



CRUZIANA

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

In this issue: – New Program for the UNESCO World Geoparks – Tourism Train Experiences of the European University – “Out of Place” Music Festival with Nature activities – Master Thesis in entrepreneurial innovation in the Geopark...and more!



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

Geo-histories of our places and people: Tolosa

Tolosa is a land of cheeses, and good ones! Here we'll find the Mixture Cheese of Tolosa, with protected geographic identity, made with sheep and goat milks, as well as the main producers of the famous Cheese of Nisa, with denomination of protected origin, considered by some international authorities as one of the best sheep cheeses of the world. It is the landscape of these cheeses that is important to bring to the consumers and tourists: Tolosa is a plain terrain, located right in the centre of the Nisa granite, where abound the olive tree groves and the pastures. Old are the tales that speak of witches and enchanted Moorish that inhabit the local granites, big boulders isolated or grouped in the vastness, such as the "Hut of the Witches" or the "Safra da Moura". The pedunculate block of Lameirancha, one of Naturtejo Geopark geosites, takes on the astonishment in front of its natural form. The small town of Tolosa is ancient, sharing the Occitan toponymy with Toulouse, in the region of the Mid Pyrenees, from where their first Templar settlers may have come. But one cannot expect large monuments in this territory with 23,43km². It stands out the Church of Nossa Senhora da Encarnação, with its origin in the 15th century, the clock tower and the Great Mansion of D. Lucia. All that remains to mention is the forest, olive trees grove and plenty of cheese! In a land of labour, with 1011 inhabitants, tourism has not yet arrived. The landscape of the cheese of Nisa has here so much to offer, from the pastures to its production. Every year takes place the Cheese Fair, the main event of Tolosa. It is worth to provide to the visitor, in its roots full of labour and rurality, all the secular experience of a cheese appreciated and recognized throughout the entire country. There's nothing better than to taste the best that we have in the same land that provide it to us every day.

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The Editor
Carlos Neto de Carvalho
Scientific Coordinator
Geologist

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



5 and 6 de November – 1st Prize of the Project Rivers – Ponsul River 2014/2015 In these days took place a field trip to the Park Gardens and Pena Palace and to Praia Grande, in Colares (Sintra), as reward for the 1st place obtained by the class of 5º C from the School Grouping José Silvestre Ribeiro, Idanha-a-Nova in the scope of the contest of trees sculpture with reusable materials, held in the School Year of 2014/2015. This contest and trip were hosted by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova with the support of Naturtejo Geopark. In the visit attended 13 students followed by two professors and by the monitors Manuela Catana, Arlindo Cardoso and Hugo Oliveira.

6 to 8 November – Weekend in the Geopark. A group of 27 tourists came to the Geopark to discover the gold fever! The crafts of gold panning were introduced by João Geraldês from the Geo-Resort Casa do Forno, after a pleasant stroll next to the Erges River. After they catch some nuggets how can transform the gold in a nice piece of jewellery? The goldsmith Paulo Dias had the opportunity to cover the meticulous trajectory from the gold to the jewel through an interesting workshop where he introduced techniques, hints and curiosities about gold.



10 November – Celebration of the 70 years of UNESCO with the Naturtejo Geopark.

10 November – Celebration of the 70 years of UNESCO with the Naturtejo Geopark. Naturtejo Geopark attended in the Hall of Knowledge in Lisbon, with the goal of participating in the celebration of this thematic day, helping to disclose the UNESCO vision of science as “sponsor of the economic, social and cultural development of nations and people prospecting peace and a sustained development, appealing to the role of the scientists, teachers, educators and journalists ” For the occasion the geopark technicians energized educational activities concerning the geological heritage of the territory and promoted the traditional products of the Naturtejo territory, with the support of Naturtejo Geopark’s Mascot “Judith – the Trilobite”. Students from the Management College of Idanha-a-Nova cooked some local gastronomic delicacies, in a show cooking. Besides the Naturtejo Geopark, the three other Portuguese geoparks were also represented in this event, as well as some Biosphere Reserves and other entities invited to energize this day with their activities, for pupils and teachers visiting the Hall. At the same time, in the auditorium of the Hall of Knowledge, took place all day a Seminar under the celebrated subject “World Day of Science in service of Peace and the Sustained Development”. In this day, Naturtejo was represented by Manuela Catana, Carla Jacinto, Mariana Vilas Boas, Hugo Oliveira, by the teacher Carla Miguel and by Armindo Jacinto.



