

New projects bring artistic approaches to San Francisco Mines
International Staff Training Week 2019 brings participants from 18 countries
Awareness and Networking Journeys EUROACE SPORT
New edition of the Interntional Appalachian Trail
...and more!

# CRUZIANA

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







João Geraldes

My friend showed up here right in the beginnings of the geopark. He was back from the cold steppes of Mongolia with his lifetime mate, Rita, and was wanting to settle in the region, changing their life. Mining prospecting projects had taken them at the beginning of their geologist careers to places like El Salvador and Mongolia, but now they wanted to invest in the region where his paternal family had roots, settle down, have time to build their own family. Take time to enjoy life. I remember seeing him for the first time at the Raiano Cultural Centre. The first impression rarely betrays me: a quiet, friendly, just essential word, hardworking as necessary, an open mind for life to simplify what really matters. Shortly thereafter he settled with his parents in Salvaterra do Extremo, investing everything they had achieved in that house that expanded the village oven reborn from nature in a bakery and rural tourism: the Casa do Forno would be our Geo-Refuge for many moments of conversation, sharing, fun and friendship. It was the new years' eve with the most symbolic fireworks in the village, the hosting of numerous official visits to Naturtejo Geopark, the dinners of many events, family dives in the much-desired pool on the warm summer afternoons. Casa do Forno was and has always been a geopark reference, and João and Rita an example of young entrepreneurs determined to avenge in a region as full of potential as challenges to those who persist. But, as João has always said, this family business was more tenderness than revenue, always better to host than to promote. Leonor's delicacies and Antonio's snacks are delicious! However, they did not fail to participate in congresses, international tourism fairs and visits to the Azores Geopark project, as an example of geoproducts development: in the beginning were trilobites and tectonic pizzas, and after the closure of the bakery due to logistical difficulties came the tours in an unique off-road car decorated with the geological map of Naturtejo Geopark, which made them recognized in the Geopark's world. João and Rita always "wore the sweater" by the Geopark, participated decisively in its construction, successes and challenges. We saw their sons Luisa and Miguel born and growing here, in the corridors of congresses, in the recognition of routes, in trainings or in parodies. What this region is today owes it to people like João. It was a decade of guiding tourist groups, carrying out numerous educational programs that João confessed of being stimulating only with students from the 12th grade onward. In its light and relaxed form, John loved his science, geology, rocks and structures, especially tectonics but less palaeontology. He organised several geological activities for the most diverse audiences, namely the editions of the TransGeopark TT, which attracted new friends year after year. He was not a studious or updated kind of guy, but he was an excellent observer and a good field geologist. Above all, he was always available for field work, always ready for action and less for philosophical discussions: he was a practical guy who liked to share his knowledge, with feet well based on the earth, or on the rocks, like all who liked to participate in his guided tours. With him many people started to gold panning in the region, just for the fun although, with João, it was always guaranteed that a few nuggets appeared. Both the Ocreza River was in "Geology in the Summer" as the Erges River at the Ecofestival of also his Salva a Terra, with whom he actively collaborated in the organization.





He tried to follow new academic challenges that soon bumped into at the end of sample collection. John wasn't a lab guy or attached to the computer for a long time. He did not, however, fail to publish some work with us on the region and, above all, on his adopted land of Salvaterra do Extremo, which he knew so well. Here he started with other colleagues and friends new avenues of investigation that are now multiplying. A little while ago, you were sick still without even being suspicious of the terrible outcome; you were preparing samples for collections to offer schools in the region, in the small farm that had become the new family's life project. Nevertheless, you liked to travel, especially with the family, and how well we could enjoy each other's company in those days in Galicia. How much I admired, more than jealous, one of your last trips to Namibia. Again and always with your usual mate and how you liked it, with the family. You were hoping to go back there any time for work. All of a sudden, you're not here nor you're coming back... life has been shortened to you, but you lived well, surrounded by who you gave yourself, which are many. Memories remain, now painful. It's been a month and your silence is still deafening... Farewell, mate!

