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...and more!

NATURTEJO UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK - E-MAGAZINE

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES





October 1st and 2nd - Arrebita Idanha Bio returns to the territory. Arrebita Idanha Bio, the local and sustainable gastronomy festival returned to the territory of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark to honour the best products of Portugal. The festival took place in the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha and in the middle of the Ichnological Park, in Penha Garcia and counted with 20 renowned chefs, some of the biggest stars of the national cuisine. Our partners Geocakes prepared delicious desserts with Trilobites, in a setting surrounded by the fossils and the quartzite cliffs of Penha Garcia. Also on display were the Geoproducts and GEOfood Vale de Alfaia, Fonte Insonsa and Herdade do Escrivão, at the Local Products Market, in an event that attracted thousands to the region.

October 4th - REDTI Project Partners Meeting. The execution of the Tajo International REDTI project is approaching the end and the partners met in Cáceres to discuss the project status, the last actions of the partnership and define strategy for the project closure. Carla Jacinto represented Naturtejo Geopark.

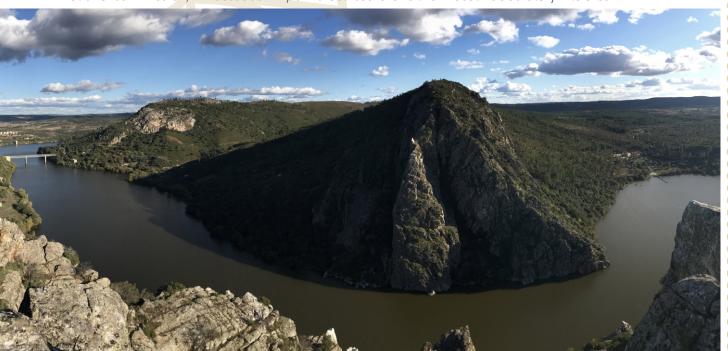


October 5th and 19th – "Diversity Sustains Life" exhibition showcases GEOfood at UNESCO headquarters. To mark the first official celebration of the International Geodiversity Day, proclaimed in 2021 an exhibition "Diversity Sustains Life" opened in the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, promoted by the International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme and the organizing committee of the event.

Naturtejo Geopark was represented by delicious GEOfood biscuits - Trilobites by Geocakes, ambassadors of the Geodiversity of the Geopark, in a space dedicated to the project IGCP726 GEOfood for the Sustainable Development in UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The head of the Earth Sciences and Geoparks section of UNESCO, Kristof Vandenberghe and the programme specialist Özlem Adiyaman Lopes, together with the Permanent Delegation of Portugal led by Ambassador Rosa Batoréu, accompanied the special visit of the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs. João Gomes Cravinho was also received by the Director-General of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay, and underlined the contribution of Portugal and reinforced collaboration in different areas.

The exhibition received the greatest attentions of the various international delegations attending the 215th session of UNESCO's Executive Board, which took place on these dates, including the President of UNESCO's National Commission, Ambassador Filipe Moraes Cabral and the Executive Secretary Rita Brasil.



October 6th to 19th - International Geodiversity Day celebrated in Naturtejo Geopark. October 6th was established by UNESCO as the International Geodiversity Day. Celebrating the geodiversity that makes Naturtejo Geopark, comprising the municipalities of Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Penamacor, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão, a territory declared by UNESCO as geological heritage of humanity, is of utmost importance.

Therefore, between October 6th and the 18th several activities took place in the municipalities of this UNESCO territory, aiming to raise awareness, from Naturtejo technical team and its partners, for this valuable heritage to all the interested people.

The celebration of the International Geodiversity Day in Naturtejo Geopark started in the school EB2,3/S José Silvestre Ribeiro, in Idanha-a-Nova, with the offer of the first pedagogical kit "Litholibrary of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark". This initiative will reach all the school groups of the geopark territory. At night, took place a round table in a webinar organized by the Geological Society of Portugal, where the Naturtejo Geopark was in highlight for being the first geopark declared in Portugal.

