

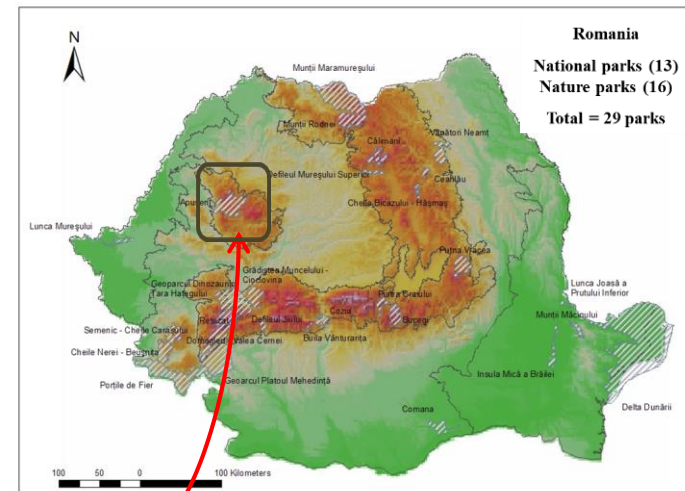
Apuseni Nature Park

Reconnecting with nature

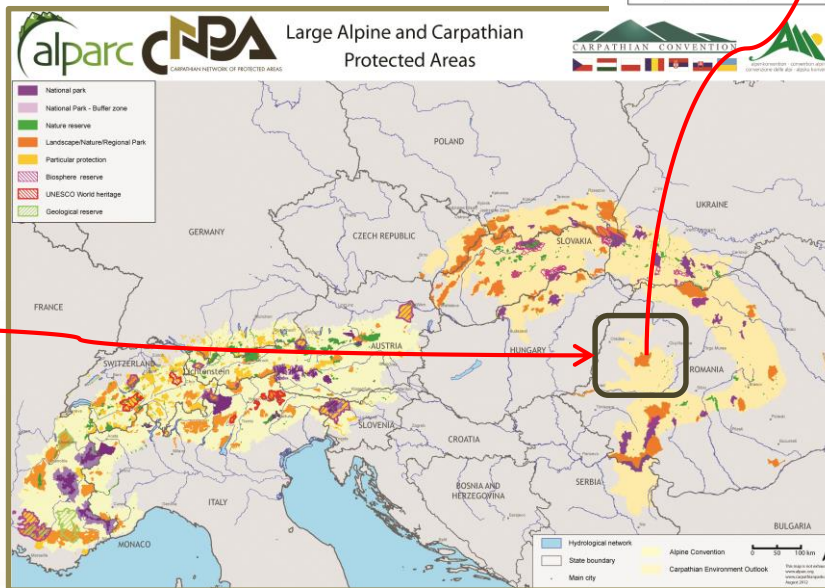
Alin Moş - Apuseni Nature Park Administration, Romania



