

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

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

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2005 / 2016

Illustration photo – Day of the Geopark in Sedmihorky 28 July 2019, stone cutting



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

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

Number of visitors: Over 1 million – an estimation based on these statistics: nearly 117 thousand of paying visitors at iconic geocultural site Trosky ruins (April to October), 170 thousand visitors in the Prachov Rock Formations (April to October) and nearly 315 thousand visitors of information centers in the geopark region.

Number of Geopark events: 27 held by geopark management, 89 held by geopark partners.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 23 held by geopark management, 275 by Geopark partners.

Number of Geopark press releases: 3 press releases, 3 reports in Czech TV and national radio, articles in the national and regional media, and EGN Newsletter and Magazine, 13 press releases issued by the Bohemian Paradise Association (cooperating tourist destination company), 29 news on website.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- In cooperation with partners, local organizations and entrepreneurs BPUGG Development Strategy

2020-2030 has been drawn up.

- Geopark Bohemian Paradise extension was approved by the Council of National Geoparks of the Czech Republic (3 areas, 73 km² in total), request for approval of the BPUGG extension was submitted to UNESCO.
- Financial stabilization of the BPUGG.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation in 43rd CC Meeting Swabian Alb UGG, Germany.
- Participation in 44th EGN CC Meeting, Sierra Norte De Sevilla and 15th European Geoparks Conference Sierra Norte de Sevilla UGG, Spain.
- The BPUGG representative visited the Sierras Subbéticas UGG Spain.
- Representatives from Saimaa Geopark (Finland) visited the BPUGG (April).
- Representatives from Muskauer Faltenbogen UGG, Germany, participated in seminar organized by the BPUGG (May).
- Two geologists from Kütralkura UGG, Chile volunteered one week in the BPUGG (September).
- Representatives from Slovak National geoparks and Nature Conservation Agency visited the BPUGG (October).
- The BPUGG participated and presented the BPUGG in the conference of UNESCO candidate geopark Landscape of Extinct Volcanoes, Poland (October).
- Realization of cross border Czech-Saxon project with Muskauer Faltenbogen GGU (Cooperation and promotion of UNESCO global geoparks Euroregion Nisa), Germany.
- Partnership in the GECON cross border project (Geological Cooperation Network) with Czech, German and Polish Geoparks and geological institutions.
- The volunteer from the BPUGG helped in the Rinjani-Lombok UGG (Indonesia) within the foundation of "School in Paradise" (English and environmental education of local pupils and students).

Management and Financial Status

- Management: Board of Directors (12 members, representatives of local municipalities, business and experts), Supervisory Board (3 members), Scientific Council (31 members).
- Financial status: multi-source financing, fixed income sources, improving of financial stability of the BPUGG.

Geoconservation

- Partnership in the project Reducing the Negative Impacts of on Ecosystems (University of Hradec Králové), tourist traffic monitoring.
- Cooperation with the Forests of the Czech Republic and the Administration of Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area on reducing the risks of negative impacts of tourism on selected geolocalities.
- Annual "Let's clean up the Bohemian Paradise".

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Guided tours on selected localities - 63 geological localities were selected for tourism in cooperation with the Administration of Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area.
- Promotion of geosites outside congested areas, promotion of geosites where there is minimal risk of conflict

with nature conservation, promotion off season tourism.

- Installation of 6 information boards in Prachov Rock Formations .
- Participation in seminars on Interpretation of local heritage held by partners.
- Cooperation with the Bohemian Paradise Association (touristic destination).

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

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

Strategic partnership

- Forests of the Czech Republic
- Academy of Science – Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics
- Microregion Bohemian Paradise
- Univerzity of Hradec Králové
- Memorandum with Administration of Hradec Králové Region

Promotional activities

- Issue of 25 thousand of promotional leaflets (25 000) in Czech, English, German and Polish, distribution in 17 information centers in the region and at tourism fairs at home and abroad.
- Promotion in the tourist newspaper Bohemian Paradise, TIM Magazine, Holiday in the Bohemian Paradise catalog.
- Realization of new BPUGG website, regular publishing of the news.
- Weekly Facebook posts about geosites and other BPUGG interesting places, photos on Instagram.
- Czech TV recorded and presented a report from BPUGG (March), national radio sessions.
- EGN week with several activities.
- Summer camp for children focused on local geology (July).
- Day of the Geopark (July).
- Popularization of geoscience - workshops on geological topics for children und public (summer).
- Articles in EGN Newsletter and Magazine.
- Installation of outdoor mobile large format panel for promotion of BPUGG.
- The 2nd annual swimming competition “Prix of the Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark” (November).

4. CONTACTS

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