty of the University of Lisbon in the Geopark.** Around 30 students from the course of Applied Geology and Environment from the Science Faculty of the University of Lisbon made a field trip with the professor Isabel Fernandes and with Carlos Neto de Carvalho focused in the Geology of the Ródão Synclinal. They started by making the new hiking trail of Geology and Archaeology of Ródão, starting from the Rock Art Interpretation Centre. They visited several geosites, from where stand out the Viewpoint of Portas de Ródão and the zoo-archaeological station of Foz do Enxarrique. During the afternoon, they analysed the Variscan Orogeny of the Portas de Almourão Geomonument. In the next day they had the opportunity to make some field studies in the Geomonument area.





**2 May – GeoMorphologies of Gardunha: inspiration and science.** Around 50 hikers ranged the Gardunha Mountain in search for the granite landforms of this Geomonument of Naturtejo Geopark. In an initiative from the Studies Group of Gardunha, with the support of Naturtejo Geopark, the author of the book *Geomorphologies of Gardunha*, António José Conceição, and Carlos Neto de Carvalho guided the group from Casal da Serra, showing what the imagination can see and unveiling the science beyond the imagination. The group lunched among granite boulders and climbed to Castelo Velho, always with an oriented landscape appreciation.



**4, 6, to 8, 11, 13 and 15 May – 2nd Field Trip of the Project Rivers, in Ponsul River, intended for students from the School Grouping of Idanha-a-Nova and from EPRIN.** The students proceeded to the monitoring of living beings and the water quality. The monitors were Arlindo Cardoso, Hugo Oliveira and Manuela Catana. Attended students from 3 classes of the 5th Grade and 3 classes from the 7th Grade from the School Grouping of Idanha-a-Nova and one class of the Agricultural Production from EPRIN.

**7 May – Workshop about Family Tourism in Alcantara (Spain).** In the scope of the transboundary project “Taejo Internacional”, in which Naturtejo Geopark partners, the interested businessman are receiving some training and get prepared to the destination specialization in Family Tourism, for the qualification as “Family Point”. Took place in Alcantara, Spain, the introduction of the project, a primary work line in the Taejo Internacional, where Naturtejo Geopark was represented by Joana Rodrigues. Several businessman associated to the Geopark are committed to push forward with the needed actions to adapt their projects to families, being an added value to the territory to present accommodation, restoration and animation units prepared for this kind of niche.

**8 to 10 May – Program in the historical villages of the Geopark.** A nice couple was followed by the company Geolife to visit the historical village of Monsanto through its hiking trail Boulders Route and the National Monument of Idanha-a-Velha. On the next day, they ranged the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia through the Fossils Trail.

**9 May – Program from CP (Trains of Portugal) through the historical villages.** In the scope of the green programs from CP – Trains of Portugal, 49 people came from Lisbon to Naturtejo Geopark to visit the historical villages. The company Geolife followed the visit.

**9 to 10 May – Program from the Spanish operator Cies Viajes.** The operator Cies Viajes brought 50 Spanish tourists to meet the typical villages of Penha Garcia, Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha. The guide came from the company Ponsulativo, partner of Naturtejo.



**9 to 10 May – Soups Festival of Proença-a-Velha breaks records.** 114 soups in contest are the most recent record of the country's biggest Soups Festival. This 2015 edition of the fair from Proença-a-Velha welcomed thousands of people, during the weekend, and overcome the organization best expectations. In a way of conclusion, the Mayor of the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality and Naturtejo, Armindo Jacinto, stressed that "the population of Proença-a-Velha and all the remaining participants from the region have been making that this event, year after year, grows and projects the name of the Idanha-a-Nova municipality in a national and international level, with the added value of being supported by the products that distinguish it".

The festival encompassed three categories: "Restoration", "Institutions/Associations" and "Particulars", leaving to the visitors, armed with spoon and bowl in their hands, the delicious responsibility of covering the festival area to elect the best festival flavours. The ingredients and seasonings were so diversified as the imagination and talent of the participants goes: fish, meat, vegetables, fruits and mushrooms gave taste to the presented recipes in this healthy competition of flavours, more traditional, or more innovative and creative.

