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In-person training actions for teachers at Naturtejo Geopark
...and more!

# CRUZIANA

**NATURTEJO UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK - E-MAGAZINE** 

# **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**





**May - Naturtejo Geopark renewed the Clean & Safe Geoparks Seal.** Tourism of Portugal, in partnership with Nova Medical School, from the Nova University of Lisbon, updated the adhesion requirements to the Clean & Safe Seal, according to the guidelines of the Directorate-General of Health, in order to continue to transmit safety to tourists and collaborators, for the prevention of the contagion by COVID-19.

Naturtejo Geopark, after audit, revision of the contingency plan and procedures and new training, renewed the Clean & Safe Geoparks Seal, for its services, until April 30th 2022.

In the Clean & Safe digital platform of Tourism of Portugal the visitors can find the specific procedures, being able to evaluate directly the experience according to the implemented measures, which allows monitoring the confidence index generated in the tourists. In Naturtejo Geopark website the visitors can find all the complementary information, as well as the partners of its territory also adherent to the seal.



May 3rd and 20th - Meetings of the "Education" working group of UNESCO's Global Geoparks - Portugal.

May 3rd and 20th - Meetings of the "Education" working group of UNESCO's Global Geoparks - Portugal. The theme developed in the meetings of the Working Group for Education of the UNESCO Global Geoparks was the joint educational program in the scope of the Geofood Project. Manuela Catana represented Naturtejo Geopark in both meetings.

**6 a 8 de Maio May 6th to 8th - III Potiguar Meeting Seridó Geopark (Brazil).** Naturtejo Geopark attended the III Potiguar Meeting Geopark Seridó (Brazil) dedicated to the theme 'Tourism and Associated Production: local dynamics and global scenarios' that took place online between May 6th and 8th and was promoted by the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte and by the Aspiring Seridó Geopark.

This Aspiring Geopark may become the 7th Geopark of Portuguese Language. Having already delivered its application dossier to UNESCO, has been waiting since 2020 for the evaluation mission to the territory, which has been postponed due to the pandemic. The panel 'Aspiring Seridó Geopark: Local Dynamics and Global Scenarios' discussed the potentialities, scenarios and institutional achievements of the Aspiring Seridó Geopark from international experiences of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network. This debate was attended by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Araripe, Arouca and Naturtejo and also the Associação de Desenvolvimento Rural e Integrado das Serras de Montemuro, Arada e Gralheira (Portugal) – (Association for Rural and Integrated Development of Montemuro, Arada e Gralheira Mountains). Joana Rodrigues shared the experience of Naturtejo Geopark at the level of strategies, geotouristic products and Sustainable Development.

May 6th - Meeting with Tour Operators and Collaborative Networks. A new online meeting was held with several tour operators, promoted by Turismo de Portugal in collaboration with APAVT. This meeting took place under the Collaborative Networks with a focus on retailers, i.e. travel agencies that sell tourism products, b2c (directly to the final consumer). It is expected a strong demand for destinations in the Interior, where it is possible to make holidays in a climate of relative social isolation and preference for activities in nature. Naturtejo Geopark was represented by Carla Jacinto.



May 7th - Field Trip "Biodiversity of the International Tejo Natural Park". This activity in Segura included a visit to the Interpretative Centre for Biodiversity "Lands of Idanha" and a walking trail to observe, identify and photograph species of biodiversity existing in the Erges river canyon. Later, based on the photographs taken with mobile phones by the students, the School intends to hold a photo contest on biodiversity. A group of students participated during the morning and another one in the afternoon, totalizing 58 students and 6 teachers of the Professional School of Raia, in Idanha-a-Nova. This field trip took place in the scope of the annual Project of Education for Citizenship, following the communication "Environmental Education for Sustainability and Biodiversity of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova" that had already taken place online, in March 23rd 2021. Both activities were streamlined by Manuela Catana.

May 12th to 15th - Participation in the XIX EJIP - Meeting of Young Researchers in Palaeontology. The 19th Iberian Meeting of Young Researchers in Palaeontology took place in Coimbra. Once again, Carlos Neto de Carvalho was invited to participate in the Scientific Committee of this new generation of palaeontologists' meeting.

May 13th and 14th - Workshop "Work from... Centre of Portugal". The Workshop was organised by Tourism of Centre aimed at Accommodation, Tourism Promotion Companies or Co-Working Space, and the following day for private entities. These workshops gathered digital nomads and entrepreneurs who presented the advantages that the Centre of Portugal region offers to those who choose this territory to work at a distance. Naturtejo Geopark was represented by Carla Jacinto.

