

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

In this issue: – GEOPARK in the most important International Trade Show in the world – Tours across the Geopark presented in the International Tourism Fair of Lisbon – 33rd European Geoparks Coordination Committee Meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark – Olive oil Festival in Proença-a-Velha fosters olive heritage and landscape – Jew and Christian Easter in Medelim...and more!







Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/Hei/ Dia duit/Bok/Kaixo/Pozdravljeni/Czesc/Halló/Merhaba

Geo-stories of our places and people: Sarnadas de São Simão

A group with approximately 4.000 men "is positioned in the Sarzedas region in front of the positions of Alvito, occupied by units of the Count of Santiago [with close to 1.000 men]. Another force with 2.000 to 3.000 men pushes forward towards North, by the Pampilhosa road to reach the São Simão region, in the road to Oleiros [in the Muradal mountain] and its well garnished with a battalion [around 300 men]".

Also in S. Simão the Spanish forces cross the Muradal mountain, after a clash where according to a 1762 map legend they were severely ravaged by fire from that position. As it says: "Gates and Hill of Muradal, where the

enemy lost too much by the fire of our light infantry".

Mário Monteiro (2013)

It is, in fact, an impenetrable mountain. The Muradal mountain rises 300 m above the schist summits rounded by the dense drainage of the Silvosa Stream. From the foothill, in the river bank of the Magueija Stream, to the most roughened summits of this mountain are more than a half kilometre (precisely 561m) of rough climbing through paths opened in the thick woods. However, it is worth to arrive to the top! Three areas can be highlighted in the heights: Zebro (888 m), Cardal (860 m) and Picoto (837 m). The mountain summit high but manifestly regular, stands between the 759 m in Portêlo and the 899 m not far away from Sarzedinha until it falls to the depths of the Casas da Zebreira Stream deep valley, already towards north. In this thin ridge, in the surface layers that rise naked and defiant in the vertigo of more than 50m straight and by many kilometres long, the magnificent mountain bears, without prejudice or arrogance, the daily dance of millions of organisms that drew a life for almost 500 millions of years, in the sands of this beach that the Muradal once was. Moreover, those traces of a past life reach here some epic proportions never seen before by the scientific community. It is highly visible, as it were a dance of a distant but temperamental tectonic played with the mountains as they were small pieces of a table game, moving away the Cardal to East, when one could go from the Penha Alta straight to the Picoto. These tectonic faults mark the "cisterns" in the enormous crest and are responsible, in the final analysis, by the water escape that becomes more and more voluminous in the depths of this large reservoir, giving birth to the settlements around the Muradal. Such richness in shelters and water contrasts with the lack of plain spaces and soils, housing a little varied fauna and a special flora, adjusted to the quartzitic rocks and to the naked cliffs heights, which deserves to be well known. However, the lack of resources did not permit an intense human settlement, but it did

not turned out as well the population from the powerful natural defensive system, as the Muradal always was. With the final Bronze Age came the first fortifications in the Zebro, Penha Alta and Picoto.







Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/Hei/Dia duit/Bok/Kaixo/Pozdravljeni/Czesc/Halló/Merhaba

The Picoto fortified settlement stands out by the heights that controls. The legends of the "enchanted Moorish women" take advantage of any hole or cave that appears in the hill. In the middle XVIII century until the end of the French Invasions the Muradal mountain is the stage of the first defensive line of Lisbon for the arriving invader, with considerable frequency but not always in this route, from the other side of the border. Between the Lomba do Vale do Paio and the slope under the Cardosa were built four simple military structures, four artillery batteries that from those only one is recognized nowadays: the battery of Cardosa.

