



**WORKSHOP INTERNACIONAL
HELLÍN (ALBACETE-CASTILLA LA MANCHA; SPAIN)
27-28 April 2023**

**Tourism Sustainability Plan:
“Destiny Hellín 2 Heritages 2022-2024”:
Development of the Tourism corridor of Minateda to Las Minas, Green Way of Camarillas.**



“RETHINK MINATEDA”



Ayuntamiento de
HELLÍN



Hellín2Patrimonios



CAMINOS DE ARTE RUPESTRE PREHISTÓRICO
PREHISTORIC ROCK ART TRAILS
CHEMINS DE L'ART RUPESTRE PRÉHISTORIQUE

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

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Plan de
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Presentation

The Abrigo Grande of Minateda is a classic site of the Rock Art Heritage in Spain, being the largest known assemblage of Levantine style art. It is a large -and well visible- rocky shelter overlooking a plain crossed by streams (generally seasonal) tributaries of the Mundo River, in which there is a monumental panel of almost 18 m in length where more than 600 painted graphic units have been documented, most of which can be assigned to the Levantine cycle (with some dozens that can be included in the so-called Peninsular Schematic Art).

Discovered in May 1914 by Juan Jiménez Llamas, it was studied by H. Breuil and other specialists throughout the 20th century. More recently, it has undergone restoration to improve the reading of its cave paintings and archaeological studies using modern technologies. This overcame a worrying situation due to the state of the paintings, which had deteriorated considerably after decades of bad practices during visits, and the lack of updated studies to incorporate this site into the current scientific discourse.

Since 1998, the shelter has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, as part of the serialised declaration number 874, called "Rock Art of the Mediterranean Arc of the Iberian Peninsula" (ARAMPI <https://whc.unesco.org/es/list/874>).

In 2010, it was registered in the Programme of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes> by the Junta de Comunidades de Castilla La Mancha and with the inauguration in 2019 of the Archaeological Park of Tolmo de Minateda, it was attached to this infrastructure -theoretically- to be managed for cultural and tourist purposes.

Despite all, at present times, this unique rock art site (that Henri Breuil called the "Altamira of Southern Spain") lacks a managing plan and is practically closed to the public due to the lack of a programme of presentation to the public and staff in charge of its management.

The recent concession to Hellín Town Council of a Tourism Sustainability Plan by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism of the Spanish Government (called "Destino Hellín 2 Patrimonios 2022-2024": Development of the tourist corridor from Minateda to Las Minas, Green Way of Camarillas -PSDT Hellín-), in which the Abrigo Grande de Minateda appears as a preferential destination for action, opens up a unique opportunity to overcome the current situation, in terms of its cultural and tourist management.

This Programme for the improvement of the tourist offer of the municipality of Hellín will make it possible to dignify the place and provide it with a Master Plan for the use and integral management of both the shelter and its natural and archaeological surroundings.

Thus, and as a first step to tackle the investment in Minateda, the Town Council of Hellín (through the Management Entity of the PSTD Hellín) has considered it appropriate to hold a technical working meeting to guide and train the technicians responsible for the PSDT Hellín in the process of the material execution of the specific project that will provide to the Abrigo Grande with areas and resources for the reception, access and visit to the site with parameters of sustainability and guarantees of visitors satisfaction.

The experience and knowledge of the members of the Scientific Committee of the Council of Europe's Cultural Route "Prehistoric Rock Art Trails", as well as the contributions of local and regional experts, form the basis of this expert information exchange event. The conclusions of this Workshop will serve as the basis for the Managing Plan that will guide the development of the exploitation model for the Abrigo and its immediate area.



Objectives

The main objective of the Workshop is to provide the Hellín PSTD Management Entity with the appropriate technical guidelines for the material execution of this plan, in terms of the comprehensive management of the shelter and its landscape and archaeological environment, establishing the best practices that should head the design, execution and implementation of the new model of presentation to the public of the Shelter and its surroundings.

More specifically, other objectives can be related, such as:

- To obtain contrasted information on visit models for the Abrigo Grande de Minateda, based on the sustainability criteria developed by international bodies for rock art sites (UNESCO - Council of Europe).
- Obtain information on contrasted offers of structures for the protection, reception and approach to the site, from similar rock art sites.
- To learn about reference experiences for the design of the future Minateda Visitors Reception Centre.
- Ways of establishing and applying an integral management plan for the rock art destinations in the municipality of Hellín, agreed with the regional (Regional Council of Education, Culture and Sport of the Junta de Comunidades de Castilla La Mancha), provincial (Provincial Council of Albacete) and local (Town Council of Hellín and local town hall of Minateda) administrations.
- To learn about the process for obtaining the European Rock Art Heritage - European Rock Art Heritage quality seal <https://www.prehistour.eu/es/el-sello-sera/> for the rock art destination formed by the PSTD Hellín, around the Abrigo Grande.

