



## DRY STONE ARCHITECTURE - TRADITION AND RESPECT FOR STONE

In the territory of the Alta Murgia and Premurgia, the skilled hands of farmers and shepherds have created a dense network of rural artifacts, which represent a tangible but also intangible rural heritage because of the construction techniques that were used, now almost forgotten. These are elements made dry, without the use of mortar or adhesives, but simply by laying one rock on top of another. Sometimes, the rocks were not even worked, but just skillfully fitted together.

Each dry-stone structure faithfully reflects the type of rocks in its surroundings. Observing a building or a small wall allows us to understand not only the geodiversity of local rocks, but also the ingenuity of the men who used them.

Dry-stone architecture is closely linked to agriculture and sheep farming, practiced in a sustainable way. These structures were designed to preserve water during periods of drought and many of them date back to the Bronze Age, preserving techniques that have remained unchanged until the arrival of modern technology.

Dry stone walls and rural architecture tell the story of the millennial relationship between man and the environment and are among the most important geosites that have contributed to the initiation of the candidacy for Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark.

MG1 Geosite – international significance

Location: the entire territory of the Aspiring Global Geopark

Interests: Geology - Stratigraphy - Karst - Archaeology - Architecture - History- Water reserves, climate change - Hydrogeological risk





MUR**GE**OPARK



parco nazionale\*  
dell'**alta murgia**