

Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, Park Škocjanske jame, Grotta Gigante S.A.G./Velika jama v Briščikih and Università degli studi di Trieste

invite you to participate in the

**INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS on
“SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN SHOW CAVES”**

From 13th to 15th September 2012



Second circular

Škocjan, November 2011

Organized by

Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
Park Škocjanske jame, Slovenija
Grotta Gigante S.A.G./Velika jama v Briščikih
Universita degli studi di Trieste, Dipartimento di geoscienze

Programme Committee

dr. Stanka Šebela, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
dr. Tadej Slabe, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
dr. Franci Gabrovšek, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
dr. Gordana Beltram, Park Škocjanske jame
Borut Peric, univ. Park Škocjanske jame
Jana Martinčič, Park Škocjanske jame
Alessio Fabbriatore, Grotta Gigante S.A.G./Velika jama v Briščikih
Donatella Cergna, Grotta Gigante S.A.G./Velika jama v Briščikih
prof. dr. Franco Cucchi, Universita degli studi di Trieste, Dipartimento di geoscienze
dr. Mitja Prelovšek, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU
dr. Janez Mulec, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU

Organizing Committee

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prof. dr. Franco Cucchi, Universita degli studi di Trieste, Dipartimento di geoscienze

Keynote and invited speakers

Dr. Andrej Kranjc, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, Slovenia
Dr. David Culver, Department of Environmental Science, American University, USA
Dr. Chris Grooves, Western Kentucky University, USA
Dr. Elery Hamilton Smith, University of New South Wales, Australia
Prof. Liu Hong, University of Geography, Kunming, Yunnan, China
Dr. Giovanni Badino, Corso di Studi in Scienze Geologiche, Universita degli studi di Torino, Italy
Dr. Paolo Forti, Istituto Italiano di Speleologia, Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e Geologico-Ambientali, Universita di Bologna, Italy
Franci Gabrovšek, Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, Slovenia
Peter Gažik, Slovak Caves Administration, Slovakia

All the information is available at

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and/or

Park Škocjanske jame
Škocjan 2
SI - 6210 Divača

tel.: (+386) 5 70 821 00
fax: (+386) 5 70 821 05
e-mail: psj@psj.gov.si
<http://www.park-skocjanske-jame.si>

Venue

All lectures and the meeting point for fieldwork, as well as excursions, will be at Park Škocjanske jame. Detailed information about the meeting and accommodations will be provided in the second circular.

Topics and goals

The Congress will focus on scientific research in show caves. Show caves are a special underground environment with the natural processes characteristic of caves, but with additional human impacts that provide significant common problems and research opportunities. Usually, their infrastructure offers scientists better conditions for research because the many pathways as well as electrical and optical illumination enable easier access and charging of scientific instruments.

Show caves are convenient for studying both natural processes and the human impact. The direct human impact is considerably higher in show caves with several hundred thousand visitors per year or in small passages open to the public. What is the human impact, how is it measured, what approaches are available to minimise it – these are just a few questions to be considered. Human impact on cave biodiversity and its consequences for the cave environment, including lampenflora, will also be discussed. The goals of the meeting are to present and share different research approaches in show caves and to discuss the results and measures needed to improve the management of show caves.

We invite show cave managers, scientists who are involved in research in show caves and other interested experts to participate.

Programme and activities

- keynote presentations
- thematic lectures
- poster presentations
- excursions and fieldwork

Congress topics include research on

- chemical and physical parameters in show caves
- karst hydrology in show caves
- biodiversity in show caves

Programme outline

Day 1

Arrival of participants

Day 2

Morning: LECTURES

Discussion

Afternoon: excursion to Škocjan Caves

Day 3

Morning: LECTURES

Discussion

Afternoon: excursion to Grotta Gigante/Velika jama v Briščikih

Day 4

Morning: LECTURES

Discussion

Afternoon: excursion to Postojna Cave

Day 5

Departure of participants

Practical information

Congress registration fee **400 EUR** covers accommodation, meals, refreshments and coffee breaks, conference materials, reception and conference excursions.

Congress registration fee **160 EUR** covers refreshments and coffee breaks, conference materials, reception and conference excursions.

Deadline for pre-registration is **March 30th 2012**.

In **May 2012** all the pre-registered participants will receive the Third Circular including the programme of the Congress.

Please note that the meeting is limited to forty participants. You are kindly invited to confirm your participation by returning the filled form attached to this circular.

The official language of the meeting is English. After the Congress, selected papers will be published in *Acta Carsologica*.

Registration form for the International Congress on “Scientific Research in Show Caves”

Name:

Family name:

Title:

Institution:

Address:

Profession:

Phone:

E-mail:

Topic of interest:

- chemical and physical parameters in show caves
- karst hydrology in show caves
- biodiversity in show caves

Preferred way of presentation:

a) oral session,

b) poster presentation.

Title of the presentation:

Place and date:

Signature:
