

ISCA NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



ISCA CONFERENCE 2024

Three months left to celebrate the ISCA Conference 2024 in Mulu National Park (Malaysia). **Please, take into account that places are limited and almost full. Check the QR code and register now!** You can find the latest information in this newsletter and contact us if there is any doubt you may have.



ISCA SHOW CAVES BUSINESS SURVEY 2024

We need your help! The International Show Caves Association (ISCA) and National Cave Association USA (NCA) are conducting a survey to gather important information about our show cave industry. Your information is absolutely confidential. Click on [this link](#) to complete it. Thanks!

BECOME AN ISCA MEMBER

Do you own or manage a show cave? Would you like to publish your own materials in our newsletters and share your own social media posts? Do you want to become a member of the International Show Caves Association? Find out more on how to become an ISCA Member. Join us now and get our new ISCA Membership Certificate. Latest member: [Public Institution Barač Caves](#) (Croatia)

LETTER BY THE PRESIDENT



FRIEDRICH OEDL
ISCA PRESIDENT
AUSTRIA
PRESIDENT@I-S-C-A.ORG

Dear ISCA friends,

The high season has now arrived and a new issue of our ISCA newsletter is here too.

In the northern hemisphere, July 2024 marks the beginning of the peak season for many show caves and underground spots who will be welcoming thousands of tourists in the next weeks.

While I am writing this article, I am sitting on a plane which is taking us to a lovely destination which many of you may have visited: Greece. It is a very special country and I have visited it several times in the past, but it always brings new experiences and joy to our holidays.

Such unforgettable experiences are always influenced by a series of ingredients which include food, weather, locals...and landmarks. Among these most crowded and interesting spots we can certainly find show caves, which for some of us are the most incredible places to visit during a trip to a foreign country. However, visiting a show cave will not only be a special event because the caves themselves are wonderful, yet there are other aspects to take into account which include the friendliness and professionalism of the staff, the visit to the cave and its organisation, and the surrounding areas and facilities, which also refer to gift shops and restaurants offering the best menus to create a remarkable holiday event for families, friends and anyone who decides to visit such places.

That is why I wanted to remind you that, at the end of the experience, WE are part of the visitors' final feelings and emotions, and their future feedback will certainly be marked by the service offered. Let's welcome all visitors with our widest smile and best possible experience, as that is what I expect every time I visit Greece one more time. Now I will just be another tourist enjoying all the offers by locals during my time here.

Please, enjoy this newsletter edition and have a nice and succesful summer season.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Friedrich Oedl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fritz Oedl
ISCA President

BY THE EDITOR



My fiancée (Anna) and I at a party last week.



JUANJO TISCAR
ISCA SECRETARY
SPAIN

SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

Dear ISCA family,

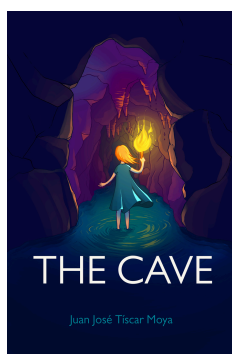
As our dear President has already mentioned, the summer season is here. And with it comes sun, heat, mosquitoes, ice-cream...There are so many words which can be used to describe summer, don't you think so?

However, some of us may refer to the most important holiday season of the year as the time of visiting the highest number of show caves possible.

Above you can find us at a wedding party last week. We had to wear white clothes as guests believed it was a birthday party. Only a few of us knew the truth! We had a wonderful time together. In three weeks (July 25th) we will be leaving Spain. USA...there we go! We are going to have a wonderful time in one of my favourite countries. Anyway, I will give you more info (and pictures) in our next newsletter (September 2024).

Now I wanted to ask for your help. You may have received several e-mails from me asking to complete the **ISCA & NCA Survey 2024**. One more time, I am going to ask you to do so and, if you have already done it, you can also forward the survey link to any show cave manager or association who can provide us with such important data. Remember that results will be shared with all of you, so the more data we can collect, the better.

Finally, my novel. As you may already know, you can find it on Amazon (English and Spanish versions available!). Contact me if you wish to share it at your wonderful show caves!



ISCA LIBRARY

2024

[Volume 23 - May. & Jun.](#)[Volume 22 - Mar. & Apr.](#)[Volume 21 - Jan. & Feb.](#)

2023

[Volume 20 - Nov. & Dec.](#)[Volume 19 - Sep. & Oct.](#)[Volume 18 - Jul. & Aug.](#)[Volume 17 - May. & Jun.](#)[Volume 16 - Mar. & Apr.](#)[Volume 15 - Jan. & Feb.](#)

2022

[Volume 14 - Nov. & Dec.](#)[Volume 13 - Sep. & Oct.](#)[Volume 12 - Jul. & Aug.](#)[Volume 11 - May. & Jun.](#)[Volume 10 - Mar. & Apr.](#)[Volume 9 - Jan. & Feb.](#)

2021

[Volume 8 - Nov. & Dec.](#)[Volume 7 - Sep. & Oct.](#)[Volume 6 - Jul. & Aug.](#)[Volume 5 - May. & Jun.](#)[Volume 4 - Mar. & Apr.](#)[Volume 3 - Jan. & Feb.](#)

2020

[Volume 2 - Nov. & Dec.](#)[Volume 1 - Sep. & Oct.](#)

NOVEMBER, 2023
VOLUME 20

ISCA NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



ISCA CONFERENCE 2024 & CONGRESS 2026

The two locations to celebrate the ISCA Conference 2024 and the 10th ISCA Congress 2026 have been confirmed. In 2024 the ISCA Conference will be taking place in Mulu National Park (Malaysia). Two years later, the ISCA Congress will be held in France, as it was confirmed in the 62nd FFTS Congress which was celebrated in October 2023.





TWO NEW ISCA MEMBERS

The International Show Caves Association welcomes two new ISCA members: *Stalactite Cave Nature Reserve* and *Cueva del Nitro*.




BECOME AN ISCA MEMBER

Do you own or manage a show cave? Would you like to publish your own materials in our newsletters and create your own social media posts? Are you willing to become a member of the International Show Caves Association? Find out more on how to become an ISCA Member. Join us now!

Latest members: *Cayman Crystal Caves* and *Bulgarian Association for Cave and Eco Tourism*.

