

# Ice age EUROPE

NETWORK OF HERITAGE SITES *Magazine*

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ISSUE 1 APRIL 2017

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# AN INTRODUCTION BY PROF. DR. GERD-CHRISTIAN WENIGER CHAIR OF THE ICE AGE EUROPE NETWORK

Welcome to the first edition of the Ice Age Europe magazine.

The Ice Age is one of the most fascinating periods in early human history. The foundations of our culture today were established during more than two million years of Ice Age history; its relicts are among the key testimonies of our cultural heritage and of human development.

Some of the most important Ice Age heritage sites are in Europe, where human remains and rock art have been revealed and they tell the story of Ice Age people in Europe and our Pleistocene cultural heritage in space and time.

The Ice Age Europe Network was established in 2013 and currently (2017) represents 18 archaeological sites with rich Ice Age heritage, and their affiliated museums or visitor centres, across 7 European countries. At these sites over 350 personnel are dedicated to the promotion of our common heritage – as scientists, managers, curators or guides.

The sites attract more than 1.4 million visitors per year from Europe and overseas. The sites provide a wide range of offers for these visitors, from information in several languages to travel packages developed in collaboration with tour operators.

This is the first edition of our magazine giving an insight into what is on offer for visitors. You can follow our members at @IceAgeEurope on Twitter or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IceAgeEurope>.

If you are interested in becoming a member, an associate member, a partner or have a press enquiry please contact the Ice Age Europe office.

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# Ice age EUROPE

## NETWORK OF HERITAGE SITES

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Ice Age Europe network members in Blaubeuren, Germany



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# #IceAgeEuropeNow

## Touring Exhibition

**Author: Katrin Hieke**

What connects Europe? It is not the language, nor is it the currency. It is the cultural heritage we share, common roots which reach all the way back to the Ice Age. The most recent studies show there to be close relationships between all Europeans across the continent.

2017 sees the beginning of a journey for our network as we launch the #IceAgeEuropeNow touring exhibition. The exhibition presents large-format photographs of fascinating archaeological finds, extraordinary objects revealing surprising connections between the past and present. #IceAgeEuropeNow will visit 15 or more prime locations across Europe. The exhibition invites you to experience our shared cultural heritage and common roots in Europe, and to learn how close the Ice Age heritage still is to us. We invite our visitors to join the conversation about 'Europe then and now' by contributing ideas, thoughts and pictures using #IceAgeEuropeNow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

The exhibition is a contribution to the European Year of Cultural Heritage "Sharing Heritage" 2018 and has been made possible with the support of the Minister for Federal Affairs, Europe and the Media of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, and CEWE Stiftung & Co. KGaA. As a European-wide leading photography service, CEWE is traditionally linked with the cultural heritage of photography and sees it as their responsibility to promote it. The company supports well-known projects and institutions with knowledge and technology.

The grand exhibition opening takes place at the world famous discovery site of Neanderthals at the Neanderthal Museum in Mettmann, Germany, in April 2017. The exhibition will then tour Europe, travelling to sites in Croatia, Italy, France, Spain, Gibraltar and more. The current list of venues, the free exhibition booklet, as well as information about events and activities can be found on our website at [www.ice-age-europe.eu/learn-and-discover/iceageeuropenow-exhibition](http://www.ice-age-europe.eu/learn-and-discover/iceageeuropenow-exhibition)



Cave ceiling of Altamira caves - ©Museo de Altamira

# MUSEO DE ALTAMIRA

SANTILLANA DEL MAR, CANTABRIA, SPAIN

Altamira for families

Talk, debate, share, learn and unlearn

**Authors: Asun Martínez and Noelia de Dios**

**I**n the exhibition at the Museo de Altamira visitors will find hundreds of little objects made from bone, deer antler or from stones like flint or quartzite. Objects designed and used by the people of the Altamira times. Some of these tools are still in use.

20,000 years ago someone created a tool to work threads and ropes made from vegetable fibers or animal tendons; a needle. These materials were used by Paleolithic hunter-gatherers in their everyday tasks and were fundamental to their nomadic way of life.



For him or her? - ©Museo de Altamira



Discovering rock art at Altamira caves – ©Museo de Altamira

Since this time the needle is still in daily use today. It is an object that we have carried since the beginning of our history and is used by people from different cultures and territories. The needle is a successful and fabulous invention that has not yet been replaced by another tool for the function it was originally conceived for.

Needles, engravers, harpoons, javelins/spears, scrapers, burins and others tools were part of everyday life at the beginning of our history, when we were hunter-gatherers. By looking at these preserved objects from the historical period we call the Upper Paleolithic, we can reveal a great deal about the kind of people that conceived, designed, produced and used them. Beyond this we can learn a great deal about the people themselves. They must have been careful and patient, with refined abilities in creation and decoration especially when producing harpoons for fishing and javelins and spears for hunting. We discover very efficient people with practical intelligence in regards to the exploitation of natural resources. These tools reveal a society that changed and evolved slowly, maintaining traditions passing on knowledge to successive generations.

Within the Itineraries for 'Families' science and imagination are combined as a family learning experience around the cultural heritage themes of the Museo de Altamira. 'I spy with my little eye' in the cave of Altamira leads us throughout the exhibition to some of the materials and tools left behind in the cave by the Altamira inhabitants. 'For him or her?' invites us to reflect on the stereotypes we still have when we think of our ancestors. With 'What a dot!' and 'Caves with a lot of art' we begin to discover the artistic language of the Altamira painters. With the Itineraries for families the visit to the museum is a time and space to talk, debate, share, learn and unlearn. In the Museo de Altamira, as well as in the Paleolithic times, the best result will be the sum of the contributions of each member of the group. We look forward to welcoming you! ■

*“Needles, engravers, harpoons, javelins/spears, scrapers, burins and others tools were part of everyday life at the beginning of our history”*

#### ABOUT MUSEO DE ALTAMIRA, SPAIN

The Museum of Altamira is a place devoted to learning about, enjoying and experiencing the life of those who painted and inhabited the cave of Altamira. The museum's most attractive offer is the possibility of learning about humanity's first art, Palaeolithic art. The Museum is in charge of a legacy of maximum value, the cave of Altamira, a milestone in universal art history whose discovery meant the discovery of Palaeolithic cave art and one of its most spectacular manifestations. The expertise of the artistic expression of the cave's inhabitants was recognised by UNESCO in 1985 when the site was registered on the World Heritage List.

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# MUSEUM OF PREHISTORY BLAUBEUREN

BLAUBEUREN, GERMANY

Spear broken! What now?

Author: Stefanie Kölbl

To be honest, artefact morphology, the scientific study and understanding of archaeological finds, is sometimes a little bit boring for museum visitors. Dozens of grey stone-tools or unknown objects made of bone and antler, presented in a display cabinet can leave the visitor uninspired and disinterested. We decided to address this at the museum for prehistory in Blaubeuren (Urgeschichtliches Museum Blaubeuren – URMU) with our 2016 special exhibition about prehistoric projectile points. The title was “Spear broken! What now?” and combined technical information with a hands-on visitor experience.





*“During the exhibition several thousand people worked on one deer antler and finally, in the last days they managed to cut through the antler”*

In the exhibition we integrated several levels of knowledge and experience. On the walls we displayed original prehistoric hunting and working tools made of antler, bone, ivory and stone. Information about the items was handwritten on removable cards to bring the object to life and to tell its story.

At the beginning of the tour visitors were presented with broken spear points and we invited them to follow a hands-on process to show how a new hunting spear was made during the Upper Palaeolithic period (40,000 to 10,000 years ago). First visitors learned to choose the right wood and how to carve the wooden shaft of the spear by themselves. During the ten months of the exhibition many tree trunks were whittled down to slim sticks by our visitors working only with stone tools.

The next step was to look at the original materials used for the tip of the projectile. For our visitors this meant cutting tines (the branches or points) from deer antlers. During the exhibition several thousand people worked on one deer antler and finally, in the last days they managed to cut through the antler. This showed just how hard and time consuming this task was. We also included a large thighbone which visitors had to slice into two parallel lines to cut out the basic shape of a spear tip or projectile point, and to sharpen the bone blade using sand stone.

In the third step we explained the different ways of hafting, the process of attaching the projectile point to the wooden shaft, used during the Upper Paleolithic period. This was explained using original flints and models to illustrate the different methods: forked, single or double beveled and split base. Visitors used reindeer sinew and various knotting techniques.

There was another aspect to the visitor experience further to this hands-on scientific and the practical exhibition. The floor of the exhibition area was designed as a board game with landing points, each of which had questions about the exhibition or other practical aspects of Ice Age hunting. Visitors moved through the game and the exhibition area by throwing a dice.

From the perspective of the museum the experience was very positive and feedback showed that guests enjoyed all areas, particularly working with the stone tools. We found that we had to change and re-sharpen the stone tools regularly to maintain the quality of the visitor experience and working process. On the day we opened the exhibition I walked around with our guest and saw a lot of excited faces. I passed a young boy hard at work on the bone point. He turned to his grandfather and exclaimed “At last something clever in a museum!”

We are now looking at bringing these hands-on work stations into our permanent exhibition. ■



Woodworking - ©URMU

#### ABOUT THE PREHISTORY MUSEUM IN BLAUBEUREN, GERMANY

The cultural roots of Europe’s Upper Palaeolithic lay in the valleys of the rivers Ach, Blau and Lone. The caves at the southern border of the Swabian Alb belong to the some of the most important Palaeolithic sites in the World. Neanderthals and Early Modern humans lived here during the last Ice Age. 40,000 years ago, Early Modern humans not only developed new tool technologies here, but also created animal and human figurines made of mammoth ivory, the earliest known works of art. Other Ice Age Art found here includes musical instruments and a large number of Ice Age ornaments that show how sophisticated these people were.

