In the historical Province of Anjou, western France, the layers of the Paris Basin (Mesozoic and Cenozoic) contact those of the Armorican Massif (Proterozoic to Paleozoic). This region of the Loire valley landscapes is UNESCO labeled. This three days fieldtrip, departing from Paris, will allow the observation of numerous fossiliferous outcrops of various periods, a large diversity of landscapes, architectural heritage...while savouring tasty wines and gastronomic meals.

Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic, Western France, Loire Valley, paleontology, geomorphology, oenology, cultural and geological heritage

**SCHEDULE 15-18 JULY 2018:**

**Day 1 July 15th:** Departure from Paris, at about 15:00 pm.

**Day 2 July 16th:** Palaeozoic, various stops will allow to visit the Ordovician-Silurian boundary, a Devonian quarry, Ordovician trilobites, and fossiliferous cinerites.

**Day 3 July 17th:** Mesozoic, Bathonian-Callovian ammonites limestone in Montreuil-Bellay, Aalenian-Bajocian in Vaudelnay, Cenomanian orbitolines claystone in Cizay-la-Madeleine, Cenomanian oyster marls in Brissac-Quincé, Tuffeaux d’Anjou in Gennes, sandstones with plants imprints of the Eocene of Saint-Saturnin-sur-Loire.

**Day 4 July 18th:** Cenozoic, the Miocene Faluns Sea deposited numerous fossiliferous beds famous for the abundance of shells, shark teeth and mammal remains. Visit of the quarry museum of Savigné-sur-Lathan and the quarry of the Perrières near Doué-la-Fontaine. Return to Paris.

**ORGANIZERS:**

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**POINT OF DEPARTURE:** Paris, MNHN (75)

**POINT OF ARRIVAL:** Paris, MNHN (75)

**PARTICIPANT FEES:**

All inclusive: **390 euros**

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS MIN/MAX:** 30/35

**WEATHER/REQUIREMENTS:**

Temperatures are between 11°C and 23°C.

Easy, field equipment including appropriate shoes.
**ACCOMODATION:**
Accommodation center in Les Perrières (troglodytic site).

**TRANSPORTATION:** Bus

**EXCURSION GUIDE:** YES

The Loire Valley. Photo: F. Redois.

The castle of Angers, black rocks are from the "Anjou Noir" and the white ones from the "Anjou Blanc". Photo: F. Redois.

Accommodation center in Les Perrières (troglodytes in Miocene deposits). Photo: Les Perrières

Accommodation center in Les Perrières (cave-dwelling bedrooms and dining room). Photo: Les Perrières