

1<sup>st</sup> circular

## 15<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CAVE BEAR SYMPOSIUM



a symposium to be held at

**SPIŠSKÁ NOVÁ VES, SLOVAKIA**  
**17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2009**

**Organized by**

Department of Geology & Palaeontology, Comenius University in Bratislava  
Museum of Spiš in Spišská Nová Ves  
State Geological Institute of Dionyz Stur

**and**

State Protection of Nature of the Slovak Republic –  
Slovak Caves Administration & National Park Slovenský raj



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***Dear Friends and Colleagues!***

*It is a great honour to invite you to the 15<sup>th</sup> International Cave Bear Symposium in Slovakia and introduce to you a part of our beauty spot in the heartbeat of Europe. In year 2008, town Spišská Nová Ves celebrated 740 anniversary of the first writing reference concerning to the town.*

*We hope that our symposium will be not only as important meeting of experts on cave bears and fauna of Quaternary from the whole Europe, but also as important social and cultural event and happening. The entire Organization and Scientific Committee is cordially looking forward to you.*

## Location

The oldest historical documents of Spišská Nová Ves are from 1268, but the archaeological finds reveal that civilization in this region date to at least the 8<sup>th</sup> century. The town is located in the basin of the Hornád River. On the north, it is boarded by the Levočské vrchy Mts. and on the south the Spišsko-Gemerské rudohorie Mts. is situated. The town and its environs are very attractive by both the natural beauties and the cultural historical heritage. The town's mining tradition is related to the rich occurrence sites of iron, silver and copper ores and the right of their exploring. Ironworks of Konrad Gaal used to be the most famous one out of the handicrafts. In 18<sup>th</sup> century the city became residency of Province of 16 Spiš cities and remained till 1876. Not only the lentil shapes square in Spišská Nová Ves being the longest square of this type in Europe and Roman-Catholic church tower in Slovakia being 87 m tall, but also Provincial house, Reduta, building of City Hall and others count among the real historical jewels of the town. The town offers cultural and sports events during the whole year and it is real gate to the Slovak Paradise Mts.

More information you can find on website [www.spiskanovaves.eu](http://www.spiskanovaves.eu) (English version will be accessible soon)

## How to get there

Town Spišská Nová Ves is situated in the eastern part of Slovakia, on the main railway line Bratislava – Košice. The distance from capital city Bratislava is about 350 km. Close to Spišská Nová Ves, two airports are situated: Poprad – [www.airportpoprad.sk](http://www.airportpoprad.sk) (distance 30 km) and Košice – [www.airportkosice.sk](http://www.airportkosice.sk) (distance 80 km). The main airport is situated in Bratislava – capital city of Slovakia. Possibilities of transport are by air – [www.skyeurope.com](http://www.skyeurope.com), by train – [www.zsr.sk](http://www.zsr.sk), by bus – [www.slovaklines.sk](http://www.slovaklines.sk), or [www.cp.sk](http://www.cp.sk). Also you can to combine above mentioned transport possibilities with car-rental – [www.alimex.sk](http://www.alimex.sk).

## The Venue

The Conference will be held in Gallery of Artists of Spiš, street Zimná ulica Nr. 46, Spišská Nová Ves, which is situated in the centre of city square [www.gus.sk](http://www.gus.sk). We believe that pleasant ambient of the Gallery, spacious conference rooms with capacity about 80 people, space, which is suitable for poster presentations and also with a place for coffee break, as well as small snacks, it will guarantee pleasant proceedings. Close the Gallery you can find many restaurants and coffee-rooms.

The building of host Museum of Spiš (Provincial house) is situated on the opposite street with distance from the Gallery about 150 m – named Letná ulica Nr. 50, [www.muzeumspisa.com](http://www.muzeumspisa.com)

From Railway station you can reach the centre close Gallery by local public transport or by taxi (5 minutes).

(In the second circular an area map with details of public transport will be attached)

## Accommodation

Many possibilities of accommodation are in Spišská Nová Ves town in hotels, pensions or private accommodation. The price for the accommodation is in range approximately from 10 – 30 €.

