



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

ISCA Newsletter

July-August
2021

CONTENTS

International events

On **June 6th**, many show caves from different corners in the world celebrated the **International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World**.

Virtual meetings, videos, guided tours and special visits, among many others, were some of the major events which took place on a very special day for those interested in caves.

This year, the importance of emphasizing this date was even greater due to its coincidence with the **International Year of Caves and Karst 2021**, a celebration which has been specially supported by the **International Show Caves Association**.

The **Union Internationale de Spéléologie (UIS)** has recently confirmed that the **IYCK** will be celebrated both in **2021** and **2022**.



The following pages pay attention to many of those events shared by our community. There are many others which possibly took place and did not reach us.

Therefore, do not forget to share everything you may come across social media or other channels.

The **International Show Caves Association** is interested in giving visibility to all the different organizations and particulars who own a showcave in order to reach as many readers as possible.



JOIN ISCA NOW!

Would you like to become a member of the **International Show Caves Association**? Find all the information you need on our **website**.



FOLLOW US!

Our **Facebook page** is the best place to share your own materials in order to reach others! Do not forget to **like us!**

Message from the President

by Brad Wuest

Dear Cave Enthusiasts,

I am writing this article on International Mud Day, so I thought a muddy caving picture of me would be appropriate! More importantly, happy belated International Day of Caves & the Subterranean World! Show caves and fans celebrated that day on June 6th as we do each year. 2021 was special because our international day's celebration is during the **International Year of Caves and Karst (IYCK)**. Our caves and karst landscapes are truly deserving of celebration and increased awareness, so I hope you are taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity to share the message and create awareness for your show cave at the same time!

As we do each year, ISCA distributed an International Day of Caves & the Subterranean World press release leading up to June 6th. It went out to all the show caves and cave enthusiasts we know and media around the world. A big thanks to ISCA's new PR person, Winter Prosapio, who drafted and distributed our press release to media. We had 111 pickups (media postings of our release) with exposure to an audience of almost 112 million people. A few examples of who posted our press release includes: **Yahoo! Finance**, **MarketWatch**, **CISION PR Newswire**, **finanzen.net** and many more. That is what it is all about! Getting the message out about the importance of our amazing caves and karst and encouraging people to visit show caves to experience the wonders of our subterranean world!



Brad Wuest, ISCA President

Speaking of experiences, I would like to share some of the events we have been doing at my family's show cave, **Natural Bridge Caverns, to celebrate the IYCK**. We are partnering with Bat Conservation International to offer **tours** to the amazing Bracken Bat Cave which is home to the world's largest bat colony and a truly spectacular bat emergence viewing experience. Weekends in June were "**Discovery Days**" where we are offered fun and educational experiences that focused on the pillars of the IYCK: Explore, Understand and Protect. We are partnering in the **Cave Preservation Network**, a collaboration of the National Speleological Society, the National Caves Association and show cave partners to generate more awareness about caves and raise funds for protecting wild cave and karst lands. We are also producing educational videos to increase awareness and understanding of Caves, Karst, Exploration, Cave Critters, etc. You can check out the videos [here](#).

We recently hosted an exclusive wine tasting event in our cave called “Cabernets, Caverns, and Canapes” where we ate delicious food and tasted spectacular wines in the cave while raising significant funds for the [San Antonio Zoo’s Center for Conservation & Research](#), which is a premier cave adapted species research and captive breeding facility.

Another great way to increase awareness is through government proclamations and resolutions. Just recently, we were successful getting one of the cities close to us, New Braunfels, to officially proclaim 2021 as the IYCK. Even more significant the legislature in the State of Texas passed a [resolution](#) recognizing the IYCK and June 6th International Day of Caves & the Subterranean World. We are also working with the city of San Antonio on a proclamation. These are just a variety of ideas that may inspire you on ways to celebrate and create awareness in your region.

Speaking of San Antonio, we are really looking forward to hosting ISCA’s 2022 Congress in San Antonio, Texas, USA.

Back in May we received unfortunate news that the hotel we booked for the Congress was sold and would be closed for remodeling, so they canceled our contract! But everything happens for a reason, and I am pleased to tell you that we have secured a new hotel that is in an even better location on the famous San Antonio Riverwalk. The rooms and hotel are very nice, and the meeting space will be perfect for our Congress. Our old dates were no longer available so the new dates for ISCA Congress 2022 are one week earlier, September 21 to October 2 including pre and post Congress trips. We are excited to welcome all of you to Texas, USA next year for an unforgettable experience! You will find more details below in Juanjo’s wonderful newsletter.

In the meantime, if there is anything ISCA or I can do for you, please let me know.

Blessings,



President

International Show Caves Association

BRAD WUEST

President/CEO at Natural Bridge Caverns (Texas, USA) and ISCA President. Born in 1972 in New Braunfels (Texas), Brad is married to Lexi and they have four beautiful children: Ashley, Clara, Millie and Harrison.

Contact: bwuest@naturalbridgecaverns.com



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



From the editor: subterranean concert

by Juanjo Tíscar



My everything, Tiza.

Dear ISCA friends...and dear summer,

Welcome! The last months were so rainy and freezing in our area that I have been looking forward until real summer arrived. Now, it's time to go sunbathing, spend some time with our family and friends...and go to subterranean concerts like those which visitors can enjoy at [Coves de Sant Josep \(Spain\)](#).

During the next two months, **six different concerts** will be held inside one of Europe's longest underground navigable rivers. This is the sixth consecutive year visitors can visit the cave while listening to live music, and at the end of the visit, the artists perform a concert for those privileged who got one of the tickets available...which are often sold out so quickly!

The previous years, the product was a real success, and 100% of the tickets were sold in a few hours, so the organization had to offer more concerts for those who really wanted to live this incredible and unforgettable experience.

[Singin' in the Cave](#) (as they call it) is among those unique summer experiences which everyone should have the pleasure to live. Here's a video of a concert by **Ruth Baker Band**. Enjoy your summer...and get a copy of **my book!**



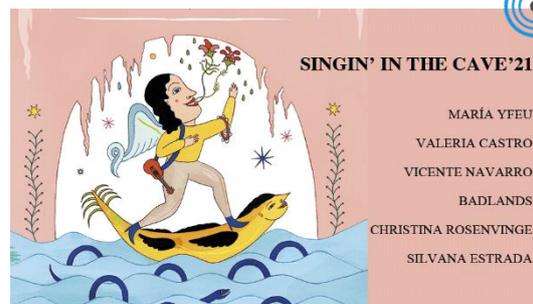
Singin' in the Cave. Youtube.



