



Ana Perline / Associação Transumância e Natureza

## Celebration of rewilding the Côa Valley, Western Iberia



Rewilding Europe would herby like to inform you about the celebration of the 15th anniversary of Associação Transumância e Natureza (ATN) on 12–14 June that will mark the great progress that has been made with rewilding of the Côa Valley in the Portuguese part of the Western Iberia rewilding area. Among others, the Faia Brava Star Camp will be launched, a simple and imaginative bush camp beautifully located in the reserve, developed by local entrepreneurs with technical, financial and promotional support from Rewilding Europe.

Associação Transumância e Natureza (ATN), Rewilding Europe's prime partner in the area, will celebrate its 15th anniversary with special events going on at the Faia Brava Reserve, the main pilot area in the Coa Valley, which provides a rewilding potential of nearly 100,000 hectares in total. Alongside the anniversary celebration, ATN and Rewilding Europe will mark four years of successful cooperation, and will reflect on joint achievements and discuss future opportunities.

The events will take place on 12, 13 and 14 June marked by the official opening of a new 600 hectares fenced area where the release of semi-wild Garrano horses will take place. In the same time, the Faia Brava Star Camp will open to host its first guests.

*Programme:*

- Friday, 12 June**
- 10.00 Conference: Management of Natural areas**
  - 15.30 Official Ceremony – Launch of the new fence at the Faia Brava Reserve**
  - 21.30 Discovering the stars of Faia Brava**

*The official opening will have the presence of the State Secretary for Land Management and Nature Conservation, the President of ICNF (Governmental Institute for Nature Conservation and Forest), the Managing Director of Rewilding Europe, the Director of the Mediterranean Programme of the Swiss-based MAVA Foundation, and representatives from the Portuguese Tourism Board.*

- Saturday, 13 June**
- 10.00 Conference: Nature Conservation for the future**
  - 15.30 Excursion to the south area of the Faia Brava Reserve**

*Rewilding approach from different perspectives will be explored together with the discussion about the future of conservation in the context of Portugal and Europe in a wider sense. Some of the most prominent Portuguese nature conservationists and experts from Rewilding Europe will present and share their knowledge and expertise on various topics. Topics: dynamics of fire and its impact on landscape and biodiversity, return of wild predators, 20 years of ungulates reintroduction, working definition on rewilding and concept of rewilding as a new conservation strategy aiming to restore biodiversity and ecosystem functions.*

- Sunday, 14 June**
- 06.00 Discovering the Biodiversity of Faia Brava**
  - 16:00 Guided tour to new priority conservation areas**

*Vulture feeding and bird ringing sessions at the Faia Brava Reserve followed by several ongoing workshops at the Reserve: monitoring cliff breeding birds, activities for kids, identification of tracks and signs of carnivores and many others.*

**Rewilding Europe and Associação Transumância e Natureza (ATN) are inviting you to participate in the celebration and the launch of Faia Brava Star Camp. If you would like to attend or cover the event please RSVP no later than June 8 – email Barbara Pais, [barbara.pais@atnatureza.org](mailto:barbara.pais@atnatureza.org) or call + 351 939 957 075.**

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