



1st circular

14th International Cave Rescue Conference (ICRC)

6 – 9th June, 2024

Cantabria, Spain.





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14th International Cave Rescue Conference 2024, 6-9 June, Cantabria, Spain

The 14th International Cave Rescue Conference is going to take place
in **Ramales de la Victoria**, Alto Asón, Cantabria / Spain
from **6th to 9th June 2024**.

Establish cooperation among cave rescue organizations of the UIS member countries and regional cave rescue organizations.

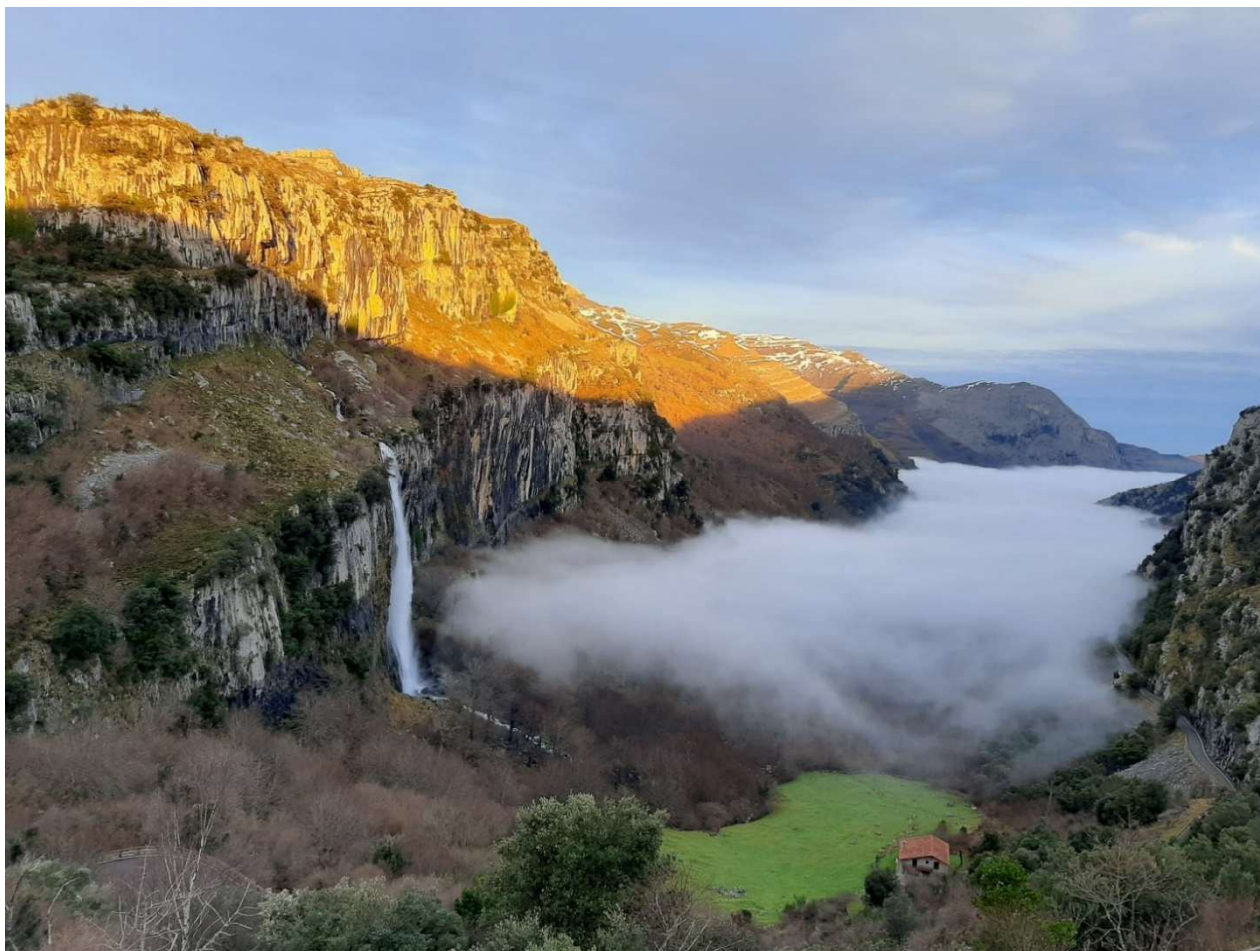
CRC has to create communication channels.

This meeting is organized by the
Fundación Espeleosocorro Cántabro - ESOCAN
on behalf of the UIS Cave Rescue Commission (CRC).



**14th International
Cave Rescue
Conference
2024, 6-9 June,
Ramales de la
Victoria,
Cantabria, Spain**

Cave rescue from cavers to cavers





WELCOME MESSAGES

Dear cave rescue team members,

I am pleased to be invited to the 14th International Cave Rescue Conference (ICRC) in Ramales de la Victoria/Cantabria/Spain from 6-9th June 2024.

The UIS Cave Rescue Commission (CRC) is one of the first commissions active since 1965. The activities of the commission go up and down with new generations of cavers and individual enthusiasts who want to share their national and regional experiences in cave rescue techniques internationally. In the present CRC conferences are held every four years in different countries and commission meetings are held on the occasion of ICSeS. These meetings deal with various topics of rescue activities such as medicine, technology, communication, responsibility, insurance policy, law and other important aspects. The exchange of information and experience in rescue among UIS member countries.

Caves are everywhere on our planet and so they are open to visitors and cave explorations. Visiting a cave also increases the risk of accidents. Accidents in a cave are caused by various circumstances, from natural (e.g., falling rocks) to human error. Cave rescue teams must be trained, equipped and prepared for different situations, from deep mountain caves to narrow cave labyrinths.

The changing world, and the pandemic in particular, has had a major impact on the activities of UIS and its commissions, i.e., improved communication and international cooperation on karst and cave exploration, research, protection, and conservation, and it is time to improve international communication on cave rescue issues as well.

In collaboration with Fundación Espeleosocoro Cántabro, which is very experienced in organizing cave rescue camps and training meetings, the 14th International Conference is now organized with a wide program, including lectures and trainings, to present the news in cave rescue techniques and share experiences from the field.

The organizers of the 14th International Cave Rescue Conference (ICRC) offer not only a conference with an extensive program, but also an interesting social program. I am convinced that the participants will go home with many new ideas, an increase in knowledge and with an indelible memory of the conference.

I would like to thank the organizers for their efforts in organizing the conference and wish them a successful realization of the program!

Nadja Zupan Hajna, UIS President



Dear Cave Rescuers,

The UIS Cave Rescue Commission (CRC) was founded in 1965 as one of the first three original Commissions of the UIS. The commission has worked well over the past decades. The CRC held conferences in several countries over the past four years and it also held meetings during the various International Congresses of Speleology (ICS).

Meeting during the last decade dealt with rescue issues including communication, insurance policy, legal concerns, medical training, and responsibility. The meetings provided an opportunity for the UIS members countries to share rescue information and experiences. The most recent conference was held in Vaumarcus/Switzerland in 2015. There was also a 2017 meeting in Sydney, Australia at the 17th ICS. Other activities were suspended in recent years because of the long illness and 2021 death of Christian Dodelin, former president of the commission.

After the passing of Christian Dodelin, the UIS recognized the vital importance of the commission and a meeting was held in July 2022 during the 18th ICS in France, where a Cave Rescue Symposium was scheduled. At this symposium, those present agreed on the importance of reorganizing the commission.

The 14th International Cave Rescue Conference will provide a great opportunity to revitalize the work of the Commission. We will be able to discuss and decide how to continue and develop our efforts in the area of Cave Rescue. The main goals of that CRC are to promote cave rescue and provide information to all UIS member counties. We plan to build closer relationships and collaboration among cave rescue organizations all through the world. We also plan to assist countries where more help is needed to make them more effective as first responders to cave accidents.

This conference will provide an excellent opportunity to get to know each other better, learn from each other's experiences, and strengthen international cooperation. We have been able to share the latest advances in cave diving, rescue management, medical services, and technical support. We will be able to learn from recent rescues throughout the world.

All cavers are invited to this conference. Our expertise in cave rescue will increase thanks to the practices and innovations of others. Rescue effectiveness requires the involvement of many members of the caving community. Cavers must be involved at all levels of the rescue operation, both above ground, and underground.

We hope that this conference will help everyone have a safer experience in the underworld.

HEGEDŰS, Gyula

President of UIS Cave Rescue Commission



TIME SCHEDULE

14th International Cave Rescue Conference (ICRC)			
Date	General program	events	
Wednesday 5th June	All day	Arrival	
Thursday 6th June	All morning	Registration of the participants	
	7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
	9:00-10:00	Opening ceremony	
	10:00-13:00	Plenary session HEGEDŰS, Gyula: History of UIS Cave Rescue Commission	
	13:00-14:00	Lunch	
	15:00-18:30	Session # 1	Presentations
			create organizational structure of CRC.
Workshop or Demonstrations			
19:00-20:00	dinner		
Friday 7 June	7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
	9:00-13:00	Session # 2	Presentations
			Round Table
			Workshop or Demonstrations
	13:00-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-19:00	Visit caves.	Altamira Museum
			Covalanas
Cullalvera			
Cueva Mur			
19:00-20:00	dinner		
Saturday 8 June	7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
	9:00-18:00	Cave rescue exercise	
	9:00-13:00	Session # 3	Presentations
			Round Table
			Workshop
	15:00-18:30	Presentation of the results (plenary session) Closing	
	19:00-20:00	barbecue	
20:30-00:00	final party		
Sunday 9 June	All day	participants' departure	

We ask the participants to - in addition to their other presentations - present the organization and operation of cave rescue in their countries.



PARTNERS



PROGRAMME

NOT YET AVAILABLE

PRESENTATIONS

All presentations must be offered in English.

Members/participants have opportunity to present important achievements in cave rescue and cave rescue operations.

- Time for each presentation will be max. 15min. In a case that a presenter needs more time since he wants to present very important topic, organizer can decide and allow more time.

The presentations shall be provided **from 1 September 2023 to 20 May 2024**

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

For the excursions see, page 14.

VENUE

Ramales de la Victoria, Alto Asón, Cantabria / Spain.