WWW.I-S-C-A.ORG


WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE ANYTHING IN FUTURE PUBLICATIONS?
CONTACT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

ISCA CONFERENCE 2024



Here is some basic information about the ISCA Conference 2024. This year, we are visiting Mulu National Park (Malaysia). Event dates are as follows:

- Pre-Conference: September 28
- Conference: September 29 - October 2, 2024
- Post-Conference: October 4 - October 6, 2024

The pre- and post-Conference sessions include trips and activities which require a minimum physical condition to guarantee visitors' safety.

Note: places are limited and almost full. If you are not registered yet, you may find out there are no free spots when you try to do it! Are you interested in joining the event?

**SCAN &
REGISTER NOW!**



For additional information, please contact:

Juanjo (ISCA Secretary): secretary@i-s-c-a.org

Nina (Mulu National Park Coordinator): nina@mulupark.com

MULU NATIONAL PARK



**GUNUNG MULU NATIONAL PARK
MALAYSIA**

WWW.MULUPARK.COM

[CONTACT](#)

Mulu National Park will be hosting the ISCA Conference 2024 from September 29 through October 3. However, there are many things you may not know about this incredible and unique place.

While longboats and the visitors' own feet are the only means of transport, Mulu National Park covers around 85 000 ha of some of the oldest pristine rainforests in the world. This huge area is located on the island of Borneo in the Malaysian state of Sarawak, close to the border with Brunei. In addition to the aforementioned rainforests and their exceptional biodiversity, the place also includes an extensive limestone karst area with some of the world's largest cave chambers.

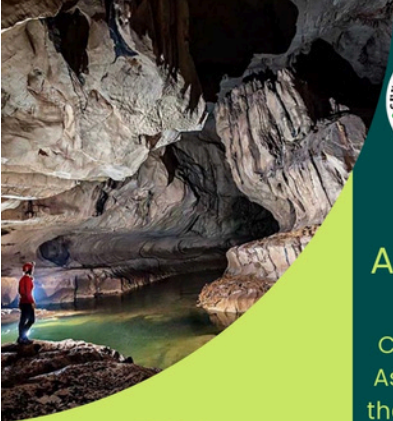
In 2000 Mulu was successfully listed as a World Heritage site, meeting all four criteria in order to do so. The forces of abundant rainwater and ground waters were combined to penetrate the limestone and to start a chemical process which formed one of the longest cave systems in the world. In addition, the island of Borneo is considered as one of the world's biodiversity hotspots, presenting visitors with an outstanding diversity of flora and fauna. Therefore, (rare) plants and animals are to be found almost in every corner.

Would you like to learn more about it? Visit their [official website](#). Even better, if you'd rather live it in person, join our ISCA Conference 2024 now and visit Mulu for an unforgettable experience surrounded by true cavers.



Vast chambers await visitors in Mulu National Park. MuluNationalPark.com

ISCA CONFERENCE 2024



ISCA CONFERENCE 2024

**Mulu National Park, World
Heritage Area, Sarawak,
Malaysia**

**29th September -
3rd October 2024**




ABOUT THE EVENT

It will be the first ISCA Conference in South East Asia, Mulu National Park is the largest National Park in Sarawak and one of the first to be considered World Heritage Site in Malaysia

CONTACT

JUANJO TISCAR MOYA
SECRETARY ISCA
+34 660 24 46 50
secretary@i-s-c-a.org

NINA
MULU NATIONAL PARK
PROMO COORDINATOR
+60 14 286 6488
nina@mulupark.com



WHERE IS MULU?

It is situated in Malaysian State of Sarawak, in the island of Borneo, Malaysia

HOW TO GET TO MULU?

Mulu is reachable by flight (no land road). Transit Kuala Lumpur & Miri/ Kuching/ Kota Kinabalu then another ATR flight by Maswings (subsidiary of Malaysia Airlines) to Mulu.
**Miri is the shortest flight duration to Mulu - 30 mins)*





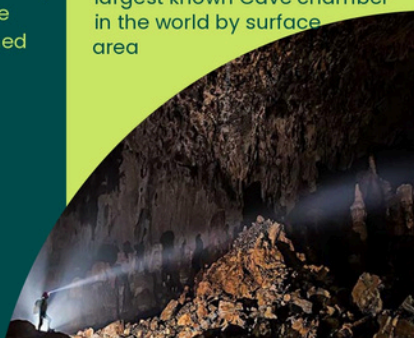
WHY MULU?

MULU MEETS ALL 4 Criteria for World Heritage!

- Earth's History and Geological Features
- Ecological Processes
- Superlative Natural Phenomena or Natural Beauty and Aesthetic Importance
- Biodiversity and Threatened Species

ABOUT MULU

- Deer Cave, the largest Cave passage in the world (by volume)
- The Bat exodus is a grand spectacle natural phenomenon of 3 million bats flying out of Deer Cave which include endemic bats species, the Wrinkle Lip Bat.
- The Clearwater Cave is the 8th longest cave system in the World which offer both Show Caves & Adventure Caving intermediate/advance level
- Sarawak Chamber is the largest known Cave chamber in the world by surface area



ISCA CONFERENCE 2024

**REGISTER
NOW!**



FUN FACT ABOUT MULU

- There are no banks, ATM's – prepare cash for local markets. Card (Visa/Master) is acceptable in Park HQ/Marriott
- Mulu has a clinic but bring your own sufficient supply of prescription medicines
- Alcohol is available in Mulu
- Two dominant tribes in Mulu are Berawan and Penan – mostly Christian orientated
- Malaysia is a drug free country
- The food is mostly spicy! (vegetarian menu available)
- Internet connectivity is OFTEN limited, please get a Digi simcard (strong signal at Park HQ) or Maxis simcard (strong signal at Marriott)

HOW TO JOIN

Kindly scan below google form:



- RAIN in the rainforest is a dominant force and occurs daily, often interrupting flights and excursions – be flexible, be patient, be in tune with NATURE
- Raingear and non-slip shoes are essential
- Drink enough water to combat dehydration
- The temperatures could be in the high 20 degree Celsius with a 99% humidity
- See www.mulupark.com for more Mulu survival tips



ISCA CONFERENCE 2024: PRICES AND EARLY BIRD FEES

Check below for new prices both at Park HQ and Marriot.