Apuseni Nature Park



Located in western Romania in
 the central part of the Apuseni
 Mountains



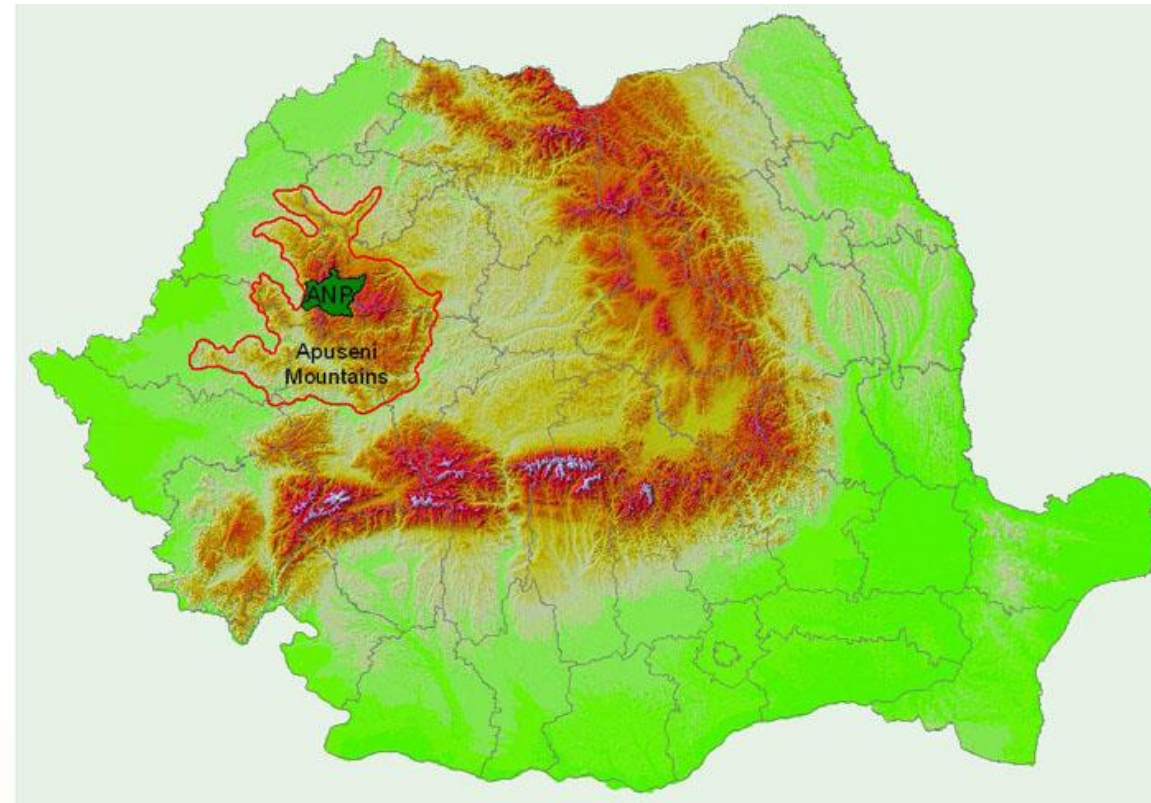
- The third largest park in Romania, with an area of 75,784 ha
- The area of maximum tourist attraction in the Apuseni Mountains with over 500,000 visitors per year

Protected Areas – Cornerstones of Ecological Connectivity in the Carpathians and Beyond

International Conference, Visegrád, Hungary, 28-30 September 2021 - Project co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA)