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# MUSEUM OF HUMAN EVOLUTION

## BURGOS, SPAIN

### Know Thyself

**Author: Juan-Luis Arsuaga**

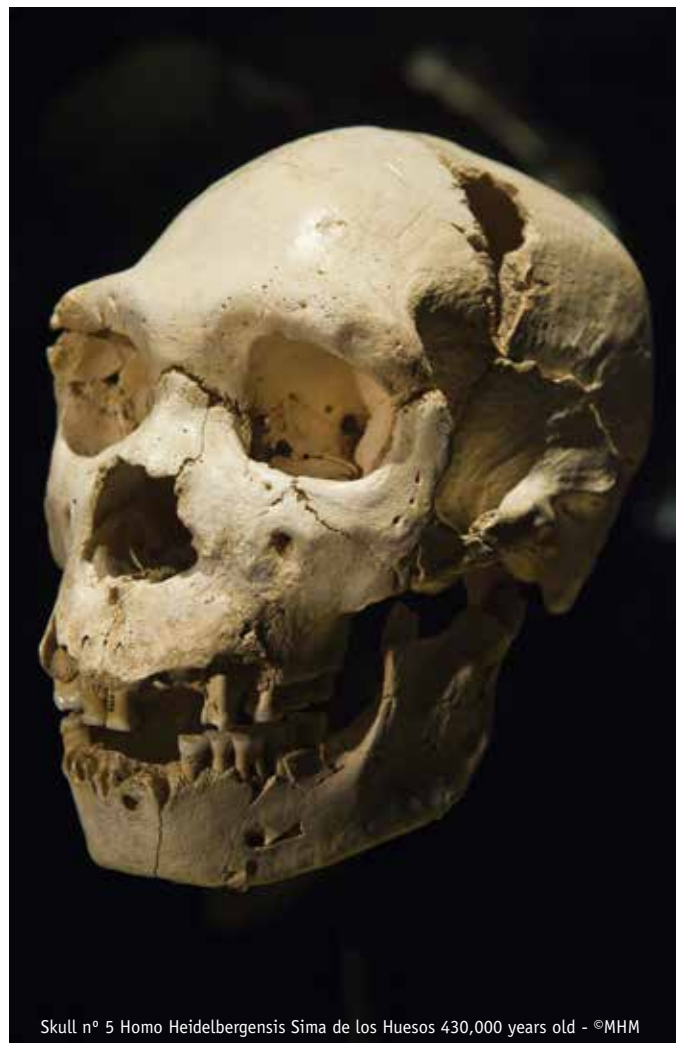
Every year hundreds of thousands of people come to the city of Burgos with a firm purpose in mind.

Burgos is a historic city in the north of Spain, famous for its cathedral and many other historical and artistic monuments, testimonies to a wealthy past. It is also a very important stop on the Camino de Santiago, the Pilgrim's route to the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in northwestern Spain. During the Middle Ages the route became a river of people and culture as pilgrims came from all over Europe, and today they come from all over the world.

For today's pilgrims, Burgos is more than a stopover. It has become a final destination, the end of the road. Visitors come to visit the Museum of Human Evolution, a large modern building of elegant design. A building with straight, rational structures, mathematical in design, certainly conceptual, it makes no concessions to organic form. Life, however, is curved while the artificial world is strictly linear. The building's glass walls allow natural light to invade the interior space and fill it with life.

As visitors arrive through the main entrance of the Museum, they enter a world very different from the one outside. In this bright space the story of our species, known as evolution, is told from the very beginning of our time. This exposure to the past provides us modern humans with a biography and allows us to discover who we really are. This is the main aim of the Museum of Human Evolution, to "Know Thyself", words inscribed on the forecourt of the ancient Greek Temple of Apollo in Delphi.

As the new pilgrims experience the Museum they are led into a dark, enclosed space, in the basement of the building, its lowest level. Here they see the authentic, original, true and real remains of humans who lived in the Sierra de Atapuerca, not far from the city of Burgos, almost half a million years ago.





Two of the World's most famous skulls are on display here. One is totally intact, with its jawbone, and is the most complete fossil skull ever found. It is impossible not to stand in front of the skull for a long time looking, thinking and feeling. Alongside the skulls is a handaxe, a stone tool that was also excavated from the site, known as the Sima de los Huesos, the "bone pit", where about thirty skeletons were found. What happened there? Is this the first known human burial site? Or was this the site of something more gruesome?

Sima de los Huesos is the world's largest deposit of human fossils and there is no doubt it is also one of the greatest mysteries of archaeology. In another exhibit in the same hall there is a pelvis, the only complete pelvis in the hominin fossil record, which indicates that corpses, and not just isolated bones, were accumulated at this mysterious place, at the bottom of a shaft deep in the large cave system.

From the Sima de los Huesos exhibit the modern pilgrims move to another hall where some of Europe's oldest human fossils are on display. The real bones of course. Their story is as remarkable as those from Sima. These remains are from the cave of Gran Dolina, in the Sierra de Atapuerca, where a dozen or more individuals were eaten by cannibals almost one million years ago.

The modern day pilgrims cannot help but be moved by the intimacy and very personal encounter with our ancestors to be found at the Museum of Human Evolution in Burgos. ■

*“Two of the World's most famous skulls are on display here. One is totally intact, with its jawbone, and is the most complete fossil skull ever found”*

#### ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF HUMAN EVOLUTION, BURGOS, SPAIN

The Museum of Human Evolution of Burgos was created to house, in a modern building, the findings from the Sierra de Atapuerca site, some of the oldest human fossils ever discovered in Europe.

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Rock art in the cave of Santimamiñe - © Arkeologi Museoa

# CAVES OF SANTIMAMIÑE AND BIZKAIA MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

BIZKAIA, BASQUE COUNTRY, SPAIN

Archaeology for the future: “Arkeologia Gela”  
School programmes at the museum

**Authors: Team of Arkeologi Museoa**

Museums are communicative institutions that bring society into touch with objects and their contexts. We therefore believe that a fundamental task is to transfer to society the knowledge to be found in the collections in the safekeeping of Bizkaia’s Arkeologi Museoa and “in situ” at the Santimamiñe caves. Furthermore, this transfer cannot only be limited to providing information, but also has to be linked to an educational project that reaches our audience and specifically to a very special segment, children, as the future will depend on them.



Simulated archaeological dig - © Arkeologi Museoa

Our educational programme seeks to ensure that children are interested in knowledge and critical thinking, appreciate Cultural Heritage as the materiality of our collective memory. A further remit is to ensure they learn about the work of museums as those entrusted with recovering and conserving that memory, to allow us to know each other better and, consequently, achieve a more humane future.

We have therefore developed three projects aimed at infants (3-5 year olds), primary (6-12) and secondary (13-16) education. Children are encouraged to understand that just as they keep their most valuable toys in boxes to look after them and not lose them, adults do exactly the same with the things that our ancestors have left us. They visit the museum galleries on a train pulled by a mammoth in search for those objects they would like to keep in their “magic box”.

The main activity for the primary school children consists of excavating a simulated archaeological dig, recovering different items at different levels, cleaning and classifying them. Thanks to this experience, they discover important aspects of the past and learn that an archaeological dig is not about discovering ancient items, but rather it is part of a systematic scientific work method that must be carefully recorded. It does not conclude when the field work ends but continues in the research centres and museum.

Secondary students take part in different group activities to discover different materials (such as sediment, coal, slag, carving scraps, broken items, construction waste or urban features) in the rooms of the museum and outside around the city itself. Materials that may appear valueless may have an



Discovering different materials - © Arkeologi Museoa



The Old Quarter of Bilbao - © Arkeologi Museoa

“The main activity for the primary school children consists of excavating a simulated archaeological dig, recovering different items at different levels, cleaning and classifying them”

#### ABOUT BIZHAIA MUSEUM AND CAVE OF SANTAMAMIÑE, BASQUE COUNTRY, SPAIN

The Arkeologi Museoa is in the Old Quarter of Bilbao with about 3,000 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition area on five floors. It is a centre for heritage research and conservation that offers its visitors an interactive journey through the history of Biscay. The museum oversees the Cave of Santimamiñe which has galleries, rock paintings and carvings. The cave has a new interpretation centre giving visitors the opportunity to discover the cave's art in a sustainable and responsible way.

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archaeological value and may create footprints to the past from today's landscape. Our aim is for the students to become aware of their impact on the planet and discover how the attitude of human groups has transformed and manipulated the environment, sometimes as a result of a need to survive and at other time to obtain irrational benefits.

These various programmes for school children of different ages seek to raise questions about the past as a forward-looking tool and to address the question; what would become of humans if we lost our memory? ■



Rock art in the cave of Ekain - © Ekainberri

# EKAINBERRI - THE REPLICA OF THE EKAIN CAVE

ZESTOA, BASQUE COUNTRY, SPAIN

Prehistoric Olympic Games

Author: Eneko Calvo Etxarte

Prehistoric challenges bring gold! In Ekainberri, in June, a unique activity takes place, the Prehistoric Olympic Games. This annual event aims to bring the Ice Age into the present and takes place in the central square in the town of Zestoa. This is the third year in succession that this fun filled, festive competition has been staged.

The Prehistoric Olympic Games of Zestoa are one of the many ways that the Ice Age heritage and the prehistoric culture of Ekainberri, and its connection to the local area and community, is celebrated. The main objective of the Prehistoric Olympic Games is to raise awareness about the ancient human hunter-gatherers who once populated Zestoa and left their works of art, the painted horses, on the walls of the cave of Ekain.

There are five challenges in the Prehistoric Olympic Games for participants to take on; hunting, painting, stag mask making, fire making and the gruelling challenge of dragging the stone of Ekain. All the tasks must be undertaken using prehistoric tools and techniques. The participants are organized into tribes, each team having six participants and dressed as inhabitants from 14,000 years ago. They compete for highly sought after prizes but above all to be crowned champions of the prestigious Prehistoric Olympic Games of Zestoa.

We look forward to seeing you in June 2017 at the 4th Zestoa Prehistory Olympics. ■



Teams assemble for Prehistoric games - © Ekainberri

## ABOUT EKAINBERRI, BASQUE COUNTRY, SPAIN

In the cave of Ekain is an exceptional example of cave art from the Upper Palaeolithic era with paintings and engravings created by the inhabitants of the cave between 14,000 and 13,000 years ago. The museum of Ekainberri, located 600 meters from the original cave, has reproductions of 85% of the art found in Ekain. Ekainberri offers an extraordinary adventure for visitors as they lose consciousness of spatial boundaries and walk through the cave discovering the magnificent paintings and creations.

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*“The Prehistoric Olympic Games of Zestoa are one of the many ways that the Ice Age heritage and the prehistoric culture of Ekainberri, and its connection to the local area and community, is celebrated”*

Dragging the stone of Ekain in Zestoa © Ekainberri



Site of La Roca Dels Bous - ©Espai Orígens

# ESPAI ORÍGENS VISITOR CENTRE – LA ROCA DELS BOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

CAMARASA, CATALONIA, SPAIN

Neanderthal 2.0

**Author: Rafael Mora Torcal, Paloma González-Marcén, Jorge Martínez-Moreno and Clara Masriera-Esquerra**

Neanderthals occupied Roca dels Bous at the end of the Middle Palaeolithic close to when they became extinct. The University Autònoma of Barcelona's CEPAP, a research centre focused on the study of prehistoric heritage, has regularly excavated this settlement site since 2000. The site is located in the foot hills of the Pyrenees, the Lleida Pre-Pyrenees.