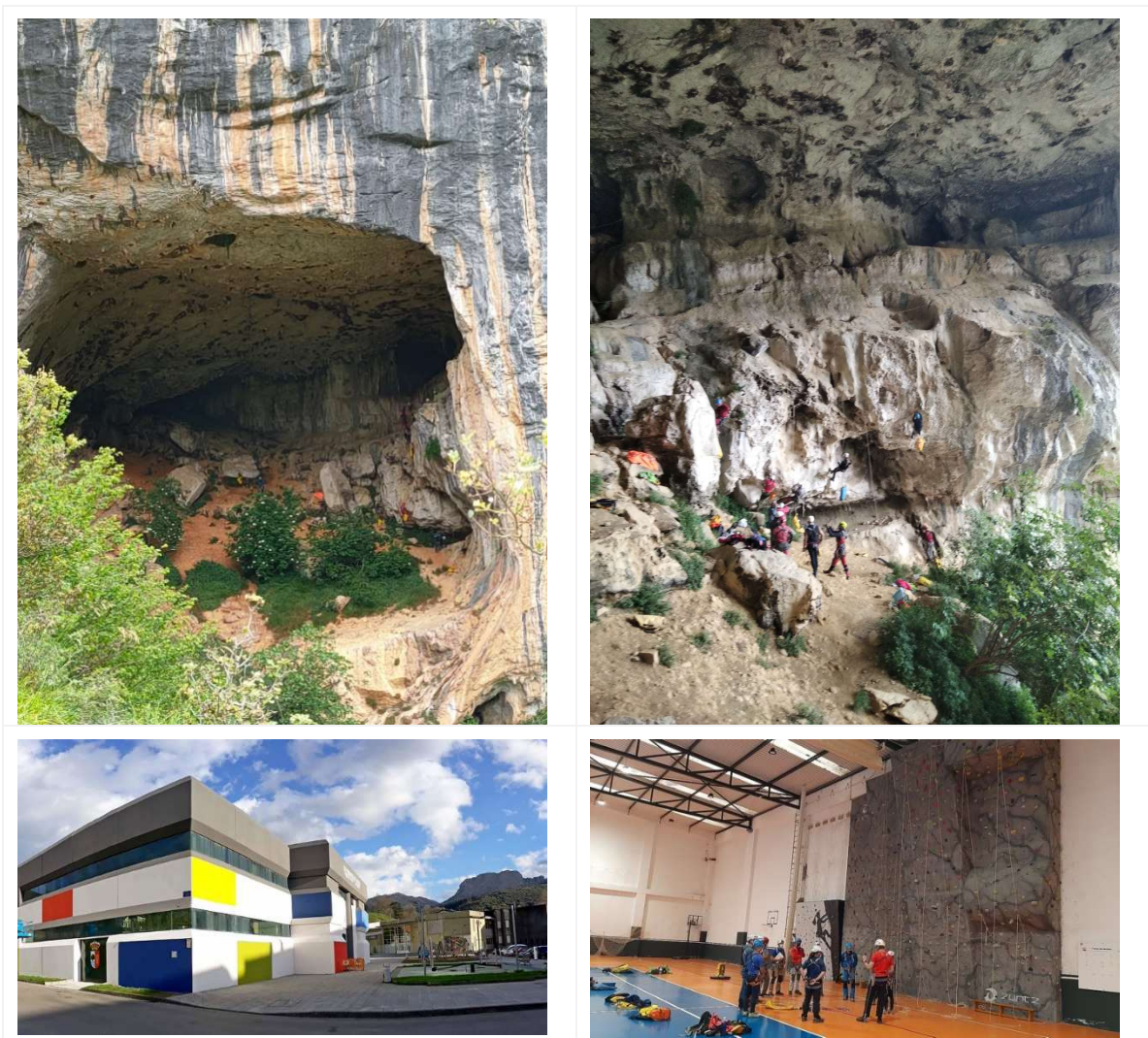
See as well 'Appendix 3: Ramales de la Victoria', page 42.

MEETING LOCATION

- 1 big meeting room.
- 3 small meeting rooms.
- The meeting rooms can be locked, so valuables can be there.



EXERCISE AREA





PARTICIPATION FEE

The participation fee is 80 € if paid before 31 March, payable by bank transfer to the ESOCAN Foundation's TRIODOS BANK account (IBAN ES04 1491 0001 2421 4922 4327 BIC/SWIFT TRIOESMMXXX).

You can also pay through our payment gateway. [clicking here](#).

If it is made after 1 April or when registering, the fee will be 100 €. The participation fee includes accommodation, breakfast, lunch, dinner during the ICRC. Drinks and external accommodation go at your own expense.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

For registration go to: [Registration Form 2024](#)

Please note the DEADLINES:

ICRC-24

1st June 2024

CHECK IN

At the Meeting Office. Office hours see ‘

Meeting Office’, page 13.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the International Cave Rescue Conference is English.

Simultaneous translation is not available.

ARRIVAL

Bilbao Airport and Santander Airport are about 65 km away. These airports are accessed by the A8 Motorway and National Highways.

See as well: **‘Appendix 1: Getting there’**, page 39,
‘Support

Transfer Service’, page 12.

ACCOMMODATION

Sports Center → Please bring your own sleeping bag and underlay/foam pads
 no bunk beds available.
 (Included in the participation fee)

Improvised campsite → Please bring your own camping equipment
 in the village sports area
 (included in the participation fee)

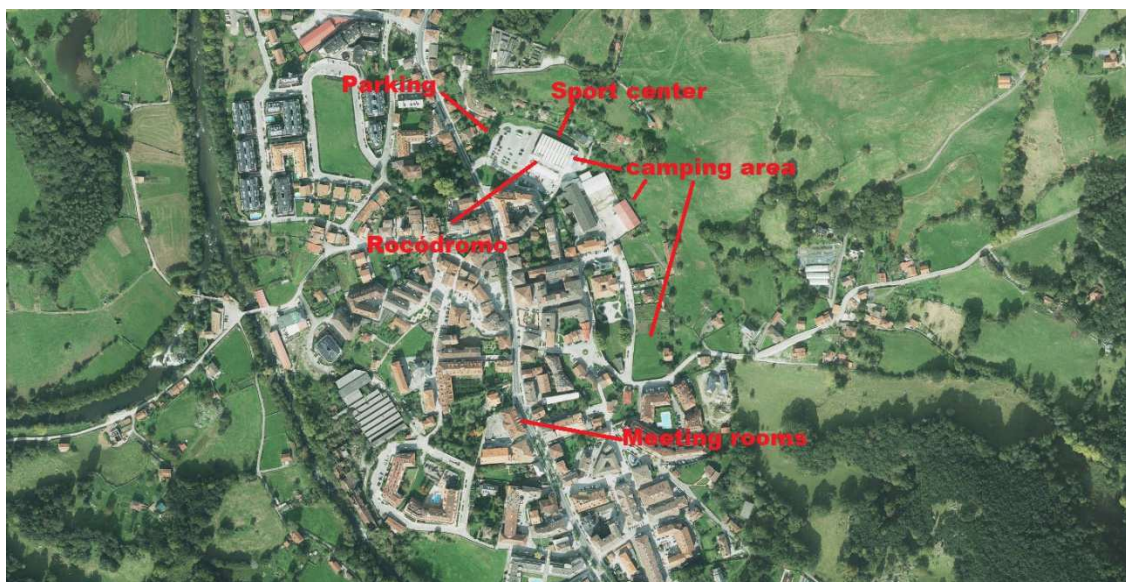


External Accommodation: → See as well:
 The region has varied accommodation in terms of services and qualities, from 12-150€.
 (Not included in the participation fee)

‘Appendix 5: Recommended Accommodations’, page 43,
 ‘Appendix 3: Ramales de la Victoria’, page 42,
<https://cantabriaorientalrural.es/alojamientos/>

Sport Center Rocódromo and the **village sports area** are on the same address.

- Sport Center: bunk beds
- Campsite: toilets and washroom
- Showers after excursions, exercises, diving
- Parking space available.
- Distance Sport Center / campsite to the meeting rooms: 300m



FOOD AND DRINKS

- Breakfast, lunch, dinner: Self-service in Sport Center
- Vegetarian food: Not available
- Drinks during breaks: In the hall of the building or public bar



LETTER OF INVITATION

If needed, the participants can request a Letter of Invitation by e-mail: fundacion@espeleosocorro.es

(Name, Organization, Country, to be addressed at whom?)

TRAVELLING INFORMATION

OFFICIAL TRAVELLING INFORMATION

VISA

Please contact the Spanish embassy in your country.

CURRENCY

EURO

POWER SUPPLY AND POWER PLUGS

230 volts, 50 Hz	Type F ("Schuko") 	Type C (Europlug) 
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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mains_electricity_by_country

WLAN

Available for free.

SUPPORT

TRANSFER SERVICE

If a transfer from the airports (Bilbao od Santander) is needed, please send an e-mail with the flight data to fundacion@espeleosocorro.es (flight number, arrival time, departure time).



HELP DESK

if you have any questions about the journey or the transfer, please contact our helpdesk.

Available with immediate effect via:

6th - 9th June:

Name	Phone:	E-mail:
Beatriz Cárcamo Aboitiz	+34 695 715 221	pie@cantabriaorientalrural.es



MEETING OFFICE

Opening Hours:

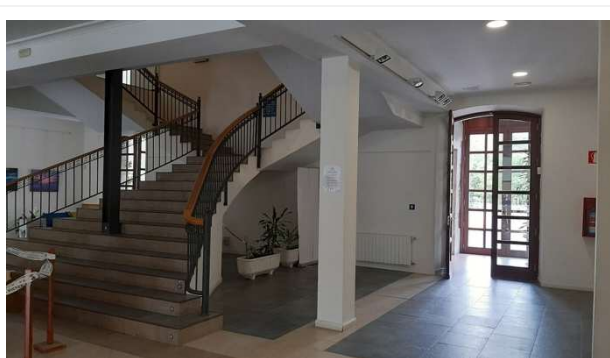
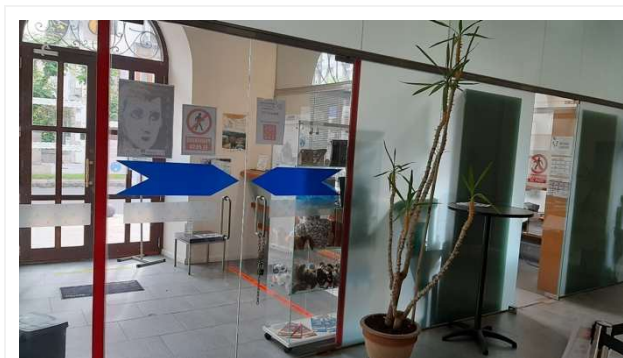
Wednesday: 18:30 – 22:00

Thursday: 7:30 – 20:00

Friday: 7:30 – 20:00

Saturday: 7:30 – 20:00

Sunday: 7:30 – 12:00



EX-01 CUEVA DE CULLALVERA, SHOW CAVE (TOURISTIC)



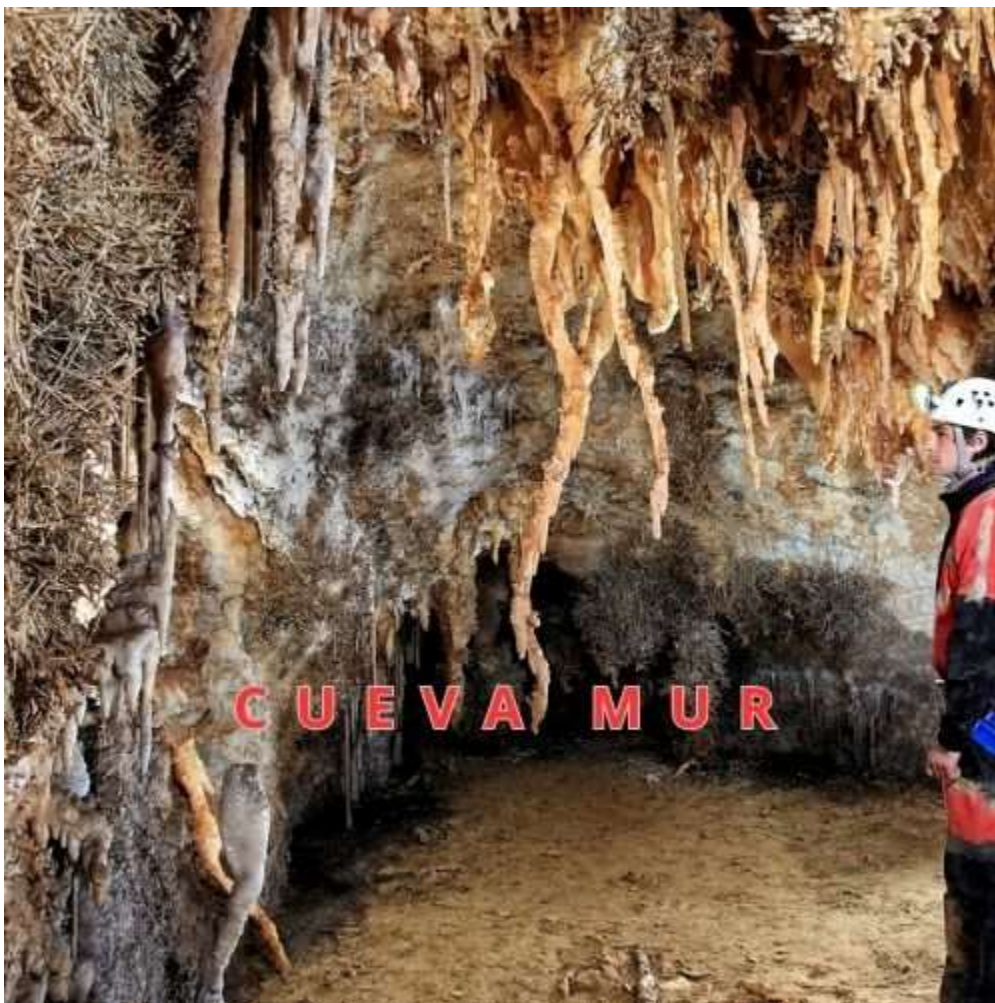
Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-01 Cueva de Cullalvera
Date:	
Difficulty:	Low. Touristic cave.
Duration: (Total)	1h.
Highlights:	
Departure Time, Meeting point:	The cave is in the urban core. You can only get there by foot.
Return Time:	Immediately.
Max. Number of Participants:	30 pax/session.
GPS Coordinates:	43° 15'15 "N, 3° 27'34" W
Access:	The cavity is located in the urban area of Ramales de la Victoria. Vehicles must be parked in an area of the urban area enabled for it. From this point they should walk to the visitor service point, located at the entrance of the cave.
Description:	The cavity has evidence of Upper Paleolithic occupation. The rock manifestations date from the Middle / Upper Magdalenian (about 13,500 years old).

