Urban Geotourism in São Paulo

Eliane Aparecida Del Lama

This field work proposes a trail through the old center of São Paulo from a geological perspective.

The city of São Paulo has countless monuments and buildings made of stone, mainly in the old center, which until the beginning of the 20th century was only a small urban nucleus.

It was only after the wealth brought by the coffee production that the city of São Paulo became a modern city. Although many of the rocks used in the construction of buildings and monuments of the old center are imported, mainly from Italy and Portugal, the rocks that clad them are Brazilian, particularly from the state of São Paulo.

The itinerary will be Consolação Cemetery, lunch time, and historic buildings, such as Obelisk of Memory, Municipal Theater and Páteo do Colégio.

Consolação Cemetery, founded in 1858, was the first municipal cemetery created in the city of São Paulo. Conceived in an era of profound changes, it became the testimony of the history of the Brazilian monarchy and republic, as well as of the coffee-growing elite.

Obelisk of the Memory is the oldest monument of the city (1814).

Municipal Theater of São Paulo (1911) is one of the biggest built heritage of the city.

Páteo do Colégio is the place where São Paulo was founded.
Stones that you will see in this trail

Itaquera Granite
The granite that built São Paulo

Grey Mauá Granite
Sculptor Victor Brecheret’s favorite

Black Piracaia Granite
The granite that is not a granite

Pink Itupeva Granite
Example of reddish granite

Travertine from Italy

Giallo Verona from Italy

Serpentine from Italy

Lioz from Portugal
Tombstones that you will see in this trail

Monuments that you will see in this trail