

Common activities

Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark (Austria): Geopark Week 2019

The Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark is proud to present the programme for Geoparks Week 2019. As a special opening event, we will hold a panel discussion on the topic „Leisure and sport: the tension between forestry, agriculture, hunting and maintaining trails“. The background to the subject is the current discussion in alpine regions concerning where the responsibility of property owners ends and the responsibility of the individual begins. Panel members on the podium will include representative of the farming, hunting and sports (bikers, hikers, skiers) communities. Details on our Webpage www.geopark-erzderalpen.at



Participation of volunteers in promotion of Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece).

In cooperation with the environmental groups of Sitia's High School and the Cultural Associations, the 2nd event involving hiking, cleaning and marking the trails in Sitia's Geopark took place during the summer of 2018. The maintenance and promotion of geo-routes is a continuous process. The aim is to keep them accessible and safe for hikers, who during recent years keep visiting the Sitia Geopark and promote geotourism. At the same time, many events for students were organized, including visits to geo-sites, musical evenings and workshops for making signs and way-marking the geo-trails in Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark.

Cooperation with UNESCO Global Geoparks and other UNESCO Programmes

Bergstrasse-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany): Event programme in cooperation with UNESCO WHS Messel Pit promoting the International Days of the United Nations

Bergstrasse-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark and UNESCO WHS Messel Pit have, as part of their long lasting cooperation, developed a new event programme which promotes the International Days (ID) of the United Nations. We jointly present a series of workshops and guided tours, which include a family adventure trip (ID of the Forests), four Geo-Workshops (ID of mother Earth and ID of Biodiversity, ID of Soil, ID of Disaster Risk Reduction), a presentation about earthquakes and Earth history (ID of Environment), a peacebuilding activity day (ID for Refugees) and four lectures by authors (ID of Tolerance, ID for Children, ID for the Volunteers). The intention of the programme is to support the international messages of the United Nations at the local level namely, "Understanding between the nations, peacebuilding, cooperation, communication and protection of our Earth's geological, natural and cultural treasures".





Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark (Czech Republic): A Czech volunteer helps in Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark

A volunteer from the Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark is active on the Indonesian island Lombok. Within the framework of the "Paradise Foundation School" her work focuses on teaching English and informing primary and secondary school children about the environment. Children learn the basics of environmental education and an awareness of the necessity for a zero waste lifestyle. The lessons, include a documentary about the Bohemian Paradise Geopark, about the origin of the sandstone rock cities and the geoheritage of this Central European Geopark. Field trips involve visits to various interesting Lombok geosites to learn and discuss about their origin. They also climb the Pengansingan Hill (1750 m above sea level) to camp for a night and get first-hand experience of the wildlife.

Living with natural hazard – Resilience in Katla UNESCO Global Geopark (Iceland)

Katla Geopark is participating in RURITAGE, a project within the EU funded Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme. As a Role Model in RESILIENCE, Katla Geopark is one of six Systemic Innovation Areas defined for the project. The three communities of Katla Geopark have knowledge and experience of natural disasters, where the way of life, history and culture have been heavily affected by the ever-impending threat of volcanic eruptions. Resilience is an integral part of how the inhabitants have managed to reside and endure in the active volcanic environment within Katla Geopark. We look forward to exciting times ahead in the RURITAGE project and as a Role Model in RESILIENCE.



Magma UNESCO Global Geopark (Norway) welcomes the refugees and the immigrants at the local Emigrants Service

Magma UNESCO Global Geopark initiated the cooperation with the local section of the Immigrants Office, based in Eigersund municipality, Norway. Magma UNESCO Global Geopark, in cooperation with teachers, organized one thematic workshop on: "UNESCO Global Geoparks, Magma Geopark activities and their connection with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals". Magma Geopark together with the social services agreed on the importance of informing participants about the geological and cultural heritage of the area, the possibility to explore the Geopark, the advantages to live in an UNESCO designated site and the opportunities for future common cooperation and activities. Magma staff deliver two presentations on the Global Geoparks Network,

focusing on the main values of the International Geoscience and Geopark Programme's and the main goals and possible opportunities for temporary employment within the Geopark. The second part of the workshop presents the outdoor activities available in the Geopark and the planned projects for education and social development. The third part of the workshop focused on Magma Geopark's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The workshop was a success and Magma is planning to have other workshops in the nearly future within the RURITAGE H2020 project.

Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark (Ireland): Atlantic Geoparks Project - Transnational co-operation promoting sustainable geotourism development

A total of 11 partners from across Europe have come together in a collaborative transnational economic, cultural and sustainable geotourism development project called the 'Atlantic Geoparks Project'. Led by University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro in Portugal, the project funded through the INTERREG Atlantic Area section of the European Regional Development Fund runs from July 2017 – November 2020. Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark (MACUGG) is a partner in this project along with other existing and aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks. This project aims to use UNESCO Global Geoparks and aspiring Geoparks as best practice models for sustainable development and will involve the development of a European Atlantic Geoparks Route, development of management toolkits, support for aspiring Geoparks, a geodiversity conservation charter, a geotourism monitoring system, innovative ICT tools and a community engagement programme. MACUGG has to date delivered a number Engagement Workshops for Community and Businesses and capacity building events for existing Geopark Ambassadors and is leading on the capitalisation element of the project. For more information on the project see <https://www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com/european-atlantic-geotourism-route/> or [@AtlanticGeotourismRoute](https://AtlanticGeotourismRoute)





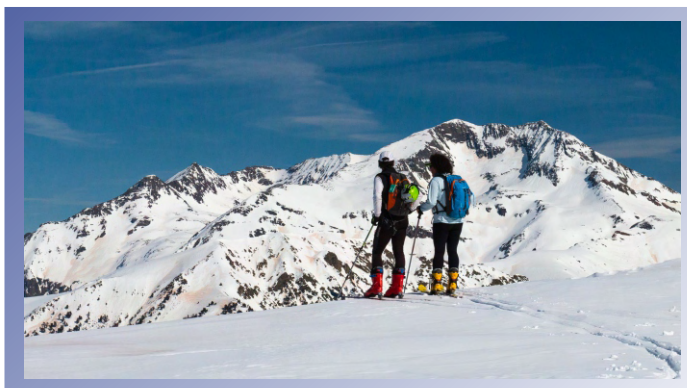
Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece): 2nd International Conference on the UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece and Cyprus 2019

2019 is a very significant year for the Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark, since Cyprus will hold the 2nd International Conference on the UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece and Cyprus, on 16-18 May 2019. The conference, with the theme "Promotion of the geological and mining heritage, enhancement of geo-education and development of geo-tourism" aims to promote the Greek and Cypriot geoparks highlighting their role in education, the tourist industry and the local population. The official language of the conference is Greek.

Regional Development and Networking

An Example of Good Practice in Sustainable Local Economic Activities in the Kula UNESCO Global Geopark (Turkey): The Pomegranate Flower Honeysuckle Association

The Pomegranate Flower Honeysuckle Association was founded with the participation of about 20 women in 2018. The purpose of this association is to enable women to contribute to their families' income, to ensure women's participation in economic life, and to introduce Kula's local products to visitors to the Geopark. The Pomegranate Flower Honeysuckle Association provides its services in a traditional Kula house in the Geopark, which has been allocated to the association by the Kula Municipality. Here, the women sell homemade brioche, pasta and similar products, together with various knitted products, jewelry and similar handicrafts, and occasionally the association provides small-scale entertainment events. People visiting the association also have the opportunity to see one of the traditional Kula houses. The association is currently one of the most important destinations for people visiting the Geopark. The participation of women in economic life, of course, makes an important contribution to the development of a sustainable local economy in Kula region. In an economy that respects our heritage and our environment.



Security Course in the Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain)

The Geopark has organized a security course on snow avalanches during the month of February 2019. This course, aimed at skiers and mountaineers of the Sobrarbe mountain clubs, intends to raise awareness among participants about the natural risk of snow avalanches in mountain areas like the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark. The course also intends to show participants how they should behave in the event of an avalanche. The Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark has taken advantage of this course, delivered during one of the hottest February months in the area, to show the close relationship between climate change and the increasing risk of avalanches in mountain areas.

Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany): Providing farmers with an insight into a new concept of land use.

