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# CRUZIANA

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

**Neste número:** - In the European Week of Regions and Cities – “Countryside” Conference: an ocean of opportunities – 1st Tourism Congress of Campos Gerais, Brazil –Classification Proposal of the Serra da Gardunha as Protected Landscape...and more!



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

## **Geo-histories of these people and places: Mata**

The sunny village of Mata finds itself perched on a small hill where it can be seen distant lands beyond the boundary with Spain and the Serra da Gardunha and Serra da Estrela mountain massifs who curl themselves, in a sudden way, from the Castelo Branco plains. Covering a total area of 23, 97 km<sup>2</sup>, between a smooth curl almost totally covered by olive grove and the deep valley of Ribeira de Alpreade, where the holm oak and the sheep prevails, the small 470 habitants village, together with the neighbour Bacias village, nestle there protected by the powerful Ponsul Fault Escarpment, one of the most differentiating geomonuments of the Naturtejo Geopark landscape. The Castelo Branco Granite and Graywackes and Shales from Beiras domains meet here without having generated any kind of formal mineral exploitations; however the quartz veins, milkier or more blackened by the uranium presence, emerge as a potential but never historically explored before. Despite being found Roman vestiges in the Fonte da Bica area and the settlement being ancient, There are not particularly worthy monuments of special note besides the popular schist architecture, with stonework details in the doors and windows, rarely revealing past evidences, predominating the early constructions. However, It should be stressed the shoemaker Manuel dos Santos House and the grand Tomé olive oil press, on the east side of the village, which demonstrate the importance of olive oil production in the early days. The isolation which this village was obliged during several centuries until the early 50's of the XX century reinforced a very local language pronunciation with several provençal-related influences which dates back the Templar period of the construction in Portugal.

Mata features a very aged population, made up by almost 40% pensioners and only about 5% juveniles, and a debilitated corporate structure formed essentially by small retail and micro-industries connected to the construction industry and the automobile sector. Without touristic equipment and infrastructures, it benefits however with the proximity of the Quinta da Bigorna Complex, only 4km away that, apart from de restaurant and swimming pools, foresees a Hotel construction. The agricultural sector shows itself as a strategy for fighting Mata's depopulation and attracting new rurals. In order to this, it is necessary to reunite the existing producers in a regional based olive growers association to facilitate de production outflow, and foster the young farmers attraction, highly qualified professionals, which invest in the existing and abandoned olive groves and develop quality products from the olive and the olive oil, particularly soaps and skin lotions, pâté and other delicacies directly from the roll-shaped, intense flavoured fruit, and which, by existing, complement the region touristic offer with agricultural activities addressed to the visitor.



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By the natural characteristics, the creation of a pedestrian trail which unites the village of Mata to Ribeira de Alpeadre, and take the opportunity which the fauna and flora diversity provides, as well as the hillside olive groves and the traditional architecture (like the olive oil presses or the apiary-walls), may contribute to increase the touristic activity in the region.

Recommended Bibliography:

Barata, M. 2007. Mata – um falar peculiar e outras curiosidades. Edições Alecrim, Lisboa, 87 pp.

Ascensão, M.E. 1758. Memórias Paroquiais de Mata.

The Editor  
Carlos Neto de Carvalho  
Scientific Coordinator  
Geologist



# ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



**October – Nisa-a-Velha site classified.** The archaeological/architectonical site of Nossa Senhora da Graça, in the area where Nisa primarily appeared, was protected as a National Public Interest Site. This site is constituted by the Castro, Nossa Senhora da Graça chapel, Cruzeiro, Santiago Church Ruins, Superficial Findings, Fonte Coberta, Fonte Soterrada and other fountains, the chapel “dos Fíéis de Deus”, Nossa Senhora dos Prazeres chapel, Via Calçada stone road and Nossa Senhora da Graça Bridge.



**October – Proposal for the classification as Protected Landscape of Serra da Gardunha.** The proposal, who aims the classification process as Protected Landscape Serra da Gardunha was approved unanimously in the Municipal Assembly of Castelo Branco. Among the highlighted values which support this proposal, are included the Geological Heritage and the hydrogeological wealth. This is a process which involves the Castelo Branco and Fundão municipalities and covers a 10 500 hectares area, of which 2 500 hectares are included in Geopark Naturtejo area. This classification is justified by the “aesthetic, ecologic and cultural value”.



