



In Italy, areas of speleological interest, characterized by types of rocks that favour the formation of natural cavities, make up about one-sixth of the entire surface of the territory. All Italian regions have such areas in their territory, although with significant differences in extension and type of caves. These areas in Emilia Romagna are about one percent compared to the total area of the territory, while Puglia, thanks to the extensive outcrops of limestone rocks, reaches 48%. This feature has spurred speleological explorations of the territory for over a century.

Caves total : 44362

Marine caves total: 1048

Artificial caves total: 5155

Number of speleologists: ~5500

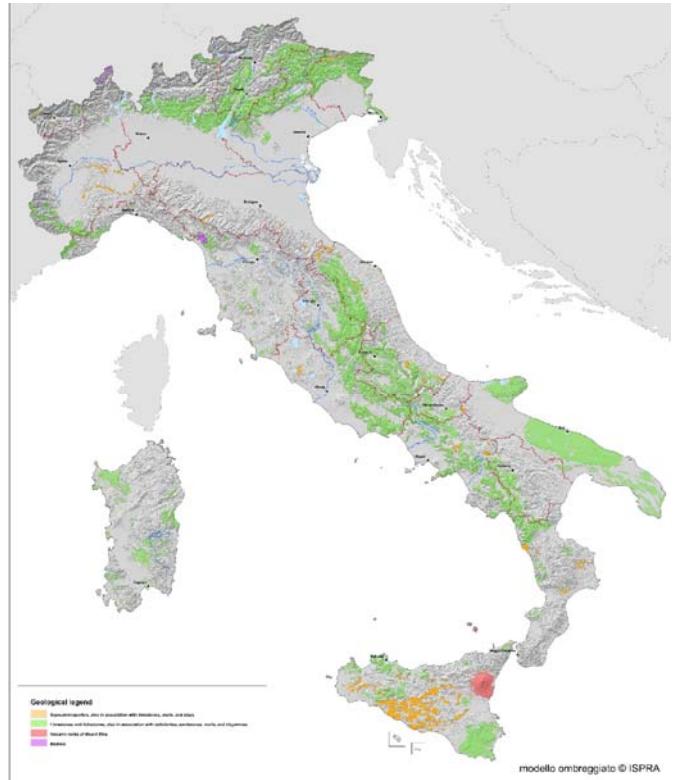
Speleological groups and organizations: ~293

Most important caves	
Name	Length
Complesso del Col delle Erbe e del Foran del Muss (Chiusaforte - Friuli Venezia Giulia)	>80000 m
Complesso carsico della Codula Ilune, Bue marino, Su Molente (Urzulei-Baunei-Dorgali - Sardegna)	>74000 m
Complesso Saragato, Abisso Chimera, Aria Ghiaccia, Gigi Squisio e Mani pulite (Alpi Apuane, Toscana)	>63000 m
Valle del Nosè (Sormano/Zelbio- Lombardia)	> 61000 m
Complesso del Monte Corchia (Stazzema - Toscana)	> 57000 m
Complesso di Piaggia Bella (Briga Alta - Piemonte)	43000 m

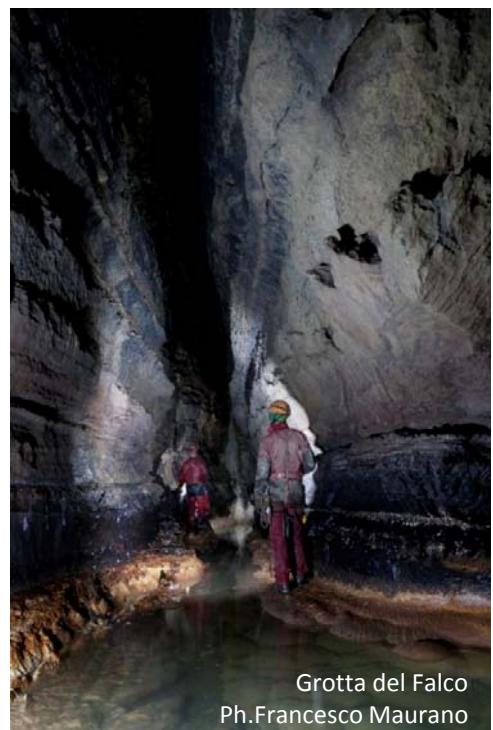
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Map of geological formations of speleological interest



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