

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

In this issue: - Introducing the product GEOPARK in the most important Tourism Fair in the World - ITB Berlin – Tourism of the Centre and Naturtejo Geopark at FIO – Ornithological Tourism Fair – Tourist Geopark during the Holy Week – New Açafa magazine takes Geopark's heritage across WWWeb...and more!







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

The Geological Heritage National Inventory was concluded and delivered to the Institute of Nature and Forest Conservation (INFC) for appreciation. In this project that was coordinated by José Brilha 70 geoscientists contributed to inventory 326 sites of scientific interest "fundamental" for the geological knowledge of the country. The reconnaissance of the geosites included the scientific role, but also the vulnerability of the heritage, with some "endangered by destruction, as result of lack of formal adequate management policies". Also according to José Brilha "From now on, Portugal has the right instruments to implement a policy for geoconservation, based on these sites", that will be managed by INFC. As a territory internationally recognized by the geological heritage, Naturtejo Geopark includes in this list a significant number of geosites, with national importance. For this inclusion it is worth to mention the continuous efforts of the technical-scientific team of Naturtejo Geopark for their description, protection and value complementing the research taken by some scientists in several areas of the Geopark. Thus, in this inventory 12 geosites included in four frameworks were proposed. It stands, by the number of geosites, the Framework "Relief and fluvial drainage of the Iberian Massif in Portugal", which best testimonies the importance of the landscape of Naturtejo Geopark. The crest of Penha Garcia, where the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia is located, is understood as one of the most perfect examples of syncline exhumed from Meseta. It can be visited in two fundamental areas, by the Fossils and Erges trails. Monsanto Inselberg, protected at a national level as Cultural Heritage, is considered "The largest and most emblematic exemple of granite Inselberg", that can be found starting from the Historical Village of Monsanto, in the Boulders Trail. The River Zêzere Meanders, in the boundary of the Geopark at Oleiros, i sone of the most characteristic and imposing valleys in Portugal, related with the rising of the Central Belt, and that can be discovered, in its diverse natural and cultural dimensions, through the Oleiros Mountain Tour. Portas de Ródão, protected as national Nature Monument, is nowadays a major hotspot of Naturtejo Geopark, providing educational and tourist programmes, boat trips and the Invasions and "Conhal" trails. Ródão river staircase covers a wide area without any protection besides a short, but very important sector included in the Nature Monument of Portas de Ródão, and strongly connected with this geomonument. Medronheira-Monte dos Cancelos is also a wide area mostly included in Tejo Internacional Nature Park, and represents one of the most extensive areas for pedogenic carbonates of the country.







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The Ponsul Scarp at Idanha related with recente reactivation of Ponsul Fault, the largest geomonument from Naturtejo Geopark, has interpreted viewpoint in the Castle. Yet in the Ponsul Fault, but included in the "Neotectonics of Continental Portugal" there is Devesa Section, near Idanha-a-Nova, the best exposure of Ponsul Fault; the Virtude Spring, geosite included in the Nature Monument of Portas de Ródão; and the House of Arts and Culture of Tejo Section, right in the downtown of Vila Velha de Ródão, unfortunately badly conservated and without interpretation in place. In the Framework "Late Neoproterozoic of ZCI (CXG)" the geosite "Monfortinho" was included, actually located closer to Salvaterra do Extremo, in the Erges river valley, showing evidences of a Ice-house period. Finally, but not least, in the Ordovician of the Central-Iberian Zone Framework, the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia is considered a trace fossil site of international relevance.

It is also important to refer that since long time ago there is the Inventory of Portuguese Geosites prepared by Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia through spontaneous feedback, and available in the geoportal www.geoportal.lneg.pt.