ENGLISH



SPANISH



Contact: juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org

IYCK 2021: Online celebrations

- Click on the images to watch -

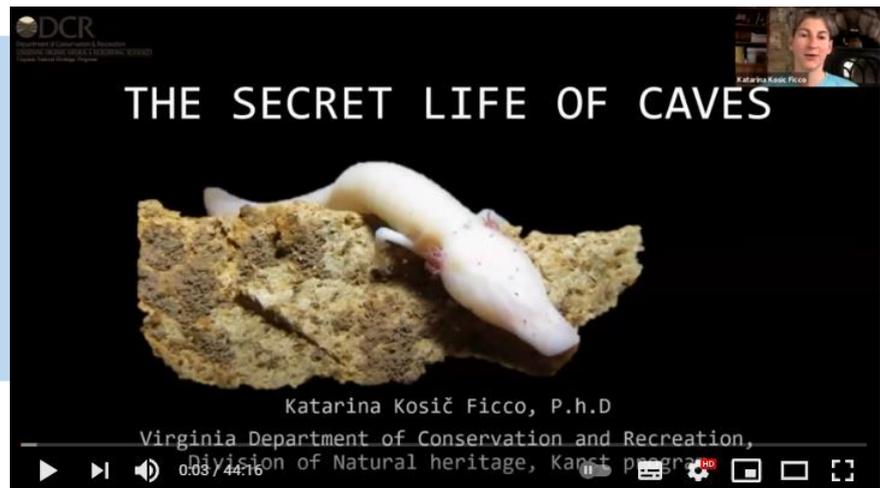


Let's follow that river! by CE3c

Seminar on how caves and speleology are dealt with in the geological community.

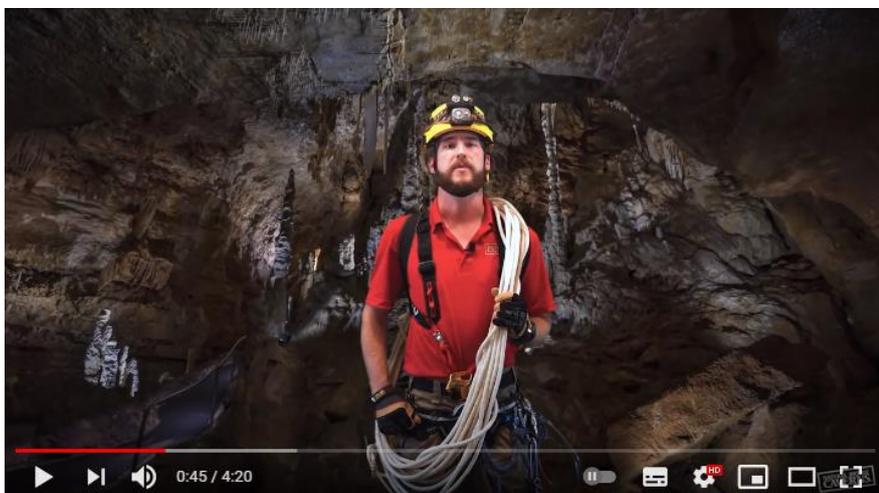
The Secret Life of Caves by NSS

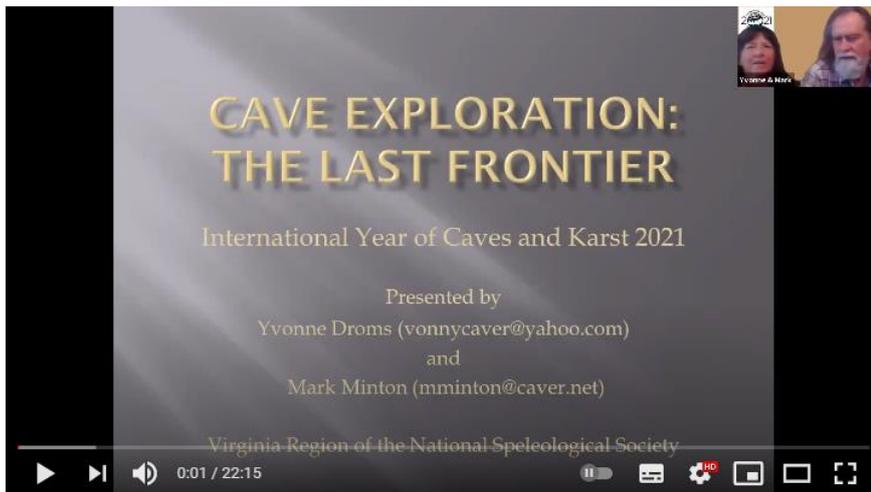
A presentation on the Secret Life of Caves by **Katarina Kosič Ficcó**



A "Deeper Look" on spelunking by Natural Bridge Caverns

One more excellent video by NBC (Texas, USA), where the 9th ISCA Congress will take place in 2022.





The Last Frontier
by **NSS**

Take a look at this video by **Mark Minton** and **Yvonne Droms**.

Limestone, landscapes...
by **Marble Arch Caves**

This talk is part of a series of events being hosted by the **Marble Arch Caves** in celebration of the **International Year of Caves and Karst**.



Cave Science Pills
by **Speleopolis**

A new video by the SSI. Find more information [here](#).



Bats and Save Lucy
by **NSS**

A presentation on Virginia's Beautiful Bats by **Leslie Sturges**.

Driftless Area Karst
by **NSS**

A presentation on the **Driftless Area Karst Conservation Task Force (DARK)**.



Geology
by **NSS**

One more presentation by the **National Speological Society**.
Thanks a lot for their great contribution.

6th June: International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World



*June 6th is celebrated worldwide.
Picture. Ruby Falls website.*



Texas Senate recognized 6th June as the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World, and 2021 as the International Year of Caves and Karst. Photo: Natural Bridge Caverns

The **International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World** is celebrated every **June 6th** by many show caves around the world. The **International Show Caves Association** would like to thank those who took part in this special event, and we encourage cave owners, managers and organizations to keep working on promoting June 6th as one of the most important dates in our calendar.

Here are some of the posts and news which different caves shared on social media:



International Show Caves Association

Les grottes de France participent à la Journée internationale le 6 juin

Bus & Car - Tourisme de Groupe | Institutions | publié le : 03.06.2021 | Dernière Mise à jour : 03.06.2021



Bus & Car, on the celebration of June 6th in France



Carlsbad Caverns National Park 20 h · 🌐

What is karst and is it important?

Karst is a type of landscape made predominately of limestone. Water moves very easily through limestone and creates many types of features. These features include sinkholes, sinking streams, springs, and caves. Because of how easily water moves through these features, it is important to protect them both for the environment and for us. About 25% of the earth's surface is karst, and much of the world's population gets their drinking water from these sources. In karst landscapes, pollutants can quickly move through the earth's surface, contaminating drinking water and the environment.

Do you live in a karst landscape? Where does your drinking water come from?

Photo: NPS

#CaveWeek #IYCK2021 #CarlsbadCaverns #FindYourPark



Carlsbad Caverns National Park



Tonto National Monument 21 h · 🌐

We are excited to kick off Cave Week!

While we often think of caves being underground, you are visiting a cave when you hike up to the cliff dwellings.

Geologic processes created the caves and alcoves where the Salado people built their homes 700 years ago.

What other cave parks have you visited?

NPS Photo

Photo Description: Distant view of cliff dwelling rooms within an alcove on a hillside.

