

18 Pre- The Pliocene and Lower Pleistocene GSSPs (Southern Italy).

Excursion Leaders: Luca Capraro, Patrizia Maiorano

Proposed Excursion Dates: July 10-12

Draft Itinerary: Catania – Gela – Agrigento – Crotona – Lamezia Terme – Rome

Definitive cost per head: € 300

Accommodation arrangements: Hotel

Proposer Contact Details:

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The proposed field excursion is aimed at visiting the Pliocene – Early Pleistocene GSSPs that have been defined in Sicily and Calabria (Southern Italy). Namely, these are the Zanclean and the Piacenzian (Pliocene, both located near Agrigento, Sicily), and the Gelasian and Calabrian (Lower Pleistocene, located in Sicily and Calabria, respectively). Thanks to the extensive outcrops that expose almost continuously the stratigraphic intervals of relevance, as well as the pervasive sedimentary cyclicity, these sections provide the most complete and valuable record of the Pliocene to Lower Pleistocene interval available globally. In addition, the GSSPs in question are surrounded by a spectacular scenario rich in natural, historical and cultural emergencies, such as the Valle dei Templi archaeological area.