But the International Geodiversity Day continued on the 7th, in the celebration of the 50 years of the Afonso de Paiva Basic School. During its "Open Laboratories" Naturtejo Geopark Litholibrary was shown as well as a film of this territory to all school community. Saturday, the 8th, included an interpreted visit in Sobral Fernando with the Living Science Forest Centre who made an introduction to Portas de Almourão Geomonument and the Gold panning in Ocreza river.

On the 16th, the International Geodiversity Year reached Oleiros, specifically Orvalho GeoTrail where, hammer in hand, the curious and rare fossils of Penedo das Sardas were discovered. The celebration of the first International Year of Geodiversity ended at the Living Science Forest Centre where, on the 18th, two activities took place for the 1st cycle schools of the municipality. "Geo what?" and "Minerals all around us" aiming to value the importance of Geodiversity in our daily life.



October 6th - Celebration of the International Geodiversity Day with the activity "The Litholibrary of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark goes to School!". During the activity the communication "International Geodiversity Day" and a video of Naturtejo Geopark were presented. It was also delivered and presented the Educational Kit "The Litholibrary of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark" to the Schools Group José Silvestre Ribeiro, to be used by all the students. Students from the 10thA and 11thA attended the two sessions, under the scope of the Biology and Geology subject. The activity was led by Manuela Catana.

October 7th - Celebration of the 50th anniversary of Afonso de Paiva School (Castelo Branco) and the International Geodiversity Day. In the day of the 50th anniversary celebration of Afonso de Paiva School, during its "Open Laboratories", in the Natural Sciences Laboratory, Naturtejo Geopark's Litholibrary was exhibited and a presentation film of this territory was shown to the whole school community. The Educational Kit "The Litholibrary of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark" was offered in the same day by the Head of the Educational Service of the geopark, to the Director of Afonso Paiva School Group, so that all students can use it in Environmental Study, Natural Sciences and Biology and Geology classes.

October 8th and 9th - Visit to the Geodiversity and Geological Heritage of Beira Baixa - Region of the Middle Zêzere - Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark. In the scope of the International Geodiversity Day one more visit to Naturtejo Geopark by the group of teachers "Geoapanhados". This time self guided, and during two days, teachers followed the meanders of Zêzere River searching for landscape shapes and Ordovician rocks, through some of the geosites of Oleiros municipality.



October 8th - Visit 'Geodiversity and Secrets of Vale Mourão'. In the scope of the International Geodiversity Day, the walk 'Geodiversity and Secrets of Vale Mourão' took place. Along 5 km participants were discovering Portas de Almourão, the impressive gorge dug by the Ocreza River in the last two million years, dividing the Talhadas Mountain Range in two powerful quartzite ridges. This day was celebrated with a very participative and resistant group, guided by Marta Palhim, in an action promoted in collaboration with the Living Science Forest Centre.



October 13th and 14th - Participation of the geopark in the XXIII Meeting of the Environmental Studies in Portuguese Speaking Countries Network - REALP. The XXIII Meeting of the Environmental Studies in Portuguese Speaking Countries Network - REALP took place in the Polytechnic Institute of Tomar. Carlos Neto de Carvalho attended the Session on Paleontological Heritage to talk about Paleontological Heritage in UNESCO Global Geoparks, in a session coordinated by Silvério Figueiredo, with the always refreshing presence of Professor Galopim de Carvalho, pioneer of Geoconservation in Portugal and Ismar de Souza Carvalho, Brazilian paleontologist with a long career.

The first results of the work developed by the museologist and student of the Erasmus Mundus Dyclam + Master in 'Dynamics of the Cultural Landscape, Heritage, Memory and Conflictualities', Mailane Sampaio, were also presented in collaboration with Joana Rodrigues, from Naturtejo Geopark.

The student shared proposals of GEOfood itineraries through the food landscapes of Naturtejo Geopark, in the session "UNESCO Territories and Sustainable Development". Mailane Sampaio developed a summer internship in the Portuguese Geoparks, and her work in Naturtejo Geopark focused in the tourism offer connection with the GEOfood partners network and with the material and immaterial cultural heritage related to Food.



