



CRUZIANA

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

In This Issue: – Landscape Festival celebrates the Geopark European Week – Celebrating and promoting local products and traditions – New agro-tourism sighting the International Tejo – Constitution of the Portuguese Federation for Rural Tourism... and more!



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Geo-histories of our places and people: Orvalho

The Moradal Hill, of “abrupt and dominating silhouette” is part of an imposing alignment, essentially quartzitic with SE-NW orientation, between the Magueija Stream and the Zêzere River, extending itself in 32 km to the Ceira River and forming, as a whole, the most extensive and imposing ridge in the Beira Baixa region. “Moradal Hill, named after the immense wall shape in straight line”. The highest points of the Moradal Hill reach the 912 m in the v.g. Vilar, 888 m in the v.g. Zebro, 860 m in the v.g. Cardal and 837 m in the v.g. Picoto. The altimetric contrast is strengthened by the passage of the Pomar-Grade Fault in Azenha de Cima, which has lifted this southern border of the Central Range 200 m above the Castelo Branco surface, and develops itself in an immense tectonic stairway to the Estrela Mountain. The hill top shows itself pretty regular, forming a crest of the type “Appalachian”, grooved only by the Orvalho plateau and by the Zêzere River valley, which sets the embossing limit to the NW through a spectacular rugged gorge with 300 m deep, taking advantage of the Ademoço extensional fault displacements. 300 m below the Cabeço Mosqueiro, from where it can be seen a pleasant and illustrative landscape runs the Zêzere between rapids and vertical escarpments with dozens of meters high. “The Cabeço Mosqueiro is a formidable quartzite hill in continuous disaggregation by the mordant action of the time...”. From here it can be guessed one of the grand Naturtejo Geopark Geomonuments: the Zêzere meanders. It is around 53 km through a winding valley entrenched in the schistose landscape, by twists and turns of mileage wide that amplify itself to the Pedrogão granitic massif. These entrenched meanders show a structural controllability of the schistose substrate and an evolution related to the tectonic uplifting related to the Cebola Fault, but its origin is the residual hardness, like the Moradal Hill and the Pedrógão granite. The Cabeço Mosqueiro is a belvedere with unusual qualities, which was target of an important restoration in 2006 and turned to a leisure park. Several supporting structures were installed, namely the asphalted access, a parking lot, toilets, a small support building, a belvedere-tower that alludes to the pre-roman settlement once established here and a picnic area. All of the edified structures are composed or overlaid with the local quartzite rock.

Fraga da Água d'Alta is one of the 16 geomonuments of the Naturtejo Geopark, distinguishing itself by its singularity. Next to the Presa Stream confluence, in the Cabeça Murada, the Água d'Alta Stream runs through a thick and exuberant hood, showing a drop of about 50 m with a three waterfall succession, being the tallest 15 m high. It could be noticed a rock balcony alternation, with different levels of erosion resistance. Metric quartzite balconies alternate with decimetric quartzite and pelitic beds, less resistant rocks to the fluvial erosion. The erosion is differential, taking advantage of the pre-existent drops and affecting the less resistant layers, generating, as time goes by, lithological steps. The waterfall came to life in the contact area of these lithologies. The richness of this area is enhanced by the important biodiversity, being highlighted the recently found Laurissilva traces that covered the South Western Europe until the glaciations and nowadays only persist in some Macaronesia islands and in the uttermost parts of the continental Europe, such as the Portuguese Laurel (*Prunus lusitana lusitana*), the Laurestine (*Viburnum tinus*), the Alder Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) and the small *Omphalodes nítida*, an Iberian endemism of beautiful blue flowers.



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The deep, dark Fragosa valley, with an essentially siliceous soil and the constant presence of humidity allowed the survival of one of the biggest populations of *Prunus lusitanica* known in the whole world, considered one of the most important habitats of the Habitats Directive of the European Union for the nature conservation.

The Nature House project of the Orvalho parish, as an Interpretive Centre for the Orvalho GeoRoute and, namely, for the Fraga da Água d'Alta as Natural Monument and Ecological Park is providential to the much needed Geomonument scientific study, conservation and touristic enhancement.

“In the Admoço limits exists a true Nature wonder, worthy of contemplation.” The Zêzere Gorge corresponds to an epigenic gorge with 300m deep, that is to say, a deep fluvial fit from the Zêzere river in the quartzitic ridge, eased up by weakened areas, in the last millions of years. The fluvial erosion took advantage from the vertical faults in the quartzite, which delimit the quartzitic ridge and are intersected by the Admoço Fault that controls the valley shape, crossing the Moradal Hill and giving birth to the impressive fluvial gorge. In both of the riverbanks are spotted great slope angular deposits, gravitational, heterometric, with quartzite blocks of considerable size. These chaotic deposits derive from the decommissioning of the quartzitic ridge in a periglacial climatic regime. Finally, of the 4 listed geosites in the Orvalho parish remains to address the one that exists in the km 48 of the national road 112 and continues in the Orvalho Stream slopes. Here, the Orvalho Stream cuts off the Armorican Quartzite Formation monocline with 40-50 m thick. This is one of the best locals to observe the angular unconformity existing between the schists and greywackes from the Grupo das Beiras, with layers tilting 50° to NE dated from about 600 million years ago and the white quartzite with Skolithos fossil types, tilting only 15-20° to NE, with an age inferior to 480 million years. This unconformity is the witness of the early orogenic movements, originated for about 500 million years ago, taking to the swivelling and emergence of the deep marine deposits of the Grupo das Beiras, until the deposition of the marine coast sands from the Armorican Quartzite Formation. This geosite of regional importance by its scientific and didactic contribution is located through the Orvalho GeoRoute, wherefore its appreciation will be reached through the instalment of an interpretative panel in the area and through the cleaning and maintenance of the road slopes.

