SpeleoMedit: Italia Speleologica

A journey to the heart of the Mediterranean!



Consolato Generale d'Italia Belo Horizonte











302,026 Km² National Surface 31,880 Km² Protected Areas

More than 200 Caving Clubs 16 over 1000 meters dept caves

6230 Cavers 45,393 Caves

Aosta Valley

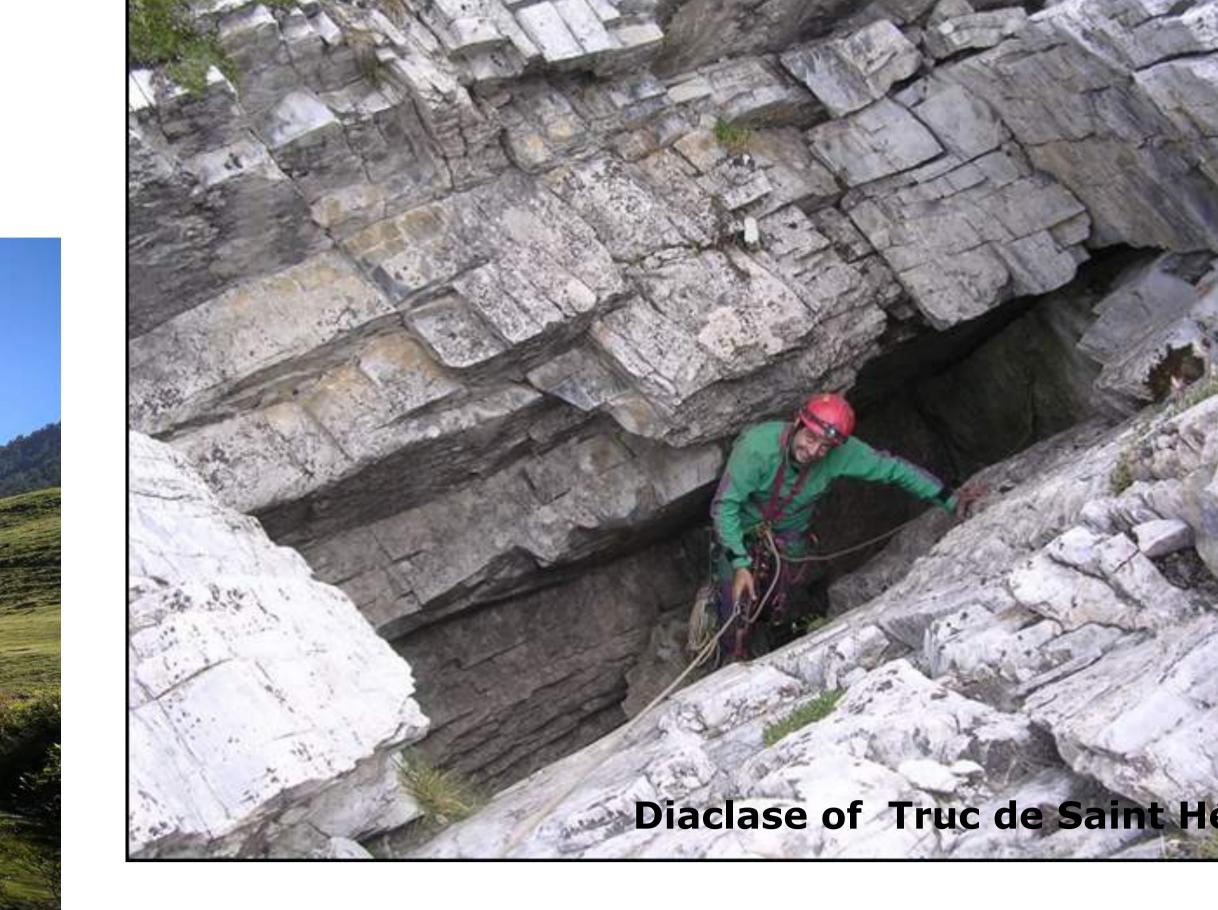
Lombardy