**October – The book “Geoparks & Geotourism: new approaches in sustainability for the 21st century” as handbook in the E.U.A. Geotourism course.** Neda Torabi Farsani's book co-written with Naturtejo Geopark investigators will be used in the next academic semester as reference for the Geotourism course, in Missouri State University, E.U.A. This Geotourism course, one of the two currently found worldwide is organized by the Geography, Geology and Planning Department of this American university.

**October – New Guide of School Programs 2012-2013 of the “Alive Science” Centre of Forest.** With a new school year comes along new offers of the Science Centre of Proença-a-Nova. This year their experiment workshop includes the new atelier “Hydric Erosion”, among many other new proposals, maintaining his collaboration with the Naturtejo Geopark through the “Fossils at your taste!” This collaboration is equally sustained in the activity “field Trip in Naturtejo Geopark” which this year includes a brand new innovation: making clay fossil-shaped soaps after the visit to the Centre exhibit.

**5 to 7 October – Friendship Games of the PT Club.** The national telecommunication company PT Club is back with 72 participants in the Friendship Games, a good way of Team Building already with long tradition. Besides multiple sporting events held in the sporting spaces of the Idanha-a-Nova municipality, the participants can get to know on foot the town that welcomed them: the Raiano Cultural Centre, Arts and Handcraft House and the Cultural Forum.



**5 and 6 October – Association “Dances with History” in Idanha-a-Nova.** The Association “Dances with History” celebrated its 12th anniversary with a medieval suits parade in Monsanto and Idanha-a-Nova, evoking Gualdim Pais. The 23 people group also promoted a Renaissance dance session in the Idanha-a-Velha Cathedral. This association promotes the historic heritage animation in Portugal.



**5 and 7 October – Touristic Programs across the Geopark.** Two groups of 12 and 13 persons spent an excellent weekend in the best Naturtejo Geopark places. The first group began with a boat trip to the heart of Portas de Rodão Natural Monument. With the geologist Joana Rodrigues, they thoroughly visited the Penha Garcia Ichnological Park and its Ichnofossils. Afterwards, dinner could only be at the “Petiscos & Granitos” Geo-restaurant, in Monsanto.

On the next day, the geologist João Geraledes took the group through the Erges slopes to the Segura Mines, with an incursion in Spanish lands to visit the magnificent Alcantara Roman bridge. After a picnic in “Casa do Forno”, they appreciated the birdlife in the Vultures Route. On the third day, it was time to visit the International Tejo Natural Park through another boat trip, which goes from Lentiscais, travelling the Ponsul and Tejo river banks to Cedillo, on the Spanish border.

The second group was accompanied by the guide Jorge Costa and started by meeting the Monsanto island-hill through the Barrocais Trail. The lunch could only happen, once again, at the Petiscos & Granitos Geo-restaurant. In the afternoon, a visit through the Fossils Trail in Penha Garcia. On the next day, as a relaxing activity, they pay a visit to the Monfortinho Thermal spas enjoying hydro massage baths. Then they acknowledged the Historic Village of Idanha-a-Velha and concluded the trip with the usual feast at the Helana Restaurant, in Idanha-a-Nova.

**7 October – 10th Meeting of Accordionists and “Concertina” Players in Proença-a-Velha.** The 10th Meeting of Accordionists took place in Proença-a-Velha with the support from Naturtejo Geopark. In a folk music event that brought the sounds through the heritage and the village streets, the celebration ended at the Olive Oil Press Museological Complex.





**8 to 11 October – Geopark at the European Week of Regions and Cities, in Brussels.**

The (CCDRC) Regional Coordination and Development Commission of the Center of Portugal guarantees for almost four years the participation of the Center Region in the Open Days – European Week of Regions and Cities. This event, which is the biggest annual in the calendar event of the European cities and regions (gathers more than six thousand participants) comes from a joint organisation with the Regions and European Commission Committee – Directorate-General of Regional Politics, in cooperation with the European Parliament, the Presidency of the European Union and more than 200 cities and regions of 35 countries. The general issue of the 2012 edition, which occurred in Brussels, was “Europe's regions and cities: Making a difference”, being defined three thematic priorities: “Smart and green growth for all”, “Territorial cooperation: an asset for Europe” and “Delivering results”.