The editor Carlos Neto de Carvalho Scientific coordinator Geologist

Cover: (Projecto Objectiva: Geopark – Jesus Salazar Cabrera)

# **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**



2 October – Meeting of the working group Tourism and Heritage - Crossborder Biosphere Reserve Tejo/Tajo.

This Meeting focused on activities to accomplish by the working group Tourism and Heritage, in the project Life Territory. The group discussed and planned activities to develop in May 2020 during the celebrations of the Biosphere Reserve Month. Naturtejo will support the activities and create Tourist packages for each weekend of May. Next meeting will be in November to approve activities proposal. Carla Jacinto represented Naturtejo Geopark.



7 and 28 October – ESART and Naturtejo Geopark in new Project at "San Fracisco Mines". "Mata da Rainha -Mines of Fernando Namora" is the designation for the new Project joining once again Naturtejo Geopark – UNESCO Global Geopark and the Superior School for Arts in Castelo Branco. Coordinated by the professors Carlos Reis and Isabel Marcos, as well as Carlos Neto de Carvalho, representing Naturtejo Geopark, this project aims to give a multidimensional artistic approach to the work of the Portuguese writer Fernando Namora, at the end of the centenary celebrations of his birth. "Minas de San Francisco" is a novel devoid of moral covers of the reality of a small village in the interior of the country during World War II, at a time when the wolfram rush took place. Hundreds of people flocked to this place from all over the country and the region, and the new way of life didn't go without leaving a deep mark in rural society still persisting in the "wolfram generation", nor a strong impression on the young writer, in his passage as a doctor by the villages of Tinalhas and Monsanto. Between ruins and memories, this new project promises to revive the factual spaces that have fuelled the imagination, but also the experiences, of Fernando Namora. More than forty students are exploring the ancient Mines of Mata da Rainha, the spaces of the novel and the memories of the inhabitants of the village, as well as their perceptions about the realities and personality behind the stories and characters of "Mines of San Francisco." At the end of the semester, the working groups promise an exhibition of creativity under various visual supports available to the inhabitants of Mata da Rainha, as well as the municipalities crossed by the former mining area, Fundão, Idanha-a-Nova and Penamacor. This will also be the start of Naturtejo Geopark in the Mining Heritage. Working Group of the European Geoparks Network and will have the support for dissemination of the Guide of the Portuguese Geological and Mines Sites, a national platform for promotion of the geological and mining heritage to which Naturtejo, an Intermunicipal Company, joined at its origin.

- **8 October Meeting on the educational and vocational training network / diagnostic study of regional deepening.** CIMBB requested the support of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco (IPCB) and other local stakeholders, in order to identify the priority professional areas for planning the Educational Network and Vocational Training. Carla Jacinto represented Naturtejo exposing the need for qualified Tour Guides with knowledge of languages and the territory of Naturtejo Geopark, Unesco Global Geopark.
- **9 October TV Show of SIC Notícias "Boa Cama Boa Mesa" visited Naturtejo Geopark.** The TV Show of SIC Notícias "Boa Cama Boa Mesa" visited Naturtejo Geopark to share with the public the Historical Village of Monsanto and the Boulders Trail, passing by the Restaurant Helana, in Idanha-a-Nova, within a special edition dedicated to the Historical Villages in Portugal.
- **9 October Visit to Monsanto.** Geopark received a group of 16 people travelling from Lisboa to visit the Historical Village of Monsanto. The group was accompanied by Susana Santos of Geolife Tours.



**9 October – Workshop TeachOUT aimed for teachers of ERASMUS+ "P.I.C.N.I.C." Project.** The App "TeachOUT – Science Game outdoor" was presented to a group of teachers from Bulgary, Czech Republic, England, Italy and Portugal in the framework of the Meeting ERASMUS+ "P.I.C.N.I.C. Primary International Schools Together for the exChange of Interactive CLIL Training" Project, coordinated by the School Group José Sanches and S. Vicente da Beira in Alcains. After the presentation, in Monsanto, several teachers performed a trail using the App and enjoyed the features of the App as well as the lovely landscape of the region. The workshop was boosted by André Azeiteiro, from the School Group José Silvestre Ribeiro, partner in the ESTEAM Project.