May 17th - 2nd session of the I Cycle of Webinars about the aspiring Portuguese UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The 2nd session of the I Cycle of Webinars about the Portuguese Aspiring World Geoparks of UNESCO, organized by the UNESCO National Commission and the West Aspiring Geopark, took place on May 17th which marked the International Day of Telecommunications and Information Society.

The session was dedicated to the Litoral Viana do Castelo Aspiring Geopark, a project created in 2017 and which includes the municipality of Viana do Castelo.

To discuss the theme 'Geoparks as promoters of a tourist destination in times of pandemic' the President of the Regional Entity of Tourism of Centre of Portugal, Pedro Machado, and the deputy director of NOVA Information Management School, Miguel Castro Neto, and representatives of the 5 UNESCO World Geoparks, Joana Rodrigues, António Duarte, Paulino Costa, João Alves and Emanuel Castro were invited.

**May 19th - Class on the Geological Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark.** Students of the subject 'Geodiversity and Geomorphologic Heritage', from the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto, taught by Professor Liliana Freitas, closed the semester with Naturtejo Geopark.

Joana Rodrigues gave the class, for 2nd and 3rd grade students, where themes as the Geological Heritage, Geoconservation and Spatial Planning, Geotourism and Local Development were addressed.

May 20th - Celebration of the 12th anniversary of Portas de Ródão Natural Monument. The Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests celebrated the 12th anniversary of Portas de Ródão Natural Monument with a webinar entitled "Portas de Ródão a quartzite giant". Among the invited speakers was Jorge Gouveia, president of the Studies Association of Alto Tejo and coordinator of the application made in 2005 supported by Naturtejo. Jorge Gouveia spoke about the several heritage reference elements of Portas de Ródão, including its outstanding Geological Heritage.



#### May 22nd to June 6th - 2021 Landscape Festival in Naturtejo Geopark - towards freedom of natural spaces.

The Landscape Festival is back to Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark, in the Central region of Portugal. There are several Science and Art activities offered in the immense dazzling landscapes between the rivers Zêzere and Tejo, into the border. Adventure sports and a lot of knowledge in freedom through nature are the proposals offered in Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Penamacor, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão and through various internet channels, to the world. Between May 22nd and June 6th, Naturtejo Geopark invites to the sublime return to Nature. The inscriptions are mandatory. The Programme of the Landscape Festival begins in the International Day of Biodiversity, with the III BioDivSummit in Proença-a-Nova, this year dedicated to the Living Economy, promoting a reflection on the protection and valorisation of the territory, the organic production and the reengineering of processes. In that weekend will also take place a training action accredited for teachers organized by the Department of Earth Sciences of the University of Coimbra and by Naturtejo Geopark. "Discovering the Geo-History of the last 600 Million years in Beira Baixa" is the theme of this training course which will cover some of the most important geomonuments of this territory recognised by UNESCO for its geological heritage, such as Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, Barrocal Park in Castelo Branco, Termas de Monfortinho, Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the Inselberg of Monsanto.

On Sunday the adrenaline will rise in Crista do Zebro Climbing School, in the middle of the Muradal Mountain, organised by Oleiros Municipality.

During the week the offer of knowledge within everyone's reach intensifies. On May 25th begins the Executive Training in Geotourism in the UNESCO Geoparks in Portugal, an initiative of Tourism of Portugal and the Portuguese Geoparks. Still on that day begins the great International Congress dedicated to Megalithics. Starting from the work that has been done in Proença-a-Nova for the valorisation of its archaeological heritage, this congress will count on the presence of researchers from all over the world, experts in this type of constructions with more than 5000 years, which are spread from Mediterranean and Central Europe to the farthest corners of Asia. On the 27th, the partners of UNESCO GEOfood Project, in which Naturtejo Geopark is included, have their presentation seminar 'GEOfood for the Sustainable Development in UNESCO Global Geoparks'. Near the end of the day, the Storytime is dedicated to the geological landscape of Oleiros, taking the youngest to discover this region of enchanted mountains.

In the weekend of May 29th takes place another Teacher Training Course "In the Lynx Lands - Geodiversity of Penamacor", in a joint organization of the Municipality of Penamacor, Naturtejo Geopark and the "Geoapanhados", a group avid of geological discoveries.