1. PRICE FOR 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (PRE & CONFERENCE - **PARK HQ**) - SINGLE OCCUPANCY - **RM2440, 1 PAX (RM1750 1 PAX early bird fee)**
2. PRICE FOR 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (PRE & CONFERENCE - **PARK HQ**) - TWIN SHARING - **RM3864, 2 PAX (RM2484 2 PAX early bird fee)**
3. PRICE FOR 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (PRE & CONFERENCE - **MARRIOTT**) SINGLE OCCUPANCY - **RM3385, 1 PAX**
4. PRICE FOR 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (PRE & CONFERENCE - **MARRIOTT**) DELUXE TWIN SHARING - **RM4970, 2 PAX**
5. PRICE FOR 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (PRE & CONFERENCE - **MARRIOTT**) PREMIER TWIN SHARING - **RM5370, 2 PAX**

Early bird fees have already been completed!

ISCA CONFERENCE 2024: TENTATIVE AGENDA

Please, take into account that the following data is subject to change.

September 30

- 7.45 – 8.15am – Registration, Arrival of Guests, Arrival of VIPS, Welcoming dance
- 8.30am – Welcoming address by ADUN MULU – Yang Berhormat Datuk Gerawat Gala (tbc)
- 8.45am – Welcoming address by ISCA President – Mr Friedrich Oedl
- 9.00am – Welcoming address by the Controller of National Park & Nature Reserves, Controller of Wildlife, CEO Sarawak Forestry Corporation – Tuan Abang Arabi Bin Abang Aimran (tbc)
- 9.15am – Welcoming address by Mulu National Park Manager – Mr Hein Gerstner
- 9.30am – Mulu Caves expedition – Mr Andy Eavis (Expedition leader, Royal Geographical Soc.)
- 10.00 – Tea break
- 10.30am – Significance of Mulu on the World Heritage value spectrum – (tbc)
- 11am – Development of showcaves in Mulu from 1986 – Mr Oswald Braken Tisen (First Mulu National Park warden from 1986 onward/Ex-Deputy CEO Sarawak Forestry Corporation) & Mr Rambli Ahmad (Manager consultancy Services, Sarawak Forestry Corporation)
- 11.40am – Showcaves tourism & adjacent communities, advantages & disadvantages – Mr Bian Rumei (Mulu Park Tourism Services Manager)
- 12pm – Showcaves in remote areas – a survival guide & rescue - Mr Kenneth Nilong (Mulu Park senior guide & MOCSAR member)
- 12.30pm - Lunch(Marriott)
- 2pm – 6pm – Deer & Lang caves tour

October 1

- 8.30am – Wind & Clearwater caves tour
- 12pm – Lunch (Marriott)
- 2pm – What is tropical karst and why is it vastly different? - (tbc)
- 2.30pm – The post covid recovery period, what did we learn? How can we re-design our showcaves business models? – Mr Juanjo Tiscar Moya (ISCA secretary)
- 3pm – Importance of climate change in term of Show caves management – Mr Hein Gerstner (Mulu Park Manager)
- 3.30pm – Bats in Mulu (Biodiversity & Conservation) - (tbc)
- 4pm – Tea break
- 4.30pm – Managing visitor impacts in wild caves, an Australian perspective - John Brush (Australasian Cave & Karst Management Association)
- 5pm – Exploring the Fascinating World of Caves in Georgia - Tamar Tabagari (Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia)
- 5.30pm – Q&A

October 2

- 8.30am – Medicinal walk/Botany walk/Canopy tour walk
- 11.30am – Lunch (Marriott/Park HQ)
- 1.30pm – Discover Bulgaria: A Natural Paradise – Ivo Kabadozov (The Bulgarian Association for Caves and Eco Tourism)
- 2.00pm – Cave Diving & Malaysia Cave Diving Association introduction – Mr Lee Kian Lee & Mr Md Rosman (Malaysia Cave Diving Association)
- 2.30pm – (available slot)
- 3pm – Using 3D technology in cave conservation, presentation and education - Csaba Egri (National Parks and Landscape Protection Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary),
- 3.30pm – tea break (30 minutes)
- 4pm – ISCA details/membership – Mr Juanjo Tiscar Moya (ISCA secretary)
- 4.30pm – Q&A, dismiss
- 7.30pm – Gala dinner

Note: the agenda is almost closed but we are open to your suggestions!

ISCA CONFERENCE 2024: AVAILABLE TOURS

Below you can find the list of tours available during pre-Conference, Conference and post-Conference days. The list includes dates, departure time, duration, number of slots and price per person. If you have any doubt regarding the difficulty or any other aspect of each activity, please contact us.

		TOURS AVAILABLE	DEPARTURE TIME	DURATION	LIMIT	PRICE PER PERSON
PRE CONFERENCE	27-sept	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		RACER CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	1PM	2 - 3HRS	6 PERSON	RM165
		LAGANG CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	1PM	2 - 3HRS	6 PERSON	RM160
		NIGHTWALK TOUR	7PM	2 HRS	6 PERSON	RM25
	28-sept	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		STONEHORSE CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	1PM	3HRS	6 PERSON	RM135
		CLEARWATER CONNECTION ADVANCE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	WHOLE DAY	6 PERSON	RM225
		NIGHTWALK TOUR	7PM	2 HRS	6 PERSON	RM25
	29-sept	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		FRUITBAT & KENYALANG CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	WHOLE DAY	6 PERSON	RM270
		CLEARWATER CONNECTION ADVANCE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	WHOLE DAY	6 PERSON	RM225
		NIGHTWALK TOUR	7PM	2 HRS	6 PERSON	RM25
CONFERENCE	30-sept	DEER & LANG SHOWCAVES	2.30PM	4 HRS	ALL PARTICIPANTS	INCLUDE IN THE REGISTRATION FEE
	1-oct	WIND & CLEARWATER SHOWCAVES	8.30AM	4 HRS		
	2-oct	BOTANICAL/MEDICINAL & CANOPY SKYWALK TOUR	8.30AM	2.5HRS		
POST CONFERENCE	3-oct	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		PINNACLES TOUR	9.30AM	3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS - RETURN ON 5/10	20 PERSON	RM455
		SARAWAK CHAMBER ADVANCE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	2 DAYS 1 NIGHT - RETURN ON 4/10	8 PERSON	RM312
		LAGANG CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	2 - 3HRS	6 PERSON	RM160
		NIGHTWALK TOUR	7PM	2 HRS	6 PERSON	RM25
	4-oct	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		PINNACLES TOUR	9.30AM	3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS - RETURN ON 6/10	20 PERSON	RM455
		CLEARWATER CONNECTION ADVANCE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	WHOLE DAY	6 PERSON	RM225
		RACER CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	1PM	2 - 3HRS	6 PERSON	RM165
		NIGHTWALK TOUR	7PM	2 HRS	6 PERSON	RM25
	5-oct	FASTLANE SHOWCAVE	2PM	2HRS	12 PERSON	RM65
		FRUITBAT & KENYALANG CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	9AM	WHOLE DAY	6 PERSON	RM270
		STONEHORSE CAVE INTERMEDIATE ADVENTURE CAVING	1PM	3HRS	6 PERSON	RM135

