

5th International Meeting of Cavers in the Moravian Karst
2nd Specialized Conference

Karst, Caves and People 2023

on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the first descent of man
into the Macocha Abyss
and
45th anniversary of the Czech Speleological Society foundation

September 20–24, 2023
Sloup, Moravian Karst

Organized by the Czech Speleological Society in co-operation with
the Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic
the Cave Administration of the Czech Republic
the Czech Geological Survey
under auspices of the International Union of Speleology
(Union International de Spéléologie – UIS)

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In 2023, we celebrate the unique achievement happened 300 years ago! Lazarus Schopper, the Provincial Superior of the Minority Monastery in the city of Brno, was the first one to descend into the Macocha Abyss. In 1723, he was dropped in wicker basket into the abyss, 138 m below the surface. In that time, such unique action attracted the interest in caves in the Moravian Karst area. This anniversary coincides with another – 45th anniversary of the foundation of the Czech Speleological Society. Since 1978, the Czech Speleological Society has been connecting together successors of the brave monk – cavers who represent the largest and most important speleological community in the Czech Republic.

On the occasion of these anniversaries we would like to offer excursions into the most significant sites of the Moravian Karst and call for presentations related to the human activity in the karst regions.

Conference topics:

- ▶ settlement in the karst regions
- ▶ first karst explorers and scientists
- ▶ scientific view on caves and its evolution in time
- ▶ then and now of the modern speleology
- ▶ utilisation and protection / conservation of the karst regions

The preliminary meeting and conference program:

September 20 – arrival of participants, registration and event opening

September 21 – all-day excursions, evening presentations

September 22 – all-day excursions, conference “Karst, Caves and People”

September 23 – half day excursion, reconstruction of Lazar Schopper descent to the bottom of the Macocha Abyss, social evening, event closure

September 24 – departure

Web: www.speleo.cz/karst2023

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