



## Palaeozoic and Mesozoic Brachiopods of East Spain

This is a 4-day-excursion to visit several localities in Central-East Spain. We will see successions that record the drift of the Gondwana Mediterranean margin from subpolar latitudes to subtropical ones during the early Palaeozoic. We will also be able to compare NW-European and Mediterranean Jurassic brachiopod assemblages, and to observe the extinction and recovery of brachiopods across the Early Toarcian Oceanic Anoxic Event. We will also have the opportunity to visit some places of great historical and heritage values, such as Molina de Aragón, Daroca, Albarracín or Teruel; this last city is regarded as the "town of Mudéjar" (Moorish-influenced architecture), a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### DATES AND BRIEF ITINERARY

*Pre-congress excursion: 6-9 September 2018*

- Day 1** *September 6<sup>th</sup>* Participants will be picked up from the Madrid City Centre and airport and driven to Molina de Aragón (Central Iberian Range) to visit a key locality with rich assemblages of Lower Jurassic brachiopods of the NW-European province. Overnight at Daroca.
- Day 2** *September 7<sup>th</sup>* Visit to Ordovician-Devonian outcrops with brachiopods in the Eastern Iberian Chain. The assemblages change from orthid-dominated during the Ordovician to spiriferid-strophomenid dominated during the early Devonian. Overnight at Teruel. Dinner not included in the fee.
- Day 3** *September 8<sup>th</sup>* Visit of Lower and Upper Jurassic assemblages of brachiopods close to the village of Albarracín and in the Jiloca Valley. Overnight at Segorbe.
- Day 4** *September 9<sup>th</sup>* Drive to Crevillente. Visit of rich Lower Jurassic brachiopod assemblages of the Mediterranean Province in the Eastern Subbetic Range. Afternoon: end of the field-trip in Alicante.

**Participants will be allowed to collect specimens in the field, but in some localities the use of hammer will be restricted or prohibited.**

### ORGANIZERS

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### DEPARTURE PLACE

Madrid City Centre at 10:00 a.m. and Barajas Airport at 11:30 a.m. (approx.)

### RETURN PLACE

Alicante (San Juan Beach). For the participants who will stay overnight in Alicante and take their flight to Milano on Monday, the organizers can arrange room reservation with special fee for Sunday night at the University Hotel (€ 60.50 for a double room, € 51.55 if single use, breakfast included). Please note that September is still high season in the Mediterranean region and Alicante is a very touristic city, so please make your reservations of both flights and hotels as soon as possible.

### EXCURSION FEE AND DEADLINES

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018: pre-registration on the website

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018: **payment of 580 euro in double room, 700 euro in single room.**

Excursion fee will include a guide book (field guide that will include besides the scientific information, city maps and information about restaurants in Teruel, Segorbe and Alicante and touristic main interest points of the visited localities), transportation by bus, accommodation and breakfast for three nights, all mid-day meals and the dinners of the first and third days (Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>).

Only a limited number of single rooms is available. So please specify in advance if you need a single room.

### ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be in 3-star category hotels, both double and single rooms are available

### TRANSPORTATION

Bus. There will be also one or two support cars.

### NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

10–25 participants

### PHYSICAL DIFFICULTY

Most localities will be of easy access, but there will be also short climbs. Trekking equipment is recommended.

**Neither the organizers nor the field excursion leaders can offer insurance covering illness or injury for individuals. Participants are advised to take out their own personal health and travel insurance for their trip.**

**The Conference organizers cannot accept liability for personal accidents or loss of or damage to private property of participants, either during or indirectly arising from the field trips.**

### CONDITIONS

Weather can be hot (over 30° C). Sunscreen cream and hat are strongly recommended. Storms are also possible.





## CULTURAL ASPECTS AND GASTRONOMY

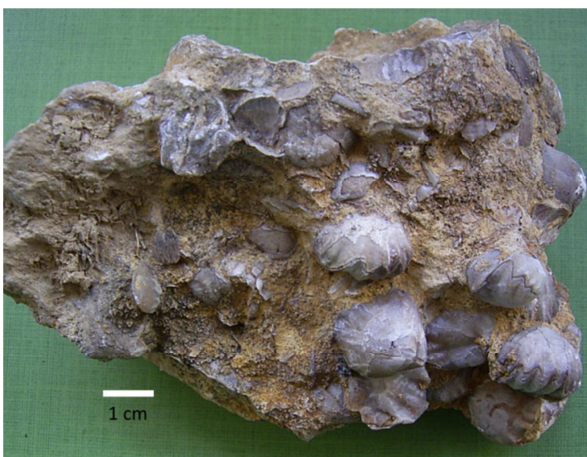
The excursion will take place mainly along the Iberian Range, an intracratonic chain that crosses Spain from NW to SE with altitudes of up to 2300 m. We will travel through very diverse landscapes, though generally arid and sparsely populated. There are a number of castles and walled towns in this region, testifying its past as a border territory in medieval times. The architecture mirrors this feature, highlighted by the *Mudéjar* style, which consists of medieval Christian constructions built with Moorish style. The low economic and demographic growth in some parts of this region has favored the preservation of the ancient layout in towns, a feature that attracts numerous visitors nowadays. Local gastronomy has a strong traditional nature, based largely on local produce. On the last day, an important change can be noticed as we get nearer to the Mediterranean coast. Here, the weather is milder, the landscape has more vegetation, and it is more densely populated. Another important change is found in the gastronomy. The most typical dish is the well-known *paella*. We hope to enjoy a *paella* and seafood at the beach as the farewell activity of this trip.



Lower Jurassic outcropping in Jiloca valley



External mould of a dorsal valve of *Nicolella actoniae*, an orthid characteristic of the upper Katian (Upper Ordovician)



Rock fragment with *Soaresirhynchia bouchardi* from the Lower Toarcian of the Iberian Range