The Editor

Carlos Neto de Carvalho Scientific Coordinator Geologist

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



February to April – Agenda of the Easter Mysteries from Idanha. Between 22nd February and 8th April Easter celebrations will be undertaken by the whole territory of the Naturtejo Geopark. In this subject, the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova is significant, by organizing a religious agenda, as complex as diverse, including 213 popular festivities organized in the 17 villages of the municipality, being for this one of the most famous regions in Portugal in relation with Easter traditions. As the result of the inventorying work developed by ethnographers and anthropologists from Raiano Cultural Center, including Eddy Chambino, with the film record of most original rites and celebrations, across the municipality, the book "Mysteries of the Holy Week in Idanha-a-Nova" was presented by the author António Catana, with photos by Helder Pereira, in the National Archeology Museum in Lisbon and the Cultural Forum of Idanha-a-Nova. This book "records the richness of scenarios, of enormous originality in world terms, different from village to village, all unique and of great beauty". The associations involved in the promotion of the Holy Week in Idanha, that also collects ancient pagan and Jewish influences, intend to present an application to the List of UNESCO on Intangible Patrimony. The project "Mysteries of the Holy Week in Idanha" is developed by Progestur – Association for promotion, management and development of the Portuguese cultural tourism.

March - Naturtejo Geopark raffles weekends in the major fairs for education and training in Portugal.

The Ensino Magazine newspaper devoted to education was present in the most important event of education, youth and training from the whole country (Futurália-Lisbon), with more than 50000 visitors and professionals. In this event weekends in Naturtejo Geopark were raffled. This associated promotional action will happen also in the next edition of Qualific@ - Fair of Education, Training, Youth and Employment held in Oporto in April, where Ensino Magazine is Media Partner.



1st March – Visit to the Fossils of Penha Garcia with ETA. This outdoor class for 90 students and 6 teachers from D. Sancho II High School, coming from Elvas, in the scope of the classes of Biology and Geology, Physics and Chemistry of the 10th grade and Geology of the 12th grade. This time students left the Fossils Trail to visit the Water Plant of Penha Garcia to understand with a technician from Águas do Centro how the water is treated. The trainers for this field excursion were Sara Canilho, Rita Cortez and Manuela Catana.



2nd to 4th March – Tourism of Centre and Naturtejo Geopark together in FIO 2012 Fair of Birdwatching Tourism. The Fair of Ornithological Tourism - Extremadura Birdwatching Fair, organized in the Spanish village of Villareal de San Carlos – Biosphere Reserve of Monfrague, is one of the major events from the segment. Summing this year 11000 visitors 170 international tour operators and 63 exhibitors took presence. Among them there were 3 exhibitors from Portugal, including Tourism of Centre-Naturtejo Geopark. Armindo Jacinto and Tiago Oliveira visited this fair and participated in the international stock recruitment to present the tourism packages of Geopark specific for birdwatching. It is worth to mention that Naturtejo Geopark is internationally known among scientific community and environmentalists as a hotspot for bird diversity, with sites such as the Natural Monument of Portas de Ródão, 3 Natura sites and 3 Important Bird Areas. The Tejo Internacional Nature Park is preparing an Iberian application to UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.

6th March – Group from Omnitur in Castelo Branco. A group from the travel agency OMNITUR-Agência de Viagens e Turismo from Santarém with 19 people visited the city of Castelo Branco with a guide from Naturtejo. The group started to visit Cargaleiro Museum, followed by the Francisco Tavares Proença Júnior Museum and the famous Palace Garden

6th March – Ideas Competition for Entrepneuership in Oleiros. The Ideas Competition organized by the Municipality of Oleiros, with the support of CIMPIS –Intermunicipal Community of Pinhal Interior Sul prized three projects by their innovation, development of innovative products, social-economic impact in the business sector and contribution for the development goals of Oleiros municipality and the region of the Pinewood as a whole. The Jury, including Carlos Neto de Carvalho as representative of Naturtejo, selected among 12 projects in the competition, the Project enterprise Econature – Cleaning and Composting that will use the cleaning of the waste from the forest to produce biological fertilizer; the Project enterprise Desporto Aventura, which will run an Adventure Sport Park in Álvaro and promote the Adenture Sport Chart for the municipality of Oleiros; and the project enterprise Frutos do Pinhal, for production of wild berries, without any competition in the area.

6th March – Sertã in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. This Field excursion was specially prepared for 121 students and 9 teachers from the 7th grade, in the scope of the class of Natural Sciences, from the Group of Schools from Sertã. The trainers were Sara Canilho, Rita Cortez and Manuela Catana.

