

New discoveries of palaeontological sites in the territory of Naturtejo Geopark Webinar Cycle 'Discovering SmartFarmers' introduces Naturtejo Geopark's geoproducers Arrebita Idanha-a-Nova brings the greatest Portuguese chefs to the Ichnological Park of Penha

Barrocal Park wins the Architecture Masterprize Award in the category of Public Landscape Architecture

...and more!

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

# **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**



**October 1st – Meeting with Centre Partners of the Guide of Mines.** The Centre Partners of the Guide of Mines met to make networking among the Partners of this region more effective. At the initiative of Naturtejo Geopark, and resuming the attempt of 2015, the 10 partners of the Centre region intend to develop joint activities and tools, as well as an integrated promotion of tourism and educational products.

In this online meeting, the representatives of the entities agreed to start by organizing an Exhibition and a Route that will showcase the diversity and richness of the Centre's landscape, history and culture as a reflection of the region's Geodiversity and that may be the motto for structuring a joint offer.



**October 3rd and 4th - Arrebita Idanha-a-Nova brings the greatest Portuguese chefs to the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia.** 25 of Portugal's top chefs were invited to cook outdoors, including six with Michelin Stars, perfectly combining the most prestigious Portuguese gastronomy with the best local organic products. Arrebita Idanha Bio was organised by Amuse Bouche and the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and surpassed the best expectations, with a great number of visitors who wanted to taste the gastronomic proposals of the biggest names in national cuisine, such as José Avillez, Rui Paula, Alexandre Silva, Diogo Rocha, Gil Fernandes, Louis Anjos, José Júlio Vintém and Marlene Vieira. "Amuse Bouche challenged us to the second edition of Arrebita Portugal, and we joined the organic and sustainable theme, among the geological heritage of Penha Garcia and historical-cultural heritage of Idanha-a-Velha. We thus had great references in Portuguese gastronomy to enhance our organic products, in a great promotion of this Bio-Region and UNESCO Territory", said the Mayor of Idanha-a-Nova.

For Armindo Jacinto, Arrebita Idanha Bio also responded to today's challenges: "In addition to a magnificent experience for all those who came here, Arrebita combined tradition and innovation to show that the future lies in local organic products, in short market circuits and in the circular economy with a view to more environmentally friendly production".

The Minister of Agriculture, Maria do Céu Antunes, had the opportunity to visit Arrebita Idanha Bio. She applauded the "perfect symbiosis of natural and cultural heritage with the best gastronomic heritage, based on organic production, by the hands of 25 of the best chefs who came to Idanha to work local products with their great creativity".

Arrebita Idanha Bio has won numerous visitors from all over the country and beyond. It was two days in contact with nature, which had as background the fossils and mills of the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the streets and archaeological ruins of the historical village of Idanha-a-Velha.

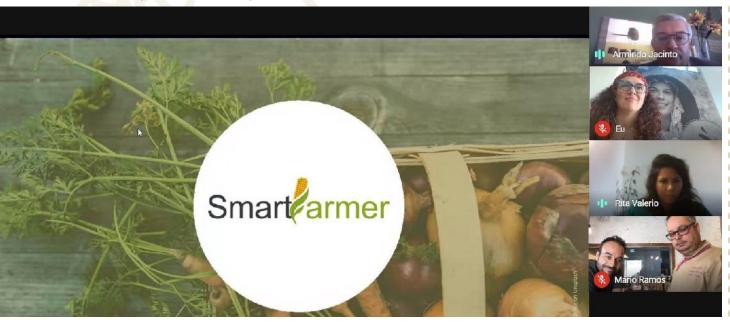
As part of the programme "Pontos Cardeais" (Cardinal Points) on cable TV Porto Canal, Carlos Neto de Carvalho took a guided tour at the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia.