	<p>Although it has rock art, it is not visited because it is about 600 and 1200 meters deep, and its karst system remains active with water currents. In fact, on days with a lot of rain, the river springs up again from its bowels, running under the 150-meter walkway that we walk during the visit. Its entrance, of spectacular dimensions, emerges from a lush Cantabrian holm oak of great ecological value. Inside, an audiovisual begins the visit, accompanied by a show of water, light and sound that will transport us inside the cavity while talking about the history of this cave and others in the region from Prehistory to history more recent.</p>
Visiting Hours:	<p>Mid-season: From 1st march to 14th June and from 16th September to 22nd October.</p> <p>– CLOSED on Monday. – From Tuesday to Saturday open from 9:30 am to 14:00 pm and from 15:00 pm to 18:30 pm.</p> <p>Tours: 9:45 am, 10:50 am, 11:55 am, 13:00 pm, 15:20 pm, 16:25 pm and 17:30 pm.</p> <p>Maximum capacity per session: 30 people.</p>
Costs:	5 €. Recommended walking access.
Food / Drink:	No need. The cave is located next to Ramales de la Victoria.
Accommodation:	At your own expense.
Transfer:	No need. if you want to visit Cullalvera and Covalanas you must book a visit with one hour between each visit for the trip
Cave Tour:	<p>Access: https://es.wikiloc.com/rutas-senderismo/ramales-de-la-victoria-cueva-cullalvera-80751832</p>
Walk time to the cave:	10 min.
Time in cave:	40 min.
Temperature in cave:	14°C
Equipment needed:	No.
Cave map:	See below.
Links:	<p>Homepage: https://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com/cullalvera-2/1</p>

Photos:



EX-02 CUEVA MUR (SPORTY)



Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-02 Cueva Mur
Date:	
Difficulty:	Medium. No water cave. A narrow passage. -60 m. depth.
Duration: (Total)	4 h.
Highlights:	
Departure Time, Meeting point:	Visit A: 9:00 Parking at the Sport Center. Visit B: 15:30 Parking at the Sport Center.
Return Time:	Visit A: 13:00 h. Visit B: 20:30 h.
Max. Number of Participants:	10 pax
GPS Coordinates:	463.417 / 4.788.051
Access:	From Ramales de la Victoria it is necessary to take the N-629, direction Burgos. At km 188 of this road (just 2 km from Ramales) the detour that leads to the cave car park is located on the left. From here, you go up a pedestrian path of about 400 meters.
Description:	Show Cave, near Covalanas Cave. Development: 2,300 meters Elevation: -60 meters



The entrance is 15 square meters sideways. At the end of it and to the right there is a small cathole, just after passing this hole, which was enlarged with dynamite, the ground descends again in a ramp about 13 m. There is a handrail on the right. A little later we will go up a small ramp (it has a rope) until we reach the laminator, with a very uniform section, although in its second half it is smaller than at the beginning, in the middle of its route there is a crack where you can rest, and where it changes direction. A platform at the end of the rolling mill, where a rope is placed until it reaches the long handrail, made up (in sections) of rope and steel cable that runs through the Sala de la Sima. At the end of the handrail, you can go straight ahead or place another rope to descend this large room.



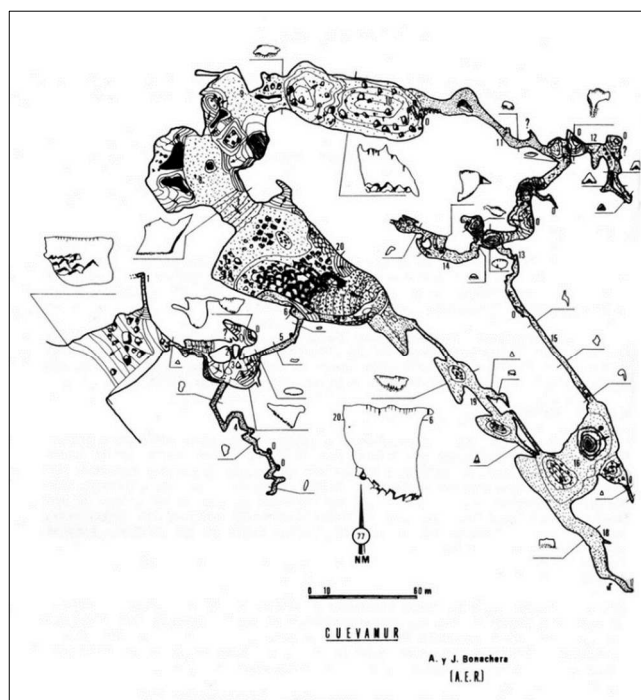
It is very humid, with abundant mud and of great dimensions, the soil has a funnel shape, although very regular and of little slope, in its middle there are large blocks of rocks under which the sink is located where little by little they have been gone all the sediment that filled the room. Ascending about 10 m. To the left we find a large gallery that has a large, very slippery wash, said wash has a few gours in which there are cave pearls, soft and of very impure limestone.



At the end of this casting, the cave continues to the right through a new room, with several chasms smaller than 20 m. The floor in this room is made of medium blocks and clay. From here the gallery continues along some low corridors, with a very uniform gallery with a clay soil floor. After passing the “Meandros” gallery, head to the right to find the Pencil Room. Here, you must also find the “Paso de los Retales” on the right wall, a narrow cathole where you must enter face up and twist a bit until you have travelled about 20 meters. A wide gallery leads us directly to the “Sala de los Cristales” where it changes direction abruptly (180 degrees). This room and the galleries that emerge from it are clear, dry, with many stalactites and stalagmites of all kinds. At the end of this gallery, we will find the rope that we installed to go down to “La Gran Sima”. Again, the long handrail that now runs in the opposite direction will lead us back to the exit.

Costs:	20 € (guide service and collective material is included, transport by foot).
Food / Drink:	Half journey, immediately return to village. At your own expense.
Accommodation:	Not available.
Transfer:	By foot.
Cave Tour:	Access: https://es.wikiloc.com/rutas-senderismo/ramales-de-la-victoria-cueva-mur-50698405
Walk time to the cave:	40 min.
Time in cave:	3:30 h.
Temperature in cave:	12º C.
Equipment needed:	Full equip. No especial suit.

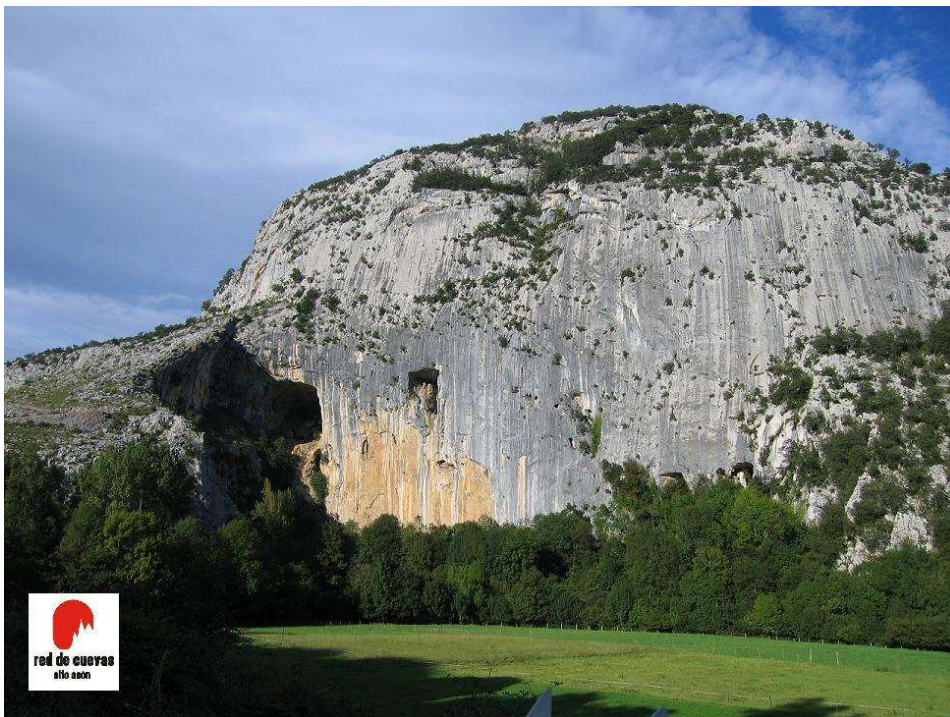
Cave map:



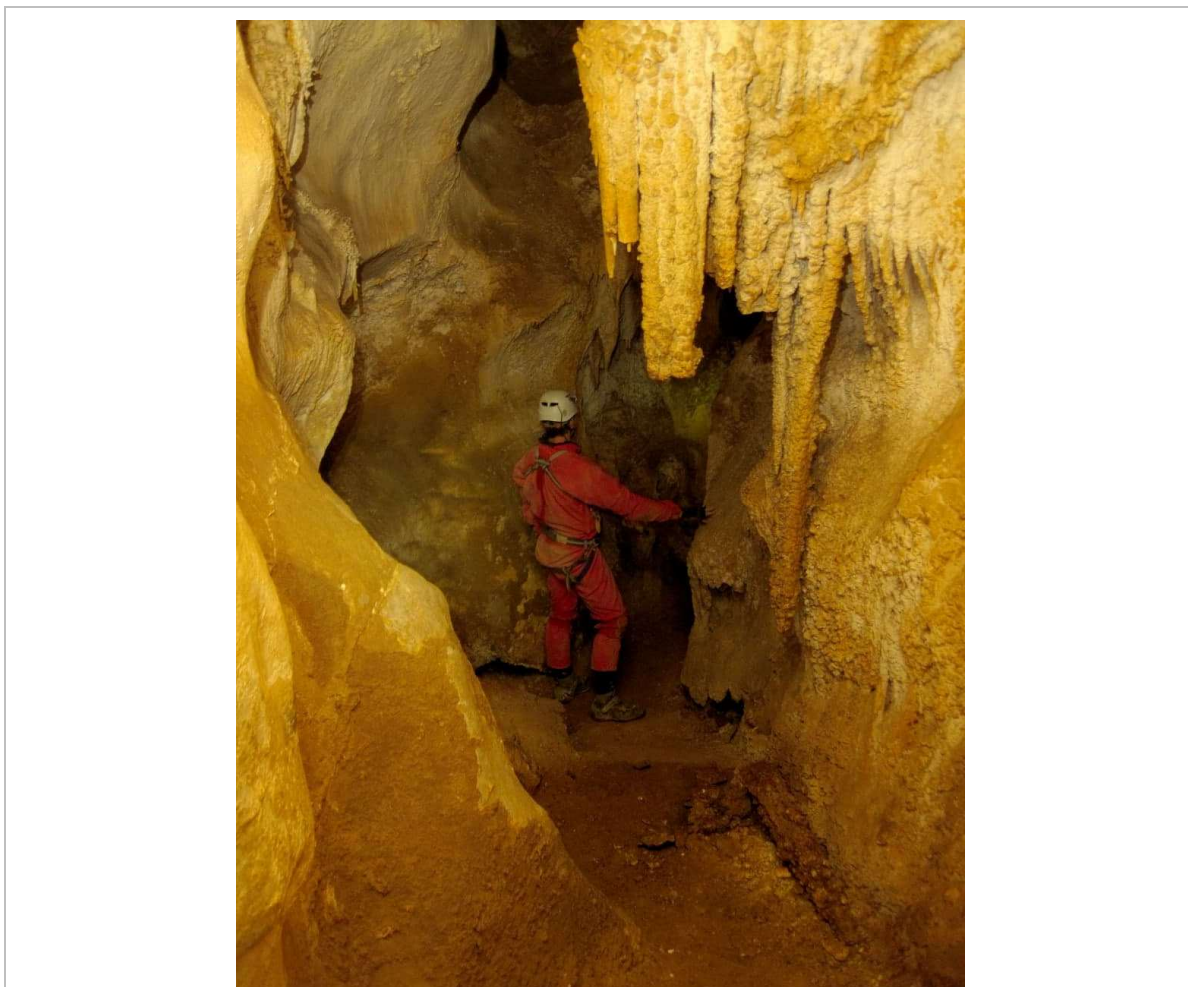
Links:

<https://www.celaontinyent.es/cueva-mur-en-ramales-de-la-victoria-cantabria/>

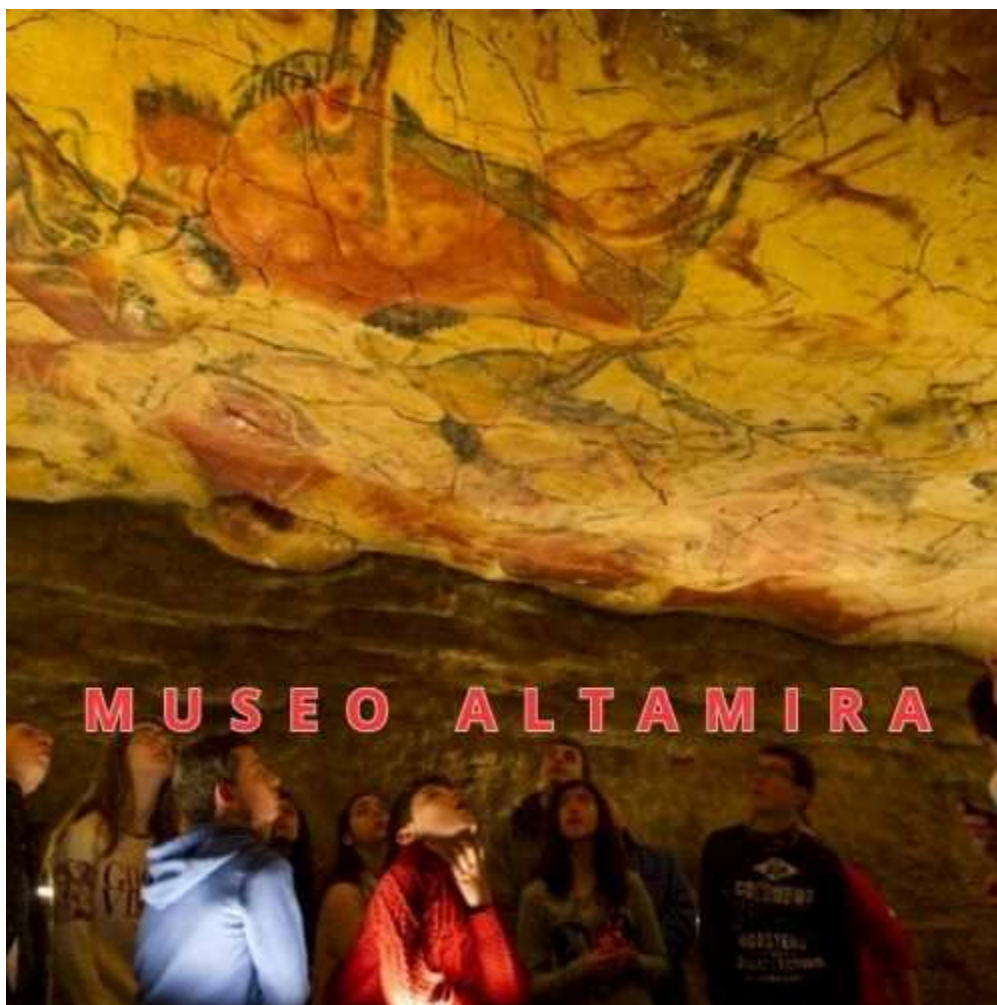
Photos:








EX-03 ALTAMIRA, MUSEUM, WORLD HERITAGE SITE



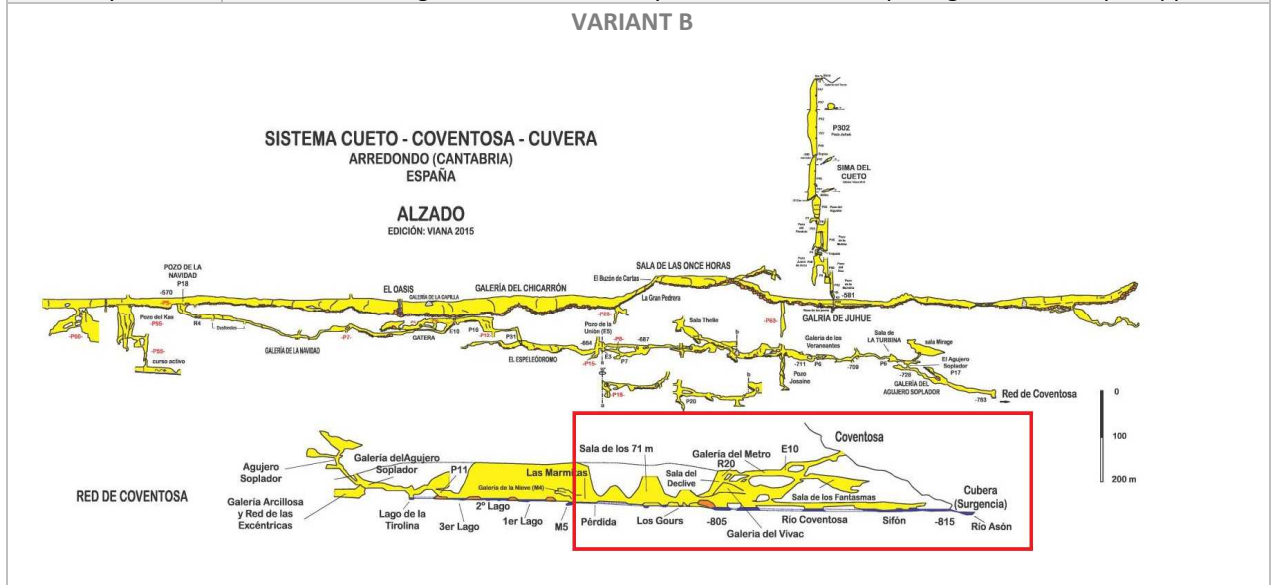
Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-03 Altamira, Museum, World Heritage Site and Santillana del Mar medieval village
Date:	
Difficulty:	Low. Touristic day.
Duration: (Total)	9 h.
Highlights:	Paleolithic art. UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008.
	With a minimum of 30 interested people, we will organize a bus for a good price. Demand is already high.
Please note:	Since March 2015, there has been a strict access rule of five people per week. Therefore, we cannot offer a visit of the cave. We will visit the Museum, which is close to the cave, where there is a replica of the prehistoric cave.
Departure Time, Meeting point:	9:30, parking at the Sport Center.
Return Time:	17:00 h.
Max. Number of Participants:	50 pax.
GPS Coordinates:	43° 22'57 "N, 4° 7'13" W


Access:	From Ramales de la Victoria it is necessary to take Santillana del Mar in Cantabria, west of Santander.
Description:	<p>It is renowned for prehistoric parietal cave art featuring charcoal drawings and polychrome paintings of contemporary local fauna and human hands. They earliest paintings were made 36,000 years ago. The artists used charcoal and ochre or hematite to create the images, often diluting these pigments to produce variations in intensity and creating an impression of chiaroscuro. They also exploited the natural contours of the cave walls to give their subjects a three-dimensional effect.</p> 
Costs:	20 € (Bus, tickets not included 3 €).
Food / Drink:	On behalf of the participant in Santillana del Mar organized by the host, at your own expense.
Accommodation:	Not included. Not necessary, return to Ramales de la Victoria.
Transfer:	Available by bus. Included in the price.
Links:	<p>Museo Nacional y Centro de Investigación de Altamira (Homepage) https://www.culturaydeporte.gob.es/mnaltamira/home.html</p> <p>Restriction of only 5 persons a week, see last paragraph: https://www.culturaydeporte.gob.es/mnaltamira/cueva-altamira/conservacion.html</p> <p>Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cave_of_Altamira</p> <p>Altamira Prehistoric Cave Art, Webinar https://caves.org/webinars/index-4.shtml#Altamira</p>
Photos	

EX-04 COVENTOSA CAVE (SPORTY)



Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-04 Coventosa Cave
Date:	
Difficulty:	Medium abseiling, for minors from 16 years old. No narrow passages. 180 m. depth approx.



Duration: (Total)	4 h.
Highlights:	Fantastic stalactite landscapes.
Departure Time, Meeting point:	Visit A. 9:00 from parking at the Sport Center. Visit B. 16:00 from parking at the Sport Center.
Return Time:	Visit A: 13:00 Visit B: 20:00
Max. Number of Participants:	10 pax.
GPS Coordinates:	450.617/ 4.789.678 / 275
Access:	https://es.wikiloc.com/rutas-senderismo/cueva-coventosa-val-de-ason-28874204
Description:	<p>This cave is the lower exit of the Cueto-Coventosa crossing, the jewel of vertical caving in Cantabria and Spain. This journey begins with the descent of 300 m in a single vertical well, up to a maximum depth of 820 m. Its arduous exploration and numerous accidents give an idea of the extreme hardness of this journey. A journey desired by all but only suitable for the strongest and most experienced cavers. The visit, however, runs through the galleries of Coventosa.</p> <p>It is known worldwide for the Gallery of Ghosts.</p>  <p>The visit you can do two levels of difficulty of caving:</p> <p>The general visit for people over 16 years of age, is undoubtedly the most complete visit to the Asón Valley, rappelling, large galleries, sets of unique stalactites and stalagmites, as well as a privileged natural environment make it a unique and incomparable visit. The abseiling area is suitable for minors from 16 years old.</p>
Costs:	30 € (guide service and collective material include, transport not included). Reservations at www.escoladeespeleologia.es from September 5 th .
Food / Drink:	At your own expense.
Accommodation:	At your own expense.
Transfer:	Not available. At your own expense.
Difficulty:	<p>Medium (all techniques) water cave, no narrow passages.</p> <p>Approach time (car-entrance): 10 min</p> <p>Elevation to the entrance: 30 m</p> <p>Elevation in the cave: about 180 m</p>

Time in cave:	Approx. 3 h.
Temperature in cave:	12° C
Equipment needed:	Full equip. No special suit.
Cave map:	https://docs.google.com/uc?export=download&id=0B7ncQZmhhzlvCGFobldkRHBuTnc
Links:	https://www.clubviana.org/cantabria/

Photos:



EX-05 CUEVA DE COVALANAS, WORLD HERITAGE SITE



Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-05 Cueva de Covalanas
Date:	
Difficulty:	Low. Touristic cave.
Duration: (Total)	Round trip 2 hours.
Highlights:	Paleolithic art. UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008.
Departure Time, Meeting point:	At your own expense: one hour before the visit.
Return Time:	30 min.
Max. Number of Participants:	6 pax/group.
GPS Coordinates:	43° 14'36 "N, 3° 27'12" W
Access:	From Ramales de la Victoria it is necessary to take the N-629, direction Burgos. At km 188 of this road (just 2 km from Ramales) the detour that leads to the cave car park is located on the left. From here, you go up a pedestrian path of about 600 meters that leads to the visitor service point, located at the mouth of the cave.
Description:	2km from the Cullalvera cave and in front of the Pico de San Vicente, is the Covalanas cavern. This cave, declared a World Heritage Site by

UNESCO in 2008, is a paradigmatic case due to the contemporaneity and homogeneity of its rock representations.