Contact details:

- secretary@i-s-c-a.org (Juanjo, ISCA)
- nina@mulupark.com (Nina, Mulu National Park)

SHOW CAVES SURVEY 2024



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



As explained in our previous newsletter, the International Show Caves Association and the US National Caves Association (NCA) will be cooperating one more year in order to carry out a survey on the show cave business, just as they did two years ago. In 2022, the ISCA & NCA research conducted by Core Research received 127 responses representing 152 show caves from all over the world. The data collected served to establish a baseline for the significance of the show cave industry and how show caves contribute to the global economy, monitor the recovery of show caves after the COVID-19 pandemic, and identify show cave manager's immediate concerns and plans for the future. Special thanks to the Bulgarian Association for Cave and Eco Tourism (BAPET), who showed interest in providing financial support for this year's study.

**Click here to complete
the ISCA & NCA Survey
2024 now!**



You can now complete the ISCA & NCA Survey 2024 and share it with other show cave managers and associations. The final results will be shared in the next months in order to help us understand the importance of show caves and how we can improve their management in order to create the best possible experience for visitors. Please, do not hesitate to share it. We encourage all of you to take part and complete the survey once you receive it.



ISCA MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE RENEWED



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

The new version of the International Show Caves Association Membership Certificate is already available and it has been shared with our members. If you have not received yours, please contact us so that we can send it to you asap.

This new certificate, which has now been used for some months, can be found at the main entrance of show caves which are members of the association. If you want to become one of them, follow the instructions in the 'Join Us' section at the end of this document. Become an ISCA member now!

It is hereby certified that

**Saalfelder Feengrotten
und Tourismus GmbH**

is a member in good standing of the International
Show Caves Association and is committed to:

Upholding the aims and objectives of the
International Show Caves Association.

Promoting proper management to ensure
the conservation and preservation of
show caves.

Promoting a concern in show cave
management for the safety of
visitors and guests in the use
and enjoyment of show caves.


ISCA President

 International
Show Caves
Association

**2024
CERTIFICATE
OF MEMBERSHIP**

BAPET, WELCOME TO AUSTRIA!



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



The Bulgarian Association for Cave and Eco Tourism (BAPET), lead by their President Ivo Kabadozov, visited ISCA President Friedrich Oedl in Austria at the end of May.

During the visit, both representatives were able to share their expertise and experiences in order to establish an even deeper relationship between their associations. As you may already know, BAPET also visited Spain and met ISCA Secretary Juanjo Tíscar last year, which served as a starting point in the relationship between BAPET and ISCA. Later, BAPET joined ISCA and they even contributed to the execution of the ISCA and NCA Survey 2024 which is currently being conducted.



Friedrich Oedl (ISCA President) and Ivo Kabadozov (BAPET President).



Friedrich Oedl (ISCA President) and Ivo Kabadozov (BAPET President) while visiting Eisriesenwelt (Austria).

This year, Mr. Kabadozov visited Eisriesenwelt (Austria), the World of the Ice Giants, and was impressed by the beauty of one of the most incredible ice show caves in the world. The discussions between representatives highlighted the common commitment to promote cave tourism and ecotourism, as well as the foundations for future initiatives and partnership.

ISCA President Friedrich Oedl wrote a letter of recommendation which aims at promoting the work performed by BAPET at executing national, European, and international projects, programs, and initiatives. The document highlights that BAPET “spans the development of policies and legislation for cave management and conservation, biodiversity preservation, cultural and historical heritage protection, eco-tourism advancement, efficient use of natural resources, and the achievement of sustainable development goals.”

The International Show Caves Association wanted to express their gratitude to BAPET because of their growing interest in becoming an important member of the association, and we really expect them to take part in future projects.

#CAVEDAY CELEBRATIONS



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



This year, the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World (aka 'Cave Day') was a success all over the world. On June 6, many caves and underground spots worldwide celebrated one of the most important dates in our calendar. ISCA wanted to thank the French Federation of Tourism and Subterranean Heritage (FFTS) for supporting this cause by creating a new logo which will certainly be useful for future events. In addition, they manufactured magnets which were shared with the FFTS members so that their visitors could get a free gift on June 6. This image (logo) will become part of many homes in the years to come.



Besides, we also wanted to express our most sincere gratitude to all the participants who decided to take part in CaveDay by sharing their activities with us. Discounts, concerts and themed tours, among others, were some of the special events which were organised in order to create awareness on the importance of the underground world. We really expect this to help achieve our common goal and have June 6 recognised by institutions as the official International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World.

Here are some of the events we received by [Kentucky Geological Survey](#) (Kentucky, USA), [Pećinski park Grabovača](#) (Croatia) and [Gruta de las Maravillas](#) (Aracena, Spain). If you wish to share yours, e-mail us to secretary@i-s-c-a.org.



Kentucky Geological Survey

6 de junio a las 16:24 · 🌐

Happy National Caves and Karst Day and International Cave Day (right in the middle of [National Park Service's Caves Week 2024](#))!

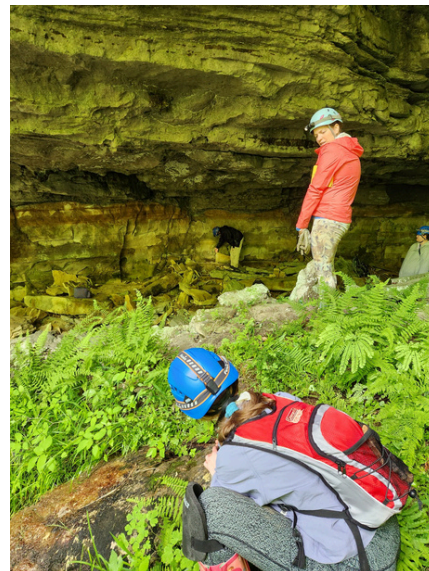
[#Kentucky](#) is world-renowned for its karst. Karst is a landscape with sinkholes, sinking streams, caves, and springs. So when [#KGS's](#) Potter interns started developing their research projects in Red River Gorge, were they influenced by the area's beautiful scenery and unique environment? Of karst.