Paulo Barata, from Amuse Bouche, reveals the ingredients to the success: "In Penha Garcia and Idanha-a-Velha there are wide and magnificent sceneries that offer confidence to the public. To these incredible places, and their organic products, we added a flavour of excellence that included six chefs with Michelin Stars, many sounding names of the national gastronomy and also the local chefs, who were up to the challenge".

Arrebita Idanha Bio took place in safety. In accordance with the current State of Contingency rules, the number of visitors was permanently controlled and the use of a mask was mandatory. There were also hygienization stations along the entire route.



October 4th to 8th - New discoveries of paleontological sites in the territory of Naturtejo Geopark. A team coordinated by the palaeontologist Sofia Pereira of the University of Coimbra has discovered several fossils, some of them of high preservation quality, in the territory of UNESCO Naturtejo Geopark. The ongoing research project has led to the identification of abundant marine fossils with an approximate age between 467 and 444 million years, corresponding to the Middle to Upper Ordovician. The ancient rocks of Naturtejo Geopark reveal more and more surprises. The latest fieldwork carried out between October 4th and 8th led to the rediscovery of old fossil deposits as well as the discovery of new paleontological sites, including brachiopod fossils never before identified in Portugal, according to Jorge Colmenar, a Spanish expert working at the University of Ghent in Belgium. The work was supported by Naturtejo, EIM, the Municipality of Oleiros, Monfortur and its continuity will have the strong support of the Orvalho Parish, one of the places where fossils of exceptional interest were revealed. The scientific coordinator of Naturtejo Geopark, Carlos Neto de Carvalho, who takes part in the research, identifies the occurrence of faunas where different species of trilobites and tiny ostracod crustaceans, brachiopods, bivalves, echinoderms, bryozoans, among many others, abound. Other areas that have proved to be rich in fossils of these ages include the Natural Monument of Portas de Ródão, the Serra do Perdigão, the Herdade de Vale Feitoso and Portas do Muradal, near Vilar Barroco. The first results of this project will be published as early as 2021 in a special volume of the Geoconservation Research magazine dedicated to the fossils of European UNESCO Geoparks.



**October 7th - New Webinar Cycle 'Discovering SmartFarmers'.** A new Webinar Cycle 'Discovering SmartFarmers' has started, promoted by the NGO Oikos - Cooperation and Development, in partnership with Naturtejo Geopark.

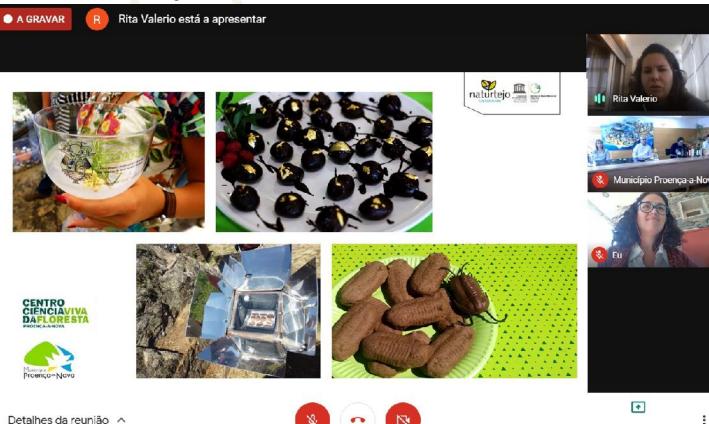
Oikos is a Non-Governmental Organization for Development active around the world in the areas of emergency/humanitarian action, development/sustainable life and global mobilization/citizenship.

**7 de Outubro – Novo Ciclo de Webinars 'À Descoberta dos SmartFarmers'.** The SmartFarmer e-commerce platform is a social business of Oikos whose main mission is to support small and medium sized agri-food producers, on the one hand by leveraging their sales through an online platform, on the other hand by creating close and transparent relationships between them and consumers, supported by a strong network of local partners as Naturtejo Geopark.