#FindYourPark #EncuentraTuParque #NationalParkService #CaveWeek



Tonto National Monument



Arches National Park



Arches National Park 23 h · 🌐

Happy National Caves and Karst Day!

We want to celebrate what an arch may be before it becomes an arch...a cave! Perhaps one of the most impressive collections of caves, or overhangs, in Arches National Park is the Cove of Caves. Small recesses in rock develop and grow larger with every storm. Sandstone is delicate, and can be easily worn away by water, forming indentions in rock that resemble caves.

These caves and overhangs may be well on their way to becoming an arch ... [Ver más](#)

1106 20 comentarios 61 veces compartida

Me gusta Comentar Compartir

Más relevantes



Pinnacles National Park 16 h · 🌐

Today marks the beginning of Cave Week! For an entire week we will celebrate the subterranean, all across the National Parks and the world. Pinnacles happens to have some of the largest and most accessible talus (rockfall) caves in the world. Unfortunately, closures can happen, due to flooding, vandalism, rockfall, or seasonal bat sensitivities. But there are sections of park like the picture here where the splendor of talus caves can still be experienced, like on the trail j... [Ver más](#)

193 11 comentarios 15 veces compartida

Me gusta Comentar Compartir

Más relevantes



Roger Price
I have done this "hike" once; enter and then find the small cave to crawl through.



Pinnacles National Park



Natural Bridge Caverns

13 h · 🌐



Did you know today is the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World? Caves around the world are being explored now - and our cavern is no exception! Join us in the celebration!



Natural Bridge Caverns

yahoo/news



Lisa Denton, Chattanooga Times Free Press, Tenn.

Sat, June 5, 2021, 11:01 PM · 8 min read

Jun. 5—TO DO SUNDAY

— National Day of Caves & Karst will be celebrated 8 a.m.-8 p.m. at Ruby Falls, 1720 S. Scenic Highway. Karsts are limestone land formations that include caverns, sinkholes and underground streams. Guests will be able to visit a Southeastern Cave Conservancy display and receive a free cave and karst guide and car litter bag. Photo-ops with Ruby the Dragon are at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tour tickets are \$22.95 for adults, \$12.95 for children 3-12.

rubyfalls.com/ticketing

Yahoo!News, on Ruby Falls celebration



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Cave Enthusiasts to Celebrate the International Day of Caves & the Subterranean World on 6th June 2021

NEWS PROVIDED BY
International Show Cave Association →
Jun 04, 2021, 08:38 ET

SHARE THIS ARTICLE



ISCA on PR Newswire

Everglades National Park
18 h · 🌐

Have you ever wondered what's beneath your feet when exploring your National Parks?

Today we celebrate National Caves and Karst Day, a day to raise awareness for the importance of caves and karst for wildlife, science and research, and even people. 100% of Everglades National Park lies over karst, a type of landform where springs, sinking streams, caves and solution holes are typical features. This type of landscape forms when rocks are dissolved by weak acids.

In the United States, 40% of the fresh groundwater we drink comes from karst aquifers providing drinking water to millions of people. With karst landscapes covering about 20% of the U.S, you may have a karst area near you!

Solution holes in the Everglades landscape provide winter dry-season refuge for aquatic animals and allow species to repopulate areas when the marsh refloods during the following summer wet season.

To learn more about karst and caves in your National Parks, please visit <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/caves/index.htm>.

NPS Photo 1 by Dylann Turffs: A large solution hole filled with freshwater in a vast karst landscape. Trees and light blue sky in the distance.

NPS Photo 2 by G. Gardner: Cypress tree roots extend down to solution holes in the landscape. Green vegetation surrounds the cypress trees.

#EvergladesNationalPark #Everglades #FindYourPark

Everglades National Park

Cuevas Turísticas
6 de junio a las 9:00 · 🌐

¡Por fin es seis de junio! Comenzamos el #DíaMundialCuevas con la tribuna del Presidente de #ACTE, Manuel Durán, sobre el significado de nuestras #cuevas y minas turísticas en esta fecha tan especial y, por supuesto, en el desarrollo social.

<http://ow.ly/6l...> Ver más

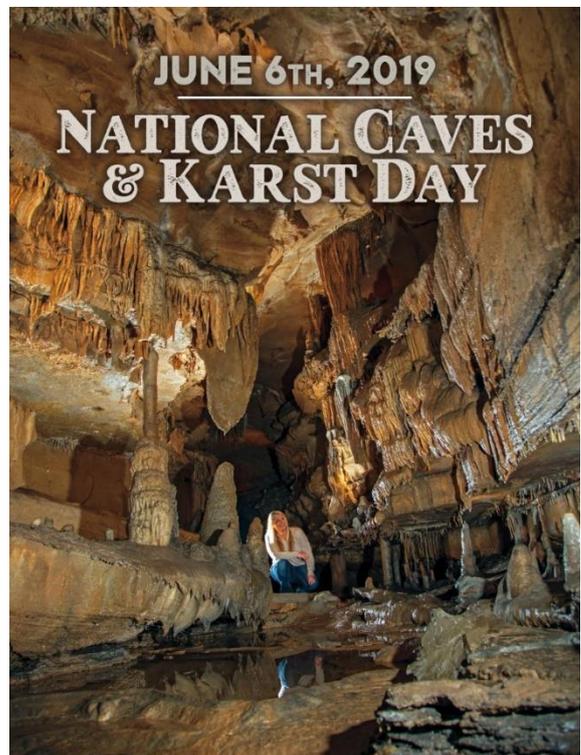
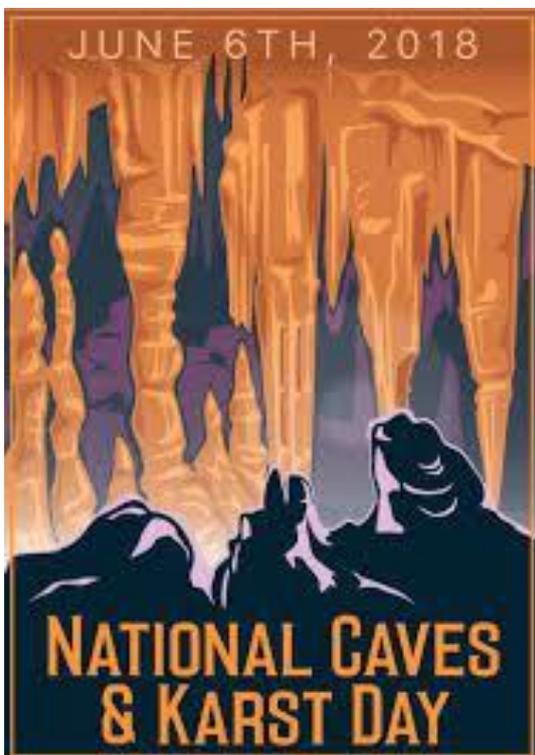
06 DE JUNIO DE 2021
Día Mundial de las Cuevas y del Mundo Subterráneo

**Tribuna de Manuel Durán Hidalgo,
Presidente de ACTE**

Más en www.cuevasturisticas.es



The Spanish Show Caves Association was among the most active participants



Celebration of June 6th in 2018 and 2019

The Spanish Show Caves Association (ACTE) celebrates the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World



Manuel Durán Hidalgo, President of the [Spanish Show Caves Association](#), explains that June 6th aims at creating awareness about the importance of natural and accessible environments for the people, who are an unlimited source of human knowledge.