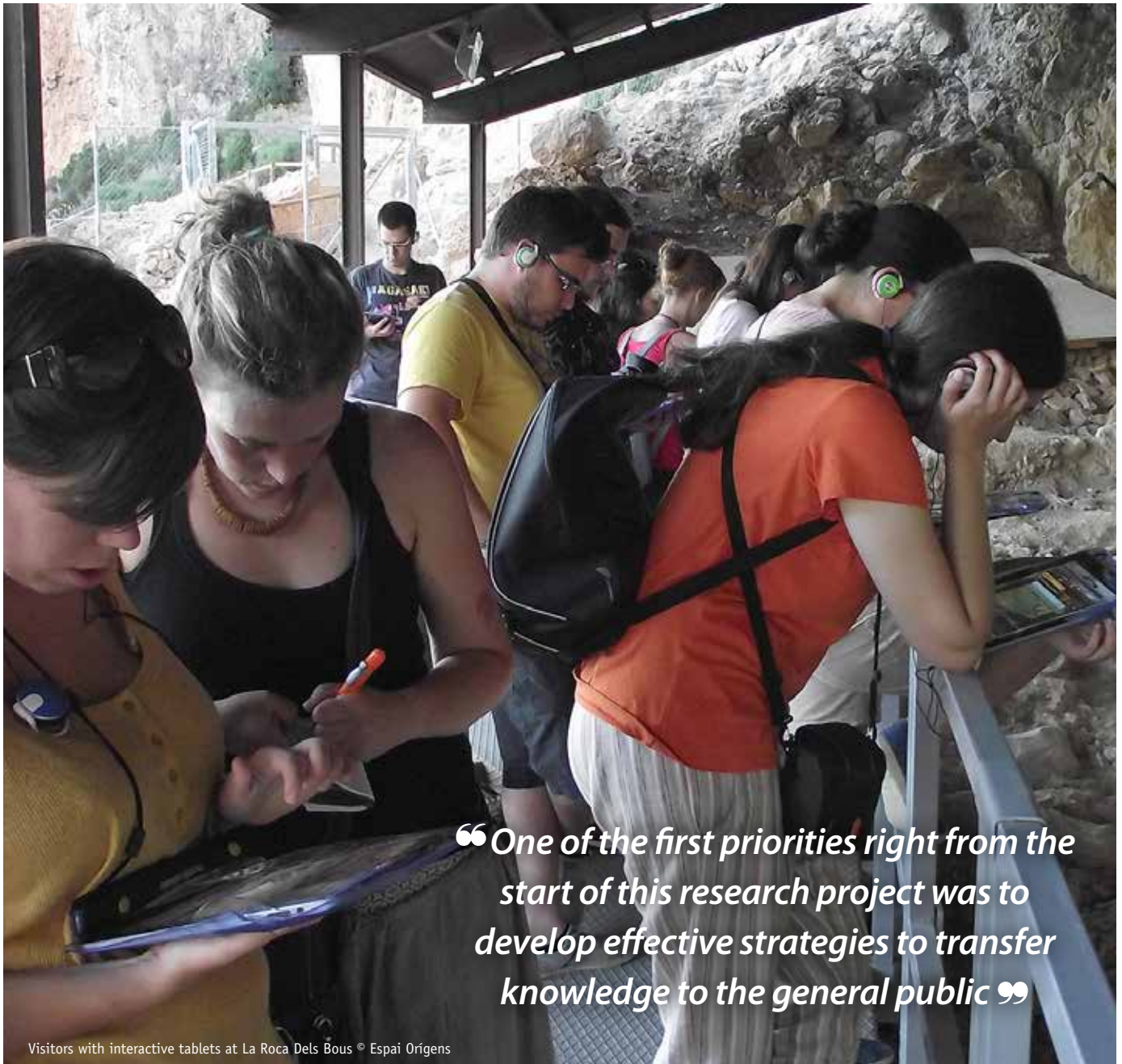
One of the first priorities right from the start of this research project was to develop effective strategies to transfer knowledge to the general public. Thanks to a European project called ORIGINS, the site has been open to the public since 2010. A new and advanced outcome from this project was to use ICT as an educational tool for the general public to interact with the archaeology of the site. A further remit was to design a series of itineraries which visitors could follow and be guided through the prehistoric culture using digital tablet screens, loaded with audio-visual content that explained the geology of the site. This included information to understand Neanderthal cultures and the methods used by archaeologists to record and interpret the archaeological data.

The remote past, and the Palaeolithic and Neanderthal periods are very remote, it is not easy to present to the public. The site has few preserved artefacts and no human fossils making it difficult for the public to understand the site.



Classroom session in the visitor centre © Espai Orígens





**“One of the first priorities right from the start of this research project was to develop effective strategies to transfer knowledge to the general public”**

Visitors with interactive tablets at La Roca dels Bous © Espai Orígens

While the site is of great interest to scientists, especially given its connection to Neanderthal occupation at the end of the Middle Palaeolithic in the Lleida Pre-Pyrenees, it is not easy to convey this to the general public, particularly given the scarce number of prehistoric stone tools, and fragments of bones found in the middle of a collection of chaotic rocks at the Roca dels Bous.

We have found that the implementation of ICT technologies as a tool for communicating cultural heritage has allowed us to rethink the more traditional interpretation tools. The powerful impact of digital images and ability to acquire huge quantities of contextual information make it practical for the visitors to get a personal approach to the site, building on the information and explanation available on site from staff and static displays in the visitor centre.

Visitors now have two options, the self-guided ICT tour or a guided visit. The visit has four stops, each one with a different theme about the daily life of Neanderthals. Once the visitors reach the archaeological site at Roca dels Bous they have gained sufficient knowledge to fully understand the place. ■

**ABOUT ESPAI ORIGENS VISITOR CENTRE AND LA ROCA DELS BOUS, CATALONIA, SPAIN**

Espai Orígens is a visitor centre focused on displaying the Prehistory research of the pre-Pyrenees area, mainly centred on the study of the prehistoric caves of La Roca dels Bous and Cova Gran. The nearby Archaeological Park of Sant Llorenç de Montgai is part of the visitor experience.

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Fumane Cave - cave 5 ©Pierluca

# FUMANE CAVE

## VALPOLICELLA, ITALY

### Prehistoric Nights

**Authors: Barbara Bussola & Anita Gubbiottia**

**P**rehistoric Nights gives children aged 6 to 11 a chance to take part in an adventure, taking them back 40,000 years to follow in the footsteps of the prehistoric hunters that roamed the area at this time. Up to 15 children stay overnight in a cave deep in the woods of Molina Waterfall Park (Verona) from Saturday evening until Sunday morning between June and August.

During “Prehistoric Nights” modern devices, modern words and references to daily life such as school, homework, cinema, are forbidden. The participants become a group of prehistoric hunters travelling from the mountains to the valley in search of mammoths, bison, woolly rhinos and other Ice Age beasts. In order to gain access to the Big Cave, where they will sleep, they must solve challenges set by the Sage of the Big Cave.

Very quickly the children become members of our tribe and lose their modern identity. Each is given the name of a forest animal and wears a special sign on their cheek painted in ochre.

Using clues given to us by The Sage, we forage and search for items that could be found in the forest during the Ice Age. We meet people from other caves, bears and wolves – friends, not foes, who all become part of our Stone Age adventure.

When our quest is complete, we simulate roasting bison bacon, woolly rhino shoulder and eagle breast over the fire. Fruit and other prehistoric delicacies complete the Ice Age feast.



Prehistoric nights sleeping arrangements - © Fumane

Entrance to the Big Cave- © Fumane



*“Very quickly the children become members of our tribe and lose their modern identity. Each is given the name of a forest animal and wears a special sign on their cheek painted in ochre”*

The Big Cave is a large rock shelter protected by a structure of wood and animal hides. A huge thick bed of straw covered in hides makes a comfy mattress for us all. Around the fire we work our spears and make tools, amulets and ornaments. At dawn the next day we will learn to use them.

The fire keeps us company all night, while we tell tales of our long journeys hunting, sing songs our elders might have about cave bears, about the whispering forest, the roaring waterfalls, the moon high in the night sky, the glow of the fire flies.

The next morning after breakfast we take on the thrill of the swing over the waterfall and this brings us all back to modern times.

The Prehistoric Nights are a different adventure every time even for the guides. Together with the children we dive into the Palaeolithic, merging with the forest and the valleys, rediscovering how cooperation can make us all closer, sharing dreams and visions still within us from so long ago. ■



Visitors at Fumane Cave - © Fumane

#### ABOUT FUMARE CAVE, ITALY

Grotta di Fumane is a cave on the southern edge of the Veneto Pre-Alps, in the North of Italy. It has produced a dated sequence from the Middle to the Upper Palaeolithic. Excavations have been carried out at different times since 1988.

Thousands of flint flakes and cores, bones, teeth, charcoal, worked pebbles, bone hammers prove that Neanderthals made fire, manufactured stone tools, butchered animals and birds, and treated hides and pelts.

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The eastern cliffs of the Rock of Gibraltar at dawn (© S. Finlayson)

# THE GIBRALTAR MUSEUM

## GORHAM'S CAVE COMPLEX, GIBRALTAR

Ice Age Europe gets a new World Heritage Site!

**Author: Tyson Holmes**

**G**orham's Cave Complex was inscribed onto UNESCO's World Heritage List in July 2016. The complex is a Neanderthal occupation site, used between c. 127,000 and 32,000 years ago. On the east side of the Rock of Gibraltar, the site rises from sea level, where several caves including Gorham's and Vanguard are located, to the Rock's summit 426m above sea level at the top of the Mediterranean Steps. The site covers 280,000m<sup>2</sup>, or 3% of Gibraltar's land area. The topography and steep cliffs make the area relatively secluded and well-protected.

Gorham's Cave Complex is of major significance in understanding the global human journey. A 27-year international, multi-disciplinary research project focused on Gorham's and Vanguard Caves, has revealed the vital importance of the site in our

understanding of a critical juncture in human evolution and of the Neanderthals in particular. There is a wealth of information on where and how Neanderthals and early modern humans lived and behaved, where they acquired materials for stone tools and about their complex social behaviour and ornamentation. Unique elements, including a rock engraving carved by the Neanderthals in Gorham's Cave, indicate their ability for abstract thought.

Fossilised bones, charcoal and pollen show what the landscape and vegetation were like when the Neanderthal people were living here. Sea level was lower for much of the time revealing a sandy coastal plain, but the limestone environment was similar to Gibraltar's Upper Rock landscape today, with many of the same plants and animals which the Neanderthals gathered for food.