Through LIFE-IP ZENAPA the Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark began to reach out to agricultural stakeholders. In an event for farmers and landowners the complementary project MUNTER, which develops and implements multi-use concepts with energy crops that combine positive environmental effects with regional development aspects, was presented. One focus involves agroforestry systems as a means of preventing erosion. Also the concept of "Eh da-Flächen", which uses economically unviable areas for biodiversity, was presented. An automatic GIS tool identifies the areas such as road verges, field margins or embankments, delivering a base for subsequent ecological analysis and improvement to create insect habitats.





Experiencing the Geopark: understanding its thousand whispers in the Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark

The project represents a significant achievement in the provision of educational activities during 2019 in the Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark!

This year more than 1,000 students will be involved in the multidisciplinary project entitled "Experiencing the Geopark: understand its thousand whispers" providing introductory lessons and excursions in the area guided by the Geopark Guides.

This project, managed by the Geopark with the aim of promoting the area between the generations, has expanded during the last year with an increasing the number of participants. Also this year a number of opportunities will be provided for enjoying the landscape, geology, environment, culture and tradition of the Apuan territory.

New experience activity in De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark (The Netherlands)

In De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark in the Netherlands we have started to develop a new activity which will help visitors to 'experience' the ice ages, the theme of the Geopark. The activity will consist of two parts: a play route for children and an experience walk for adults. Along the play route the children can enjoy play installations such as a cable run and a rope bridge and match their agility against that of ice-age animals like the sabretooth tiger and the mammoth. The children have contributed enthusiastically to the design of the play activities. For the adults (and their children of course) a hiking trail has been designed through the most picturesque part of the Geopark. Along the trail a number of innovative stops will provide information about the history and genesis of this unique region. The information will be shared using modern methods like augmented reality. Work has just begun and we hope the trails can be finished before the start of the tourist season on the first of July.



Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark (Norway): Marine pollution and clean beaches in Norway.

The focus on marine pollution has developed in a big way in Norway after a dead whale, which had eaten a lot of plastic, was found on the western coast line. Project money has been donated by the Ministry of Environment and Gea Norvegica Geopark applied for funding for a school project which involved 500 school children, cleaning beaches and registering all the waste. The idea has been to combine natural history education with recycling, waste treatment, waste control and our use of plastic and other materials. The Geopark has organized spring, autumn and early winter events to determine how much waste is transported by the sea during the year.

Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark (Slovenia): TeachOUT Outdoor Science Game App released.

ESTEAM project partners from Slovenia, Portugal, Norway and Iceland met in Egersund for the 6th partnership meeting and intensive seminar on working with the new TeachOUT App.

The App is developed as a tool for improving teaching that, together with the creation of CMS, provides teachers with the tools to make and publish treasure hunt games on smartphones for their pupils to learn and enjoy on the field trips. Teachers can take into account different styles for teaching and learning through all the senses. Alternatively, it provides students with the opportunity to experience practical teaching with a lot of active participation, fresh air and physical activity. More: www.esteemproject.eu. Download: [Play Store \(Android\)](#) and [App Store \(iOS\)](#).





transmitting the knowledge gained, i.e. personal interpretation skills and training techniques (interpreters as mediators of experiences, storytellers, actors, personal experiences in nature, ...) (Photo: Urosh Grabner).

Educating Geopark guides within the framework of the NaKult Project in Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark (Slovenia/Austria)

NaKult (Geological hiking experiences in Geopark Karavanke) Project is an INTERREG Slovenia-Austria project, which started in 2018, and is co-financed by the European Union, through the European Regional Development Fund, and Land Kärnten. It involves developing and equipping an approximately 300 km long-distance geotrail which aims to valorize and enhance awareness of the Geopark's rich geodiversity. Information about the geodiversity and other cultural and natural features along the geotrail, will be provided by Geopark guides. A special educational programme will be developed to include various topics - geological, natural and cultural features, with special focus on the ethnological and mining heritage. Part of the educational programme will be focused on

A Second Geopark School in Swabian Alb UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany)

The Schubart-Gymnasium is a grammar school in Aalen municipality and was designated in February 2019 as the second Geopark School in the Swabian Alb UNESCO Global Geopark. In future, the school will teach environmental protection and sustainability on the basis of investigative learning in the classroom. The school management is pleased with the designation. "We are proud to be a Geopark School. It enables us to give our school a clear profile and to make our lessons more engaging and sustainable by involving extracurricular partners and new learning venues such as quarries".



