



**PICO ISLAND**

**Azores – 2004**

## **ABSTRACTS**

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**XI INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON VULCANOSPELEOLOGY**  
**AZORES - 2004**

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**PREFACE**

We are honored to welcome everyone to the XI<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology, held at “Escola Cardeal Costa Nunes”, in the town of Madalena (Pico Island). The meeting is hosted by the “Secretaria Regional do Ambiente” (Environmental Department of the Regional Government of the Azores). This is the first time that this international meeting is being held in Azores Archipelago, where volcanoes and volcanic caves are very important features of the natural landscape.

Pico is the second largest island in the Azores. It is about 1000 miles (1600 km) from the Portuguese mainland. Its area is 447 km<sup>2</sup> and the population is 14,804. Its inhabitants are grouped in three municipalities (Lajes, Madalena and São Roque do Pico). The island presents a wide range of volcanic landforms, including approximately 90 known volcanic caves and pits. Most of its lava tube caves are located on the flanks of the impressive Pico Mountain stratovolcano (2,351 m a.s.l.), in the western part of the island, which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest active volcano in the Atlantic Ocean. Among these caves is “Gruta das Torres”, the longest in the Azores with about 5,150 m of passages.

This Abstracts Book includes all presentations at the XI<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology, Azores – 2004, including invited lectures and oral and poster presentations. All underwent advance review by the scientific committee of the symposium.

Pico, May 2004

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