In fact, it is the Nature from the Moradal Hill and from the Zêzere River Valley (the Portuguese Laurel river) that domains the Orvalho parish. Located in a plain plateau limited by the Moradal Hill and by the Gardunha Hill foothills, and by the deep Zêzere Valley, Orvalho extends itself by 34,79 km² and the 678 inhabitants distribute themselves by the village with the same name, Casas da Zebreira, Adgiraldo and Foz do Giraldo, small sparse places, whose isolation is due to the terrain rough morphology.

These villages and places are surrounded by small vegetable gardens that refresh themselves in the streams passing through and yet show much of the traditional schist architecture: the small water mills abound, the little shrines in the crossings, as well as the olive oil presses, from which Foz do Giraldo is paradigmatic, like if the last presser closed the door for the last time hoping for the next day that never came. Examples of these architectural solutions shaped in the time should be valued as local heritage with touristic interest and included in interpretative roadmaps.



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The same goes on with the linen tradition, which still finds its cycle that fosters the local productivity of quilts, rags and clothing in wisely manufactured looms.

The actions for preservation implemented around the Fraga de Água d'Alta Geomonument and the implementation of the pedestrian trail PR3 Orvalho GeoRoute, with its enhancement, have been attracting a great number of visitors to the region, once inexistent in the national touristic scene. The Orvalho GeoRoute is an excellency case in nature preservation and touristic appreciation, where annually hundreds of pedestrians of the whole country gather at the same time and there is a magnificent festive ode to the declining abyss of the Zêzere Gorge. This trail connects the Orvalho centre to the Cabeço Mosqueiro and Cabeça Murada belvederes. With strong nature interpretation and local culture aptitude, the Orvalho GeoRoute is a paradigm in the Portuguese Geotourism and backbone of an Ecological Park which is expected to be developed soon.

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ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



May – Landscape Festival – Geopark European Week during the month . The Geopark European Week is celebrated in May and June, in rural areas of 18 European countries, in 54 geoparks recognized by UNESCO. In the Naturtejo Geopark is commemorated the geological Landscape, natural and cultural internationally acknowledged, of an enormous richness and diversity making famous the encounter between the Centre mountains and the Plateau border area. They are 28 the events being promoted by Naturtejo in the scope of the Landscape Festival, between the days of 17 May and 16 June, betting in the main references of the Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão regions, concerning nature tourism and geotourism, local products of excellency, economic and environmental sustainability. Thus, the Landscpae Festival has had its beginning in 17 of May with the new Fish Soup Festival of Vila Velha de Ródão, enhancing the Tejo resources in the “Lands of Gold”. In the same day, took place the National Symposium of Biodiversity and Apiculture at the Agricultural Superior School of Castelo Branco, which regards to the autochthonous forest preservation needs to this traditional economic activity maintenance. In Proença-a-Nova, was hosted the 2013 Cherry Festival of Montes da Senhora, which gathered a group of traditional and touristic activities converging in one of the most delicious festivals of the season. The nature trails had their beginning in the 19 of May, with a pedestrian walk in Isna, amongst the secular oak trees, a tour on foot “guided by the sun”, from Chão de Galego, in Proença-a-Nova, throughout the Fróia Stream, and the Ill Lizard Rout, in Lardosa, a mountain bike route oriented by GPS. On Friday 24, begun the educational programs through the Geopark in the scope of the Landscape Festival, with a senior visit to the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, repeating it at the 28 of May to a much younger group that came on purpose from Cáceres. During that weekend took place the colourful Flower Festival in Aldeia de Santa Margarida, as well as a diversified array of options concerning the natural landscape exploration: The Milrico Walk, the Vale do Souto Pedestrian Walk, and the VIII Orvalho GeoRoute, a Portuguese pedestrianism classic, as well as a cycle tourism activity in Mosteiro, all of them occurring in Oleiros, and yet a photography workshop hosted by the “Alive Science” Centre of Forest in Proença-a-Nova.

The first weekend of June begins at the day 31, with the IV Geographic Systems meeting in the Agricultural Superior School of Castelo Branco, where it will be discussed the application of technologies in planning and land management. The weekend is the time for festivals. The Oleiros Sixteenth Century Fair is a promise of success by the lands of the Priest António de Andrade and the 5th Lamb Festival at Rosmaninhal celebrates the pastoral tradition, ending with one more pedestrian trail for nature discovery. The “Gold Fest – Gold Panning Festival”, unique in Portugal, is organized by the company Casa do Forno between Salvaterra do Extremo and the ancient roman gold mine of the Conhal do Arneiro, next to the Tejo River. This festival promise to attract interested individuals and professionals to the shores of Tejo and Ocreza rivers, with lots of gold and swims jumbled up.

At the 4 of May, celebrating the European Geopark Network Day, the “Education Train” brought the Education, Science and Culture Commission directly from the Assembly of the Republic to the Naturtejo Geopark, with visits and meetings in Vila Velha de Ródão and Proença-a-Nova, ending with an open seminar at the Alive Science Centre of Forest.

The weekend is extended in Salvaterra do Extremo between 7 and 10 of June, with the second edition of the “Salva a Terra (Save the Earth)” – Eco Music Festival for CERAS. Besides the music, pedestrian trails, swims in the Erges River, workshops and environmental awareness actions, was proposed a guided visit about the geological resources exploration history between the Roman Gorroal da Veiga and the miner wells of Currais da Arvela.

