



A network to transcend borders

ALPARC is the Alpine Network of Protected Areas, which has, since 1995, united the national parks, nature and regional parks, nature reserves, biosphere reserves and many other forms of protected areas in the whole Alpine arc.

They all share one space and common values that go beyond administrative, cultural and linguistic frontiers.

Sharing values and know-how

This transalpine co-operation allows the protected areas to share know-how and experiences, but also to set up common projects, which is an enrichment and indeed fundamental for a more efficient nature protection policy.



Within ALPARC, numerous themes are tackled: not only fauna and flora management, landscape protection, public information and raising environmental awareness, support to traditional activities such as agriculture, but also challenges regarding tourist activity, soft mobility, climate change, etc... so many decisive challenges for the future.

Thus, the Alpine Network of Protected Areas is a thematic exchange network between people, but it is also a spatial network: one of the main challenges now is to restore an ecological continuum throughout the Alps to offer connected and functional living spaces for the flora and fauna.

Don't forget: Nature is precious, even outside the protected areas; we must respect and protect Nature. You can do your bit too!



Alpine Protected Areas



Visit www.alparc.org

You will find there a host of information about the Alps, the protected areas, their network of co-operation and their activities. An event calendar, various news, photo galleries and numerous thematic resources are also at your disposal.



The Alpine Network of Protected Areas contributes at its level to the implementation of the Alpine Convention, an international treaty for the protection of the Alps and the sustainable development of this mountainous region. As Nature knows no borders, trans-national coordination was necessary. The Alpine Convention was signed in 1991 by the European Union and the 8 Alpine states (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, the Principalities of Liechtenstein and Monaco, Slovenia and Switzerland). It consists of a framework text and thematic protocols of application concerning land settlement, transport, nature protection, tourism, mountain forest, soil protection, energy and mountain agriculture. There is also a declaration concerning the topic of population and culture. For further information, visit www.alpconv.org

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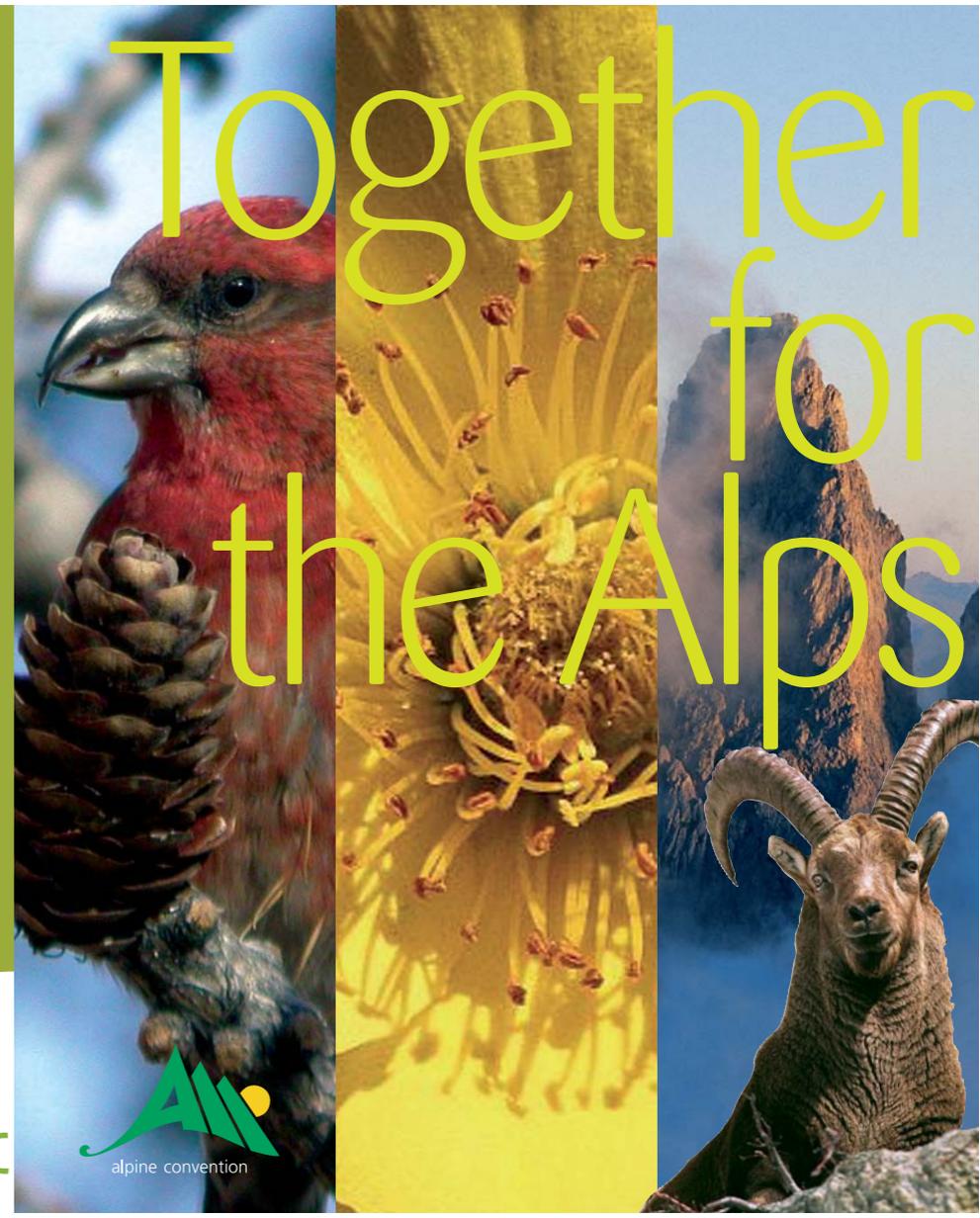
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A network for the protection of the Alps

A fascinating but fragile world

The Alps are a fascinating world with magnificent mythical landscapes, outstanding places and heritage, astonishing plants and animals, special traditions and cultures, and a population with a strong sense of identity.