The absence of fertile soil domains the village of Sarnadas de S. Simão, greened by the pinewood, establishing four settlements whose origin was lost by the lack of time memory: S. Simão, Cardosa, Silvosa and Vinha. In the less reduced plains stand the two main villages: S. Simão and Cardosa, challenging between them for the predominance of those spaces that each one controls. In these work places we are not going to find ostensible monuments, only well preserved reminiscences of the land heritage: the small water mills from Cardosa, in Barroca dos Conqueiros and in Ribeiro da Silvosa streams, the olive oil press or the community oven in Sarnadas de S. Simão, the vegetable garden and the fields dominated by the olive tree, the cherry trees and the cornfields, the traditional architecture in schist and quartzite, the small details,... and a Gold Street, obviously with an intrinsic tale. The gold that came down the street from the mountain probably came from one of those faults that stir the Muradal. This mountain is the only and grand natural monument from these lands of Sarnadas de S. Simão.

Recommended references:

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The Editor Carlos Neto de Carvalho Scientific Coordinator Geologist

Front page: (Projecto Objectiva: Geopark, www.naturtejo.com/objectiva)

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



1-2 March – Journalist friends in the Geopark. A small group of journalists and friends came for a weekend visiting the Geopark. They visited with Carlos Neto de Carvalho most emblematic sites such as the Monsanto granite inselberg or the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the Almourão geomonument but also the International Tejo Nature Park at the Alares viewpoint geosite and Portas de Ródão Nature Monument for a boat trip.

1-2 March – 12th Olive Oil and Smoked Meat Festival. The best regional gastronomy, workshops and plenty of musical and cultural acting were the ingredients for the 12th Olive Oil and Smoked Meat Festival, which filled the village of Proença-a-Velha full of life this weekend, in the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova. Thousands of people took the opportunity to taste and enjoy some regional delicacies, revive traditions and admire the historical Olive Oil Pole Press Complex where the event took place, in the Olive Oil Museological Centre. Hosted by the Council of Idanha-a-Nova and by the village of Proença-a-Velha, the Olive Oil and Smokehouse Festival gathered more than one hundred exhibitors of regional products.

In the official opening, the Mayor of Idanha-a-Nova, Armindo Jacinto, highlighted that "the festivals held during the year are an investment, because they produce economy and allow promoting and commercializing the regional products".

The Mayor defends that the Municipality future goes through betting in the products and services offer qualification. Still in the festival opening ceremony, the Proença-a-Velha Parish Council Mayor, Helena Silva, highlighted the relevance of the subject. "Who those know Proença-a-Velha knows the olive grove found in the area and the excellent olive oil that comes from these lands. Therefore, this subject has everything to do with Proença-a-Velha. The Smoked Meat has too: aside from existing here a wide variety of traditional sausages, it has always been common – as it happens in other villages – the annual pig slaughter", she stated.

In fact, the olive oil and the smoked meat took over the leading role during the entire event. One example are the two live cooking sessions hosted by the chef António Sequeira, from the Hotel Trade and Tourism Superior School of Estoril, with regional products "Lands of Idanha" and "The Farm in the Table", recommended by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova.

There was a workshop as well dedicated to the odour detection of the virgin olive oil, promoted by students of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco, and a demonstration about the preparation and production of traditional smoked meat.

The cultural and musical acting were in charge of ethnographic, theatre, animation and musical groups, in a wide range of proposals that included a great "Fado Night". In the interior of the magnificent Olive Oil Pole Press, were heard the voices of Teresa Tapadas, Mara Pedro, Luís Capão and Valéria Carvalho, accompanied by Portuguese guitar by António Sereno, in acoustic guitar by João Carvalho and in bass quitar by João Torrão.

In the Sunday morning took place two activities integrated in the festival: the VI BTT Ride "Olive Oil Route", which gathered around 190 participants, in a tour of 50km by tracks of great landscape beauty, and the guided visit "Proença-a-Velha – The Olive Oil Capital", that led around 50 people through the village heritage.



