SpeleoMedit: Italia Speleologica

A journey to the heart of the Mediterranean!



Consolato Generale d'Italia Belo Horizonte











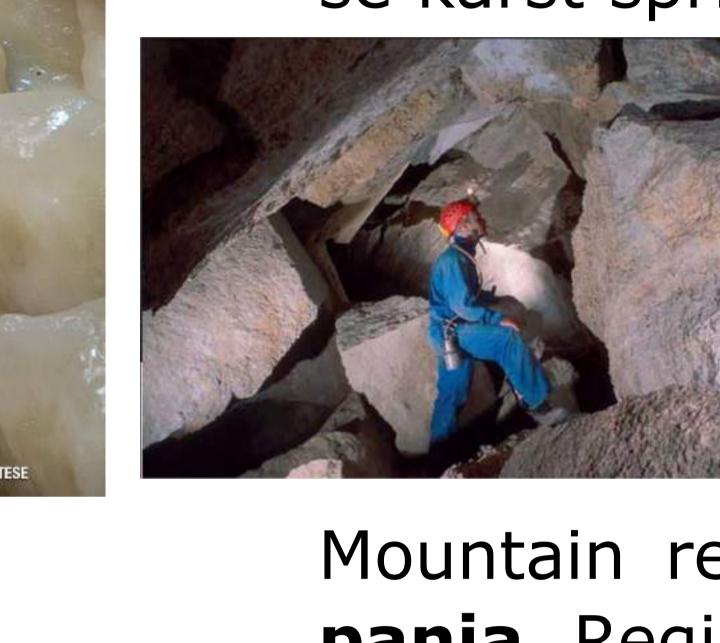
302,026 Km² National Surface 31,880 Km² Protected Areas

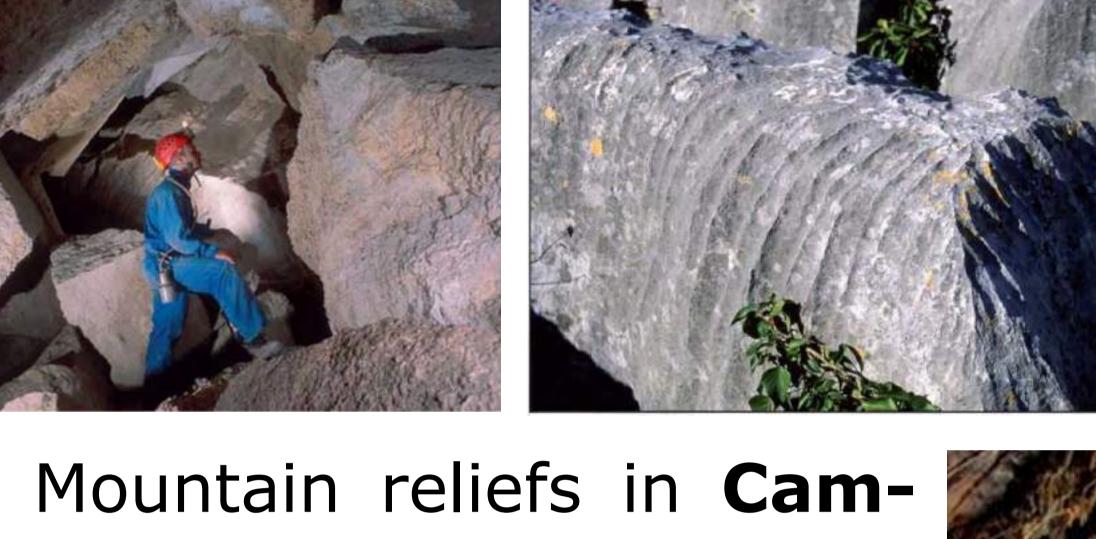
More than 200 Caving Clubs 16 over 1000 meters dept caves

6230 Cavers 45,393 Caves Excepted extraordinarily rich and interesting karst areas, such as Monte Cucco and the Gole del Forello, Umbria shows a widespread but modest karst phenomenon. Only exceptionally, isolated systems of a certain interest have been found, such as Grotta del Chiocchio near Spoleto and Buco



Molise covers 4,437 km², with about 19% made up of carbonate rocks and 0.1% of gypsum outcrops in the Frentani Mountains. Karst areas dominate the region, especially in the Lagonegrese-Molise zone. Key speleological sites include Monti del Matese, Frosolone, Venafro, Meta-Mainarde, and central Frentani. The region is mountainous, with peaks like Monte Meta (2,242 m) and Monte Miletto (2,050 m), and slopes gradually toward the sea through hilly terrain. Molise has abundant underground water in karst aquifers, which supply both local and neighboring regions. Major rivers like the Volturno, Biferno, and Trigno are fed by these karst springs.











