

ProGEO – Conservation of geoheritage in Europe

Geoconservation – a fundamental part of nature conservation

ProGEO is a European NGO association dedicated to the promotion of geoconservation, including the conservation of Europe's rich heritage of landscape, rock, fossil and mineral sites. It has activity and members in more than 30 European countries. ProGEO is today an affiliated organisation of the IUGS (International Union of Geological Sciences), and a member of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). ProGEO works through national groups and regional working groups.

Our natural heritage is formed by geoheritage and bioheritage together. Geodiversity for its part includes the variety of geological elements and it conditions and underpins biodiversity.

IUCN has approved two resolutions (2008 and 2012) stressing the importance of promoting conservation measures for geodiversity and geoheritage.

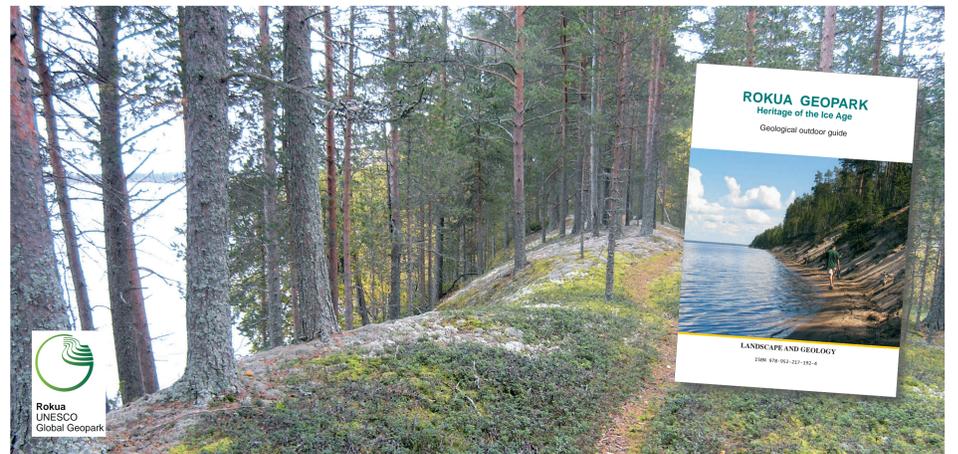
One of ProGEO's major initiatives is the journal GEOHERITAGE. It represents an important step towards a truly global perspective, promoting cooperation to develop new and broader perspectives in geoconservation, such as geodiversity, geotourism, geoparks, landscape conservation and geological education.



De Geer moraines in Svedjehamn, Kvarken World Heritage Site, Western Finland. Photo Seppo Lammi



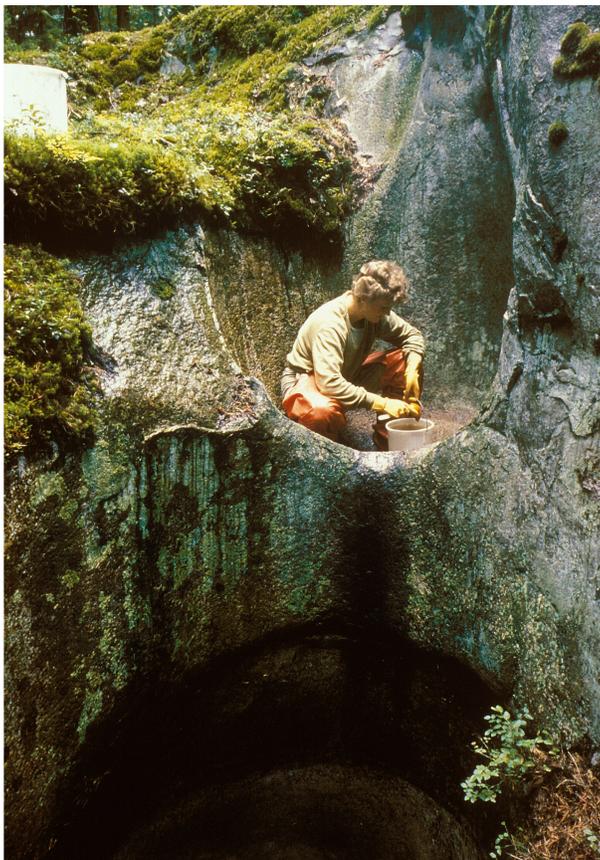
Koli National Park is situated in the Eastern Finland. Koli hills are formed of 2 300 Ma old, white quartzite. Glacial striation is clearly visible on the surface of the rock. Lake Pielinen is in the background. Koli has nominated as a Finnish National Landscape. Photo Esko Koistinen.



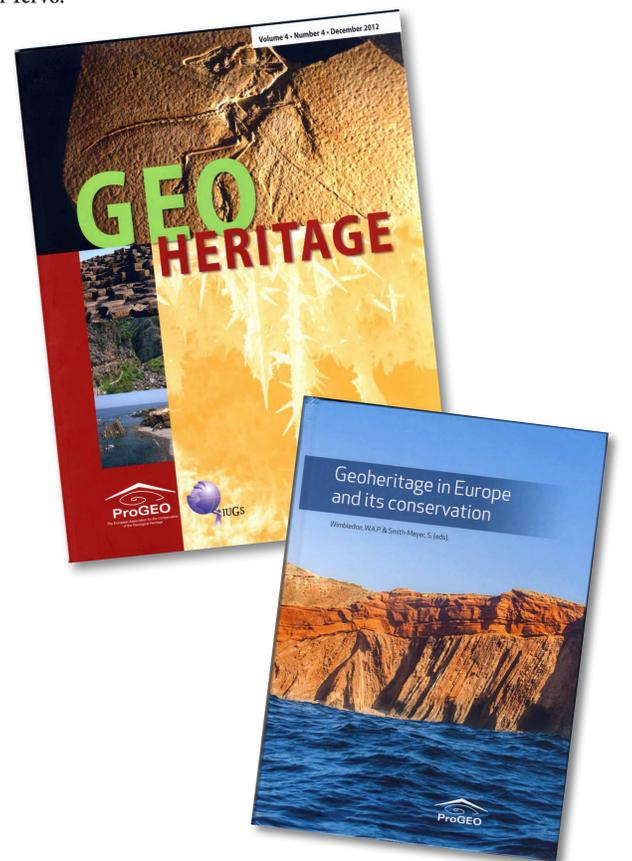
Rokua Geopark is the first Finnish Geopark and the northernmost geopark of the world. Its exceptionally representative Quaternary landforms were created during the final stages of the recent glacial period and the period following it. Photo Tapani Tervo.



Orbicular rocks are extremely rare and geologically very valuable. Their mode of origin is not fully understood. This orbicular granite is from Espoo, southern Finland. Photo Jari Väätäinen.



Two overlapping potholes in Jollas, Helsinki. Potholes were formed by glacial melt water streams at the end of the latest ice age. Photo Jari Väätäinen.



Journal GEOHERITAGE and "Geoheritage in Europe and its conservation" - a comprehensive overview of geo-conservation in Europe.