The soups competition took place on the Sunday, but in the day before another record was broken: cooking the biggest soup pan of the entire country! Were more than 100 litres of soup prepared in the fair square and offered to the visitors. The festival was a joint organization of the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality and the Parish of Proença-a-Velha, with the support from Naturtejo Geopark.

One of this year's novelties was the cooperation with the Superior Management School of Idanha-a-Nova (ESGIN) in the election of the best soup in the "Restoration" category.

The host parish introduced 64 soups for contest, number that pleased the parish mayor. Helena Silva thanked everyone that accepted the challenge of participating with a soup and the presence of the many visitors who came to taste the one hundred recipes.

But this fair isn't only about soups. As usual, the Soups Festival matched with a once more exciting Meeting of Accordion and Concertina Players. There were more than one hundred musicians who filled the festival square with music and joy.

The fair is part of the Provere Beira Baixa and was co-financed by QREN, in scope of the program "Mais Centro" and by the European union through the European Development Fund.





**14 May – Field trip in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia intended for the Free School of Raia.** In this activity attended 4 children with ages between 5 and 8 years, followed by their teacher and 2 guardians. The monitor was Manuela Catana.

**15 to 17 May – Program by the Geopark for Viajes Ibersur .** The Spanish operator Viajes Ibersur brought a group of 30 collaborators from the Spanish Coin House to meet the borderlands. With the company ActiGeo they visited the historical village of Monsanto and travelled on boat through the Portas de Ródão Natural Monument. In Vila Velha de Ródão, they visited the renewed Olive Oil Pole Press. At the end, they made a smooth stroll in the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha.

**15 to 17 May – Program “Templar Lands” for Arawak Viajes.** The Spanish travel agency Arawak Viajes brought 52 clients to Templar lands. Guided by the company Ponsulativo, the group started by tasting the traditional gastronomy and by visiting the Historical Village of Monsanto. In the city of Castelo Branco, besides the Castle of Templar origin, they met the medieval quarter, the Episcopal Palace Garden and the museums Tavares Proença and Cargaleiro. The group also went down the Tagus River through the Portas de Rodão Natural Monument. On the next day, it was the time for the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia.



**18 May – Field Trip “Bio and Geodiversity in the Fluvial Gorge of the Erges river, in Segura, for the Kindergarten of the Mercy House of Idanha-a-Nova .** The students met the Terras de Idanha Biodiversity Interpretation Centre, the Fluvial Gorge of the Erges river and the facilities of the Company “Aromas do Valado”. Attended 30 students, followed by 2 educators and an educational assistant. Manuela Catana and Hugo Oliveira were the monitors.





The physical activity is also a strong component of this event with the Nature Sports Fair, the MTB Orienteering Race in Idanha-a-Nova and the International Congress of Physical Activity. In Nisa, in plain Alentejo landscape, will take place the Book Fair, with side cultural schedule. During three weeks, will take place several educational programs and exhibits intended for the schools, as well as the awards of the School Contest devoted for the International Soils Year and the celebration of the World Environment Day. The Festival of the Landscape is inserted in the frame of the European Geoparks Week, recognized by UNESCO, celebrated simultaneously by all the European geoparks, which promote nature and culture connected to the environmental sustainability. Remind that is awaited the approval of the Program «Global Geoparks of UNESCO» by the UNESCO General Conference, in November, after already been approved by its Executive Board in April. You can consult the detailed schedule of this event in the website of Naturtejo Geopark, [www.naturtejo.com](http://www.naturtejo.com).



**22 to 24 May – Festival of Flowers in the Village of Santa Margarida.** The flower celebration appeared this weekend in the streets but it was being intensely prepared for two months now, by the inhabitants of the Village of Santa Margarida, in the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova. The idea was given by the Parish harnessing the arrival of Spring, season that lets the Village of Santa Margarida even prettier. And thus was created the first edition of this fair.

