

Andara, Picos de Europa

The Picos de Europa is a range of mountains 20km inland from the northern coast of Spain, forming a westerly extension of the Cantabrian Mountains. The range consists of three main areas, the Western, Central and Eastern Massifs divided by the Cares and Duje rivers. In the early seventies the Eastern Massif, known locally as Andara, drew the attention of a group of cavers from Lancaster University Speleological Society (LUSS).

In the early years exploration was mounted from the mountain village of Tresviso and exploration was dominated by the resurgence cave Cueva del Nacimiento (*Cueva del Agua*) located at the foot of the mountain range. This resurgence flows into a canal that contours the Urdon gorge with an average flow of 2 m³/s and the cave leads to over 12 km of surveyed passage and a current height gain of over 534m (2017). The catchment is some 40 km³ and includes caves such as Sima de Los Senderos (*Sima 56*) at -1169m deep and Torca Jou Sin Tierra (*CS-9*) at -1203m deep.

The survey data held here consists mainly of the survey data from the 2010 and later expeditions. Original raw data for caves mapped prior to this is harder to come by and / or lost.

Where a published survey exists, but the original data remains to be found or re-entered a very rough digital representation has been added to give an idea of the trend of the cave.

The caves have been split into various areas. Within each area is a set of entrance coordinates for all caves in the area. These coordinates are variously taken from the maps in the 1970's and 1980's and, more recently, GPS. In some cases there has been found to be a 300 m discrepancy between the old map and GPS coordinates- updating the coordinates is an ongoing task.

The following clubs have been involved in exploration from the early 70's to present day:

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- T.C.P. Tresviso Caves Project
- L.U.S.S. Lancaster University Speleological Society
- A.D. KAMI Asociación Deportiva KAMI
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- I.K.T.F. Interclub Kami-Tracalet-Flash
- I.T.T.F. Interclub Tracalet-Telecart-Flash
- I.K.O.F. Interclub Kami-OJE-Flash
- S.W.C.C. South Wales Caving Club
- B.P.C. Bradford Pothole Club
- S.E.I.I. Sección de Espeleología Ingenieros Industriales
- R.R.C.P.C Red Rose Caving and Potholing Club
- S.U.S.S. Sheffield University Speleological Society
- L.S.D. Le Speleos Dromois
- C.U.C.C. Cardiff University Caving Club
- N.U.C.C. Nottingham University Caving Club
- C.H.D. Cardiff Hill Divers
- S.B.S.S. South Bristol Speleological Society
- M.C.G. Mendip Cave Group
- F.E.E. Federacion Espanola de Espeleologia
- E.N.E.O.J.E. Escuela Nacional de Espeleología de la Organización Juvenil Española
- I.E.O.J.E Interclub Espeleológico de la Organización Juvenil Española
- F.C.E. Federacion Cantabria Espeleologica
- S.E.P.S.F.E.B. Secció de Espeleología Poble Sec del Foment Excursionista de Barcelona

- C.A.D.E. Colectivo Asturiano De Espeleólogos
- A.D.E.C Agrupacion De Espeleologia Canfranc
- S.E.B. ESCAR Sociedad Espeleológica y Barranquista ESCAR
- E.C.S. Espeleo Club de Sabadell
- S.T.C.E.V. Secció Talps del Centre Excursionista del Vallès
- S.E.S.S. Sección de Espeleología del Seminario Sautuola
- G.J.E. Grupo Juvenil de Espeleología
- G.E.E. Grupo de Espeleología de Estella
- F.M.E. Federación Madrileña de Espeleología

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