Abruzzo

Grotte Pipistrelli CAI Terni) structures like the Monti della Laga.

Lazio

marine areas along the African margin between 15 and 4 million

tain-foredeep-foreland system. Since the Late Miocene, extensio-

nal tectonics have caused seismic activity. In the Quaternary, in-

termountain plateaus like the Fucino and Sulmona plains formed.

environments, later covered by siliciclastic sediments during

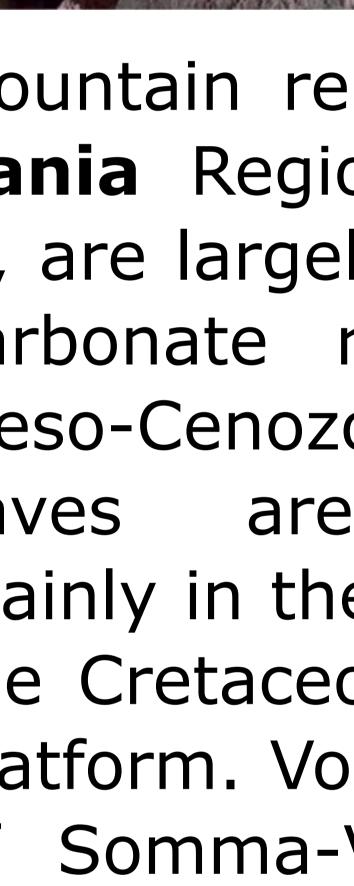
Carbonate rocks were deposited over 190 million years in marine

mountain building. Some of these sediments were deformed into

years ago. Compressive forces moved eastward, shaping a moun-



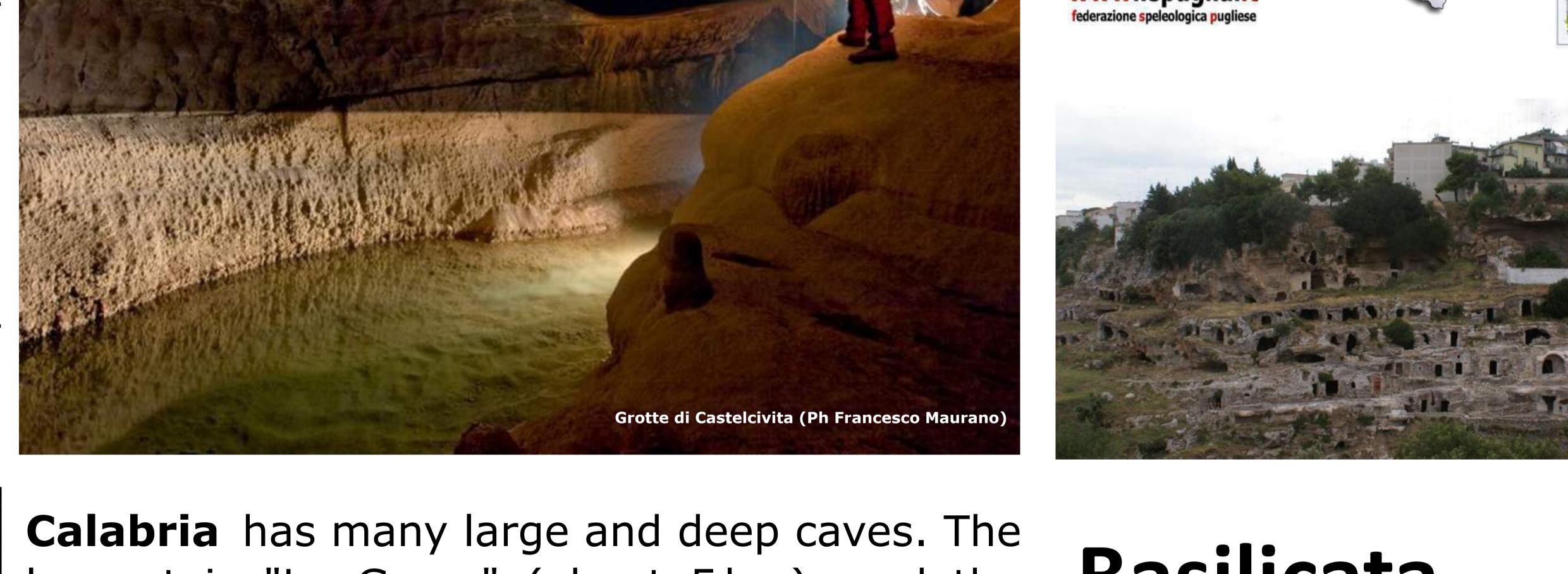
About 25% of the territory is made up of carbonate rocks (4,300 km²), with 100 km² of conglomerates and 150 km² of travertines. The region has over 2,200 registered caves, totaling more than 120 km in length. Typical karst landforms include closed basins where rainwater infiltrates through dolines and lapiaz. Most caves are formed along fractures and have narrow, winding tunnels. Large karst aquifers provide high-quality water, with major springs like Peschiera and Acqua Marcia supplying Rome. In some western areas, karst waters mix with gases and hydrothermal fluids. Gypsum deposits and corrosion features indicate sulphurous water presence. The Pozzo del Merro is the world's second deepest flooded cave, reaching 392 m.





