



## INFORMATION

2012

### AROUCA GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## 11th EUROPEAN GEOPARKS CONFERENCE 19-21 September 2012



This Conference is co-sponsored by the UNESCO National Commission of Portugal, the International Geoscience Programme National Commission, and Portuguese geoscience and tourism bodies. It will be an international gathering of Geoparks from all over the world and people interested in Geopark development generally. This 11<sup>th</sup> Conference will focus on the main aims expressed by the "European Strategy 2020", a European Union's growth strategy for the EU to

become a **smart, sustainable and inclusive** economy. These three mutually reinforcing priorities should help countries deliver high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion and are of natural interest to Geoparks and their sustainable development strategy.

Hosted in Arouca Geopark, a member of the Global Geoparks Network, the 11th European Geoparks Conference will comprise thematic oral sessions with guest speakers, selected oral presentations and poster sessions related to the main aims, as well as conference fieldtrips to the **Arouca Geopark, Naturtejo Geopark** and the Azores aspiring Geopark.

The main aims of the Conference are:

- \* To **reflect** about the European and Global Geoparks Network progress;
- \* To **contribute** for the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth of Geoparks;
- \* To **share** good experiences on Education Programs and Projects;
- \* To **consolidate** the European Geoparks as territories of excellence for Geotourism;
- \* To **exchange** new trends on geo-conservation strategies;
- \* To **present** new public and private investments in Geoparks.

The **Global Geopark Network Bureau** will hold its private meeting in the framework of this conference where the 2012 evaluations of eight Geopark proposals and revalidations of 19 Geoparks will be discussed.



[www.2012egnconference.com](http://www.2012egnconference.com)