Structure of workshop

The expert information exchange workshop "Rethinking Minateda" is structured around two groups of activities. On the one hand, a first workshop *in situ* (at the site), in which the participants learn first-hand about the current situation, its problems and shortcomings. And on the other hand, three sessions of presentations and discussion tables (focus groups) linked to analyse the current state (and the reasons for it), the idea that the Management Entity of the PSTD Hellín has in its programme for the intervention in the site and, finally, a brainstorming that the members of the Scientific Committee of the Council of Europe PRAT-CARP Cultural Route will generate from their professional experience and the good practices that should govern the material execution of the Managing Plan for the new rock art destination to be generated in Hellín.



PROGRAMME

Date 27 (Thursday)

Morning: Mineda village

10h00-13h00. Field workshop: technical visit to the Abrigos de Mineda and analysis of the surrounding infrastructures (with the participation of all the invited speakers).

Directed by:

Pablo Cánovas Guillén. Director of the Museum of Hellín (MUSS).

María Jesús López Iniesta. Councillor Delegate for Trade, Industry and Tourism of Hellín Town Council.

Afternoon: Cultural Centre (La Iglesia Square)

16h00. Reception of attendees.

16h15. Welcome and introduction of the event:

Ramón García Rodríguez. Mayor-President of Hellín Town Council.

María Jesús López Iniesta. Councillor-Delegate of Commerce, Industry and Tourism of Hellín Town Council.

Aida Carvalho. Vice-Chairperson of the Cultural Route of the Council of Europe PRAT-CARP.

16h30. The Abrigo Grande de Mineda, a century long history. Research and management of the great shelter of the peninsular Levantine Art, up to the present day.

-> *Scientific history and current knowledge of the Abrigo Grande de Mineda* - **Juan Francisco Ruiz.** Professor of Prehistory and Archaeology at the University of Castilla La Mancha.

-> *History and vicissitudes of the management of the Abrigo Grande de Mineda.* - **Pablo Cánovas Guillén.** Director of the Museum of Hellín (MUSS).

-> *And then came the ARAMPI candidature and the UNESCO declaration.* - **Miguel San Nicolás del Toro.** Coordinator of the candidature and of the ARAMPI monitoring commissions. National Scientific Committee for Rock Art ICOMOS-Spain (CCNAR-ICOMOS).

17h30. Coffee break

17h50. *New times for Hellín and its region: The Tourism Sustainability Plan "Development of the tourist corridor from Mineda to Las Minas, Vía Verde del Camarillas".*

María Jesús López Iniesta. Councillor for Commerce, Industry and Tourism of Hellín Town Council.

18h20. *The current management of Abrigo Grande, problems and shortcomings.*

Ramón Montes Barquín. Coordinator of the European Itinerary PRAT-CARP.



18h40. Round table. *Past and present of the great Levantine rock shelter of Minateda.*

Moderator: **María Perlina Benito**; **Speakers:** **María Jesús López, Pablo Cánovas, Juan Francisco Ruiz, Miguel San Nicolás del Toro.**

19h45. Special visit to the MUSS (only for registered participants).

Date 28 (Friday)

Cultural Centre (La Iglesia Square)

09h30. *Introducing Rock Art to the public in the 21st century. Theoretical approaches and some practical applications.* **José Manuel Rey García.** Director of the Museum of Pontevedra.

10h00. Round of presentations I: models of rock art sites management in Europe.

-> Gobustan and Qala Reserves. Azerbaijan. **Malahat N. Farajova.** Museum Center "Icherisheher" under the Administration of the State Historical-Architectural Reserve "Icherisheher".

-> Petroglyphs of Norway. **Trönd Lødøen.** Associate Professor in Archaeology. Research Section, University Museum of Bergen.

-> Rock art sites in the Côa River Valley (Portugal). **Aida Carvalho.** President of the Vale do Côa Foundation.

-> Rock Art sites of the Tejo River Valley (Portugal). **Sara Garcés.** Museu de Arte Pré-Histórica e do Sagrado do Vale do Tejo, Mação.

11h15. Coffee break

11h40. Round of presentations II: models of rock art sites management in Spain.

-> Altamira Museum. **Pilar Fatás Monforte.** Director of the Altamira Museum.