All 6 interns chose to pursue [#geology](#) research questions related to Kentucky karst:

- Does structural geology correlate to cave passage formation?
- How much water is stored long term in the karst system?
- Do we see changes in nutrients in the cave stream?
- Is there evidence of organic contamination in the aquifer?
- Do nutrients, water storage, contamination, and how the cave forms impact where salamanders are?
- Do nutrients, water storage, contamination, and how the cave forms impact cave biodiversity?

We're passing on the love of caves and karst to the next generation.

[International Show Caves Association](#), [National Speleological Society](#), [UIS - Union Internationale de Spéléologie](#) [#caveweek](#) [#cavesandkarst](#) [#caveday](#) [#InternationalCaveDay](#) [#Internationaldayofcave](#)



Pećinski park Grabovača

6 de junio de 2023 · 🌐

Vidimo kako se važnost podzemnog svijeta postupno povećava, a turistički uređene špilje prihvaćaju svoju ulogu u zaštiti i očuvanju takvih mjesta. 🐦

Podzemni krajolici pružaju jedinstveno podzemno stanište životinjama i čuvaju krhke arheološke i paleontološke materijale za buduće generacije. Špilje su mjesta čudesa, misterije i veličanstvene ljepote. ❤️

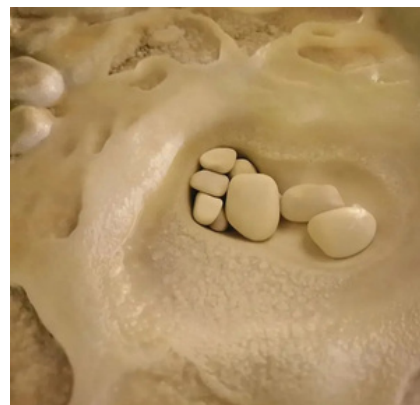
Turističke špilje također igraju drugu važnu ulogu, i to u turizmu održivog gospodarskog razvoja, pružanju radnih mjesta i promociji svojih regija. Danas postoji više od 1600 turističkih špilja u svijetu koje posjeti preko 150 milijuna posjetitelja godišnje.

Happy [#CaveDay](#) !

[International Show Caves Association](#)

Tekst preuzet od [Jama-Grotta Baredine](#) 🌱

Na slici je kamenica s netaknutim špiljskim biserima 🍷



Oficina Municipal de Turismo de Aracena

2 de junio de 2023 · 🌐

Se acerca el Día Mundial de las Cuevas y del Mundo Subterráneo....¿te sumas a su celebración?

[#Aracena](#), Ciudad de la Gruta de las Maravillas. [#Caveday](#)

[Cuevas Turísticas](#)

[Huelva Turismo](#)

[Centro de visitantes Cabildo Viejo](#)

[Turismo Aracena](#)

[Ayuntamiento Aracena](#)

[International Show Caves Association](#)



[#ARACENA](#)



Members of the FFTS did not miss the opportunity to celebrate June 6 sharing similar posters which included the events of each show cave in the French country. You can click on each one and you will be taken to their official sites. And make sure to follow them on social networks so that you do not miss anything in the future. What an incredible job by the FFTS!

**Osez l'aventure intérieure
EN TYROLIENNE**
Avec TAUPE CANYON

Accueillir
Protéger
Émerveiller

La Balme les Grottes - Nord Isère
les samedi 8 et dimanche 9 juin de 10h30 à 16h30

FFTS

**Accueillir
Protéger
Émerveiller**

Un magnet du logo offert
à chaque famille !

Evénement suivi de nos
**1er RENCONTRES
SOUTERRAINES
DE SAINT-MARCEL** 7&8 juin 2024

Le 6 juin, célébrez la Journée Internationale des Grottes Touristiques et du Monde Souterrain avec les membres de la Fédération Française du Tourisme et Patrimoine Souterrain en collaboration avec l'International Show Caves Association.

www.fts.fr/carte-et-liste-grottes-de-france/

Fédération Française du Tourisme & Patrimoine Souterrain & Fédération Française de Spéléologie
Les membres de la FFTS et de la FFS s'unissent pour vous faire découvrir le monde souterrain

**Journée Internationale
des Grottes Touristiques
et du Monde Souterrain**
6 juin 2023
6th June 2023
International Day of Caves and Subterranean World

**les grottes · harspeak®
Isturitz & Oxocelhaya**
PRÉHISTOIRE & GÉOLOGIE

PROGRAMME AUX GROTTES D'ISTURITZ & OXOCELHAYA
Saint Martin d'Arberoue 64440 France

10H30 - Visite grand public
11H00 - Accueil sur le site de Christian Normand, préhistorien, en charge des recherches contemporaines d'ISTURITZ
11H30 - Visite d'Isturitz en sa compagnie... après Isturitz, Florian Berrouet vous fera découvrir Oxocelhaya
14H00 à 17H00 - Visites grand public toutes les heures
14H30 à 16H30 - Accueil de Florian Berrouet préhistorien sur l'esplanade couverte du site. En sa compagnie vous pourrez découvrir les projections de films/reportages de Franck Urkia, sur les campagnes de fouilles contemporaines et le film de Virtual Ware sur "l'Art Rupestre d'Oxocelhaya !"

17H00 - 2023 est l'année du lancement du thème de recherche : « Patrimoine Sonore des Mondes Souterrains » par Pierre Estève compositeur et musicologue : Le projet - Ses recherches - Les collaborations
17H30 - Visite "Sonore et Sensitive" des 2 grottes en sa compagnie, découverte de ses créations sonores tout au long du parcours.
19H00 - Un moment de partage, d'échanges et d'amitié entre Sapiens : Un Pot de l'amitié vous sera offert !!!

Regards croisés sur le monde souterrain
Converging Views on Subterranean World
www.fts.fr / #jigt2023

FFTS

**Accueillir
Protéger
Émerveiller**

Un magnet du logo offert
à chaque famille !

**JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE DES GROTTES
TOURISTIQUES**

Célébrez la Journée Internationale des Grottes Touristiques et du Monde Souterrain avec le Gouffre Géant de Cabrespine en collaboration avec Objectif Image 11 Alaric et Lauran Cabaret.

