

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Molina Alto Tajo UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2014 / 2022



Night sky over Zafra's castle appointed as Starlight Reserve

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 3 staffs including 1 geoscientist(s)

Museum of Molina: 4.959 visitors. Castle of Molina Visitor Center: 1.688 visitors. visitors to the interpretation center and information points of the Alto Tajo Natural Park: 6.775.

Number of Geopark events: 10 held for the Geopark Body and 12 by partners and collaborators.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 6

Number of Geopark press release: over 100 issues in Facebook and Instagram

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- Revalidation of status as UNESCO Global Geopark
- Obtaining recognition as a Starlight Reserve for the Geopark astronomical appointment.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Project "Experiencias Geoparques" of Spanish Geoparks Forum, several meetings.
- Instalation of displays about GGN in natural Park Visitors Center
- Collaboration with Sierra Norte de Sevilla UGGp for sharing of educational programs.

- “Hablemos de Geoparques” Lanzarote UGGp Seminar.
- Organization of field mission for revalidation as UNESCO Global Geopark.
- Assistance to the EGN Coordination Committee held in the Hondsrug UGGp.
- Assistance to the EGN Conference and CC held in Sesia Valgrande UGGp.
- Celebrating Mother Earth Day by organizing talks about the Geopark for the students of the Molina de Aragón Primary School College.
- Contribution for EGN Magazine with article about the recovery of the waste dump of the Kaolin Mines of Peñalén.
- Contribution to GGN Book with Pictures, Text and survey.
- Contribution to Karavanke Visitors Center.

Management and Financial Status

- Renewal of financing agreements with the regional and provincial governments
- Renewal and entry of the new Geopark general manager

Geoconservation

- Training workshop for Environmental Agents on the Geopark's geological heritage.
- Study of the possibilities to request the declaration of the figure of protection of Cultural Interest by the Department of Culture of the Regional Government for the Fossil Forest site of the Sierra de Aragoncillo.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Monitoring companies adhered to the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. Technical advising for tourism companies in the territory committed to the development of sustainable tourism.

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

- Geopark Educational Program that includes the incorporation of the Geopark into the educational project of the Geopark educational centers, talks and field trips for teachers and students, as well as the support of the Geopark for other activities such as participation in the Geological Olympiad and photography contests, etc.
- Course for Geopark Starlight Astronomical Guiders.

Strategic partnership

- Commitment for collaboration with the CAOBAR mining company that operates the kaolin mines of the Geopark.
- Progress in the collaboration commitments with the association of tourism companies of the Geopark in the frame of European Charter for Sustainable Tourism.
- Collaboration with LIFE Ribermine European LIFE program.
- Drafting of the collaboration document at a basic level with the companies of the Geopark.

- Meetings with the youth association of Alto Tajo Rumbo Rural.
- Collaboration with Starlight Astronomical Foundation.

Promotional activities

- Promotion of the geotourism heritage of the Geopark through social networks such as the website, Instagram and Facebook.
- Promotion of the Geopark's geotourism heritage through the Molina Museum and the Molina de Aragon Municipality Tourist Office.
- Promotion of the geotourism heritage of the Geopark through the participation in national television programs (80 cm. and El camino del Cid in BTT) and regional (The Most Beautiful Village of Castilla La Mancha)
- Updating of the interpretative displays of the Sierra de Caldereros Geo-trail with new texts in English.
- Updating of the interpretative displays of the Fuentelsaz Stratotype with new texts in English
- Updating of museum collections about Fuentelsaz Stratotype in Fuentelsaz Stratotype Visitors Center.
- Geopark Fair Program to promote crafts and local products. We highlight:
Truffle Fair, Gift Fair, Medieval Fair, among others.

4. CONTACTS

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