5-9 March – GEOPARK in the most important International Tourism Trade Show in the World. Naturtejo Geopark represented the Global and European Geopark Network in the ITB –International Tourism Trade Show of Berlin, the most important of the industry worldwide. The GEOPARK stand promoted these territories recognized by the UNESCO and their products as innovative destinations, in a coordinated representation by Naturtejo in partnership with the World Heritage Site of Messel (Germany) and the Geoparks of Grutas del Palacio (Uruguay), TERRA.Vita (Germany) and Magma (Norway). In this participation, Naturtejo Geopark sought to promote the touristic routes and the most recent developed programs in the territory, specially directed to the German average tourist, known enthusiast of the Nature Tourism. Taking advantage of this occasion, took place as well the launch of the Bikotel network in this Portuguese territory. This is a touristic product thought for the necessities of those who travel for or are dedicated to cycling, a practice that awakens a lot off interest next to the German tourists.

The service will be available in some of the region hotel units and results in a set of good practices for the cycling tourist welcoming: parking; garage; daily laundry and dry services for the equipment; a small workshop; bicycle washing space; special menus rich in carbohydrates, fruits and vegetables; and yet available surrounding trails with maps, technical data and GPS tracks.

Still on ITB, the geotourism was highlighted in the 9th edition of the seminar "Pow-Wow for Tourism Professionals", dedicated to the Responsible Tourism. Armindo Jacinto, Chairman of Naturtejo and Mayor of the Idanha-a-Nova Council, gave a talk where stated the geotourism potential as a differentiator segment, socially responsible and with a growing demand worldwide. Exemplifying with the Naturtejo Geopark case, Armindo Jacinto explained the developed work in that territory, where tourism experiences enable enjoying 600 millions of years of Earth history and life evolution.

Also some of the best local products travelled to Berlin and were tasted by the fair visitors in some delicious and attended "gastronomic geo-moments".

This participation happens at the same time that we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the global Geopark Network, which includes today 100 geoparks, distributed by 30 countries.



7 March – The Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and Monsanto Inselberg for a school of Meda.

7 March – The Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and Monsanto Inselberg for a school of Meda.35 pupils and 3 teachers from the 7th grade of Nature Sciences from the Meda School were guided by Manuela Catana and Hugo Oliveira in the Fossils Trail and Monsanto inselberg.

7-9 March – Fam Trip for the Spanish operator Fashion Madrid. The Spanish tour operator Fashion Madrid came to the Geopark to learn more about the excellent existing offer considering nature and culture tourist sites. They visited and tested local restaurants and hotels, the historical villages of Idanha-a-Velha and Monsanto, the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, the Raiano Cultural Centre and Termas de Monfortinho thermal spa. It is promised the first group to arrive from Madrid next month.



10 March – Pupils from Penha Garcia visit the Gorge of Segura. 20 students from the primary school of Penha Garcia, together with their two teachers and Hugo Oliveira, visited the Interpretation Centre "Lands of Idanha" at Segura. They were introduced to some of the most important geodiversity and biodiversity features of the Erges gorge geosite.



11-12, 19-20, 25, 27, 31 March – 2nd Field trip under the "Rivers Project" for 7 classes from Idanha-a-Nova. Seven school classes from the Idanha-a-Nova schools were introduced to Ponsul river under the Rivers Project, for its second stage of field work. The 500m section adopted by each school class was analysed according to the presence of organisms, rock types, water quality and properties. During this visit students learnt also some photo techniques with Pedro Martins, thus collecting images for the photo contest promoted under the Rivers Project, which includes four categories: Fauna, Flora, Geodiversity, and Human activities. A total of 155 students and 7 teachers were involved in this field work guided by the coordinator of the project Arlindo Cardosa, together with Hugo Oliveira and Manuela Catana. ost important geodiversity and biodiversity features of the Erges gorge geosite.

11 March – GEOschools project presented in the town hall of Idanha-a-Nova. Under a seminar on the new opportunities with the funding program Horizon2020, organized at the town hall of Idanha-a-Nova, Carlos Neto de Carvalho introduced the EU funded project GEOschools and the work that was developed by the geopark team for the three years' project.



