



CRUZIANA

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

In this issue: -Geopark at Expo Dolomiti, World Heritage – Casqueiro 2011: traditional bread delighted everyone – 40 years of Tejo Rock Art: heritage of Iberian importance – Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon crowds the Geopark...and more!



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

The Association for the Study of the High Tejo and the Municipality of Vila Velha de Ródão hosted the ceremony for the celebration of the 40 years of the discovery of Rock Art at Tejo. Some of the famous archeologists of the “Tejo generation” were honored, including locals that keep finding new paths for the conservation and raising awareness of the county heritage. For those who never thought about this, in that final October 1971 a wonderful discover was made in Ródão lands: 8000 years ago, and for more than 5000, Man living Tejo valley, including its tributaries Erges and Ocreza, imprinted in rocks their truly feeling about this sublime river source of everything, from raw material to game, fishing, good soils favoring agriculture, mild climate...and water, abundant and clear, vital. Before the revolution of April the revolution of April of 1971 comes, due to logics of territorial development then different (were they different than the present ones?), due to the inescapable realities of the building of Fratel and Cedillo reservoirs, with an unprecedented rescue for Portugal in Ródão. More than 10000 engravings were registered by young enthusiasts and, from their learnship with the cultural landscapes and with the Rock Art of Tejo, European Science would be benefited then and now, and was permitted the permanent saving of the Côa Rock Art from the ever impoverishing national energetic demand. So, protection of the Rock Art of Tejo as national Cultural Heritage is of highest importance. But it is not enough.

The scientific importance of the findings must be explained to local communities and all the potential visitors. The Rock Art of Tejo is almost all underwater by the reservoirs, but there are sites available for visit, like Gardete and Perais, with no interpretation that can hardly be found by the most stubborn tourist. It is still missing the necessary inclusion in thematic tourist routes able to be competitive in the international tourism markets, a Rock Art Tour uniting museums/interpretation centers of reference, from Mação to the great museum and archeological park of Côa, passing by the Museum of Ródão, a promise still postponed. The Archeological Museum of Ródão, a Project of the Municipality of Vila Velha de Ródão reuniting researchers from different areas of Science in contents development, to achieve success should look for thematic, pedagogical and tourism versatility (including Portas de Ródão Natural Monument) that can only be obtained by looking for the new trends in museology. But even so a strategy of tourism development based exclusively on rock art is not enough.



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Intervention and development of tourism routes by the archeological sites of national importance in the county are still missing, unfortunately unknown by almost everyone, such as the Lameira dam, one of the widest Roman dams in the Iberian Peninsula that was recently associated to the vast gold mining area of Charneca, or the Archeozoological site of Foz do Enxarrique, of international importance, with the last remains that once lived in Europe mainland. It is hardly imaginable the impact for the tourist to find, at the beginning of a boat tour to the monumental Portas de Ródão, an impressive, 4,5 m high reconstitution of a *Elephas antiquus* coming to drink along Tejo alluvial terraces, exactly how happened here 33000 years ago! This is the innovation and irreverence Vila Velha de Ródão needs for its future statement, in close cooperation with all the municipalities of Naturtejo under the frame of UNESCO, like it happened in the past October 1971. Lastly and reminding that much must be done after 4 decades of Tejo Art and their heroes, we must not forget the core of the problem for the tourism development of Vila Velha de Ródão, which is also celebrating 40 years in existence. The archeologist Teresa Marques, in her pioneer times of inventorying of Tejo Art and discovering Ródão, wrote that "It is an extenuating job and the smell horrible, caused by the working of a cellulose factory, just built at Ródão".

