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ARWS Estoril Portugal XPD Unveils its Mysteries

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By Frederico Tiago – Cláudio Barreto
100 days before XPD Portugal the organizers have announced their clinics and conference programs and disclosed important aspects of the race format.

One of the most significant aspects of this year's race is the historic linkage between the land and the race course. All the race stages will address different historical sceneries ranging from the Jurassic to the Romantic period. So in a matter of few kilometers one can easily travel in time, from Dinosaurs footsteps, to Templar Castles into bays and beaches used in the Discovery Ages.

All in one very strategic and demanding race that has already attracted the interest of 40 international teams from 13 countries, with the latest addition of two of the best Czech teams.

The race course will be divided into five different stages, each stage involving at least two sections with different disciplines in a total of 12: climbing, coasteering, mtb, kayaking, orienteering, inline skating, ropes, snorkeling, caving, swimming, trekking and trikke racing. The expected race time will be around 80 hours for the 470 kms of the full course. An example of last year's race territory, maps and team strategies can be found in Estoril XPD Web Site and seen with Google Earth Free Software.

The race is still open for normal registration until the limit of 60 teams is reached. According to the event organizer, Alexandre Silva, the twenty spots left should soon be filled with teams from Central and Northern Europe in search of a sunny race in winter.

This year's Estoril International AR Conference will focus on the dual nature of Adventure Racing both as a sport and as a tourist activity. ARWS manager, Geoff Hunt will be the Keynote Speaker presenting the ARWS project from the initial idea to its current development.

Many other contributions are expected from around the world, reflecting the views of racers, organizers, sports organizations, tourism promoters, the press and the public (organizers welcome any contribution to info@portugalxpdrace.com).

This year's Estoril AR Clinics will approach two key subjects: Race Organization and Race Advising. Both courses, certified by the Portuguese Orienteering Federation, will have 18 hours of instruction and will be presented in English. Additional workshops on Adventure Racing First Aid and Navigation and Decision Making for Adventure Racing, can also be attended by the participants.

Estoril Portugal XPD Team, the XPD organizers "on the road", will be promoting Estoril at ARWS events in France and Brazil and at the Iberian AR Cup next November in Montalegre, Portugal.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Top teams in the Estoril Portugal XPD

1st place 2nd place

Clube Praças da Armada / Portugal

3rd place Team Oure / Denmark

Nike Just Do It Again

Congratulations

Nike Powerblast wins the 4th Adventure Racing World Championship.

3 races in Series completed

With 3 races completed in this calendar year and 4 last year 109 teams have qualified to apply for a position in the ARWorld Champs.

2 races in ARWorld Series finished

The first two races in the ARWorld Series for 2006 have finished. Check Homepage for info

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