11 November – Tourism Train Experiences – Introductory Conference of the Brands-Destination of the Center Region, in the Auditorium of the European University. Naturtejo Geopark integrates the project "Tourism Train Experiences" of the European University, developed by the students of the School of Tourism, Sports and Hospitality, of EU. The main goal of this initiative is to value the train as mean of transport and the railway adjacent regions, focusing in the Beira Baixa line. Around 150 students and their professors are involved, which throughout the year will develop their projects in several brands-destination located next to the Beira Baixa line, such as Naturtejo Geopark of UNESCO, the Historical Villages, the Schist Villages, Living Tejo and Mountain Villages.

In this scope took place a conference in the Campus of Lisbon of the European University, where were introduced all the Brands, and where Armindo Jacinto introduced Naturtejo Geopark and its innovative strategies. Next, he met with the students that are making the projects in the Geopark area to with them debate proposals of development for their ideas and articulation with the several entities.

13 to 15 November – Fam Trip for the Director of the Tourism of Portugal in Spain. The Director of the Tourism of Portugal in Spain, Maria Lurdes Vale, came to meet the Geopark territory, in a way to strengthen the promotion of this destination in Spain. Followed by her family and by Jesus Alarcon, agent of Naturtejo for Spain, Maria Vale could personally experience some of the advantages that Naturtejo Geopark as destination has to offer.

14 to 15 November – Festival of Wines and Liqueurs of S. Miguel d'Acha. The village of São Miguel de Acha, in the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, lived with this weekend with great joy and excitement the 6th Festival of Wines and Liqueurs. During two days there were no lack of moments of joy, music and activities for all family. The wines and liqueurs were the kings in this festival, but the visit could also taste several regional products: cheeses, sausages, traditional cakes, bread, honey, products of the earth and handcraft. During the opening session of this fair, the Mayor of the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality, Armindo Jacinto, stressed “the excellent opportunity for promoting the local economy” that this Festival allows for the attending producers and exhibitors. But also, as he pointed out, “for trade and tourism”.

He highlighted that this festival has contributed “for the certification of the products and for the creation of wealth and jobs in the municipality”, giving the example of the geo wine Súbito and the Acha Doce liqueurs. Both came from this event straight to the trading channels. In São Miguel de Acha were present dozens of wine exhibitors, liqueurs and regional products. The chief of the village, Maria Jesus Nogueira, was pleased with the growing of this event and was convinced that it will continue to gain even more dimension.

A final word for the 6th Contest of Wines and Liqueurs, hosted by the Management College of Idanha-a-Nova that counted with 12 inscriptions in each category. Two producers from São Miguel de Acha came out as winners: Tó Falanja in the wines category and Acha Doce in the liqueurs, with a Medlar Liqueur.



16 to 20, 23 November – 1st Field Trip in the scope of the Project Rivers 2015/2016 In these dates took place the first of several visits to 7 different sections of the Ponsul River, adopted by five classes of the Basic School 2,3/S José Silvestre Ribeiro, from Idanha-a-Nova (5thA; 5thB; 8thA; 8thB; 10thA) and by a class from EPRIN – Professional School of Raia (Vocational Course of the 3rd CEB). The total were 3,5 km of adopted river section, by a group of 126 students from the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality. In this first trip the students could recon the different river sections, making observations about the stats of the water quality, proceeding also to the geodiversity, fauna and flora identification, in these riparian ecosystems. The monitors of these field trips were Arlindo Cardosa and Hugo Oliveira, followed by a teacher of each class involved in the Project Rivers.