In the Sunday 9th, took place the 3rd AlenBTerra BTT Marathon, in Nisa and the 7th Pedestrian Walk “Estreito Trails”, in Oleiros.

The Sports in Nature Festival of Zebreira ends this year program of the Landscape Festival – Naturtejo Geopark.

Last year, around 80 000 Europeans participated in hundreds of activities hosted in more than 35 geoparks. This year, and once more, Naturtejo promotes the Landscape Festival program with the support of the Centre Tourism Regional Entity, the Mines Roadmap and Portuguese Geological sites of Interest and the European Geoparks Network, under the UNESCO auspices, for the foreign market.

2 May – At the Gates of Rodão Natural Monument. 36 Pupils and 4 teachers from the Rural Development Professional School of Abrantes came to meet the Gates of Rodão Natural Monument in the scope of Geography, Environment and Rural Development and Physical Education subjects, of the Technical Course of Rural and Environmental Tourism. The monitors were Isménia Araújo and Hugo Oliveira.

3 to 5 May – Sevilla Operators at the Geopark. Enjoying the picturesque occasion of the Divine Holy Cross Celebration of Monsanto 55 touristic operators from Sevilha ranged part of the Geopark territory, in a Fam Trip organized by Naturtejo. The company Vila Fraga accompanied the group in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, the Olive Oil Complex of Proença-a-Velha, Idanha-a-Nova, the Senhora do Almortão Sanctuary and Idanha-a-Velha. It was realized a medieval dinner in Monsanto, where the group participated together with touristic groups from Douro Travel, BES and a nice couple who came through the Naturtejo programs. Already at the pilgrimage to the top of the Holly Hill, the operators were pleased with a traditional picnic at the castle.

3 to 4 May – Luís de Freitas Branco Secondary School through the geopark. 28 students and their Geography teacher, from the Lisbon area, spent two great days with Isménia Araújo. They started by studying the Monsanto Inselberg and ended by searching for the trilobite traces at the Fossils Route in Penha Garcia.

3 to 5 May – Divine Holly Cross of Monsanto: thousands in one of the most traditional celebrations of the region. The Divine Holly Cross Celebration is one of the most genuine and ancient sacred profane manifestations long time Christianised, but it consists in a climbing to the highest point of the Mons Sanctus, and there making offers that celebrate the Month of May, the beginning of a fertility cycle. To this celebration attend thousands of people to Monsanto, and there to participate in the Medieval Celebration in a proper scenario, of the pilgrimage and traditional picnic made in the Castle interior. There was no shortage of quests, weaponry and moments of great revelry!



7 May – The Geopark went to school. Aiming to bring closer the geopark and the local community schools, Manuela Catana developed the talk “What is the Naturtejo Geopark?” at the Nisa School Grouping. This activity was created for 16 pupils and one teacher from the 11th Grade, in scope of Biology and Geology disciplines. During the talk, the highlight went to the geomonuments located in the area of Nisa and the students watched the movie “Naturtejo Geopark – an Oasis in Europe”.



10 May – Regional Tourism Meeting at the Roman city of Conímbriga. The Monographic Museum of Conímbriga hosted once again a Regional Tourism Meeting organized by the Professional School of Condeixa-a-Nova with the support of the Center of Portugal Tourism Region. In the scope of the good practices, Carlos Neto de Carvalho was invited to approach the subject tourism and education for the sustainable development in the scope of Naturtejo Geopark, under the UNESCO auspices.

10 to 12 May – Discovering the great River. Naturtejo arranged the Program “Discovering the Tejo” at the Naturtejo Geopark to 23 people. The company Incentivos Outdoor accompanied the group from the most recent hotel edified in the geopark, the Monte Filipe, in Alpalhão. The group started by completing the pedestrian trail “Discovering the Tejo”, at the gorgeous village of Salavessa, with Alentejo typical chimneys. After that, they visited the Historical Centre of the town of Nisa, including the Clay and Embroidery Museum and the passage through the handcraft workshops of felt and pottery, the famous Nisa Stoned Pottery.

When passing by the spa of the Fadagosa Thermal Spas, there was the chance to relax with a Hydro massage and a Massage under the shower. At the end of the day the group celebrated the S. Gens Dolmen, national monument. At the third day, it was time to appreciate the impressive circuit of the Alpalhão Sculptures. For the program finale, they continued to a boat trip through the Tejo River, passing through the Gates of Rodão Natural Monument.

11 to 12 May – XI Soup Festival of Proença-a-Velha: 3000 litres consumed! The Soup Festival of Proença-a-Velha is one of the most attended of its kind and one of the most significant culture manifestations with the Naturtejo Geopark support. About 100 soups entered in the competition, having been consumed 3000 litres by the thousands of participants that came to this small village with only 200 inhabitants.



13 May – “River Project” at the Idanha-a-Nova flood plains. This second Field Trip to the adopted section of the Ponsul river was intended to study the aquatic ecosystem and to the fulfilment of a data collection file. Using the students didactic kit the students made a description of the sample area, the measuring and recording of the water physical-chemical features, the observation and recording of the river life and the environmental situation of the river and riverside hood. There were 21 the participant students accompanied by their Natural Science Teacher from the Idanha-a-Nova School Grouping and the activity was fostered by the local coordinator and by Manuela Catana.