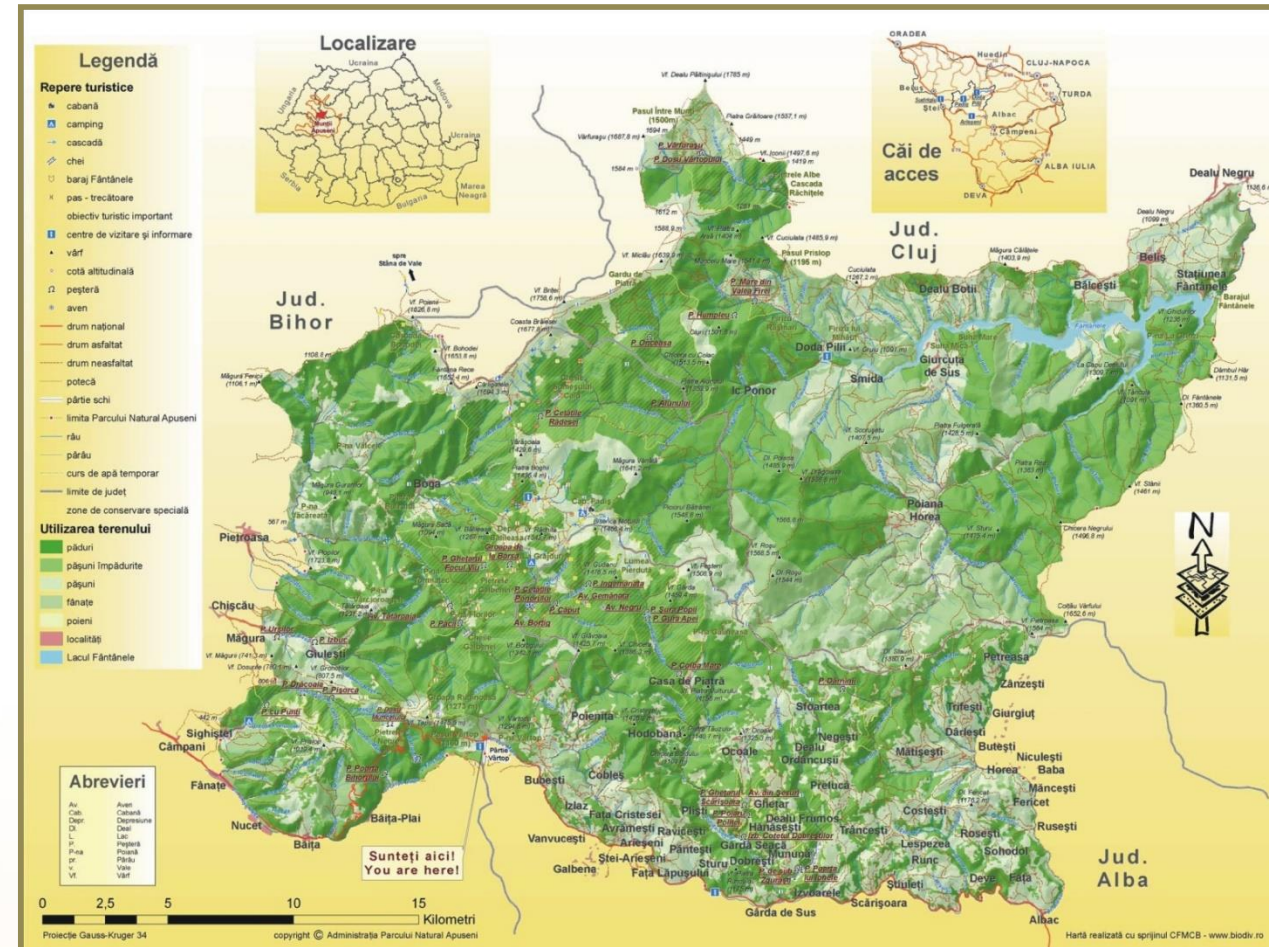
General information

- Situated in Western Romania in the heart of Apuseni Mountains
- Established in the year 2000
- Geological, biological and cultural importance at national level
- Area of main tourist attraction in Apuseni Mountains, more than 500 000 visitors/year
- The largest and most famous karst areas in Romania are located in the park
- Area of historical importance, the pride of local people



General information

- Surface: 75784 ha
- Natural ecosystems are predominant in the northern and central areas
- Sensitive forested karst areas are the most important to be preserved
- Covers land from 3 different counties: Bihor, Cluj and Alba
- 55 small and medium villages are located inside the park
- One of the most populated parks in Romania, ~ 10.000 inhabitants
- The most densely populated area is in South-Eastern side
- 1/3 of the surface is state owned



Natural capital

Diversity of species:

Plant species – over 1550

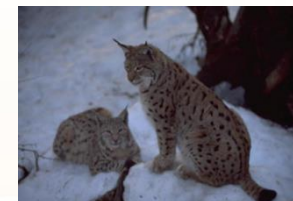
Animal species – over 1380

Diversity of natural habitats:

29 natural habitats

Caves (underground habitats) :