Epoch: Its chronology, difficult to fix absolutely, seems to date back to an ancient phase, around 20,000 BC.

The technique used is the dotted or slimy line, also present in the **El Pendo** cave. The hinds, the aurochs and a horse represented are of great realism and beauty, as they are endowed with movement. They were made 25,000 years ago and represent the oldest manifestations of this pointillist art that consists of applying the dye on the walls with the finger or with a tampon. The visit takes place through a narrow corridor that allows you to see the paintings from a short distance. They present an exceptional state of conservation, getting to observe the artist's fingerprints.

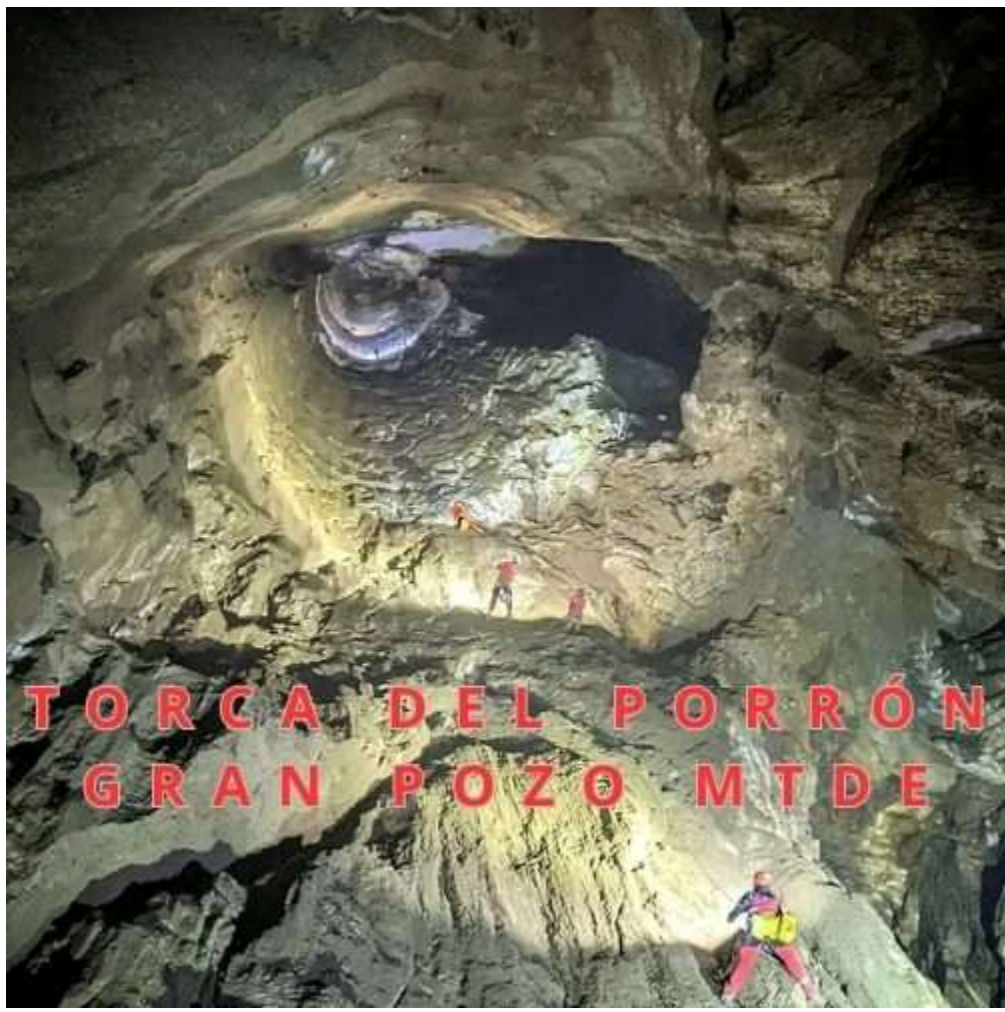


<p>Visiting Hours:</p>	<p>Mid-season: From 1st march to 14th June and from 16th September to 22nd October.</p> <p>– CLOSED on Monday. – From Tuesday to Saturday open from 9:30 am to 14:00 pm and from 15:00 pm to 18:30 pm.</p> <p>Tours: 9:45 am, 10:50 am, 11:55 am, 13:00 pm, 15:20 pm, 16:25 pm and 17:30 pm</p>
<p>Costs:</p>	<p>5 €</p>
<p>Food / Drink:</p>	<p>Not necessary. At your own expense. Return to village.</p>
<p>Accommodation:</p>	<p>At your own expense.</p>

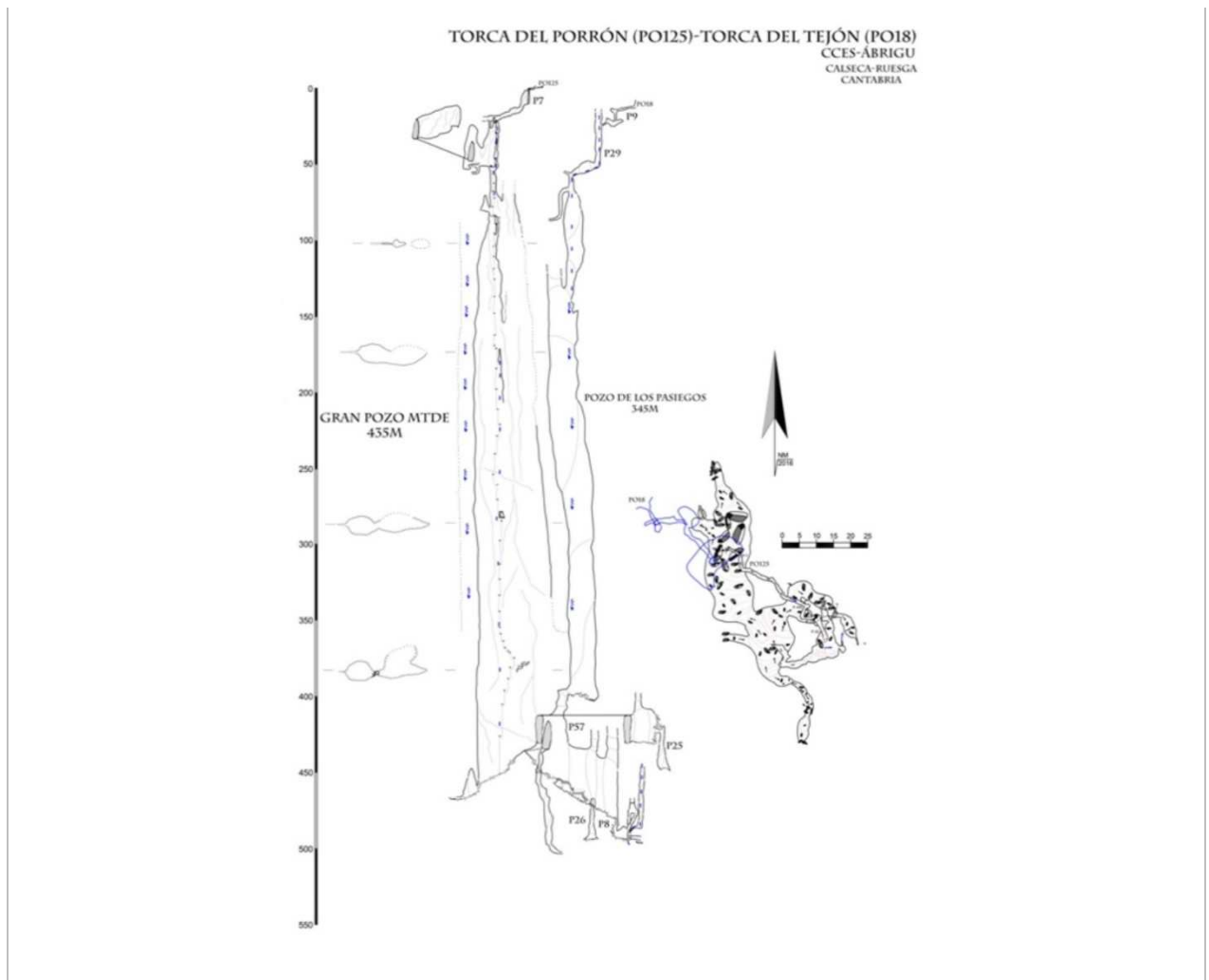


Transfer:	By foot. if you want to visit Cullalvera and Covalanas you must book a visit with one hour between each visit for the trip.
Difficulty:	None.
Walk time to the cave:	From Sport Center to cave 30 min.
Time in cave:	40 min.
Temperature in cave:	12º C.
Equipment needed:	Nothing.
Cave map:	See appendix.
Links:	Homepage: https://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com/covalanas-2/

EX-06 TORCA DEL PORRÓN. GRAN POZO MTDE



Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-06 Torca del Porrón. Gran Pozo MTDE
Date:	Fixed ropes installed throughout the meeting.
Difficulty:	High.



