



## In this issue:

Living Science in summer with a lot of geology Geopark at "United in Geodiversity" exhibition in Polish Geological Institute Erasmus Mundus Master students work the geopark ...and more!

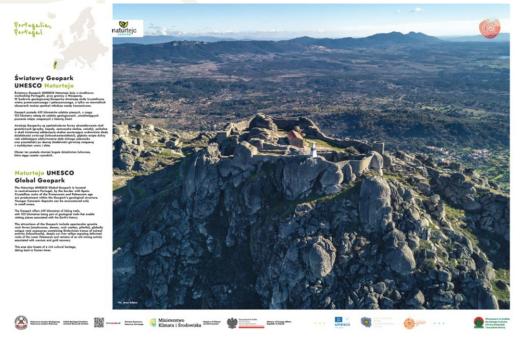




# **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**



July 30th to August 7th – Partner's stand takes Naturtejo Geopark to Vila de Rei Fair. The partner Vale de Alfaia promoted a GEOfood space in the Sausages, Cheese and Honey Fair of Vila de Rei. The stand joined not only Vale de Alfaia geoproducts but also Geocakes and Ervas da Zoé, in a space where visitors could know better Naturtejo Geopark territory and the GEOfood brand. The stand was distinguished by the organization with the Best Cheese Exhibitor Award.



August - Outdoor exhibition on the most exciting Geodiversity of Geoparks at the Geological Institute of Poland. The exhibition "United in Geodiversity" is organized by the Geological Institute of Poland under the high patronage of the Ministry of Climate and Environment, and the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This open-air exhibition aims to show the beauty of the landforms of European landscapes, which have been shaped over thousands or even millions of years through geological processes.

Places of particular geological, natural, archaeological and cultural value have been selected from many regions of the old continent for their fascination. These are UNESCO Global Geoparks. All unique. Their geological diversity makes the world around us an even more fascinating place. Tourists travelling through Europe are thus invited to discover these extraordinary places.



**August 4th - Minister of Culture of Portugal visits Penha Garcia.** On the occasion of the visit of the Minister of Culture to the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova he was welcome in the village of Penha Garcia. Armindo Jacinto and the local community received the Minister in the Museum of S. Pedro de Alcântara with the local sounds of the Cavaquinhos de Penha Garcia. The reception then moved to Frágua-Bar, where Carlos Neto de Carvalho showed the fossils of the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and talked about the Templar history, traditions and local gastronomy, with the signature of the great master Josefina Pissarra.



**August 5th – Living Science in summer with activities in Penha Garcia and Monsanto.** In 2022 Naturtejo Geopark is again participating in Living Science in summer, celebrating 25 years of this national program for scientific dissemination. Between July 15th and September 15th 566 events took place all over the country, 7 of which promoted by Naturtejo Geopark, in collaboration with Living Science Forest Centre, that also promoted 8 more activities in the territory.

In the first action 'Fossils from Penha Garcia' participants walked through the Fossils Trail to discover ancient environments and life forms, with Joana Rodrigues from Naturtejo Geopark and Marta Palhim from Living Science Forest Centre. Another group of curious and enthusiastic people visited Monsanto Boulders, in an activity organized by Joana Rodrigues and Marta Palhim. The group explored the mysteries of the granites and their shapes and didn't lose heart despite the high temperatures.



**August 6th - Idanha-a-Nova Bio-Region Market.** Another edition of Idanha-a-Nova Bio-Region Market with stands full of colours and smells of summer fruits and vegetables. In Naturtejo Geopark's space, consumers can know the territory and its geoproducts and GEOfood. From August the Market will take place every Saturday.



**7 August - Geology at Portas de Almourão Geomonument.** Another Summer Action of Living Science in summer took place, dedicated to 'Secrets of the Almourão Valley'. Participants walked through the Talhadas Mountain, along the Mourão Valley, accompanied by Marta Palhim from Living Science Forest Centre, where they unveiled millions of years old secrets. The return to Sobral Fernando passed by the work "A Menina dos Medos", from Cortiçada Art Fest, by the river.



August 10th to 12th - Erasmus Mundus Dyclam Master student at the Geopark. During two and half months, a student of the Erasmus Mundus Dyclam (Dynamics of Cultural Landscape, Heritage, Memory and Conflictualities) Master programme is developing a voluntary summer internship in Portuguese Geoparks. The course promoted by Jean Monnet University (France), Babes Bolyai University (Romania), Polytechnic Institute of Tomar (Portugal) and Federico II University (Italy) focuses on the valorisation of heritage and cultural landscapes.

Mailane Sampaio was in Naturtejo Geopark during 3 days, where she met GEOfood partners Azeite Egitânia and Geocakes, visited farms and production units, tourism offices, places like the monumental olive trees of Senhora da Alagada and Idanha-a-Velha, Historical Village of Monsanto, Oil Press of Vila Velha de Ródão and geosites as the Fossil trees and Portas de Ródão Natural Monument, accompanied by Joana Rodrigues. During these days, the student also had the opportunity to collaborate in the promotion of the Living Science in summer action 'Ouro das Portas de Almourão'.