Veneto

Tuscany



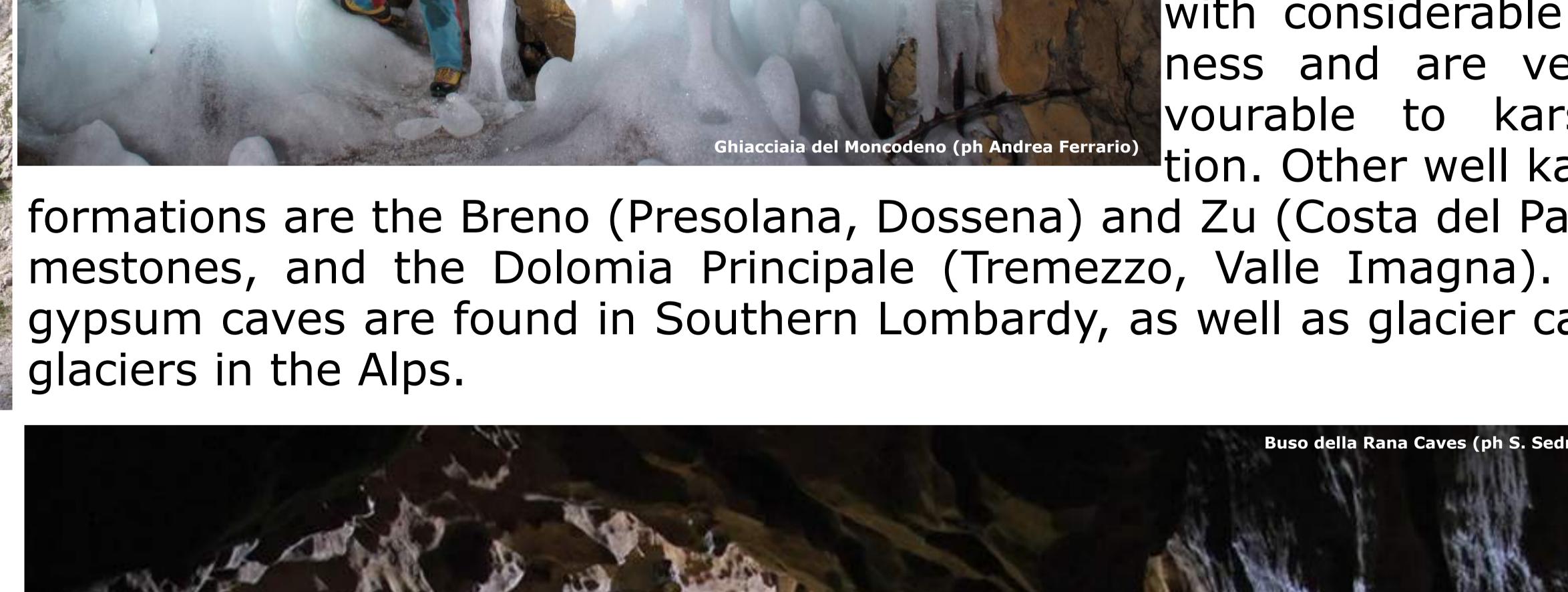
Aosta Valley's mountains consists mainly in crystalline rocks, not suitable for the cave formation. However we can find a lot of small areas with gypsum, limestone and marble with few small caves inside. There are also a lot of interesting anthropized shelters and tectonic caves





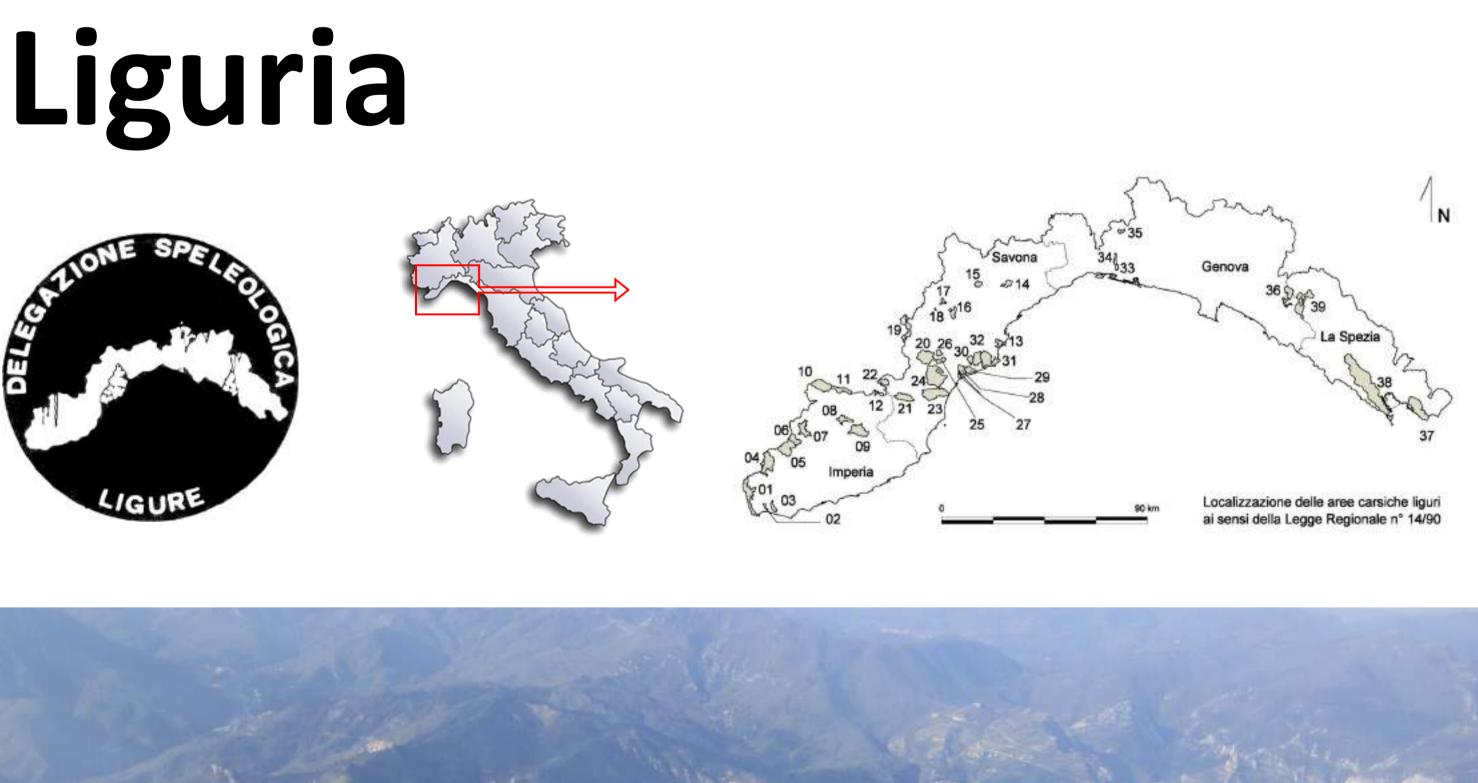
Most main cave systems in Lombardy are develo-Campo dei Fiori), which outcrop over large areas with considerable thick-

mestones, and the Dolomia Principale (Tremezzo, Valle Imagna). A few 🌉 gypsum caves are found in Southern Lombardy, as well as glacier caves in





Almost 35% of the territory of **Veneto** consists of limestone and dolomite. Over 8000 caves are surveyed. Most of the karst areas are alpine, i.e. located at altitudes above 1200 m above sea level, in inaccessible areas characterized by snow for more than 3 months a year. In the Dolomites there are some of the highest caves in Italy (about 3000 m above sea level: Abisso del Pelmo, Il Cenote).