17 November – Field Trip “The Fossils of Penha Garcia and the Boulders of Monsanto” intended for Spanish students. In this activity attended 50 pupils from the IES Professor Hernández Pacheco, in the scope of the Portuguese class, from the 7th and 8th Years (1st and 2nd of ESO), followed by 3 teachers. The Monitors were Hugo Oliveira and Manuela Catana.



Organização
das Nações Unidas
para a Educação,
Ciência e Cultura



Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional
Geoparque
Mundial da
UNESCO

18 November – Geoparks in the new UNESCO Program. The Global Geoparks Network, where Geopark Naturtejo Meridional Meseta is included, is already part of the UNESCO official Programs. The decision was made in the General Assembly of UNESCO, by the ambassadors of the United Nations, where were approved the new statutes for the “World Program for the UNESCO Geosciences and Geoparks”, which recognize the geoparks as an official UNESCO Program, equivalent to other well-known programs such as the World Heritages or the Biosphere Reserves.

With this new classification, the 120 geoparks from the Global Geoparks Network, until now classified territories under the UNESCO auspices, are now part of an official program and benefit from the international recognition that gives new opportunities of appreciation for the sustained development.

It is worth to mention that Naturtejo Geopark is distinguished by a geological heritage of extraordinary value, where stand out the quartzite mountains and the fossils that can be found there, the granite shape inherited by past climatic alterations or the natural history of the Tagus River, by the way that these geological landscapes are the foundations of a fascinating biodiversity and were understood and settled by a millenary culture, diversified and rich in manifestations connected to the earth. These are around five thousand square kilometres of great richness to be found, that encompass the municipalities of Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Penamacor, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão.

Naturtejo Geopark offers nowadays a great variety of touristic and educational activities, as well as verified opportunities for the development of touristic products, other business and cultural creative initiatives that allows enjoying 600 million years preserved in rocks and landscapes. This recognition from UNESCO is the first and only for this region and belongs to all of us, those who live here and those who come to visit us.

19 to 20 November – Megaliths of the Geopark in the Megatalks! The appreciation work of the Megalithic heritage in the Naturtejo Geopark territory was a highlight during the conference Megatalks, which took place in Redondo. João Caninas introduced the work “A look at Proença-a-Nova megaliths”, which shows how the appreciation of the megalithic heritage has been giving new contributions for the scientific knowledge.

22 to 26 November – Celebration of the Week of the Autochthonous Forest in Idanha-a-Nova! The Week of the Autochthonous Forest was flagged with the planting and seeding of several species of autochthonous trees and bushes. On the Sunday, 26 adults and children carried out reforestation actions in a burned area of the National Scout Activities Camp (CNAE – located in Monte Trigo). During the week took place seeding actions of acorns in recycled milk cartons, in the Basic School 1 of Idanha-a-Nova. In those attended 131 students (of 6 classes), 6 teachers and 3 educational assistants. From the Basic School 2,3/5 José Silvestre Ribeiro, 40 students from the 8th and 9th year and 2 teachers participated in the planting of autochthonous bushes, in the school yard. The monitor for these actions was Manuela Catana together with elements from the team of Green Spaces and Gardens from the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and with a technician from the CNAE.



24 and 25 November – Week of the Science and Culture celebrated in the School Pedro da Fonseca, in Proença-a-Nova. In the scope of the Week of Science that took place between 23 and 27 November and of the National Day for the Scientific Culture, hosted by the Basic and Secondary School Pedro da Fonseca, in Proença-a-Nova, Naturtejo Geopark promoted workshops of geoscientific disclosure, in partnership with the Forest Live Science Centre. Mariana Vilas Boas and Hugo Oliveira energized activities of exploration of the Earth and Life evolution and gave to know the Naturtejo Geopark Geodiversity with stimulating laboratorial activities and several challenges! At the same time, took place during the week, exhibitions, lectures and several other workshops.



25 November – Seminar “Recycling is Protecting the Future” in the Raiano Cultural Centre. Celebrating the European Week for Waste Prevention 2015 (21 to 29 November), VALNOR and the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, with the support of Naturtejo Geopark hosted the Seminar “Recycling is Protecting the Future”. This seminar had place in the Raiano Cultural Centre, in Idanha-a-Nova, counting with lectures of several local agents, under themes such as the recycling, ecology, Nature conservation, sustainability and the waste. The audience was, mainly, formed by young pupils from the School Grouping and from the Professional School of Raia, of the same municipality. The event counted with interventions from the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, from the School Grouping, from Naturtejo Geopark, from Quercus Environmental Association, from VALNOR and from Good Mood, head of the Boom Festival organization. Manuela Catana represented Naturtejo Geopark introducing the communication “Naturtejo Geopark and the Nature conservation in the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality”.

26 November to 12 December – IV “Out of Place” Music Festival. One more year, one more challenge. The Out of Place – International Ancient Music Festival establish itself as one of the most original musical phenomena in the national scene. Boosted by the countless opportunities that the Idanha-a-Nova territory provides, our “little walking festival” continues to amaze its audience with the proposed schedule, crossing, in a particularly blissful way, repertoires and places.

If, indeed, we can stress that the lands of Idanha and the music are intrinsically connected this is one of those moments in which that connection becomes particularly visible. It's common knowledge that the musical heritage of Idanha represents one of its biggest richness. But it is something more than just a connection that perpetuates the past and the inherited models. It's a process of growing dynamism which, at the same time, keeps those matrices that delight so many people, is opening, increasingly, the share of new ways of musical experience, searching other paths, made of mixture and innovation, capable of showing how fertile is the creative potential of this region, one of the main grounds of interest, acknowledged in the hearth of the set of specialists and members from the UNESCO Network of Creative Cities, in the music field, who were gathered in Idanha-a-Nova in the past February. The gathered impressions, extremely positive, were a priceless support for the conclusion of the submission process for this network, submitted in the past month of July.

Among the most highlighted grounds of interest, we'll find the Out of Place, considered as a notable example of projection and creative capacity, which breaks conventions, assuming in a small scale, the musical dialogue and the approach to the rural publics and spaces, as distinctive brands of a project –gathering the young ones, those who listen, those who dance, those who talk, those who already know the countryside, those who don't, those who want to be surprised, in short, all of those who can identify themselves with a musical concept where time(s) and space(s) are indeed relative. This vision is, also, our vision, and with that comes the ease from which this partnership was established and is kept during these four years that we celebrate in the edition of 2015. An edition that expresses, unfettered, how important music is for all of us, those who care about this side of our country.



27 November – Geopark inspires Master's Degree Thesis in entrepreneurial innovation.

Naturtejo Geopark, recently part of the UNESCO World Geoparks Program, served as basis for a Master's degree thesis that approaches the development and implementation of a company that sustainably uses the existent natural resources in this territory. The Master's degree work of Helena Vinagre, upheld in the Management College of Idanha-a-Nova, is focused in the case of Aromas do Valado, a company with an innovative concept that takes advantage of the autochthonous plants existent in the Naturtejo Geopark area transforming them in essential oils, which in turn are part of a production chain of a product range of biological cosmetics. Managed by Helena Vinagre and with headquarters in Segura, a small border village from the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, the Aromas do Valado is currently, since the year of 2013, in plain implementation of the brand in the national market. The project idea has its origin in the wide potential of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants exploration existent in the region, with over 600 species of plants inventoried, with its business plan and its development strategy being studied and planned during the master's degree exam.

Although being a pretty recent company, Aromas do Valado was awarded, in the last year, with a prize in the area of innovation, by the Chambre de Commerce et D'Industrie Franco-Portugaise. The new bet of this company is the development of Geoproducts certified by UNESCO Naturtejo Geopark and the diversification of the educational activities that offers with the support of its technicians.

27 November – Geopark and Ecotourism in the Superior Agronomy Institute of Lisbon In the scope of the class of Ecotourism and Appreciation of the Natural Resources, from the Master's Degree course in Management and Conservation of the Natural Resources from the Superior Agronomy Institute, Carlos Neto de Carvalho was once again invited to talk about the touristic experience in Naturtejo Geopark and the geoparks in general.