Archaeological excavations inside Gorham's Cave (© J. C. Finlayson)



'Flint' - a forensic reconstruction of the Gibraltar 2 Neanderthal skull by Kennis & Kennis (© S. Finlayson)

**“Gorham’s Cave Complex is of major significance in understanding the global human journey”**

The Neanderthals hunted or scavenged birds and sea mammals such as dolphins, and collected marine molluscs including limpets. These species can still be seen today around the Rock.

World Heritage is about protecting and conserving the best of our natural and cultural global heritage. It is also about presenting that heritage to as wide a public as possible, providing opportunities for education, tourism and for sustainable development. Gibraltar provides a unique place for people to directly experience the habitats and environments, and to appreciate the nature, abilities and lifestyle of the Neanderthal people. Walking within the Upper Rock, especially along the Mediterranean Steps, is to walk the paths of our ancestors; visiting the sea caves is to experience where and how they lived. ■

**ABOUT THE GIBRALTAR MUSEUM AND THE GORHAM’S CAVE COMPLEX, GIBRALTAR, UNITED KINGDOM**

The Rock of Gibraltar at the southernmost part of the Iberian Peninsula, and in full view of North Africa, is a British Overseas Territory with a long tradition of work on Ice Age humans, fauna and geology which dates back to the 18th Century. It was in Forbes’ Quarry that the Gibraltar 1 Neanderthal skull was found in 1848, eight years before the Feldhofer specimen. The Gibraltar Museum is a long-standing institution which was founded in 1930. The Gibraltar Museum’s brief includes research and it carries out annual excavations in Gorham’s and Vanguard Caves. Gorham’s Cave is currently the last known site of Neanderthal survival, as recently as 32,000 years ago, and the site became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2016.

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Prehistoric flutes from caves of Isturitz and Oxocelhaya - @ Grottes Isturitz

# ISTURITZ, OXOCELHAYA AND ERBERUA CAVES

SAINT-MARTIN D'ARBEROUE, FRANCE

Résonnances

Author: Joëlle Darricau

**R**ésonnances, created in July 2008, was composed in the Isturitz and Oxocelhaya caves following a number of residences by the composer and musician Pierre Estève between 2005 and 2008. The work was entirely inspired by the acoustics and sounds of the underground space.

The objective of this sound study was to present the cavern in a different way, revealing the space, in a sensory manner, as a prehistoric home in a geological setting.

Pierre Estève combined primary sounds known to humankind since the beginning of time, such as those found in nature like water and wind, with primitive instrumental sounds. Instruments included the month resonating string bow, bamboo and bone flutes, clay ocarinas, wind harps, conch and

other shells, corals, lithophone (stone xylophone), flint knapping shards, and sounds created by voice.

He reveals the cave through multichannel spatial diffusion of sound, exploring the subtleties ranging from silence to loud sounds, drawing the listener into this sanctuary, into history and into themselves.

Audiences are offered four movements, inspired by prehistory, by geology, by the work of scientists working at the site and by the artist's extensive experience during his residences in the caves.

The four movements deliver an immersive listening experience that constantly builds to deliver a meditational atmosphere. "Résonnances" is a sensory installation that allows each visitor to conjure up their own journey back in time, all set underground. ■



Musician Pierre Estève in Isturitz cave - © P.Estève



**“The objective of this sound study was to present the cavern in a different way, revealing the space, in a sensory manner, as a prehistoric home in a geological setting”**

Pierre Estève in front of Indonesian gamelan instrument - © P.Estève

#### **ABOUT ISTURITZ, OXOCELHAYA AND ERBERUA CAVES, BASQUE COUNTRY, FRANCE**

From 1913 to the present day the superimposed caves of Isturitz, Oxocelhaya and Erberua have been an inexhaustible source of knowledge about ancient humans from Neanderthals to Homo sapiens as far back as 80,000 years ago.

Throughout the 20th century and into the 21st, the three caves have attracted experts from diverse backgrounds interested in the Upper Palaeolithic period between approximately 50,000 and 10,000 years ago.

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More information at [www.grottes-isturitz.com](http://www.grottes-isturitz.com)

# Ice age eUROPE

NETWORK OF HERITAGE SITES





-  Europe's coastline today
-  Ice Age coastline
-  Maximum ice coverage



## LOCATIONS

### BELGIUM

- 1 PRÉHISTOMUSEUM - Flémalle

### CROATIA

- 2 KRAPINA NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM - Krapina

### FRANCE

- 3 PREHISTORY MUSEUM OF SOLUTRE - Solutré-Pouilly
- 4 INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF PREHISTORY - Les Eyzies-de-Tayac
- 5 ISTURITZ, OXOCELHAYA AND ERBERUA CAVES - Saint-Martin d'Arberoue
- 6 THE MUSEUM OF NEANDERTHAL MAN - La Chapelle aux Saints

### GERMANY

- 7 MUSEUM OF PREHISTORY BLAUBEUREN - Blaubeuren
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- 9 PALÄON - RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE CENTRE SCHÖNINGEN SPEARS - Schöningen
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© Damir Fabijani

# KRAPINA NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM

## KRAPINA, CROATIA

### Summer Geology School

**Author: Vlasta Krklec**

The project “Summer Geology School” is the most important and well-known educational programme of the Krapina Neanderthal Museum in Krapina (Croatia) and has been organized since the year 2000. Geological workshops have been running from the start and they have become increasingly popular year after year. People attending came from Krapina, the Krapina-Zagorje County and from other parts of Croatia. It is a proof that the project is interesting and that a cross-curriculum approach is needed, especially for educational themes based on the “school in nature”. Fieldwork and learning in nature are becoming more and more popular in the contemporary school

curriculum. Young people benefit from an interactive approach to the theme and the hands-on nature of the activities.

The objective of the Summer Geology School is learning through play and entertainment, adapted to the different ages of participants, from pre-school children to high-education students. Educational methods include knowledge of museum items, using working papers, discussion groups, workshops and role playing, themed around geology, palaeontology and archaeology. The museum also organizes numerous workshops for general visitors, where they can make artifacts, create fire



© Archive of Krapina Neanderthal Museum



*“Young people benefit from an interactive approach to the theme and the hands-on nature of the activities”*

© Archive of Krapina Neanderthal Museum

using flints and make clothing worn by the Neanderthal people of Krapina.

The fieldwork methods consist of the exploration of local flora, collecting rocks, minerals and fossils, cleaning them, analysis of the samples and preparation them for inclusion in the museum collections. Using geological tools and equipment the participants gain new experiences and skills during this fieldwork. For the analysis of samples collected participants use microscopes and become familiar with research techniques undertaken in laboratories. Every participant can apply they have gained from fieldwork outside to what they learn in the workshop and become explorers for the day, either geologists or palaeontologists. This collaboration between communication between the museum staff and the visitors is beneficial in creating feelings of direct contact and interest.

This assists in developing the awareness of the importance of preserving the cultural and natural heritage, especially among children. The goal of the project is to promote geological and paleontological activities among preschool and school children and is composed of an educational programme and field work.

This geology school was awarded “Best creative programme in Croatian museums”. ■

#### ABOUT THE KRAPINA NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM, CROATIA

The Krapina Neanderthal Museum is located near the world famous site of the Krapina Neanderthals, “Hušnjakovo”, making this a unique visiting complex. The Museum’s design and architecture evokes the habitat of the prehistoric humans: the semi-cave, the space, proportions and the front of which are a result of the analysis done on the appearance of the ancient Krapina semi-cave.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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 More information at [www.mkn.mhz.hr/en/](http://www.mkn.mhz.hr/en/)



# KENTS CAVERN PREHISTORIC CAVES

TORQUAY, UNITED KINGDOM

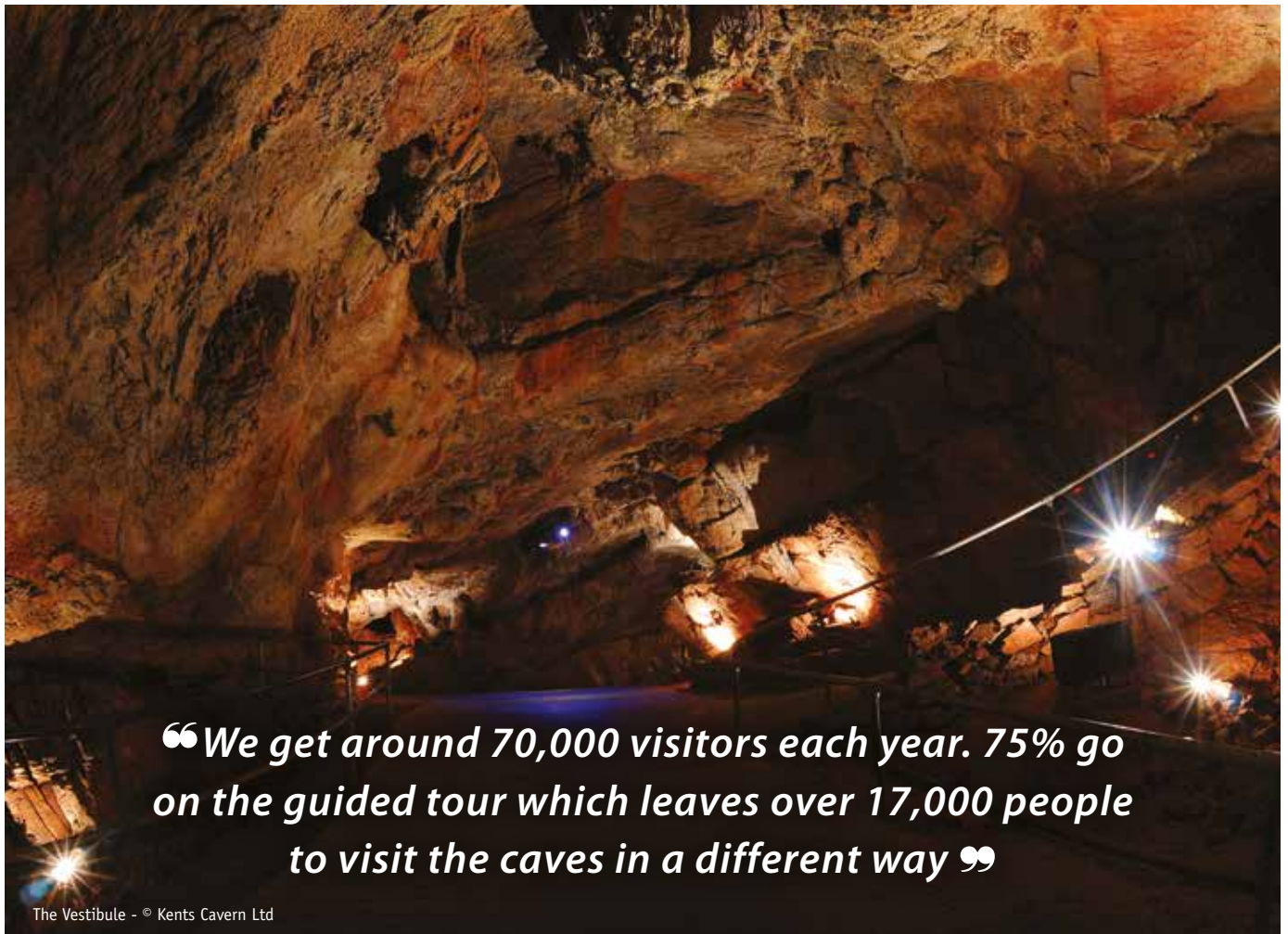
Entertaining Humankind for over ½ million years

