



Geoheritage, Geoconservation and Geotourism in France

Guest Editors:

Dr. Nicolas Charles

BRGM-French Geological Survey,
3, Av. Claude-Guillemin, BP
36009, 45060 Orléans CEDEX 2,
France

Dr. Elisabeth Le Goff

BRGM-French Geological Survey,
1039 rue de Pinville, 34000
Montpellier, France

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (31 December 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

France is the world's number one destination for international tourism, with almost 90 million people visiting the country each year. This attractiveness results from rich cultural and natural heritage including outstanding and varied landscapes, often related to geoheritage sites of international relevance. France is one of the pioneering countries for recognition of natural heritage. For some decades, geoheritage and its conservation have been increasingly developing with numerous initiatives for inventorying, protecting and promoting in situ and ex situ sites, thus bringing together many actors from the state to civil society. Moreover, citizens increasingly desire responsible tourism, and to better understand links between environment, culture and history. Geoheritage is a key element to address such a willingness and aspiration by designing the recent concept of geotourism.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jesus Martinez-Frias

Instituto de Geociencias, IGEO
(CSIC-UCM), C/ Del Doctor Severo
Ochoa 7, Edificio
Entrepabellones 7 y 8, 28040
Madrid, Spain

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherent set of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientifically based political decisions.

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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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