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



30th September to 2nd October – Naturtejo Geopark in the Expo Dolomites World Heritage. Naturtejo Geopark was the European territory invited to represent the European Geoparks Network under the auspices of UNESCO in the Expo Dolomites – World Heritage held during the weekend in the Italian city of Longarone. The Expo Dolomites occurred at the heart of a region considered one of the most beautiful mountain landscapes in the world, and was awarded as UNESCO natural heritage in 2009 by its exceptional geological and geomorphological values. Sponsored by Veneto Region, Province of Belluno and Fondazione Dolomiti, more than 150 tourism and organization stands, many multimedia spaces of outstanding beauty, workshops and thematic fora presented the heritage wealth and the enterprise dynamics of this region at north of Italy, with a strong impulse given by inclusion of Dolomites as one of the 180 natural sites in the present list of UNESCO. Naturtejo Geopark was present with a promotional stand at the Geodiversity Hall, an original idea of Emiliano Oddone and his team of the Dolomiti Project that attracted thousands of visitors coming Expo Dolomites during the three days of the trade show. Naturtejo Geopark show room was visited by the representative of UNESCO, the Australian Graeme Worboys, the coordinator of the application of Dolomites to the World Heritage List, Piero Gianolla and by the President of the Province of Udine, Pietro Fontanini. The geologist Carlos Neto de Carvalho was invited to introduce the European Geoparks Network, at the Geodiversity Hall, together with the representative Geoparco Adamello-Brenta, the only Italian Geopark including part of Dolomites. Carlos Neto de Carvalho and Joana Rodrigues gave two talks for the public about the work of conservation of the geological heritage, education and tourism that have been developed at the Naturtejo Geopark and whose results are examples for other regions in Portugal and abroad. The Naturtejo Geopark progressive development of innovative tourism products inspired in its heritage and exceptional geological landscapes, including and valuing cultural richness, is being followed by an increasing number of regions spread all over the world.

30th September to 4th October, 16th to 21st, 23rd to 28th October – Dutch walk on the Geopark. Oliva Travel tour operator, working for the Dutch market, was very active in October. Two groups of 4 and one of 3 tourists came to walk by the wide plains of the Meridional Meseta, taking Casa do Forno Geo-Resort from Salvaterra do Extremo as base camp.

1, 5, 28th October – Naturtejo Geopark ensures visits to the city with local rangers. Naturtejo Geopark has increasingly constant presence, with activities, in the city of Castelo Branco. Local rangers trained by Geopark are guiding visits to the monuments of the city for groups coming by travel agencies. Mar de Prata travel agency brought a group of 50 people. Sottotour travel agency reunited 40 visitors. “No Tecto do Mundo” travel agency came with 96 visitors to Castelo Branco.

1st to 2nd October – Douro Travel at the Historical Villages. A group of 33 tourists visited the historical villages of Naturtejo Geopark, Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha, with a local ranger.



6th October – II Meeting of the Mines Guide brings close the Geological and Mining Heritage and the Tourism of Portugal. The Mines Guide and Sites of Mining and Geological Interest organized together with the Tourism of Portugal Institute and the Municipality of Aljustrel, the II Partner Meeting, at the mining town of Aljustrel. This platform for promotion of the Portuguese mining and geological heritage, with a little more than one year of formal existence, reunited 26 partners already. Naturtejo Geopark is among them, and was this time represented by Cristina Preguiça, but it is now better represented with the integration of the Stonemason Museum of Alcains, one of the existing museums in the territory. The website www.roteirodeminas.pt features the scientific and tourist information about the partners in Portuguese, Spanish and English. The new facebook page attracted more than 10000 visitors in just two weeks, showing the universal impact of this tool for promotion of products and destinations. It has been straighten the institutional cooperation between the platform and Tourism of Portugal, with the Mines Guide presented in the websites www.visitportugal.com (abroad trade) and www.descubraportugal.com.pt (Portuguese trade). The dialogue with the Regional Entities of Tourism is a priority for the Mines Guide, and there are projects underway with RET Porto and RET Alentejo. It is important to get close to RET Centre, where Naturtejo Geopark belongs and represents. By the second consecutive year Naturtejo Geopark is the second most visited partner from Mines Guide platform. Do you know why? Go to www.roteirodeminas.pt.



7th October – Sand: Geology as a Puzzle – New application available for teachers .

After evaluation of scientific referees the final result of the Project “Sands – Geology as a Puzzle”, developed by Joana Rodrigues and supervised by Professor Mário Cachão from the Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon, was accepted and published. The work was developed under the frame of the House of Sciences Projects 2010/2011 which is promoted with the aim of developing educational tools for Secondary and High School housed in the portal casadasciencias.org. This portal from Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for teachers provides didactic-pedagogic tools, links, image archive and WikiSciences, with scientific and educational validation by university professors. The project was based on the study of sands coming from distinct geological contexts of mainland Portugal and islands, key-sectors whose detailed study enable to support teachers with the curricula of Biology and Geology discipline. Scientific accuracy was highly important, but transversality, critical reflection, discussion and new approaches and applications were introduced. An applied example simulating a forensics investigation was conceived (“Forensics Challenge”), which tests previously acquired knowledge. The final products were: an interactive application “Sands: Geology as a Puzzle”, the presentation “Grain to grain...”, Student and Teacher exploration guides. Besides strong field and lab component which this Project involved, a good partnership was developed with the School of Technology of the Polytechnical Institute of Castelo Branco for development of the multimedia application, made under the final graduation Project Joana Paulo and Mónica Mateus, from the course Information Technologies and Multimedia, with the supervision of Professor Pedro Silva. To know more about the work done look for the site www.casadasciencias.org and do the registration.

