



## Novohrad - Nógrád Geopark Ipolytarnóc Fossils NCA

The 510 hectare-large Ipolytarnóc Fossils Nature Conservation Area, run by the Bükk National Park Directorate, is situated at the border between Slovakia and Hungary, on the Hungarian side. It is the prime fossil locality and the main gateway of the Geopark. Its interpretation centre is a favourite destination for visitors all over the world.



The *Prehistoric Pine* Visitor Centre



European Diploma-holding site



Carnivore footprints on the paleosurface



Interpretation of geological features inside the main conservation hall

The Visitor Centre is the starting and final point of the study trail network of the site, it hosts conference, exhibition information halls and a 4 dimensional movie theatre. The Trail Network consists of 6 trails. Some parts of the area are open to the public through this trail network, which consists of the Geological Study Path linked with a Miocene Forest path, an Open-air Rock Park, a Boulder-cliff Trail and Biological Trails. On top of these a Canopy walk path is available for the braver visitors.

The Geological Study Path, because of its strict protection, can be visited only by guided tours. The other trails are self-guided.

The geological path reveals a treasure of fossils, where much of the once buried paleohabitat is still unexcavated. Shark teeth in the shallow sea sediments; the paleosurface of an ancient dry land dotted by thousands of footprints of creatures; remnants of a petrified forest; all recall the memory of a prehistoric past. The trail is accessible by wheelchair. The footprint sandstone is exposed in two halls and in one protective cellar. The paleosurface of the newest ongoing excavation is protected by a wooden shelter. At the end of the trail, the exhibition of the Tasnadi Kubacska Hall is world-class. The building was erected above an excavated area. Beside the in-situ fossils the reconstruction of the paleo-vegetation and high-tech 3 dimensional movie projecting the prehistoric track makers can give a unique interpretation of a vanished era.

### Contact:

Ipolytarnóc Fossils Nature Conservation Area  
H-3138 Ipolytarnóc, Pf.: 1

Hungary

Tel./Fax: +36 32 454 113

E-mail: [itarnoc@gmail.com](mailto:itarnoc@gmail.com)

Website: <http://ipolytarnoc.kvvm.hu>