In the celebration of the International Children's Day, Oleiros Municipality invites the youngest to the "I live in a Geopark", in an edition full of surprises. On the 4th, the first stage of the "Schist Villages MTB Trophy 2021" starts, in a circular mountain bike trail through the most beautiful landscapes of the municipality of Oleiros.

Closing this year's edition of Naturtejo Geopark Landscape Festival, in the International Environment Day, the work "The Fears Girl" will be inaugurated in the middle of Ocreza River, in Portas de Almourão Geomonument. This is an initiative of Proença-a-Nova Municipality with Experimenta Paisagem, organized by the Association for Development of Sobral Fernando, which also includes a visit to the Geomonument, local handicraft exhibition in the most sublime of the natural showcases and the flavours of innovation at the mouth of the communitarian oven.

During the Landscape Festival, visitors are invited to visit two exhibitions in Proença-a-Nova, one of Rocks and Minerals in the Living Science Forest Centre and "Presence and Fiction", an exhibition of public sculpture and ephemeral interventions in the landscape made by the Faculty of Arts in the municipality of Proença-a-Nova, in the Municipal Gallery. The Landscape Festival integrates the European Geoparks Week that takes place in 81 UNESCO geoparks spread by 26 countries. All the information about Naturtejo Geopark Landscape Festival program can be found in www.naturtejo.com.

May 22nd - III BiodivSummit - "Living Economy" celebrates the International Day of Biodiversity. Similarly to last year, and due the context of the covid-19 pandemic, this year the Biodivsummit took place again online, widening its audience. Proença-a-Nova Municipality and Living Science Forest Centre, in partnership with Bioaromas - Association for the Promotion of Biodiversity, Aromatic and Medicinal Route organized the initiative. The aim is to continue to raise awareness of the importance of preserving ecosystems, while enhancing the territory's endogenous resources. Scheduled for 15:00 of May 22nd, International Biodiversity Day, the theme of this edition was the "Living Economy", fostering a reflection around the protection and valorisation of the territory, the organic production, the reengineering of processes and the green agreement. It is therefore necessary to think about the production of wealth that this territory generates, a territory that strives for nature and biodiversity, reinforced the mayor of Proença-a-Nova, João Lobo.

This year's edition had a Programme divided into three panels that debated the "Protection and Enhancement of Heritage", "Biological Production" and "Process Reengineering", aiming to demonstrate the use and stimulation of an entire production cycle at environmental and industrial level.



May 22nd and 23rd - Formal Training Course for Teachers "Discovering the Geo-history of the last 600 MY in Beira Baixa and Geological Heritage.

May 22nd and 23rd - Formal Training Course for Teachers "Discovering the Geo-history of the last 600 MY in Beira Baixa and Geological Heritage. The Formal Training of Teachers was organized by the group "Geoapanhados" with the University of Coimbra, through Professor Pedro Proença Cunha. The group of more than 40 teachers visited the Naturtejo Geopark having as guides the teachers Pedro Proença Cunha, António Martins and Paulo Legoinha, counting also with the scientific coordinator of Naturtejo Geopark Carlos Neto de Carvalho. The group visited sites of geological relevance and for the human evolution of the landscape of Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, including the interpreted boat trip, the granites of the Barrocal Park, the geological landscape that can be seen from Castelo Branco castle, the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the granitic inselberg of Monsanto.

**May 23rd - Climbing at Zebro Viewpoint Geosite.** The 32 climbing routes in the Muradal Mountains were the stage for a lot of energy. The Zebro Viewpoint, a site of geological importance, welcomed the participating climbers and allowed others to get started in this adventure sport.

May 25th - Executive Training in Geotourism in UNESCO Geoparks in Portugal. The first course of Geotourism in Geoparks, promoted by Tourism of Portugal, Porto Hospitality and Tourism School and the Portuguese UNESCO Global Geoparks has started.

This Executive Training 'Geotourism by Geoparks' will last 36h, is intended to professionals in the tourism sector, tourism companies and other entities that promote territories and takes place online through the Digital Academy of the Tourism of Portugal.

The trainers are professionals from the UNESCO Geoparks, including Naturtejo Geopark, and from the network of Tourism Schools of Portugal that will address themes such as the UNESCO Geoparks, Natural and Cultural Heritage of the 5 Geoparks classified in Portugal (Naturtejo, Arouca, Açores, Terras de Cavaleiros and Estrela), Sustainable and Responsible Tourism, Safety and Risk Management in Tourism and the new post-pandemic touristic trends, among others.

At the end of this course, the trainees should be able to develop differentiated tourism products and services for Geopark territories.