pania Region, South Itathe Cretaceous carbonate platform. Volcanic cavities of Somma-Vesuvius and 🛭 island of Ischia are few in very limited in terms of

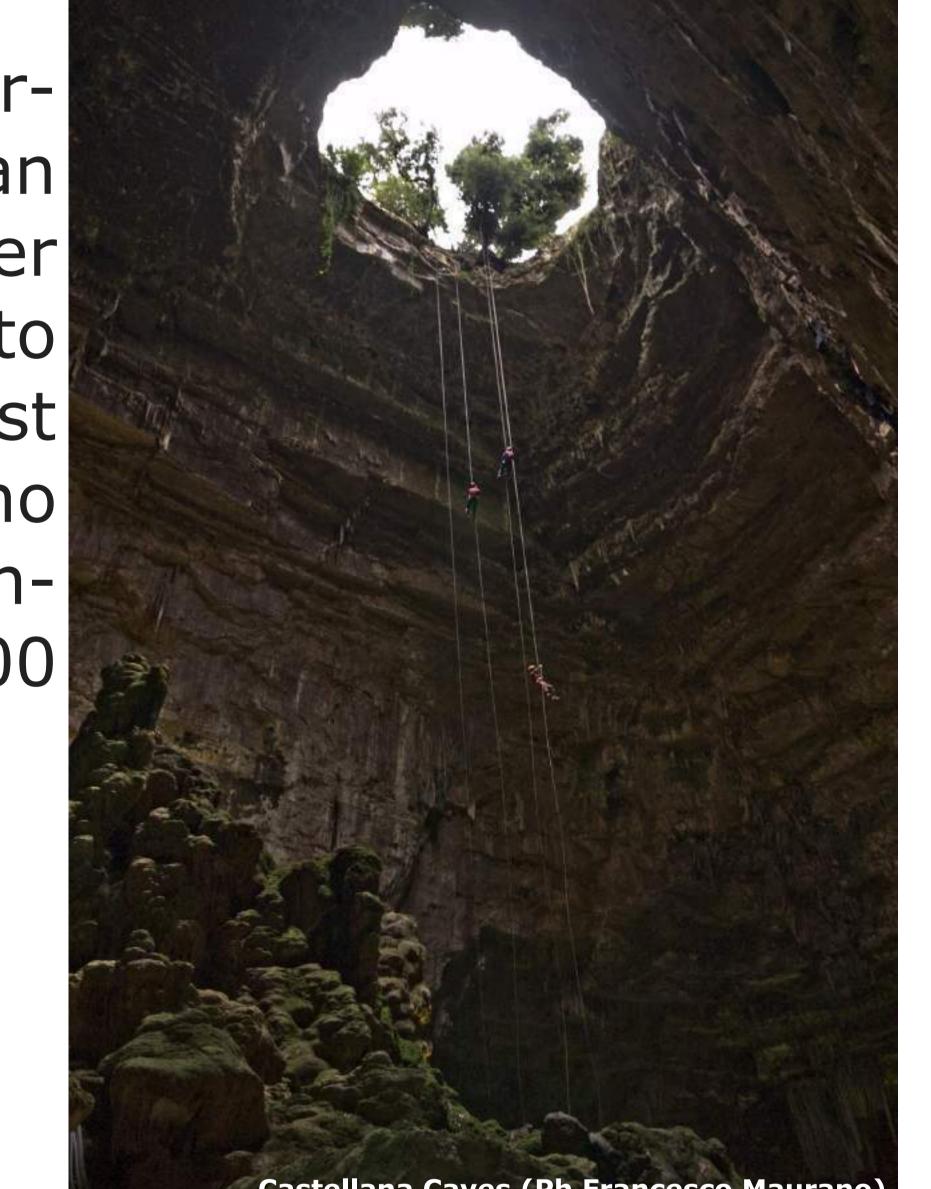






Almost the entire region is characterized by carbonatic rocks, making it one of the Mediterranean areas of greatest interest for karst. It has over 2000 recorded natural caves, divided according to the classic distinction between the Apulian karst