7th to 9th March – European Geoparks Network in Andaluzia. The Sierras Subbeticas Geopark welcomed in the city of Lucena the 29th Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network. 45 Geoparks were represented among which Naturtejo Geopark, this time represented by Rafael André. On the discussion table was the 36th General Conference of UNESCO where geoparks were acknowledged as providing the best promotion to UNESCO after World Heritage Sites. It is necessary a strong commitment from geoparks close to UNESCO national commissions, during the current year, to find the way to formalize the relation of Geoparks with UNESCO. During three days, new procedures were developed to make these more productive meetings, introducing the sessions on Geoparks and Sustainable Development and Operation, which decisively contributed for the success of this meeting organized by Milagros Peréz-Villalba representing Consejeria del Medio Ambiente from Andalusia, Baldomero Moreno Arroyo, Director of Sierras Subbeticas Geopark and Alicia Serna, scientific responsible for the Geopark.

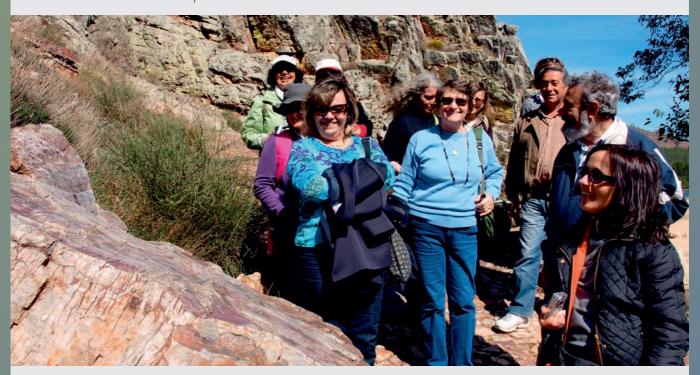


7th to 11th March – Naturtejo Geopark in a partnership for the most important tourism fair in the world in Berlin. Naturtejo made the main entrance in the German tourism market with a successful participation in ITB, the International Tourism Trade of Berlin. Coordinating the Tourism Group of the European Geoparks Network, Naturtejo organized the stand representing the product Geopark together with Dr. Marie-Luise Frey from Messel Pit UNESCO and more four European Geoparks. With an innovative design representing the geographic distribution of the 88 geoparks recognized by UNESCO, from Malaysia to Portugal, an increasing preoccupation with sustainability of the international tourism promotion, the presence of the chéf Mário Ramos filling the stand with the best local flavors and an international team from the represented geoparks able to welcome thousands of visitors and professionals, the stand Geoparks "Innovation and Wonder" did not go unnoticed among Portuguese presence in the world's most important tourism fair. The Business School of Cologne was in charge of a comprehensive evaluation of more than 11.000 exhibitors present in ITB – Berlin, representing the diverse segments of tourism industry. The Award "Best Exhibitor ITB 2012" placed the stand Geoparks among the ten best of its category "Non-profit organizations", achieving an extraordinary 8th place. In an excellent environment created in the hall "Experience Adventure, Ecotourism and Expeditions" Geoparks were able to show that, complementary to a geological heritage of international importance for conservation, the ecological relevance and tourism potential make these territories tourism destinations for the future. Thus, not so surprising was Geoparks to be highlighted in a Hall whose main theme was this year "Rain Forest – Earth's Biological and Exotic Treasure", where about 170.000 professionals and visitors were welcome.

The 7th Pow-Wow for Tourism Professionals, held during three days, was devoted to the subject Geotourism and Geoparks. Armindo Jacinto made two presentations in a very diversified conference agenda that included other specialists in Tourism, Sustainability and Responsability in Tourism, as well as tour operators.

Armindo Jacinto was invited to introduce the subject "Geoparks – Share a Moment of Deep Time" and presented the work developed in Naturtejo Geopark in "Millions of years, a lifetime experience". In a discussion meeting participating Greek, American, German, Chinese and Portuguese experts, Armindo Jacinto defended the importance of Geotourism as tourism of the Earth Memory told by landscapes with vibrant culture, as a distinguishing segment, socially responsible and with an increasing demand all over the world. Geoparks are nowadays an increasingly alternative for sustainable development where tourism, biological agriculture, innovation and development of new markets for local products can contribute for a diversification of economical activities, together with education and a modern scientific research with practical application in regional contexts. Naturtejo has prepared an educational tour to the Geopark especially conceived for Berlin Fair. In May international tour operators and media will be welcome in Naturtejo Geopark. The theme of next year's Ecotourism Hall was arranjed between the coordinator Marianna McGill, Armindo Jacinto, Nickolas Zouros and Marie-Luise Frey, and it will be entirely dedicated to Geoparks and Geotourism.