Geological, Biological and Intangible Heritage



From the Spanish Ballads to the 21st century: Educational Project "Geopaca Folk - Rustic Performance" of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain)

The Geocentre La Jara (small schools from 6 villages within the Geopark) is leading the project "Geopaca Folk-Rustic Performance", which seeks to recover the oral tradition of 15th century Spanish Ballads and adapt it for the modern public. It does so in an inclusive, playful and intergenerational way, engaging with the youngest to oldest people. An artistic group comprising students, teachers and families has been created, which combines music, theater, dance and plastic arts. Geopaca, our mascot, is the leader of the group that unites an ancient oral tradition with Geopark themes and the current era through social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/Geopaca-Folk-2293205097614375/>
[@GeopacaF](https://geopacafolk.blogspot.com)

Tourism

Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal): Arouca Geobike - Sustainable mobility to discover heritage

Since 17 February 2019 the Arouca Geopark Association [AGA] provides a new service of sustainable mobility for tourists and the community of the Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark, aiming to promote an ecological and beneficial way for visiting natural and cultural sites. The Arouca GEOBIKE [service] involves renting bicycles to discover the Geopark and at the same time delivering benefits to users and to the environment. In order to encourage people to adopt it, AGA has scheduled guided biking tours for the first Sunday of each month during 2019, between the Geopark's historic centre and the Freita Mountain. Levels of difficulty include the low-level 4 km 90 minute route and the more challenging 10 km 120 minutes route.





Azores UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal): Workshop "Geotourism in the Atlantic Area"

The Azores UNESCO Global Geopark promoted the Workshop "Geotourism in the Atlantic Area", under the theme "Azores Geopark - a tourism strategy based on 3G's: geodiversity, geoconservation and geotourism", held in S. Miguel Island, on 30th November and 1st December, 2018. The 22 participants from 15 organizations/companies, most of them Azores UNESCO Global Geopark tourism stakeholders, had the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge about the geology, geodiversity and geological heritage of the archipelago, through theoretical sessions and field trips to some of the geosites in São Miguel Island. This workshop was promoted under the Project "Atlantic Geoparks", and funded by the INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme.

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Digital geotourism experiments in Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy)

Social media are part of our daily lives and are an important channel of communication to share the Geoparks' excellences with the public. #InstaBeigua is the first social geotourism experiment of Beigua Geopark: an Instameet that directs hikers-photographers in search of waterfalls, ancient rock formations, historical shelters and breath-taking views overlooking the sea. Armed with smartphones or cameras, maps and hiking shoes, the participants can look for specific points of interest following the route traced by the Geopark Staff. The Geopark tells an engaging story providing an experience that combines the primal call of nature, which attracts us with its beauty, and the social trend of sharing the moment. With the hashtag #InstaBeigua and geolocation, the story of the day unfolds between Instagram posts and stories that accompanied us virtually along the trails of the Geopark!



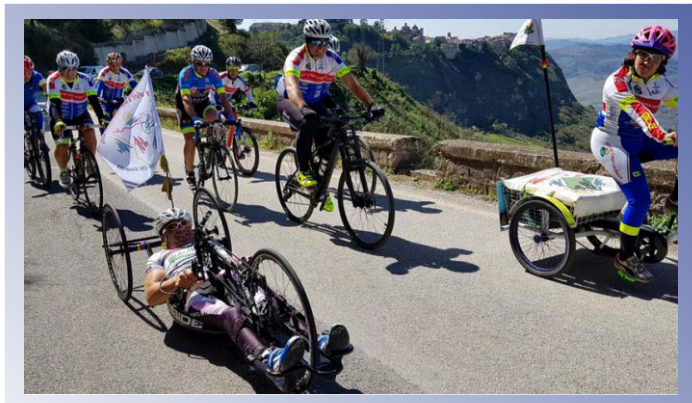
Tourism Ambassador Training Course in the Copper Coast UNESCO Global Geopark (Ireland).