This date also tries to spread the value of caves and mines by the media, since these are among the main social and economic resources in rural areas, promoting sustainability and guaranteeing a balance between environmental impact and the presence of the human being.

This year, the objective is to understand the value of subterranean tourist places, offering it to future generations and contributing to its growth. The previous leads to inversions, employment and richness, which have an impact upon the inhabitants of the area and the tourist destiny.

The pandemic, however, created restrictions for visitors but, on the other hand, contributed to the conservation and maintenance works of subterranean places. Now it is necessary to adapt ourself to this new reality, securing caves and mines in order to guarantee progress and expansion.

According to Durán, it is paramount to take into account the support of associations and groups of experts which also celebrate June 6th because it is not only an international day, but the commitment of a responsible conservation of the subterranean world.

ACTE, which every year in among the most active participants in this celebration, also emphasized the importance to achieve the official approval of June 6th as the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World by **UNESCO**.



The Spanish media and June 6th

The promotion led by the [Spanish Show Caves Association](#) in order to spread June 6th as the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World was successful as the event was soon among the main local and national news.

The materials, which started to be shared on May 31st, included **communications, videos, information and publications** on social media and on their [website](#).

ACTE and **ISCA Vice President, Rafael Pagés**, participated in a famous radio programme together with Héctor Salvador, [the first Spanish to descend to the deepest place in the ocean - the Pacific Ocean's Mariana Trench](#). In **Onda Cero**, our Vice President invited tourists to visit the subterranean world and become familiar with a place of knowledge.

20Minutos, one of the most famous free online newspapers in Spain, also paid attention to June 6th and included pictures of caves which are ACTE members in order to encourage people to visit the subterranean world in a different way.

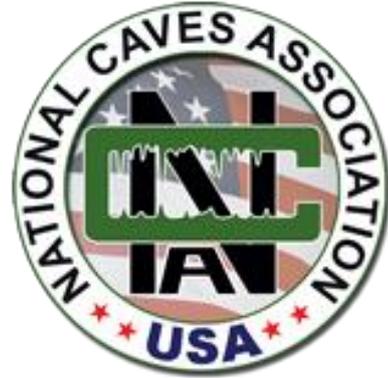
Finally, **Paz Dorado**, coordinator at [Mina Costanaza](#), was interviewed in COPE, a famous Spanish radio station. She focused on the importance of creating awareness about the importance of the subterranean world, and the programme also invited everyone to visit and understand what a tourist mine really is.



Update! New dates, hotel & details: 2022 ISCA Congress & NCA Convention



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



Hosted by:

**NATURAL BRIDGE
CAVERNS**

Those of you interested in attending the **2022 International Show Caves Association Congress & National Caves Association Convention**, which will be held in **Texas (USA)** and hosted by **Natural Bridge Caverns**, there are some **updates** which you need to know:

- **New dates: September 21st to October 2nd, 2022** (including pre and post trips)
- **Congress dates: September 25th** (Board Meetings) & **September 26th to September 29th** (other)
- **New hotel: [The Westin Riverwalk](#)**

More information is expected to be announced soon. Check **ISCA** and **NCA** websites and follow them on **social media** in order not to miss anything.



The Westin will be the hotel where visitors can stay during the Congress



Professor Kyung-Sik Woo

interviewed by Juanjo Tíscar



INFO

Full name: Kyung-Sik Woo

Date and place of birth: 7 July 1956 and Seoul, Korea

Profession: Professor of Geology, Kangwon National University, Korea

Hobbies: Travelling and scuba diving.

Favourite cave: Gwaneum Cave (Korea)

Approx. number of caves visited: 1,000!

Professor Kyung-Sik Woo, Professor of Geology, Kangwon National University, Korea. Photo: Kyung-Sik Woo.

This time, ISCA star is **Professor Kyung-Sik Woo**, as requested by **Andy Spate** in our previous newsletter.

Andy Spate's question #1: What led you to create the Korean Cave Research Institute?

A: I was working on limestone for my research. I happened to be involved in cave investigation project in 1989. I was fascinated by caving and I thought that there are too many phenomena that can be studied.

Andy Spate's question #2: What has the Institute achieved?

A: The institute kept exploring all the caves in South Korea. The institute monitored to try to maintain show cave conditions towards natural conditions. The institute carried out significant research on lava tube caves and lime-decorated lava tube caves in Jeju Island.

Q: What words would you choose to describe your job?

A: Fantastic and fun!

Q: What projects are you currently working on?

A: Not just limited to caves, but I have been involved geoheritage-related projects recently.

Q: How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect both the KCRI and caves in the area?

A: Very badly.



There is no doubt Professor Kyung-Sik Woo is a cave enthusiast and adventurer. Photo: Kyung-Sik Woo.

Q: In 2022, ISCA 9th Congress will be held in Texas (USA). Will you be able to be there?

A: Maybe!

Q: Is there any online event related to the International Year of Caves and Karst 2021 which you would recommend to our readers?

A: The International Congress of Speleology 2022.

Q: What is a normal day like in your life?

A: I will be retired in August 2021, thus I will be more involved in outreach activities such as lectures and guides.

Q: How many caves have you visited?

A: Around 1,000!

Q: Which is the cave which most impressed you?

A: **Gwaneum Cave** (Korea).

Q: Who would you like us to interview in the next newsletter? What would you like to ask him/her?

A: **Paolo Forti** (Italy).

RANKING: TOP-CAVERNERS

1. **Kyung-Sik Woo - 1,000 caves!**
2. **Pavel Gejdoš – 325 caves!**
3. **Andy Spate – 250 caves**
4. **Hein-Jacques Gerstner – 124 caves**
5. **Heros Lobo – 101 caves**
6. **Rafael Pagés – 100 caves**
7. **Juanjo Tíscar – 25 caves**
8. **Nuno Jorge – 18 caves**

How many caves have you visited?
juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org and let us know!



Photos: Kyung-Sik Woo.



Cave Animal of the Year

- Read the [ARTICLE HERE](#) -



Cave Animal of the Year seeks to increase awareness of these fascinating animals and the importance of caves as their homes. In 2021, participants have selected **cave beetles** as **USA Cave Animal 2021** in order to celebrate the **International Year of Cave and Karst 2021**.



Pseudanophthalmus cave beetle found in Tennessee. Photo by Matthew Niemiller. Source: NSS.

The most diverse group of **cave beetles** in the United States includes *Pseudanophthalmus*, with over 140 described species and at least 80 species new to science that are awaiting taxonomic description. Cave ground beetles are generally small (3–7.5 mm), and they lack eyes and wings, being also depigmented species. Most have converged on a similar set of morphological adaptations for living in the darkness of caves and are exceedingly difficult to identify to species based on their external appearance. Although many species can be found in karst regions throughout the country, some can only be found in a few cave systems. However, it is not uncommon to find more than one species in a cave system.