Toute la journée:
Exposition Photos d'Objectif Image 11 Alaric
À partir de 14h00 :
Dégustation de la nouvelle cuvée "Schiste" du Cellier Laurant Cabaret

Nos partenaires : FFTS

**JEUDI 06 JUIN 2024
AU GOUFFRE GÉANT DE CABRESPINE**

Cenotes Urbanos (Mexico), Cave of the Mounds (Wisconsin, USA) and the Spanish Show Caves Association (Spain) did not want to miss the opportunity to take part in the event. We would love to include all your posts, but this newsletter would be extremely long. However, we will add all the information in our June 6 Dossier, which will be updated in the weeks to come. Please do not forget to send your materials to secretary@i-s-c-a.org.



Cenotes Urbanos

6 de junio a las 17:36 · 🌐

¡Celebremos el Día Internacional de las Cuevas y el Mundo Subterráneo!

Les compartimos estas fotos que capturaron nuestros voluntarios 😊

#CaveDay

Muchas gracias a Mónica, Daniel Huitzi, Valentina, Sonia, José Antonio, María Dolores, Andrés, Gala Fernanda, Alejandra, María de los Angeles.

Todos los créditos a ellos, ¡la base de nuestra comunidad activa forma parte de los voluntarios en #CenotesUrbanos!

#SinCenotesNoHayParaíso

<https://www.i-s-c-a.org/.../76-international-day-of-caves...>

International Show Caves Association



**Cave of the Mounds
National Natural Landmark**

6 de junio a las 17:51 · 🌐

Happy Caves & Karst Day!

🎥: Robbi and Matthew



Cuevas Turísticas

6 de junio a las 10:00 · 🌐

🤖 ¡Ya es seis de junio! En la Asociación de #CuevasTurísticas Españolas, celebramos a lo grande el Día Internacional de las #Cuevas y del Mundo #Subterráneo.

Y lo hacemos, con contenido original de divulgación en la web de #ACTE y en nuestro canal de Youtube, como esta entrevista a Rafael Pagés, Vicepresidente, ya disponible en todos nuestros canales.

¡Síguenos y comparte!



CUEVATUR 2024: REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL OPEN AND SECOND CIRCULAR AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD



The 9th Spanish Congress on Show Caves and Mines, CUEVATUR IX, will be celebrated in Karrantza (Bizkaia, Spain), where Pozalagua Cave is located, from October 22 to October 25.

As found on ACTE's official site, the first of the days will be dedicated to the collection of credentials and guests will be able to visit Mina Ángela. On October 23 and 24, a series of lectures and talks will take place around key aspects of the management of caves and mines from the perspective of science and tourism. Finally, on October 25, the event will end with an international round table and the ACTE Assembly.

The scientific committee will be made up by Arantza Aramburu Artano (University of the Basque Country) and Juan José Durán (Spanish Show Caves Association), among others.

Two years after its celebration in Pulpi (Almería, Spain), a new meeting will be taking place in the North of the country, where experts from different corners will meet in order to share ideas and experiences about the subterranean tourism, a sector which has become the spearhead of innovative and sustainable tourism, especially in rural regions and thanks to its natural and cultural heritage. This time, the event's main theme will be 'Geology and Tourism: Complementary Realities'.

You can now [register](#) and download the second circular of the Congress on the [Spanish Show Caves Association \(ACTE\) official site](#) (file in Spanish), where you will find more details about the event.

CUEVATUR
2024
IX CONGRESO ESPAÑOL SOBRE
CUEVAS Y MINAS TURÍSTICAS



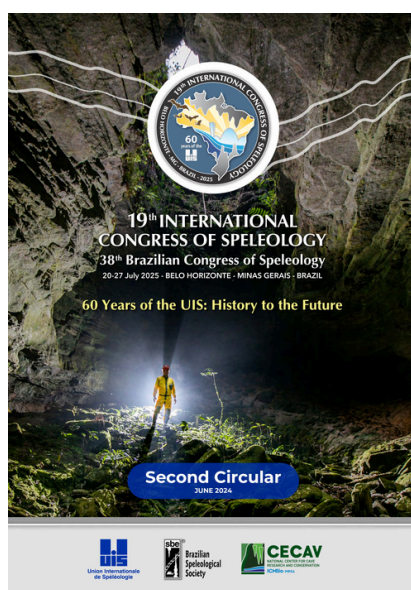
19TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SPELEOLOGY: SECOND CIRCULAR



We are pleased to share the second circular of the 19th International Congress of Speleology (ICS). The event, which will take place in Belo Horizonte (Brazil), will be hosted by the the Brazilian Speleological Society (SBE) and the National Center for Research and Conservation of Caves (ICMBio/CECAV) from July 20 through July 27, 2025. At the same time, the event will serve to celebrate the 38th Brazilian Congress of Speleology (CBE) and the 60th Anniversary of the UIS.

Seventy-two years after the first ICS (Paris, 1953), the host city of the 19th ICS in 2025 will be Belo Horizonte (Brazil), capital of the state of Minas Gerais. For the occasion, the main theme of the event will be “60 Years of the UIS: History to the Future.” As stated in the second circular, “the main purpose of the ICS is to bring together the cutting-edge in cave and karst science, speleological explorations around the world, and clearly, to promote the widespread expansion of knowledge with a view to contributing to the conservation of speleological heritage.”

You can also visit the official site of the event for additional information.



19th ICS second circular. UIS.

IWIC-X: 10TH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ICE CAVES



IWIC-X. Official site.

The International Workshop on Ice Caves (IWIC) is held every two years. In the past, it was celebrated in Cluj-Napoca (Romania, 2004), Demanovská Dolina (Slovakia, 2006), Kungur (Russia, 2008), Obertraun (Austria, 2010), Grigna-Milan (Italy, 2012), Idaho Falls (USA, 2014), Postojna (Slovenia, 2016), Picos de Europa (Spain, 2018), and Liptovský Mikuláš (Slovakia, 2022). This year, the IWIC-X took place in Werfenweng, Austria, from May 12 to 18. Over 40 participants from all over the world discussed the latest research concerning underneath ice deposits. During this week, many lectures were presented and two excursions took participants into Eisriesenwelt cave and Dachstein ice cave. The event served to prove how scientists and show caves can work together in order to achieve common goals. If you are interested in learning more about IWIC, please contact us and we will be providing you with the necessary information in order to participate in future workshops.



IWIC-X. Eisriesenwelt.

NIAGARA CAVE: NCA CONVENTION 2024 AND...HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY!



Niagara Cave (Minnesota, USA) recently celebrated its 100th year anniversary. According to the owners of the cave, the bishop family mentioned that they had decided to celebrate their 100th anniversary on June 1 as that was the day when the cave became open to the public back in 1934 after having been discovered just 10 years earlier.