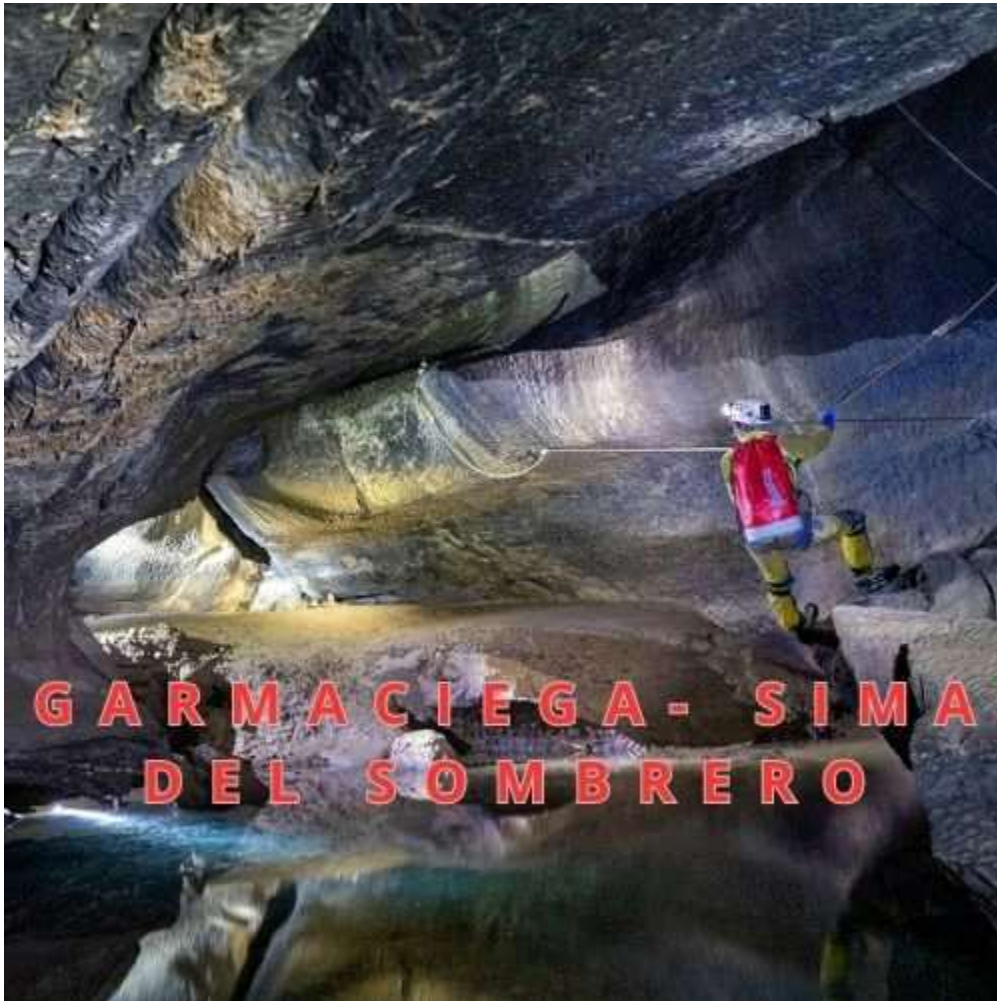
Duration:	8 h.						
Costs:	25 €						
Highlights:	Large vertical.						
Departure Time, Meeting point:	Access and return at participants' expense. Registration is mandatory, please inform the time of entry and inform when leaving the cave.						
Return Time:							
Max. Number of Participants:	10/day.						
GPS Coordinates:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Coord X</th> <th>Coord Y</th> <th>Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>446039</td> <td>4788702</td> <td>Torca del Porrón</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Coord X	Coord Y	Name	446039	4788702	Torca del Porrón
Coord X	Coord Y	Name					
446039	4788702	Torca del Porrón					
Access:	https://es.wikiloc.com/rutas-espeleologia/torca-del-tejon-pozo-de-los-pasiegos-torca-del-porrón-gran-pozo-mtde-torca-de-la-yusa-120131425						
Description:	The “Sima del Tejón” (PO18)-Torca del Porrón (PO125) system is home to the second most vertical underground shaft in the world, the Gran Pozo MTDE, with 435.92m of free fall.						
Costs:	Included in the registration fee for the 14th CRC.						
Food / Drink:	At your own expense.						
Accommodation:	At your own expense.						
Transfer:	Not available. At your own expense.						
Difficulty:	High (all techniques) water cave, narrow passages.						



14th International Cave Rescue Conference 2024, 6-9 June, Cantabria, Spain

	Approach time (car-entrance):	30 min.
	Elevation to the entrance:	200 m (1.025 m.o.s.l).
	Elevation in the cavity:	about -450 m.
Time in cave:	Approx. 6/8 h.	
Temperature in cave:	12º C	
Equipment needed:	Full equip.	
Cave map:	http://undergroundadventure.cat/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Mtd-psd-copia.pdf	
Links:	http://undergroundadventure.cat/gran-pozo-mtde/	

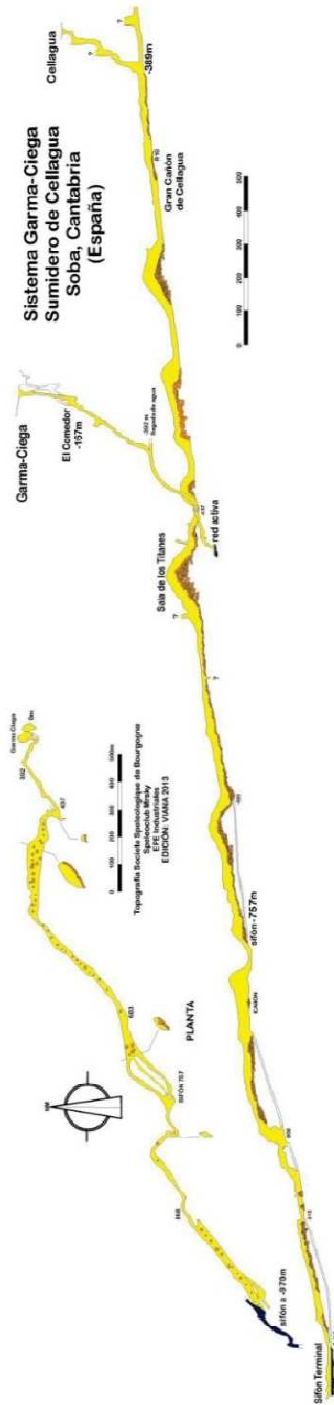
EX-07 GARMA CIEGA – SIMA DEL SOMBRERO



Tour-Id, Excursion Title:	Ex-07 Garma Ciega – Sima Del Sombrero
Date:	Fixed ropes installed throughout the meeting.
Difficulty:	High.

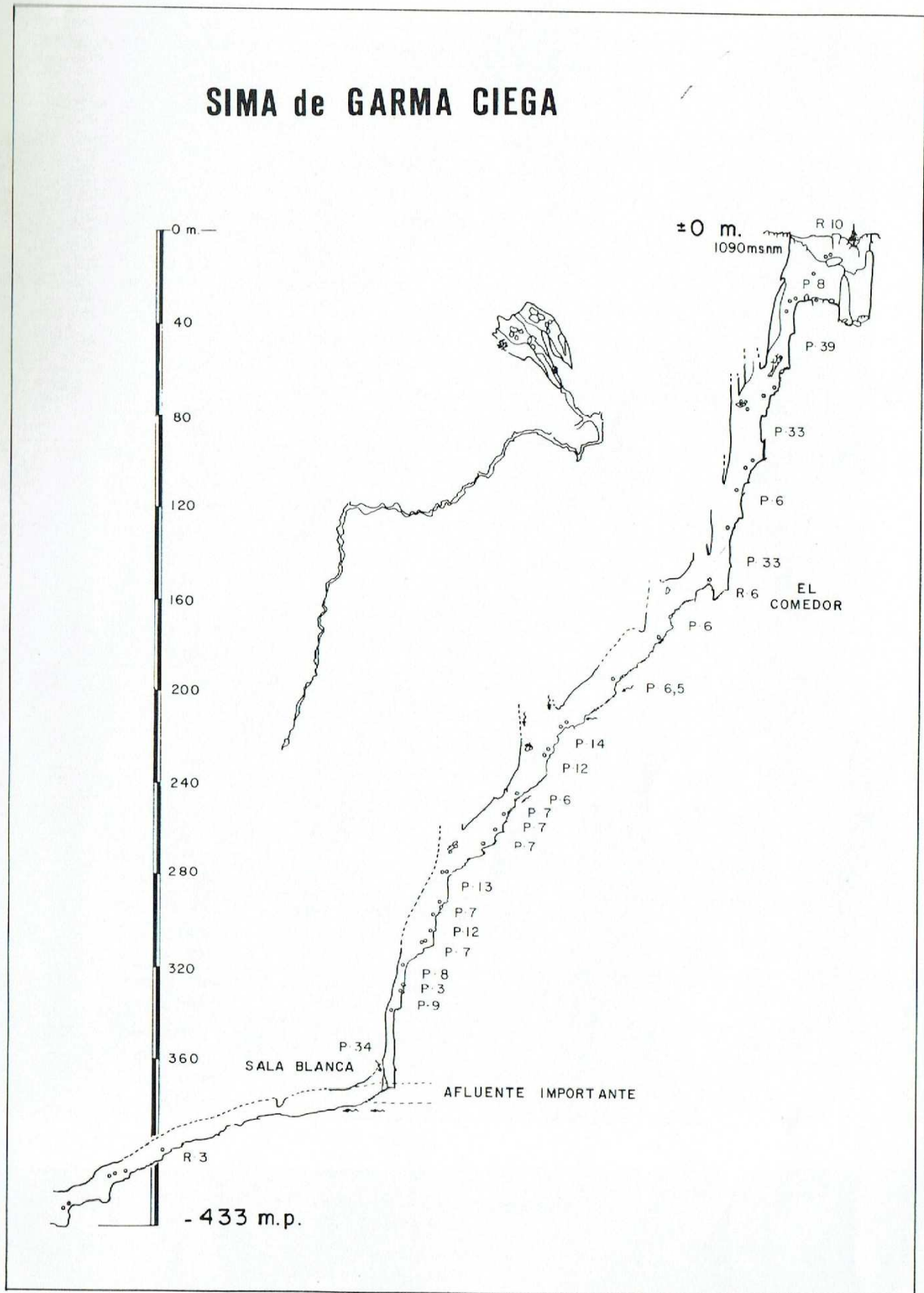
Garma Ciega

AER / Club Muntañés Serra d'Irta / Otros



3

SIMA de GARMA CIEGA





Duration:	10 h.
Highlights:	Large vertical.
Departure Time, Meeting point:	Access and return at participants' expense.
Return Time:	Registration is compulsory, please inform the time of entry and inform when leaving the cave.
Max. Number of Participants:	10/day
GPS Coordinates:	X: 454.022/ Y: 4.786.895
Access:	https://es.wikiloc.com/rutas-senderismo/garma-ciega-acceso-norte-76770068
Description:	https://espeleosocorro.es/information-camp-garma-ciega/
Costs:	Included in the registration fee for the 14th CRC.
Food / Drink:	At your own expense.
Accommodation:	At your own expense.
Transfer:	Not available. At your own expense.
Difficulty:	High (all techniques) water cave, narrow passages.
	Approach time (car-entrance): 30 min.
	Elevation to the entrance: 100 m (1.100 m.o.s.l).
	Elevation in the cave: about - 850 m.
Time in cave:	Approx. 15/20 h.
Temperature in cave:	5º C
Equipment needed:	Full equip. Sleeping bag and bivouac equipment (optional).
Cave map:	https://www.speleogroup.org/files/Garma-Ciega-descripcion.pdf
Links:	https://espeleosocorro.es/information-camp-garma-ciega/

PARTNERS

Regional Government of Cantabria.

City council of Ramales de la Victoria.

Commonwealth of sustainable municipalities.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

GYULA HEGEDŰS Cave Rescue Commission – President

Martin GONZALEZ HIERRO, Head of the Local Organising Committee

Fundación Espeleosocorro Cántabro / ESOCAN, Spain

Beatriz CARCAMO ABOITIZ, Local Organising Committee

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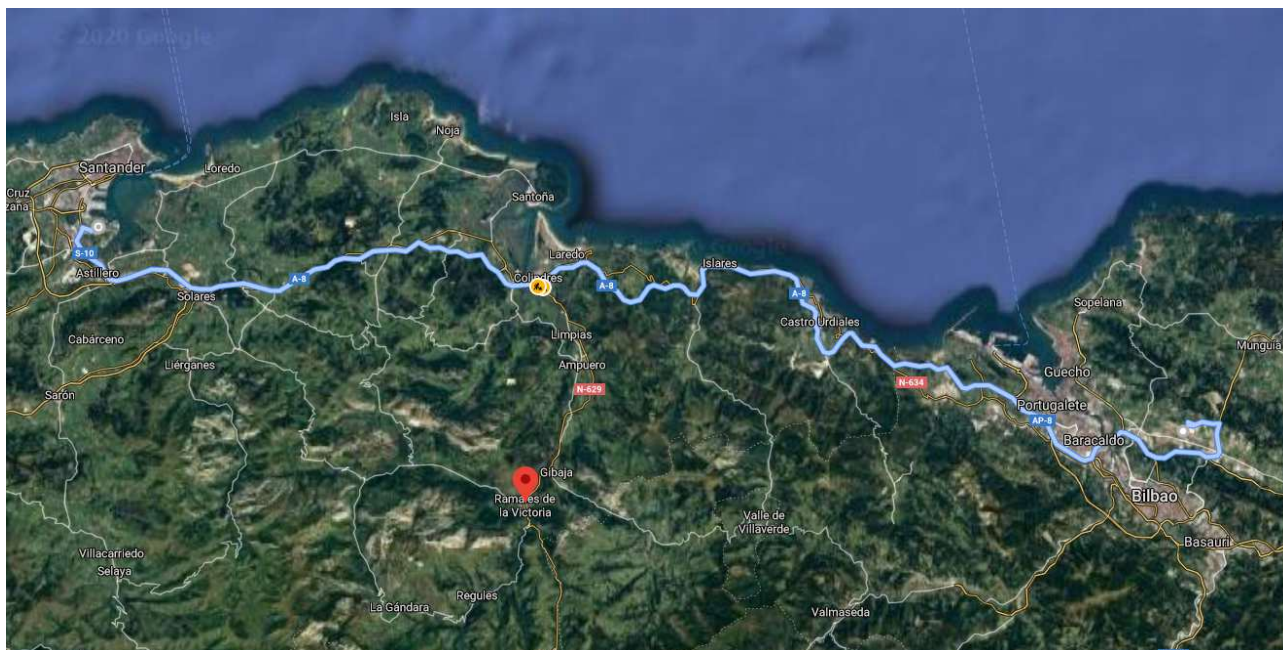
Phone: +34 667 70 16 23

