



La Unión mountain mining area known as Sierra Minera has a rich mining heritage. Located in the Region of Murcia in southeast Spain, this industry had its main impact in the 19th century, and today allows visitors to discover and learn about important mining operations, machine houses, excavations, furnaces, smokestacks, etc. in their Mining Park.

The Mining Park of La Unión offers the chance to learn all about the operations of the old underground mining industry, including the extraction of the mineral, washing and the subsequent smelting process. It also has a mining train so visitors can explore its distinctive landscape in comfort. One of the main attractions is the visit to the underground mine of Agrupa Vicenta, which has over 4,000 square metres open to the public. It is 80 metres deep and has spectacular interior spaces and a lake of reddish waters. Other visits in the Park include a compressor room, the miners' quarters, a roasting furnace, washeries, smokestacks and a mud pond. The Mining Park surrounds an old route used for transporting minerals known as the Camino del 33, which joins La Unión with the port of Portmán. Its numerous mining-related features have made it a genuine open-air mining museum.

The effects of mining on La Unión provide good examples of how the mining boom transformed the cities. The historic quarter of La Unión, is full of buildings connected to its mining past, such as the Casa del Piñón house, historically the property of a mine owner and today the site of the Town Hall, and the old Public Market. It also has an important Mining Museum containing an exhibition on all the varied mineralogy of the region.

There are several examples of Mining Areas, Mining Parks or Museums across Europe. Mining has been a key economic sector for many cities and areas and their remaining structures, facilities, buildings, etc. has become an important part of our cultural heritage.

Programme	PREPARATORY ACTION. "Promotion of European and transnational tourism products with special emphasis on cultural and industrial products"
General Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Main objective:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Develop a European Route of Mining Areas, to promote their industrial and cultural heritage.▪ Possible activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Organisation of a touristic route of European Mining Parks, where tourist interested in mining areas can find the main resources available in Europe.○ Studying and promoting mining heritage values, and their cultural expressions to develop the route's contents.○ Develop a common website platform to promote the route. It can include virtual visits to the participant mines, in order to promote the real visits.○ Develop local business in the areas of the project.

Partner profile request	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mining Parks across Europe▪ Public Tourism Authorities▪ SME's operating Mining Parks▪ SME's in charge of distributing this tourist product▪ Experience in European projects will be appreciated
-------------------------	---

Project leader and contact information	Local Council of La Unión. Tourism Area. Contact for partner search: eva.navarro@eurovertice.eu +34968277845
--	---

Deadline for submission	Not open yet
-------------------------	--------------

Deadline to show interest	June 30, 2014
---------------------------	---------------

General budget	€ 300.000
----------------	-----------

Financial contribution EU	75%
---------------------------	-----