9th March – No Tecto do Mundo in Castelo Branco. Naturtejo ranger volunteers this month were full. 96 visitors came with the tour operator NO TECTO DO MUNDO-ANIMAÇÃO TURISTICA E EVENTOS CULTURAIS to see the Templar castle of Castelo Branco and the romantic Palace Garden.



10th March – The Union of the Teachers from the Great Lisbon visit Naturtejo Geopark. A group of 41 teachers, friends and family visited Naturtejo Geopark in the scope of the Pedagogical Journeys organized every year by the Union of Teachers from the Great Lisbon. This group was guided by Manuela Catana and Sara Canilho in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia by the Fossils Trail. To recover energy the group had lunch in the restaurant O Javali, also in Penha Garcia, where a birthday was celebrated with a birthday cake! The afternoon was spent in Vila Velha de Ródão with a nice boat trip. There they found Portas de Ródão geomonument and the largest griffon vulture nesting site in Portugal and the rare Black Storks along the Tejo river.

10th to 11th March – Earth Scent. The pack "Earth Scents in Naturtejo Geopark" attracted a group of 43 people to taste, during a weekend, the best wild products from Idanha's gastronomy. In Penha Garcia a thematic trekking "Earth Scents" was developed to show how to identify mushrooms. The group took also the opportunity to visit the historical villages of Idanha-a-Velha and Monsanto. In the next day, there was time to discover the asparagus near Idanha-a-Nova, conducted by the Tourism Office of the municipality.

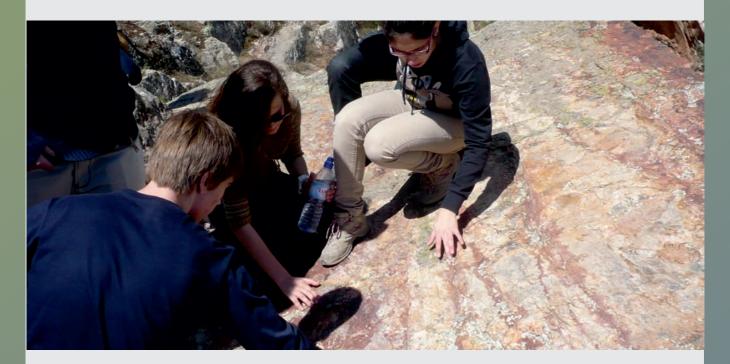


15th March – New school project "Anim'a Rocha" in Proença-a-Nova. "Geopark goes to school..." Pedro da Fonseca high school to start a new project with the students from the 11th grade. To introduce the project was developed the subject "Geological Heritage of Proença-a-Nova: an heritage with more than 500 million years old", focusing on the region of Sobral Fernando and the Portas de Almourão geomonument where the students are going to organize two field trips. These excursions will be oriented by the students, however the novelty in this project is that the students will only meet and explore the site during the field trip. At the classroom they saw rocks from the area, models of geological structures, and questions arose that will have the answer only with the field trip.

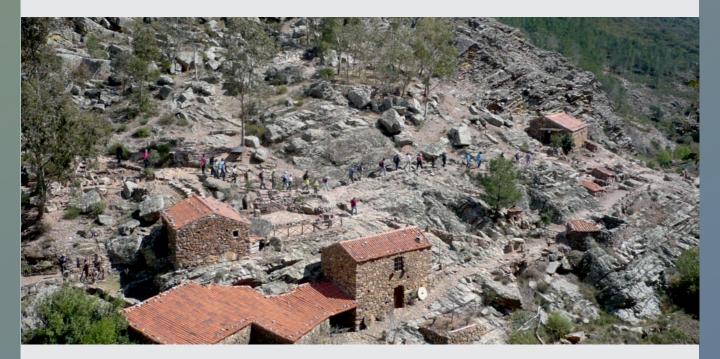
16th March – No Tecto do Mundo returns to Castelo Branco. Once more our guides have shown the city of Castelo Branco, with the castle and the Palace Garden, to 94 visitors brought by the operator NO TECTO DO MUNDO-ANIMAÇÃO TURISTICA E EVENTOS CULTURAIS.