Ligurian land is covered by Carbonatic limestones.

mations or phenomena of remar-

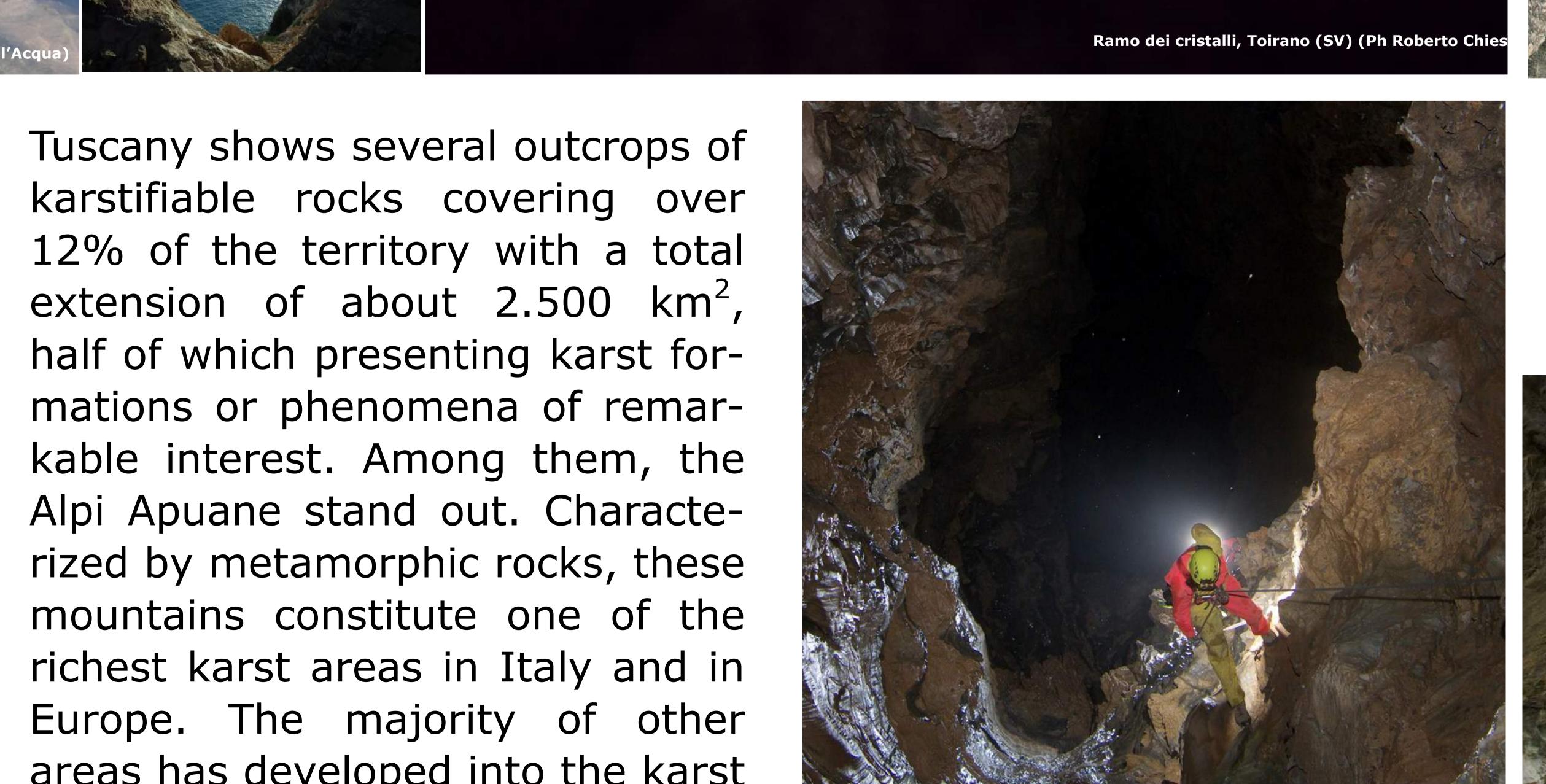
Europe. The majority of other

areas has developed into the karst

and dolomitic rocks of the Tuscan

Succession.