Her work aims to develop thematic GEOfood touristic itineraries in Naturtejo Geopark which, in a second phase, will integrate GEOfood itineraries at national level, including the five UNESCO Global Geoparks.



**August 12th - Gold mining in Ocreza runs out available places.** As usual, the Living Science in summer 'Gold in Portas de Almourão' was one of the most sought after and the first to sell out. It took place on a lively morning in the Ocreza river, with teamwork between kids and adults.

After a lot of patience and skill, all participants found gold. The action was lead by Marta Palhim and Miguel Manso from Living Science Forest Centre, Joana Rodrigues from Naturtejo Geopark and Mailane Sampaio, student of Polytechnic Institute of Tomar, who found the biggest gold nugget. Beginner's luck?



**August 16th - A new magazine values Montalvão heritage.** The new Êlhér magazine! It's a magnificent contribution for the valuation of local heritage and identity reinforcement of a small village, that now has a first quality Cultural Magazine. Montalvão, municipality of Nisa, in Naturtejo Unesco Global Geopark. Êlhér!", all you can find in the Cultural Magazine of Montalvão, from Geodiversity, to Archaeology, traditional architectures and oral heritage. A kind of "Regional Geographic" of the parish, a universe of two small villages, with the right to poetry! It brings together nationally renowned specialists and local people in the documentation for future memory. A project of this nature and nobility could only count with Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark that, with Upper Tagus Study Association, not only highlighted the importance of geodiversity in the scope of a UNESCO declared territory, and its fundamental contribution for the millenary occupation of the Montalvão territory, but also contributed to highlight the emergency of its valuation.

The cultural magazine of Montalvão is a work with the elegant dash of João Fidalgo, the ideologist of a project that fights against oblivion. Now, Êlhér!



**August 20th - Living Science activity in Serra das Talhadas.** Living Science in Summer took a group of participants through Serra das Talhadas 'From Buraca da Moura to Cruz do Alto'. The walk passed through the geosites Buraca da Moura de Chão de Galego and Galego Viewpoint, the land art work "Farol dos Ventos" by Cortiçada Experimenta Paisagem, Cruz do Alto, with a climb to the watchtower designed by the renowned architect Siza Vieira. The activity was lead by Marta Palhim from Living Science Forest Centre.



**August 25th - Orvalho GeoTrail Geodiversity and Biodiversity Tour.** Another Living Science in Summer activity took place, with another hot morning hike, this time through the 'Geodiversity and Biodiversity of Orvalho GeoTrail'.

The group walked 8 km through Muradal Mountain where they discovered the history of the Oleiros mountains, the geomonument Fraga da Água d'Alta, the Fragosas Valley (where they identified dozens of species of fauna and flora) and also the impressive vestiges of the ancient forest, with the monitors Marta Palhim and Joana Rodrigues.



**August 26th - Final Erasmus Mundus Master's work on the Paleontological Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark.** Fernando Testa, student of the Erasmus Mundus PANGEA Master Program defended his final work about Paleontological Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark - proposals for Geotourism and Education. Developed in a partnership between the Universities of Lille (France), Uppsala (Sweden), Minho (Portugal) and Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark, the work was oriented by Professors Sebastien Clausen and Paulo Pereira.



August 26th – Informal meeting dedicated to groundwater in the "Thermal Springs is Monfortinho" **Festival.** In the scope of the 'Termas é Monfortinho' Festival, between July and September and of which Naturtejo Geopark is a partner, took place an informal meeting dedicated to underground waters.

The event joined geologists from UNESCO Global Geoparks Naturtejo and Estrela, as well as the West territory, still in the development phase of the candidature to UNESCO, all located in the Center of Portugal. In this late afternoon conversation, in the spa of Termas de Monfortinho, they discussed in a 'no moderation' format the importance of the Hydrogeological Heritage and the diversity of natural mineral waters in Portugal, and especially in the Centre region.

These three territories have outstanding thermal waters, as Monfortinho, Águas, Unhais da Serra, Caldas de Manteigas, Vimeiro, Caldas da Rainha or Fadagosa de Nisa, already in Alto Alentejo and also bottled waters as Fonte de Fraga, Serra da Estrela, Glaciar or Vimeiro.

Besides the historical, social and economic importance of groundwater in these territories, the role of Geoparks in this context was debated, from scientific research, to environmental education and or tourism.

The informal meeting included a water blind tasting, and as water has taste, participants were able to taste and distinguish different natural mineral and spring waters, whose properties and taste vary according to the geological context in which they circulated in depth.

The tertulia had the participation of the geologists Joana Rodrigues, from Naturtejo Geopark, Fábio Loureiro, from Estrela Geopark and Bruno Pereira from Oeste Aspiring Geopark. Also attended the President of Oeste Aspiring Geopark, João Serra and the Executive Coordinator of Estrela Geopark, Emanuel Castro.