17th to 19th March – Holy Week brings great tourism.... Indeed, this is a very busy period in respect to tourism activity, with Spanish tourists in great number coming to meet the Geopark. The pack "Discovering Geopark" brough 25 people with the tour operator Nuestros Camiños for a three-day visit with Naturtejo guides and Incentivos Outdoor company to the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, the city of Castelo Branco (castle, Tavares Proença Júnior Museum and the Palace Garden), as well as the historical villages of Idanha-a-Velha and Monsanto.

17th to 19th March – ...y otro!... "Discovering Geopark" for a group of 36 Spanish tourists coming with the operator Tierras Inéditas visited with Pedro Martins the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, Monsanto Inselberg, and finishing with a very appreciated spa in Termas de Monfortinho.



19th March – By the Fossils Trail, among rock and water! 90 students and teachers from the school Dr. Solano Abreu from Abrantes walked by the rocky paths of the Fossils Trail, at Penha Garcia, to meet the ancient history of the region, together with Manuela Catana, Joana Rodrigues and Sara Canilho. The group was particularly interested in the quartzite formations, their structural context, chemical composition and relation with the mineral waters from Termas de Monfortinho, not far from there.

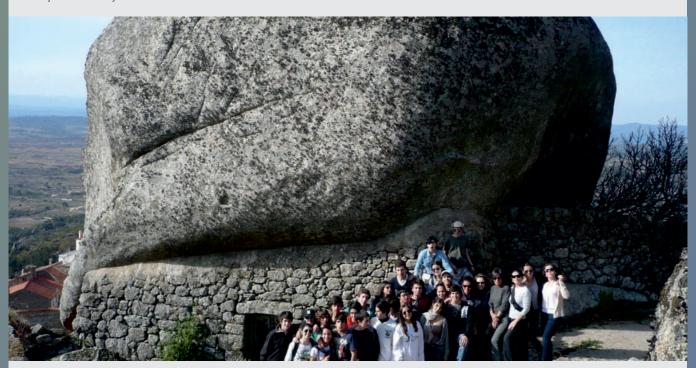


17th to 19th March – ...and in the same day they meet a tourist group. Pack "Spring in Naturtejo Geopark Primavera no Geopark" for the Spanish tour operator Arawak got the precious collaboration of the outdoor company Vila Fraga, taking 34 people to unravel Orvalho GeoTrail, the "Schist Path of Foz do Cobrão" and the Secrets of Vale Mourão Valley Trail, detailing the visit to Portas de Almourão geomonument; the group also visited the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the historical village of Monsanto.



20th March – Student Spring among Fossils and Granites. When the Spring is not hiding anymore, 42 students from the 10th grade of Lousã High School walked by the Fossils Trail in the path of any proof found to show how the region was 480 million years ago. Later they climbed by the Boulders Trail trying to interpret the development of so many granite landforms covering Monsanto Inselberg, with the help of Manuela Catana and Joana Rodrigues.

21st to 24th March – Fam Trip for Galician tour operator. FAM TRIP specially prepared for the Spanish tour operator Costas Galicias that experimentally brought a group of 55 visitors to the Geopark. Tiago Oliveira was the leader for 4 days, taking the group to the Vultures Trail of Salvaterra do Extremo, visiting the city of Castelo Branco and the workshop of the famous embroidery, making the boat trip in Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, meeting the historical villages of Idanha-a-Velha and Monsanto, as well as Idanha-a-Nova, discovering the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and finishing with a relaxed hydromassaje in Termas de Monfortinho.



21st and 22nd March – Infanta D. Maria school in the Geopark

21st and 22nd March – Infanta D. Maria school in the Geopark. Early in the morning, 56 pupils and teachers from the 10th grade of the Infanta D. Maria High School, from Coimbra, arrived to discover the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, by the Fossils Trail. But it was in Monsanto, walking by the Boulders Trail, that the phenomena of weathering and erosion were most appreciated, as well as the harmony of boulders with the locals. In the following day, one more group of 60 pupils and teachers coming from this school learned in the Geopark. Sara Canilho, Joana Rodrigues and Manuela Catana were there both days to introduce them to local geology according with their school curricula.