This year, the cave offered a series of special events in order to celebrate with cave visitors. These included mini golf, special tours and store coupons.



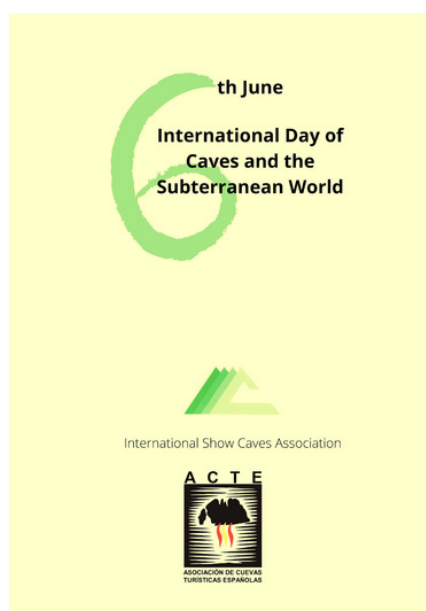
This year, Niagara Cave is hosting the NCA Convention 2024 on October 7-10. You can register now and check the tentative agenda. Don't miss it!

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST



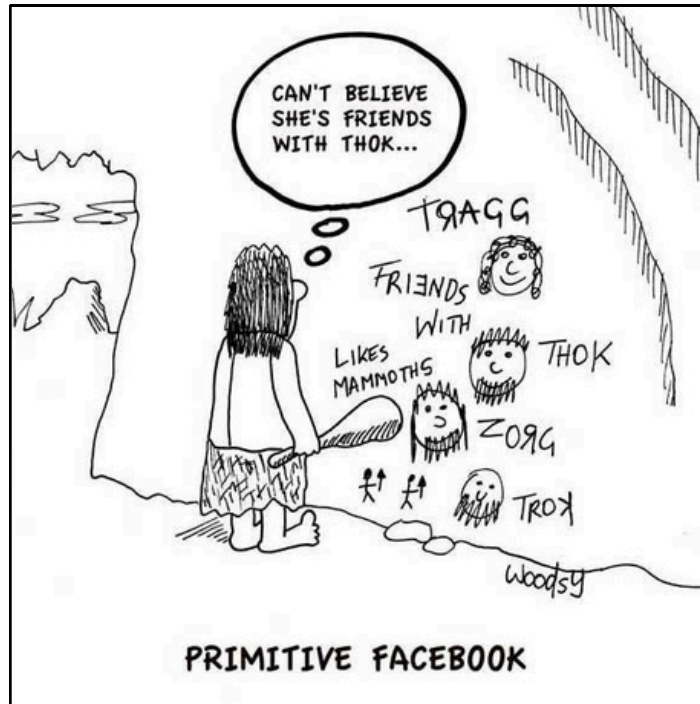
EuroSpeleo Newsletter

February 2024

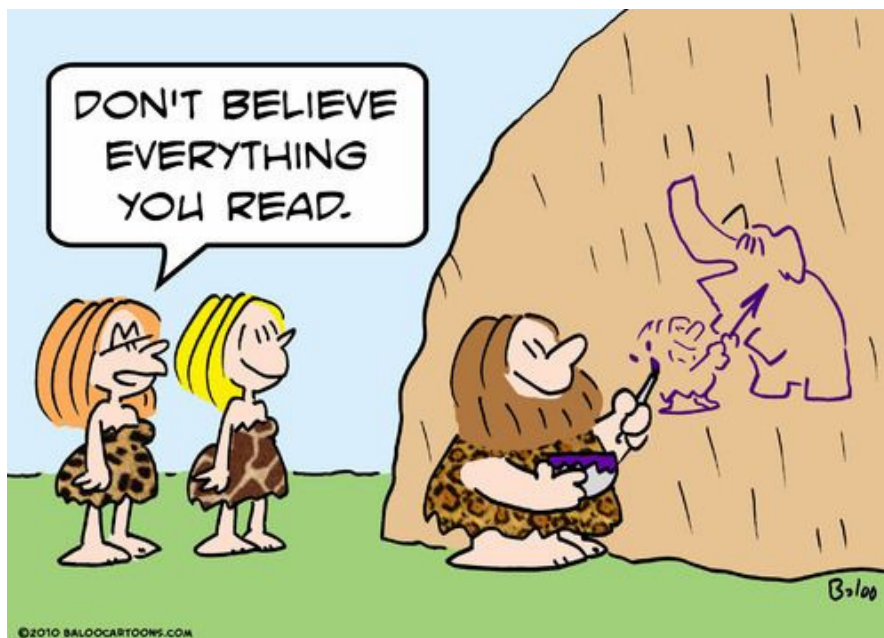


WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE A PUBLICATION?
SEND IT TO US AT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

THE FUNNY SIDE OF CAVES



Mary Evans (Pinterest)



BalooCartoons.com

WHAT CAVE IS IT?

CAVE #36



What cave is it? *Tripadvisor*

HINTS

HINT #1 - It is said to be one of Europe's longest navigable underground rivers.

HINT #2 - As you can see in the picture, visitors can enjoy an unforgettable guided boat ride.

DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWER?
SEND IT TO SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

Last month's CAVE #36 was Barač Caves (Croatia).

Barač Caves (Croatia) are a significant archaeological and paleontological finding site in which bones of many Pleistocene species were found. Some of them have been extinct for over 10 000 years!

ISCA CALENDAR

2024

July 1 - 5 - NSS Convention 2024 (Sewanee, Tennessee, USA)

July 4 - International Toast of Caving Friends

August 9 - 20 - International Speleo Expedition to Southern Tien Shan (Kyrgyzstan)

August 14 - World Caving Day

September 9 - 13 - 7th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium (Slovakia)

September 29 - October 3 - ISCA Conference (Mulu National Park, Malaysia)

October 3 - 6 - TAG Fall Cave-In (Union Grove, Alabama, USA)

October 6 - 10 - National Cave & Karst Management Symposium (Ely, Nevada, USA)

October 7 - 10 - NCA Convention (Niagara Cave, Harmony, Minnesota, USA)

October 22 - 25 - CUEVATUR IX (Karrantza, Bizkaia, Spain)

November 18 - 22 - IAAPA (Orlando, Florida, USA)

2025 & 2026

April 17 - International Bar Appreciation Day

June 6 - International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World

July 4 - International Toast of Caving Friends

August 14 - World Caving Day

2025 - NCA Convention (Luray Caverns, Harrisonburg, Virginia, USA)

July 20 - 27 - 19th International Congress of Speleology (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)

2026 - 10th ISCA Congress (France)

NOTE: THESE DATES MAY SUFFER CHANGES.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE AN EVENT?