Throughout the month several initiatives took place in the scope of the Festival, such as musical events, workshops, Smuggling Route and Night Walks in Penha Garcia and Monsanto, promoted by Geopark's partners Casa 25 and Monsanto Tours.



# **IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA**

# TV & Radio

August 3rd (Beira Baixa TV) – 18.500 scouts are in ACANAC at Idanha-a-Nova August 22nd (Rádio Cova da Beira) – ESA/IPCB hosts International Phytosociology Meeting

### Newspapers & www

August 3rd (Diário Digital) – 18.500 scouts are in ACANAC at Idanha-a-Nova August 3rd (Gazeta do Interior) – Living Science promotes 3 thematic hikes in Idanha August 3rd (Gazeta do Interior) – Organisations send an open letter to the Minister of the Environment

August 4th (Jornal de Oleiros) – 18.500 scouts are in ACANAC at Idanha-a-Nova August 15th (El Confidencial) – When the Neanderthals bathed in Matalascañas: the footprints come to the surface

August 15th (Diár<mark>i</mark>o Digital) – The School of Agriculture co-organises the 12th International Meeting of Phytosociology

August 18th (Medio Tejo) – Walkways that lead to discovering the best of the region August 22nd (MaisBeiras) – iNature Network represents Centre Region in German Fair CARAVAN SALON

August 31st (Gazeta do Interior) – ESA co-organises the 12th International Meeting of Phytosociology

# **PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

- NETO DE CARVALHO, C., HENRIQUES, F., & CANINAS, J. – Montalvão de geodiversidade e paisagem milenar por valorizar. Êlhér! Revista Cultural de Montalvão, 1, 6-13.

- Guia das Praias Fluviais (com referência a praias fluviais localizadas no Geopark Naturtejo Mundial da UNESCO)



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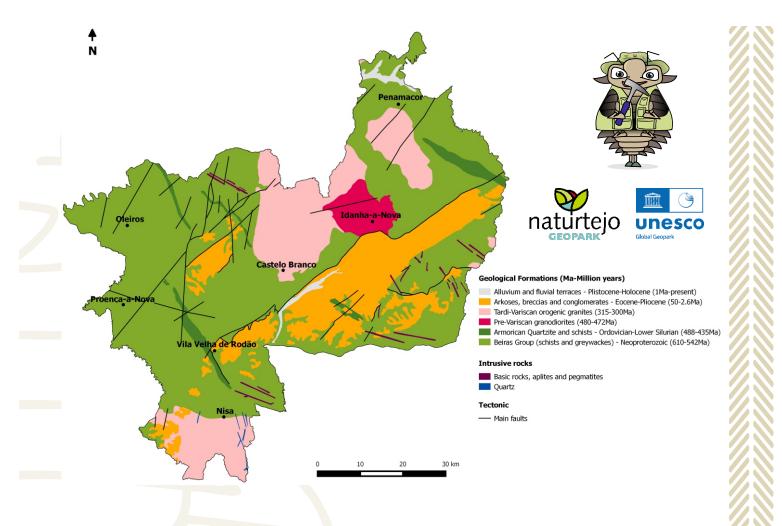




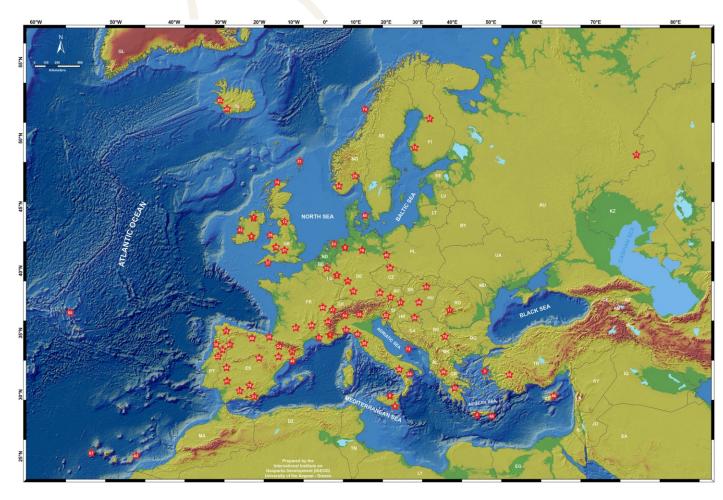
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# Visit Visit Visit O Geopark in: Image: State of the state



# Geoparks: Geology with human face



Edition - Geopark Naturtejo, 2022 Coordination - Carlos Neto de Carvalho Texts - Joana Rodrigues, Carlos Neto de Carvalho Photos - Joana Rodrigues, Carlos Neto de Carvalho, João Serra, CCV da Floresta, Jesus Salazar (Capa) Clipping - Carla Jacinto e Alice Marcelo Design - Layer [Design and Print Studio] Translation - Carla Jacinto Production - Joana Rodrigues



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