10 October – Students and Teachers of the Elementary School participating in the ERASMUS+ "P.I.C.N.IC." Project held a walking trail in Alcains. A class of 4th graders of the 1st Cycle of Basic Education in Alcains School set up several teams together with teachers from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, England, Italy and Portugal, as part of an Erasmus+ Project meeting "P.I.C.N.I.C. Primary International Schools Together for the exChange of Interactive CLIL Training" and held a trail in Alcains using the TeachOUT App. Under coordination of teachers of the School Group José Sanches, S. Vicente da Beira and Alcains, the groups discovered how to orient themselves in the village's streets, sought the challenges and responded enthusiastically to the tasks drawn.



**12 October - Acqua Challenge in Termas de Monfortinho.** Throughout the morning, bathers and visitors of Termas de Monfortinho were able to taste water from the bathhouse's spring and compare it with other natural mineral waters of Naturtejo Geopark and across the country. A true Acqua Challenge with bottled table waters, thermal waters, carbonated waters and sparkling waters, all with their own underground circuits, through different geological contexts giving them a unique flavour, in an activity boosted by Joana Rodrigues.

**12 October – Visit to Naturtejo Geopark.** A group of 35 people, from Gintours, visited Monsanto. After lunch served in "Adega Típica" Restaurant, the group visited the Historical Village of Monsanto ending in the Castle. The group was guided by Rui Nunes from Geolife Tours.

**13 October - Climate Changes in a thematic visit in Sarnadas de Ródão.** The thematic visit "Walking for the impact of climate change", organized by the Sports and Cultural Association Sarnadense, in partnership with the Municipality of Vila Velha de Ródão, was strengthened by the presence of the Professor Mário Cachão, from the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon. Mário Cachão is an Associate Professor of the Geology Department in this recognized University, specialist in paleoceanography, more specifically in the evolution and extinction of marine fauna with the climate changes that have occurred during the Quaternary, in the last thousands of years. He is also a well-known Science Communicator with more than 20 years of experience. Mário Cachão has been one of the volunteer scientific consultants of Naturtejo Geopark since its inception. His participation stems from the invitation launched by the Sarnadense Sports and Cultural Association to

Naturtejo Geopark – UNESCO Global Geopark. By Climate we mean not discrete and punctual manifestations of meteorological time (Synoptic meteorology) (naïve but permanent and persistent confusion, in the media) but averages of 30 years (a statistic therefore a human invention to be able to deal with the variability of the climate system). Accepting or believing in the exclusivity of anthropogenic forcing in climate is useful. It leads to more rational and sustainable behaviours and, with that, we all win. But it's also dangerous. For example, the notion that, regardless of our ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we must make societies increasingly robust to climate phenomena because if there is anything that characterizes our Planet, it is that its Climate changes, and will continue to change, cyclically or chaotically. Extreme weather events, by unpredictable nature, kill (many) people. Climate change has made civilizations disappear, allowing the settlement of new territories, as well as the abandonment or disappearance of so many others. History, and before that, the geological record has several examples of it. The debate on climate change should be based on scientific facts and this is the opportunity to discuss on the ground, with a scientist, the causes of climate change, its implications for ecosystems where human communities are integrated into the present and in the short, medium and long-term future.

This event joins a series of initiatives under the project "Awareness of the inhabitants of Vila Velha de Ródão for Risks and Climate Change", co-financed by POSEUR, Portugal 2020 and the European Union, through CF (Cohesion Fund).



**13 October – International Appalachian Trail with another edition.** Another edition of the walking trail – International Appalachian Trail (Grand Trail Muradal-Pangeia) was held, in an extension of 12km, between Estreito and Vilar Barroco (Oleiros). The activity was attended by 100 participants who joined, in Portelo, a group of twenty journalists and bloggers visiting the region, within the scope of Press & Blog Trip - Beira Baixa: 3 Days, 3 Experiences, promoted by the Intermunicipal Community of Beira Baixa. At the top of Serra do Muradal took place a historical recreation of the Neolithic period and the geologist Joana Rodrigues outlined the geosite of Portelo, with intriguing behaviour marks of now extinct organisms, fossilized in quartzite rocks, testimonies of once existing marine environments and the impressive history of mountain formation in Oleiros.