12-16 March – Routes across the Geopark presented in the International Tourism Fair of Lisbon. The Naturtejo Geopark promoted its territory has innovative and sustainable touristic destination in the Lisbon Trade Show (BTL), the Portuguese sector's main fair. The presentation was embodied through a set of partnerships, in particular with the Ô Hotel & Resorts hotels chain, which held in its stand, on Wednesday, a commercial promotion of the Naturtejo Geopark touristic products. In that space were presented the touristic routes and other territory products, recognized by UNESCO, which contributed to the affirmation of geotourism as a unique and socially responsible segment. The initiative was conducted by the Chairman of Naturtejo, Armindo Jacinto, who supported the "value creation through partnerships and synergies that allow entering the markets in an excellent way". One of the launched products was the Bikotel network that is being implemented in the territory, an itinerary between several hotels, aimed for those who travel for or are dedicated to cycling trails by mountain or by asphalt. Uplifting the Naturtejo Geopark promotion was the theatre company Viv'Arte, specialized in historical reconstitutions, which recently set up the Templar centre in the historical village of Idanha-a-Velha. The promotion ended with a tasting of some territory traditional products, which attracted dozens of BTL visitors to the Ô Hotel & Resorts exhibitor, group that has two hotel units in Termas de Monfortinho, in the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova.



12 March – Seminar on "Strategies and competitiveness" for students of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco.

- **12 March Seminar on "Strategies and competitiveness" for students of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco**. Manuela Catana introduced the communication "Naturtejo Geopark has a strategy of sustainable development integrated in the Global and European Geoparks Network under the UNESCO auspices." In the seminar participated around 120 students and teachers of the Education, Technology, Arts and Management Superior Schools of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco.
- **13 March Training of tourism technicians in the Fossils Trail .** The trainee occurred in the Fossils Trails of Penha Garcia headed for 3 Tourism interns of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova. Bio and geodiversity features were addressed, as well as the Historical-Cultural heritage. Manuela Catana was the trainer.
- **14 March Meeting of the Portuguese Geoparks Forum in the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs.** The Portuguese Geoparks Forum was hosted once again by the UNESCO National Commission at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. All the Geoparks under GGN and Terras de Cavaleiros Aspiring Geopark were represented; Carlos Neto de Carvalho and Manuela Catana were the representatives from Naturtejo Geopark. Most of the meeting was to discuss the recent developments on the relationship between geoparks and UNESCO and the near future. But the best initiative coming up from this meeting was the possibility to organize a promotional event for geoparks in the city of Porto during the National Congress of Geology, next July.
- **14 March Deadline for the School Contest "Water joining us Desertification".** The school contest "Water joining us Desertification" organized under the National Commission for UNESCO registered a record of 35 works inscribed by students from the kindergarten to the high school. This school contest organized for local schools includes students from the municipalities of Vila Velha de Ródão, Proença-a-Nova, Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo Branco.



21 March – Celebration of the World Day of the Tree. In this day, 40 students and 4 kindergarten teachers from the Nursery School of the Idanha-a-Nova Holy House of Mercy and the Collective Support and Solidarity Movement to Ladoeiro (MASCAL) travelled to Ribeiro do Freixo where they celebrated the World Tree Day, listening a tale concerning the importance and meaning of the trees for the human beings, observing different species of animals and planting endemic trees of our forests. These activities were organized by the Nature and Forest Conservation Institute (ICNF)/Natural Park of the International Tagus, in partnership with the Educational Activity Services of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, and the support of Naturtejo Geopark.