The Centre Region joins a conglomerate of 12 regions which includes Castilla y León (lead region), Eastern England, of the United Kingdom, Western Norway, Central Norway and Oslo, Warmia and Mazury, from Poland, Central Denmark, Västra Götaland and Gothenburg City, from Sweden, and the Municipalities from Kadıköy and Beşiktaş, from Turkey.

This conglomerate proposed to organize a workshop under the theme “Smart Partnerships for jobs and growth”, which took place in the Norway House, participated by Armindo Jacinto from Naturtejo Geopark.

The CCDRC also hosted another event concerning the community based local development invigorating the debate: “Local development strategies, public/private partnerships and multi-funded projects. How can good experiences from the past help design good CLLD for the future?” This debate, which had the participation of representatives from Castilla y León and French Central Massif regions, was followed by a networking session, in which was made a tasting of products from “Schist Village”.

**12 October – “Countryside”: an ocean of opportunities.**

The Conference “Countryside: an ocean of opportunities” was organized in the Management School by the Idanha-a-Nova Municipal Council in association with the Journal of Fundão, having the Naturtejo Geopark as support. Being a particularly important subject for the region, the conference had a high turnout, around 200 participants. Some of the target issues were the connection between Tourism and the Countryside, Sustainable Nature and Agriculture as basis for excellence in tourism in the Countryside and examples of good business practices in the Countryside. Some of the invited speakers were Armindo Jacinto, as Board of Administration president of Naturtejo, Álvaro Rocha, president of Idanha-a-Nova Council, Marco Baptista, Director of the Company Biofun in Fundão, Augusto Mateus, of the Company Augusto Mateus & Associated and Maria São Luís Centeno, of the Directorate-General of Agriculture and Rural Development. Armindo Jacinto presented the rural based business incubator of Várzea and how the Geotourism promotes the sustainable development in Naturtejo Geopark. The project “Terra à Vista” occupied about 90% of the 550 hectares of this farmstead with beekeeping, cherry production, blueberries, and vineyard and olive groves majorly “for biological production”. The closing panel was made by the Secretary of State for the Forests and Rural Development, Daniel Campelo.

**12 to 14 October – Casqueiro Festival of Idanha-a-Velha.** O “O Casqueiro” – Bread, Bakery and Traditions Festival was held in the historical village of Idanha-a-Velha, including the opening of the Community Oven. About 100 commercial areas sold the best traditional products of the region. On Sunday, the Idanha-a-Nova Tourism Office organized the pedestrian walk: “Lands of Egitânea” along the historical villages of Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha. This festival complemented the weekend offer, alongside with the BTT Marathon

**12 to 14 October – Tierra Fuego across the Geopark.** The commercial agent for Spain Jesus Alarcon brought to Naturtejo Geopark 26 Spanish tourists via the operator Tierra Fuego. The group began by touring Salvaterra do Extremo, in the Vultures Trail. On the next day, they trailed Egitânea Route and met the historical village of Idanha-a-Velha. They yet “marched” to Monsanto, climbing the island-hill to the top, reaching the castle, well surrounded by sensational panoramic views. On the last day, the group trailed the Fossils Route, to discover the trilobite behaviour imprinted on the amazing quartzite scarps with approximately 480 millions years old.



**14 October –BTT Marathon “Raia Trails” brings 800.** More than 800 mountain bike maniacs headed to the national “cathedral” of this sport, from over 95 Portuguese municipalities. The Spanish participants also increased their number. The economic impact was therefore perceptible, with the accommodation and restaurant services sold out, since more than a half of the participants came one day early. Two courses, of 95 and 55 km each, were available starting from Idanha-a-Nova. Portuguese 55 year old cycling hero Marco Chagas, made 55 km with the 13th best time, giving credit to the event's success to “the organization quality and the beauty of the tracks”. “The Cyclotourism Association of Idanha-a-Nova is an example of how it should be organized a BTT ride. Perfectly timed start, impeccable courses, flawless markings, unlimited supplies... And Penha Garcia, which there are neither words nor photos to explain it”.





