The Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest is located at Sigri village on the western coast of Lesvos Island, Greece, 90 km from Mytilene, the island’s capital city. It covers an area of 1597 m² including permanent and temporary exhibitions, audiovisual hall, laboratories, museum and coffee-shop. The Museum’s main objective is the study, research, promotion, conservation and any other appropriate use of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos, which has been declared a protected natural monument of particular environmental, geological and palaeontological value.

The permanent exhibition room “Petrified Forest” presents the evolution of plant life on earth from the appearance of the planet’s first single cell organisms 3.5 billion years ago to developed plant life and the creation of the petrified forest. The flora of the Petrified Forest is presented with fossil remains of over 40 different species found and identified in the broader area of western Lesvos. Characteristic examples from other fossil bearing sites in Greece (Kymi, Vegora, Elassona, Aliveri, Santorini) are also part of the exhibition. The second hall entitled “The Evolution of the Aegean” is a presentation of the various geological phenomena and processes associated with the creation of the Petrified Forest and the general geological history of the Aegean basin over the last 20 million years.

Museum educational programs attract students from Lesvos, Greece and abroad. During the summer period, the Museum hosts cultural events, exhibitions, lectures, conferences and symposia.

The Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest has experience in European Union projects as it has undertaken and realized successfully several projects in collaboration with partners coming from different European Union countries as well as individually in the frame of E.U Initiatives for the development of ecotourism.

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