Piedmont





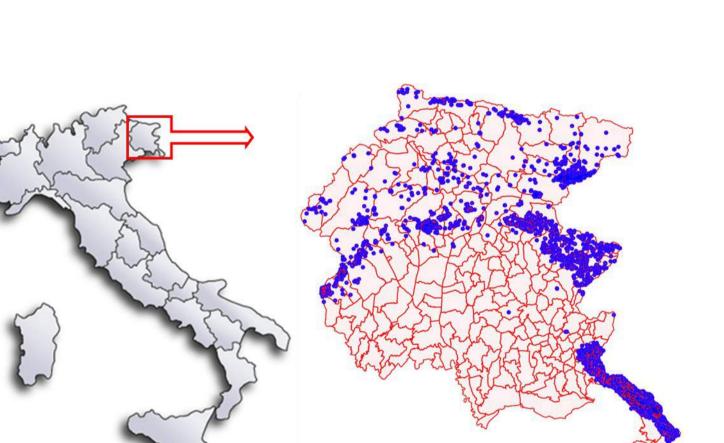
Trentino-South Tyrol

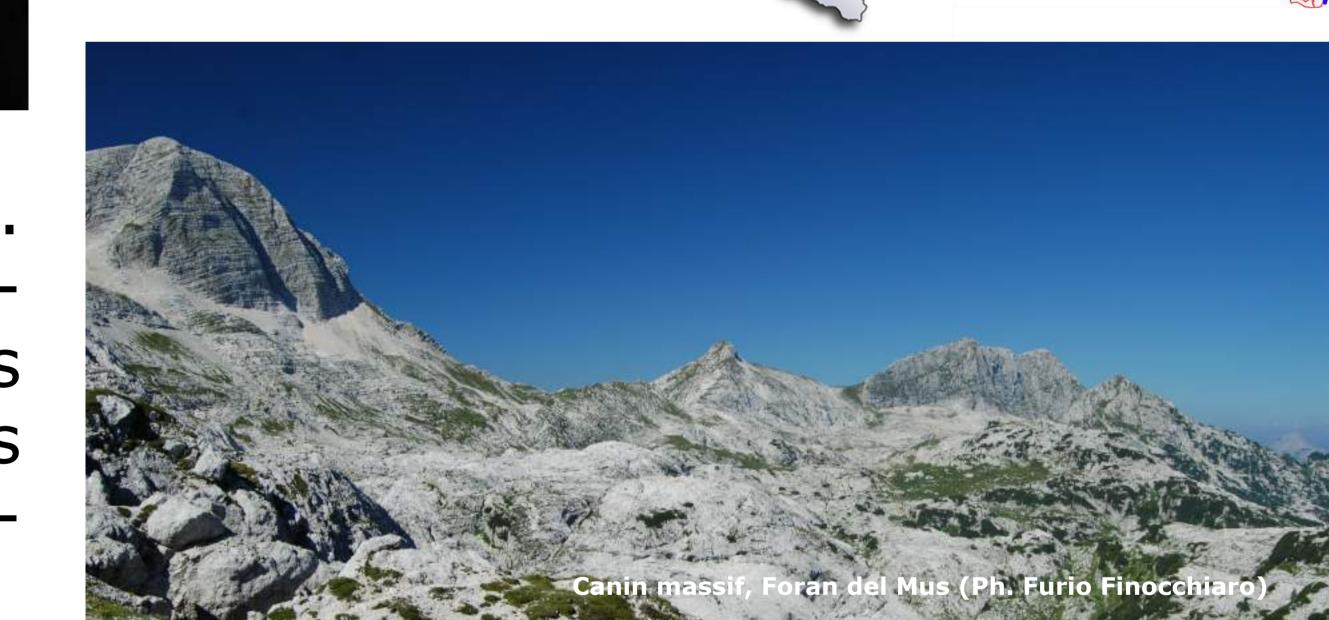


Much of the territory of Trentino Alto Adige consists of limestone and dolomites. Nearly 2000 caves are registered. The highmountain karst areas are one of the peculiarities of the region, with extensive Schichttreppenkarst tiered surfaces, rich in snow pits. In some cavities there are ice deposits of

