



3rd Palaeontological Virtual Congress

Book of Abstracts

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Book of Abstracts

Palaeontology in the virtual era

From an original idea of Vicente D. Crespo

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Main Menu

Preface

Support

Organizing
Committee

Scientific
Committee

Keynote
Presentations

Virtual
Palaeontology

Palaeontological
Heritage

Conservation
Paleobiology

Multiple
Perceptions

Palynology

Taiwan

Molecular
Palaeontology

Life &
Environment

Palaeozoic

Mesozoic

Cenozoic

General
Palaeontology

Virtual
Field Trips



DINOSAUR TRACKSITES FROM PORTUGAL, FOCUSED ON THE CARBONATED PLATFORM OF NORTH AND CENTRAL LUSITANIAN BASIN

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Portugal has a rich Mesozoic geological and paleontological heritage. The existing dinosaur fossils (bones, eggs, and tracks) are from Middle Jurassic to Late Cretaceous ages, with most being from the Late Jurassic. Portuguese dinosaur tracks are known from dozens of places, being this country one of the richest in Europe, concerning this aspect. Nevertheless, the number of discovered dinosaur tracksites continues to increase. Here, part of the data collected for a master thesis is presented, for which ten dinosaur tracksites are studied: Vale de Ventos (Middle Jurassic), Praia do Pedrógão, Pedreira/Amoreira, Praia do Salgado, Serra de Mangues, Salir, Serra do Bouro, Sobral da Lagoa, Consolação (Upper Jurassic) and Praia do Magoito (Lower-Upper Cretaceous). These occur in sediments that correspond to the carbonated platform of north and central Lusitanian Basin. The tracks described show a high diversity of trackmakers, being sauropod, theropod, ornithopod and thyreophoran tracks among the findings. Praia do Salgado tracksite is Kimmeridgian in age (Alcobaça Formation). Here are seen three layers with dinosaur tracks: the lower layer contains poorly preserved sauropod tracks, an isolated possible thyreophoran track, and an isolated track of unknown affinity; the second layer has poorly preserved sauropod trackways; and the upper layer contains twelve trackways, eleven of them with tracks that are preserved as elongated dinosaur tracks with metatarsal impressions (some with hallux impression), and two isolated tracks of unknown affinity. These elongated tracks are an unique case in the country, in Kimmeridgian rocks, being the reason why this site is highlighted here.