23rd March – In the most famous educational program: students from the city of Guarda among fossils and the granite culture of Monsanto. This field trip was developed for 17 pupils of Geology and 3 teachers from the Sé High School, at Guarda, currently in the 12th grade. The quide was Manuela Catana.

23rd March – This month for the second time! The Naturtejo rangers guided 96 people for the tour operator NO TECTO DO MUNDO-ANIMAÇÃO TURISTICA E EVENTOS CULTURAIS in one more visit to Castelo Branco, its castle and the Bishop's garden.



24th March – New issue of Açafa-online celebrates 40 years upon the discovery of the Rock Art in the Tejo Valley.

24th March – New issue of Açafa-online celebrates 40 years upon the discovery of the Rock Art in the Tejo Valley. The Alto Tejo Research Association launched in public, the issue 4 of the magazine Açafa Online. This public session was performed in the House of Culture of Oleiros with the presence of well known researchers in archeology and geology which testified the heritage value of Naturtejo Geopark, as a fundamental resource for promotion of a sustainable development for this region. The launching of the magazine deserved from the municipality of Oleiros, the host of the event represented by the vice-mayor Victor Antunes, an extraordinary support providing the place and the logistic support necessary for the success of the initiative.

The new issue was presented by Prof. José d'Encarnação. In his speech, José d'Encarnação emphasized the best practice of this Project and the importance of the scientific knowledge related with heritage assets for the strategies of economical development and also as tool to promote the identity values of community and a region. The event was also focused in some of the papers dealing with the heritage of the Geopark, chaired by Carlos Neto de Carvalho, whose authors was given the opportunity to present the results of their research to the audience, leaving some suggestions and challenges to be carried out in a future we wish near. João Pedro Gonçalves introduced a Project proposal to value Serra do Moradal mountain and Sara Canilho presented some of her work in interpretation developed during the Master thesis, now including one year of experience working in the Geopark.

The closure of the event chaired by the editor of Açafa, the archeologist João Caninas, was made by Prof. Diamantino Pereira with a brilliant and educative conference, illustrated by extraordinary pictures, on the geological diversity of Portugal in the scope of the Inventory of the Geological Heritage. Prof. Diamantino Pereira also showed the economical and tourist resource of these heritage for which is mandatory the establishment of well-defined conservation measures able to find the bond between heritage and the demand of local community.

The Alto Tejo Research Association believes this event was a major step towards achieving larger audiences with the results of the research conducted in the territory where this association conducts its activity.

30th March – More is never too much! One more INATEL group through the tour operator NO TECTO DO MUNDO-ANIMAÇÃO TURISTICA E EVENTOS CULTURAIS brought 95 seniors to visit the city of Castelo Branco.



31st March to 1st April – 2nd Festival of Asparagus, Mushrooms and Truffles strengths the success of the products of Earth. The second edition of the Festival of Asparagus, Mushrooms and Truffles of Alcafozes was a major success. Hundreds of people visited this village to taste some of the best Earth products. In this regard, it is not surprising that the Fair of regional products was always crowed with people, with street performances and musicians strengthen dynamics. .

The sessions of "Live Cooking" with wild products were very participated by everyone wishing to share the secrets of the pot. The "Chéfs" Mário Ramos from Ô Hotels & Resorts, António Sequeira from the School of Hotels and Tourism of Estoril, Prof. João Lameira from the Polytechnical Institute Castelo Branco and Valdir Lubave from the Belmonte Inn introduced new approaches and old secrets in the making of delicacies with asparagus and fungi. For the children a workshop on cooking and tasting "Discovering the wild ingredients" was made. Besides the trekking "Wild Products Thematic Visit" organized by the Tourism Office of Idanha-a-Nova, that brougth 4 "Truffles Friends" to Naturtejo for a tourism package, a workshop by José Luís Henriques, from the Regional Office of Agriculture of the Centre was most attended.





