



Culture, Geology, Mining and Nature in Southern Spain

The area around Sevilla is remarkable in many respects: The visitor is impressed by the astonishing cultural background manifested in remarkable monuments like the Giralda and the Alcazar. The geologist is amazed by the complicated geology extending from the old formations of the Sierra Morena to the youngest sediments at the banks of the Atlantic ocean. The mining engineer faces a terrain that has been subject to intensive mining since Phoenician times.



The ecologist is intrigued by the Doñana National Park, a remarkable ecosystem that was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994. And the environmentalist is alarmed by the fragility of this region, threatened by environmental disasters like the failure of the Aznalcollar sludge dam in 1998, that caused the contamination of some five-thousand hectares with heavy metals and toxic chemicals.

When taking a closer look, all these different aspects are linked in one way or the other. This 4-day excursion aims at discovering some of these links.

Programm

1st day: The geologic basics

About wealth coming from the Earth and the devastation of nature: processes of orogeny, ore enrichment, natural erosion and the effects of mining on nature.

2nd day: The cultural heritage (1)

About mining as a prerequisite to power and wealth: From the Neolithic to Roman times.



3rd day: The cultural heritage (2)

About mining as a prerequisite to power and wealth: From the Arabs to the discovery of America.

4th day: Ever changing nature

Landscape evolution takes time: From a lagoon to the today's Doñana National Park.



Excursion guidance by

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The fees include

- All travel expenses related to the excursion in Spain starting from the lodging
- Excursion guidance by scientists of the Swiss *egs-network*
- Excursion guidance from partner associations
- Documentation

Number of participants

4 to 6 and upon arrangement

Date 2010:

- October 24 to 29
(Arr./Dep., 4 days in the field)
and upon arrangement

Excursion fees per person:

400 Euro

We stay at the B&B La Caldera Vieja, Zalamea la Real. The accommodation costs are due to be paid to the lodging. 60 € p.d. in a 2-bed-room.

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www.geokultur-erleben.de