**15 to 19 October – 1st Tourism Congress of Campos Gerais: a a more consistent second Geopark for Brazil.**

The regional touristic sector organization, with the focus on the quality rural products and the diversification of the touristic offer through the speleotourism, adventure tourism, ecotourism and geotourism by means of creating a participative geopark model which includes in his management the main entities responsible for the regional development of Campos Gerais, was one of the conclusions of the 1st Tourism Congress held in Ponta Grossa, Brazil. The 1st Tourism Congress of Campos Gerais was organized by the Tourism Department of Ponta Grossa University, in the State of Paraná, with the support of Araucária Foundation. The subject focused on "Tourism in Natural Areas" and aimed a technical and scientific discussion of Tourism, promoting the academic, political and corporative involvement, reinforcing the cooperation between the multiple sectors that comprise the regional tourism system. Among the many presentations of applied investigation works developed in this region of Paraná, including that of the Campos Gerais National Park, the focus was put on the regional and international geopark experiences, through the Portuguese Naturtejo Geopark and the Araripe Geopark, of Ceará (Brazil), as well as the Geopark project being developed in the region of Bodoquena/Pantanal, in Mato Grosso do Sul (Brazil). Carlos Neto de Carvalho, scientific coordinator of the Naturtejo Geopark, was the invited specialist to talk about the implementation of UNESCO recognized Geoparks, the communication strategies of the Geological Heritage and the innovating potential of the Geotourism segment. This coordinator and investigator also presented the organization model of Naturtejo Geopark and the results obtained in the last six years, as reference to a geopark model to be developed in this Brazilian region. In the round table moderated by Professor Gilson Burigo Guimarães was also highlighted the presentation of José Patrício Melo, head of Araripe Geopark, who reinforced the importance of the local owners on the economic management and appreciation of the Geological Heritage, and Afrânio José Soriano, coordinator of the Geopark Bodoquena/Pantanal project who stressed the economic and social value of Nature conservation in the protected areas. The Congress Coordinator, Professor Jasmine Moreira Cardozo, specialist on tourism in Protected Areas and Environmental Interpretation, was very pleased with the results achieved, underlining the work that has been developed by the group of specialists of the University of Ponta Grossa to a geopark development recognized by UNESCO in the region of Campos Gerais. The conservation and appreciation examples of this Brazilian region exceptional geological heritage are many; particularly the State Park of Vila Velha, the Guartelá Canyon or the Tibagi region, where the Brazilian diamond exploration history had its earliest days and it still remains as cultural heritage. Known as "the best little town of Brazil", Tibagi is today an ecotourism destination that will strengthen the geotouristic offer as way of achieving the international markets. This idea was stressed by the councillor Angela Nasser, during the visit to this city in the congress framework, made by the Portuguese and Brazilian guests





**26 to 28 October – FAM Trip with tour operators: Portugal Tours and Solférias.** Tiago Oliveira accompanied 25 operator professionals of the Portuguese Portugal Tours and Solférias in a unique experience through Geopark Naturtejo. The group stayed at the Astória Hotel, in Termas de Monfortinho, where they tasted the regional gastronomy innovation. Thus, they had the chance to meet the thermal complex of Fonte Santa and take contact with the absolutely pure and special water. After that, a visit to the Lagares de Proença-a-Velha Complex, “Casa de Artes” and Idanha-a-Nova Cultural Forum, Historical Villages of Idanha-a-Velha and Monsanto. On the next day, the discovery of the Fossils Trail, including Nature sport activities with the company Vila Fraga.

**26 to 28 October – “Earth Flavours” brings Adraces.** The Regional Development Association of the Central South Region of Raia gathered the European partners of a gastronomic route project in which the team of Geopark Naturtejo have been involved technically. The 15 person group pay a visit to some of the points of interest outlined by the Geopark. They began by meeting the Cooperative of the Beira Baixa Cheese Producers, in Idanha-a-Nova, where they taste some of the best cheese in the world, as they were recognized this year. Thereafter, they found the “Lagar de Varas” in the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha. Already in Ladoeiro, they meet a modern olive oil unit production, the Coopagrol, where they tasted its excellent olive oil. To conclude the visit, a lunch at the Helana restaurant, in Idanha-a-Nova, gathered some of the local traditional dishes such as the “Tiborna de Bacalhau” well provided of local olive oil, olives and handcraft sheep butter, Súbito Geowine and the regional “Papas de Carolo”.