14 to 15 May – BMW X Experience by the lands of Idanha. The Escape Livre Club hosted once more an offroad touristic course for brands. The numerous participants visited Penha Garcia by foot through the Fossils Route, crossed the Vale Feitoso Farm, visited the Senhora do Loreto Sanctuary and the Segura Church ending with an entertaining medieval dinner.



14 May - "River Project" now in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. This second Field Trip to the adopted section of the Ponsul river was intended to study the aquatic ecosystem and to the fulfilment of a data collection file. Using the students didactic kit the students made a description of the sample area, the measuring and recording of the water physical-chemical features, the observation and recording of the river life and the environmental situation of the river and riverside hood. There were 18 the participant students accompanied by their History Teacher, from the Idanha-a-Nova School Grouping and the activity was fostered by the local coordinator and by Manuela Catana, with the support from the educational services of the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality.



14 May - Between Penha Garcia and Monsanto. 21 Pupils and 3 students from the 12th grade, from the Domingos Sequeira High School of Leiria completed an educative program with Hugo Oliveira, between the Monsanto Inselberg and the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia.



17 May – “Parents with Science” in Vila Nova de Milfontes. The Nossa Senhora da Graça College developed a project to bring closer the Portuguese scientists of the school community. Carlos Neto de Carvalho was the first invited to talk about his experiences as geologist and palaeontologist, a chequered 15 years career in the service of science and society, as well as his paleontological discoveries in the school region.

17 to 19 May – A whole new Festival dedicated to the riverside culture . Naturtejo Geopark's Landscape Festival, in the scope of the Geopark European Week, could not have a most constructive start. The First Fish Soup Festival, a joint organization between the Vila Velha de Ródão municipality, Progestur, Adraces and Naturtejo, is a bet relying in the region's endogenic resources valuating a typical and differentiated product such as the Fish Soup of Vila Velha de Ródão. It has as main objective to attract visitors and turning the month of May to the month of the Fish Soups in the Beira Baixa region. Its purpose is to involve the different business areas of the parish connected to tourism – like the catering industry, oenology, gastronomy, handcraft, hotel business and its agents: producers, chefs, craftsmen and artists – creating synergies in a transversal schedule with social-recreational activities with street animations, music and traditional dancing performances, workshops, show cooking, among others.

17 and 31 May – Agricultural Superior School organized national seminars. The subjects: biodiversity and beekeeping and geographical information systems were discussed in two seminars technical-scientific applied to the region realities. The organization was under the responsibility of the Agricultural Superior School of Castelo Branco.

18 to 19 May – Cherry Festival sold 2500kg!. The Cherry Festival of Montes da Senhora shows year after year an increasing success. This time the producers sold more than two tons of this delicious fruit, king of this region. Associated to this local products and animation fair was arranged a trip through the municipality of Proença-a-Nova, where were presented new municipal touristic programs in the region, which arrange resources an offer in the several touristic segments available.

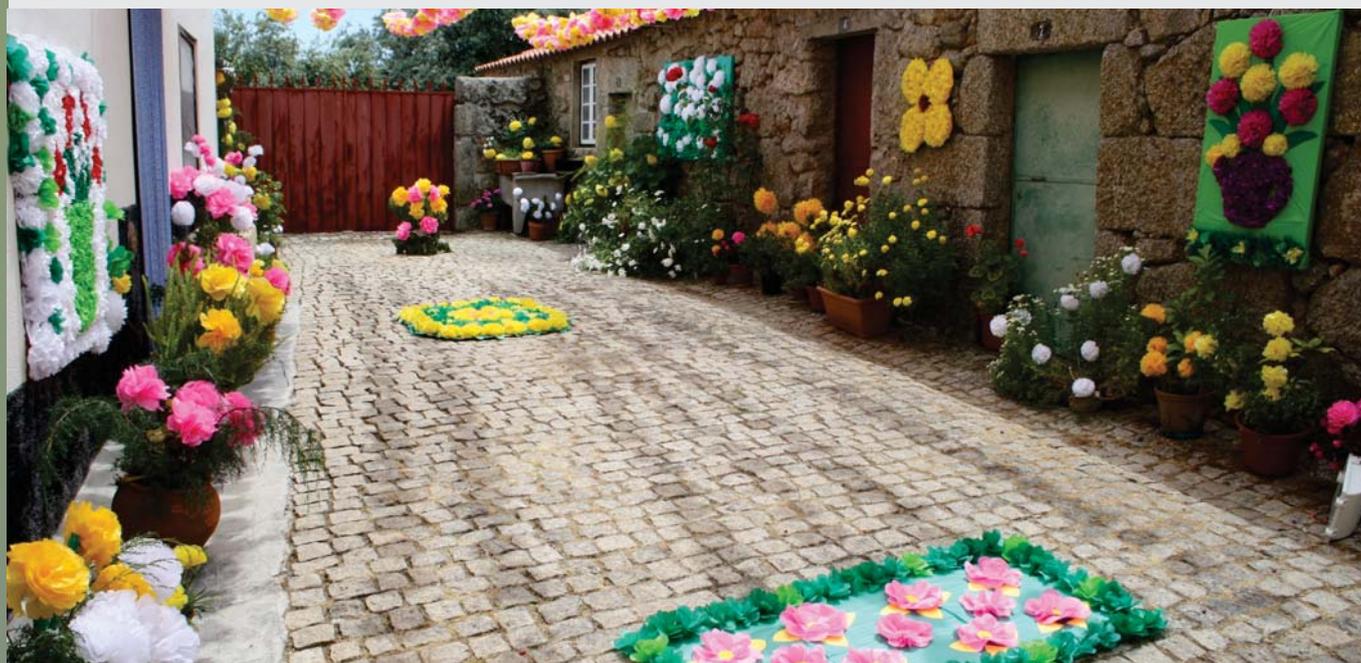
19, 25 and 26 May – Oleiros Landscapes accessible through walks and bike trips. In the scope and aim of the Landscape Festival fits several trips arranged locally. In the Oleiros municipality is already routine the pedestrian trails approach, which always attracts many locals and foreigners. The villages of Isna and Vale de Souto and its natural surroundings were the scenic for two pedestrian trails, and in Mosteiro took place a bike tourism trip.



