

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2021

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark (BPUGG), Czech Republic, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2005 / 2021



Illustration photo: Joint seminar with Muskauer Faltenbogen UNESCO Global Geopark (within the cross-border project Cooperation and promotion of UNESCO geoparks in the Nisa Euroregion)

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark's staff: 2 including 1 geoscientist paid by a partner, one part time contractor.

Number of visitors:

The number of visitors of BPUGG was affected by government anti-pandemic measures in 2021. Nearly 2 millions, mostly tourist from the Czech Republic - an estimation based on Big Data from mobile operators and statistics: nearly 97 thousand of paying visitors at iconic geocultural site Trosky ruins (April to October), 131 thousand visitors in the Prachov Rock Formations (April to October) and nearly 160 thousand visitors of information centers in the main season (June - September) in the geopark region.

The possibility of organizing Geopark events was influenced by anti-pandemic measures announced by

the government in 2021.

Number of Geopark events held by geopark management:

2 geoexcursions

2 lectures

10 geological workshops

1 summer camp for children focused on local geology

3 geological cross-border (Czech-German) seminars

1 public premiere of a videospot about the UNESCO Global Geopark

2 traditional events - Bohemian Paradise UGG Geopark Day and Stonemason's day

Number of Geopark events held by geopark partners:

9 geoexcursions and environmental programs

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes held by BPUGG management:

6 school excursions

7 school programmes

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes held by BPUGG partners:

42 school programmes

Number of Geopark press releases:

8 press releases, articles in the national and regional media, and EGN Magazine

9 press releases issued by the Bohemian Paradise Association (cooperating tourist destination company)

56 news on geopark website

65 news on geopark facebook (3300 followers)

posts on instagram

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2021

- UNESCO revalidation (October 2021 - Green Card)
- Filming of a promotional video about BPGGU for the 1st International UNESCO Global Geoparks Film Festival (nearly 13,000 views since June 30, 2021), public premiere on September 8, 2021
- Implementation and completion of the Czech-Saxon cross-border project Cooperation and promotion of geoparks UNESCO in the Nisa Euroregion (joint 2-day seminar in the UNESCO Geopark Muscauer Faltenbogen, printing of a Manual for geo-guides in the BPUGG, printing of an information leaflet with a map and geological locations in Czech, English, German and Polish languages, creation of a database of photographs of the BPUGG)
- Obtaining a grant for the implementation of a cross-border Czech-Polish project Popularization of geological phenomena in the Nisa Euroregion with an aspiring UNESCO geopark Landscape of extinct volcanoes (realization of outdoor geological exposition in the city of Turnov)
- UNESCO Bohemian Paradise Geopark Day - 350 participants took part in the traditional event in July (14 stands with different activities)
- Printing and distribution of 5,000 new leaflets of the Bohemian Paradise Geopark in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment
- Internship of 2 volunteers sent by the German UNESCO Commission (May - August) and 2 volunteers (September - December)
- Commencement of work on the UNESCO Paradise Geopark Interpretation Plan
- Geoexcursions for schools and public
- Personnel participation of Jáchym Nosk (Youth Forum) at the GGN Jeju conferenc

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Commencement of work on cross-border project with UNESCO Aspiring Geopark Landscape of Extinct Volcanoes (Poland), preparation of an outdoor geological exposition within the project
- Submission of a joint project with the aspiring UNESCO Geopark Landscape of Extinct Volcanoes (PL), UNESCO Geopark Katla (Iceland) - "Active citizens"
- Shooting a video about BP UGG for the Taiwan Geoparks Conference
- Realization of Czech-Saxon cross-border project with Muskauer Faltenbogen GGU (Cooperation and promotion of UNESCO global geoparks Euroregion Nisa), Germany.
- Partnership and participation in the GECON cross border project (Geological Cooperation Network) with Czech and German Geoparks and geological institutions - realization and completion of the project

Management and Financial Status

- Management: Board of Directors (11 members, representatives of local municipalities, business and experts), Supervisory Board (3 members), Scientific Council (31 members).
- Financial status: multi-source financing, fixed income sources, financial stability of the BPUGG was affected by the reduction of subsidy programs caused by the COVID 19 pandemic

Geoconservation

- Partnership in the project Reducing the Negative Impacts of on Ecosystems (University of Hradec Králové), tourist traffic monitoring.
- Cooperation with the Technical University of Liberec on the project Proactive solution of the negative effects of overtourism
- Let's clean up the Bohemian Paradise (24rd year) - realization together with the company Outdoor Discovery.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Guided tours on selected localities - 65 geological localities were selected for tourism in cooperation with the Administration of Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area.
- Preparation and publication of a new Manual for geo-guides in BPUGG
- Work on the UNESCO Paradise Geopark Interpretation Plan
- Promotion of geosites outside congested areas, promotion of geosites where there is minimal risk of conflict with nature conservation, promotion off season tourism.
- Making 10 panels with text and photographs on the Besedice Rocks Nature Trail
- Cooperation with the Bohemian Paradise Association (touristic destination).

New education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- Educational excursions for schools focused on geology and ecology, cooperation with BPUGG Geoschool
- Cooperation with the Center of Ecological Education Bohemian Paradise, House of Nature of Bohemian Paradise, Center for Ecological Education of the Liberec Region
- Seminars on sustainable development and geoconservation, participation in seminars and projects on sustainable development held by partners
- Lectures for experts and for the public

Strategic partnership - cooperation with:

- Scientific Board of the Bohemian Paradise Geopark
- Center for Ecological Education of the Bohemian Paradise

- Center for Ecological Education of the Liberec Region
- Association of Geoparks of the Czech Republic
- National Geoparks of the Czech Republic
- Czech Geological Survey
- Destination company of the Bohemian Paradise Association
- University of Hradec Králové
- Technical University of Liberec
- House of Nature of the Bohemian Paradise
- Turnov Geo School

And other partners with whom the geopark has a partnership agreement.

Promotional activities

- Filming of a videospot about the UNESCO Global Geopark Bohemian Paradise (almost 13,000 views in 10 months), public premiere in September 8, 2021
- Print of 5 000 Geopark promotional leaflets in Czech, distribution in 17 information centers in the region
- Print of 5 000 maps with geosites and tourist sights in Czech, English, German, Polish, distribution in 17 information centers in the region
- Promotional article in the Tourist newspaper Bohemian Paradise 2021 (30,000 issues), distribution in 17 information centers in the region
- Website promotional articles, facebook posts (3300 followers) photos on Instagram
- EGN week with several activities
- Summer camp for children focused on local geology (July).
- Day of the Geopark (25 th July 2021), about 350 participants
- Popularization of geoscience – 8 workshops on geological topics for children und public (summer)
- Presentation of the BPUGG on Children's Day in Turnov
- Article in EGN Magazine
- Installation of 2 outdoor mobile large format panels for promotion of BPUGG
- Installation of 6 promotional banners in in tourist-frequented places for promotion of BPUGG
- Production of 50 image BPUGG wallpapers and distribution to information centers in the region and partner organizations
- Preparation, processing and production of 10 panels with text and photographs on the Besedice Rocks Nature Trail (CZ + English version)
- Preparation and elaboration of a leaflet with a geological map, rocks, minerals and fossils of UNESCO Geopark Bohemian Paradise

4. CONTACTS

Manager: Blanka Nedvedicka, info@geoparkceskyraj.cz

Geologist: Václav Mencl, sapropel@post.cz

Member of UNESCO Global Geoparks Council: Martina Paskova martina.paskova@mzp.cz