

The Aggtelek and Slovak Karst World Heritage Site

Balázs Veress – Péter Gruber

H-3758 Jósvalfő, Tengersizem oldal 1.
Aggtelek National Park Directorate
info.anp@t-online.hu

Abstract

The Aggtelek and Slovak Karst cave world, based on a joint submission from the two countries, was declared part of the World Heritage as a sustainable example of geological and geomorphological processes at the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting in Berlin on December 6, 2005. In Cairns, Australia, in 2000 the addition of the Dobšinská Ice Cave to the area was approved. The caves and geological formations of the Aggtelek and Slovak karst have an outstanding importance by their extraordinary richness of forms, their complexity, and that they are relatively untouched and concentrated in a small area. Today the area has more than 1,400 known caves. The karst phenomena has created a variety of shapes and habitats, which are significant from a biological, geological and paleontological point of view. In the temperate zone, caves do not occur in such complexity anywhere else in the world.

Keywords: *World Heritage, Aggtelek and Slovak Karst, cave*