

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGGp, Spain, EGN.

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2011 / 2023

Promoting the Carnival of Souls with “Geopaca Folk” educative experience. May 2024.



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 10 staffs including 3 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: 110.400. That includes visitors to Guadalupe WHS.

Number of Geopark events: 10, among them: Geological Olympiad in Berzocana (geopark village); conference of the association for the interpretation of heritage in Guadalupe; Educative Team Building Day (Geoconvivencia), Majors Forum, Companies Seminar, EGNWeek, Geodisea (tourism festival), European Heritage Days.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: The Geocenters project continues its work: 20 educative centers (primary and high schools) with new experiences.

Number of Geopark press release: 37.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2024

- The Geology Olympiad is an annual educational event designed to foster interest in Earth Sciences and environmental awareness, as well as university studies in Geology. It was held by the Geopark in the village of Berzocana.
- Annual conference of the association for the interpretation of heritage in Guadalupe.
- Participation in some projects with European funds linking UNESCO territories recognition.
- Support to local companies for being recognized at the Spanish Ecotourism Club.
- Field work of Educative and Scientific Committee for adapting new circular paths in each

geopark villages (Robledollano, Castañar, Carrascalejo, Guadalupe, Cabañas).

- European Geoparks Week. More than 30 activities programmed.
- Geovilluercas, companies association, annual seminar.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

Meetings of the EGN/GGN:

- Participation on the GGN Advisory Committee Meetings. José M^a Barrera.
- Participation on the EGN Advisory Committee Meetings. Javier López.
- Participation in the GGN and EGN Educational WG and Communication WG.
- 49th. EGN meeting. Kula-Salihli UGGp;
- 17th EGN Conference, Iceland.
- Participation on the GGN Long Term Strategy Task Force meetings. José M^a Barrera.
- EGN Online Coordination Committee; September.
- Participation on the 9th UGGp Council Meeting. Vietnam. José M^a Barrera.
- Evaluation and Revalidation missions. Javier López, Iván Cortijo. Jose M^a Barrera.
- Participation in the seminar of Geotourism held by Grutas del Palacio UGGp Uruguay.
- GGN General Assembly for Accounts. June.
- 8th International Summer University on Geoparks, UNESCO Chair. Portugal.

Spanish Geoparks Forum / Spanish Global Geoparks Network:

- Seven meetings in 2024: (Jose M^a Barrera, coordinator). Management of the 2024 SGF Action Plan. Works for becoming national association.
- Spanish Geoparks Forum Open Days in Granada UGGp. Creation of the Spanish Global Geoparks Network that replaces the Spanish Forum.
- Reception of a delegation of Costa Quebrada aUGGp and of Huelva province

Management and Financial Status

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGGp has the follow bodies for its management:

- **Presidency.** The head of the presidency of the Provincial Council of Cáceres.
- **Geopark Council.** Decision making body. Representatives of the Geopark members (Provincial Council of Cáceres. Government of Extremadura, Villuercas-Ibores-Jara municipalities, LEADER Group Aprodervi, Geopark companies association, Geological Association of Extremadura and University of Extremadura.
- **Territorial Commission.** Annual Action Plan monitoring body. Five meetings in 2024.
- **Advisory bodies:** Educative and scientific Committee; Majors Forum.
- **Staff:** Director, vice-director, geoscientist, tourism technician, administrative body.

The Geopark Council approve the Management Plan that is developed through Annual Action Plans. The Action Plan describes specific actions and its cost. The responsibility for execution of each action is assigned to each member based on its nature, competency, procedures and funds.

Geoconservation

- Field trips with the Educative and Scientific Committee. Navalvillar de Ibor, Guadarranque sincline, Carrascalejo.
- Starting a new description of the geopark geological formations.
- 56 interpretation panels renewed in 2024 concerning geosites and geological itineraries.
- Participation on the realization of the movie "Vida Primitiva. The Cambrian Explosion" by The Spanish Geoscience Institute: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnFbwWG7K6I>
- Annual meeting of the Educative and Scientific Committee. Proposals for Action Plan 2025.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Seminar for tourism companies. Description of new tourism experiences.
- Autumn event Geodisea: 42 tourism activities: trail activities, workshops, music, theater, and tastings. Social media promotion has reached 38,760 users with info and newsfeed.

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

- Training for Interpretation Centers people.
- Geocenters Seminar (Centre for teachers and resources).
- Edusites: murals, others. New proposals.
- Geopark Educative Day. Village of Robledollano.
- Educative project: I have a letter for you! Exchanges among scholar children.
- Geological Olympiad.
- Management of the media tools for communication among Geocentres.

Promotional activities

- Attendance of FITUR, FIO (International Birding Fair) and JATO (Rural Fair).
- Marketing Plan activities.
- Website: <https://geoparquevilluercas.es>
- Social media:
 - Facebook @GeoparqueVilluercas.
 - X (@VilluercasGPark.
 - Instagram (@villuercasgpark).
 - Youtube Channel: Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

4. CONTACTS

Director: José M. Barrera (Biologist) imbarrera@dip-caceres.es

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Geoscientist: Iván Cortijo (Paleontologist). icortijo@dip-caceres.es

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