27 November – Nature Activity: “Water and Life in the Ponsul River”. This action was energized in the scope of the Out of Place Festival 2015, counting with the presence of 17 students of the class A from the 1º CEB of the Ladoeiro village, in Idanha-a-Nova. This action was made by a riverside trail next to the Ponsul River in Herdade da Várzea, where in addition to being able to identify some enfolding fauna and flora, the students could yet observe the degree of conservation of this riparian ecosystem. The monitors for this activity were Manuela Catana and Hugo Oliveira.



28 November – Nature Activity: “Let's be Geologists and Bakers for one day in the Fossils Trail in Penha Garcia”. This was an activity open for the general public, hosted in the scope of the Out of Place Festival 2015. It was ranged the Fossils Trail in the village of Penha Garcia. In the beginning of the trail, the registrants attended a workshop of traditional bread manufacturing in a former community hoven, making all the process, until the placement of the bread into the hoven. At the end of the workshop the Fossils Trail was resumed which still allowed to visit the mills complex of the Ponsul in Penha Garcia and the Fossils House. Returning to the village, the participants could yet take the bread that they placed for baking by themselves, in the village community hoven. This action counted with the presence of a group of 8 people and the monitor for the geological thematic was Hugo Oliveira.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

November (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) – Release of the guide “Educational services and school visits” from Mines Route

November (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) – Naturtejo Geopark in the 70 years of UNESCO

11 November (Gazeta do Interior) – In S. Miguel d'Acha – Wines and Liqueurs warm the weekend

12 November (Reconquista) – From 43 years that any program was created in UNESCO – Geopark is the largest in Europe

12 November (Reconquista) – Naturtejo introduces the Mines Route in a school guide

25 November (Povo da Beira) – Naturtejo Geopark in the 70 years of UNESCO

25 November (Povo da Beira) – Geoparks become an official program of UNESCO

25 November (Gazeta do Interior) – Municipality of Idanha assumes the presidency in the commission of culture from the Club of Estrasburgo

25 November (Jornal do Fundão) – Gold of Rosmaninhal – The gold prospectors got many people out of hunger

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES



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- HENRIQUES, F., NETO DE CARVALHO, C., PIRES, H. & CANINAS, J.C. – Novos elementos sobre o Castelo de Ródão. Açafa Online 10, 1-14.
- MOITA, P., DIAS, L., MIRÃO, J. & NETO DE CARVALHO, C. – Análise petrográfica e química mineral do “Aplito de Gardete”: origem das cantarias do Castelo de Ródão? Açafa Online 10, 1-13.
- NETO DE CARVALHO, C. & RODRIGUES, J. – Propostas de conservação e de valorização do Barrocal de Castelo Branco. Açafa Online 10, 1-18.

PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



RODRIGUES, J. & NETO DE CARVALHO, C. – Geological Landscapes and Singular Sceneries. Magazine of Elemental Science, 3(4), 6-14.