Pseudanophthalmus alabamiae from DeKalb County, Alabama.. Source: NSS.

Would you like to learn
more about last year's
(2020) cave animal?
[CLICK HERE](#)



Lincoln Caverns, new ISCA member

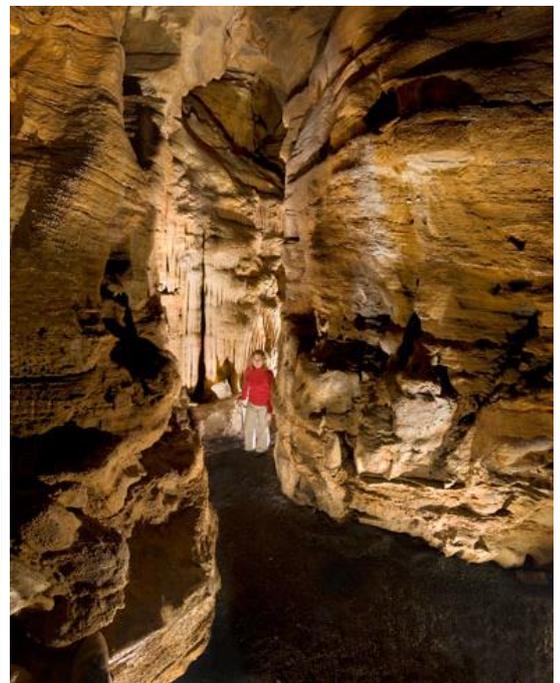


The **International Show Caves Association** would like to welcome **Lincoln Caverns** as a new member of our subterranean family. The **ISCA Board of Directors** recently approved the cave's application for membership.

Located in Pennsylvania, the cave was discovered in May 1930, during the construction of U.S. Route 22. However, it was opened to the public on June 25, 1931, when it was named '**Hi-Way-May Caverns**'. From 1932 to 1937, the cave was known as **William Penn Caverns**, but it would soon be given its current name: **Lincoln Caverns**, which aimed at honouring the 16th U.S. President, Abraham Lincoln. In 1941 the second half of the cavern tour (**Whisper Rocks**) was discovered.

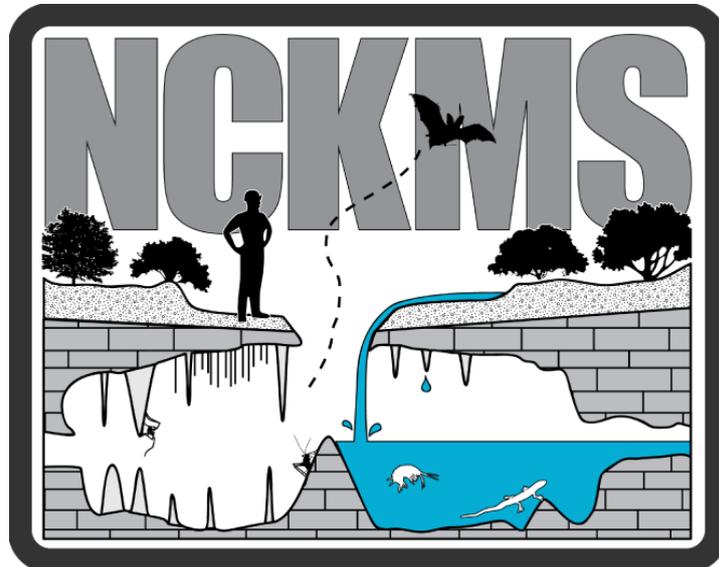
A fire destroyed the main building in the 1940s, but a new one was built and used through the following decades.

Now, **Lincoln Caverns & Whisper Rocks** are one more member of our beautiful family. Welcome!



Source: *Lincoln Caverns*

National Caves and Karsts Management Symposium (NCKMS)



San Marcos, Texas, will be hosting the **23rd biennial meeting** of the **National Cave and Karst Management Symposium (NCKMS)** on **1-5 November 2021**.

NCKMS meetings are scheduled at different locations across the **United States** in order to highlight local karst resources and management issues. The last and only one held in Texas took place in New Braunfels, in 1989. Since then, there has been an obvious growth in the state's number of caves and visitors looking for subterranean experiences.

During the event, some of the main topics deal with research, resource management, stewardship activities, education communication, and sustainability, and the different sessions, field trips, and workshops also provide examples in both show cave and wild cave resource management. **Austin Water – Balcones Canyonlands Preserve** will be the host of the event, which includes activities such as a boat tour of Spring Lake and a tour of nearby **Natural Bridge Cavers**.

We invite all our readers to visit the **NCKMS website** in order to learn more and find all the information related to the event, as well as a **Contact Us** section in which the organization is ready to solve any doubt.



National Cave and Karst Management Symposium 2021

Endangered Species, Endangered Caves, Endangered Aquifers

IAAPA Expo Europe 2021 - Barcelona



IAAPA®

The Global Association
for the Attractions Industry

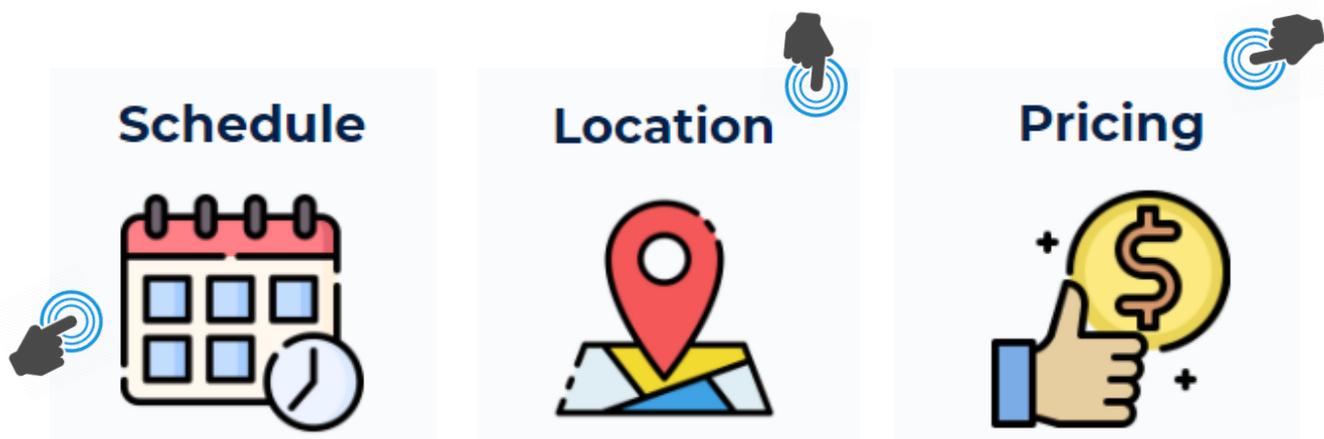
Conference: September 27 - 30 | Trade Show: September 28 - 30

Location: Barcelona, Spain

IAAPA Expo Europe is the largest international trade show and conference and the primary meeting point for the attractions industry in the **Europe, Middle East, Africa (EMEA) region**. Thousands of **operators and managers** gather to discover the latest innovations, technology, and services related to the leisure business.