**17 October - International Staff Training Week 2019 brings participants from 18 countries.** As part of International Staff Training Week 2019, promoted by the University of Beira Interior, a group of 38 people, of 18 nationalities, from universities of four continents, hiked along the Boulders Trail in Monsanto, to discover the inselberg and the granite landforms, with the geologist Joana Rodrigues. On a very cold day, rainy and foggy, there was no lack of enthusiasm in the group, which was in Portugal under the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility project to strengthen cooperation and synergies between partner universities.

**19 and 20 October – Wine and Liqueur Festival in S. Miguel d'Acha.** The most irresistible nectars in the region were present at the IX Wine and Liqueur Festival in São Miguel d' Acha, in the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova. The inauguration of the event was highlighted with wine tastings and liqueurs in the taverns and visits to the cellars. It was possible to try the typical "soventre" and attend the performances of traditional groups. Sunday morning began with the walking trail "Wine Trail". During the afternoon, the 9th Wine and Liqueur Competition took place, guided by the School of Management of Idanha-a-Nova. The day also featured good traditional music, street animation and livecooking with the chef Valdir Lubave.

The Wine and Liqueur Festival is organized by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the village of São Miguel d'Acha.

**19 October – Friends of Porto visiting villages in Idanha.** A group of 37 members of the Cultural Association Friends of Porto visited the Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha and Penha Garcia. The visit was accompanied by Jorge Costa.



**19 to 23 October – International Meeting on Ediacaran-Cambrian in Villuercas UNESCO Geopark.** Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark held an International Meeting dedicated to the evolution of life in the Neoproterozoic-Phanerozoic transition and the causes that have led to the sudden development of animal life. With the support of the different Spanish research teams working on the fossil record of this territory, coordinated at this scientific meeting by Sören Jensen, more than 100 experts from all over the world attended Guadalupe to discuss this important episode of Earth's history.

The post-congress tour led participants to walk through the oldest sedimentary rocks of the Iberian Peninsula and discover some of its oldest fossils in Badajoz province, with some of the most important geologists and palaeontologists working in Spain. Carlos Neto de Carvalho participated in the Meeting and on the excursion on behalf of Naturtejo Geopark – UNESCO Global Geopark, invited by the organization in the context of the partnership between the two geoparks. This was an unparalleled learning opportunity with future applications in the territory of Naturtejo Geopark.

**20 October - Seniors from Lisbon visiting geomonuments.** This weekend the Geopark hosted a group of 30 seniors travelling from Lisbon to discover the Historical Village of Monsanto and the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, guided by our partners from Geolife Tours.



**21 October - Awareness and Networking Journeys EUROACE SPORT.** The Awareness and Networking Journeys as part of the EUROACE SPORT Project were organized by Naturtejo Geopark in the Secretary of State for Interior Valorisation. Portuguese and Spanish companies in the area of sport and leisure attended the journeys and exchange contacts and experiences. Carla Jacinto and Joana Rodrigues represented Naturtejo.

