

Mid-conference Field-trip: Monte Arci Volcano

Monte Arci is a Pliocene volcano in the South central Sardinia marked by emission of silicic to intermediate magmas. It is particularly famous for its rhyolite lava flows which have been used to make obsidian artifacts since 6 thousand years ago. Obsidian tools from Monte Arci were found all around the Mediterranean basin as they were traded as a very precious raw material. In this field trip we will hike on the volcano, along forests of cork, pine and juniper trees, sharing its geological history and admiring the landscape down to an old obsidian quarry, and visit the geological museum of Masullas, hosted in a former Capuchin convent built in the XVII century.

The walking path is about 6 km long, it is suitable for all those who enjoy walking long distances. Hiking boots are strongly recommended.