Naturtejo Geopark is present in SmartFarmer as Food Hub, a local management unit, which includes the geoproducers of the territory, sharing common values related to the promotion of the local economy, nature conservation, sustainability and fair market access.

This webinars cycle is touring the municipalities of Beira Baixa, making SmartFarmer known to consumers and producers of Naturtejo Geopark Geoproducts, GEOfood and the new Food Hub Naturtejo Geopark.

The first webinar was dedicated to Idanha-a-Nova and the President of the Municipality, Armindo Jacinto, presented the projects and strategies of the Bio Region. There was also a commented tasting held by the Egitania Olive Oil, produced in Idanha-a-Velha, with regenerative agricultural practices that privilege the well-being of the soil, as well as our partner Geocakes. In addition to the Geocakes concept and products, the company's environmental and social sustainability strategies were presented, including networking and local partnerships. From Monsanto GeoHotel School, associated to Geopark and now also adherent to the GEOfood brand, Joana Rodrigues presented Naturtejo Geopark, the Geoproducts and activities that have been developed in Idanha-a-Nova region.



**October 14th - 'Discovering SmartFarmers' in Proença-a-Nova.** The second webinar of 'Discovering SmartFarmers' cycle was dedicated to Proença-a-Nova. In times of pandemic this format has tried to bring producers and consumers together.

está a apresentar

João Manso, Vice President of the Municipality of Proença-a-Nova, framed the context of Proença-a-Nova in the valorisation of endogenous products and listed the benefits of electronic outlets. Proença-a-Nova Origin brand and the local producers Almeida & Filhos and Monte Barbo were presented.

From the Living Science Forest Centre, Joana Rodrigues presented Naturtejo Geopark, the Geoproducts, as well as examples of what has been developed in Proença-a-Nova and with the LSFC. During the discussion, the issue of forest and fires was addressed, namely the impact and the fundamental role played by local producers in their prevention, highlighting the example of Honey Doce Paixão, Naturtejo Geopark's geoproduct that lost 90% of its hives in the tragic fires of 2017.



# PROMOÇÃO DOS SMARTFARMERS





Detalhes da reunião 🗥







Rita Valerio está a apresentar

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**October 21st - 'Discovering SmartFarmers' in Vila Velha de Ródão.** The third webinar 'Discovering SmartFarmers' cycle brought together consumers, producers and projects in the region.

E-commerce is here to stay and is an increasingly important tool for bringing producers and consumers together, especially in the current pandemic context. As promoter of the SmartFarmer e-MarketPlace, Oikos wants to divulge genuine products that promote landscape identity and authenticity of territories.

This webinar was dedicated to Vila Velha Ródão and Councillor Ana Luísa Marques presented the strategy of the municipality that includes the Terras de Oiro brand. The initiative involved Claro's Apicultura, a family business of transhumant beekeepers that travel through various places in the region, according to the seasons and the blooms of rosemary, heather, strawberry tree, thistle, among others. Rodoliv – Ródão Olive Oil Cooperative, partner of Naturtejo Geopark since 2017 and a new member of GEOfood, presented the renowned Ródão Olive Oil, from traditional olive groves of the Neoproterozoic terraces of Tejo River. Ródão Olive Oil is the result of the history and secular art of olive growers, in which the quality of the raw material is combined with an olive press equipped with the best technology and presents on its label the Natural Monument of Portas de Ródão. Joana Rodrigues presented Naturtejo Geopark, Geoproducts, GEOfood and highlighted the work that has been developed with partners in Vila Velha de Ródão.



**October 23rd – Meeting of the Guide of the Portuguese Geological and Mines Sites.** In a slightly reversal of the normal, the General Partners Meeting of this network of Portuguese sites of mining and geological interest took place this year by videoconference. On the meeting's agenda was the presentation of activities and initiatives of the partners to develop next year.