The Copper Coast Geopark organized a very successful tourism ambassador training course over two days in February 2019. The course provided networking and training opportunities for tourism operators working in the Geopark to learn more about the Geopark's, sustainable tourism development and each others operations. With workshops facilitated by the Geopark and the partner Dunhill Multi Education Centre, a great two days of networking and training was achieved resulting in the training of 18 new Geopark tourism ambassadors. The training course was organized as part of the ERDF co-funded Atlantic Geoparks INTERREG project.

Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): A New road signage system.

UNESCO Global Geoparks provide an opportunity to develop the common goal of promoting the area's significant geological processes, features, periods of time, historical themes, etc. Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands have an outstanding setting because of their diverse volcanic landscapes representing multiple volcanic eruptions. The Geopark's visibility is an important tool for promoting the values of Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands to more than two million tourists every year. For that reason the management body has installed a signage system along the roads outside protected areas to indicate that the visitor is in a UNESCO Global Geopark.





Madonie UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy): Break The Limit

The project "Tourism beyond the barriers" was organized by the Madonie Park in collaboration with the Villa delle Ginestre Foundation and the Il Vento in Faccia Association. Delivering the activities related to the promotion of tourism without barriers involved the preparation of sensory olfactory, tactile and visual itineraries, the removal of physical barriers, guided tours and a cycling relay called Il Giro delle Madonie. The word disability is a term that often creates a misconception regarding the extent of an individual's cognitive and physical limitations. It is not the disability that creates marginalization, but the diversity of provision made available for the disabled person. For this reason, the cultural perception of the concept of disability becomes a priority at a social level. The overlap of this project, between natural environment and

human nature, represents an opportunity to show that it is possible to practice sports, excursions, use of equipped areas, access to public and religious places, regardless of whether a person is disabled or not. The only limitation is the inadequate provision of services in today's society. Five Municipalities participated in the project: Petralia Sottana, Petralia Soprana, Pollina, Polizzi Generosa and Castellana.

North Pennines UNESCO Global Geopark (UK): Geopark workshops for local tourism

The North Pennines AONB Geopark has delivered a programme of five workshops for local tourism businesses, aimed at improving the understanding of what it means to be a UNESCO Global Geopark, and what the area has to offer its visitors. Sessions have been themed around: the rich geological history of the Geopark and the best places to see it; human history and archaeology; lead mining heritage; wildlife; and dark skies. Over 50 individuals participated in the programme, representing around 30 businesses working within the Geopark. These include accommodation providers, tourist information centre staff, outdoor activities operators and independent tour guides.



●●●●● New projects & facilities



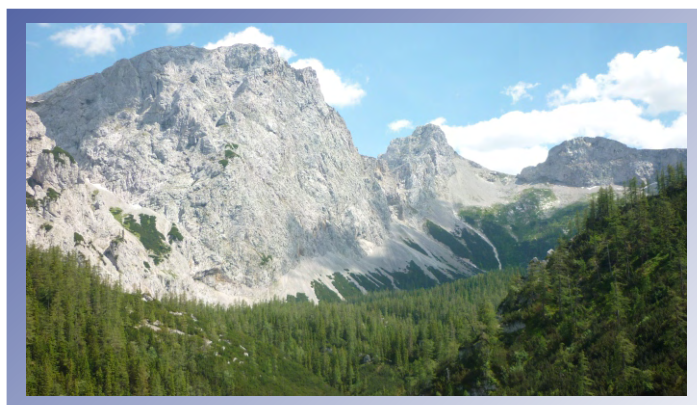
Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece): Presentation of the collaboration of Chelmos-Vouraikos Management Body with the Geotechnical Chamber of Peloponnese and Western Central Greece

Chelmos-Vouraikos Management Body and the Geotechnical Chamber of Peloponnese and Western Central Greece held a successful event involving a large number of geotechnical, stakeholder and civil representatives. The event was organized to communicate the collaboration between the Management Body of Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark with the Geotechnical Chamber on common issues of scientific interest related to the National Park and the Geopark. Emphasis was placed on providing know-how and scientific knowledge about the geotechnical issues of the

Management Body and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Management Body. Dr. Georgios Iliopoulos, Associate Professor of Palaeontology and Stratigraphy of the Department of Geology, University of Patras, presented analytical data about Chelmos- Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark. Stay informed at www.fdochelmos.gr

Nature and UNESCO Global Geopark Styrian Eisenwurzen (Austria): New forthcoming exhibitions.

