



Parco
del
Beigua

European - UNESCO Global Geopark

“PALAZZO GERVINO” VISITOR CENTER

The Visitor Center is set in the wonderful frame of Palazzo Gervino, a historical building in Sassello town center. It is entirely dedicated to geology and geodiversity. Through modern multimedia equipment, the Visitor Center provides information both on the features of Beigua Geopark and the Geopark international networks (the European Geopark Network and the Global Geopark Network supported by UNESCO). The Visitor Center - thanks to the collaboration with the Culture Councillorship of the Municipality of Savona - offers the possibility to observe a display of rare fossil finds of *Anthracotherium*, an Artiodactyl mammal widespread in Europe, Asia and probably Africa between the Eocene and Oligocene periods (50-23 million years ago). It was a big-size animal (about 2m long and 1.5m high at the shoulder) living in subtropical climate areas, marshy or lagoon habitats.



Main entrance of “Palazzo Gervino” Visitor Center in Sassello



History of Geo-research



“Geoparks hall” dedicated to EGN and GGN



The Oligocene room

The Visitor Center consists of a ground floor and first floor dedicated to the geological heritage of the territory of Beigua Geopark:

- **Entrance:** in the entrance a dedicated touch-screen gives tourism information about the Geopark area; also a big multi-coloured geological map shows the geodiversity of Liguria territory
- **Room 1: Geoparks in the World.** Using panels and several displays the “Geoparks Hall” provides information about the international networks of Geoparks with particular reference to the European Geopark Network (EGN) and the Global Geopark Network (GGN)
- **Room 2: Beigua Geopark.** This room shows an exhaustive presentation of Beigua Nature Park - Beigua Geopark. An intriguing research, facilitated by a multimedia screening room, where to find information, images and videos of the extraordinary geological, environment, historical and cultural heritage of the largest protected area in Liguria.
- **Room 3: The Oligocene Epoch.** It introduces the visitors to the discovery of the Oligocene epoch, a fantastic trip back in the time to investigate the geological environments and species that lived in Beigua territory.
- **Room 4: The Tropical Forest.** The room shows a rich exhibition of fossils of Oligocene flora consists of terrestrial higher plants and form of leaves logs, and some rare finds of the “Anthracotherium”
- **Room 5: The Tropical Sea.** The hall hosts Oligocene fossil collections found in the area of Ponte Prina –Maddalena (Sassello)
- **Room 6: The geologist’s laboratory** (for children)
- **Room 7: The Corals.** The last room is devoted to coral reefs of tireless bio-manufacturers; exposure allows the visitors to compare the present with those corals lived tens of millions of years ago.

Contact

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