20 to 24 May – Turkish Palaeontologist training in the Naturtejo Geopark. The palaeontologist Mujde Gursoy from the Engineering Faculty of the Tunceli University, Turkey, was making a 5 day visit to the Naturtejo Geopark. This visit fits in the trainings made available by the Naturtejo Geopark to university professors from this country under the European program ERASMUS for professor mobility, which have been occurring during the Spring. For 5 days the investigator would pass through the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, internationally recognized by its ichnofossils that allow to understand the lifestyle habits of animals that lived here from almost 500 millions of years ago and by the Erges valley, in Salvaterra do Extremo, where were found some of the most ancient fossils of all the Iberian Peninsula. Without missing the opportunity of visiting some of the internationally known geomonuments like the granitic island-hill of Monsanto or the Gates of Rodão Natural Monument, or places of History like Idanha-a-Velha or Castelo Branco, Mujde Gursoy made surveys in the Moradal Hill (Oleiros) and in Sarzedas accompanied by the Naturtejo Geopark's scientific coordinator, Carlos Neto de Carvalho. In a visit that cannot forget the contact with the local culture and inhabitants, the investigator had the opportunity of visiting one of the interpretative spaces of the most dynamic territory and turned towards the future, the “Alive Science” Centre of Forest in Proença-a-Nova, where is taking place the exhibit “the Evolution of the Forest in Portugal” with the fossil record of Portugal as the main context.



24 May – Senior Age International University through the Fossils Route. Manuela Catana was the responsible for the field trip of 30 pupils from the Senior Age International University, from Lisbon. This activity took place in the scope of the Modern History discipline. In this way, the appropriate local was to discover a millennial region with an innovative approach of development. This place is, of course Penha Garcia and its Ichnological Park.



25 to 26 May – IV Flower Festival of the Santa Margarida village – a colour explosion. The village of Santa Margarida was adorned with about 200000 paper and natural flowers, filling the streets and alleys, the frontages of simple houses and monuments with cheerful colours. Thousands of visitors coming from several places and from the neighbour Spain could not miss one of the most animated festivals of the region, celebrating Spring. Besides the sale of local products – with further increase of producers making direct selling – was plenty of music through the streets and a pedestrian walk dedicated to the local biodiversity. A program from Naturtejo brought a couple to the region for three days, always well accompanied by the guides from the companies Casa do Forno and Incentivos Outdoor.

25 May – Orvalho GeoTrail: the regional reference for the pedestrian trails. If there is a great celebration for walking through the geological heritage of the Naturtejo Geopark, that one is the Orvalho GeoTrail. More than 420 participants filled with life the village of Orvalho and the traditional surrounding paths. Lots of fun and a medieval dinner greeted the walkers at the end of the journey, at the tall hilltops of the Cabeço Mosqueiro.

27 May – Disseminating the results of the School Contest “The Water that Unite Us”. By the fourth consecutive year, Naturtejo Geopark and the UNESCO National Commission hosted the School Contest “Education Decade for the sustainable Development” (2005-2014). This school year the subject was “The Water that Unite Us”. This subject was also framed in the “Biodiversity Decade” (2011-2020), in the International Decade for the action “Water for Life” (2005-2015) and in the International Year of Cooperation in the Water domain (2013). The contest was destined to all the pupils and professors of the public and private educational institutions in the Naturtejo Geopark territory (Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão municipalities), of the nursery-school, of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd cycles of the Basic Education, Secondary Education and Professional Education. The 2012/2013 contest was organized with the support from the Portuguese Committee for the UNESCO Geosciences International Program (IGCP), the Naturtejo Geopark territory municipalities and from the II International Taejo Project (supported by the European Union and co-financed by FEDER and POCTEP 2007-2013). This contest aims to sensitize the students and through them the geopark territory inhabitants for the subject “The Water that Unite Us” stimulating the children and youngsters creativity encouraging them to make posters, canvas, models, movies and advertising spots. This contest was also promoted by the Arouca Geopark, the Azores Geopark and by the projects “Knight Lands” and “Laurissilva Coast”, having also been promoted in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, Santana (Madeira Island) and in the Príncipe Island (S. Tomé and Príncipe). The contest was disclosed 11 February, the registration occurred until 8 April, the works were sent until 17 May and in 27 May the winners were revealed through the Educational Programs microsite www.naturtejo.com. From the 20 works initially applied, 13 were effectively delivered, from which 7 were rewarded, in the 3 existent categories: Nursery-School and 1st Cycle of Basic Education; 2nd and 3rd Cycles of Basic Education; Secondary Education. A total of 108 pupils participated in the contest coordinated by 9 teachers, from the Municipalities of Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão.

27 May – 21st century rural museum . The Design and Fashion Museum of Lisbon hosts now the artistic exhibit dedicated to the lands of Idanha, with the support from the Idanha-a-Nova Municipality and the Naturtejo Geopark.