8th to 9th October – EDP in a visit to the Geopark. The Group EDP made a two-day visit by the Naturtejo Geopark territory. 29 participants came for the boat trip across Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, followed by a delicious lunch at the restaurant Vale Mourão. Finally, they visited the city of Castelo Branco. Naturtejo Geopark is increasingly involving local rangers to guide the ever growing number of organized visits.

14 to 16th October – Casqueiro 2011- Festival of Bread, Cakes and Traditions. Bread, cakes, olive oil bread, pudding bread among other delicacies made the delight of many that visited the small village of Idanha-a-Velha during this weekend. Besides these products, always ready in the community oven, others like cheese, pudding, honey, olive oil and handicraft made good business among 100 retailers. 6 wood ovens enabled bakers coming from Idanha villages to bake and sell in the historical Roman city, so visitors could follow from knead to baking. Also the children were invited to make bread in the wood ovens. The show got rhythm with the good traditional and reinvented music. During the festival, a group of 40 trekkers from the national bank Caixa Geral de Depósitos made the Long Trail of Idanha, between the historical villages of Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha, which was certainly made faster by following the smell of fresh-made bread coming from inside the walls of Idanha-a-Velha.

14 to 16th October – Deer Trail in a duo. A nice couple came for a weekend in close contact with Nature at the protected areas of Naturtejo Geopark. Accompanied by a local guide, the Nature lovers made the Deer Trail at the International Tejo Nature Park and a magnificent boat trip to Portas de Ródão Natural Monument.

15 to 16th October – Sciences weekend...with lots of partying! 150 students of the Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon made their annual meeting at the Geopark. Much revelry with walks among the superb geodiversity and the abundant biodiversity was the keynote. The Fossils Trail at the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the great granite landforms of Monsanto inselberg, as well as the Vultures Trail, at Salvaterra do Extremo, with bird watching, were the highlights of this visit. Once more, the group was guided by local rangers, and the birdwatching was coordinated by Pedro Martins.