October 14th to 16th - GEOfood products at the Cowpea Fair in Castelo Branco. The partner Vale de Alfaia promoted a GEOfood stand in the Cowpea Fair in Lardosa (Castelo Branco). In this space, visitors had the chance to know the territory of Naturtejo Geopark and the concept of the international brand GEOfood. The stand joined the geoproducts from Vale de Alfaia and also from other partners such as Geocakes or Ervas da Zoé. Cowpeas are one of the main endogenous products of the region, especially the traditional varieties, 'Cara

Verde' and 'Bago de Arroz', perfectly adapted to the climate of the territory and produced in rainfed conditions. Vale de Alfaia is one of the most important producers of these regional varieties, producing without any irrigation (even in extremely dry years, such as the current one) and with organic certification.



October 14th and 16th - Naturtejo Geopark in the I Agricultural Innovation Fair of Fundão. Naturtejo Geopark was represented in the I Agricultural Innovation Fair of Fundão, an event that gathered projects, companies, experts and strategic decision-makers of the agricultural sector.

The network of sustainable tourism in classified areas iNature presented several differentiating territories, including Naturtejo Geopark.

Our Geoproduct and GEOfood partner Nature Fields was also there with an extremely busy tasting of delicacies based on the delicious Carne Geo do Prado. This meat has been receiving successive distinctions, being produced with animals raised in an extensive system, where the environmental balance and animal welfare are privileged.



October 15th - Participation in the Heritage Days 2022 "Geological Heritage and Territorial Enhancement", in Montemor-o-Novo. Montemor-o-Novo, Land of Migmatites! New project that joins the faculties of sciences of Lisbon and Évora to the municipality of Montemor-o-Novo to protect and value the migmatite outcrop of Ribeira do Almansor, an example of a book and for several new scientific papers. Magnificent visit by Manuel Francisco and Ícaro Silva: a fantastic trip to the lower part of the Earth's crust, a fluid geology crystallized 340 million years ago, where migmatites interact with mantle rocks, tonalites and metasedimentary rocks. Carlos Neto de Carvalho was invited to talk about the potential gains of valuing geological heritage.



October 16th - Tour of the Ordovician with Hammer in hand. We end the celebration of the International Geodiversity Day in Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark with a guided tour through the Ordovician Period in Orvalho (Oleiros). A unique place, where it is possible to observe sub-rolled carbonate clasts in glaciogenic sandstones of the Casal Carvalhal Formation. These are dropstones, pebbles carried by icebergs into the Rheic Ocean, from high latitude carbonate formations, possibly related to the Boda Event of global warming that may have triggered the second largest mass extinction on record in Phanerozoic history. Coastal marine fossils are often found perfectly preserved within these carbonate clasts.



October 18th – 'Geo What?' at the Living Science Forest Centre. Celebrating the International Geodiversity Day, the Scientist went to Living Science School to show the geologist's work and the importance of Geodiversity. An extremely curious and excited 4th grade class of students from Proença-a-Nova's Basic School explored the benefits of Geodiversity and discussed in detail: where it is, what it's for, why we should preserve it, how to study it or who studies it. Geologist Joana Rodrigues launched the challenge Geo What?' that this class embraced with motivation and energy at Living Science Forest Centre. Students finished the activity with a great desire to know the main geosites of Proença-a-Nova and that field trip was promised!

October 18th - Online meeting of the working group of the "Biennium for Climate Action of the Portuguese Geoparks". The main goal of this meeting was to close the activities plan of the several action areas (Education, Science and Tourism), in particular the joint activities. Manuela Catana and Carlos Neto de Carvalho represented Naturtejo Geopark in this meeting.



October 19th - Activity 'Minerals around us' for students of the 1st cycle . A class of 1st cycle students celebrated the International Geodiversity Day at the Living Science Forest Centre, in a fun activity called 'Minerals all around us', led by Marta Palhim. In order to raise awareness to the importance of Geodiversity, the role of minerals in everyday life and sustainable consumption, students discussed the use of mineral resources at home, on the street and at school, through activities and games.



October 22nd - Water tasting on World Food Day. In the week that celebrates the World Food Day, we also celebrated Water in the Bio-Region Market of Idanha-a-Nova.