The settlement is known by its small seedbeds made next to each house entrance and with the temperatures rising, starting in April, they're filled with flowers. However, this year, Winter last longer and the flowers take time to blossom. Thus, the population are making paper flowers, in a volume never seen before in the region, with material supplied by the local autarchy.

The Village of Santa Margarida had always a special love for their flowers. When the streets were intervened, the inhabitants took the rows of bricks next to their houses to, in those areas, grow some flowers, mostly rose trees, hortensia or carnation. What started by being a neighbour competition, end up in a trend and nowadays even the Parish offers some flowers to grow. The Flower Celebration is mainly for promoting the village next to those who still doesn't know the charm of the flowery village. The population got the idea. The residents paired up in streets and for almost two months they gathered themselves in the overtime in garages or at their doorsteps to make the paper flowers for the Flower Celebration.

In the center of the village were placed the traditional small taverns with food and beverages.





**23 to 24 May – Cherry Festival of Montes da Senhora.** The Parishes of Montes da Senhora and Sobreira Formosa produce the first cherries to stay mature in all the country and the Cherry Festival gives to the public plenty of choices from several varieties of this fruit. All in a festive environment with small taverns musical and traditional entertainment, craft trades and sporting activities. Hosted exquisitely by the Amigos de Montes da Senhora League the festival allows the producers to sell their delicious cherries, handcraft and live cooked fritters, cherry jam, liqueurs, bread and homemade cakes. On Sunday took place the meeting of folklore ranch groups and a much attended athletics competition, with athletes coming from the entire region. António Cardoso, basket maker and Vasco Dominguez (casinhas de xisto), were the major attractions of the festival, labouring live for the visitors. Group's reception, parades to the festival square, social lunch and shows were the attractions for the Sunday. Many people visited the festival, acquiring the delicious cherries.

**23 May – CP brings visitors to the historical villages.** CP – Trains of Portugal brought a group of 23 persons coming from Lisbon to Naturtejo Geopark. With Geolife they had a tasting of regional flavours in the Community Hoven of Idanha-a-Velha. In the afternoon they visited the Historical Village of Monsanto and made a brief visit to Penha Garcia, which ended with a lunch in Frágua Bar.



**26 May – Field trip “The Fossils of Penha Garcia and the Boulders of Monsanto” intended for the Basic School Dr. Reis Leitão, of Loriga (Seia).** Attended in this field class 27 students of the 5th and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade from the Basic School of Loriga, followed by 2 professors. The activity took place in the scope of the classes of Technological Education, Natural Sciences and History and Geography. The monitor was Hugo Oliveira.

**27 to 28 May – Touristic program in Naturtejo Geopark.** The Company Geolife followed one more program of Naturtejo Geopark for Portuguese Navy Veterans. This time, the proposal for the 22 participants was to meet the Schist Villages from the Municipality of Castelo Branco, Martim Branco and Sarzedas, as well as the city of Castelo Branco and its monuments. On the next day, they visited the Historical Villages of Monsanto, Idanha-a-Velha and Penha Garcia.



**28 to 30 May – International Congress of Physical Activity under the issue “Sport in Nature”, in the Naturtejo Geopark.** Idanha-a-Nova was the stage for the 1st International Congress of Physical Activity, which gathered around 250 participants, among them professors of higher education, national and foreign, and dozens of students. The meeting took place in the Raiano Cultural Centre and was dedicated to the concept "The Contact with Nature, Privileged Intervention with Future". Sport (in Nature in particular), welfare and driveability were the prevailing themes in the 150 communications presented during the three days, by renowned speakers from Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany and Brazil. The Congress was hosted by the Superior School of Education from the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco (ESECB) and the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, with the logistic support from Naturtejo, Inter-Municipal Tourism Company, the responsible body for Naturtejo Geopark Meridional Meseta. Choosing Idanha-a-Nova happened, mainly, because "this is a municipality with a very competitive offer in Nature sports level, a touristic product rising in Europe and all around the World, with great potential", explained the Mayor of the Municipality, Armindo Jacinto, in the works opening. The also Chair of Naturtejo Geopark underlined the excellent territorial conditions to host activities in the scope of Nature sports.