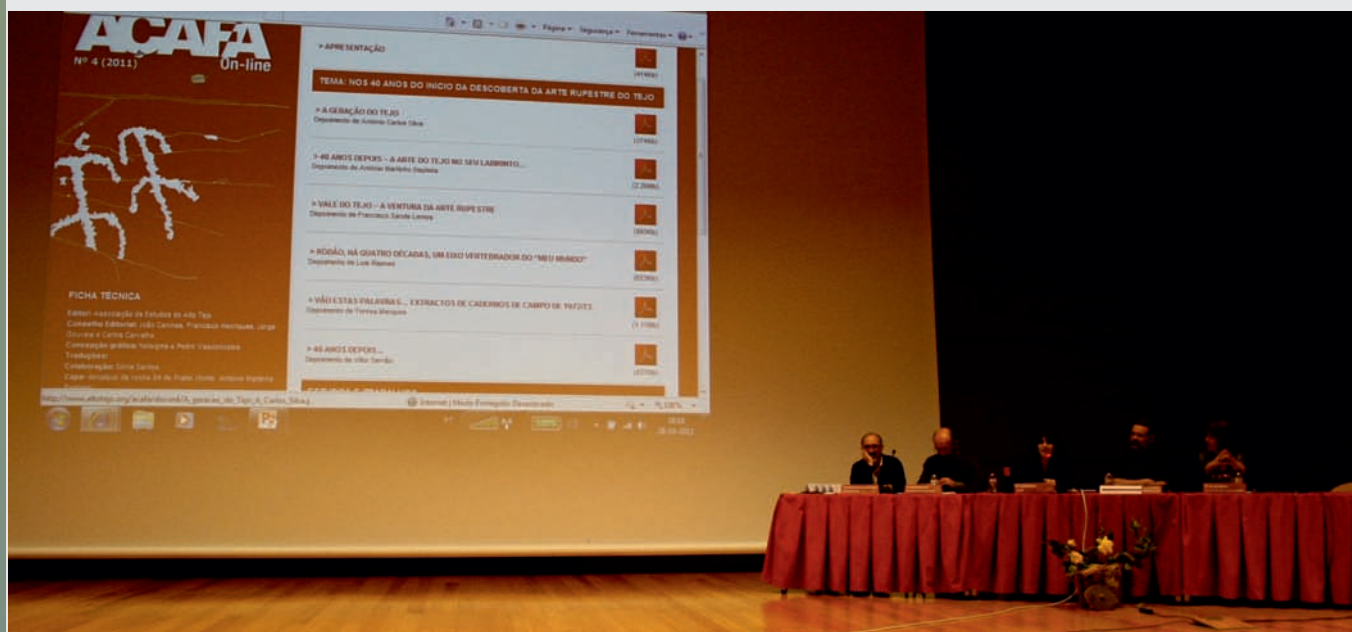


21st October – Architects from the Manchester Metropolitan University visit the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. Two recently graduated Landscape architects students, two Landscape architects and one photographer from Manchester Metropolitan University (England) visited the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia with Armindo Jacinto and Manuela Catana.

Cristina Rodrigues, researcher of MIRIAD, the Manchester Institute for Research and Innovation in Art and Design, is the coordinator of the research Project “Villages in the Interior of Portugal” started by CR Architects in partnership with MMU (Manchester Metropolitan University). In this project participates the faculties of Landscape Architecture and Tourism & Management of the MMU.

Since September this year Cristina Rodrigues is coordinating a study at Idanha-a-Nova, with the aim to find tools for development of European regions with the same difficulties as this municipality. The project intends to develop a model for development of rural areas which must provide different conclusions to improve life conditions in these regions. This study is running until 2013 and it is already planned an international seminar for October 2012 with the exhibit of the results.

23rd October – Trekking “different heritage storks and ore”. One more thematic visit provided by the Tourism Office of Idanha, with the support of the Segura village and Naturtejo Geopark, brought dozens to Segura mines, by the Mines Trail. This trail was guided by the geologist Margarida Antunes, from the Agriculture School, and an expert in local geology. Together with her visitors could better appreciate the washery plant at Calçada Stream and a tunnel in excellent condition. Pego da Água Alta was a highlight, with a beautiful waterfall between granite rocks. This visit was one more action to raise awareness about the relevant mining heritage that still exists at Segura, together with the exhibition a “When we went for ore”, open to public since July at Raiano Cultural Center of Idanha-a-Nova, and for one year, until it becomes a travelling exhibition.



28th October – 40 years of Rock Art of Tejo celebrated by the community of archeologists. The House of Arts and Culture of Tejo hosted the celebration of the discovery of one of the most relevant artistic heritage of Naturtejo Geopark. Some of the biggest names of Portuguese Archeology attested first-hand the Iberian importance of Tejo Rock Art and its influence in the development of the scientific career of many. The Coordinator of Côa Archeological Park and Museum, António Martinho Baptista, opened the commemorative session requesting the need to create a museum enabling the interpretation of rock art which is mostly underwater by the reservoirs. He was followed by the Director of the National Museum of Archeology, Luís Raposo, another archeologist from this “Tejo generation”. Mário Varela Gomes, author of a recent PhD. Thesis on Tejo Rock Art, presented an old documentary from the time of the discovery, which reveals the work developed to rescue precious scientific information from a secular condemning by the building of Fratel Reservoir. Lastly João Caninas, from the local Association of Studies for the High Tejo and chief-editor of the e-journal Açafa-online presented the opening of the issue of 2011, which is dedicated to 40 years of research about Tejo Rock Art. But this year it is expected also several papers dedicated to value the Geological Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark.

29th October to 1st November – Tierra Fuego is back to Geopark trails. The Spanish tour operator Tierra Fuego, specialized in trekking, is back to Geopark with 9 tourists. This time they made some of the best existing trails from the available 550 km. They started by the International Tejo Nature Park, with the Vultures Trail. Then they made the difficult but always great Gardunha Trail; from the Long Trail of Idanha GR12/E7 they walked Sr^a Azenha-Monsanto-Idanha-a-Velha; and it could be no better way to finish than with the Fossils Trail. The guide of this adventure was, once again, Tiago Oliveira.

IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA



Newspapers & www

October (Volta ao Mundo Magazine) – The calling of deer

October (Ensino Magazine) – ESA hosts experts

October (Ensino Magazine) – Visit the Inner Pinewood and improve your health

1st October (Pinhal Digital) – Oleiros Mountain Tour highlighted at X European Geoparks Conference

4th October (reconquista) – Naturtejo Geopark distinguished by UNESCO

4th October (www.cm-oleiros.pt) – Naturtejo Geopark distinguished by UNESCO for the next 4 years

4th October (www.mm-animarte.blogspot.com) – Naturtejo Geopark

5th October (Gazeta do Interior) – Naturtejo Geopark with “visa” from UNESCO for the next 4 years

6th October (reconquista) – Rock art at Tejo river was discovered 40 years ago

6th October (reconquista) – Rock art at Tejo river was discovered 40 years ago

6th October (reconquista) – Trail in the “Erges waters”

6th October (reconquista) – Bread festival is back

6th October (reconquista) – Here is the strawberry tree fruit!

