

# 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).

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

\*\*\*\*\*