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# CRUZIANA

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL - UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK - E-MAGAZINE

## GEO-stories of our places and people: Santo André das Tojeiras

Valleys get deeper near Ocreza River. In Santo André das Tojeiras, the remains of the Fundamental Surface of the peneplain carved in soft metapelites and covered by residual reliefs keeping testimonies of the arid alluvial Cenozoic sedimentation, grooved to South and, less expressive, to West towards Alvito Stream. Waters that cannot infiltrate erode intensively a region with 74,87km<sup>2</sup>, in more or less convoluted channels, controlled by regional tectonic fractures. Ocreza River runs linear along a fracture oriented NE-SW. Just near Bugios Bridge forms a big meander that hosts a “conheira” that testifies mining work performed during the Roman period of gold exploration. Upstream, near Ferrarias Bridge, in a docked fractured valley, several panels of greywacke retain traces of rock art of Tejo type. Alvito Stream runs hesitating, developing several meanders, first to SSW and passing in Alvito Bridge towards SSE along a large fractured valley.

In the arid and jagged landscape of shale, with promising signs for gold in the area of Chiqueiro Valley, small hills rise, as Cantareira, 413m above sea level the highest point in the region, with traces of life forms which lived here in a semi-desert climate about 6 million years ago.

Santo André das Tojeiras is the nerve centre of a territory where 37 other villages gravitate with a total of 747 inhabitants. A territory that lives on forest production and few alternatives needs to bet on qualified tourism which allows diversifying the economic activity. It offers the evasion by hills and valleys, through paths suitable for walking and MTB, allowing discovering spots with great natural beauty and isolation, traversing desert valleys filled with traces of a strong human presence but almost forgotten.

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## **GEO-stories of our places and people: Santo André das Tojeiras**

NETO DE CARVALHO, C., BAUCON, A. & CANILHO, S. (2015) - "Meniscate Burrows" ichnoguild from the aluvial fan deposits of Sarzedas Basin (upper Miocene, Portugal). In: McIlroy, D. (ed.), ICHNOLOGY: Papers from Ichnia III. Geological Association of Canada, Miscellaneous Publication 9, 51-61.

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Cover: (Projecto Objectiva: Geopark)

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Geologist



# MONTHLY ACTIVITIES



**1 to 2 February – Brand Images promotes GeoExperiences in Naturtejo Geopark.** The TV Show of SIC Notícias “Brand Images” visited Naturtejo Geopark, in the framework of “From Mountain to Sea”, in partnership with Tourism Centre of Portugal. This show, running since 2004, focuses on Branding, Marketing, Communication and Advertising and came to discover GeoExperiences in Naturtejo Geopark. From so many possible experiences they chose the Fossils Trail in Penha Garcia, the Boulders Trail in Monsanto, Thermal Experience and Water Tasting in Termas de Monfortinho, dinner at GeoRestaurant Petiscos & Granitos, with taste of Geoproducts, sleep in Monsanto Geohotel School, visit the Geomonument Portas de Almourão, Schist Village Foz do Cobreão, followed by Mining Activity in Foz do Cobreão – Sobral Fernando in an Ancient Roman Mine. The group also visited the Oil Pole Press and tasted Olive Oil from Rodoliv “Tagus Gold” and assisted a soaps workshop in the Living Science Forest Center with aromatic herbs. Naturtejo Geopark monitors were Joana Rodrigues, Carlos Neto de Carvalho and Jorge Costa.



**10 and 11 February – Olive Oil and Smoked Sausage Festival in Proença-a-Velha to celebrate the village's 800th anniversary.**

**10 and 11 February – Olive Oil and Smoked Sausage Festival in Proença-a-Velha to celebrate the village's 800th anniversary.** The 16th edition of the Olive Oil and Smoked Sausage Festival in Proença-a-Velha brought traditional products to highlight, with hundreds of visitors to enjoy two days of great food, music and entertainment for the whole family.

Organized by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the village of Proença-a-Velha, the event organized thematic workshops, live cooking, and contests for organic and conventional olive oil, Fado night, traditional music, street theatre and MTB ride.

"The festivals we arrange during summer are a chance to boost our economy and to promote sales of excellence and organic products to visitors", said Armindo Jacinto, president of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and Naturtejo Geopark.

The mayor mentioned that this Festival allowed disclosing the best products of the region, boost the economy and stimulate creativity in rural areas, combining tradition and innovation.

Helena Silva, president of the village also reminded that this year, for the first time, producers had the organic oil press at their disposal in order to produce organic olive oil. A bet supported by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and surely to continue in the future.