There are no two ways about it: this is an exceptional but very fragile natural and cultural space, today more than ever in need of protection!

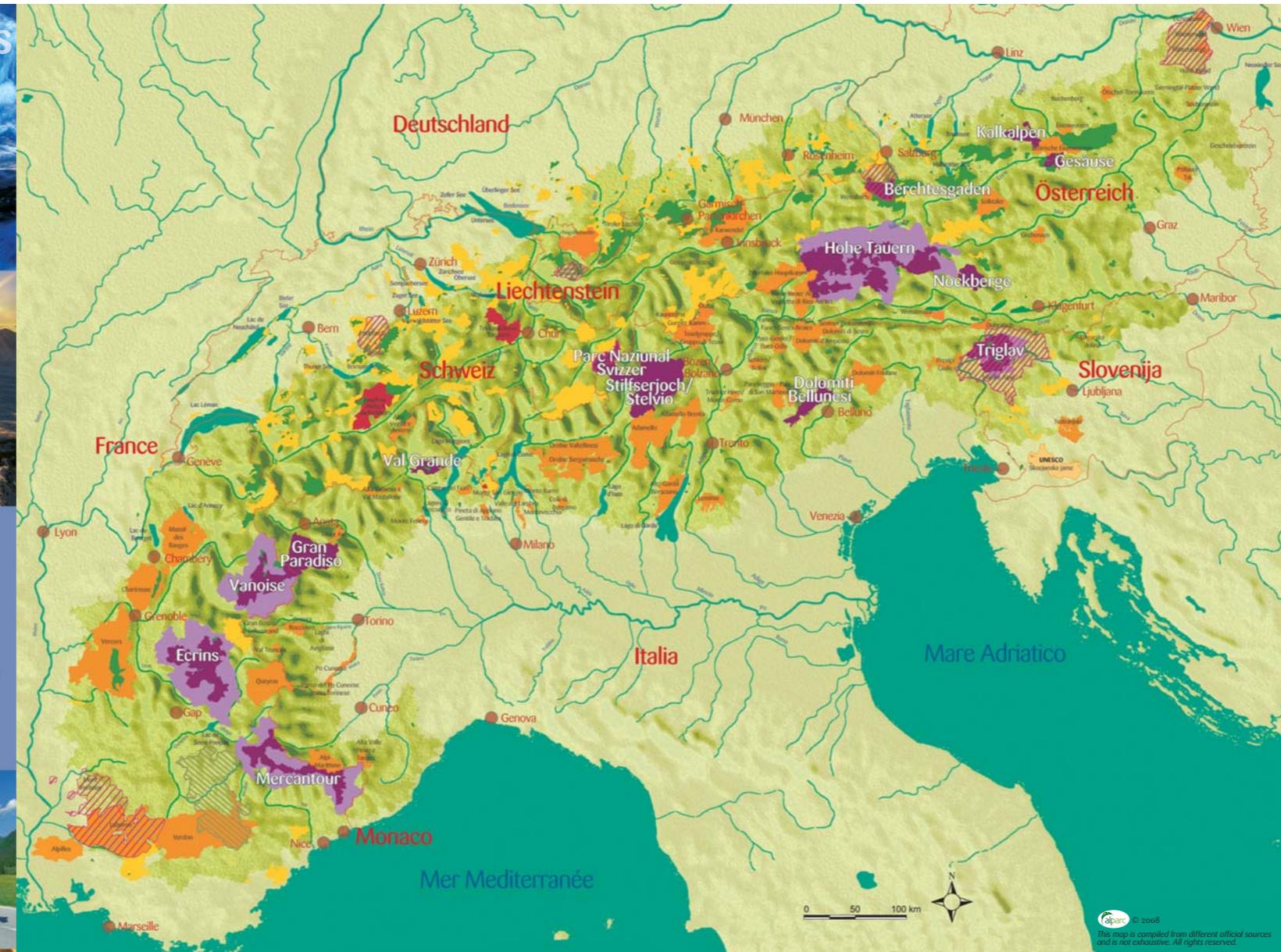


Hundreds of protected areas to preserve our natural and cultural heritage

Yes, in the Alps, there are hundreds of protected areas - in 2008, ALPARC counted about 900 areas of more than 100 ha - of different categories, whose aim is not only to protect this heritage, but also to discover it, make it known and appreciated.

Outstanding territories with diverse but complementary aims

The protected natural areas are outstanding territories of reference whose aim is the protection of biodiversity and of the cultural and natural heritage, even though nature is fragile and must be preserved absolutely everywhere! Where such areas are inhabited, and depending on their status, their role is also to support a sustainable local development for the local population whilst respecting the environment.



Some figures about the Alps and their protected areas

- 1 convention for the protection of the Alpine space: the Alpine Convention
- 8 countries: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, Switzerland.
- 10 biosphere reserves
- 14 million inhabitants
- 14 national parks
- 70 regional or nature parks
- 120 million tourists each year
- 300 nature reserves approximately
- 900 protected areas of more than 100 ha, approximately
- 190 000 km²

- National Park core area
- Peripheral Area
- Regional / Nature Park
- Nature Reserve
- UNESCO World Heritage
- Special Protection Area
- Biosphere Reserve
- Geological Nature Reserve
- Perimeter of the Alpine Convention
- State Border

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