**28 to 29 May – Attendance in the Annual Meeting of the Mines Route and Portuguese Sites of Geological Interest.** This year, for the first time, the Meeting had a joint organization between the Municipality of Paredes, Municipality of Valongo and Parish of S. Pedro da Cova. The main theme was “Geo-mining Heritage and Tourism: integrated appreciation for the territory”, having been invited several specialists to explain the topic. .



Some partners also explained their examples and Naturtejo Geopark introduced “Growth of the Touristic Activity in Naturtejo Geopark and its regional consequences: the Penamacor case”, by Mariana Vilas Boas, with Joana Rodrigues and Carlos Neto de Carvalho.

Was released in paper format the booklet “North Mines and Geology of Portugal”, an edition from the Porto and North Tourism of Portugal in partnership with the Mines Route, where are introduced the partners located in that area, apart from the associated touristic offer.

There was the opportunity to meet the geomining heritage of the host partners, such as the Gold Mines of Castromil e Banjas Interpretation Centre that promote the geomining and archaeological heritage from the region of Paredes. A complementary visit was made to the Mines of Castromil whose exploration dates back from the Roman period, where can be observed quarries, testimonies of open-sky cuttings and galleries and pits, traces of the subterranean exploration. Was also visited the Mining Museum of S. Pedro da Cova that aims to disclose and energize the geological and mining heritage of S. Pedro da Cova, dedicating itself to the industrial, mining and geological matters, related to the exploration of coal mines, from which has been recovered a significant spoils, followed by a visit to the emblematic Cavalete de S. Pedro da Cova, presently classified. During the visit the participants had the opportunity to better know the experiences of older times with the thrilling testimonies of the former workers. In Valongo, was made a visit to the Company Lousas de Valongo, which included the open-sky exploration and the Museum of Lousa.

**28 May to 1 June – Book Fair of Nisa.** The most important book fair in Naturtejo Geopark, celebrating now 35 years of existence, took place in the historical village of Nisa and brought hundreds of people to the streets. The Book Fair is an initiative from the Municipal Library of Nisa that gives access to books and encourages the taste for reading. During the successive editions the Fair assumed as an initiative of great importance in the scope of the municipality cultural and socio-educational development.

The present edition of the Book Fair of Nisa took place in the Cine Theatre of Nisa, with an exhibit and sale of books in parallel with cultural entertainment sessions, book presentations, musical shows, movie projections and activities for children, with the Children Party, celebrating their World Day.

In this event was signalled the centenary of the birth of José António Vitorino – known as “Ti Zé do Santo”, popular poet native from Salavessa, born in 20 February of 1915 and passed away 20 years ago, also in 20 February. In the session, the evocation of this men and poet was made by the actress Susana Vitorino (granddaughter of José António Vitorino) and had the presence, as guests, the actors Luísa Ortigoso, José Boavida and Luís Aleluia (who presently take part in the cast of the TV show from RTP1 “Bem Vindos Beirais”). In the Municipal Library Auditorium, was introduced the book “O Anel de Lázaro”, of Luís Mário Bento, a historical romance that has as action scenarios the towns of Nisa and Montalvão.



**29 to 30 May – School Grouping of Vila Viçosa learns in Naturtejo Geopark .**50 students followed by 6 professors, from the 6th Grade of the School Grouping of Vila Viçosa made the Field Trips “The Portas de Ródão Natural Monument and the Fossil Trunks of Vila Velha de Ródão”, “The Fossils of Penha Garcia and the Boulders of Monsanto” and they also visited the Environmental Interpretation Centre of Castelo Branco. The monitors were Hugo Oliveira and Manuela Catana.