**27 and 28 October – Touristic TT Ride Turbo/Hyundai between Proença-a-Nova and Termas de Monfortinho**

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The 4WD magazine “Turbo” and the automobile brand “Hyundai” organized a touristic ride for 87 Nature lovers through the tracks that cross the Naturtejo Geopark. The ride began in the Amoras Hotel, in Proença-a-Nova. The morning course brought them to meet the Talhadas mountain, the Portas de Almourão Geomonument and the Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, through the guidebook made available by Naturtejo Geopark. The hunger already had stroked when they arrived to the Almeida Cheese Dairy, in Castelo Branco, to a tasting of the famous regional cheese. By the afternoon, starting from Quinta da Dança, they journeyed past the Senhora do Almortão Sanctuary and by the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha, where they were able to make a more time consuming visit. At last, they arrived to the Fonte Santa Hotel in Monfortinho.

On the next morning, after a Buffet breakfast with show-cooking, time was to leave the motor vehicles and to take a guided walking trip to the village of Penha Garcia, with a visit through the Ichnological Park and the “Moinhos de Rodízio”.





# IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

## Newspapers & www

- 3 de October (Gazeta do Interior) – Four stars with the gastronomic investment
- 4 de October (Reconquista) – Idanha Municipality “Dances with History”
- 7 de October (Açoriano Oriental) – Portuguese Geoparks
- 10 de October (Gazeta do Interior) – All in defence of Gardunha Mountain
- 11 de October (Reconquista) – Opportunity to save the countryside
- 11 de October (Reconquista) – Senhora da Graça protected
- 11 de October (Reconquista) – Casqueiro ensures food supply
- 11 de October (Reconquista) – Obtaining wealth, generating jobs
- 11 de October (Reconquista) – Eight hundred mountain bike enthusiasts are expected in Idanha-a-Nova
- 14 de October (Diário dos Campos) – Congress pretends to leverage tourism in Ponta Grossa
- 15 de October ([www.portal.uepg.br](http://www.portal.uepg.br)) – Congress discuss tourism in Campos Gerais until friday
- 16 de October (Jornal da Manhã) – UEPG Congress discuss Tourism in Campos Gerais
- 17 de October (Gazeta do Interior) – Adventure and Science fiction book in Portas de Ródão
- 18 de October (Reconquista) – Chinese interested in tourism
- 18 de October (Reconquista) –This mountain bike “nunca dá raia”!
- 18 de October (Jornal do Fundão) – Geopark example of success

## TV & Radio

- 8 October (Radio Cova da Beira) – “Naturtejo placed the region on the map”
- 24 October (RTP 1 – Portugal em Directo news) – Interview with Carlos Neto de Carvalho about the importance of the new Ródão Rock Art Centre for tourism in the Naturtejo Geopark.

# SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES



- Rodrigues, J. & Neto de Carvalho, C. – Património geomorfológico da vertente meridional da Serra da Gardunha (Castelo Branco): potencialidades e ameaças. Geomorfologia 2010. Publicações da Associação Portuguesa de Geomorfólogos, 7, APGEOM, Porto: 61-70.

- Cosme, S. R. – Chão das Servas no panorama mineiro do rio Ocreza (Vila Velha de Ródão). In: C.M.B. Martins, A.M.S. Bettencourt, J.I.F.P. Martins & J. Carvalho (Eds), Povoamento e exploração dos recursos mineiros na Europa Atlântica Ocidental. Centro de Investigação Transdisciplinar Cultura, Espaço e Memória, Associação Portuguesa para o Estudo do Quaternário, Braga: pp. 251-260.



# PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC


**QUANDO A GENTE ANDAVA AO "MENÉRIO".**



**MEMÓRIAS MINEIRAS DO CONCELHO DE IDANHA-A-NOVA**  
**O CASO DAS TERMAS DE MONFORTINHO**

HOTEL FONTE SANTA, TERMAS DE MONFORTINHO  
 25 de Agosto a 31 de Outubro

AFODD


**GUIA DE PROGRAMAS ESCOLARES**  
 2012-2013



**CENTRO CIÊNCIA VIVA DA FLORESTA**  
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**IAMG 2013 Mathematics**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**15th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MATHEMATICAL GEOSCIENCES**

**Frontiers of Mathematical Geosciences: New approaches to understand the natural World**  
 Madrid (Spain) 2-6 September 2013



**Background**  
 Since the International Association for Mathematical Geosciences (IAMG) was founded in 1968 in Prague, its mission has been to promote international co-operation and the use of mathematics in geosciences research and in technology. The IAMG Annual Conference provides an excellent environment to show the last advances in geomathematics and a great opportunity to make contacts and gather new ideas. Furthermore, the IAMG Madrid 2013 Conference is an event of the Mathematics of Planet Earth 2013 (www.mpe2013.org); another reason to be in Madrid from the 2nd to the 6th of September 2013.

