

# Speleology in **CAMPANIA**

Mountain reliefs in Campania Region, South Italy, are largely made up of carbonate rocks of the Meso-Cenozoic age. The caves are developed mainly in the limestone of the Cretaceous carbonate platform. Volcanic cavities of Somma-Vesuvius and island of Ischia are few in terms of numbers and very limited in terms of development.

## The Karst Waters

The most important springs in the region are powered by karst systems, with high seasonal flow rates. From these springs originate the main rivers of Campania: Sele, Calore Lucano, Calore Irpino and Picentino. Hydrogeological connection between sinkhole and spring (karst resurgences) has often been ascertained by speleological explorations or tracing tests. This is the case of Auso Spring, in the central sector of the Alburni Mounts, and river Busseto-resurgence of Morigerati on Cilento Coast, in Salerno province. Others important “swallow hole-resurgence” systems, significant for water supply and drinking water, are: Cassano Spring, connected to the Volturara polje, Picentini Mounts, and Torano Spring connected to the Matese Massif and its lake.



## Caves Cadastre of Campania

The Cadastre of campanian caves is managed by the Federazione Speleologica Campana, FSC (Campanian Speleological Federation). On 2004, in collaboration with the Campania Regional Government, FSC developed the Geographic Information System (GIS) of Natural Cavities, followed by the publication of the WEBGIS on the regional cartographic portal in 2007 (<http://sit.regione.campania.it/catastogrotte/>). Many data, dated back to the '70s, have been updated and in some case old surveys have been revised by modern topographic techniques, emphasizing important differences.

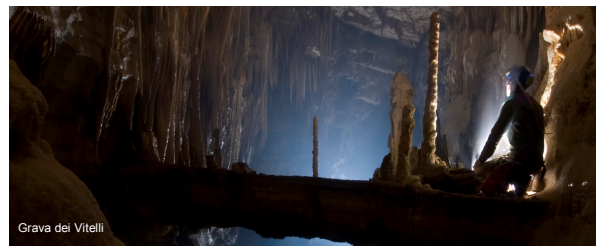
Caves Cadastre Data	
Caves	1261
Surveys	1217
Surveys in WEBGIS	906
Official Cadastre Form	YES
Regional Law	NO
Incomplete cadastre data-sheet	103
Reference system	UTM WGS 84

Latest data as at 31/01/2018

Areas of speleological interest
Matese Massif
Mount Maggiore
Taburno Camposauro Massif
Tifatini Mounts
Avella, Partenio and Sarno Mounts
Somma-Vesuvio volcanic system
Ischia island
Lattari Mounts and Capri island
Picentini Mounts
Alburni Massif
Cervati Massif
Bulgheria and Sapri Mounts
Maddalena Mounts

The longest caves (>2000 m - planimetric) meters	
Grotte di Castelcivita	5400
Grotta del Caliendo	3700
Grotta di Pertosa	3300
Grotta di Campo Braca	3300

The deepest caves (>400 m) meters	
Grava del Fumo	443
Grava dei Gentili	437
Inghiottitoio dei Piani III di Santa Maria	417
Grava del Campo	403
Grava I dei Gatti	402



## Speleological groups joining the Federazione Speleologica Campana

- Gruppo Speleologico CAI Napoli
- Gruppo Speleologico CAI Salerno
- Gruppo Speleologico CAI Avellino
- Gruppo Speleologico G. Rama (Bagnoli Irpino - AV)
- Gruppo Speleologico Natura Esplora (Summonte - AV) - SSI
- Gruppo Speleo Alpinistico Vallo di Diano (Pertosa - SA) - SSI