

# COTTIAN ALPS GEOPARC

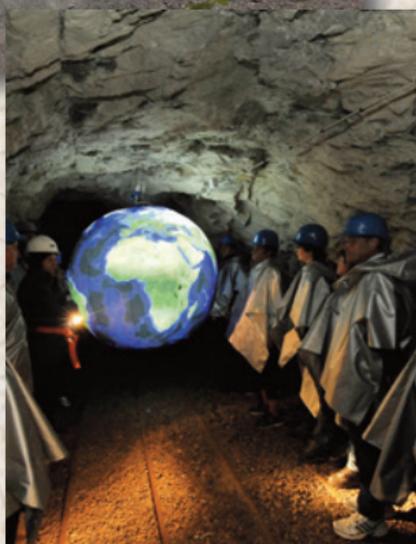


## Discover

more than a hundred  
**geological sites**  
which recount the  
different stages  
of the history of the Alps.



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of the exploitation of  
mineral resources by  
mankind since prehistory.



# COTTIAN ALPS GEOPARC



## The geological history of the Alps

The French-Italian Geoparc of the Cottian Alps illustrates the different periods of the region's geological history, from the end of the Primary Era (more than 300 million years ago) up to the present day:

- a single continent (Pangaea)
- the creation and development of the alpine ocean
- the convergence of European and African plates, the end of the ocean
- the collision of the two plates and the creation of the Alps.

Today the Alpine range is still alive. Seismic activity and uplift show active tectonic movements among plates.

The progressive destruction of mountain relief by different erosional processes is another illustration of it.

## The Cottian Alps

The Cottian Alps were an ancient imperial Roman province. Cottius, the Celto-Ligurian king who was allied to Rome, gave them his name. This part of the French-Italian Alps lies between the Graian Alps (to the north) and the Maritime Alps (to the south).



## To visit the Geoparc...

Discover the sites and museums of the Geoparc by car, on foot or on a mountain bike, on your own or with a local guide. A general map and some useful information are available free of charge from the tourism offices and can be downloaded from the Geoparc website.



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Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale

  
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