23 March – Trekking in the Tejo valley. The High Tagus Study Association in partnership with the village of Perais hosted a guided visit to the new pedestrian trail "Telhada Path". The group of 40 hikers coming from Lisbon became dazzled with the heritage value of this trail that extends itself to the Tagus River banks. Between the invited guides for the accomplishment of this visit were some Association investigators and Carlos Neto de Carvalho whom made an introduction about the local landscape evolution. After a barbecue in the fields, the group watched the release of the pedestrian trail guidebook in the Smuqqling Museum of Perais.



25 March – Global Geoparks Network and Naturtejo Geopark presented to the Governor of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. The meeting with the managing board of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark was organized in Campo Grande, Brazil. Between the several framing and technical presentations made, Joana Rodrigues presented disclosure and educational materials for the technical staff resulting from the partnership between the two geoparks and introduced them to the advisers, government members of the state of Mato Grosso do Sul, namely the governor, municipalities, academic and research institutions, the good practices of the Global Geoparks Network and the example of the Naturtejo Geopark.

27 March – Hearten rocks at the Almourão Geomonument. This activity occurred in the scope of the annual project Anim'a Rocha dedicated to the Gates of Almourão geomonument that has been developed by the 11th grade class, of the S. Tiago Institute, in Sobreira Formosa (Proença-a-Nova). The participants were 12 students accompanied by a teacher and the field class occurred in the scope of Biology and Geology classes. Several stops were developed, namely in the Foz do Cobrão belvedere, and through around 2Km of the trail "Segredos de Vale Mourão". This time the aim was to identify and photograph elements of the biodiversity, highlighting the flora. The monitor of the activities was Manuela Catana.



27-28 March – 33rd European Geoparks Coordination Committee Meeting in Sobrarbe **Geopark, Spain.** The 33rd Reunion of the Coordination Committee of the Global Geoparks Network took place in the Geopark of Sobrarbe, In the Spanish Pyrenees. This, that was considered one of the most important meetings ever for the European Geoparks Network, counted with representative members of the 58 geoparks till then recognized by UNESCO. Among them were Armindo Jacinto, Chairman of the Directors Board of Naturtejo, Carlos Neto de Carvalho, geologist and scientific coordinator and Tiago Oliveira, responsible for the tourism sector, all representing the Geopark Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional. In this meeting, fundamental decisions were taken that will drive to the creation of the UNESCO Geosciences and Geoparks International Program, resembling UNESCO programs such as the World Heritage Sites and the Men & Biosphere Program. It is important to refer that the European Geoparks Network is part of the Global Geoparks Network recognized by UNESCO since 2004. After the decision made in the last General Meeting of UNESCO, held in October 2013, where dozens of State-Members highlighted the importance of the geoparks as territory-role models of sustainable development, a Working Group now seeks to establish the way how the Global Geoparks Network, formed by 100 territories spread around 30 countries around the world, could integrate this prestigious Science, Education and Culture organization of the United Nations. Armindo Jacinto emphasizes the importance of creating a UNESCO program for the geoparks, giving international recognition to predominantly rural territories such as the Naturtejo Geopark, with a Geological Heritage whose importance is determined by the International Union for the Geological Sciences, and possesses a consistent strategy for the sustainable development also internationally validated. Carlos Neto de Carvalho, scientific coordinator of the Naturtejo Geopark, in his turn, presented in this meeting the results for the promotion plan of the Geoparks destinations in the main tourism trade shows worldwide. The Naturtejo Geopark leads the Tourism Group in the European Geoparks Network in the International Tourism Trade Show of Madrid and in the International Tourism Trade Show of Berlin, which had has goal the consolidation of the Geopark brand in the international touristic markets. At last, it should be noted that Carlos Neto de Carvalho was invited by the UNESCO as one of the specialists who will make the revalidation of the geoparks of North Pennines, in England, and the Funiushan, in China, after the evaluation work developed by him during the last year with the application of the Bolognese Apennines region, in Italy. One of the values of the Global Geoparks Network is the evaluation made once every four years of the work developed by the territories recognized by UNESCO, thus granting the fulfilment of the Regional Development Plans presented to this Organization. The final voting for the UNESCO Geoparks Program creation will occur next year during the UNESCO General Meeting, in Paris.