-> Matrivieso Cave: **Hipólito Collado Giraldo.** Head of the Archaeology Department of the Regional Government of Extremadura.

-> Petroglyphs around the Rias Baixas area. **José Manuel Rey García.** Director of the Museum of Pontevedra.

-> Rock art sites in Andalusia. **Arturo Pérez Plaza.** Head of Department in the Historical Heritage Protection Service of the General Directorate of Historical Heritage and Cultural Innovation and Promotion of the Andalusian Regional Government.

-> Sites of the Region of Murcia. **Miguel San Nicolás del Toro.** Head of Historical Heritage Service -retired- of Murcia. National Scientific Committee for Rock Art ICOMOS-Spain (CCNAR-ICOMOS).

13h20. Lunch break



16h00. Panel discussion I. Expert analysis of the current situation of the Abrigo de Mineda and perspectives for the improvement of its infrastructure.

Researching rock art shelters, conserving them and making them suitable for visitors.

Hipólito Collado Giraldo. Head of the Archaeology Department of the Regional Government of Extremadura.

Juan Francisco Ruiz. Professor of Prehistory. University of Castilla La Mancha.

Miguel San Nicolás del Toro. Member of CNAR ICOMOS-Spain

Musealising and socialising knowledge about rock art.

María Perlínes Benito. Head of the Museums Service of the Regional Ministry of Culture CLM.

José Manuel Rey García. Director of the Museum of Pontevedra.

17h00. Coffee break

17h20. Panel discussion II. Proposals for the integral management of the Abrigo de Mineda by invited European and National specialists.

Malahat N. Farajova. Museum Center "Icherisheher" under the Administration of the State Historical-Architectural Reserve "Icherisheher".

Aida Carvalho. President of the Vale do Côa Foundation.

Trønd Lødøen. Associate Professor in Archaeology. Research Section, University Museum of Bergen.

Sara Garcés. Museu de Arte Pré-Histórica e do Sagrado do Vale do Tejo, Mação.

Arturo Pérez Plaza. Directorate of Historical Heritage and Cultural Innovation and Promotion of the Andalusian Regional Government.

Pilar Fatás Monforte. Director of the Museum of Altamira.

18h30. *Towards a Managing Plan for the total management of the Abrigo Grande de Mineda and Petroglyphs of El Cenajo*. **Ramón Montes Barquín**. Coordinator of the European Cultural Route PRAT-CARP.

18h45. Closing session.



Workshop. *Rethink Minateda*
Hellín, 27-28 April 2023

Panel of experts

Hipólito COLLADO GIRALDO

Head of the Archaeology Department of the Regional Government of Extremadura.

Malahat N. FARAJOVA

Museum Center «Icherisheher» under the Administration of the State Historical-Architectural Reserve «Icherisheher» Azerbaijan.

Trönd LØDØEN

Associate Professor in Archaeology. Research Section, University Museum of Bergen. Norway.

Miguel SAN NICOLÁS DEL TORO

Director of *Ars Civilis* Foundation.

National Scientific Committee of Rock Art ICOMOS-Spain (CCNAR-ICOMOS)

María PERLINES BENITO

Head of the Museums Service. Department of Culture of Castilla La Mancha.

Juan Francisco RUIZ LÓPEZ

Prehistory Professor. University of Castilla La Mancha

Member of CCNAR-ICOMOS.

Pablo CÁNOVAS GUILLÉN

Director of Museum of Hellín MUSS. Town Hall of Hellín.

Aida CARVALHO

President of Vale do Côa Foundation. Portugal.

Pilar FATÁS MONFORTE

Director of Altamira Museum. Member of CCNAR-ICOMOS.

Sara GARCÉS

Museu de Arte Pré-Histórica e do Sagrado do Vale do Tejo, Mação. Portugal.

José Manuel REY GARCÍA

Director of Museum of Pontevedra. Member of CCNAR-ICOMOS.

Arturo PÉREZ PLAZA

Head of Department in the Historical Heritage Protection Service of the Directorate General for Historical Heritage, Innovation and Cultural Promotion of the Andalusian Regional Government.

Ramón MONTES BARQUÍN

Technical coordinator of the Cultural Route of Rock Art of the Council of Europe PRAT-CARP

Member of CCNAR-ICOMOS.

María Jesús LÓPEZ INIESTA

Councillor for Trade, Industry and Tourism of Hellín Town Council.



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Registering

Registration is completely free, but it is essential in order to take part in the sessions, both in Minateda village and in the Hellín Cultural Centre.

Registration can be formalised on:

<https://repensarminateda.prehistour.eu/inscripcion/>