28 May – Cáceres youngsters learn in the Geopark. The Field Trip “In the Fossils Route of Penha Garcia searching for the Trilobites traces (Cruziana)” was intended 37 students and 4 teachers from the 5th and 6th grades from the Enseñanza Infantil y Primaria “Dulce Chacón” Centre, from Cáceres – Extremadura, Spain. This activity took place in the scope of a work project called “La Raya/A Raia en torno al Tajo/Tejo” which has as objectives to introduce to the students several settlements and landscapes from the border between Portugal and Spain, inside the Naturtejo Geopark and International Tejo Natural Park area. The monitors were Manuela Catana and Hugo Oliveira.



31 May – New agro-tourism to celebrate the Portuguese Federation for Rural Tourism scripture signing born in the Naturtejo Geopark. The State Secretary for Tourism participated in the opening of the most recent agro-touristic enterprise in the Naturtejo Geopark, located in Rosmaninhal. The Vale Mosteiro Valley fits in the arid and harsh landscape, filled with holm oak woods, of the International Tejo and is connected to the Herdade da Poupas Rural Hotel through the Grand Deer Route. In this Hotel was made a public presentation of the Portuguese Federation for Rural Tourism by the chair of the Naturtejo Geopark, Armindo Jacinto, with strong presence of several local producers who came to show their work, of very high quality, to Adolfo Mesquita Nunes. This Federation can turn the Naturtejo Geopark into a reference in Portugal for tourism, which has the wish to develop itself in the Countryside.

In an educational workshop dedicated to the Biodiversity and the Countryside attended 16 pupils and 2 professors of the 5ºB, from the Idanha-a-Nova School Grouping. The students had the opportunity to get to know the Herdade da Poupá, where they watched the theatre play "The Lady Rain and Mr Wind", a playwright by Marlon Fortes. After that, they observed the Farm fauna and pay an oriented visit to the local businessman exhibits (cakes, teas, soaps, sausages, olive oil, cheese, handcraft and iron sculptures) gathered there. The monitors were Manuela Catana, with the support from Hugo Oliveira.

31 May to 2 June – Sixteenth Century Fair in Oleiros. A time travel to the end of the XVI century and to the times of the Jesuit priest António de Andrade, born in Oleiros and "discoverer" of Tibet, is the proposal of an historical festival in the Oleiros Municipality. Hosted by the town School Grouping, with a great involvement in the costume making by the students and teachers, this is one of the most attended events of the Naturtejo Geopark Landscape Festival. Hundreds of people dressed for the occasion and a medieval market of local products which attracted thousands of visitors, right in the middle of the town of Oleiros.



31 May to 2 June – Travel Fair in Lisbon. Naturtejo Geopark was present in the Travel Fair, which takes place in Campo Pequeno, Lisbon. This Fair has as objective to make straightforward sales of touristic programs to the consumer. João Maltês, intern in Naturtejo in the field of Touristic Management arranged the stand and made several contacts that will result in sold programs by Naturtejo, tourism enterprise. A group of Templars helped by energizing the Naturtejo Geopark space, one of the most attended, as well as the Centre Tourism of Portugal stand.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

May (Air Libre Revista Espanhola – front page) – Naturtejo: a geopark in Portugal

May (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) – 1st Fish Soup Festival with great diffusion and attendance

May (Raiano) – Flower Village

May (Raiano) – Soups are a success

May (Raiano) – Templar town holds the tradition

1st May (Gazeta do Interior) – We want to give a push to tourism

1st May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Divine Celebration in Friday until Sunday

1st May (Gazeta do Interior) – Orvalho GeoTrail in 25 May

1st May (Gazeta do Interior) – Idanha with many events in May

2nd May (Reconquista) – Monsanto covers itself as Templar Village

2nd May (Reconquista) – Orvalho GeoTrail in the 25

6 May (Diário de Aveiro) – Divine Holly Cross Celebration brings thousands to Monsanto

6 May (Diário de Coimbra) – Divine Holly Cross Celebration brings thousands to Monsanto

6 May (Diário de Leiria) – Divine Holly Cross Celebration brings thousands to Monsanto

6 May (Diário de Viseu) – Monsanto travelled in time during the weekend

7 May (www.autoanddrive.com) – Adventure and millennial history in the border region of the centre

7 May (Povo da Beira) – Thousands travel to the most Portuguese village during the weekend

8 May (Diário de Viseu) – TTransgeopark – discovering the border landscape

8 May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Soup Festival this weekend in Proença-a-Velha

9 May (Reconquista – front page) – After the Templars now the Soups

9 May (Reconquista) – The biggest soup festival is in Proença-a-Velha

9 May (Reconquista) – Lizards Route returns at day 19

9 May (Reconquista) – “Save the Earth” to save the CERAS

9 May (Reconquista) – Monsanto covers itself as Templar Village

9 May (Reconquista) – Down the Erges to alleviate the stress

9 May (Reconquista) – Landscape Festival in the Geopark

11 May (www.lusomotores.com) – In the Road one of the most beautiful trails of the 2013 calendar of the Escape Livre Club

12 May (www.viseumais.com) – Biodiversity in four-by-four with BMW

14 May (www.autoanddrive.com) – BMW X Experience/Naturtejo Geopark – safari BMW by the Idanha lands

14 May (Povo da Beira) – Municipality promotes a weekend to disclose the fish

14 May (Povo da Beira) – Landscape Festival 2013 – Naturtejo Geopark in an inclusive promotion to the internal and external markets