Over 1500 caves are known in the park



Cultural heritage – human presence

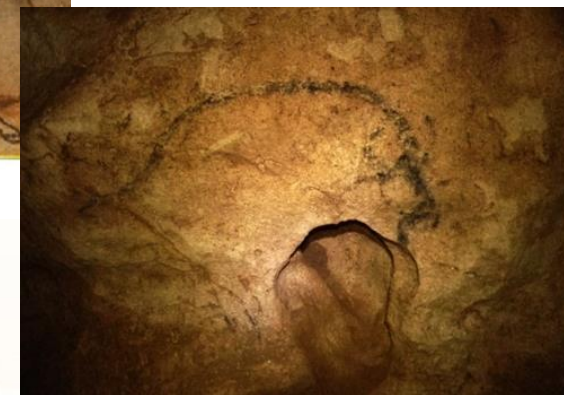
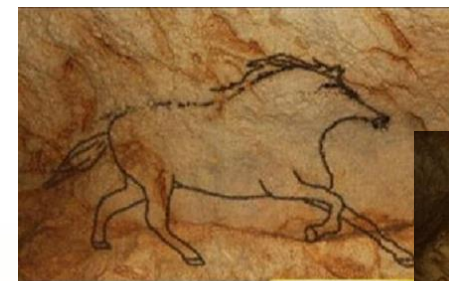
Vârtop cave

The world oldest neanderthal man footprint, over 62,000 years old



Coliboaia cave

The oldest parietal art in Central and South East Europe, over 35.000 years old



Tourist attractions

The Bear's Cave

- best visitor infrastructure in Romania
- hundreds of bear skeletons
- beautiful speleothemes
- more than 80 000 visitors/year



Tourist attractions

Scărișoara cave glacier

- World largest underground fossil ice block, over 130,000 cubic meters
- More than 60.000 visitors per year



Tourist attractions



YEAR 2020

The year of the pandemic

New challenges for tourism and visitors



IDEA

European Day Of Parks 2020

Europarc Federation came with theme **“Healthy Parks – Healthy People”**

Key message: Parks & protected areas have an important mission connecting people with nature!



Apuseni Nature Park Administration
Theme: Healthy parks, healthy people
Our project: **Reconnect with nature**

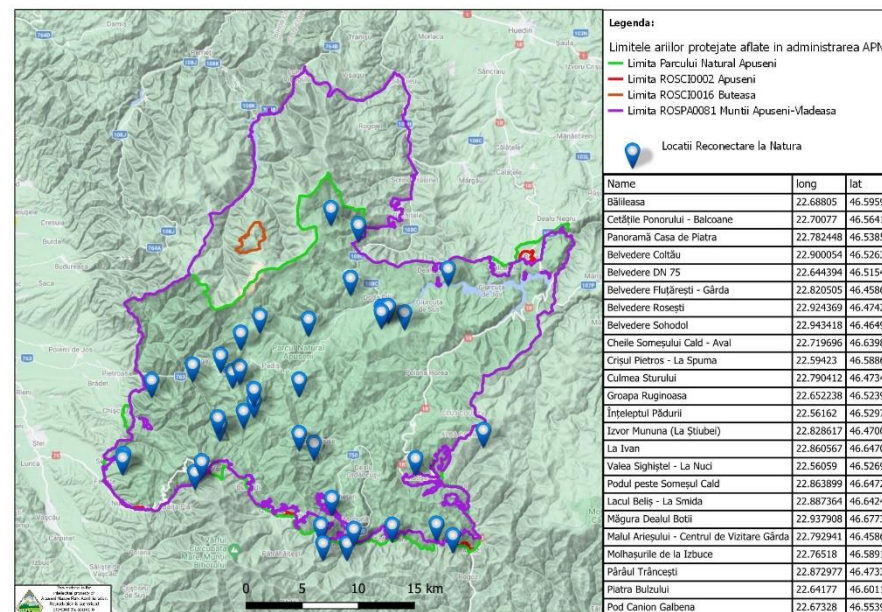


New tool for visitors have been developed as an interactive map

Acces to the map – on the park website www.parcapuseni.ro

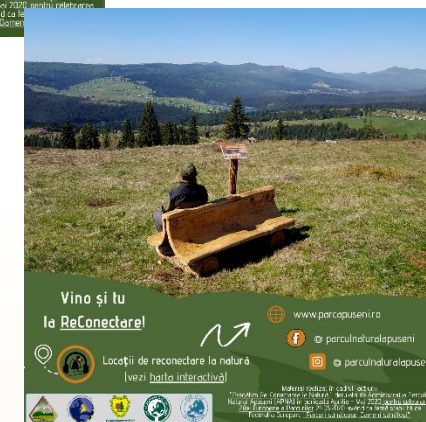
General description

Interactive map of nature reconnection locations



What are **nature reconnection locations** ?