The Conference programme includes keynotes, industry presentations, panel discussions and workshops covering industry trends, best practices and outlooks. **Special Events, EDUTours** and **networking receptions** offer connection opportunities.

IAAPA Expo will be the **meeting point** for operators, suppliers, investors, and developers from **amusement and theme parks, integrated hotels and resorts, water parks attractions, family entertainment centres, historic/cultural/tourist attractions, museums and science centres, hotel resorts, shopping malls, zoos, aquariums and more!**



**Register to attend before June 30
and save 40%**

Register

Partners and events of the IYCK2021

Hundreds of **caves and organizations** from all over the world are already a **partner** of the International Year of Caves and Karst. If you want to join us, send your **logo** and **website** to webmaster@uis-speleo.org and you will soon appear on the **IYCK website**.

Use the same e-mail address to contact **UIS** in order to share any event which is taking place at your location. Remember to include the following data:

- **Date.**
- **Location.**
- **Event name.**
- **Event description.**
- **A link to more detailed information.**

Your announcement will be highly appreciated and it will be shortly included on the **events section**. Check it out in order to learn more about some of the confirmed events taking place worldwide to celebrate the International Year of Caves and Karst.

Did you know...?

- Disclosure -

We encourage you to download and use all of the IYCK files and information on the IYCK website. No permission is needed as long as you use it to promote the IYCK and teach the world about caves and karst. Please print, distribute, and share this information.

The **International Show Caves Association** would also like to promote your events, so we will be picking some of them in order to be posted both on our Facebook and in future newsletters.



- **Date:** 2021.
- **Location:** Online.
- **Event name:** The caves and karst of the province of Castellón, Spain
- **Event description:** On the occasion of the international year of caves and karst, we want to promote and make known to the general public, the richness of Castellón's landscape, both superficially and underground. During the different months of the year we will publish 12 explanatory documents on aspects of karst and caves, dealing with all the aspects involved (geology, hydrology, history, biology, ethnography, ...).
- **More information.**

II Colombian Congress of Speleology

2021

The II Colombian Congress of Speleology will be virtual. You can't miss it! July 7-9 2021.
More info: [II Colombian Congress of Speleology](#)



18th International Congress of Speleology: postponed to 24-31 July 2022



The International Congress of Speleology has been **postponed to July 2022** because of the pandemic and, therefore, the UIS Bureau has decided to extend the International Year through 2022. It will be held **24-31 July 2022** in the same location, Le Bourget du Lac, Savoie, France. All registered papers will be accepted.

36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology

The [Sociedade Brasileira de Espeleologia](#) will be held on 20-23 April 2022.
More details: [36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology](#)



The wait is over: Jenolan Caves is open!



The access road to Jenolan Caves was highly damaged in March due to weather conditions. Photo: ROAD WOES



The road is now open and visitors can access Jenolan Caves. Photo: Western Advocate

One of Australia's greatest cave systems, **Jenolan Caves**, is now open after two months of closure due to heavy rains. Thankfully, the effort of about 20 people became a solution for a problem which affected both local people and visitors who wanted to enjoy of such a wonderful place

"Although reduced speed limits will apply, road users will now have single-lane alternating access through this section in both directions, which will save a lot of time detouring around the winding road that has been built to follow the mountain range," Regional Roads Minister Paul Toole said.

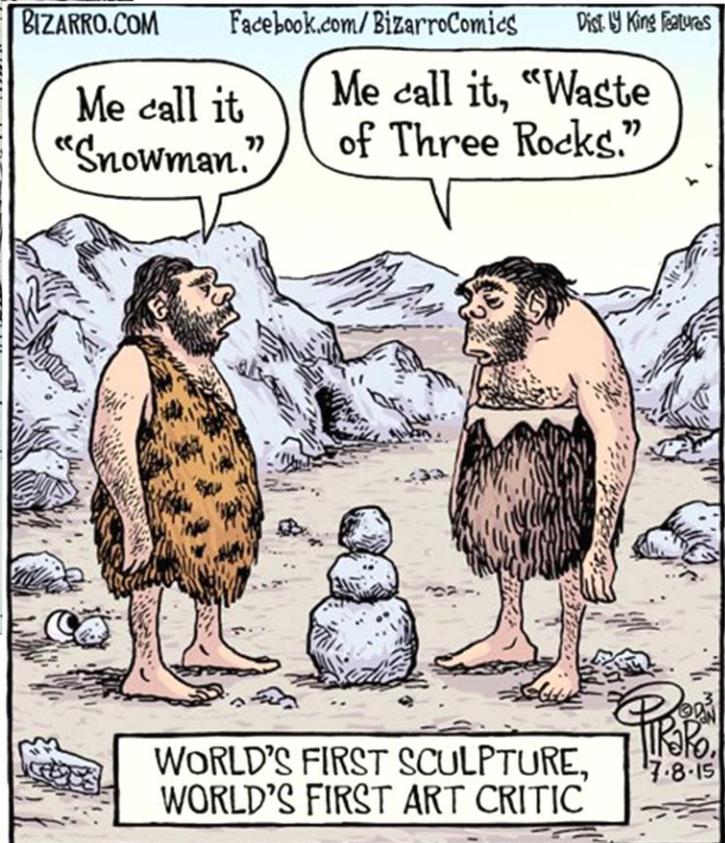
More info at [Jenolan Caves official website](#).



