



# Newsletter

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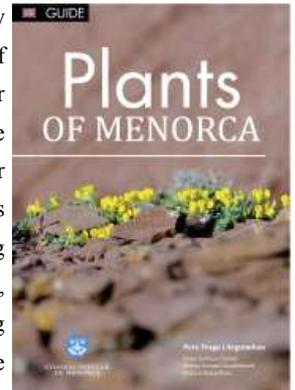
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## Book on Plants of Menorca / Floral Routes

From 2009 to 2014, the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency carried out a LIFE+ project known as “RENEIX” (rebirth), whose primary goal was to recover eroded habitats and threatened plant species within the areas of the Natura 2000 Network (<http://lifereneix.cime.es/>). One of the results of the project was the publication of a Menorcan plant guide that can be downloaded free in three languages; Spanish, Catalan and English (<http://lifereneix.cime.es/contingut.aspx?IdPub=9087>).

This guide is divided into four chapters. The first includes an introduction to what the LIFE+ RENEIX project was all about, an explanation of what the Nature 2000 Network is, and about the concept of conservation of biodiversity. The next chapter is dedicated to the characteristics of Menorcan flora and includes analysis of both physical and human factors that may impact the presence of different species, with a description of the principal ecosystems that can be observed on the island, as well as the unique distinguishing traits of each one. This chapter, dedicated to the species present on the island, is clearly the longest, with an abundance of photos that can perfectly assist in recognizing each

species. The next, and highly noteworthy, chapter sets out a series of 10 self-guided floral routes that cover portions of the entire island and serve as an indispensable tool to discover Menorcan flora. Three of these routes have been marked with signage along their very paths (areas of Es Torretó, Pas d'en Revull and El Pilar) helping visitors make informative visits to these areas by simply observing the information included on the signs. These routes are also included in the environmental on-line viewer that the Menorca Biosphere Reserve has created to allow those interested to consult this information from a computer or mobile device with an Internet connection, and can also be downloaded at (<http://ide.cime.es/visoride>). This viewer also provides substantial information regarding habitats, species, landscape features, photos and other material related to the island's environment.

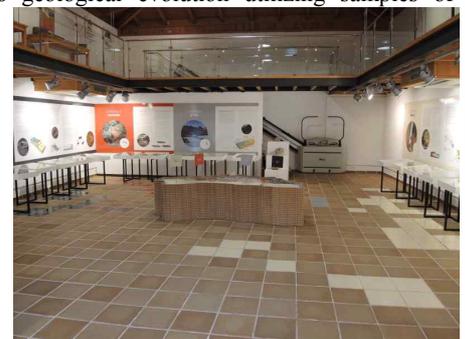


## The Geology Centre of Menorca

Within the area of dissemination carried out by the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency regarding geology, the inauguration of the Geology Centre of Menorca, located in Ferreries, has been a highlight. This took place in September of 2014 and is the result of a collaborative agreement between the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency and the City Hall of Ferreries. The Geology Centre's goal is to become a cornerstone for geological issues and a highly useful tool for environmental education, as well as to provide diversity as a complementary tourist destination and collaborate in the dissemination of the values of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.

This centre has two exhibitions; on the ground floor is the one titled, “Landscapes, colours and geology”, whose goal is to show how the landscape of the island of Menorca is determined largely by its geological characteristics. The idea conveyed by this

exhibition is based on the concept, “the Menorca of colours” and includes an array of informative panels and collections of rocks, minerals and fossils. The first floor is home to the exhibition, “500 million years of geological evolution in Menorca”, and aims to introduce the island's geological evolution utilizing samples of rocks, minerals and fossils. It also houses samples of the different sands that can be found on the beaches around the island, and explains just how these beaches are also conditioned by the very geology of the island.



## Plan for Support and Promotion of the Menorcan Fishing Industry



On the 19th of November 2014, at the council chamber of the Consell Insular de Menorca (Island Council of Menorca), two studies on the Menorcan maritime-fishing industry were presented. These were originally commissioned by the Department of Economy, Environment and Game, within the framework of an informative conference.

These studies are part of the Plan for Support and Promotion of the Menorcan Fishing Industry, and received a total of 136,168€.

This plan contemplated three lines of action aimed at supporting the relevant associations, counsel for the sector regarding marketing, training and diversification of activities, a study on the

socioeconomic situation, improvement of marine diversity and a promotional campaign of fishing products.

The development and presentation of these studies falls within the framework of the activities classified as “Marine protection and diversification of the fishing industry in the Menorca Biosphere Reserve” and has been provided with 61,477€, of which 50% is provided by the Consell Insular de Menorca, while the other 50% by the European Social Fund, managed by the Biodiversity Foundation of the Department of Food, Agriculture and the Environment.

The main objectives of this effort are to improve biodiversity and promote the development of activities in the marine environment, to support fishing communities in discovering new methods to strengthen their economic situation and to provide a source of alternative income.

Other viable concepts include providing fishing products with added value, promoting employment through support in diversification or the restructuring of areas that are confronted with difficulties caused by the evolution of the fishing industry.

## Interpretive Route “Forests of the Future : Services and Management

Within the framework of the LIFE+ BOSCOS (Forests) project, ([lifeboscos.cime.es](http://lifeboscos.cime.es)), for the adaptation of forests with regard to climatic change, an interpretive route has been created in a wooded area of the island in hopes of disseminating the values of our forests, the environmental services they provide for us and the need for their adequate management to protect their future, bearing in mind the risks and impacts caused by climatic change.

This route primarily has a bearing on the different ecosystematic services of water



and carbon regulation, the creation of material, energetic and recreational assets, diversity as a guarantee for the resistance and resilience of ecosystems to global changes and finally, any associated cultural services. It also addresses the threats that global change, especially with regard to climate, can have on ecosystematic services and the exceptional vulnerability inherent to insularity and possible means of adaptation.

This route complements an informative book on the past, present and future of Menorcan forests and is primarily aimed at school-aged children. It can also be downloaded from the project’s website.

This interpretive route has been set up on public land in S’Arangí as can be easily accessed, so as to reach as much of the population as possible. It includes nine informative panels, which are also available on the project’s website.

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