Author: Nick Powe

The prehistoric caves at Kents Cavern are by far the most important cave site in Britain with evidence of three species of ancient humans found here. To find more than one species of human at a prehistoric site in Europe is rare; to find three is exceptional. The caves are located on the South Devon coast in South West England, in the northern limestone headland of Tor Bay called Hope's Nose, in the heart of the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark. As the cave is so important to Britain's prehistoric past, it has the highest level of national protection imposed by the UK government, a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

We operate guided tours of the cavern all year round, 7 days a week, except on Christmas Day. It is only on a guided tour that visitors can experience the caves. The cavern is privately owned and despite being a Scheduled Ancient Monument, it receives no State or local authority support. The financial burden for the protection and conservation measures rests entirely with the success of the business and the diligence of the staff.





***“We get around 70,000 visitors each year. 75% go on the guided tour which leaves over 17,000 people to visit the caves in a different way”***

The Vestibule - © Kents Cavern Ltd

The cavern offers more than just its award-winning guided tour. As well as shop and restaurant facilities, we offer experiences throughout the year that encourage visitors and locals to return for entertainment and enjoyment. We get around 70,000 visitors each year. 75% go on the guided tour which leaves over 17,000 people to visit the caves in a different way.

Our most popular tour is the Ghost Tour which we operate in the summer, appealing in particular to adolescents and people looking for an experience that is less about knowledge enhancement and more about thrill seeking. During December we stage a theatrical tour in search of Santa which is aimed at 2 to 10 year olds but attracts more adults than children!

For many years we have put on a Shakespeare play in November. This is aimed at a theatre-going audience as well as secondary schools. The performance is set entirely underground, following the showcave route. There are no seats! The actors guide audiences of up to 40 people around the cavern performing an abridged version of one of Shakespeare's classic plays.

Other special events include candlelit Christmas carols, children's birthday parties, theatre and dance performances, corporate receptions and weddings.

For all these events we follow the showcave route, ensuring actors and all staff involved adhere to the health and safety training programme and strict cave conservation measures.

These events create reasons to visit and give the cave a wider audience appeal. By thematising the traditional guided tour and showcave route, we are using the cave in a sympathetic and creative way to entertain humankind, an activity this space has been doing for over 500,000 years. ■

#### **ABOUT KENTS CAVERN PREHISTORIC CAVES, UNITED KINGDOM**

This is a cave in South West England with an extensive labyrinth of spectacular and easily accessible caverns, open daily all year. The oldest human fossil ever found in northwestern Europe was found here. At 41,000 years old this makes Kents Cavern the oldest home in Britain. The cave has won many awards for its innovative use of social media and creative product development to support its future.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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La Chapelle-aux-Saints Neanderthal burial site - ©Musée de l'homme Neandertal

# THE MUSEUM OF NEANDERTHAL MAN

## LA CHAPELLE-AUX-SAINTS, FRANCE

Stories of Ancestors: A prehistoric European Adventure

Author: Véronique Simbille

At La Chapelle-aux-Saints in south central France in 1908, the Bouyssonie brothers discovered the first nearly complete buried Neanderthal skeleton. The remains were studied by Marcelin Boule, professor of palaeontology at the Natural History Museum in Paris - Le Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris, and his publication on the subject was picked up by the media. They reported that La Chapelle-aux-Saints man was the missing link between man and monkeys and created the popular image of prehistoric man being savage and animal-like.

Published research of more recent excavations confirms this discovery as one of the major Neanderthal sites. The man was aged about sixty and had died about 50,000 years ago. He had a limp and was unlikely to have been able to hunt for himself, so it is clear that he was cared for by others.

"The remains of three other Neanderthals, two children and a second adult, have been identified, suggesting a relatively long occupation of the site by a family group. At this stage of the research this is not only the existence of a Neanderthal tomb in Europe but it is equally evidence of a more sophisticated culture amongst the Mousterian population that is demonstrated here." CNRS, (The French National Centre for Scientific Research) 4 December 2013.

The Neanderthal Museum is a visitor centre offering guided tours and demonstrations to reveal the history of humankind. On-going scientific research continues and we welcome school children and students.

We also offer visitors talks by experts in prehistory: Focus on "Mondays at La Chapelle-Aux-Saints". Every Monday during the summer holidays, the public have an opportunity to enjoy scientific gatherings. These meetings are followed by a drinks reception to meet the speaker. In 2017, we have lectures from Jean-Jacques Hublin, Jacques Jaubert, Marylene Patou-Mathis and Pascal Picq.

Focus on "Prehistory High-teas". We also offer fun and interactive events for children during the school holidays. In February we have a mask making workshop entitled "Which animals met Neanderthals?" In April, children make Stone Age ornaments and jewellery from natural materials, including teeth, thorns, shells and feathers. Other workshop sessions include making prehistoric hunting arrows and spear throwers, fire making and cave art. ■

*“Published research of more recent excavations confirms this discovery as one of the major Neanderthal sites”*



Prehistoric Mondays in Corrèze - ©Musée de l'homme Néandertal

# L'HOMME FOSSILE

Celui qu'on a découvert dans la Corrèze avait au moins 20,000 ans

Yaut-il mieux descendre d'un ange déchu ou d'un singe perfectionné?

[On se rappelle la découverte sensationnelle faite en Corrèze par MM. les abbés Bouyssonie et Baridon des ossements qui paraissent appartenir à l'homme le plus vieux du monde. M. Edmond Perrier, directeur du Muséum, présenta cette découverte à l'Académie des sciences et mit en relief les travaux remarquables du savant qui reconstitua le squelette. M. Marcelin Boule. Nous avons demandé à celui-ci les pensées que lui avaient inspirées ce singulier tête-à-tête avec le plus vénérable de nos ancêtres connus.]

D'où venons-nous ? Où allons-nous ? Ces deux questions troublent et troubleront toujours l'humanité pensante. Après le problème angoissant de nos destinées, le problème de nos origines, d'une solution peut-être moins difficile, est celui qui passionne le plus tout le monde. On le voit, ces jours d'aujourd'hui, on se rappelle les découvertes de l'homme fossile à l'instar dans les interstices. Comme cette décou-

LE PROFESSEUR MARCELIN BOULE

## ABOUT THE NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM, LA CHAPELLE-AUX-SAINTS, FRANCE

The museum was created in 1996 close to the village of La Chapelle-aux-Saints in Corrèze (19), France and presents the discoveries made by the Bouyssonie brothers, the importance of the site, and an exhibition based on the burial to show how sophisticated the Neanderthal culture was.

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Neanderthal Museum, Mettmann - © Foundation Neanderthal Museum

# NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM

METTMANN – GERMANY

## The Update

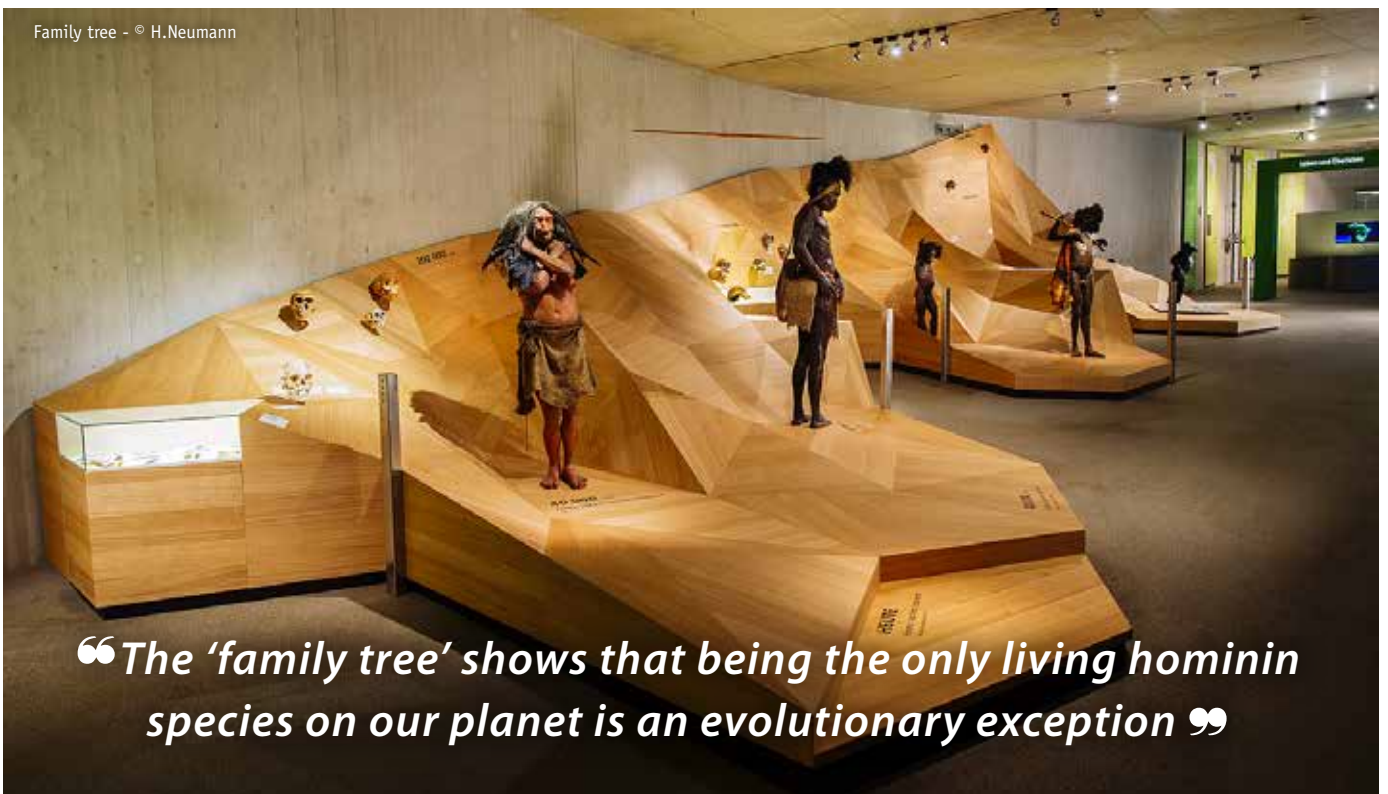
Author: Bärbel Auffermann

For the past 20 years the Neanderthal Museum in the Neander valley near Düsseldorf, Germany has been open to the public. The museum presents not only the story of Neanderthals and their era, but deals with human evolution. Coinciding with the museum's 20th anniversary the display has undergone a large-scale update which includes new lifelike models of our ancestors. Visitors now become part of the great human family.

