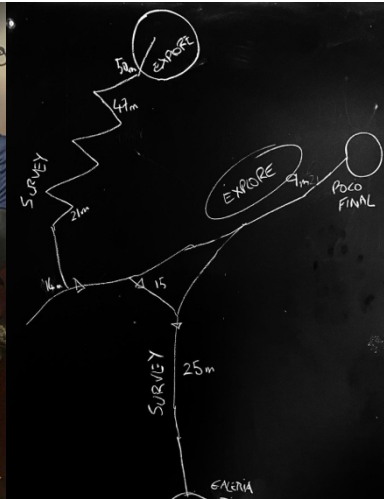


Estremenho Karst Massif



GUÉ PROJECT BRIEF - 2023

The Estremenho Karst Massif constitutes the main karst area in Portugal. It is situated 100km North of Lisbon and hosts many springs and sinkholes that make the delight of any cave diver and dry caver. SPE, the Portuguese Speleological Society, has been exploring and studying this complex cave system for over 70 years. We have been fortunate enough to integrate SPE's Cave Diving section since 2007. The PNB EKM (Project Baseline Estremenho Karst Massif) project covers exploration, survey, and documentation of a large system of caves.



<https://spe.pt/espeleologia/exploracao-subaquatica-espeleologia>

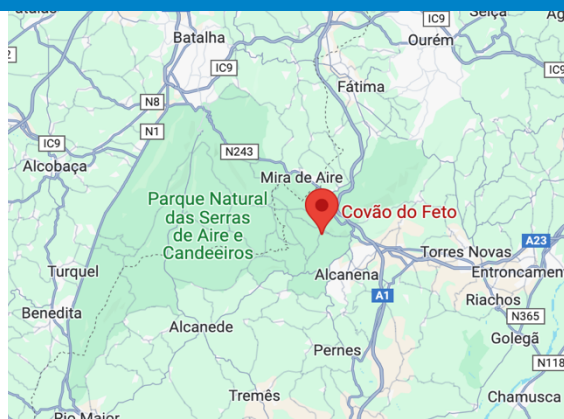
The geology and hydrology of the EKM is complex and SPE has been documenting these caves for many years. Water generally flows from north to south, passing through 2 large scale polje and ending in 3 main springs in the southern border of the massif: Alviela, Almonda and Vila Morreira. Upstream of the polje, near the village of Mira de Aire is the Moinhos Velhos cave, the most extensive cave in Portugal and the epicentre of the water flow of this extended water system.

One of the system-wide activities which is ongoing is the collection of water temperature data from various locations in different caves. This entails deployment of temperature loggers, and their recovery for data download every year. The geologists have been intrigued by widely differing temperature variations with changes in water level through the dry and wet seasons in the different caves.

STATUS: ACTIVE. This project is ongoing and long-term. A 2-week project meeting is planned every mid-September. Divers can join for as many days as their schedule allows.

HOW TO BE PART OF THIS PROJECT / CONTACT

- This project is open to all GUE cave trained divers, from GUE Cave 1 to CCR/RB80, DPV and Sidemount levels.
- Contact Ricardo@GUE.com for more information.
- Participants need to be members of SPE.pt.
- Some of the caves are easily accessible and provide diving opportunities for all levels of divers; others require extensive dry caving using SRT (Single Rope Technique)



LOCATION

- Covão do Feto, Portugal

SPONSORS / PARTNERS

- Project Baseline
- SPE www.SPE.pt
- GUE Premium Facility www.IslasHormigas.com
- CPAS www.CPAS.pt