Among the usual fresh local products (now with many Autumn flavours), Geoproducts, GEOfood and handicraft, the market regulars had a water tasting. Water is an indispensable element of our food, essential to maintain life and we took the opportunity to talk about the taste of water and the role of Geodiversity in its composition. The geologist Joana Rodrigues promoted this water tasting, with the precious collaboration of the young student António Moreira, in the space dedicated to Naturtejo Geopark.



October 24th and 25th - Transhumance Routes through Naturtejo Geopark to Cultural Itinerary of the Council of Europe. A committee from the Canary Islands (Spain) visited Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark in representation of the International Association of Transhumance Routes and Rural Paths. The delegation was led by Professor José Juan Cano Delgado, co-director of the "La Laguna Cultural World Heritage Chair", President of the College of Geographers of the Canary Islands and coordinator for Latin America, Spain and Portugal of the referred international association.

Naturtejo, EIM integrated the International Association of Transhumance Routes and Rural Paths (TT&RR) (https://ttr.eu/) aiming to value the rural paths and the historical routes where the cattle transhumance, mainly sheep, used to take place from Estrela Mountain, towards Idanha and Alentejo, crossing the municipalities of Castelo Branco, Vila Velha de Ródão and Nisa. The seven municipalities of the geopark territory declared Geological Global Heritage gather more than 1000 km of signposted pedestrian trails, of small and large routes.

Each of these footpaths presents a theme of local relevance and are reference routes for tourism in the region. Among the visitors' favourites are the Fossils Trail, in Penha Garcia, the Boulders Trail, in Monsanto, the Orvalho GeoTrail and the Barca d'Amieira Trail, in Amieira do Tejo.

The goal of this visit of the delegates from the International Association of Transhumance Routes was to disclose some transhumance routes and rural paths of Naturtejo Geopark, as well as to propose entities and people to join the international entity. The association was invited to participate in different meetings to present the initiative that is candidate to Cultural Itinerary of the Council of Europe. This candidature will allow the creation of synergies between regional and European partners, to access programmes that allow the valorisation of the historical transhumance trails in the territory, as well as the already existing footpaths. The meetings with the several interested entities took place at Raiano Cultural Centre, in Idanha-a-Nova, and at Upper Tagus Study Association, in Vila Velha de Ródão. The participants also had the opportunity to contact the pastoral landscapes and taste the magnificent organically produced cheeses in the region.

Naturtejo was selected by the evaluation commission of the Council of Europe and will participate in the evaluation process of the Cultural Itinerary of the Transhumance Routes, with its experience and aspirations, which will take place in the following week.



October 27th – Water tasting in Termas de Monfortinho. A group of 50 thermalists did a natural mineral water tasting in Termas de Monfortinho, an experience they initially found unusual.

After visiting some touristic points of the region and before starting the treatments in the spa, the thermalists compared several Portuguese natural mineral waters and related them with the Geodiversity and with some of the main landscapes of the country. The group shared their preferences with each other, justifying the characteristics they most appreciate in the waters, as well as the health benefits from previous thermal experiences. In this blind tasting, conducted by the geologist Joana Rodrigues, the waters of Termas de Monfortinho collected most of the preferences.

October 28th - Citizenship class of the Senior University of Idanha-a-Nova dedicated to Naturtejo Geopark.

The Citizenship class of Idanha-a-Nova Senior University was dedicated to Naturtejo Geopark and natural mineral waters. The students of this class know like no one else every corner of the village of Idanha-a-Nova and its surroundings, and shared several memories of springs and fountains already disappeared, as well as traditions of other times. The memories of a fountain that once existed, where today is located the municipal market and where currently operates the Senior University, were highlighted.