**Sessions**  
 Advances in classical statistics relevant to the Geosciences - Frontier Geostatistics - Compositional Data Analysis Applied to Geochemistry - Data assimilation in Geosciences Machine learning in Geoscience applications - Spatiotemporal analysis: structural complexity and extreme behaviour - Parameterization of soil systems at different scales - Fractals, Chaos and Complexity in the Earth System - Remote Sensing a Changing World - Modern sensor data (and their processing) in Engineering Geology - Geographic Information System/Geoinformatics - Quantitative methods in Geomorphology and Land Surface Processes - Deformation modeling, Geodynamics and natural hazards - Hydrogeology: from process understanding to improved predictions - Quantitative hydrology: working across scientific disciplines and time-space scales - Quantitative Environmental Geology - Modeling of energy resources - New Developments in Oil and Gas Discovery Modeling - Open Session on Mathematics of Oil Recovery - Geostatistical priors in inversion of geophysical and engineering data - Mineral and energy resources for planet Earth: evaluation, extraction and optimal management - Mathematical Petrophysics: Theory and Applications - Recent advances in Quantitative Methods applied to Stratigraphy and Paleontology - Mathematical Geosciences and Planetary Geology - Mathematics of Planet Earth

**Important Dates**

January 1, 2013:	Abstract submission starts/Reduced registration fee starts
February 1, 2013:	Abstract submission ends
March 1, 2013:	Notification of abstract acceptance/Extended abstract submission starts
April 1, 2013:	Extended abstract submission ends
May 1, 2013:	Revised extended abstracts returned to authors
May 15, 2013:	Early registration ends
May 20, 2013:	Submission of final versions of extended abstracts ends
September 2-6, 2013:	IAMG Madrid 2013

For more information visit  
<http://www.igme.es/internet/iamg2013/>

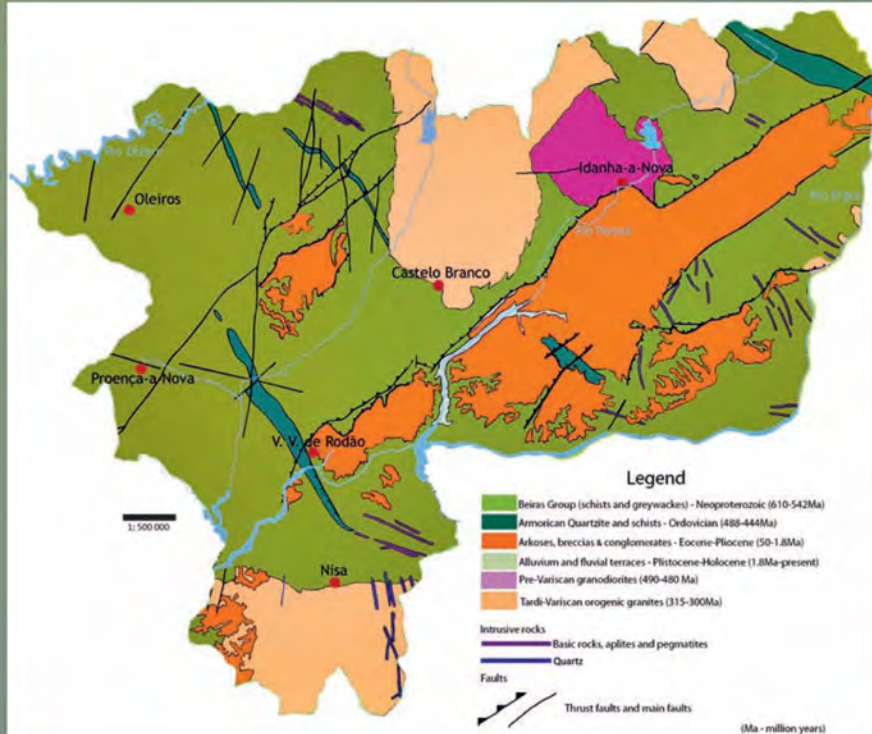
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## Geoparks: Geology with a human face



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