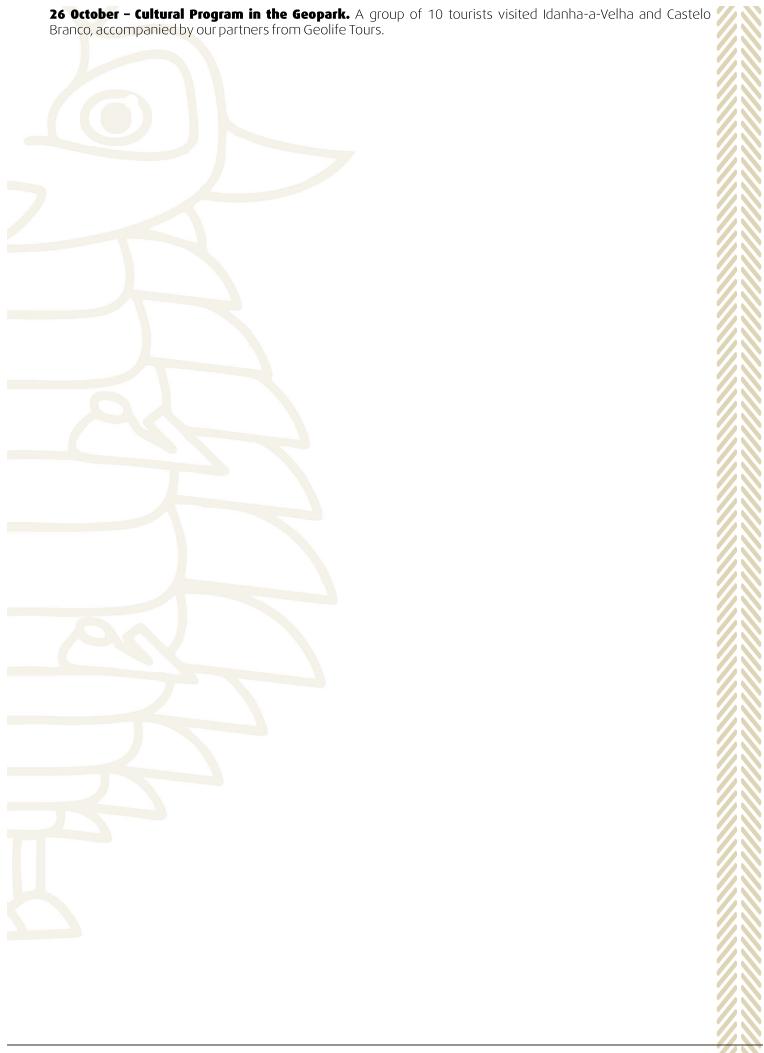


23 October – Environmental play in Raiano Cultural Centre. Under the LIFE Imperial Project "Conservation of the Imperial-Iberian-Eagle in Portugal", about 331 students from kindergartens and Basic Schools of the 1st Cycle of the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, accompanied by about 65 adults, attended the play "The adventures of Achilles and Albertine", held at the Raiano Cultural Centre. This was the third action of environmental education in the context of this project, in partnership with the Educational Service of the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and Naturtejo Geopark - UNESCO Global Geopark. The dramatization of this children's tale, which tells the story of a couple of Imperial Eagles was performed by the theatre group "Muzumbos". The IMPERIAL LIFE Project (Coordinated by the League for The Protection of Nature) aims to promote the increase in the population of Imperial-Iberian-Eagle in Portugal, with interventions provided for in the Special Protection Zones (ZPE) of the Natura 2000 Network of Castro Verde, Guadiana Valley, Mourão/Moura/Barrancos and Internacional Tejo, Erges and Ponsul. This LIFE Project is an opportunity to restore the national population of the Imperial-Iberian-Eagle by applying some of the recommendations of the European Action Plan to this species. In the context of the Project came the children's tale, which portrays the adventures and challenges of a young couple of imperial eagles in Portugal, entitled "The adventures of Achilles and Albertina" which is presented to the school public where the species exists.



**26 October – Linen Workshop in Estreito.** Under the Ten Parishes, Ten Experiences initiative, in Oleiros, took place, in Estreito, the Linen Workshop. The activity began with a walk around the village, visiting the chapels, passing through Pêro Beques Stream, old mills and oil presses, Mendes & Mendes distillery, Mother Church, strawberry trees orchards and the emblematic secular chestnut tree, with various experiences and many stories brought by local guides.

Geologist Joana Rodrigues addressed the landscape marked by Muradal Mountain and schist and raise awareness to the project of the International Appalachian Trail, as a walking trail of international reference. In the workshop of the Looms of Estreito, Inês Martins, from the Municipality of Oleiros and collaborator of Naturtejo Geopark, explored the Linen Cycle, from the plant to the finished pieces, passing through all processes and utensils, while weavers worked on the looms. The Folklore Ranch of Aranhas performed an ethnographic recreation of the linen cycle, in an unforgettable performance in which all participants were invited to dance. Before the convivial lunch there was a historic recreation of the visits made by the Order of Malta to Estreito, in the Bell Tower of Adro.