For now, from 14 to 17 February, organic olive oil produced in the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova has presence confirmed in Biofach 2018 in Nuremberg, Germany, the biggest organic food and sustainable production fair in the world.



**11 February – Community of Toulões plants Rosa-Albardeira peony in their streets and backyards.** Toulões, the "Village Rosa Albardeira" began the process of bringing this plant to the streets, backyards and gardens, an initiative from the village of Toulões, within the framework of a joint project with Naturtejo Geopark, UNESCO Global Geopark, the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the company Living Seeds.

The project was presented by distributing seeds of Rosa Albardeira (*Paeonia broteri*) by the villagers, so they seed in their vases and backyards, seedbeds and gardens in the village.

The purpose is to preserve seeds of the Murracha Mountain, increasingly rare and multiplies them with the Know-How of the Company Living Seeds, based in Couto da Várzea (Idanha-a-Nova), who gave some practical advices on how to sow these seeds in a more efficient way.

This initiative intended to educate the population to the need for the preservation of this endemic plant, not to harvest seeds or bulbs, providing them with seeds of Rosa Albardeira, which at the same time, contributes to the maintenance of the plant at various points in the Village, with the example given by Councillor Elza Gonçalves from the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova who sow several seeds by the flowerbeds in the streets of Toulões.



**23 de Fevereiro – Training Course for teachers “Naturtejo Geopark – UNESCO Global Geopark as educational resource” – 2nd Edition.** The second edition of the training course for teachers from Preschool to Secondary School had 25 teachers from several school backgrounds from the territory (Castelo Branco and Idanha-a-Nova) and a School Group from Seia. The session took place in the School Group Afonso de Paiva in Castelo Branco and discussed Geodiversity, Geological Heritage, Biodiversity, Historical-Cultural Heritage applied to Naturtejo Geopark – UNESCO Global Geopark; and Educational Programs and Educational Resources for students. Participants received several educational and promotional resources from Naturtejo Geopark. The trainer was Manuela Catana.



**28 February to 4 March – In Lisbon Tourism Fair Naturtejo Geopark distributes trees to not let forget the fires.** Once again Naturtejo Geopark participated in the biggest tourism fair in Portugal, this year with the most exciting animation program ever. In 2018 BTL received 1.150 exhibitors and 77.000 visitors, from which 39.000 were professionals (increased in 3%) and 38.000 general public. The scourge of fires that hit the region in June and October of 2017 was the motto for the promotion of the Geopark, which although quite affected in large areas, keeps many attractions intact. That way Naturtejo Geopark and all municipalities have joined in a huge campaign, offering visitors 1000 trees to reforest burnt areas. Naturtejo Geopark suggested people to adopt a tree and come to the territory to plant it, thus contributing to reforestation. The aim is bringing people to the region, show that not everything was burned down and also boost the economy. The President of the Republic, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, was one of the sponsors. The biggest commitment of the municipalities in Naturtejo Geopark continues on promoting events, experiences and innovative attraction poles, tourism products to multiple threads. Naturtejo Geopark presented a Showcase of Geoproduts, innovative or revisited local products which allowed visitors to take Geopark home.

Termas de Monfortinho promoted water massage and natural mineral waters taste. Its history of movement in depth among different kinds of rocks for many years confers unique properties to the water. Toulões - Village Rosa Albardeira, presented a joint project between Naturtejo Geopark, the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and Living Seeds, with new brochures, Rosa Albardeira Cookies by Geocakes, a performance by a local group "Modas D'Antes" and taste of local products. Oleiros presented the unique Roasted Kid and Callum Wine, and the audience enjoyed it, Idanha provided a trip by flavours, Proença-a-Nova brought their delicacies to promote its main events: "Proença-a-Nova – The Right Place" and Vila Velha de Ródão presented its brand "Lands of Gold" with the percussion group Toc & Ródão. With the young audience, the Living Science Forest Centre built Forest Kaleidoscopes and Bookmarks of natural colours. Together, all the Geopark promoted tasting of certified products, as Geoproducts and other that make up the diversity of the gastronomic landscape of the territory. Over five days, the stand received thousands of visitors, held numerous meetings with tour operators, strengthened partnerships, and settled new strategies.

This year the Tourism Centre of Portugal was again the guest destination and was present at the entrance of the fair, where the Municipalities of CIMBB and Naturtejo Geopark presented projects and tourism products for 2018.



# IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA



## TV & Radio

SIC Notícias (Brand Images) – GeoExperiences in Geopark Naturtejo

## Newspapers & www

February (Raiano) – Toulões plants Rosa Albardeira throughout the village

February (Raiano) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

8 February (Jornal Mundo Lusíada) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

8 February (Diário Digital) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

12 February (Diário Digital) – Toulões plants Rosa Albardeira throughout the village

13 February (Diário da Covilhã) – Toulões plants Rosa Albardeira throughout the village

13 February (Diário da Covilhã) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

14 February (Povo da Beira) – Toulões plants Rosa Albardeira throughout the village

14 February (Povo da Beira) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

14 February (Gazeta do Interior) – Application for the Easter mysteries in Idanha delivered at UNESCO

14 February (Gazeta do Interior) – Toulões values Rosa Albardeira

14 February (Diário de Notícias) – Idanha-a-Nova creates project to preserve and protected endemic plant in the region

15 February (Jornal do Fundão) – Easter Mysteries running for UNESCO

15 February (Jornal do Fundão) – Toulões plants Rosa Albardeira throughout the village

15 February (Reconquista) – Idanha is the first Portuguese bio region

22 February (Jornal do Fundão) – Monsanto GeoHotel is a “Bio Hotel”

22 February (Reconquista) – Rosa Albardeira throughout Toulões



## PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



**Geopark Naturtejo na**  
**The world's**  
**Leading Travel**  
**Trade Show®**  
**4 - 8 March 2018**

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naturtejo  
GEOPARK

UNESCO  
Global Geopark  
Network

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and Natural Resources

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Ministry of Public Administration

Ministry of Urban Planning

Ministry of Housing

Ministry of Infrastructure

Ministry of Transport

Ministry of Energy

Ministry of Science

Ministry of Information and Communication

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Geoparks

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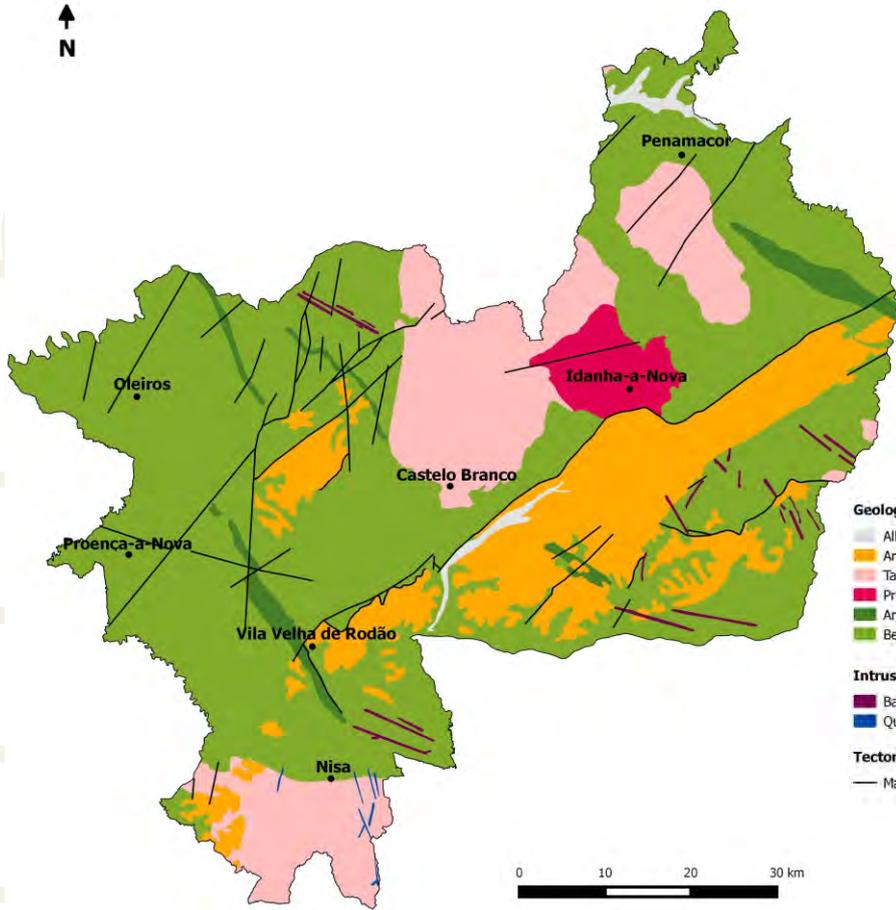
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**Geological Formations (Ma-Million years)**