**30 May – Orvalho GeoTrail celebrates 10 years.** Took place the 10th edition of the already mythical hiking trail promoted by the Parish of Orvalho, named “Orvalho GeoTrail”, taking part in the European Geoparks Week - Festival of the Landscape 2015. The event counts with the support from the Municipality of Oleiros and from Naturtejo. The program began with the hiking trail, with a lunch and many other surprises through the day, ending in the Mosqueiro Viewpoint with the Medieval Dinner and live theatre, in charge of the Theatre Company Viv’Arte. The participation was limited to 350 inscriptions.

**30 May – Field trip the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia for the professors participating in the Training Course “The Lands and Folks of Beira Interior”** .23 participating professors from the Training Course “The Lands and Folks of Beira Interior – between a past, the present and the sustainability for the future” ranged the Fossils Trail to know one of the geomonuments with international relevance from Naturtejo Geopark, as well as the concept and functioning of the geoparks that integrate the Global Geoparks Network under the UNESCO auspices. The professors were part of the teacher groups from: Biology and Geology; Portuguese Language and Social Studies; Mathematics and Natural Sciences; History and Geography. The Training Course was hosted by the Training Centre of the School Grouping Frei Heitor Pinto, from Covilhã. The monitor of this field trip was Hugo Oliveira.



**30 to 31 May – Badana Fair of Rosmaninhal keeps the tradition of the open-air livestock fairs.** The only official open-air livestock fair from the Beira Baixa region was held this weekend, in Rosmaninhal, with the traditional exhibit of cattle, food and beverages and plenty of music and child entertainment. Sheep, goats, bovines and horses were some of the animals in exhibition in this historical meeting point between livestock dealers and producers. The Badana Fair offered, however, several other reasons of interest for the visitors. Deserves the highlight a walk on horse through the lands of Rosmaninhal and a hiking trail dedicated to the transhumance thematic, both very lively and attended.



The fair, held in a region of great pastoral culture, was hosted by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and by the Parish of Rosmaninhal, being this event part of the Festival of the Landscape of Naturtejo Geopark. The Badana Fair is, for the Mayor of the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality, Armindo Jacinto, "a very interesting example of a community that keeps an event with a very significant dimension at a national level". The Mayor of the Parish of Rosmaninhal, Joaquim Chambino, showed the same enthusiasm in the preservation of this fair, expressing his satisfaction with the vitality revealed by the fair.



**31 de Maio – Roasted Kid Day in Oleiros.** With the goal of promoting a rare delicacy, was created, on the next Sunday, the Gastronomical Brotherhood of the Roasted Kid in Oleiros. The public constitutional deed was signed, among other, by the owners of the 10 restaurants existent in the municipality, being 14 the founder brothers.

For the Kid to exist it's mandatory to have herds, and this has been a struggle for the local mayor, recognizing that the kid inhabiting in this municipality has some unique features. Despite this and the strong supports, have been some resistances when they try to find people who want to bet in this business area. "It's possible to introduce applications, with guaranteed founding by the European Community", stressed Fernando Jorge. In this ceremony also attended the actor Ruy de Carvalho, Brother of Honour, and his family, with the Reading of the tale "A Paz por um Cabrito", an authorship of Sérgio Luís de Carvalho, which leaves the message that "around a good meal the daily problems are forgotten", stressed the actor, adding that "this is what lacks in Portugal".



# IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

## TV & Radio

- 2 May – RTP (Aqui há Portugal) – 3 hour program about Monsanto with approach to the geomonuments of Idanha-a-Nova
- 6 May – (Rádio Condestável) – Cherry Festival in Montes da Senhora
- 11 May – (Rádio Clube de Monsanto) – Fair of Santa Cruz in Monsanto
- 22 May – (Rádio Cova da Beira) – Flowers Celebration in the Village of Santa Margarida
- 24 May – (Rádio Cova da Beira) –Badana Fair in Rosmaninhal
- 29 May – (Beira Baixa TV) – Village of Santa Margarida is the flower of Beira Baixa