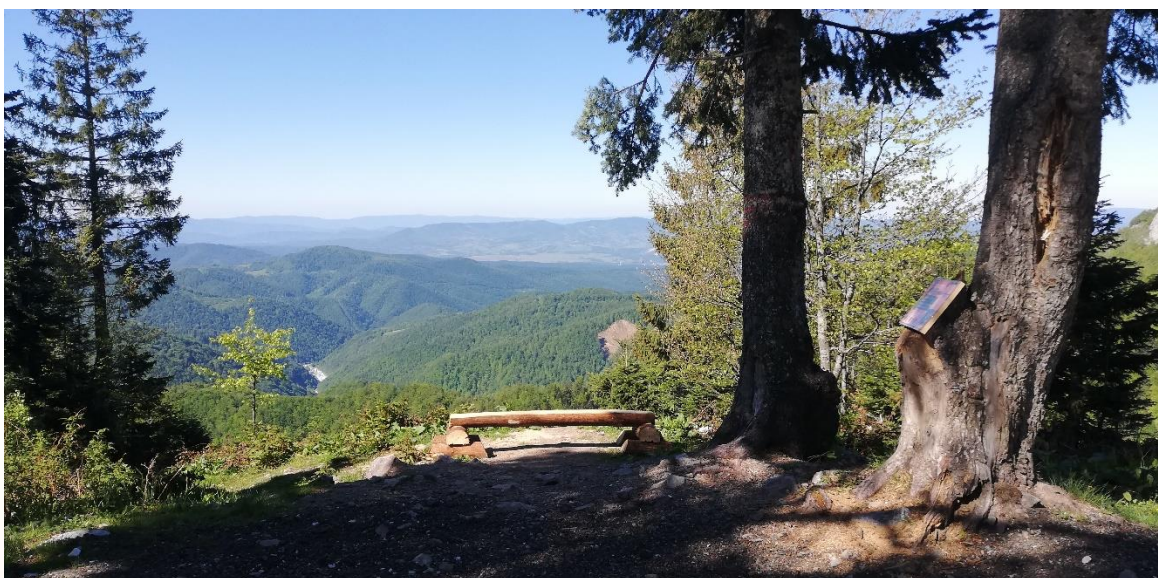
- proposals of the rangers
- easy access
- unknown for general public
- quiet places
- no risk for contamination for the visitors
- a place to escape and be safe



Let your thoughts flow down the valley with the ripples of the water and you will be left alone with nature

What are the endowments of the **nature reconnection locations** ?

- log benches
- info boards with **motivational messages** for each location,
example: *let your thoughts flow down the valley with the ripples of the water and you will be left alone with nature*



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How to get to the nature reconnection locations ?

www.parcapuseni.ro

From your location anywhere in the world to pure nature in Apuseni Nature Park.

The best places to escape the pandemic!



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**Vino și tu
 la ReConectare!**

 www.parcapuseni.ro

 @ parculnaturalapuseni

 @ parculnaturalapuseni

  **Locații de reconectare la natură**
 (vezi [harta interactivă](#))







Material realizat în cadrul acțiunii
 "Pregătim Re-Conectarea la Natură", derulată de Administrația Parcului
 Natural Apuseni (APNA) în perioada Aprilie - Mai 2020 pentru celebrarea
 Zilei Europene a Parcurilor 24.05.2020 având ca temă stabilită de
 Federația Europeană "Parcuri sănătoase, Oameni sănătoși".

Thank you!

Alin Moș
 Director, Apuseni Nature Park Administration