Newspapers & www

March (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) – In the biggest Tourism Fair in Berlin – Naturtejo Geopark among the ten best exhibitors

March (Ensino Magazine – 1st page) – Naturtejo Geopark awarded in Berlin

March (Ensino Magazine – 1st page) – Tourism increases 100% in the Geopark

March (Ensino Magazine – 1st page) – El País recommends Naturtejo Geopark to Spanish

March (Ensino Magazine) – Weekends raffling in Naturtejo Geopark

Março (Ensino Magazine) - Geological Heritage - Portugal inventoried

March (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) - Açafa Online

March (<u>www.clubearlivre.org</u>) - Naturtejo

1st March (Reconquista) – Portas de Ródão – Hotel reopens renovated

1st March (Reconquista) – Schools challenged for challenging

2nd March (El País – El Viagero travelling magazine) – Cheapest Holy Week– 25 very good ideas

3rd March (Público) – Geology: first national inventory points more than 300 sites

6th March (Povo da Beira) – Geopark and National Commission of Unesco launch the school contest "How to improve the environmental quality of my community"

6th March (Opção Turismo) - Centre of Portugal in ITB

7th March (www.viseumais.com) – Centre of Portugal promoted in BTL and in Berlin

7th March (Turisver) – Centre of Portugal in ITB

8th March (Reconquista) - Naturtejo represents world network of geoparks

8th March (Reconquista) – Naturtejo Geopark and UNESCO launch school contest

9th March (Notícias Ribeirinhas) – International publics targeted by BIORIA

14th March (Gazeta do Interior) – Two new tourist trains cross the region

14th March (Gazeta do Interior) – Three ideas for business awarded

14th March (Gazeta do Interior) – Açafa issue 4 launched in the Internet

15th March (reconquista) – Exhibitor was in 8th place among 12000 stands

15th March (reconquista) – Açafa online presented in Oleiros

15th March (reconquista) – Municipality awards projects

20th March (<u>www.jornaldeoleiros.com</u>) – Naturtejo wins in the biggest tourism fair in the world

20th March (<u>www.pinhaldigital.com</u>) – In the biggest Tourism Fair in the world at Berlin Naturtejo Geopark among the ten best exhibitors



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

20th March (www.bercodomundo.blogspot.pt) – Penha Garcia, a travel 500 million vears old

20th March (www.diariodigitalcastelobranco.com) – Naturtejo Geopark in the International Tourism Fair of Berlin

21st March (Gazeta do Interior) – Festival of Asparagus, Mushrooms and Truffles in Idanha-a-Nova – Products from the wilderness will be the kings of the party at 22nd March (www.euro-ace.eu) – "El Pais" Newspaper highlights destaca Naturtejo Geopark for "Cheapest Holy Week"

22nd March (Reconquista) – Festival of Gastronomy – Oleiros loves Easter 22nd March (Reconquista) – On-line Magazine – Açafa launched in Oleiros 22nd March (Reconquista) – Asparagus and mushrooms back to Alcafozes

22nd March (Reconquista) – Tourism – El Pais chooses Beira for the Spanish 27th March (Povo da Beira) – Naturtejo Geopark at Berlin in the biggest tourism fair in the world

27th March (Povo da Beira) – Açafa-Online magazine launched in Oleiros 27th March (Povo da Beira) – 2nd Festival of Asparagus, Mushrooms and Truffles 28th March (Gazeta do Interior) – Geopark amongst the best 25 holiday' destinations

29th March (Reconquista) – Açafa launched

30th March (www.estalagemrodao.blogspot.com) - Easter in the Geopark

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES



Catana, A. & Pereira, H. – Mistérios da Semana Santa em Idanha. Progestur.

Neto de Carvalho, C., Rodrigues, J.C. & Canilho, S. 2011 – Património geológico e geomineiro de Monforte da Beira (Castelo Branco): caracterização do percurso pedestre "Caminhos do Ferro de Monforte". Açafa-Online, 4, 32 pp.

Canilho, S.R.B. 2011 – Definição de temáticas científicas, propostas de valorização e divulgação do Monumento Natural das Portas de Ródão, e suas imediações, para Turismo Científico. Açafa-Online, 4, 77 pp.