## Newspapers & www

- 21 April ([www.beiranews.com](http://www.beiranews.com)) – Monsanto turns into a Templar Town in the Divina Santa Cruz Fair
- 22 April ([www.diariodigitaldecastelobranco.pt](http://www.diariodigitaldecastelobranco.pt)) - [Monsanto turns into a Templar Town in the Divina Santa Cruz Fair](#)
- 23 April (Jornal do Fundão) – Geo Hotel opens in the festivities of the Divina Santa Cruz
- 25 April (Abendzeitung – Jornal alemão) – MIT GEOPARK Naturtejo
- 6 May (Gazeta do Interior) - Monsanto attracts thousands of people with the Divina Santa Cruz Fair
- 6 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Soups Festival returns to Proença-a-Velha
- 6 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Walk in Gardunha gathers around 50 participants
- 7 May (Reconquista) - Divina Santa Cruz Fair brought thousands to Monsanto
- 7 May (Reconquista) – Soups Festival during the weekend
- 7 May (Reconquista) – Walk discovers Gardunha
- 13 May (Gazeta do Interior) - Festival breaks record with 114 soups in contest
- 14 May (Reconquista) – More than 100 soups in contest
- 14 May ([www.olharbemoleiros.blogspot.com](http://www.olharbemoleiros.blogspot.com)) – [Montes da Senhora \(Proença\) with its Cherry Festival](#)



# IMPACTE DO GEOPARK NOS MEDIA



## Newspapers & www

16 May ([www.beiranews.pt](http://www.beiranews.pt)) – Village of Santa Margarida recieves Flowers Celebration

19 May ([www.jornaldenisa.blogspot.pt](http://www.jornaldenisa.blogspot.pt)) – Municipality discloses program for the 35th Book Fair

19 May ([www.passear.com](http://www.passear.com)) – 10th Orvalho GeoTrail

20 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Montes da Senhora recieves Cherry Festival

20 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Flowers Celebration gives colour and joy once again

21 May ([www.pinhaldigital.com](http://www.pinhaldigital.com)) – Cherries with good sale

21 May (Metronews) – 35th Book Fair of Nisa

26 May (Povo da Beira) - Badana Fair is an unique event in the region

26 May (Povo da Beira) – Village of Santa Margarida, flowery village

26 May (Povo da Beira) – 10th Orvalho GeoTrail

26 May (Povo da Beira) - Idanha-a-Nova hosts 1st International Congress of Physical activity

27 May (Diário de Coimbra) - Festival of the Landscape in Naturtejo Geopark







## PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



**FESTIVAL DA PAISAGEM 2015**  
Geopark Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional  
Semana Europeia de Geoparques  
23 MAIO a 14 JUNHO

**23 e 24 de Maio**  
**Festival da Cereja**  
Montes da Senhora, Proença-a-Nova

**23 e 24 de Maio**  
**Festival das Flores**  
Aldela de Santa Margarida, Idanha-a-Nova

**24 Maio**  
**Passelo Pedestre**  
Montes da Senhora, Proença-a-Nova

**26 de Maio**  
**Programa educativo**  
"Os fósseis de Penha Garcia e os barrocais de Monsanto"  
Penha Garcia e Monsanto, Idanha-a-Nova

**28 a 30 de Maio**  
**Congresso Internacional da Actividade Física**  
Idanha-a-Nova

**28 Maio a 1 de Junho**  
**Feira do Livro**  
Nisa

**29 e 30 de Maio**  
**Programas Educativos**  
"O Monumento Natural das Portas de Ródão e os troncos Fósseis de Vila Velha de Ródão" e "Os fósseis de Penha Garcia e os barrocais de Monsanto"  
Idanha-a-Nova e Vila Velha de Ródão

**30 de Maio**  
**X Passeio pedestre "GeoRota do Orvalho"**  
Orvalho, Oleiros

**30 de Maio**  
**Festa da Badana**  
Rosmaninhal, Idanha-a-Nova

**31 de Maio**  
**Ação promocional do Cabrito Estonado**  
Oleiros

**3 de Junho**  
**Seminário do Concurso Escolar**  
"Água que nos une - sistema É o Solo que sustenta a Vida"  
Escola Superior Agrária, Castelo Branco