## **IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA**

#### TV & Radio

- 4 October (Rádio Cova da Beira) Naturtejo Geopark received positive evaluation by UNESCO
- 7 October (Rádio Castelo Branco) Naturtejo Geopark received positive evaluation by UNESCO
- 8 October (Rádio Condestável) Proença-a-Nova: Beira Baixa's roads as a tourism engine in the region
- 26 October (SIC Notícias) TV Show "Boa Cama Boa Mesa" in Naturtejo Geopark

#### **Newspapers & www**

October (O Concelho de Vila Velha de Ródão) – Walking for the impact of climate changes in Sarnadas de Ródão

- 1 October (Diário Digital) Oleiros: Schist and Cork Workshop valued historical-cultural heritage in Álvaro
- 1 October (Agriportugal) Naturtejo attends the 15th Geoparks Conference
- 2 October (Povo da Beira) Schist and Cork Workshop valued historical-cultural heritage in Álvaro
- 2 October (Povo da Beira) Naturtejo Geopark attends the 15th European Geoparks Conference
- 3 October (Diário Digital) Naturtejo and Mixteca Alta Geoparks investigate territories in both countries
- 4 October (Gazeta Rural) Naturtejo Geopark with positive evaluation by UNESCO
- 7 October (Diário Digital) Naturtejo Geopark with positive evaluation by UNESCO for 4 more years
- 8 October (Diário Digital) Oleiros: Linen highlighted in Estreito on the 26th
- 9 October (Gazeta do Interior) Naturtejo Geopark with positive evaluation
- 9 October (Povo da Beira) Naturtejo Geoparks remains as UNESCO Global Geopark
- 10 October (Reconquista) Tourist attractiveness factor in the territory Ancestral roads of Beira Baixa in debate
- 10 October (Reconquista) UNESCO gives positive note to Naturtejo Geopark
- 16 October (Povo da Beira) 1st Trail by Adufe Lands with very positive balance
- 16 October (Povo da Beira) Estreito hosts the penultimate workshop "Ten Parishes, Ten Experiences"



## **IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA**

#### Newspapers & www

- 17 October (Reconquista) ERASMUS+ Project Alcains hosted foreign partners
- 17 October (Reconquista) Specialist in climate changes attends the walking trail
- 21 October (O Templário) International Appalachian Trail still attracts hikers
- 21 October (Correio da Mnhã) Investigators want to know more about ancient roman mines in Penamacor
- 21 October (El Economista) Beira Baixa: the heart of the Iberian Peninsula calls you
- 23 October (Gazeta Do Interior) Estreito hosts workshop on linen
- 23 October (Povo da Beira) Appalachian International Trail held another walking trail and gathered about 100 participants
- 23 October (Povo da Beira) Penamacor Spanish investigators carry out excavations in ancient gold mines
- 26 October (Expresso) Guide of Historical Villages in Portugal

#### PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC









# **PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**









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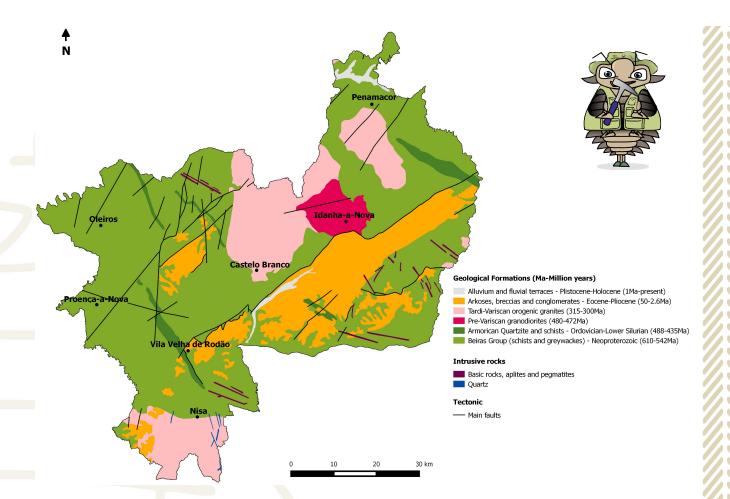
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#### Geoparks: Geology with human face