In 2019 the UNESCO Global Geopark Styrian Eisenwurzen is organizing a special exhibition at the Spring Water Museum in Wildalpen about the sturzstrom which affected parts of the municipality between 5,900 and 5,700 years ago. The area is characterized by a unique landscape including a distinctive flora and fauna. The exhibition is designed to last for two years. Furthermore, the former GeoCentre in the GeoVillage Gams (now called GeoRama) has been renovated. The exhibition in the GeoCentre will also be completed in 2019. This is the main geological museum of the Styrian Eisenwurzen telling the Earth's history of this region. Figure Caption: The heart of the sturzstrom area in Wildalpen called "Siebensee". The peaks are up to 2000 m above sea level. – Copyright UGGp Styrian Eisenwurzen.





Las Loras UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): A geo-passport for tourists

Last year we used the free Geocaching App (gps) to launch an experience in our Geopark. We hid 12 “treasures”-caches, georeferenced, in 12 geosites, with information about their geological and cultural heritage that the participants had to find using the App. It was a success and many people visited the places (the App provides you with a follow-up). We have continued to hide treasures, a total of 50 places of the Geopark can be visited in a different way, reaching wonderful locations walking or cycling. In filling the geo-passport geotourists will have access to a final gift for their commitment to sustainability.

New ambitious project in Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark (Denmark)

The Sun Chariot, one of Europe's most famous Bronze Age finds, was discovered in Geopark Odsherred at Trundholm Bog in 1902 during ploughing – and is to this day exhibited at the National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen. Over the next two years, The Trundholm Bog area will be developed to become an attractive site in Geopark Odsherred – and a new project has just been adopted after a landscape architecture competition. The project will provide visitors with information about the area, the find, and an invitation to an experience of the Bronze Age peoples' cosmology, as well as the story attached to the Sun Chariot and the unique landscape development from the last glacial period to the present day. More about The Sun Chariot from Trundholm Bog and the new project at www.geoparkodsherred.dk
Project by Kurtzweil A/S and cooperates



Meet our Geoparks



Famenne-Ardenne UNESCO Global Geopark (Belgium): The Lorette Cave

The core of our Geopark involves a band of Middle Devonian (Givetian) limestone, with areas that are literally riddled with caves. The Lorette Cave in Rochefort is quite special: it combines networks of passages that are of interest to speleologists, tourists and scientists alike. It offers the potential to develop educational programmes on the subjects of geology (in particular seismic tectonics), geophysics and hydrology. The showcave component attracts 15,000 visitors a year, but our Geopark also organizes open days (or visits by appointment) to areas that are not usually open to the public, tours explaining the environmental and scientific aspects of the cave network.

Molina Alto Tajo UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): From the Ordovician to the present day.

From our Geopark, located southwest of the province of Guadalajara, we can contemplate the history of the Earth from the Ordovician to the present day. With an area of almost 4,600 km and more than 70 municipalities, from Celtiberia to today, Molina - Alto Tajo Geopark has witnessed the history of the Tajo River, Gallo and Arandilla. Our deposits with of graptolites, the Fuentelsaz Global Boundary Stratotype Section, the world's best record of the transition between the Lower Jurassic and Middle Jurassic and the ravine of the Virgin of the sickle, with hundreds of metres of sandstone and Triassic conglomerates. On geotrails you can experience the history of the Earth and can touch with your own hands rocks and fossils and visit the monuments of our great historical heritage, the Celtiberian deposits. Email: geoparquemolina@gmail.com, Web: www.geoparquemolina.es





Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany): Art unites

In 2019, art lovers can look forward to attractive exhibitions in the area of the UNESCO Global Geopark Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen. A general view about special exhibitions is provided by the recently published "Modern art in the UNESCO Global Geopark". The spectrum ranges from painting and graphic arts to photography, installations and fibre crafts.

The leaflet is available in all museums, in selected Geopark information centres, in the Geopark offices and online: <http://www.harzregion.de/de/shop.html>

Agenda/Calendar

September 23rd – 27th, 2019
15th European Geoparks Conference - Seville-Andalusia, Spain