CONTACT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG



JOIN US

How to become an ISCA member?

1. Send the [ISCA Membership Application Form](#) and a recommendation by an ISCA Full Member.
2. Wait for approval by the ISCA Board of Directors.
3. Annual due should be paid after approval. Check ISCA Membership Application Form for info.
4. You are now an ISCA member, congratulations! You should receive an [ISCA Membership Certificate](#) soon.

MORE INFORMATION ON OUR [WEBSITE](#)

DOUBTS?

CONTACT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

Is there anything else you need?

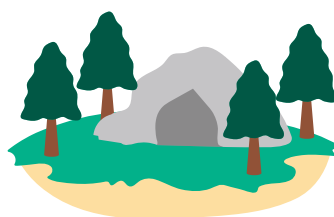
Make sure you visit our website in order not to miss anything:



[NEWS AND
PUBLICATIONS](#)



[RENEWAL
FORM](#)



[ISCA HISTORY](#)



[ORGANIZATION](#)

DO YOU STILL NEED SOMETHING ELSE FROM US?

CONTACT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

FUTURE ISCA EVENTS DEPEND ON YOU

Would you like to host an ISCA event?

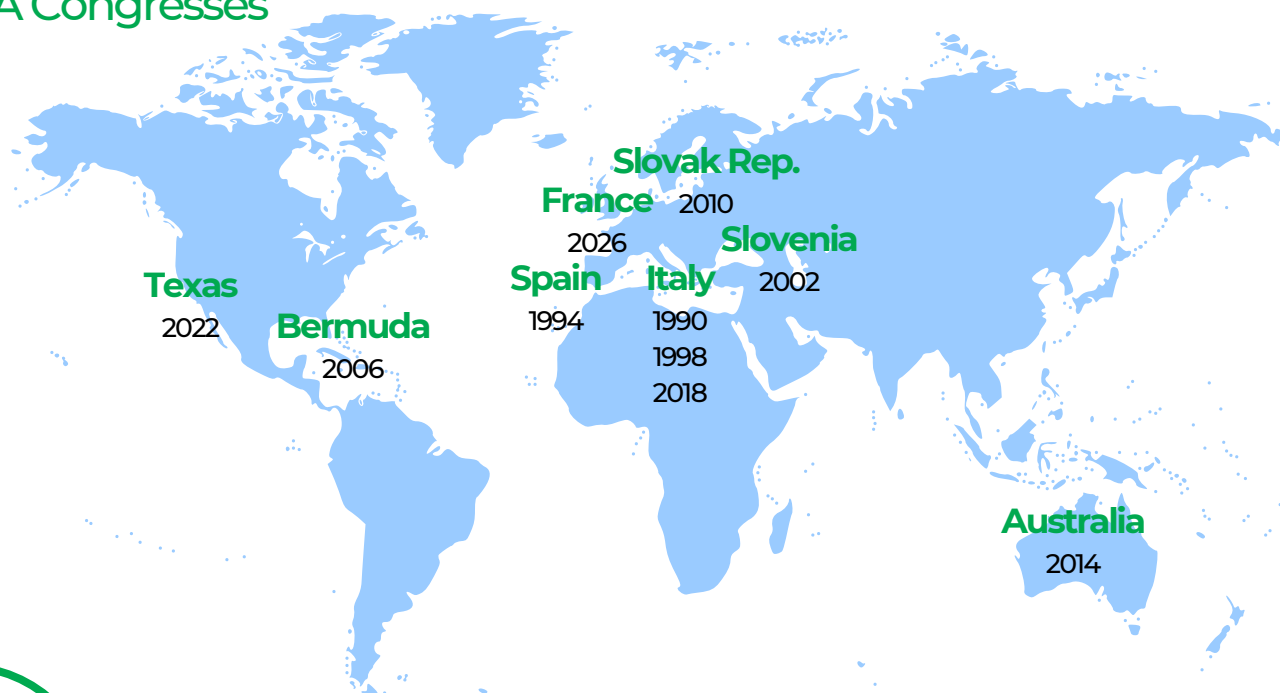
1. **ISCA Congresses.** They are held every four years, preferably during the months of October and/or November. The venue for future congresses shall be determined in the General Assembly of the preceding Congress. General Assemblies take place during each ISCA Congress and they are expected to be held over a period of one day.
2. **ISCA Conferences.** They shall be held two years after the celebration of a Congress, preferably during the months of October and/or November. Applications for sanction to hold a Conference shall be received by the Secretary not less than six (6) months before the proposed Conference is scheduled to commence.
3. **ISCA Meetings.** Meeting may be held in the intervening year between a Congress and any Conference. No more than one ISCA Meeting per year may be sanctioned. Applications for sanction to hold an ISCA Meeting shall be received by the Secretary not less than six (6) months before the proposed ISCA Meeting is scheduled to commence. Applicants must be made by a Full Member of the Association.

Download the [ISCA Constitution](#) and learn more about these events.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOSTING AN ISCA EVENT?

CONTACT SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

ISCA Congresses



LINKS OF INTEREST



ARE WE MISSING YOUR ORGANIZATION?
SEND YOUR LOGO (HIGH QUALITY) TO SECRETARY@I-S-C-A.ORG

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ISCA NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

ABOUT US

The International Show Caves Association (ISCA) was founded in 1990 and is headquartered in Frasassi/Genga, Italy. ISCA is an international organization of persons, associations, corporations, and government agencies who own, manage or operate show caves that are open to the public. ISCA provides a critical forum for show caves to network and collaborate on matters that pertain to their caves. ISCA aims to promote, encourage, and support the cooperation of show cave operators, speleologists and cave enthusiasts through the sharing of information and to promote the preservation and conservation of caves, while increasing public interest in the world of show caves by way of unique marketing and the evolution of methods to enhance the show cave experience.

Would you like to contribute? Contact us!

Special thanks to everyone who collaborated.

If you no longer want to receive our e-mails, please contact us to unsubscribe.

ISCA Newsletter

July 2024 - Volume 24

Editor: Juan José Tíscar Moya

E-mail address: secretary@i-s-c-a.org

WWW.I-S-C-A.ORG

