



Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life

4th Annual Meeting

Córdoba, October 6 –13, 2024

FIRST CIRCULAR

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the 4th Annual Meeting of the IGCP 735: Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life, which will be held in October 2024 in the city of Córdoba, Argentina.

The goal of the meeting is to celebrate research on the Ordovician Period from a global, multidisciplinary perspective. The 2024 IGCP Annual Meeting provides a fresh opportunity to discuss recent advances and discoveries related to the most significant marine radiation event in Earth's history. It aims to foster collaboration, stimulate cooperation, and establish valuable connections.

The Venue

Located at the center of Argentina, Córdoba stands out as an outstanding choice for hosting the meeting. With its inviting climate, which embodies the essence of the austral spring, Córdoba boasts a unique identity, offering a rich tapestry of historical, cultural, and tourist attractions. The city presents a diverse spectrum of accommodations and culinary experiences, showcasing an extensive range of nativefoods and drinks, international cuisine restaurants, and a vibrant nightlife scene.

The meeting venue is strategically located in the city center, affording convenient access to both the downtown district and various lodging options.

Direct flights to Córdoba from different cities of South America, USA, and Europe are available with daily connections to all major airports worldwide.



Gorgeous natural landscapes, as well as the UNESCO-listed Jesuit Block and Estancias of Córdoba, a World Heritage Site, provide ideal options for both half-day or full-day excursions. For further information, please refer to <https://www.cordobaturismo.gov.ar/>



The meeting

The meeting will feature oral and poster presentations, key note talks, workshops, social events, and a field trip to the Argentine Precordillera. We anticipate a 3-day schedule for the meeting, comprising 2 days of technical sessions (subject to the number of attendees) and a third day with morning workshops followed by a city tour in the afternoon.

We estimate a registration fee of approximately 250-300USD on the basis of a very preliminary costs analysis. Registration fee for students will be about half the price set for regular participants. Please, note that this is a preliminary estimate, as we are presently managing local financial challenges.

The registration fee includes the ice-breaker event, coffee breaks, mid-conference activities, and the conference dinner.

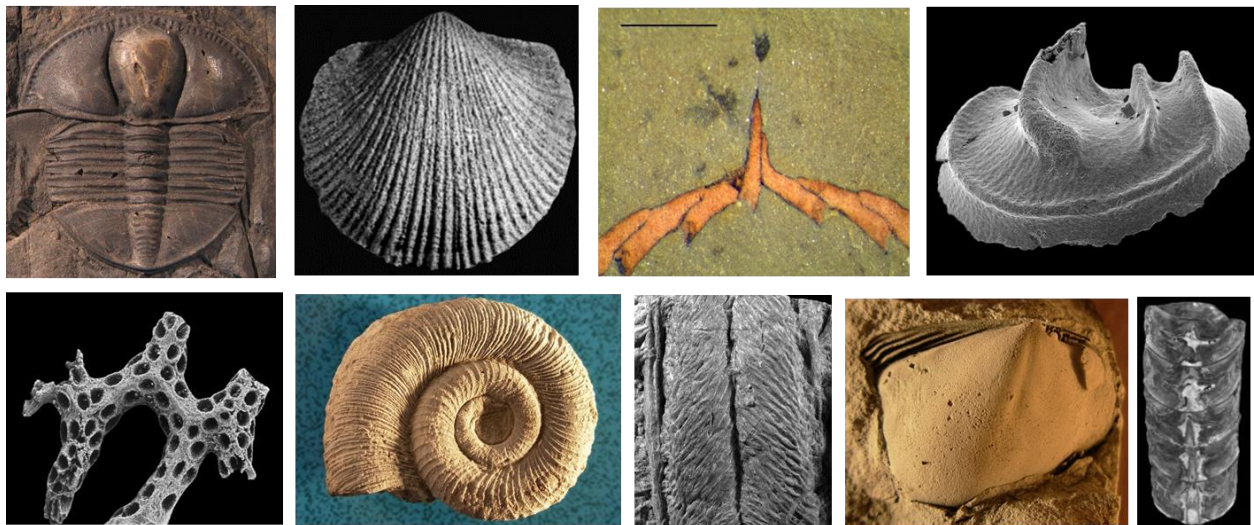
Accommodation

Like any cosmopolitan city, Córdoba offers a diverse array of accommodation choices suitable for individuals from diverse backgrounds. Here are the current pricing details for double rooms:

- 4–5-star hotels: From \$85 USD
- 3-star hotels: From \$20 USD to \$75 USD
- 2-star hotels: From \$15 USD to \$45 USD
- Apart Hotels: From \$15 USD to \$100 USD
- Hostels: From \$7 USD to \$24 USD per person

Paleontological collections at the host institution

The host institution, the Centro de Investigaciones en Ciencias de la Tierra (CICTERRA) belonging to the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET) and National University of Córdoba (UNC), yields the largest collection of Early Paleozoic invertebrates of South America. Fossils from successions of Precordillera, Sierra de Famatina, and Cordillera Oriental are housed at CICTERRA. Attendees are welcome to visit the collection before or after the meeting.



The field trip: *Unraveling the Ordovician of the Argentine Precordillera. From Tropical Carbonates to the Hirnantian Glaciation*

The 4-day post-conference excursion will provide an overview of the Ordovician geology and paleontology of the Argentine Precordillera, located in the San Juan Province. Understanding the geological framework and paleontology of this basin is essential to many current and proposed ideas related to the origin and evolution of this region and its fossil record. The Precordillera basin in Western Argentina includes one of the most striking Paleozoic outcrops worldwide. It encompasses approximately 3,500 meters of Cambrian to Middle Ordovician carbonate units plentiful of fossil remains mainly represented by brachiopods, trilobites, sponges, echinoderms, and mollusks, including Lower to Middle Ordovician reef structures. The thick Ordovician successions show a transition from nearshore carbonate banks through mixed carbonate-siliciclastic slope deposits, and basinal clastics. The trip will comprise an east to west transect across Middle and Upper Ordovician siliciclastic deposits with stops in olistostromic units and amazing columnar basalts and pillow lavas. We will also visit Hirnantian glacial diamictites followed by fossiliferous transgressive mudstones housing the typical Hirnantian Fauna.

The field trip involves a round trip from Córdoba to San Juan by bus, which takes approximately 7 hours. During the outbound journey, participants will have the opportunity to travel across stunning landscapes, including the Upper Proterozoic and Paleozoic granitoids and gneiss formations in the Córdoba hills, the continental Carboniferous red beds of the Paganzo Group in the La Rioja Province, and the world-renowned Triassic Ischigualasto Formation ('dawn of dinosaurs') as they enter the San Juan Province.

The estimated cost for this excursion ranges from \$400 to \$500 USD, including the round-trip Córdoba-San Juan, lunches, dinners, accommodation, and a one-day field excursion conducted via 4x4 trucks.



Tentative schedule

- April 15th: Early Registration Fee deadline.
- July 15th: Abstract submission deadline.
- October 6th: Registration - Ice-breaker party.
- October 7th – 9th: Technical sessions, workshops, social/touristic activities
- October 10th – 13th: Post-meeting field trip to the Argentine Precordillera, San Juan Province.

Any questions?

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