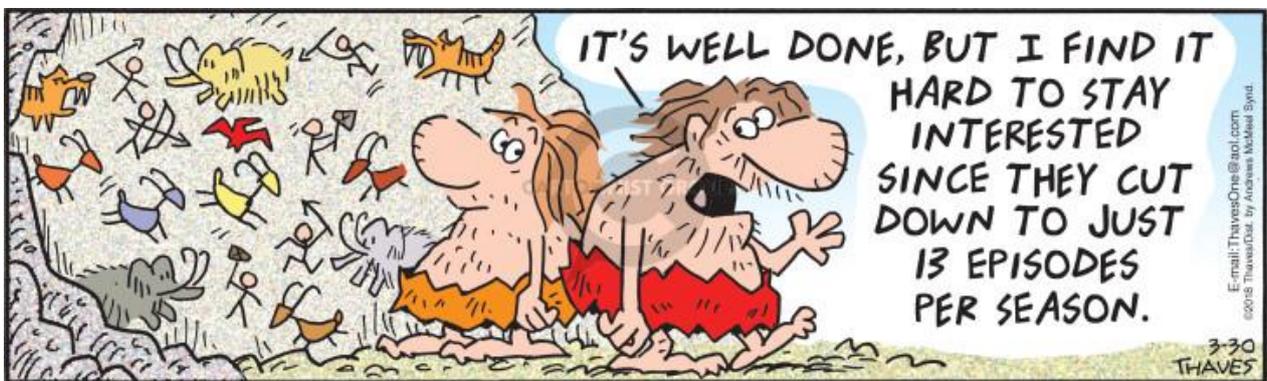
The funny side of life



Source: Broadsheet



Source: BrizarroComics



Source: The Comic Strips

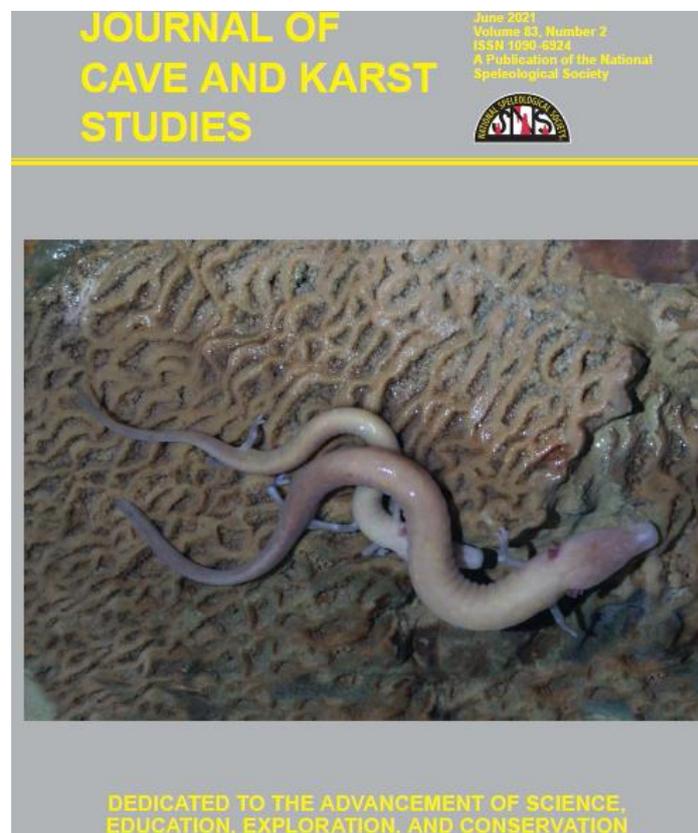
Journal of Cave and Karst Studies, Volume 83, Number 2, June 2021

- Read the [JOURNAL HERE](#) -



The *Journal of Cave and Karst Studies* is a multi-disciplinary, refereed journal published four times a year by the [National Speleological Society](#), 6001 Pulaski Pike, Huntsville, Alabama 35810-1122. It seeks for original and unpublished manuscripts concerning the scientific study of caves or other karst features. Anyone who wishes to publish an article can do it by following the guidelines included in the document.

The second **NSS Journal** in 2021 includes four articles and a book review, which can be read by clicking on the link above.



*Journal of Caves and Karst Studies. National Speleological Society.
Volume 83, Number 2. June 2021*

Speleocinema 2021 Mondoñedo: International Speleological Cinema Days



EspeleoCine 2021 Mondoñedo



The **Federación Galega de Espeleoloxía e Canóns** (Galician Federation of Speleology and Canyoning) organizes the **Xornadas Internacionais de Cinema Espeleolóxico – EspeleoCine 2021 Mondoñedo** (International Speleological Cinema Days), which will be held in **Mondoñedo** (Lugo, Spain) on **December 3rd , 4th, 5th, 2021**.

The aim of the event is to spread caving and the cinematographic practice in underground cavities. Attendance will be **free of charge** for anyone interest in the world of caves...and **cinema!**

Find all the information about the event [here](#), and don't forget to visit the [FGE website](#).



International Speleological Cinema Days



Federación
Galega de
Espeleoloxía

Postojna-Planina Cave System in Slovenia, a Hotspot of Subterranean Biodiversity and a Cradle of Speleobiology

Zagmajster M, Polak S, Fišer C. Postojna-Planina Cave System in Slovenia, a Hotspot of Subterranean Biodiversity and a Cradle of Speleobiology. *Diversity*. 2021; 13(6):271. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d13060271>

[- Read the full article -](#)

Lampenflora in a Show Cave in the Great Basin Is Distinct from Communities on Naturally Lit Rock Surfaces in Nearby Wild Caves

Burgoyne J, Crepeau R, Jensen J, Smith H, Baker G, Leavitt SD. Lampenflora in a Show Cave in the Great Basin Is Distinct from Communities on Naturally Lit Rock Surfaces in Nearby Wild Caves. *Microorganisms*. 2021; 9(6):1188. <https://doi.org/10.3390/microorganisms9061188>

[- Read the full article -](#)

Airborne Fungi in Show Caves from Southern Spain

Dominguez-Moñino I, Jurado V, Rogerio-Candelera MA, Hermosin B, Saiz-Jimenez C. Airborne Fungi in Show Caves from Southern Spain. *Applied Sciences*. 2021; 11(11):5027. <https://doi.org/10.3390/app11115027>

[- Read the full article -](#)

Analysis of Attendance and Speleotourism Potential of Accessible Caves in Karst Landscape of Slovakia

Čech V, Chrastina P, Gregorová B, Hronček P, Klamár R, Košová V. *Analysis of Attendance and Speleotourism Potential of Accessible Caves in Karst Landscape of Slovakia*. *Sustainability*. 2021; 13(11):5881. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13115881>

- [Read the full article](#) -

Biodiversity in the Cueva del Viento Lava Tube System (Tenerife, Canary Islands)

Oromí P, Socorro S. *Biodiversity in the Cueva del Viento Lava Tube System (Tenerife, Canary Islands)*. *Diversity*. 2021; 13(6):226. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d13060226>

- [Read the full article](#) -

Rarely Reported Cryptobenthic Fish in Marine Caves of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea

Ragkousis M, Digenis M, Kovačić M, Katsanevakis S, Gerovasileiou V. *Rarely Reported Cryptobenthic Fish in Marine Caves of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea*. *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering*. 2021; 9(6):557. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jmse9060557>

- [Read the full article](#) -

The Subterranean Fauna of Križna Jama, Slovenia

Polak S, Pipan T. *The Subterranean Fauna of Križna Jama, Slovenia*. *Diversity*. 2021; 13(5):210. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d13050210>

[- Read the full article -](#)

Ojo Guareña: A Hotspot of Subterranean Biodiversity in Spain

Camacho AI, Puch C. *Ojo Guareña: A Hotspot of Subterranean Biodiversity in Spain*. *Diversity*. 2021; 13(5):199. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d13050199>

[- Read the full article -](#)



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Latest publications



Thanks to the NCA and its Executive Director, **Bob Holt**, for bringing us the latest updates:

[Cave Talk: June 2021](#)

[Cave Talk: July 2021](#)

Learn more about the NCA on CAVERN.COM



Union Internationale
de Spéléologie

A special bulletin by the **Union Internationale de Spéléologie** with everything you need to know about the **International Year of Caves and Karst 2021**.