The Ribeira de Pena Ecomuseum / Wolfram Museum in Cerva proposes the organization of a big exhibition about Wolfram in Portugal, which will gather the territories that present this theme. Naturtejo Geopark is part of the Wolfram Route of the Mines Guide and will have a strong presence in this itinerant exhibition to be held next year.

Joana Rodrigues proposed on behalf of the Centre's Partners Network the organisation of an itinerant Exhibition "Geology – Centre Region" in which the 10 partners present in this region will participate, in a glance on geodiversity of this territory that will be displayed at the Living Science Forest Centre.

Next year's Annual Meeting will also be held in the Centre region. Danilo Guimarães from the Company Coin Caves / Centre for Scientific and Environment Interpretation of the Coin Caves, presented the proposal together with the Municipality of Batalha.

The meeting also resulted in the entry of three new partners for the Mines Guide, which aims as the Directorate General of Energy and Geology referred, to enhance entities and territories that value the geological and mining heritage in Portugal. The five Portuguese UNESCO geoparks are part of this network.

**October 26th – Portuguese Geoparks meeting with Tourism of Portugal.** The Portuguese UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Tourism of Portugal met once again to follow up on the product development network, namely Scientific Tourism and GEOfood. A schedule of activities for 2021 is being prepared, which includes a capacity building plan with specific actions for geoparks technicians, geoparks guides and tour operators.



October 31st - Event "In the Lands of King Wamba... There are Seeds!" at Idanha-a-Velha. The Historical Village of Idanha-a-Velha hosted the event "In the Lands of King Wamba... There are Seeds!" with activities streaming around the history, culture and regional gastronomy. The event is part of the "Cycle 12 in Network | Villages on Party" and is organized by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova in partnership with the association Historical Villages of Portugal, inspired by the legends and stories of Idanha-a-Velha, the village that was a city and is today one of the most remarkable archaeological sites in Portugal.

Due to the pandemic, participation was limited and subject to prior registration, but the activities and imagery they evoke could be felt and experienced around the world through live streaming. It was an opportunity to (re)discover regional knowledges and flavours and to unveil the traces that show the permanence of several civilisations in Idanha-a-Velha. From the Roman Civitas Igaeditanorum (1st century BC) to the last reflections of greatness of the Manueline, under the Order of Christ, there is a long journey passing through the flourishing episcopal see under Suevi and Visigoths, the symbolic continuity recognised by Muslims and later by Christians, integrating the adventure of the Order of the Temple between the 13th and 14th centuries. Anchored in a landscape of hills and olive groves, Idanha-a-Velha today relives past lives, made of legends and stories where the sustenance of men always walked hand-in-hand with the land.

The "Cycle 12 in Network | Villages on Party" 2020 is financed by Centro 2020, Portugal 2020 and the European Regional Development Fund, through the Programme for the Economic Enhancement of Endogenous Resources (PROVERE).

Among the numerous activities, "Let's light the Oven - Bread and Oven Confectionery" stood out as experimental activity in the Community Oven, aiming the knowledge of the traditional gastronomic techniques and productions using the firewood oven.

There was also a commented visit by the company Olive Oil Egitania. Thematic walking trail, conducted by the producer Tiago Lourenço, was around the production of olive oil in organic way in the olive groves of the region and Idanha-a-Velha in particular. Besides this, a Documentary Tour "Where are the Visigoths?" took place, a commented tour leading to the discovery of the marks of one of the periods - and one of the peoples - less known to the general public. Another Documentary Visit was the "Tales of the Lands of King Vamba". A journey in time and space, through the succession of stories - many of them legendary - that mark Idanha-a-Velha.



October 31st - Architecture MasterPrize in the category of Public Landscape Architecture for the Barrocal Park. The Architecture MasterPrize Awards 2020 have already been announced and have only one Portuguese representative among the winners of the 42 categories. Barrocal Park has not yet opened in full and was awarded with this international prize in the Public Landscape Architecture category. The new Geological Heritage enhancing area of UNESCO Naturtejo Geopark, in the city of Castelo Branco, is still a finalist of the very prestigious Wan Awards in the category of Urban Landscape, whose winners will be announced in the coming weeks.