The new exhibition starts with a large wooden construction representing the human 'family tree'. On it, the impressive

hominin sculptures by Dutch artists Alfons and Adrie Kennis are presented, including archaeological celebrities such as 'Lucy'. The 'family tree' shows that being the only living hominin species on our planet is an evolutionary exception. It also visualizes the interaction of adaptation and coincidence in human evolution, two factors which coined our non-linear evolution process.

In the hall of mirrors visitors walk amongst their own reflections mixed with those of the Neanderthal. This illustrates our genetic connection to Neanderthals. Recent



Family tree - © H. Neumann

**“The ‘family tree’ shows that being the only living hominin species on our planet is an evolutionary exception”**





Mr 4% - © L.Langemeier

Palaeogenetic research has revealed that our DNA includes up to 4% of Neanderthal genes. This section of the new exhibition explains about why the Neanderthals went extinct, concluding that climate change was the probable cause.

Detailed models of excavations and laboratories show how archaeologists and related disciplines work together to reconstruct our past. We see a large excavation near to a city, as well as an active cave excavation. In the cave a bone has been found and is forwarded to expert laboratories for scientific examination, such as anthropology, radio carbon dating, isotope analysis, palaeogenetics and 3D modelling. Being both impressive and understandable this element of the exhibition shows the level of detailed analysis required to reconstruct our past.

Visitors who want more information can look behind the many doors and drawers of the “Reseachers’ Boxes” (=“Forscherboxen”). These boxes were created in 2006 and have now received a new structure, new objects and a special layer for children including playful elements and tactile bones.

The new tour ends in the cinema box, which weighs one ton and appears to float from the museum’s ceiling. It plays interviews with people from all over the world, talking about their thoughts on the essential questions of our existence – Luck, Love, Death, Transformation and Change. The interviews were conducted by German artist Horst Wackerbarth and address the three main questions of the Neanderthal Museum: Where do we come from? Who are we? Where are we going to?

The selfie station at the end of the new permanent exhibition offers the opportunity to make a family picture in amongst the human family, including our ancestors and contemporaries.

This “update” was made possible by donations from the NRW foundation, the LVR, the municipality of Mettmann and the Neanderthal Society e.V. It was conceptualized and realized in cooperation with res d, Cologne and Blank Exhibitions, Düsseldorf. ■

#### ABOUT THE NEANDERTHAL MUSEUM, GERMANY

One of the most popular and most modern museums of Europe is situated on the ground where the most famous German was discovered 150 years ago: the Neanderthal man. This world historic place gives reason for a time travel through the history of mankind – from the very beginning in the African savannah more than 4 million years ago until today.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Look in the mirror - ©paläon

# PALÄON – RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE CENTRE SCHÖNINGEN SPEARS

SCHÖNINGEN, GERMANY

“Archaeology close up. Students discover the Stone Age and the saber-toothed cat at paläon”

**Author: Florian Westphal**

**F**or us humans, the extinct saber-toothed cats is the ultimate symbol of the dangerous predator.

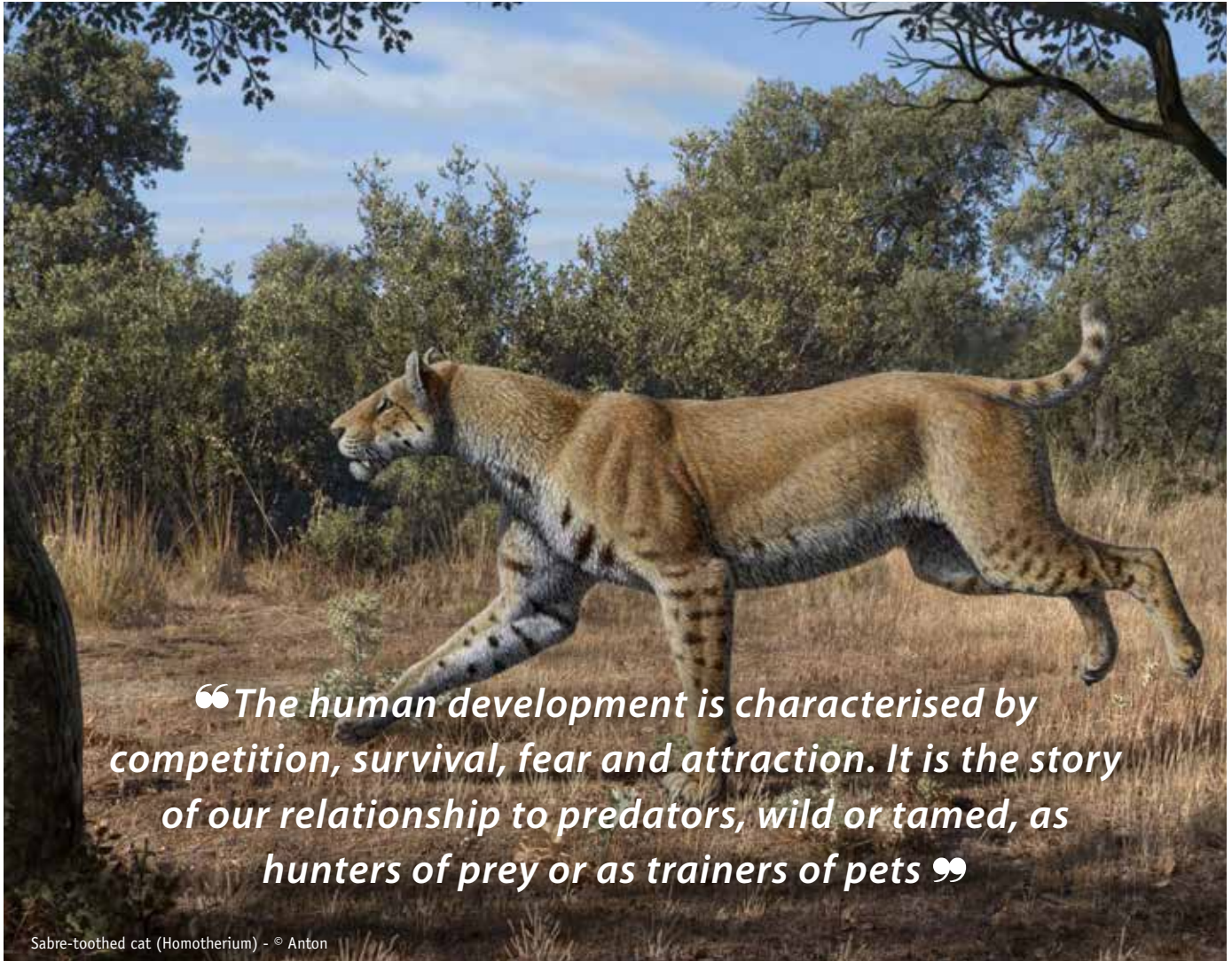
The human development is characterised by competition, survival, fear and attraction. It is the story of our relationship to predators, wild or tamed, as hunters of prey or as trainers of pets. Our distant ancestors worked steadily up the food chain but we still carry the legacy of being descended from monkeys and an innate fear of being devoured. Thanks to their incomparable elegance predators have a special place and in the opinion of many, saber-toothed cats rank alongside the White Shark and the Tyrannosaurus Rex as some of the most dangerous predators of all time.

The remains of saber-toothed cat found at Schöningen shows that ancient humans encountered this predator over 300,000 years ago. But how do we know what they looked like, how they lived, how they hunted? Did our ancestors have to compete with them for food, did they eat them, or did they simply avoid them? Answers to all these questions can be found at paläon - Forschungs- und Erlebniszentrum Schöninger Speere from Easter 2017 as part of a new special exhibition entitled “Die Eiszeit-Jägerin - Saber-toothed cats - the deadly danger”.

Since the archaeological experience centre at paläon is also an ‘out of classroom’ location for learning, the educational offer and school visits play an important role in the special exhibition “Die Eiszeitjägerin” (The Ice Age Hunter).



Homotherium tooth - © Minkus



*“The human development is characterised by competition, survival, fear and attraction. It is the story of our relationship to predators, wild or tamed, as hunters of prey or as trainers of pets”*

Sabre-toothed cat (Homotherium) - © Anton

- Follow the work of scientists in Schöningen: from the first fossil tooth to the skeleton, the kinship with today's animals and the comparison of properties to life reconstruction and the interpretation of behaviours
- Understanding interactions between skeletal features, abilities and behavior, e.g. Long saber teeth lead to wide opening angles of the jaws, but with a weakening of the bite force
- The principle of actualism: the present is the key to the past, i. Properties and the resulting behavior of today's animals are known; If the same characteristics are present in a fossil animal, its behavior must have been similar
- What does cohabitation with large predators mean for the local population today - when the threatened predator becomes a threat because poverty is colliding with animal protection
- specially prepared guide to the excavation, the location of the saber-toothed artifacts
- Specially developed workshop for 5th grades

Thanks to a grant by the Förderverein Schöninger Speere - Heritage of Humanity all children from the 5th grades of the region receive the FORSCHER-KIDS-CARD and free transport to paläon. ■

#### ABOUT PALOEN SCHÖNINGEN SPEAR, GERMANY

Since the discovery of the Schöningen Spears the history of mankind is being rewritten. Based on the findings from the worldwide unique archaeological complex around the 300,000 year old spears, we have a better understanding today of how our predecessors of Homo heidelbergensis lived. They open a window into the Palaeolithic Age and answer the significant question: "Where do we come from?" The Schöningen Spears are among the ten most important palaeolithic findings of humankind.