Detailed offers concerning to accommodation in Spišská Nová Ves you can find on website [www.slovenskyraj.sk](http://www.slovenskyraj.sk), where is great choice of accommodation directly in Spišská Nová Ves and also in surrounding (e. g. Smižany 3 km, Čingov 6 km, Slovenský raj 6 km)

We can to recommend accommodation in pension called Limba. Price is (10 €), where we can to reserve accommodation. (It is situated in town about 500 m from Gallery of Artists of Spiš – Galéria umelcov Spiša).

Phone: ++421-53-4414203

E-mail: [limba@centrum.sk](mailto:limba@centrum.sk); photo on the website: [www.slovenskyraj.sk](http://www.slovenskyraj.sk)

Address: Markušovská cesta 2, 052 01 Spišská Nová Ves

Description of the object Limba (152 beds):

- Possibility of accommodation in two-, three-bed rooms and apartments including hygienic equipment (sink, shower, WC) (2/4, 46/3 3/2)
- Social room with TV-SAT and sitting
- Room for bicycles and skies
- Playground for tennis, volleyball, football and basketball
- Place with grill for barbecue party
- Free parking in closed yard
- All-season operation

The accommodation is placed in silent part of the town and it is suitable also for family accommodation with children and for people looking for calm and peace place.

Also interesting accommodation is in centre in pension named ELLEN, directly on the Square (capacity 22 people), [www.ellen.sk](http://www.ellen.sk).

## Hotels

HOTEL METROPOL\*\*\* [www.hotel-metropol.sk](http://www.hotel-metropol.sk), HOTEL PREVEZA\*\* [preveza@spisnet.sk](mailto:preveza@spisnet.sk), HOTEL ŠPORT\*\* [hotel@stez.sk](mailto:hotel@stez.sk), HOTEL PARKHOTEL CENTRUM\*\* [repcia@parkhotelcentrum.sk](mailto:repcia@parkhotelcentrum.sk),

## Autocamps (web only in Slovak)

ATC Podlesok <http://www.slovenskyraj.sk/atc.html>, [atcpodlesok@gmail.com](mailto:atcpodlesok@gmail.com);

ATC Tatran <http://www.slovenskyraj.sk/tatran.html>, [durkovec@durkovec.sk](mailto:durkovec@durkovec.sk)

## Climate and Clothing

Weather in the Spiš area during the September is usually more or less stable, especially in the second half of the month when the nature is slowly passing from Summer time to the time of Indian Summer. There is also a possibility of rain, but long-running and heavy rainfall is not expected. The temperature may range from 10-15 °C during the night to ~ 20 °C and more during the day.

The cave clothing with a light is necessary for the visit of Medvedia jaskyňa (Bear Cave in the Slovensky raj Mts.)

## **Preliminary program**

### **1<sup>st</sup> day (17<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, Thursday) – Arrival day**

Accommodation of the participants and free programme. Here it is possibility for town visit and also for a visit of the Museum of Spiš.

- 15:00 – 18:00 Registration of the participants in Museum of Spiš (street Letná ulica Nr. 50)
- 17:30 Opening Ceremony of the congress with friendly welcome of colleagues in host Museum with cheer  
Karst phenomena of Slovakia & Natural Park Slovenský raj – brief presentations

### **2<sup>nd</sup> day (18<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, Friday) – Day of presentations**

- 09:00 – 12:00 Registration of the participants
- 09:00 – 12:00 Plenary Session in Gallery of Artists of Spiš (Galéria umelcov Spiša, street Zimná ulica Nr. 46)  
Oral presentations may be given in English (official language of the symposium, no simultaneous translation will be available), poster presentations will take place in the same building. More detailed program will be announced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> circular.
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Continuation of oral presentations
- 19:00 Symposium dinner