The first module 'UNESCO Geoparks Network in Portugal' took place in the scope of the European Geoparks Week and was presented by Joana Rodrigues, from Naturtejo Geopark. It focused on the Geopark concept, the UNESCO International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme, the Regional and Global Geoparks Networks, an introduction to the UNESCO Global Geoparks and Portuguese Aspiring and their network projects, and also a brief background to the Iberian context.

This first edition counts with a limited participation of 45 trainees, with more than 400 people with interest in attending future editions.

May 25th to 29th – International Congress "Tumuli and Megaliths in Eurasia". The municipality of Proença-a-Nova and the Association for Studies of the High Tejo, with the collaboration of numerous national research centres, including Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark, organized the International Congress dedicated to Megalithics in Eurasia. The edition was entirely online and counted with several video presentations, from national and international experts, which can now be found on Youtube. So far more than 3000 people have been interested in the work of this congress.

**May 27th - Storytime related to the Landscape "SORIELO - Monuments and Geosites".** As part of the Landscape Festival, the municipality of Oleiros dedicated its online Storytime to present the monuments and geosites existing in the municipality of Oleiros. Note that this activity has as target audience the younger population of Oleiros.

May 27th - Presentation seminar of the Project 'GEOfood for sustainable development in UNESCO Global Geoparks. The kick-off was given to the research project 'IGCP 726 - GEOfood for Sustainable Development in UNESCO Global Geoparks, financed by UNESCO, of which Naturtejo Geopark is part of.

This online Kick-off Meeting, gathered for the first time all the partners of this project that is studying the connection between Geological Heritage, Geodiversity, Ecosystem Services, food production and Sustainable Development, through GEOfood.

This first general meeting allowed discussing the changes to the programming due to the constraints imposed by the pandemic and the general organization of the work.

The work for this first year was structured with more detail, coordinated by Arouca Geopark, which will be dedicated to establish a theoretical basis for research, on Geology, Geography, Soils, Biodiversity, Agriculture, Economy, Geotourism and Culture themes.

The project team has been growing, counting at this moment with 27 UNESCO Global Geoparks, 6 aspirants, 7 universities and research centres, 2 Geological Services and a Natural History Museum, from a total of 26 countries. Naturtejo Geopark was represented in the meeting by Joana Rodrigues, project secretary and by Inês Freixo, Tourism trainee.



May 29th and 30th - Teacher Training Course "In the Lynx Lands - Geodiversity of Penamacor. Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark hosted two training actions during two weekends that mobilized about 80 science teachers. The sharing of geological knowledge in the region of the Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark took place in the Municipality of Penamacor, on May 29th and 30th. The training action directed to teachers of Nature Sciences from several places of the country was an activity integrated in the 2021 Landscape Festival-European Geoparks Week, in celebration of the Geologist Day. The informal group known as "Geoapanhados" explored the didactic value of the geodiversity of the municipality of Penamacor. In an intense weekend, the group visited some of the best places in the municipality with guides and guests Carlos Neto de Carvalho, Mariana Vilas Boas, António Cabanas and Carlos Cupeto. The training began with a visit to the urban geology of Penamacor, passing by the excellent Barracks Viewpoint and the Municipal Museum. Lunch was at the refreshing river beach of Meimoa. Then the group followed and was surprised by the scale of the works visible in the ancient Roman Gold Mine of Presa. The morning of the next day was dedicated to a magnificent walking trail not yet marked in Salvador, where the teachers climbed the quartzite ridge to examine the magnificent geological landscapes, observe ancient iron mines and 480 million year old fossils. The picnic took place in Aldeia de João Pires where, after visiting the magnificent Barroco das Tigelas boulder, one of the most interesting granitic landforms of Serrinha, the teachers finished this training weekend knowing a little more of the local history in the parish museum and in the main church. The organization of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark thanks the voluntary participation of guests and local institutions focused in the heritage valorisation.