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Flint flakes - © PrehistoMuseum

# PRÉHISTOMUSEUM

## FLEMALLE, BELGIUM

### The reason for the Prehistomuseum

**Authors: PrehistoMuseum team**

**T**he Préhistomuseum is an experience in 'Pop Archaeology'. It seeks to make heritage accessible, understandable and useful to everyone by investigating the past in a systematic way, to better understand the present and to contemplate about the future of humankind.

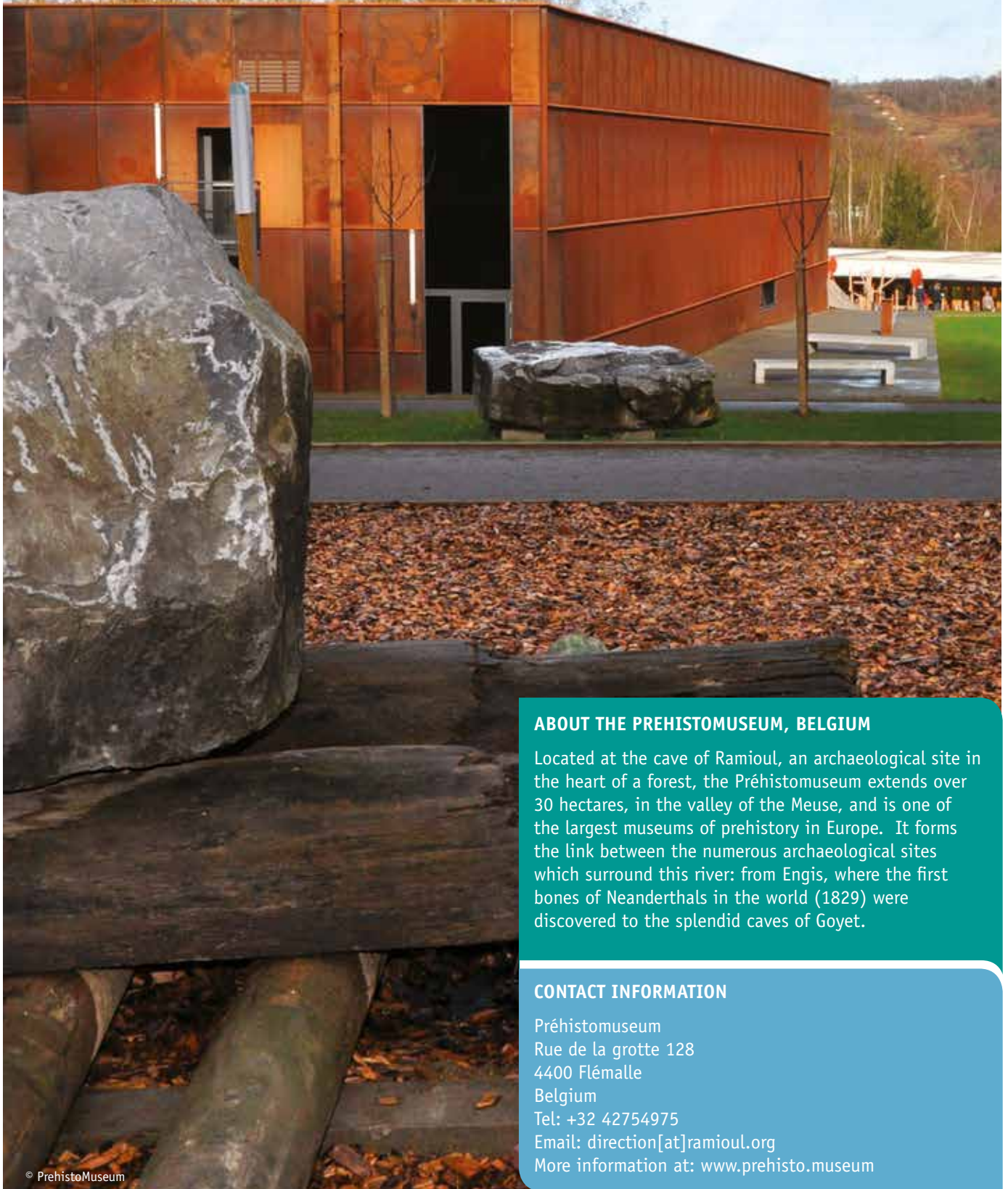
- **Search:** the Museum, which has become a mediator over all its objectives, experiments, evaluates and adjusts its actions by, for and with the general public and the heritage. Rooted in society and the environment, the Museum is constantly reformulating, through its scientific and cultural programming.
- **Making:** the Museum acquires, conserves and studies the archaeological facts, as well as the relevant archives and publications. In a variety of ways it presents these to the public by giving them some sense of perspective. The Museum exposes objects as well as theories and points of view, all the while explaining how it manages doubts.
- **Heritage:** the Museum questions the concept of heritage (tangible, intangible and natural) trying to share and to decipher the process of exploiting cultural heritage.
- **Accessible:** the Museum has the desire to be accessible; physically, intellectually and financially.
- **Understandable:** the Museum offers devices and methods for the visitor to make sense of the experience. It offers several levels of interpretation and different experiences tailored to a variety of academic levels.
- **Useful:** to make sense, the Museum aims to contribute to the development and empowerment of its visitors by making them responsible citizens, actors, critics and likeminded.
- **Everyone:** the Museum is careful to specifically address those who are either intimidated or disinterested by culture without neglecting those who are familiar and engaged.

- **Interrogate the past in a systemic way:** the Museum is keen to analyse and interpret simultaneously the archaeological facts from an environmental, an economic and a cultural perspective.
- **Understanding our present:** the Museum aims to explain the universality of human behaviour and the diversity of cultural expressions.
- **Think about the future of humanity...:** the Museum hopes to be an agora, a gathering place, for philosophical enquiries useful for reflecting on "living together" on one single planet. ■



Archery target practise © PrehistoMuseum

*“It seeks to make heritage accessible, understandable and useful to everyone by investigating the past in a systematic way, to better understand the present and to contemplate about the future of humankind”*



#### **ABOUT THE PREHISTOMUSEUM, BELGIUM**

Located at the cave of Ramioul, an archaeological site in the heart of a forest, the Prêhistomuseum extends over 30 hectares, in the valley of the Meuse, and is one of the largest museums of prehistory in Europe. It forms the link between the numerous archaeological sites which surround this river: from Engis, where the first bones of Neanderthals in the world (1829) were discovered to the splendid caves of Goyet.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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La Roche de Solutré - ©rochedesolutre

# PREHISTORY MUSEUM OF SOLUTRE

## SOLUTRE-POUILLY, FRANCE

150 years since the discovery of Solutré

Author: Sylvain Quertelet

The iconic prehistoric site at Solutré celebrates 150 years since its discovery in 1866. At the foot of the Roche, at “Crot du Charnier”, a young man from the nearby town of Macon, Adrien Arcelin, out on a walk first discovered worked flints. Soon after, Adrien Arcelin and his geologist friend Henry de Ferry, began excavations. By 1868 they concluded there had been a prehistoric hunting station at the foot of the rock of Solutré.

The site acquired an international reputation in 1869 when Gabriel de Mortillet decided to choose Solutré as an eponym for the Solutrean culture; a term widely used to describe ancient humans from the same period.

Since 1866, archaeological work has been carried out by many organisations including recent research by INRAP (Institut national de recherches archéologiques preventives) in the heart of the village of Solutré. Published scientific works over the last 150 years has fueled much debate about the prehistory activity at the site. Artefacts recovered show a human presence going back over 40,000 years and provide a valuable resource into understanding French and European prehistory.

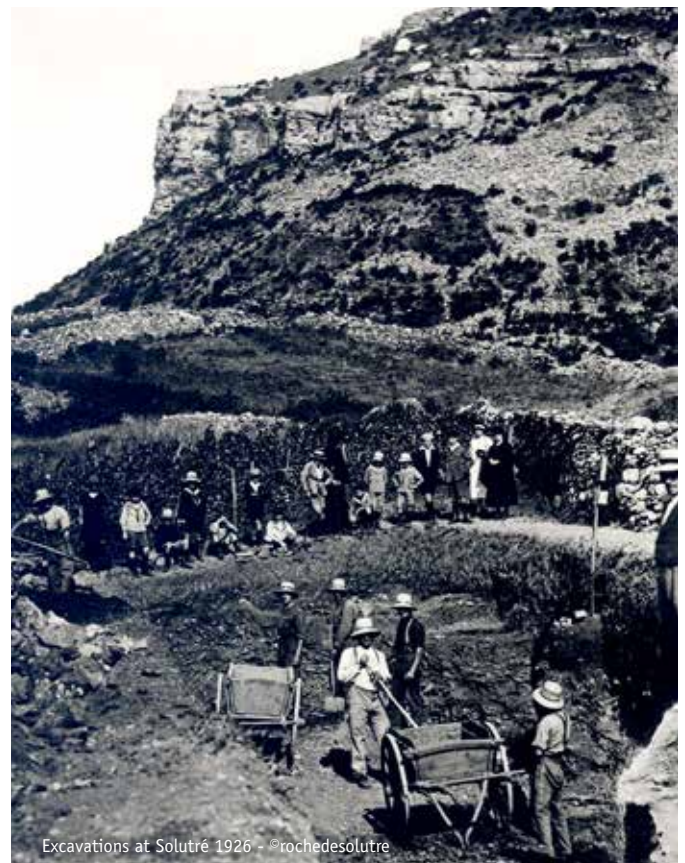
### Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, land of prehistory

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the prehistoric site, the Solutré Museum of Prehistory has unveiled an exhibition dedicated to the most important archaeological discoveries in the French region of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté.

For the first time, a collection of objects has been assembled to showcase the rich prehistoric heritage in the region. Visitors are taken on a journey through an archaeological dig giving an insight into studies undertaken into the region’s history and roots. They are introduced to what are some of France’s most famous archaeological sites found in the region

at Arcy-sur-Cure, Solutré, Chalain and Clairvaux. Prehistoric deposits are particularly important in the region giving the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté a major place for researches into prehistory since the 19th century.