14 May (Povo da Beira) – 3000 litres of soup consumed in Proença-a-Velha



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

- 14 May (Povo da Beira) – 8th Orvalho GeoTrail
- 15 May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Landscape Festival excites the Naturtejo Geopark region
- 15 May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Vila Velha de Ródão is the fish soup capital
- 15 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Agricultural School debates biodiversity
- 15 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Pedestrian Trail in Isna this Sunday
- 15 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Pedestrian Trails journey in Oleiros
- 16 May (Reconquista – front page) – Fish Soup “Catch” tourists
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Gates of Almourão to natural monument
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Cherry Festival in Montes da Senhora
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Farra Fanfarra in “Save the Earth”
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Landscape Festival in the Geopark
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Soups are a success
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Visit to the Geopark
- 16 May (Reconquista) – Oleiros wishes to walk
- 16 May (Jornal do Fundão) – Fish Soup returns to the restaurant menus
- 16 May (Jornal do Fundão) – Four-by-four trail through the Geopark area
- 16 May (Jornal do Fundão) – Sixteenth Century Fair celebrates the municipality
- 16 May (Jornal do Fundão) – Pedestrian Trails in Oleiros
- 16 May (Jornal do Fundão) – Safari BMW Safari by the Idanha-a-Nova lands
- 21 May (Povo da Beira) – Soup Fish Festival was a success
- 21 May (Povo da Beira) – Santa Margarida Village, a blooming village
- 21 May (Povo da Beira) – School group visits the Geopark
- 22 May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Flowers give colour to the Santa Margarida Village
- 22 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Eco music festival returns to Salvaterra do Extremo
- 22 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Walking through the biodiversity for the Humanity benefit in Oledo
- 23 May (Reconquista – front page) – Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha to World Heritage
- 23 May (Reconquista) – Ricardo Salgado and the Government in Romaninhal at the 31
- 23 May (Reconquista) – Flowers cover Santa Margarida
- 23 May (Reconquista) – Agricultural School Meeting
- 23 May (Reconquista) – 2500 kg sold
- 23 May (Reconquista) – Ródão shows the Fish Soup art
- 23 May (Reconquista) – Lizard Route
- 27 May (www.cafeportugal.net) – Rural Museum in the 21st century invites to “looking into Portugal interior”
- 28 May (Povo da Beira) – Geopark European Network Day
- 28 May (Povo da Beira) – Santa Margarida Village covered in flowers
- 29 May (Diário de Coimbra) – Lamb Festival in Rosmaninhal
- 29 May (Diário de Coimbra) – Turkish Palaeontologist in Naturtejo Geopark



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

- 29 May (Gazeta do Interior – front page) – Lamb Festival brings great flavours in the weekend
- 29 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Fish Soup Festival was a success
- 29 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Cherry Festival attracts visitors from all over the country
- 29 May (Gazeta do Interior) – Lamb Festival in Rosmaninhal
- 30 May (Reconquista) – Supplement dedicated to the “Save the Earth” Eco-Festival
- 30 May (Reconquista) –SIG Meeting in the Agricultural School
- 30 May (Reconquista) – Baú and Ruben Monteiro save the Earth
- 30 May (Reconquista) – New garden in the middle of the flowers
- 30 May (Reconquista) – Medieval Fair in Oleiros
- 30 May (Reconquista) – Lamb Festival in Rosmaninhal
- 31 May (Diário de Coimbra) – Rural Tourism Rural presents the Federation

TV & Radio

- 3rd May – RTP1 – Portugal – Turismo in Oleiros
- 5 May – TSF Radio – By Idanha lands with “Escape Livre”
- 6 May – RTP1 – Jornal da Tarde – Monsanto organized the Divine Holly Cross
- 10 May – Beira Baixa TV – A great party and two festivals: soups and accordionists
- 18 May – LocalVisão TV – Monsanto, Templar village
- 29 may – Rádio Altitude – Interview with Carlos Neto de Carvalho about the Monsanto application project to UNESCO
- 31 May – RTP1 – Portugal em Directo – Launching the Portuguese Federation for Rural Tourism



PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

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 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 cooperation 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 Systems/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 submissions 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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PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