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Phone: +34 695 715 221

APPENDIX 1: GETTING THERE

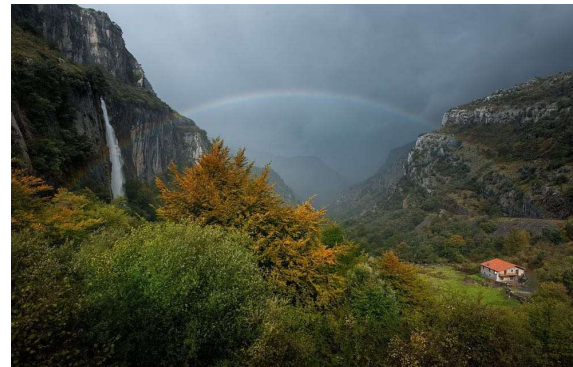


The region is covered by good regional and local roads, accessible all year round.

APPENDIX 2: THE REGION ALTO ASÓN VALLEY

The **Alto Asón Valley** is located in the Cantabria Region, Spain, known for its rich historical-cultural heritage, being the **Altamira Cave complex** and **Paleolithic Cave Art of the Cantabrian Cornice**, World Heritage by UNESCO in 1985.

With an area of 424 km² it has a mild oceanic climate. The altitude ranges from 30 meters above sea level to 1,500 meters, reason why the vegetation that we can find is a continuum between the hill floor, the subalpine passing through the mountain that is the most representative of our region.



It is dominated by two rivers, the Asón, that gives its name to the region and its main tributary, the Gándara.



It is a territory with a karst landscape based on reef limestones that give a structural and landscape unity to the region, conferring a geological unit of great environmental and landscape value.

In this region lies the **Collados del Asón Natural Park**, characterized by limestone outcrops, small beech forests, and unique Cantabrian holm oaks, together with manmade meadows for livestock. This diverse habitat allows the development of a varied wildlife characteristic.

The Alto Asón is an ideal destination for practicing nature sports. It has five ferrata routes, numerous climbing schools, among which the Ramales de la Victoria stands out, with more than 250 climbing routes.

You can also practice canyoning and it is undoubtedly one of the main destinations in Europe for the practice of Speleology.

Cueva de Covalanas, Show cave

<https://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com/covalanas-esp/>

The Covalanas Cave is a cavity located near Ramales de la Victoria. Its access is located about 700 m from the N-629 road, on a wall formed by the Calera river. It has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage List since July 2008, within the site "Altamira Cave and Paleolithic Rock Art of Northern Spain".

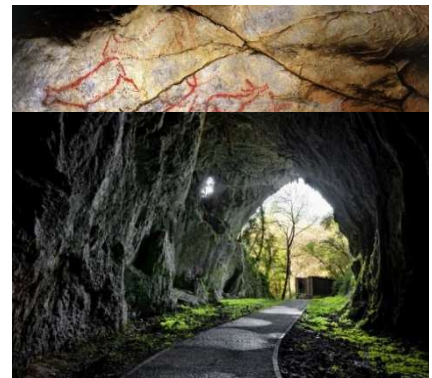
Cueva de Cullalvera, Show Cave

<https://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com/cullalvera-esp/>

The Cueva de Cullalvera, located at the foot of Monte Pando, is part of a karst complex of 12 kilometers. Where the action of water on the rock, over time have formed a monumental cavity.

It is a large cavity as shown by its spectacular entrance mouth, with 14 m. wide by 28 m. High. From it emerges a strong and fresh current of air that warns the visitor of the cave before being viewed. The environment is a magical space. Its mouth is framed by a leafy Cantabrian oak forest of great ecological value

Its transit inside the cave is conditioned for people with reduced mobility, through a 400m walkway. The visit begins with an audiovisual, which explains to the visitor the landscape, heritage, economic and social features of the Asón region in general, and of Ramales de la Victoria in particular.



APPENDIX 3: RAMALES DE LA VICTORIA

The most suitable urban nucleus to set the operational headquarters is that of Rames de la Victoria, since it has all the basic services: bus and railway station, service station, police, supermarkets, shops, restaurants, accommodation, medical center, classrooms, climbing wall, speleodrome, ferrata simulator etc.

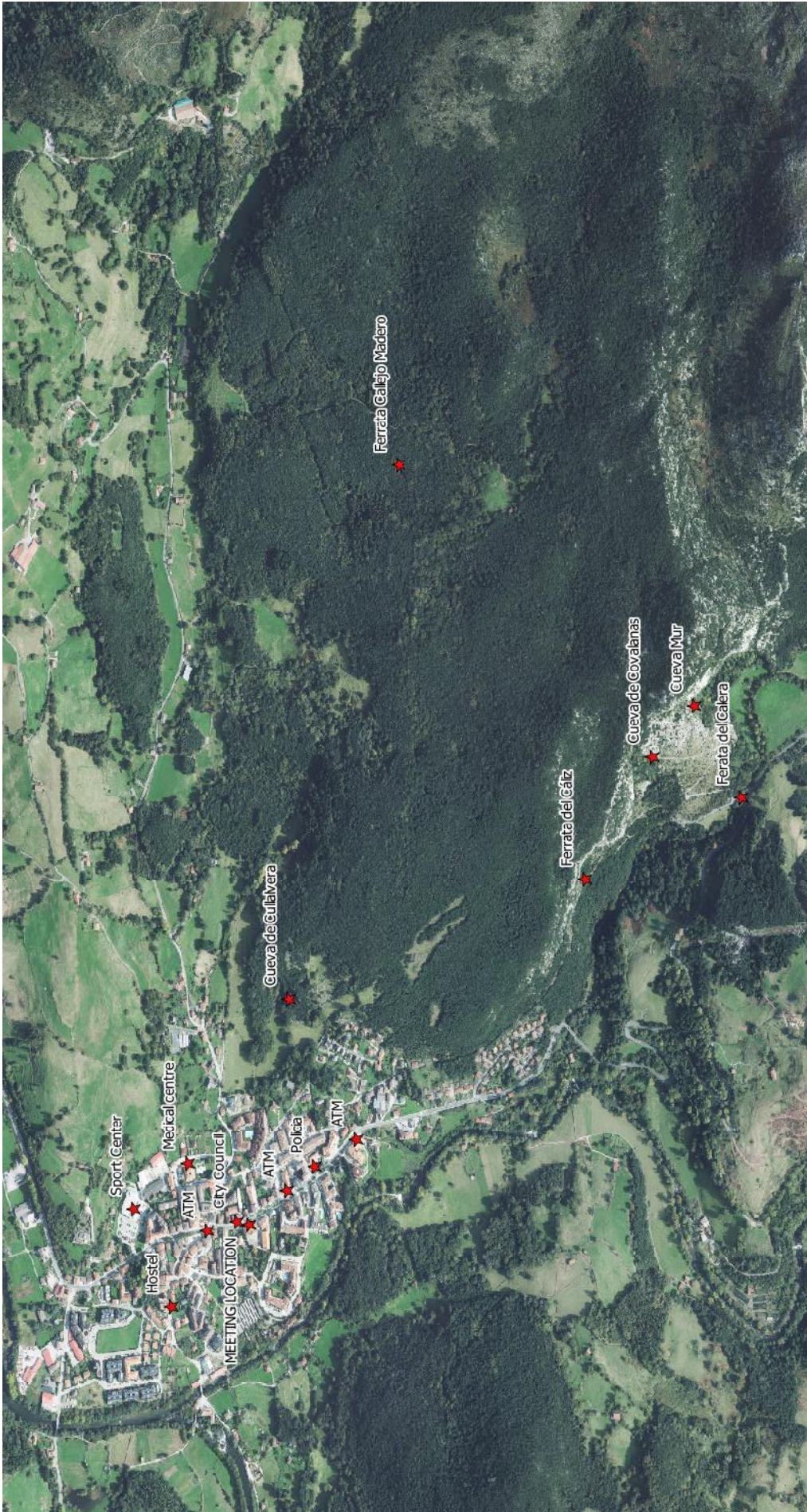
The region has varied accommodation in terms of services, prices and qualities. In Rames de la Victoria you will find the Rames Hostel with popular prices and very good service. Camping La Barguilla with camping area and bungalows and, where appropriate, the Río Asón Hotel.

In Rames de la Victoria there is the closest Medical Center with two complete medical teams. The closest hospital is in Laredo, 22 km from Rames de la Victoria, 15 minutes by car.

**ESOCAN & SPELEOLOGY**

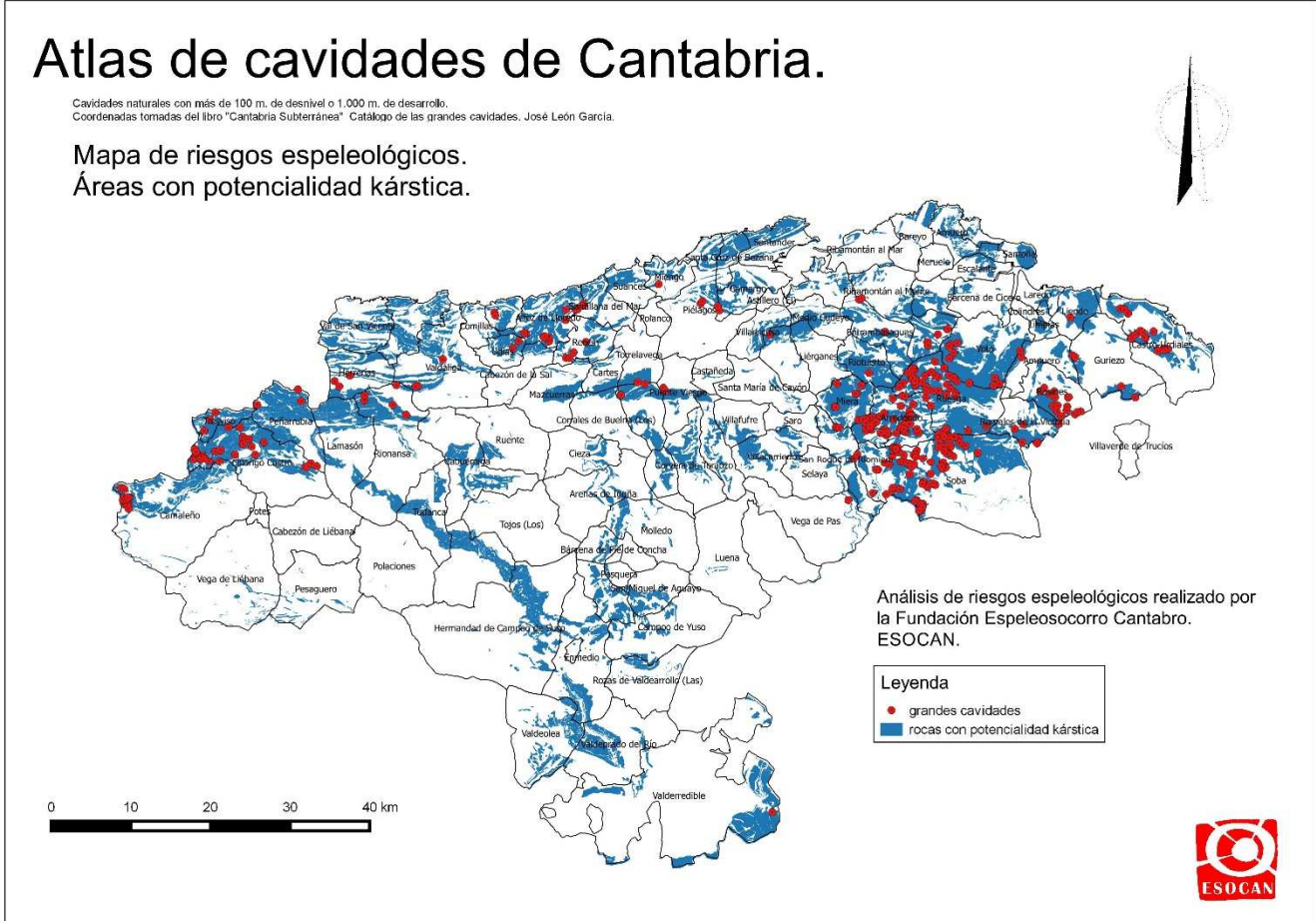
In Rames de la Victoria, both the Cantabria Espeleosocorro Service and the School of Speleology, the official regulated center, have their headquarters. This center has all the services and equipment necessary for the teaching and practice of caving, as well as qualified personnel.

