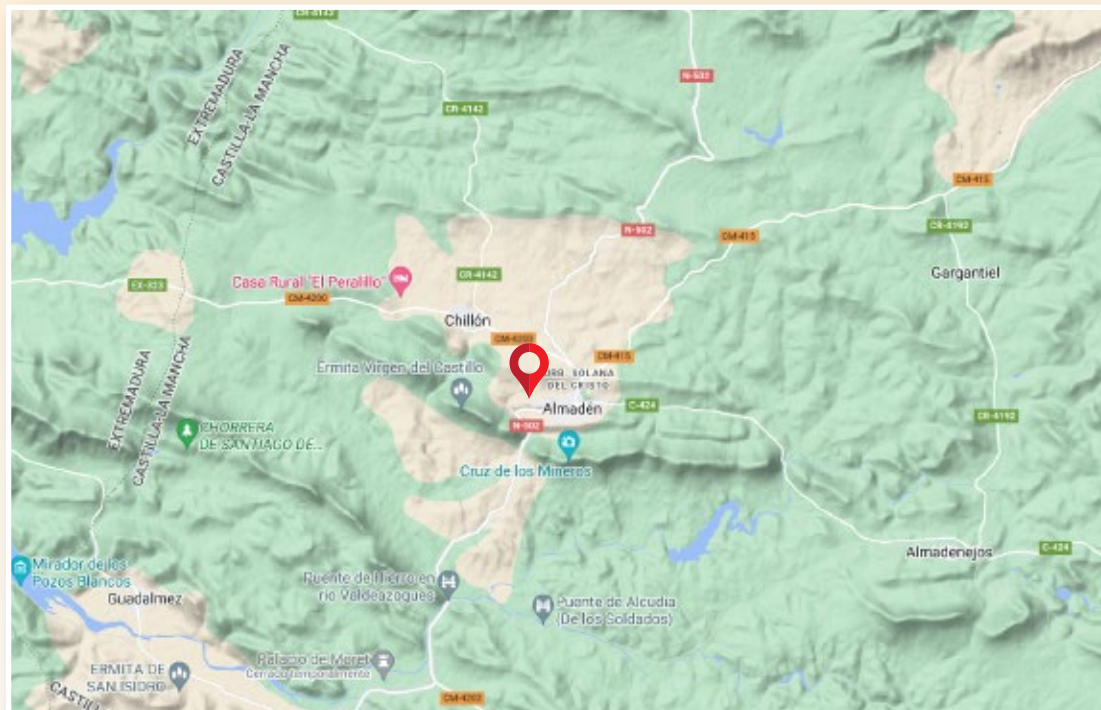




GOOGLE MAPS 38.781747, -4.833961



www.proyectogeoparquevolcanesdecalatrava.es



Ayuntamiento de Chillon



Ayuntamiento de Almaden

PROJECT CALATRAVA VOLCANOES GEOPARK. CIUDAD REAL

DEVONIAN BASE QUARTZITE SECTION



- Magma
- Mercury
- Coal



Castilla-La Mancha



This site features an accessible geological cross-section, which allows the visitor an excellent observation of the quartzitic metamorphic rocks of this Lower Devonian unit, dating from about 400 million years ago.

This cross-section presents a fairly complete section of the sandy sequence of the Lower Devonian, with various types of sedimentary sequences and structures. The succession of sedimentary structures of different grain sizes, mainly arenaceous, enables to infer the characteristics of the sedimentation environment and the stresses they underwent during the Variscan orogen (Fig. 1). The deposition of the sandy bars probably took place on a shallow marine platform.

It should also be noted that this lithological profile represents a fossiliferous deposit of major historical relevance due to the existence of characteristic fossils (Fig. 2). The Almadén region became part of the world Palaeozoic

Palaeontology in the mid-19th century, after the discovery of important fossiliferous deposits, which allowed correlations with other European regions.

This site is an excellent viewpoint of a notorious sector of the territory of the “Calatrava Volcanoes, Ciudad Real” project, and it allows different scales of observation. Its didactic, informative and scientific interest is remarkable (Fig. 3).

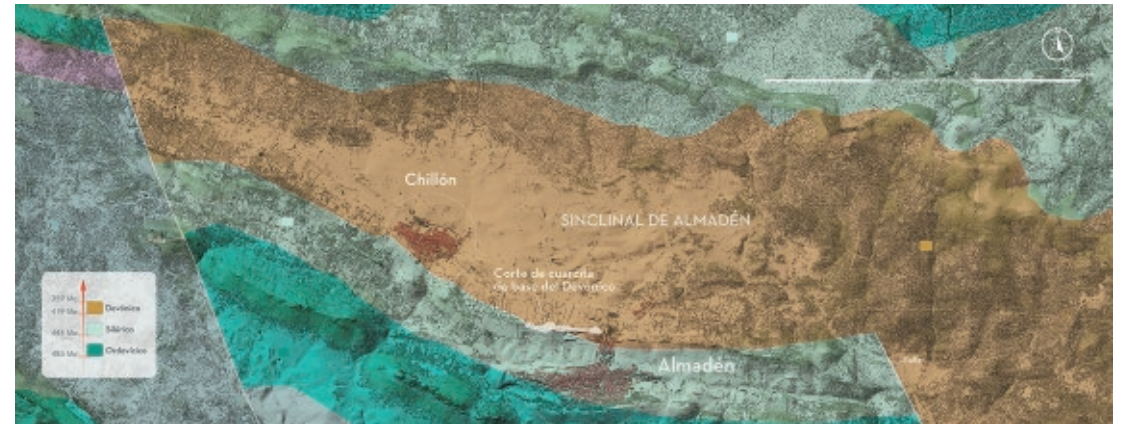
The geosite is part of a territory declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, and defines one of the fundamental geological singularities of this Geopark project in Ciudad Real: the world’s largest deposit of mercury mineral. It appears on the IGME list of geological sites of international relevance –Geosite MM009– and –LIG C1011– “Cut of the Devonian Base Quartzite” and has been included in the list of the Top 100 Geosites worldwide (“Geological heritage site”) of the International Union of Geological Sciences.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Work derived from Mapa-LiDAR 2019 CC-BY 4.0 scne.es - Fig. 3