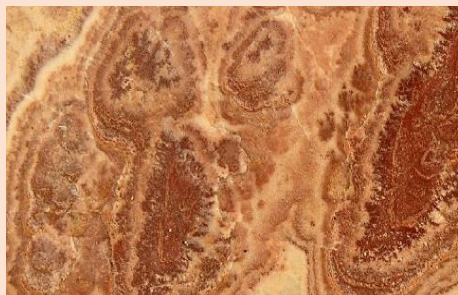


„Day of the Geotop“

Every 3rd Sunday of the September the „Day of the Geotop“ is celebrated in Germany, nationwide. This year, on the 21st September, the GeoPark Swabian Alb recognised the Böttinger Marble.



Despite of the dirty weather approximately 500 visitors found the way to the quarry of the Böttinger Marble. Visitors most enjoyed the guided tours across the quarry and information on the marble. The Böttinger Marble is one of the most beautiful geological phenomena on the Swabian Alb. The hydrothermal rock is 10 bill. years old and testified to the „Swabian Vulcano“; the rock originated from the precipitation of calcium carbonate in hot springs. It is both an important geotop and a significant cultural asset.

[Further information](#)

Geology live

In summer 2014 I did a practical in the GeoPark Swabian Alb. My name is Kim Rothemel, I'm a student of Geography at the Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg, and my task was to map the geotops on the Swabian Alb in detail by the help of a control formula.

Based on survey data of the Geological Authority in Freiburg i.Br./Baden-Württemberg (LGRB) 420 of 1900 geotops in 10 counties were selected. By the help of a GPS the first 80 geotops in Ulm, Heidenheim, Reutlingen and the Alb-Donau-county were mapped. Main types of geotops are quarries and cliffs, but also blue karst springs. The new data were embedded in the LGRB database and documented by photographs. Sadly, some geotops are in a bad condition, especially quarries often become overgrown.

I do hope, that the detailed mapping makes the geotops much more visible and open to the public. Every visitor on the Swabian Alb should experience these beauties very close. In March 2015 I will continue my practical in the GeoPark for a month, and I'm very curious what tasks I will follow. Most exciting will be the insight into more geotops as evidence of the earths history.

The Geo-suitcase, a real ripsnorter

The Geo-suitcase was developed by teachers, scientists and the ISTE (Engl: Industrial Association Rocks and Earths). The product informs about formation, exploitation and use of domestic raw materials and is produced for the education of students from the 8th class in Baden-Württemberg.



The Geo-suitcase is available in our GeoPark branch office, located in the biosphere centre in Münsingen, or in the media centres of our county.

Try in your class!

www.geokoffer.de

European Geopark meeting in the Harz

Between the 2nd and 6th September 2014 the European Geopark Network (EGN) met in Wernigerode for the 34th time. Amongst other topics the EGN discussed the UNESCO-approval, which we all hope for in 2015. In the case of a positive evaluation the GeoPark Swabian Alb then would be a „UNESCO Global Geopark“ – a further seal of quality for the whole region.

National Geopark Ruhrgebiet

„Land of raw materials Ruhrgebiet – experience geology“ sounds the slogan of the Geopark Ruhrgebiet. Germany has only a few landscapes in which the relation of nature, culture and economy is so excellently visible.



The intensive exploitation of raw materials in the Ruhrgebiet did unlock the earths history from the Devon to the Quaternary. [Further information](#)



The EGN includes now 64 Geoparks in 22 countries – have a look on the [list](#)