### **IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA**

### TV & Radio

May 18th (Rádio Castelo Branco) – 2021 Landscape Festival in Naturtejo Geopark towards freedom of natural spaces

May 18th (Rádio Cova da Beira) – Landscape Festival sarts Saturday in Naturtejo Geopark May 18th (Rádio Castelo Branco) – Replication of Fossils in Urban Space in Naturtejo Geopark

May 19th (oxigénio.fm) – Landscape Festival

May 19th (TSF) – Naturtejo Geopark makes replicas of fossils helped by the Geologigal Museum of Lisboa

May 21st (BeiraBaixaTV) - Replication of Fossils in Urban Space in Naturtejo Geopark May 22nd (BeiraBaixaTV) - Naturtejo Geopark - Landscape Festival towards freedom of natural spaces

### **Newspapers & www**

May 13th (Reconquista) – Armindo Jacinto elected vice president os the Portuguese Association of Sustainable Tourism (APTS)

May 17th (Jornal de Oleiros) - 2021 Landscape Festival in Naturtejo Geopark - towards freedom of natural spaces

May 17th (Beiranews) - Replication of Fossils in Urban Space in Naturtejo Geopark

May 17th (pinhaldigital.com) - Replication of Fossils in Urban Space in Naturtejo Geopark May 17th (dinheirovivo.pt) – Barrocal Park - Digital coverage of the hinterland costs 400 million euros

May 18th (Gazeta Rural) - 2021 Landscape Festival in Naturtejo Geopark - towards freedom of natural spaces

May 18th (Jornal do Fundão) – Naturtejo Geopark promotes Landscape Festival

May 18th (Diário Digital) - Naturtejo Geopark promotes 2021 Landscape Festival towards freedom of natural spaces

May 18th (Beira Baixa TV) - Landscape Festival towards freedom of natural spaces MAY 18TH (Visao.Sapo.pt) - Naturtejo Geopark promotes Landscape Festival

May 18th (beira.pt) - Naturtejo Geopark promotes Landscape Festival

May 18th (noticiasaominuto.pt) - Naturtejo Geopark promotes Landscape Festival

May 19th (Gazeta do Interior) - Landscape Festival publicises Naturtejo Geopark

May 19th (Magg.sapo.pt) - Casa Vinte & Cinco. The refuge where they do shopping for you and you are welcomed with caganita cheese

May 20th (Reconquista) - Naturtejo Geopark – Landscape Festival is back

May 20th (Reconquista) - In the territory of Naturtejo Geopark - Replication of fossils in Sobral Fernando

May 20th (Diário Digital Castelo Branco) – Naturtejo Geopark makes replicas of fossils with the help of The Geological Museum of Lisboa

# SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES

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- ALBUQUERQUE, T., ROQUE, N., RODRIGUES, J., ANTUNES, M., & SILVA, C. DRASTICAI, a New Index for Groundwater Vulnerability Assessment A Portuguese Case Study. Geosciences, 11(6), 228. doi.org/10.3390/geosciences11060228
- BAPTISTA, P., NETO DE CARVALHO, C., HENRIQUES, F., MONTEIRO, M. & CANINAS, J. GIS-based provenance of Cabeço da Anta (Proença-a-Nova, Portugal) megalithic funerary monument's constructive materials. In: Caninas, J., Pereira, T., Carmona, A., Gaspar, I., Félix, P., Sequeira, A., Fonseca, P. (eds.), Tumuli and Megaliths in Eurasia. Book of Abstracts, Proença-a-Nova, May 25-29, 17.





- GEOfood Flyer in PT
- Blog post 'Geoproducts of our Naturtejo Geopark (UNESCO) at SmartFarmer https://smartfarmer.pt/os-geoprodutos-do-nosso-geopark-naturtejo-mundial/







# **PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**















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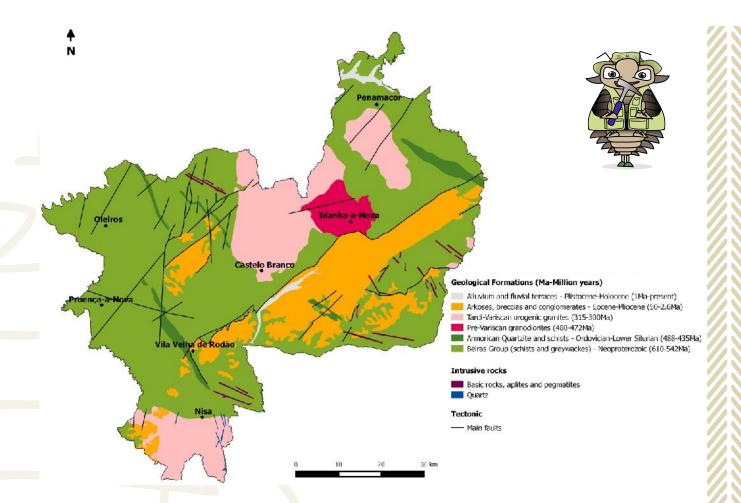
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## Geoparks: Geology with human face