## **IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA**

### TV & Radio

October 3rd and 31st – (Porto Canal - "Pontos Cardeais") – Idanha-a-Nova

October 4th - (Beira Baixa TV) - Arrebita Idanha Bio

October 4TH – (Radio Castelo Branco) – Oikos and Naturtejo Geopark join in to promote local products

October 6th (Beira Baixa TV) - Oikos and Naturtejo Geopark promote local products October 12th (RTP1) - Palaeontologists discover in Oleiros fossil never before identified in Portugal

October 12th (Radio TSF) - Palaeontologists discover in Oleiros fossil never before identified in Portugal

### Newspapers & www

October 6th (Voz do Campo) – Webinar Cycle: Discovering SmartFarmers

October 9th (Notícias de Coimbra) – University of Coimbra research reveals life in the prehistoric seas of Oleiros with paleontological interest

October 9th (Viagens.sapo.pt) – Naturtejo Geopark: ancient rocks reveal more surprises October 9th (www.e-cultura.pt) - New discoveries of palaeontological sites in the territory of Naturtejo Geopark

October 10th (BeiraNews) - Research reveals life in the prehistoric seas of Oleiros with exceptional paleontological interest

October 10th (Diário Digital Castelo Branco) - New discoveries of palaeontological sites in the territory of Naturtejo Geopark

October 11th (Diário Digital Castelo Branco) – Naturtejo Geopark - New discoveries of palaeontological sites

October 12th (Diário Digital Castelo Branco) – Oleiros: Life discovered in prehistoric seas with paleontological interest

October 12th (Público) - Palaeontologists discover in Oleiros fossil never before identified in Portugal

October 12th (Destak) - Palaeontologists discover in Oleiros fossil never before identified in Portugal

October 14th (Gazeta do Interior) - Palaeontological research project - Naturtejo Geopark reveals new fossils

October 15th (Reconquista) – New palaeontological discoveries

October 21st (Público) – Penha Garcia's Ichnofossils\_The painted snakes with 480 million years

October 29th (Reconquista) – Barrocal Park inaugurated on the 7th - Initiative has the presence of Minister Ana Abrunhosa



## **PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

- NETO DE CARVALHO, C. (coord.) Barrocal Park 310 million years under construction. Câmara Municipal de Castelo Branco, 362 pp.
- Flyer Barrocal Park (Portuguese and English edition)







## **PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**



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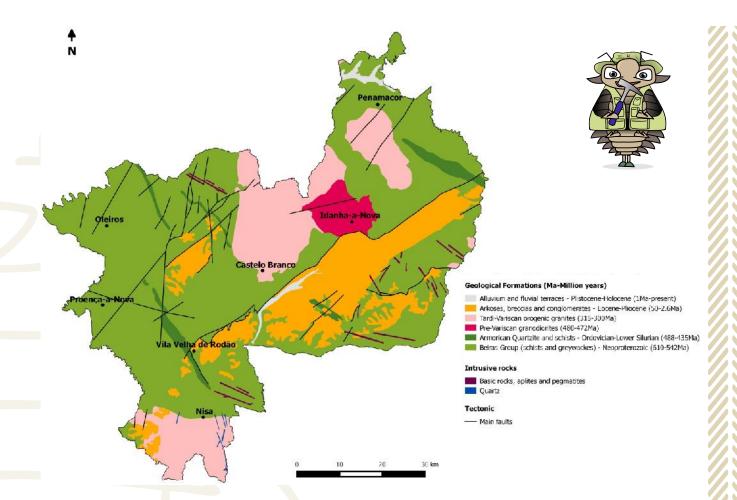
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## Geoparks: Geology with human face



