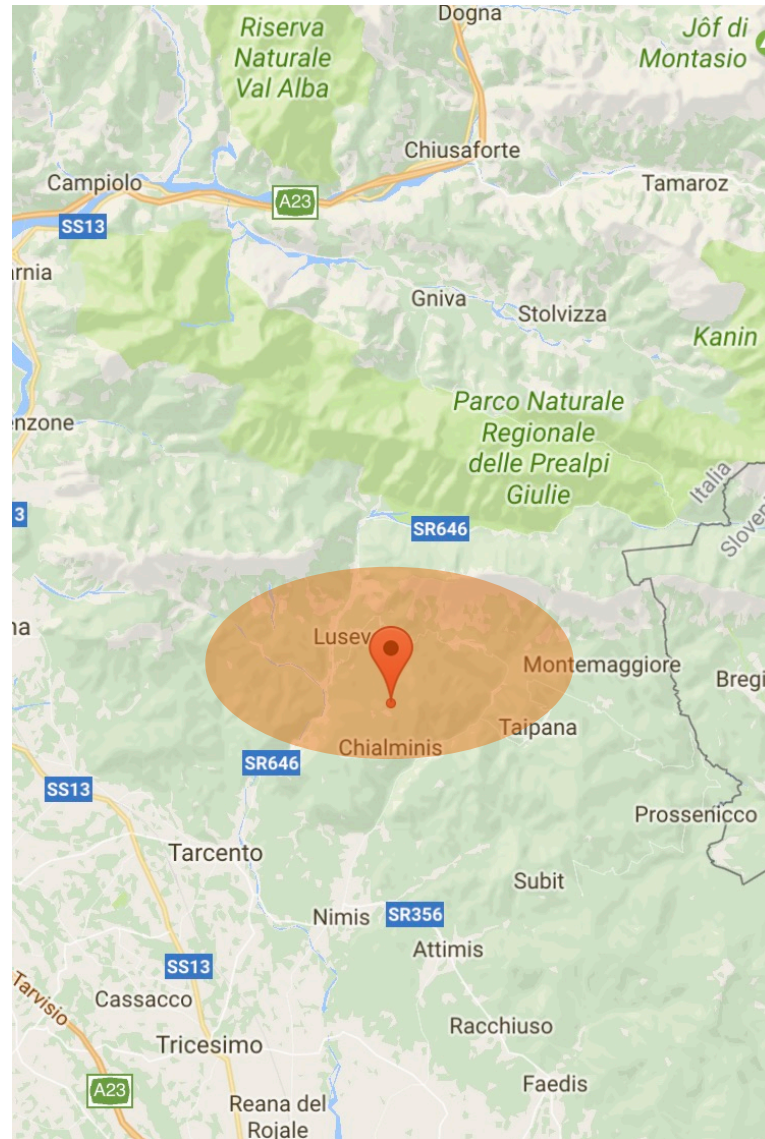


The image shows the interior of the Villanova caves. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from an opening on the right. Large, dark rock formations hang from the ceiling, some resembling stalactites. A wall on the left is constructed from stacked, irregular stones. In the foreground, a shallow pool of water reflects the surrounding rock and the light from the opening. Two vertical wooden posts are visible in the water. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and ancient.

Villanova caves

Discovering the underground world

Location



Genesis

Geological formations ranging from Jurassic to Eocene

GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE			Age in millions of years before present		
EOG ERA	PERIOD	EPOCH			
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Holocene	Present	
			Pleistocene	0.01	
		Tertiary	Neogene	Pliocene	1.6
				Miocene	5.3
				Oligocene	23.7
			Paleogene	Eocene	36.6
				Paleocene	57.8
				Cretaceous	66.4
		Mesozoic	Jurassic	144	
			Triassic	208	
	Permian		245		
	Paleozoic	Carboniferous	Pennsylvanian	286	
			Mississippian	320	
		Devonian	360		
		Silurian	408		
Ordovician		438			
Precambrian	Cambrian		505		
	Proterozoic		570		
	Archean		2500		
Hadean		3800			
			4550		



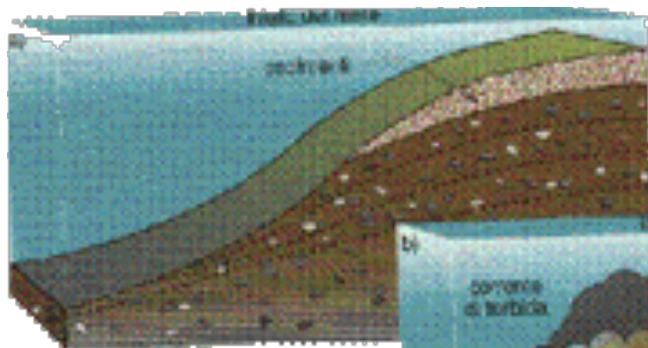
58 millions years ago



215 millions years ago

Geological aspects

Flysch formation



landslide



turbidites



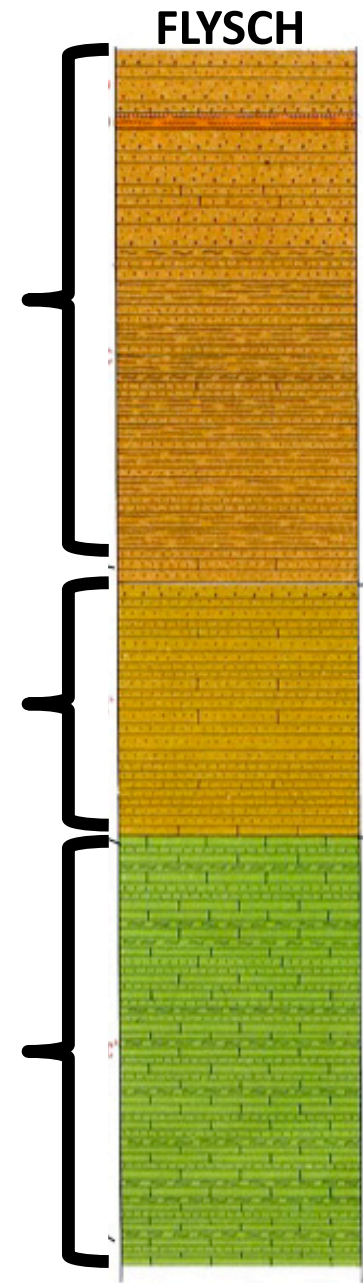
sedimentation

Stratification

Different sedimentary rocks

Deposits of sandstone and marl

Slip of a limestone mass





Structure

- More than 9km of tunnels
- Different rooms
- Stalagmites
- Stalactites
- Waterways
- Staircase and railings for sightseeng



Fauna

- shellfish
- troglonexes
- troglobites
- Platyhelminthes
- nematodes
- mollusc
- annelid
- arachnids
- Insects
- Bats



THE END!



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