28 March – Gastronomic Festival Living Tajo/Tejo with ADRACES in the Geopark. ADRACES is the local development association responsible for the festival support in the South Beira territory. Promoting the gastronomy and the river associated products, covering the restoration establishments, wine producers, olive oil, local blood sausages and smoked meat is one of the main objectives of this Portuguese and Spanish event, in a valuation and promotion initiative, not only for the river associated gastronomy, but also the typical gastronomy of the regions next to the Tagus River and its products, encouraging the consumption of them. On the other hand, aims to stimulate the networking at an Iberian level in the restaurants, producers and the Local Development Associations, which are partners in this cooperation program.

The activity takes place in the scope of the Living Tajo/Tejo, Iberian cooperation project supported by the LEADER approach, of the Rural Development Program (ProDeR), and lays in a common, innovative and sustained strategy, in a way to contribute for the competitiveness and social, economic and environmental development increase, and affirm as a consolidated touristic destination.

The Living Tajo/Tejo covers municipalities from Castilla (Spain) to Ribatejo (Portugal) and this 1st Gastronomic Festival took place, namely, in 57 restaurants located in Talavera, Sierra de San Vicente y la Jara, Castilla la Mancha (Espanha), Raia Centro Sul, Pinhal Interior, Sôr and Ribatejo (Portugal). The ActiGeo company guide, Jorge Costa, accompanied a group of 29 Portuguese and Spanish in a trip to two of the most important geomonuments of Naturtejo Geopark, the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia through the Fossils Trail and the Inselberg of Monsanto, through the Boulders Trail.

28-29 March – Intergenerational University from Lisbon visiting the Geopark. In these two days 49 students and one teacher, in the scope of the Geology class, came to the Naturtejo Geopark to have field classes. They started by visiting the Termas de Monfortinho Thermal Spa Complex and understood the geological context that allows there the existence of mineral and thermal waters with specific properties which are famous for. On the next day they visit the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the Inselberg of Monsanto with Manuela Catana. Also, the group visited the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha accompanied by a Tourism Technician from the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova.



29-30 March – Jew and Christian Easter join together the Medelim Festival. IThe village of Medelim hosted in the weekend the second edition of the event Jew and Christian Easter, which has reunited once again the historical-cultural heritage intrinsic to the two cultures. There were colloquiums, historical recreations, Jew and medieval traditional music, a Jew-Christian pedestrian trail and the best kosher and regional gastronomy. The event was a combined organization of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the village of Medelim, and celebrated the heritage richness of the village, where the Jew and Christian legacies coexist. In the opening ceremony of the event, the Mayor of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, Armindo Jacinto, reminded that "Medelim has a very significant heritage related with the Jew influence".

The slogan "one festival, two cultures" was highlighted during the entire fair, which as marked Medelim "in the map of Portugal with recreational and popular interest", referred the mayor of the local Parish Council Albano Pires Marques.

To debate the issue several colloquiums were organized about the territorial identity, local development, the Templar heritage in the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the Jew and Christian legacy in Medelim. The celebration of the two cultures was yet boosted by the historical recreations made by the Theatre Company Viv'Arte and by the Viv'Arte Templar Centre, with headquarters in the Incubator of Creative Industries developed in Idanha-a-Velha. The groups animated the fair enclosure with acting of Jew and Templar traditions. The program also had street juggling, held by Jew and Christian traditional music groups, and two excellent concerts. On the Saturday the Jew traditional singer, of Israeli origins, steal the show and on Sunday the Portuguese quintet Melech Mechaya, which plays klezmer music, traditionally Jewish, with inspiration in Arab and Balkan music.