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|--|--|---|---|--|
| <p>17 a 19 de Maio
I Festival das Sopas de Peixe
Gastronomia/Teatro/Debates/Música/
Vinhos/Vistas Guiadas/Show Cooking
Local: Vila Velha de Ródão
Informação: www.cm-svrodao.pt</p> <p>Sexta 17 de Maio
Simpósio Nacional Biodiversidade e Apicultura
Local: Escola Superior Agrária (Castelo Branco)
Informação: www.ipcb.pt/ESA</p> <p>18 e 19 de Maio
Festival da Cereja 2013
Animação/Tasquinhas/conferência/BTT /workshop
Local: Montes da Senhora (Proença-a-Nova)
Informação: www.cm-proencanova.pt</p> <p>Sábado 18 de Maio
Passelo Turístico pelo concelho de Proença-a-Nova
Centro Cívica Viva da Floresta/Espaço Ribeiro Fajinha/Festival da Cereja/Praia Fluvial da Couca
Informação: www.cm-proencanova.pt</p> <p>Domingo 19 de Maio
Passelo Pedestre de Iana
Local: Iana (Oleiros)
Informação: www.cm-oleiros.pt</p> <p>Domingo 19 de Maio
III Passelo de BTT – Rota dos Lagartos orientada por GPS
Local: Lardosa (Castelo Branco)
Informação: www.pintinfante.blogspot.pt</p> <p>Domingo 19 de Maio
Percurso pedestre «Guiados pelo Sol»</p> | <p>Local: Chão de Galego-Ribeira da Fróia (Proença-a-Nova)
Informação: www.cm-proencanova.pt</p> <p>Sexta 24 de Maio
Programa educativo «Os Sêniores vêm à Rota dos Fosséis»
Local: Parque Tecnológico de Penha Garcia (Ídanha-a-Nova)
Informação: www.naturtejo.com</p> <p>25 e 26 de Maio
IV Festival das Flores
Local: Aldeia de Santa Margarida (Ídanha-a-Nova)
Informação: www.cm-idanhanova.pt</p> <p>Sábado 25 de Maio
4ª Caminhada – Passelo pedonal de Milrício
Local: Milrício (Oleiros)
Informação: www.cm-oleiros.pt</p> <p>Sábado 25 de Maio
8.ª Passelo Pedestre «GeoRota do Orvalho»
Local: Orvalho (Oleiros)
Informação: www.fj-orvalho.pt</p> <p>Sábado 25 de Maio
Oficina de Fotografia
Local: Centro de Ciência Viva da Floresta (Proença-a-Nova)
Informação: www.ccvfloresta.com</p> <p>Domingo 26 de Maio
Passelo de Ciclismo do Mosteiro
Local: Mosteiro (Oleiros)
Informação: www.cm-oleiros.pt</p> <p>Domingo 26 de Maio
Passelo pedestre de Vale do Souto
Local: Vale do Souto (Mosteiro, Oleiros)
Informação: www.cm-oleiros.pt</p> | <p>Terça 28 de Maio
Programa educativo por el Parque Tecnológico de Penha Garcia
Local: Penha Garcia (Ídanha-a-Nova)
Informação: www.naturtejo.com</p> <p>Sexta 31 de Maio
IV Encontro de Sistemas de Informação Geográfica
Local: Escola Superior Agrária de Castelo Branco
Informação: www.ipcb.pt/ESA</p> <p>31 de Maio a 2 de Junho
Feira Quinhentista de Oleiros
Local: Oleiros
Informação: www.cm-oleiros.pt</p> <p>1 e 2 de Junho
“Gold Fest” – Festa da Gandala do Ouro
Visita ao Conhal do Ameiço/Garmpo de ouro no Ocreza/Gastronomia
Local: Salvaterra do Extremo (Ídanha-a-Nova)
Informação: www.casadoforno.com.pt</p> <p>* Actividade inserida no Mês dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas</p> <p>1 e 2 de Junho
5ª Festival do Borrego
Gastronomia/ Animação/ Tasquinhas/ Música
Local: Rosmaninhal (Ídanha-a-Nova)
Informação: www.cm-idanhanova.pt</p> <p>Domingo 2 de Junho
Passelo Pedestre “Pastagens do meu Rebanho”
Local: Rosmaninhal
Informação: www.turismoenatureza.com</p> | <p>Terça 4 de Junho
Dia da Rede Europeia de Geoparques
Combolo da Educação da Comissão de Educação, Ciência e Cultura
Vale do Tejo/Monumento Natural das Portas de Ródão/Geomonumento das Portas de Almourão/Centro de Ciência Viva da Floresta
Jornadas abertas
Local: Vila Velha de Ródão/Proença-a-Nova
Informação: www.naturtejo.com</p> <p>* Actividade inserida no Mês dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas</p> <p>7 a 9 de Junho
Cinema Português em Movimento*
dia 7: Monsanto (Ídanha-a-Nova)
dia 8: Proença-a-Velha (Ídanha-a-Nova)
dia 9: Orvalho (Oleiros)
Informação: www.naturtejo.com www.ica-ip.pt</p> <p>*Programa de promoção do cinema português pelo ICA - Instituto do Cinema e do Audiovisual</p> <p>7 a 10 de Junho
Salva a Terra - Eco Festival de Música pelo CERAS
Local: Salvaterra do Extremo
Concertos/Percurso pedestre/Workshops/Educação ambiental/Conferências/Cinema/Gandala do Ouro/Animação de Rua/Balés/Partilha
Informação: www.salvaterra.pt</p> <p>Sábado 8 de Junho
Exposição Itinerante «Quando a gente andava ao Mendigo – o caso de Salvaterra do Extremo»
Local: Salvaterra do Extremo
Informação: www.cm-idanhanova.pt</p> <p>*Actividade inserida no Mês dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas</p> | <p>Domingo 9 de Junho
3ª Maratona AlenBTerra
Maratona: 85 km/Meia Maratona: 50 km
Local: Nisa
Informação: www.apedalar.com/evento/76
Logot: CM Nisa, AlenTerra</p> <p>Domingo 9 de Junho
Visita Temática pelos “Canchais do Ergas”: Do Gornal da Velga aos Currais de Arvela
Local: Salvaterra do Extremo
Informação: www.naturtejo.com</p> <p>*Actividade inserida no Mês dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas</p> <p>Domingo 9 de Junho
7.ª Passelo pedestre “Trilhos do Estreito”
Local: Estreito
Informação: www.trilhosdoestreito.pt</p> <p>Quarta 12 de Junho
Programa educativo “Mundo Subterrâneo das Minas de Volfrâmio das Fragas do Cavalão”
Local: Covil Secoso (Oleiros)
Informação: www.naturtejo.com</p> <p>*Actividade inserida no Mês dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas</p> <p>15 e 16 de Junho
3ª Festival de Desporto na Natureza BTT/Visita Temática/ Animação/ Tasquinhas/Música
Local: Zebreira
Informação: www.cm-idanhanova.com</p> |
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