Calabria

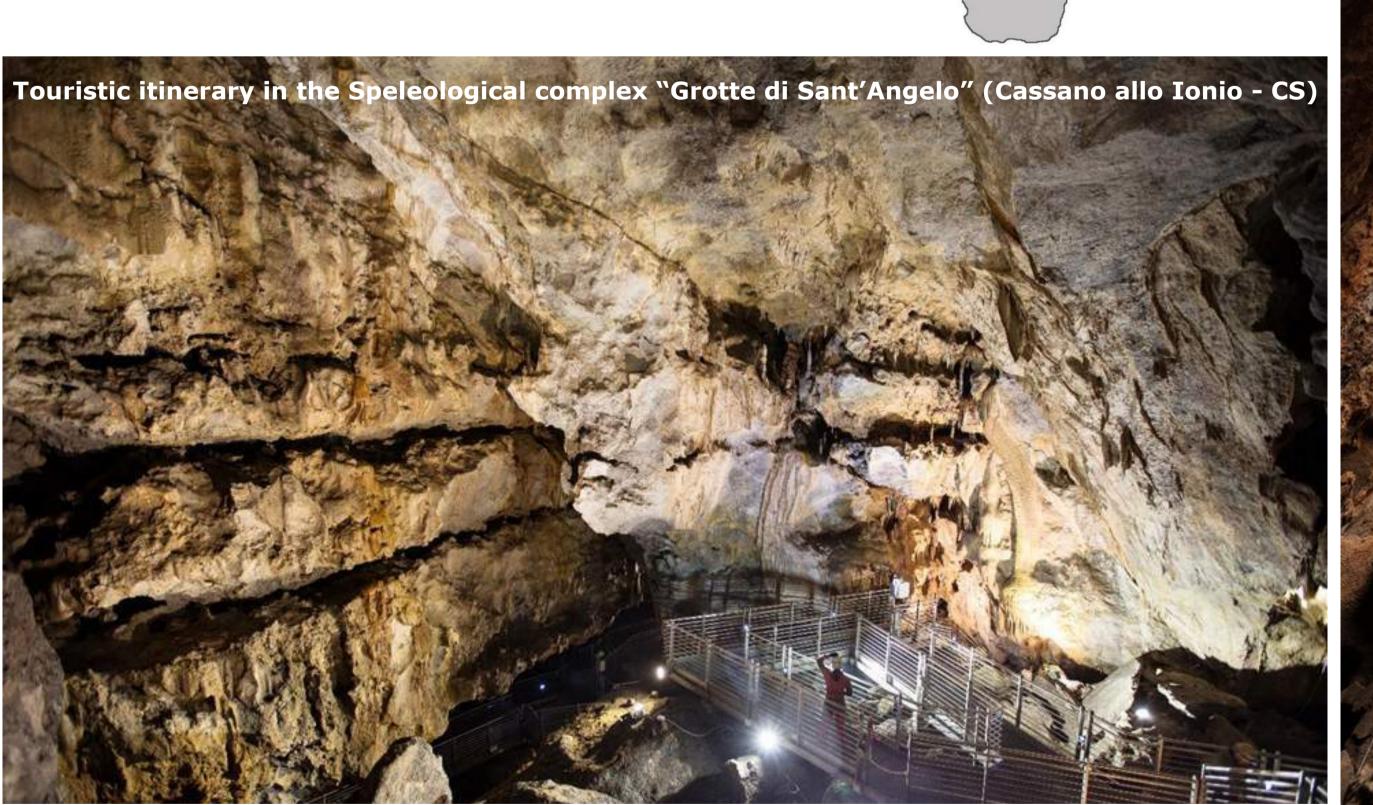
Campania

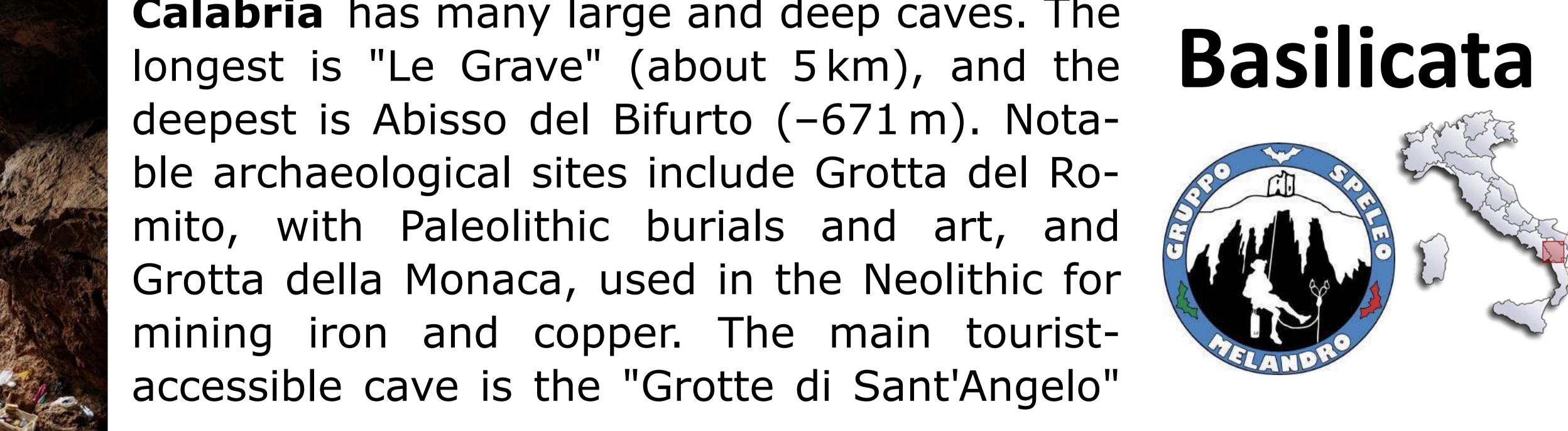




Umbria

Molise



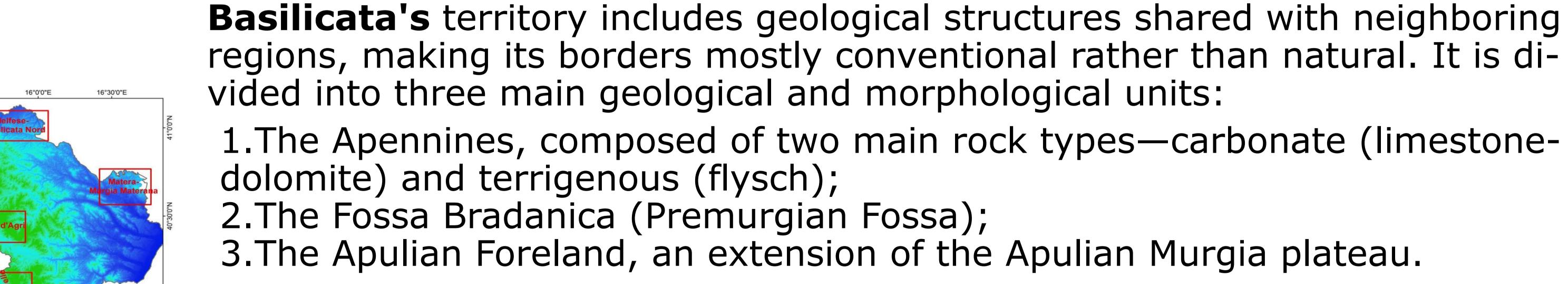






Apulia



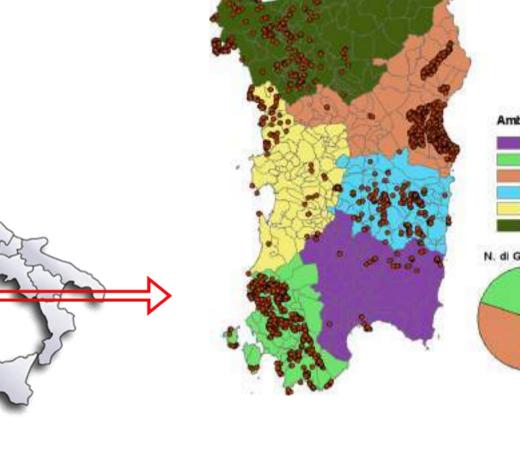














ver about 2,088 km², or 8.7% of the region. There are 219 classified karst zo-Nuoro, 54 in Sassari, and 5 in Oristano, with some shared between provinces. The largest karst outcrops are in Sassari (860 km²), followed by Nuoro (810 km²), (360 km²), and

