

Pyrenean Prehistory Network

Under the auspices of the Association pour le Rayonnement de la Préhistoire et de l'Aurignacien (ARPA), located at the municipal offices of Aurignac, an extraordinary meeting was held recently to create the '**Pyrenean Prehistory Network**'.

All sites in the network are registered or classified as Historic Monuments, including Tautavel, Bédeilhac, La Vache, Aurignac, Lespugue, Gargas, Labastide, Oxocelhaya and Isturitz.

The objective of this Pyrenean circuit is to implement actions in order to:

- foster and promote awareness about the Pyrenees;
- develop and showcase the rich content, outstanding hospitality and innovative offerings that the members propose to visitors;
- encourage the general public to learn more about this fascinating destination through visits and all types of cultural mediation and tourism activities;
- share resources, means, solutions and methods to assist in achieving these objectives.

In positioning the network it will be distanced from conventional tourism offerings and visitors' experiences will be qualified.

Prehistory:

Man interacting with his space and the environment

Brilliant artists and inventors

Nomadic peoples exploring and sharing...

A unique encounter:

Inviting visitors to interact with prehistoric man

Sharing the adventures of researchers and inventors

Investigating collectively the knowledge, questions and, occasionally, lack of responses.

Pyrenees:

The cradle of scientific and historic adventure

A living conservatory of prehistory

Important preserved sites

An imaginary journey in the mountains

... / ...

The focus of our tourism offering:

Providing easier access to highly visible content

Helping visitors to grasp the network's identity through a common offer

Proposing a tangible offering as part of a strategy targeting awareness and image

Promoting educational tourism: renewal, dissemination, innovation

Developing an original cultural offering; encounters with art and science

Action plan:

Set up the Pyrenean Prehistory Network structure

Oversee formulation of the network's offerings

Review and ensure the consistency of content and its appeal

Embrace a network-wide cultural offering

Convey key messages: brochure, ICTs

Collaborate on innovative sales initiatives; identify network targets: 'nomad' tourism, agencies specialising in cultural travel (Ictus)

Work with various departmental tourism committees (CDTs) throughout the Pyrenees

Key actors in the network each responsible for one or more sites include:

Jacques Pernaud (Tautavel), Nicole Pailhaugne (Bèdeilhac-La Vache), Nathalie Rouquerol (Aurignac, Lespugue), Yoan Rumeau (Gargas), Francis Ferrand (Labastide) and Joëlle Darricau (Isturitz, Oxocelhaya).

Departemental Committee of Tourism's: Eastern Pyrenees – Ariège – Haute Garonne – Upper Pyrenees – Atlantic Pyrenees.