[Download now!](#)

More about the **UIS** [HERE](#)



The **European Speleological Federation (FSE)** publishes its first **EuroSpeleo Newsletter** in year 2021.

Please, **forward** this document as widely as possible to caving clubs and individual cavers.

Share yours!

Is there any other publication you would like to share?

Send it to juanotiscar@i-s-c-a.org and we will publish your materials as soon as possible

NSS Virtual Convention



This summer, the **National Speleological Society** will host our second virtual convention over the society's **YouTube channel**. All cavers from around the world are welcome to join us! This year's sessions include many caving topics such as photography, video, diving, and conservation, among others. Download the **schedule** of the event **[HERE](#)**.

International show cave meeting and workshop by Cave Lighting





#SPELEOMEDIC



SPELEOLOGY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION:

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF
THE SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ITALY & TETIDE

Further information [HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS CONGRESSES

BRAZIL, 47TH IAH CONGRESS – BELGIUM, 48TH IAH CONGRESS

22 – 27 AUGUST, 2021 // 6 - 10 SEPTEMBER, 2021



**47TH IAH
CONGRESS
BRASIL 2021**



48th IAH Congress
BRUSSELS BELGIUM 2021
Inspiring Groundwater

KARST INTEREST GROUP (KIG) 2021 WORKSHOP

19-21 OCTOBER 2021

Registration [HERE](#)

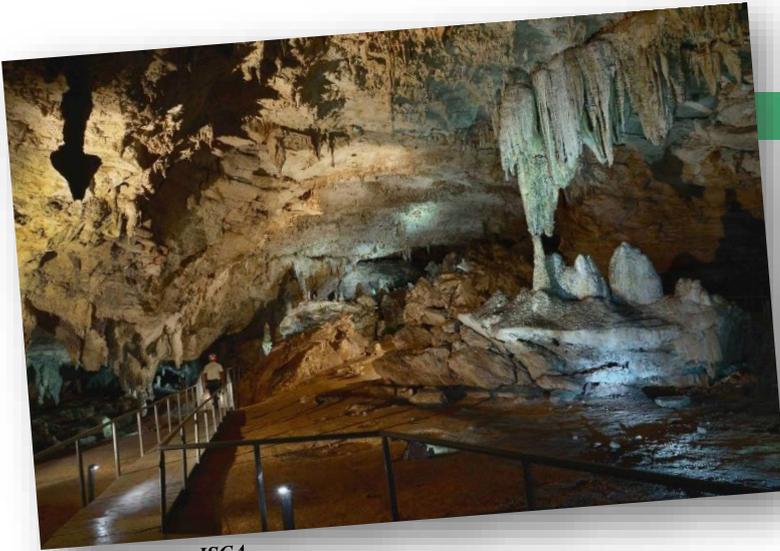
 **USGS**
science for a changing world



6TH EUROSPELEO PROTECTION SYMPOSIUM

26-30 OCTOBER, 2021

What caves are these?



Source: ISCA

CAVE #11

Hint 1:

This cave is located on the Anse Quitor peninsula.

Hint 2:

They are the only caves in the Indian Ocean equipped with lights

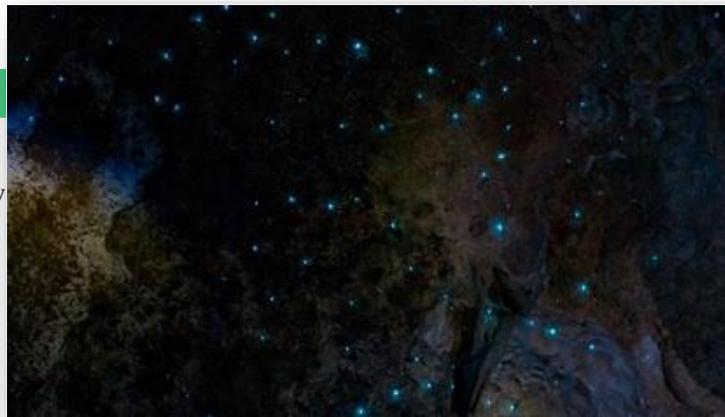
CAVE #12

Hint #1:

Home to thousands of luminous glow worms.

Hint #2:

Cave tours were first established in the 1950's.



Source: ISCA

SEND YOUR ANSWERS

MAY/JUNE ANSWERS:

Cave #9 was Grutas de Mira de Aire (Portugal)

Cave #10 was Ali-Sadr Cave (Iran)

Send your answers!

Contact: juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org

ISCA Calendar

PLEASE NOTE

Some of these events may suffer variations.
You may contact the organization for confirmation.
Do you want to add or modify an event?
Contact us! juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org



2021 - International Year of Caves and Karst

7th -9th July, 2021 – 2nd Colombian Congress of Speleology
11th - 14th July, 2021 – Karst Record IX (KR9) Conference
24th July – 30th July, 2021 – Virtual NSS Convention 2021
25th July – 30th July, 2021 – Western Region Speleo-Ed Seminar
6th - 8th August, 2021 – Indiana Cave Capers 2021 Edition
13th - 15th August, 2021 – Karst-O-Rama
16th - 20th August, 2021 – 34th Int. Geo. Congress: Global Karst Critical Zone and Land Use Planning
22nd - 27th August, 2021 – 47th IAH Congress (Brazil)
28th August - 4th September, 2021 – 19th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology
September 2021 – Fort Stanton Cave Science Conference
6th - 10th September, 2021 - 48th IAH Congress (Belgium)
30th September - 3rd October, 2021 – 26th International Cave Bear Symposium
7th – 10th October, 2021 – TAG Fall Cave-In
19th – 21st October, 2021 – Karst Interest Group (KIG) 2021 Workshop
21st - 24th October, 2021 – Cave Lighting Workshop
26th - 30th October, 2021 – 6th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium
29th October - 2nd November, 2021 – Speleo Kamaraton
1st November – 5th November, 2021 – National Cave and Karst Management Symposium 2021

2022

Spring 2022 – 14th International Symposium of Pseudokarst
20th - 23rd April, 2022 – 36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology
24th - 31st May, 2022 - 18th Int. Congress of Speleology
22nd - 24th June, 2022 – EuroKarst 2022 (Malaga)
21st September – 2ns October, 2022 – ISCA 9th Congress and NCA Convention (San Antonio, Texas)
2022 – NSS Convention 2022 (Custer, South Dakota)

Deadline!

Send your materials **before August 20th, 2021** in order to appear in upcoming ISCA newsletters.



Contact: juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org



Links of interest



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION



Are you a cave enthusiast? Join ISCA!



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

Join us and become an ISCA Member

Visit www.i-s-c-a.org for details.

There are many membership benefits!



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

ABOUT INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

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.



Thanks to everyone who collaborated.

*Editor: Juan José Tíscar Moya – Contact: juanjotiscar@i-s-c-a.org
Issue: July & August 2021*