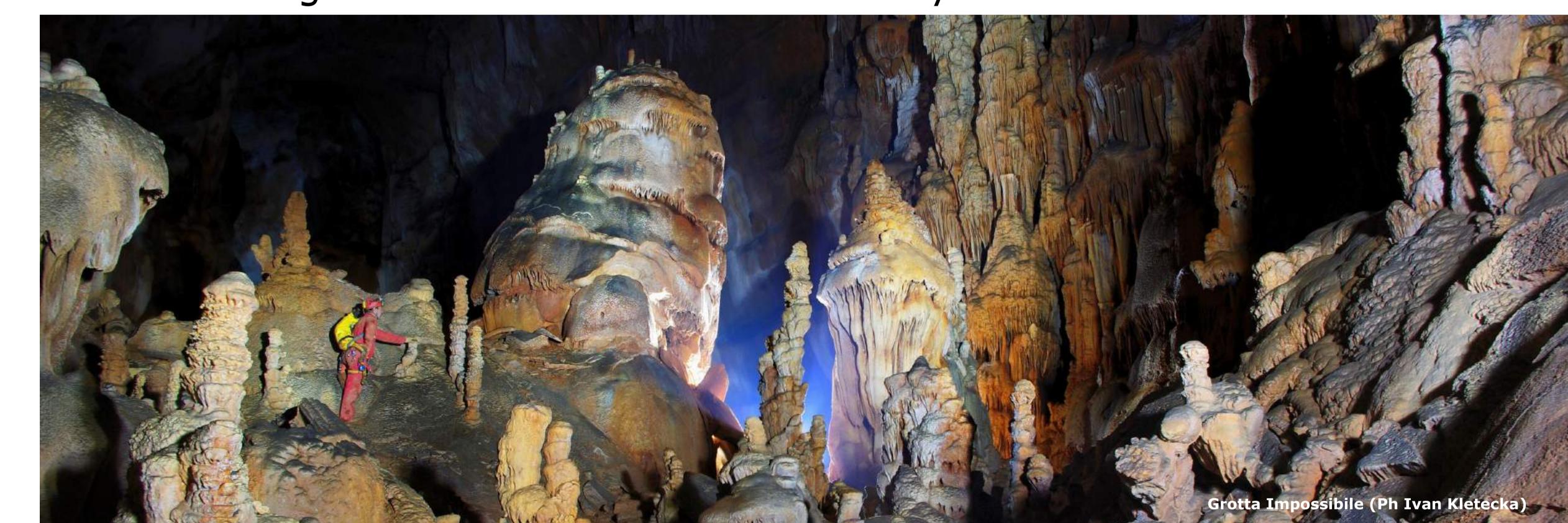


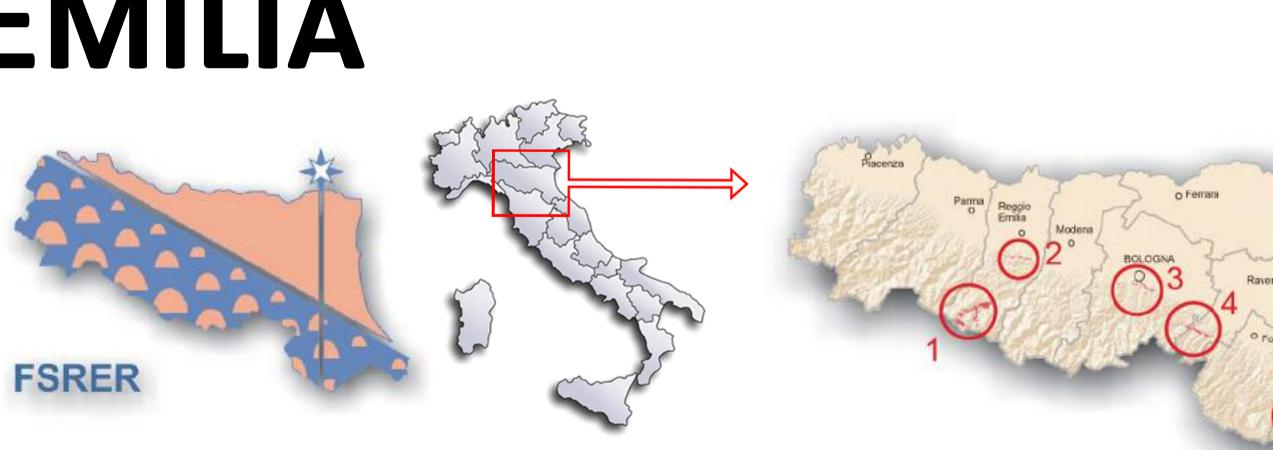


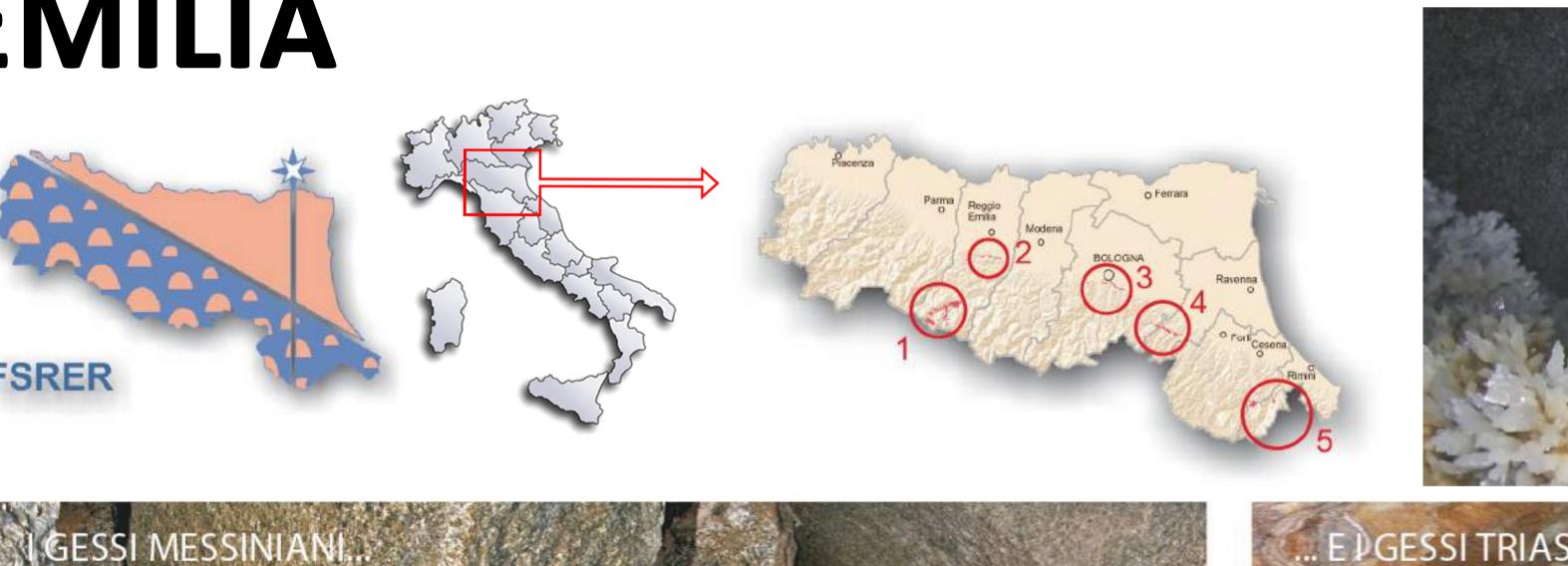


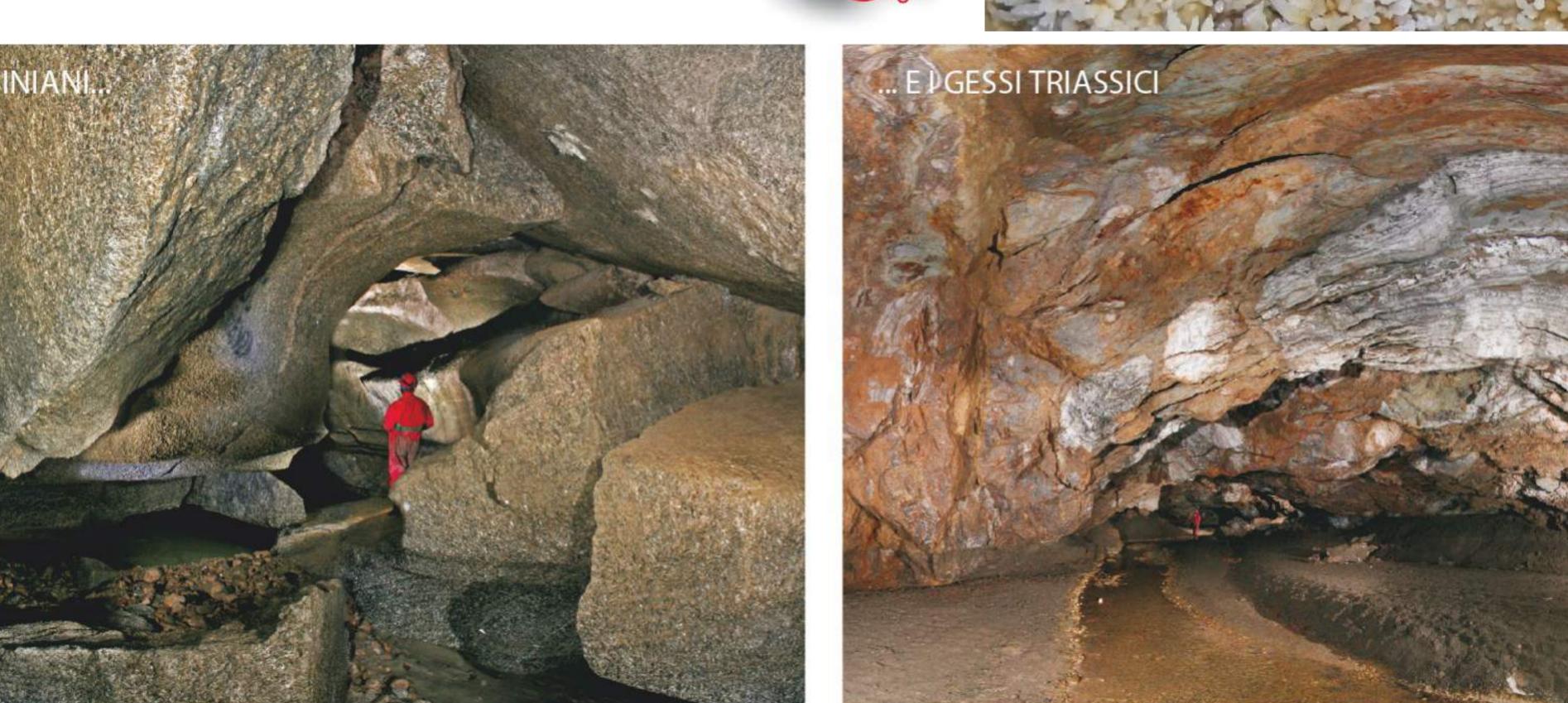


40% of the mountainous area consists of carbonate rocks. Some areas stand out among the many: The Karst, from which the same phenomenon of "carsism" took its name, the Canin massif, well known in all of Europe for the surface and underground phenomena and the Julian Prealps characterized by cavities in the carbonate mega-benches inside the Cenozoic Flysch.









In Emilia-Romagna, karst rocks are mainly of evaporitic origin:

- Triassic evaporites: formation of Burano Anhydrites (Noricum) - Messinian evaporites: Gessoso-

Solfifera formation (Miocene) The total extension of these geological units, which constitute Karst Areas, is 74 Km2, being the extension of the entire Region of 22451 Km2 (of which 48% of plain), they represent 0.33%. At present the number of caves in the cadastre is 1043,

of which 771 in Karst Areas.







In the inside of the Marche Region, wide part of the mountain ridges are composed by calcareous rocks, arranged in two principal subparallel belts. Small gypsum outcrops are located in the hilly zones. The most important karst phenomena are represented by the closed Plans in the mountain ridges and by the karst underground systems of Monte Nerone, Frasassi and Acquasanta Terme, whole of high speleological interest.