The Espeleosocorro Cántabro Foundation, ESOCAN, head of the School of Speleology, has more than 170 volunteers and technicians willing to collaborate with this project.



APPENDIX 4: SPELEOLOGY IN CANTABRIA

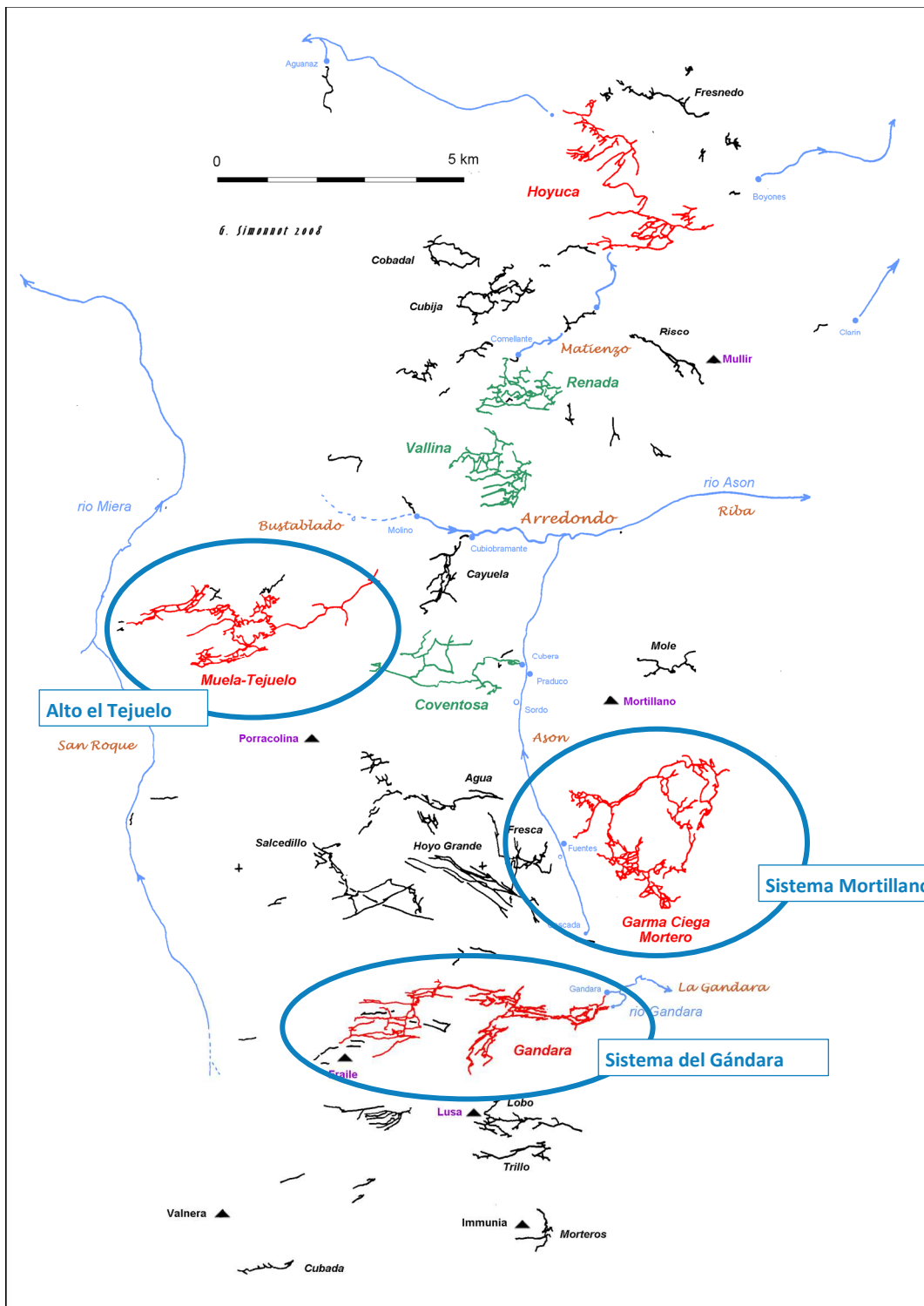
In Cantabria more than 9000 cavities are documented, of which 430 have a development of more than 1000m.



THE BIG UNDERGROUND SYSTEMS OF THE HIGH ASÓN

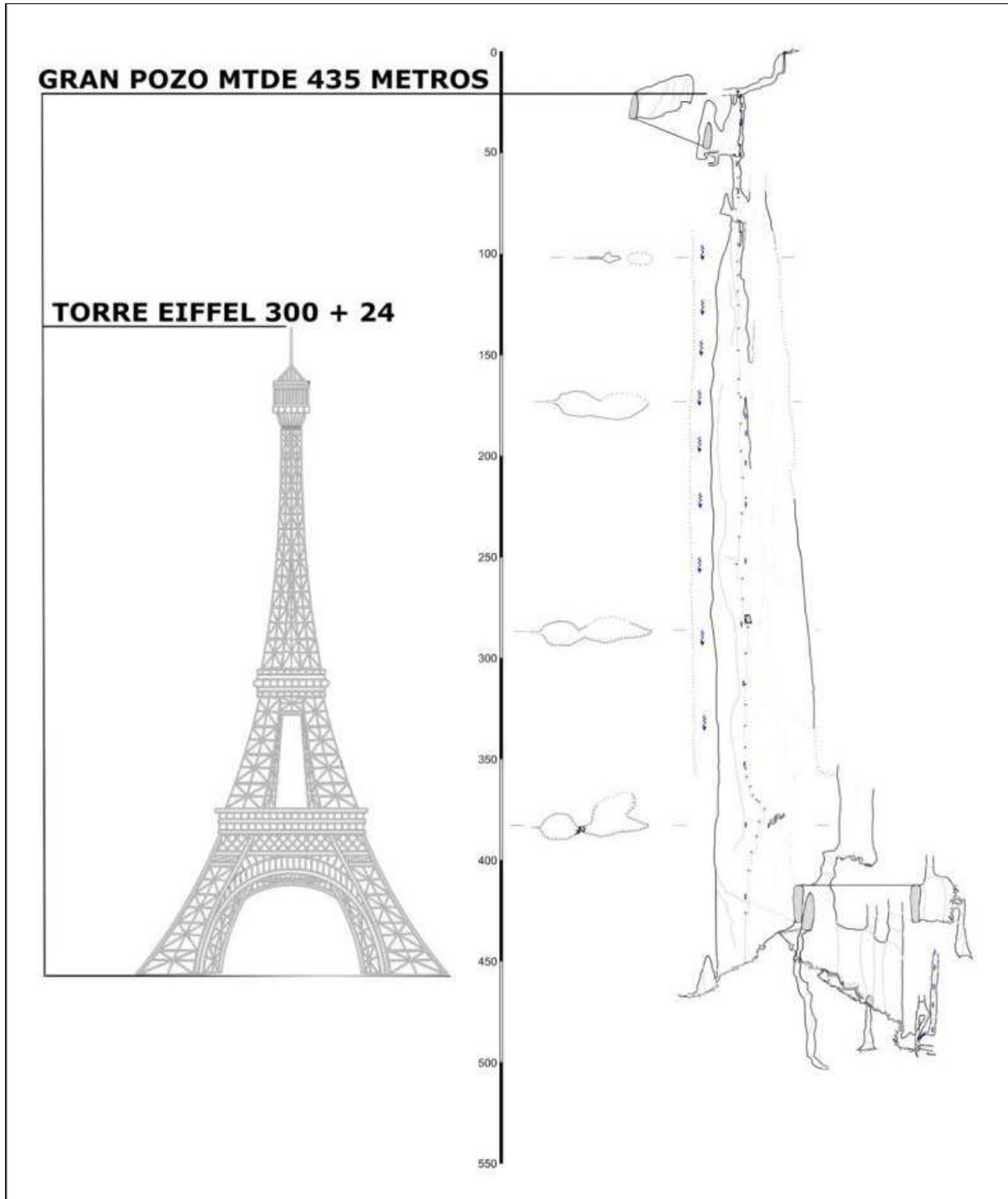
In Alto Asón are three underground systems of more than 120 km length:

- Alto el Tejuelo** 180 km
- Sistema Mortillano** 140 km
- Sistema del Gándara** 126 km



Also has large verticals can be found. The Mortillano system has -970m. depth.

Another reference is the Torca del Porrón with the MTDE well of more than 400 m. depth.



CAVE DIVING

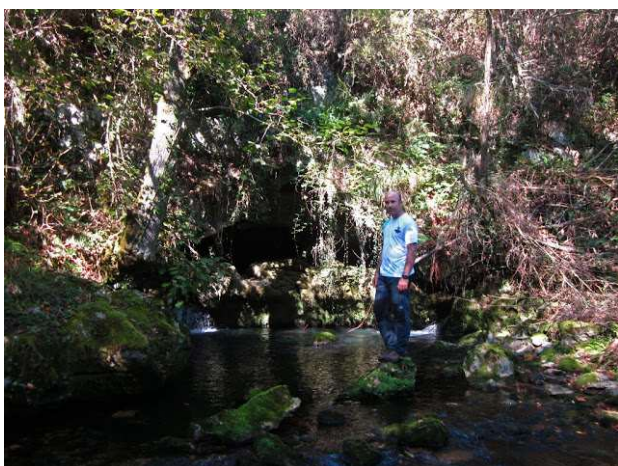
In the region there are several places for the practice and training of speleo-diving:



Sifón de Cuvera



Sifón del Gándara



Sifón de la Fuente del Molino

APPENDIX 5: RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATIONS

In the region there are many accommodations and of all prices, as example our host recommends:

Albergue Rocío:

<https://elalberguederamales.com/> +34 652 968 611

Accommodation: 12 €

Breakfast: 5€

Dinner: 12 €



Camping la Barguilla:

<https://campinglabarguilla.com> +34 682 78 75 78

Camping La Barguilla, bungalows:



Rates: 75 €/ bungalow (4 pax)

Finca Artienza:

<https://fincaartienza.es/> +34 647 848 447

Finca Artienza. Rural apartment:



Rates: 150 € (4 plazas)