Carvalho, D. L. 2011 – Inventariação da geodiversidade da região das Portas de Almourão (Vila Velha de Ródão e Proença-a-Nova, Geopark Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional): contributo para a sua inclusão na rede nacional de áreas protegidas. Açafa-Online, 4, 84 pp.

Caninas, J.C., Sabrosa, A., Henriques, F., Germano, A., Monteiro, J.L., Carvalho, E., Batista, A., Canha, A. & Chambino, M. 2011 – O Tumulus de Vale de Mós 1 (Serra Vermelha, Oleiros). Açafa-Online, 4, 51 pp.

Araújo Igreja, M. 2011 – Análise traceológica de uma mó manual proveniente do Tumulus de Vale de Mós 1 (Oleiros): resultados. Açafa-Online, 4, 8 pp.

Henriques, F., Chambino, M., Caninas, J.C., Pereira, A. & Carvalho, E. 2011 – Pinturas rupestres pré-históricas na serra das Talhadas (Proença-a-Nova), primeira notícia. Açafa-Online, 4, 25 pp.

Encarnação, J., Chambino, M. & Henriques, F. 2011 – Duas novas epígrafes do concelho de Idanha-a-Nova. Açafa-Online, 4, 18 pp.

Encarnação, J. 2011 – Inscrição rupestre sobre o Tejo – aditamento. Açafa-Online, 4, 8 pp.

Boavida, C. 2011 – Artefactos metálicos do castelo de Castelo Branco (Portugal). Açafa-Online, 4, 45 pp.

Carvalho, A.M.R. 2011 – Virgem Negra, Maria Madalena e Nossa Senhora da Conceição. A continuidade de um culto pagão. Açafa-Online, 4, 32 pp.

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES



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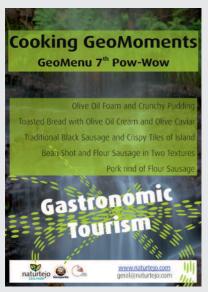


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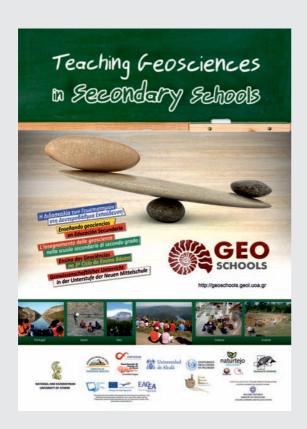












II GEOschools Conference More information: http://geoschools.geol.uoa.gr/

LOCATION AND DATES

The second Geoschools open conference will be held on June 2nd to 3nd, 2012, at the University School Cardenal Cisneros, close to the University of Alcalá, Cloated at Avenida de los Jesuitas 34, 28806 Alcalá de Henares (Madrid) (http://www.cardenalcisneros.es/

Audience: Secondary School teachers of Biology, Geology and Earth Sciences and Environmental from Biology and Geology departments. Previewed number of participants will be between 100 and 150, Selection criteria: Secondary School teachers from Biology and Geology departments.

Location: Assembly Hall University School Cardenal Cisneros

Cisneros
Institutional support: GEO-Schools Project in collaboration with the Spanish Association for the Teaching of Earth Sciences (AEPECT).
Registration: FREE. It includes participation in field
trip, coffee-breaks, funch both days, conference volume and informative material. Dinner and accommodation are not included. The inscription request must
be sent by email to: mariadolores lopez@ush.es. It
must be sent between March 1st and April 13th.



Secretariat and information

Secretary of the Conference: Department of Geology University of Alcalá: Maria Dolores Lopez Carrillo. Department of Geology

Edificio de Ciencias, Universidad de Alcalá 28871 Alcalá de Henares (Madrid)

Tfno: 918854952/918854004 FAX: 918855090

e-mail: mariadolores.lopez@uah.es Other questions: Amelia Calonge: a.calonge@uah.es

Accommodation

The city of Alcalá de Henares and the surrounding area have a wide range of hotel accommodation facilities including; hotels, apartments and rooms in the University Residence. The Accommodation in the University Residence Cardenal Cisneros can be booked in the web page: http://ceges.cardenalcisneros.com/
Price for accommodation and breakfast: 38€/day



"Geosciences literacy and teaching needs " Alcala de Henares (Madrid), June the 2nd-3rd 2012