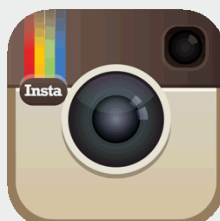
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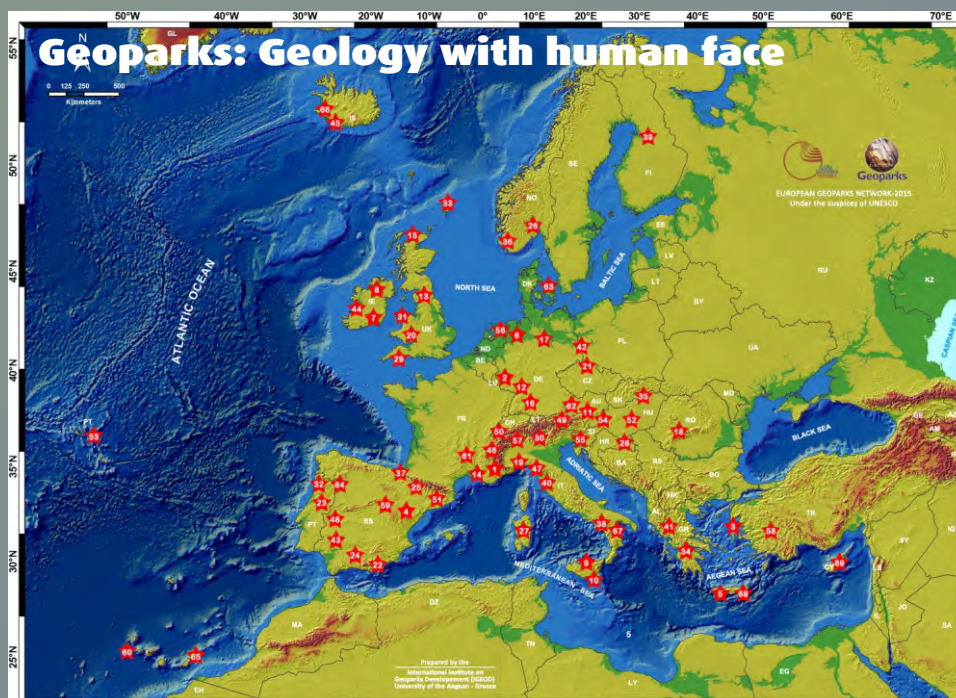
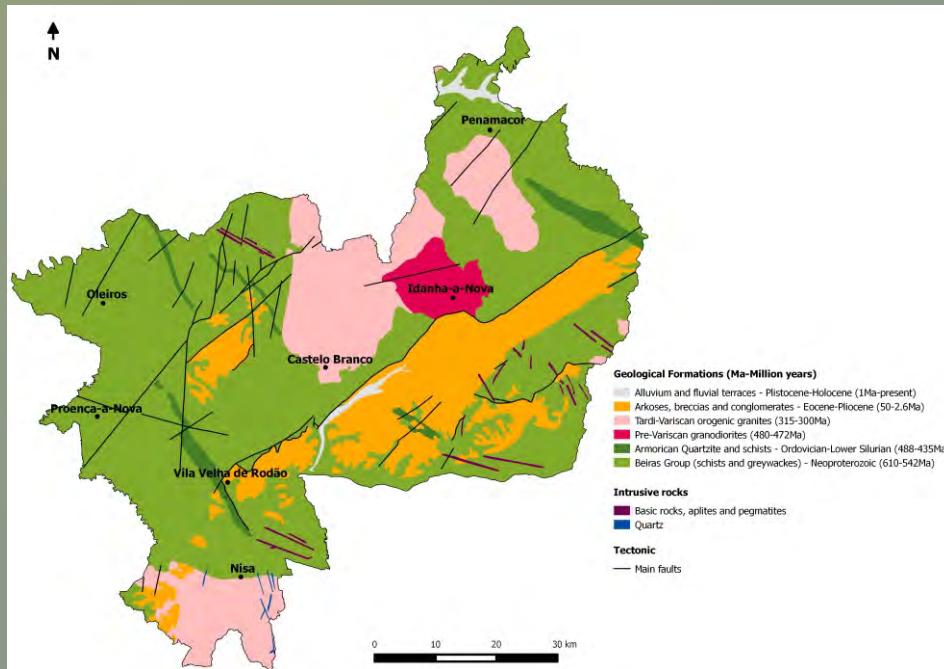




Feliz Natal
e
Bom Ano 2016



MERRY CHRISTMAS **FROHE WEIHNACHTEN** VESELÉ VÁNOCE 圣诞节快乐 **ΓΙΛΕΔΕΙΣ ΓΗΙ** SRETAN BOŽIĆ **VESEL BOŽIĆ**
메리 크리스마스 FELIZ NAVIDAD HYVÄÄ JOULUA JOYEUX NOËL BOLDOG KARÁCSONY **Καλά Χριστούγεννα**
SELAMAT HARI NATAL **GLEÐILEG JÓL** メリークリスマス **VESELÉ VIANOCE SELAMAT HARI KRISMAS** GOD JUL
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