In this class, given by the geologist Joana Rodrigues, the role of the Ponsul Fault and the granitic rocks of Idanha in the landscape and waters was discussed. The class was complete with a natural mineral water tasting from the region and from various points in Portugal.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

TV & Radio

October 4th (Rádio Castelo Branco) – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in Naturtejo Geopark

October 5th (RTP1) - International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 5th (Beira Baixa TV) – FISAS discusses sustainable food

October 6th (Beira Baixa TV) – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 6th (Radio Castelo Branco) – II FISAS discusses sustainable food in Idanha-a-Nova October 13th (Rádio Condestável) – OLEIROS: Rediscover the GeoTrail with hammer in hand

October 16th (Beira Baixa TV) - Oleiros: Orvalho GeoTrail with hammer in hand

Newspapers & www

October 3rd (Diário Digital de Castelo Branco) – Naturtejo Geopark celebrate "International Geodiversity Day" in all its Municipalities

October 3rd (https://maisbeiras.sapo.pt/) – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 3rd (https://www.forumcovilha.pt/) – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 3rd (Centralnoticias) – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 4th (Diário Digital Castelo Branco) – II FISAS discusses sustainable food in Idanhaa-Nova

October 6th (Reconquista) – Geopark: International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 9th (https://jornaldenisa.blogspot.com/) – – International Geodiversity Day celebrated in all Municipalities of Naturtejo Geopark

October 11th (Diário Campanário) – Montemor-o-Novo hosts Heritage Days 2022!

October 12th (Diário Campanário) – Montemor-o-Novo hosts Heritage Days. Know the program!

October 12th (viagenssapo.pt) – Orvalho footbridges: the fabulous view from the viewing point of Cabeço Mosqueiro

October 13th (reconquista) - International Day in the region - Geodiversity marked in the municipalities of Naturtejo



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

October 13th (BeiraNews) - Rediscover the GeoTrail with hammer in hand on 16th October 13th (Diário Digital de Castelo Branco) – Oleiros: Rediscover the GeoTrail with hammer in hand next Sunday

October 20th (National Geographic - Portugal) – Gardunha Mountain Regional Protected Landscape: water shaped granite

October 20th (National Geographic - Portugal) – Zêzere River, the tectonic heritage that imposes itself in the meanders

October 24th (www.sapo.viagens.pt) – Orvalho footbridges: the fabulous view from the viewing point of Cabeço Mosqueiro

October 25th (Expresso-Boa Cama Boa Mesa) – With the sound of adufe, Medieval Mediterranean settles in Idanha-a-Nova, Creative City of Music

October 31st (Mais Beiras) – Transhumance Routes from Naturtejo Geopark to Cultural Itinerary of the Council of Europe

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES

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PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

- NETO DE CARVALHO, C., HENRIQUES, F., CANINAS, J., FÉLIX, P., JOAQUINITO, A., MONTEIRO, M. & ROBLES HENRIQUES, F. Catálogo da Exposição "10 anos do Campo Arqueológico e Arqueologia no concelho de Proença-a-Nova. In: Gaspar, I., Caninas, J., Monteiro, M. & Sequeira. A. (Eds.), Município de Proença-a-Nova.
- Info-Clip "Encontro Internacional de Fitossociologia", Instituto Politécnico de Castelo branco







PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC









PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



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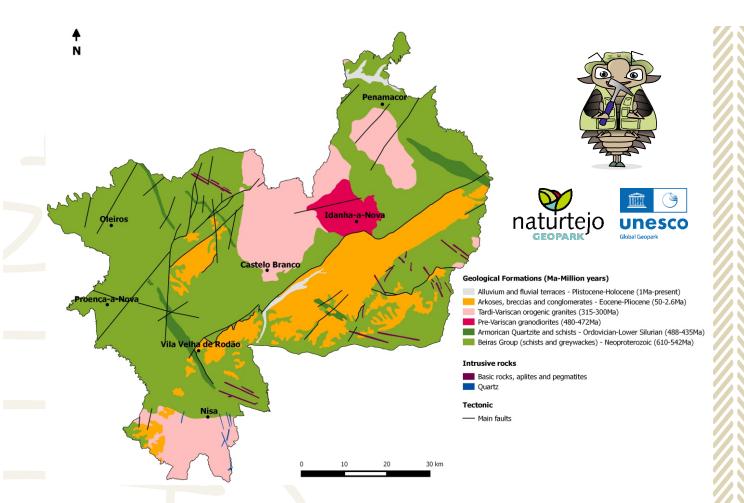
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Geoparks: Geology with human face