### **3<sup>rd</sup> day (19<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, Saturday) – Excursion day**

- 08:00 – 09:00 Transport by cars to Važec village, where the Važecká jaskyňa ([www.ssj.sk/jaskyne/spristupnene/vazecka/?lang=en](http://www.ssj.sk/jaskyne/spristupnene/vazecka/?lang=en)) is situated
- 09:00 – 10:00 Visit of the cave
- 10:00 – 10:30 Transport to Gánovce-Hrádok, famous site of Neanderthal man in Slovakia
- 10:30 – 11:30 Visit of the travertine heap of Gánovce-Hrádok
- 11:30 – 13:00 Transport by cars to the Slovenský raj National Park, where the Medvedia jaskyňa (Bear Cave) is situated
- 13:00 – 14:00 “Lunch in nature” and touristic transport to the Medvedia jaskyňa
- 14:00-17:00 Visit of the cave

After excursion, a possibility to dine in a traditional Slovak restaurant (Koliba).

### **4<sup>th</sup> day (20<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, Sunday) - Departure day**

Departure of participants of 15<sup>th</sup> ICBS with possibility of Post Conference Tours (free programme for registered participants with two possibilities: 1. Visit the Spiš Castle – the largest castle in the Central Europe, situated eastward from Spišská Nová Ves town ([www.spisskyhrad.sk](http://www.spisskyhrad.sk)), or 2. Visit the world-famous Cave of Liberty in the Demänová Valley ([www.ssj.sk](http://www.ssj.sk), [www.slovakcaves.sk](http://www.slovakcaves.sk)), situated in the Nízke Tatry Mts. to the south of Liptovský Mikuláš town or other ones)

## Technical Information

Suitable technique will be at disposal to Power-Point presentations. In case of necessity of next technique (such as slide projector or others), please put your request in **Registration form**. Duration of the presentation is scheduled for 20 minutes including 5 minutes for discussion.

## Fees

The **conference fee** is 40 Euros (25 Euros for students).

The price includes:

- Entry to all congress presentations
- Refreshment during the Opening Ceremony
- Refreshments and coffee during breaks on the day of presentations
- Symposium Dinner
- Box Lunch on the excursion day
- Entry to the Važec Cave
- A set of conference literature together with the symposium proceedings

Conference fees are to be paid at the symposium office at your arrival.

## Pre-registration

The pre-registration for the congress by the enclosed booking form should be answered before 15<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

## Abstracts and full papers

Abstract of all oral presentations and posters (no more than two A4 pages including figures and references) will be published in the Symposium proceedings (Abstract book). Instruction for preparing of abstracts and posters will be more specific in the 2<sup>nd</sup> circular.

There will be also a possibility to publish full papers after peer review in special post-conference volume of SLOVENSKÝ KRAS – ACTA CARSOLOGICA SLOVACA scientific magazine with authorial fee 20 Euros (the fee will be paid with conference fee). The instructions for authors will be specific in the 2<sup>nd</sup> circular.

## Important dates

Submission the pre-registration form: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2009

Submission of abstracts: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Submission of full papers: during the symposium

The website of the Symposium is in the process.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> circular including detailed information and programme, according with obtained registration forms and abstracts will be sent for participants of the 15<sup>th</sup> ICBS to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

## Further information

For all your inquiries contact the conference organizers:

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SK-031 01 Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia  
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We are very truly looking forward to meeting in Spišská Nová Ves!

**Pre-registration form  
15<sup>th</sup> International Cave Bear Symposium**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> circular will be send only to those participants, which send us pre-registration form.

Surname (Block Capitals please): .....

First name: .....

Acad. Title: .....

Institute: .....

Address: .....

Country: .....

Telephone: ..... Fax: .....

E-mail: .....

Please indicate presentation type: oral   
poster   
without talk and poster

Preliminary title of my contribution  
.....  
.....

Preliminary title of my poster  
.....  
.....

I shall attend the excursion on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009: yes  no

I presume to arrive at symposium by own car: yes  no

Please return the pre-registration form by e-mail or via post office at the latest March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to:

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