From the first evidence of human occupation over 500,000 years ago to the end of the Neolithic period, the exhibition has shown chronologically how raw materials were gathered



Excavations at Solutré 1926 - ©rochedesolutre



Romain la Roche cartoon - ©rochedesolutre

and sourced, how this led to the development of specialisms and how external cultural influences met in this region during the prehistoric era. The movement of people, exchange of goods, sharing of technologies and cultures, all helped to shape, step by step, the identity of the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region we experience today. The exhibition runs until October 2017. ■

**“For the first time, a collection of objects has been assembled to showcase the rich prehistoric heritage in the region”**

#### ABOUT THE PREHISTORY MUSEUM OF SOLUTRE, FRANCE

The museum presents the collections from one of the richest prehistoric sites in Europe, a hunting site used by people of the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic Age, who came to hunt, dismember and smoke thousands of horses and reindeer.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# ARCHAEO PARK VOGELHERD

## NIEDERSTOTZINGEN-STETTEN, GERMANY

Prehistory for the blind and visually impaired – a new guide concept in the Archaeopark Vogelherd

**Author: Ewa Dutkiewicz**

**F**or more than 100,000 years Vogelherd cave was a popular place for settlement due to its strategic location 20 meters above the Lone valley and its panoramic views. The cave has three entrances and a dry, daylight-flooded interior and was therefore an ideal shelter for prehistoric groups. Neanderthals were the first to settle at Vogelherd cave and they sought this place again and again over ten thousand years, each time leaving behind numerous animal bones and stone tools. Then, around 40,000 years ago, a new human species migrated into the region coming from the southeast and following the Danube River. These people were representatives of our own species, *Homo sapiens sapiens*, who settled at Vogelherd Cave and also left vestiges of their culture, the Aurignacian. At this time, we see many new major technological innovations at various sites within the Swabian Jura. In







A listening station at the Archaeopark Vogelherd (G. Serino © Archaeopark Vogelherd)

particular, scientists have discovered the first musical instruments, in the form of bone and ivory flutes, as well as the oldest figurative art of human history.

Research, discover and experience with all senses - this is the motto of the Archaeopark Vogelherd. Our exhibition provides experience that can be felt, heard and smelt. There are listening stations where you can listen to the sounds of prehistoric animals. Furs, leather, wooden spears, points made of stone and bone and many other "prehistoric" materials are displayed throughout the tour. Several tents, fireplaces and animal traits can be found along the way. And the best is – all can be touched, smelled and tried out. This gives blind and visually impaired people the possibility to get closer to the lifeworld of our ancestors from the Stone Age in a sensuous way.

In order to meet the needs of blind and visually impaired people, we have developed a special tour concept. Sensing, feeling, smelling and hearing are the main focus. Blind volunteers helped us to design this tour in order to be aware of needs and experiences of blind people and to get more insides to the material we have and how it can be used to provide a unique experience. Our Archaeo-Guides take a lot of time so that each participant from the group can take these experiences along with the guided tour through the park grounds. The tour takes around two hours and can be booked for adults, schoolchildren and kindergarten groups. Our guides are also trained to guide groups of people with different kinds of disabilities. ■

*“In order to meet the needs of blind and visually impaired people, we have developed a special tour concept. Sensing, feeling, smelling and hearing are the main focus”*

#### ABOUT THE ARCHAEO-PARK VOGELHERD, GERMANY

100,000 years ago the Vogelherd cave was one of the most sought places during of the Stone Age. Today it is at the centre of the Archaeopark and ranks as one of the important archaeological sites for Stone Age culture. Visitors can experience Stone Age activities and get a fascinating insight of the era of our ancestors.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Main entrance to the CENIEH ©Cenieh

# CENIEH

## BURGOS, SPAIN

### Becoming human evolution scientist for one night at the CENIEH

Author: Chitina Moreno-Torres

For the past seven years the Centro Nacional de Investigación sobre la Evolución Humana (CENIEH) has participated in the European Researchers' Night, a Europe-wide public event dedicated to disseminate science among the public in a fun-learning manner, which takes place each year on the last Friday of September in more than 300 cities and 30 countries.

Every September since 2010 the CENIEH has opened its doors with the aim of bringing the scientists and their work closer to the general public, with behind-the-scene visits to laboratories and demonstrations of our state-of-the-art equipment. This gives participants the opportunity to become scientists in Human Evolution for one night.



Researcher from CENIEH teaching swing dance ©Cenieh



*“As the majority of attendees are families, the program is aimed at all ages, but with specific activities for young people.”*

The event involves the entire CENIEH staff, including scientists, technicians, students and administrative personnel, who work side by side to provide the city of Burgos with a program full of activities such as, workshops, conferences, exhibitions, games, videos, etc., giving visitors an outstanding experience as they become part of the National Research Centre on Human Evolution (CENIEH).

It is an informal event, supported by the European Commission, encouraging scientists to show a different image of themselves, to be more approachable, to the point that some of our scientists have shown their individual personal talents as musicians, dancers, photographers or even martial arts aficionados.

As the majority of attendees are families, the program is aimed at all ages, but with specific activities for young people. An example is our most popular challenge “Drawing a Scientist”, in which more than 1,500 children, between the ages of 5 and 12 years old, have competed during the past seven years; or the workshop to learn about Dental Anthropology with the help of Pérez Mouse, a Spanish fantasy character who collects milk teeth in exchange of a gift.

#### **Palaeo-activities**

Due to the nature of the research developed at the CENIEH, the majority of the activities focus on the distant past, in particular on Palaeontology, Geoarchaeology and Cultural Heritage. Among them, it's worth highlighting the “Excavation Workshop”, an activity that mimics a real archaeological excavation at a much smaller scale; the “Palaeo-diet

Workshop”, the “Palaeo-pigments Workshop”; and the “Palaeo-tools Workshop” where attendees learn about the elaboration and different uses of prehistoric technology.

Currently, we are preparing a new program for next year's edition of this festival of science which will take place on the night of September 29th 2017 and we expect, as in previous years, to welcome over a thousand people. ■

#### **ABOUT THE CENIEH, BURGOS, SPAIN**

The CENIEH is a research centre belonging to the national network of Unique Scientific & Technical Infrastructures (ICTS). It is open to scientific and technological use by the international scientific and technological community. Its research activities are mainly on human evolution during the Late Neogene and Quaternary, and include collaborative projects at excavations and deposits of these periods worldwide, in particular from Atapuerca.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Main entrance ©MUSEO DELLE SCIENZE

# MUSE - MUSEO DELLE SCIENZE

## TRENTO, ITALY

The strange case of Dr Sapiens and Mr. Neanderthal:  
theatre and science work together!

**Authors: Romana Scandolari and Elisabetta Flor**

**T**he Strange Case of Dr Sapiens and Mr. Neanderthal is a theatrical performance created to help teachers and students playfully reflect on the complex topic of human evolution and, more specifically, the genetic distance or proximity between Neanderthals and Homo sapiens. The objective is to provide critical tools and give greater attention to topics that, in schoolbooks and on the internet, are often treated superficially or using stereotypes that scientists disproved many years ago.

The museum staff stage a theatrical dialogue between the two roles, wearing a costume that is half modern archaeologist and half Neanderthal. This takes the archaeologist, Dr Sapiens, on an intellectual journey that causes him to abandon his initial haughtiness towards the Neanderthal, instead expressing understanding, comprehension and even identification.

At the end, the children are encouraged to compare their ideas about Neanderthals before and after the performance. The journey to the distant past does not end here, but continues with the Lost in Prehistory game that was brought to MUSE thanks to the collaboration of Antonio Brusa, a professor of History Education at the University of Bari.



The strange case of Dr. Sapiens and Mr. Neanderthal educational show - ©F. Pupin



The Neanderthal skull from Guattari Cave ©M. De Stefano

The game's objective is to measure prehistory's distance from the present not in years, but in differences – given the same basic needs, the responses of prehistoric humans were different from ours, and our modern responses are partially the result of knowledge accumulated over time, beginning with the prehistoric period.

With the premise of being shipwrecked on an island with only one survival kit, the players face a series of increasingly complex situations that test their ability to obtain food and shelter, and, more importantly, challenge relationships within the group. The situation is made more serious by a mysterious presence that can make items in the kit disappear. The prospect of dying of hunger or cold, or being killed by animals or disease, stimulates the players' imagination and creativity and also changes the perception that our ancestors were "primitive brutes".

Open until June 2017, visitors to the temporary exhibition *Extinctions: stories of catastrophes and other opportunities*,

*“The museum staff stage a theatrical dialogue between the two roles, wearing a costume that is half modern archaeologist and half Neanderthal”*

organized by the MUSE, will be offered this activity as an aid to understanding the scientific topics covered. The presence in the exhibition of such an extraordinary guest as the Guattari Cave Neanderthal provides a pretext for frequent encounters between Dr. Sapiens and Mr. Neanderthal and for conveying the ideas and questions of a history that is exceptionally fascinating, perhaps because it is written in our genetic code. ■

#### ABOUT MUSE: MUSEO DELLE SCIENZE, TRENTO, ITALY

The MUSE (Science Museum) is an auxiliary body of the Autonomous Province of Trento. Its task is to interpret nature, starting from the mountains, using the eyes, tools, and applications of scientific research, taking advantage of the challenges of the contemporary world, stimulating scientific curiosity and the pleasure of knowledge, giving value to science, innovation, and sustainability. MUSE is an associate member of Ice Age Europe and a key partner of the Fumane Caves.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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 More information at [www.muse.it](http://www.muse.it)

# #IceAgeEuropeNow

## Touring Exhibition



© Grotta di Fumane Università di Ferrara – (photo Claus Rudolph) © Ice Age Europe

[www.ice-age-europe.eu/learn-and-discover/iceageeuropenow-exhibition](http://www.ice-age-europe.eu/learn-and-discover/iceageeuropenow-exhibition)

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We are grateful to the following organisations for their support to protect, research and disseminate our European Ice Age heritage:



The Neanderthaler-Gesellschaft e.V. aims to maintain and support the national and international cultural heritage of Neanderthal man. The society is also present in the Neanderthal Museum Foundation, which supports the museum.

[www.neages.de](http://www.neages.de)

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NESPOS is an open source information platform about Pleistocene humans, providing detailed information about important sites, their analytical results, archaeological findings and a selection of literary quotes. Moreover it is a repository where archaeologists and paleoanthropologists can exchange their research results and ideas by a protected Wiki-based collaboration platform with a continuously growing sample of 3D scanned human fossils and artefacts.

[www.nespos.de](http://www.nespos.de)

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**Prehistoric Rock Art Trails - A Network of Archaeological Sites for Cooperation in the Framework of European Cultural Tourism.**

The European Cultural Route “Prehistoric Rock Art Trails” ([www.prehistour.eu](http://www.prehistour.eu)) offers 120 great Archaeological and Rock Art sites with the main scientific, cultural, artist and archaeological interest. All these sites (caves, rock-shelters, rock outcrops, museums, interpretation centres, archaeological & cultural parks...) are opened to the knowledge and the enjoyment of the European and World society.

# Ice age eUROPE

NETWORK OF HERITAGE SITES

[www.ice-age-europe.eu](http://www.ice-age-europe.eu)