13th October (Raiano) – Trail in the “Erges waters”

13th October (www.rutacultural.com) – The Naturtejo Geopark and the tourism of diversity

18th October (Povo da Beira - headlines) – Casqueiro have set a record of visitors

19th October (Gazeta do Interior) – Geopark with open registration for trekking

19th October (Gazeta do Interior) – GEOSchools European Project meeting

20th October (reconquista) – Hotel is closed and prepared to go to auction

20th October (reconquista) – Casqueiro feeds tradition

26th October (Gazeta do Interior) – Naturtejo lows amount paid by each municipality

27th October (reconquista) – Tejo Rock Art marks 40 years

31st October (www.cnoticias.net) – Beira Baixa: few geopark viewpoints provide access for disabled people

31st October (www.diariodigitalcastelobranco.pt) – Few geopark viewpoints provide access for disabled people

Radio & TV

13th October – Rádio Cova da Beira (regional radio) – Naturtejo Geopark distinguished by UNESCO

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK



Cardoso, J. L. – The Anthropomorphic Stele at Monte dos Zebros (Idanha-a-Nova): contextualization amongst other Diadem-Steles in the Iberian Peninsula. *Complutum*, 22(1): 89-106.

Caninas, J.C., Henriques, F. & Cardoso, J.L. – The Tumulus at Charneca das Vinhas (Vila Velha de Ródão, Portugal). In: Bueno Ramirez, P., Cerrillo Cuenca, E. & Gonzalez Cerdero, A. (eds), *From the Origins: The Prehistory of the Inner Tagus Region*, BAR International Series, 2219: pp. 111-139.

PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



GEO SCHOOLS
Conferência GEOescolas
 Novas práticas no ensino das Geociências
GEOschools conference: new practices teaching geosciences

5 e 6 de Novembro de 2011
 Date: 5-6th November 2011

Idanha-a-Nova

Inscrição gratuita, sujeita a marcação
 Registration: free, need reservation

Conferências | Comunicações orais | Posters | Debates | Saída de campo
 Key-notes | Oral presentations | Posters | Debates | Fieldtrip

GEOschools 1-6 Novembro 2011
 informações e inscrições: www.naturtejo.com | geral@naturtejo.com
 Informations and registration: www.naturtejo.com | geral@naturtejo.com

Integrado no projecto "Innovative teaching geosciences in secondary schools" (LACIA Utilising learning, context, ET and language) (2010-2012) (FP7-GE-CONVINC) (FP7- http://geoschools.geol.uoa.gr)

Logos for various partners including FAIA, European Union, and others.

QUANDO A GENTE ANDAVA AO "MENÉRIO"

MEMÓRIAS MINEIRAS DO CONCELHO DE IDANHA-A-NOVA - O CASO DE SEGURA

CENTRO CULTURAL RAIANO
 16 de Julho a 31 de Dezembro de 2011

Logos for various partners including Centro Cultural Raiano, FAIA, and others.

www.naturtejo.com
geoschools.geol.uoa.gr

11 Dezembro 2011
Dia Internacional das Montanhas
 Entre paisagens ricas de antiguidade e as riquezas das entranhas da Terra

Programa:

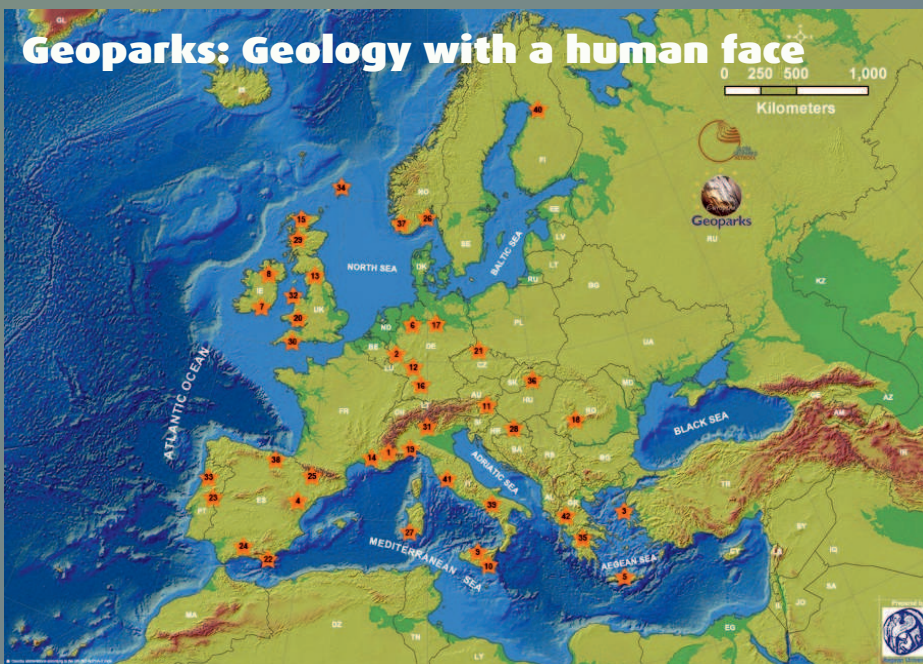
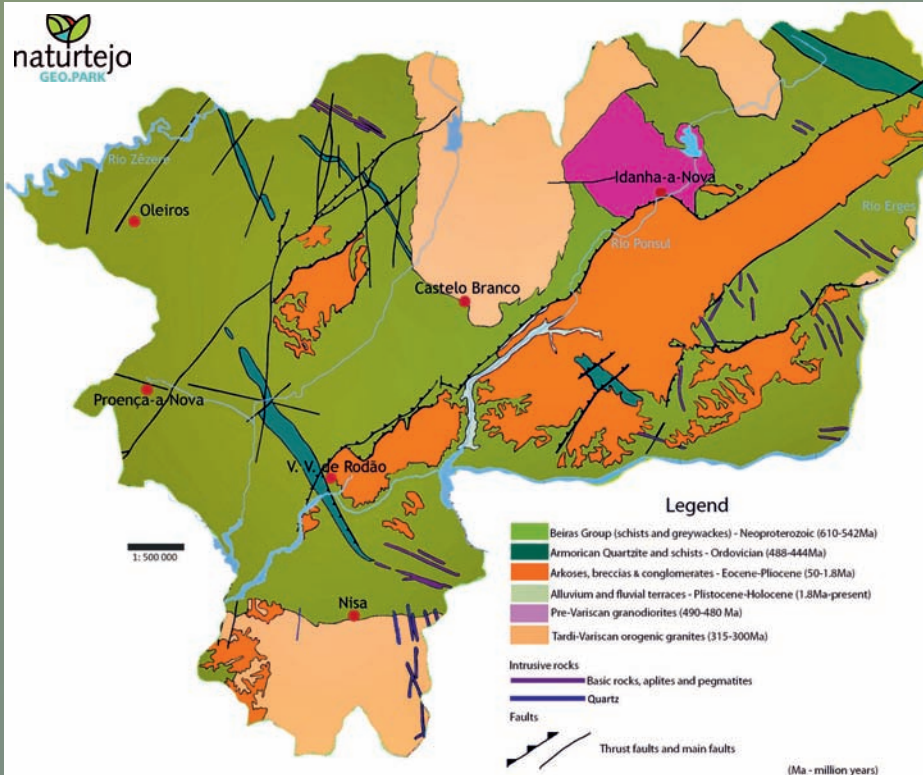
- 9h00 - Palestra "Arqueologia nas Montanhas de Oleiros" pelo Dr. João Caninas (Associação de Estudos do Alto Tejo). Local: Posto de Turismo de Oleiros.
- 9h30 - Monumento ao Padre António de Andrade "O primeiro europeu no tecto do mundo".
- 10h00 - Visita guiada à Arte Rupestre de Oleiros.
- 11h30 - Visita guiada às Minas do Cavalu "Memórias do Volfrâmio".
- 13h00 - Almoço "Sabores da Montanha" (facultativo)
- 14h30 - Floresta Notável: visita ao Monumento Vivo de Oleiros.
- 15h00 - Natal na Montanha: Clássicos de Natal na Igreja Matriz de Oleiros, pela Orquestra Típica Alcabastrense.

Inscrições e Informações:
 Naturtejo: 707 200 065
 Posto de Turismo de Oleiros: 272 681 008

(*) Sujeito a confirmação

Logos for Oleiros, Naturtejo, Global Geoparks Network, and Geoparks.

Mountain's Day



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