**4 de Junho**  
**Exposição do Concurso Escolar "Uma Escultura à nossa Árvore!"**  
Idanha-a-Nova

**5 de Junho**  
**Comemoração do Dia Mundial do Ambiente**  
"À descoberta da bio e geodiversidade do Parque Icnológico de Penha Garcia"  
Penha Garcia, Idanha-a-Nova

**6 de Junho**  
**Geoconcerto no Geomonumento Vieiro das Gralhas**  
Salvador e Aranhas, Penamacor

**6 e 7 Junho**  
**Festival dos Percursos Pedestres**  
Nisa

**7 de Junho**  
**IX Percorso Pedestre "Trilhos do Estreito"**  
Estreito, Oleiros

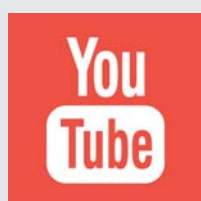
**7 a 14 de Junho**  
**Prova BTT Orientação**  
Idanha-a-Nova

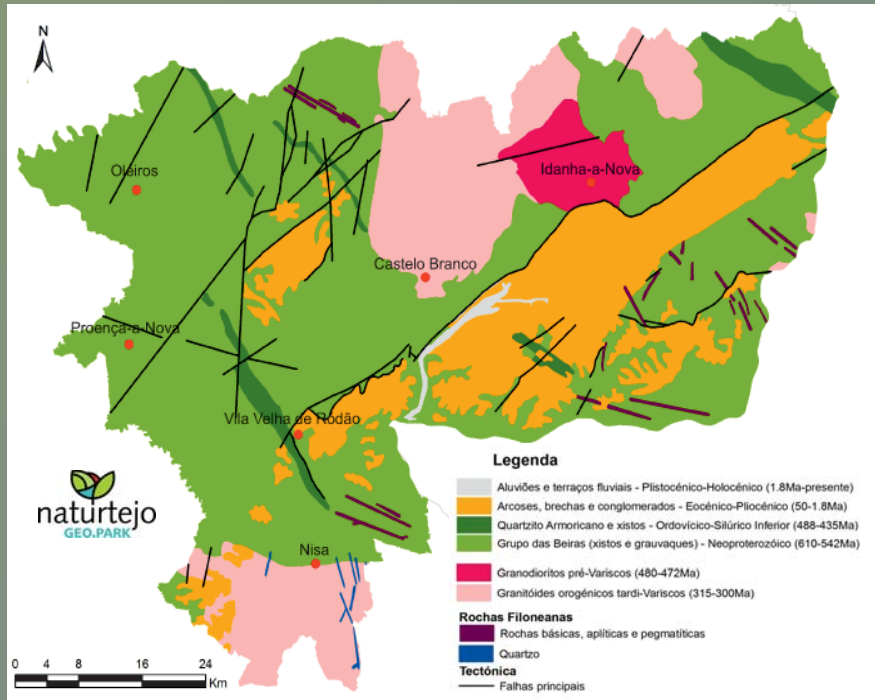
**12 a 14 de Junho**  
**Festa do Município - Pão e outras massas**  
Proença-a-Nova

**13 e 14 de Junho**  
**Festival de Desporto na Natureza**  
Zebreira, Idanha-a-Nova

**13 e 14 de Junho**  
**Festival "Sabores do Rio"**  
Santana, Nisa

Visit Naturtejo Geopark in:



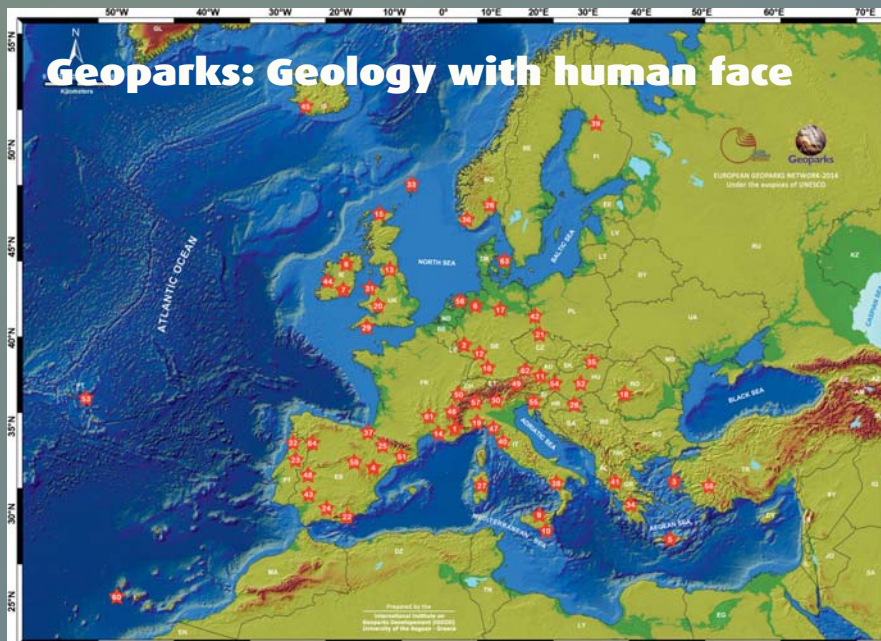
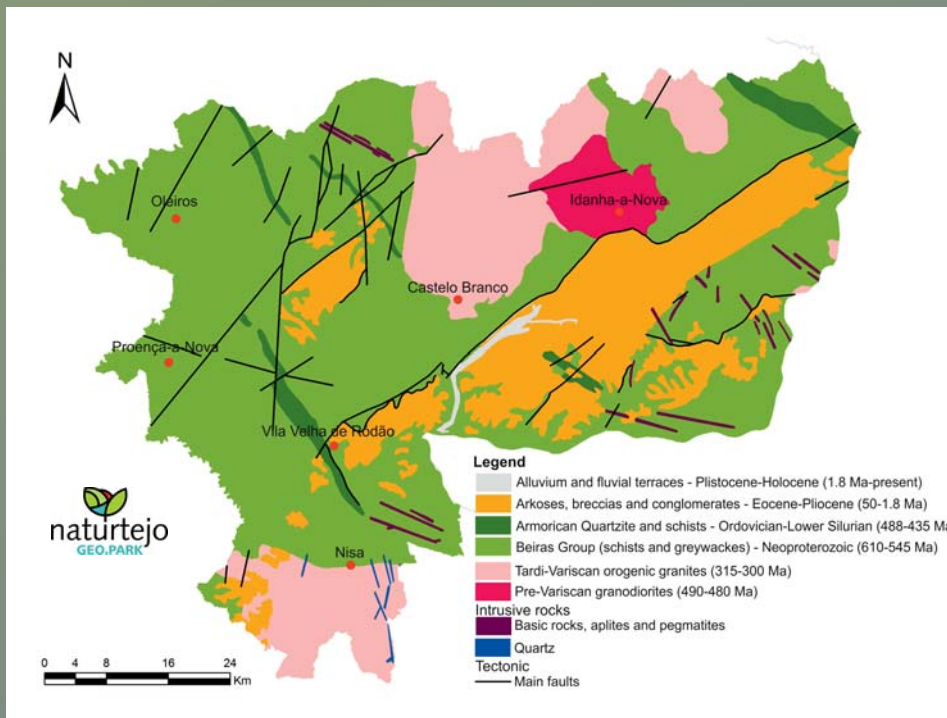


**CRUZIANA**

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL-EUROPEIA E GLOBAL GEOPARK MONTHLY REPORT

[www.geoparknaturtejo.com](http://www.geoparknaturtejo.com)





**CRUZIANA**

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL-EUROPEIA E GLOBAL GEOPARK MONTHLY REPORT

[www.geoparknaturtejo.com](http://www.geoparknaturtejo.com)