- Alluvium and fluvial terraces - Plistocene-Holocene (1Ma-present)
- Arkoses, breccias and conglomerates - Eocene-Pliocene (50-2.6Ma)
- Tardi-Variscan orogenic granites (315-300Ma)
- Pre-Variscan granodiorites (480-472Ma)
- Armorican Quartzite and schists - Ordovician-Lower Silurian (488-435Ma)
- Beiras Group (schists and greywackes) - Neoproterozoic (610-542Ma)

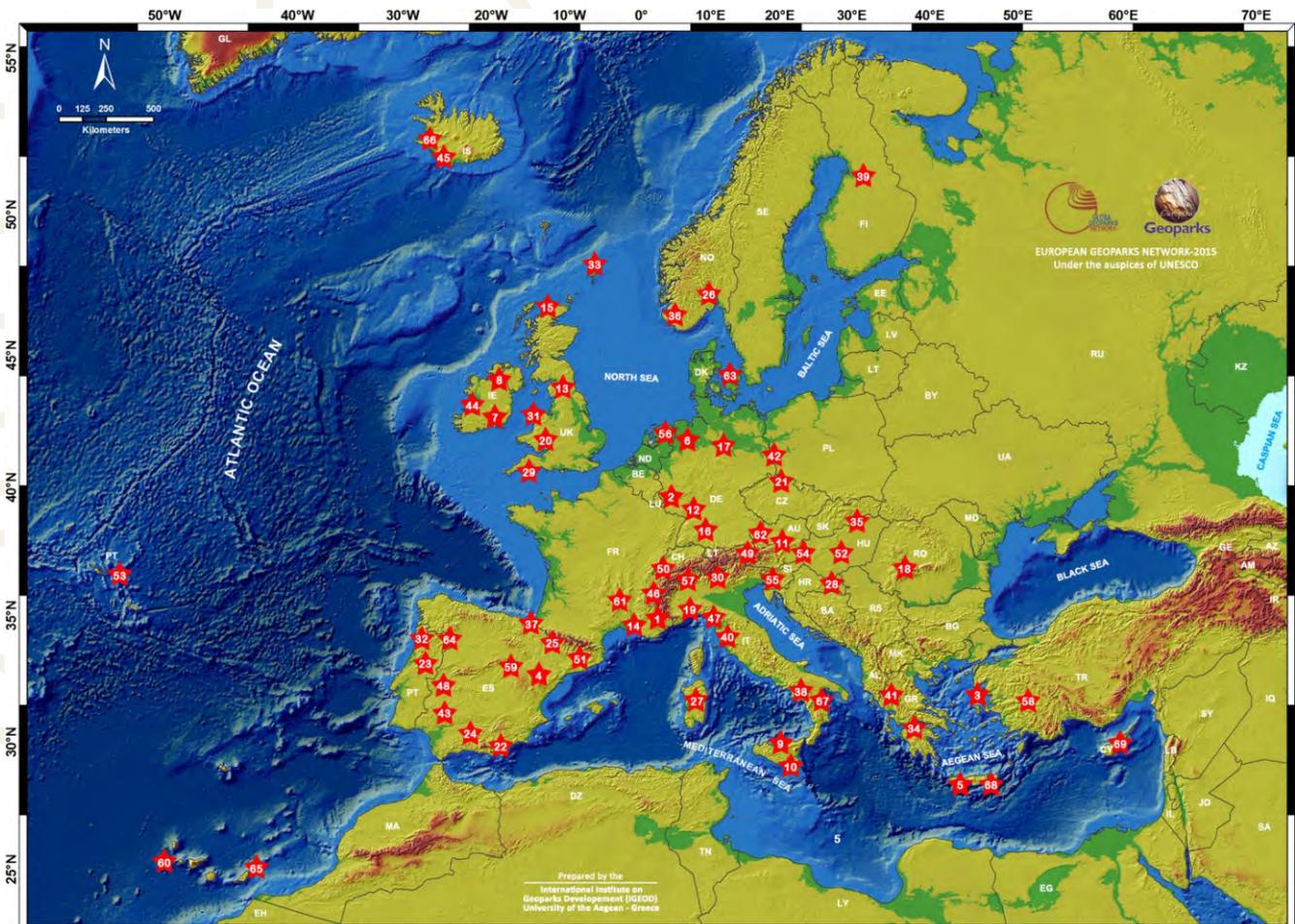
**Intrusive rocks**

- Basic rocks, aplites and pegmatites
- Quartz

**Tectonic**

- Main faults

## Geoparks: Geology with human face





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