One of the top moments of the weekend was the opening by the Mayor of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova of a Rural Tourism unit in Medelim. The Country House Sefarad, Hebrew designation for the Iberian Peninsula, inspired by the Jew legacy in Medelim and it is an enterprise made by the Belorico family. Similar to what happens in all the festivals held by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, this event energized the local economy and promoted the gastronomy, the culture and the tourism.



29 March – Meeting on local development of Tejo region. Medelim hosted the journeys of the second meeting of the associative platform Living Tejo/Tajo Vivo - network for the Revaluation of the territories linked to the Tagus River, which involve 17 Iberian partners. The initiative was held by the Development Association of the South-Center Border (ADRACES). The meeting reflected about the issues of territorial identity, local development and innovation, promoting a discussion about the economic diversification of the territories nest to the Tagus River.

In the triple position of vice-president of ADRACES, President of Naturtejo Geopark and Mayor of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, host of the event, Armindo Jacinto reminded, in these journeys, that the Tagus "has united Portuguese and Spanish since always". The responsible has hoped that "through the cooperation and strategies" that are in course, the Tagus may be "a highway to the sustained development future" of the Portuguese and Spanish rural world. Pedro Saraiva, from the Association for the Integrated Development of the Interior Ribatejo (TAGUS), Portuguese headline entity, presented the results and perspectives of the partnership. Between the Spanish delegations are highlighted Rosa Acosta from TAGUS – Tajo, Salor, Almonte; Ángel Garcia from ADISGATA – Sierra de Gata; and Alicia Garrido from ADC – Tierras de Talavera. The journeys also counted with communications from specialists in the debated issues. José António Oliveira, professor from the Lusófona University, spoke about the "territorial identity and terraphilia as resources for the development" Lopes Marcelo stressed the role of the Tagus as a "connecting link" and Armindo Jacinto spoke about "regional entrepreneurship", exemplifying with the Naturtejo case, company that runs the Naturtejo Geopark.

30 March – Birds & Nature in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. The company Birds & Nature Tours brought 9 people to the Iconological Park of Penha Garcia. João Geraldes from de Hoven House was the specialized guide who made the introduction to the local nature relevance. y a Tourism Technician from the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova.





TV

February (TVE Spanish National Television) – Agrosfera news – Armindo Jacinto was interviewed about Geoparks in FITUR

19 March (Beira Baixa TV) - Naturtejo Geopark promoted in BTL

Newspapers & www

March (Ensino Magazine) - In the Fossils Trail of Penha Garcia

6 March (Reconquista) – Proença-a-Velha was capital of olive oil and smoked meet

11 March (www.publico.pt) – The 300 most important geosites from Portugal are reunited in a web portal

13 March (Reconquista) – Plan needs support to stop desertification

13 March (Reconquista) – Initiative for schools and public during the Week of Earth – Geopark to discover

18 March (Povo da Beira) – Naturtejo promotes destinations Geoparks in Berlin Tourism Fair

18 March (Povo da Beira) – Naturtejo Geopark promoted in BTL

19 March (Gazeta do Interior) – Naturtejo Geopark promoted in BTL

20 March (Reconquista) – Tourism in the region shown at Lisbon

21 March (Turisver) – Tourism of the Center wants to develop network for cultural programming and management

26 March(Gazeta do Interior) – Jewish and Christian Easters giving hands at Medelim

27 March (Reconquista) – Medelim celebrates Easters

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES



Carvalho, A. (Coord.). – Aldeias Históricas de Portugal – Viva a sua História. Foge Comigo! Guias de Destinos, 503pp.

Korbély, B.- The European Geoparks Week 2013: anyone can be a fan of rocks, sustainability of local products and local traditions! European Geoparks Magazine, 11: p. 12-13.

Neto de Carvalho, C., Soares, A.S. & Rodrigues, J. – Developing strong cooperation in the Year of Brazil Portugal between Naturtejo Global Geopark and the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark. European Geoparks Magazine, 11: p. 14.







































