

What is Perspektywiczna Cave?

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Perspektywiczna Cave is situated in southern Poland, in the middle part of geographical macroregion Kraków-Częstochowa Upland, often called „Polish Jura”, in Częstochowa Upland mesoregion, Ryczów Upland microregion, on the lands adherent to the village Poręba Dzierżna, Wolbrom comm., Olkusz dist., małopolskie voiv., N 50°26'33.5", E 19°46'1.5". The cave is located on the right bank of temporary stream Udorka, ca. 345 m a.s.l. and 1.5-8.5 m above the valley bottom. The cave is listed in the inventory of Polish caves at position J.Cz.IV-04.117 (number originally given to Perspektywiczne Shelter, a part of the cave system, by [Grodzicki 2011](#)).

The shelter was known at least since 1995, while the inner cave was discovered in 2012 during the test excavation in the area of lower entrance, conducted by team of archaeologist (Magdalena Sudół), archaeozoologist (Magdalena Krajcarz) and geologist (Maciej T. Krajcarz). These works were initiated by discovery of fossil Pleistocene bones on the surface in front of the entrance, digged out by burrowing foxes, in 2011. The test excavation revealed at least 3 m thick packet of sediments, with abundant Holocene and Pleistocene fauna and Paleolithic stone artifacts.

According to its size, this cave system should be classified as a

short cave, with total length of accessible corridors ca. 25 m. However, it may be assumed that the final length will be much longer, as several unaccessible corridors, filled with sediment, were spotted during excavation.

Perspektywiczna Cave consists a karst system, including the mentioned shelter in form of niche exposed to NW, and the inner cave with at least two entrances and two chambers. The shelter connects with the upper chamber through the tube-like tunnel of ca. 30 cm diameter, supplying the chamber with a litter, sand, water and fresh air, and a little sunlight. The upper and lower chambers are probably connected, but this area of cave is filled with sediments and for now remains unaccessible.

The upper chamber is ca. 1.8 m high over surface of sediments, while depth of sedimentary fill is at least 1.5 m. The lower chamber was only 20-40 cm high at the start of excavations, but the sediments achieve the thickness of at least 4.5 m.

Since 2012 the sediments were explored in four archaeological trenches. Trench „V” is the main excavation area explored during 2013-2014-2015 campaigns, and is an extension of the test trench digged in 2012. Three other trenches were only explored during 2013 season.

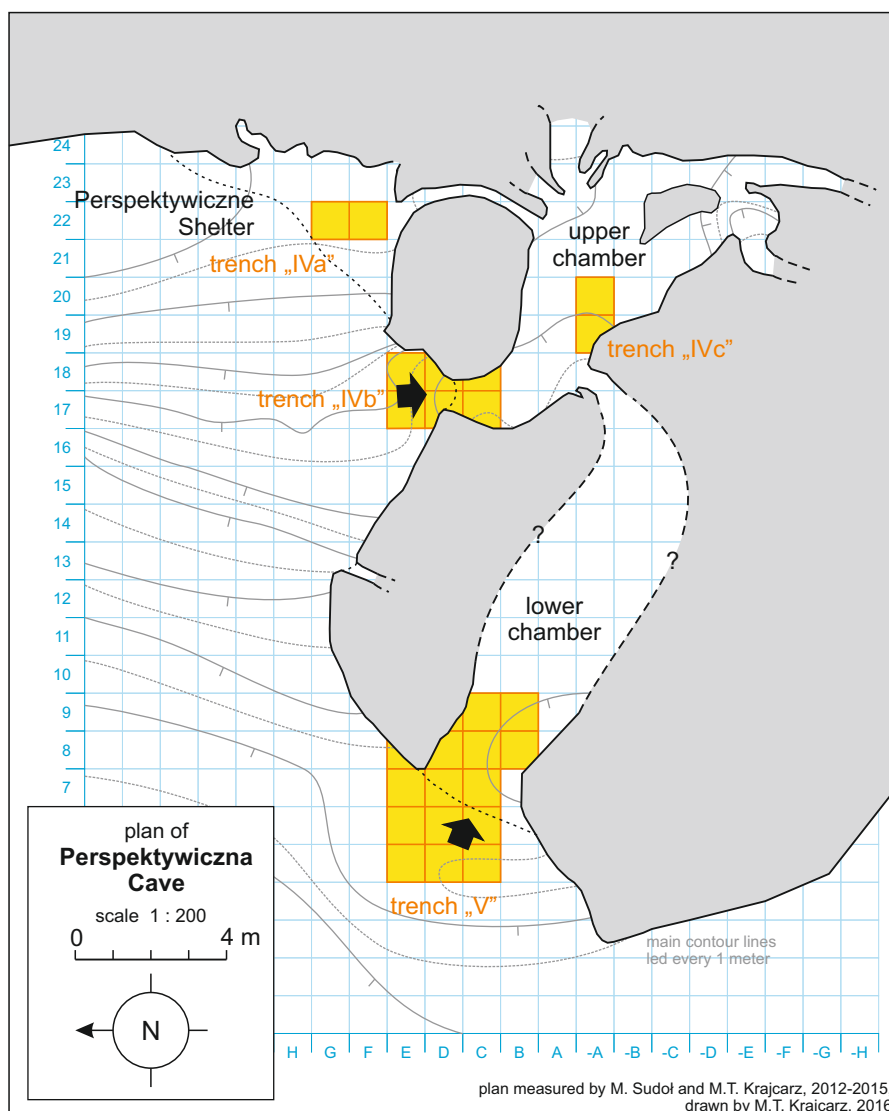


Localization of the Perspektywiczna Cave on a map of Poland

Excavations in Perspektywiczna Cave have been financially supported by Polish National Science Centre: in 2012-2014 as a part of grant No. 2011/01/N/HS3/01299 (for project „*Palaeolithic settlement of Wodęca and Udorka Valley (Częstochowa Upland) against the palaeoenvironmental background*”), and in 2015 by grant No. 2014/15/D/HS3/01302 (for project “*Hunter-gatherer communities of the younger part of the Last Glaciation and Early Holocene in the middle part of Polish Jura - chronology, cultures and significance of the southern part of Ryczów Upland*”), both under coordination of Dr. Magdalena Sudół (Institute of Archaeology, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland). Excavations are not finished and are planned to at least 2018.

Ref.:

GRODZICKI J. (Ed.) 2011. *Jaskinie Wyżyny Częstochowskiej*, vol. 4. *Jaskinie Pasma Smoleńsko-Niegowonickiego*. Wyd. PTPNoZ, Warszawa.



Available sources of information on Perspektywiczna Cave

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As a newly discovered site, Perspektywiczna Cave has still poor bibliography. The rockshelter constituting a part of the site was firstly mentioned in 1996 in the inventory of caves and rockshelters of the Jura Landscape Park [1], as „Shelter IV in Las Łysa Góra” (Pol.: *Schronisko w Lesie Łysa Góra IV*), and as „Perspektywiczne Shelter” (Pol.: *Schronisko Perspektywiczne*) in 2011 [2], where also the plan of shelter prepared by A. Polonius was given. The site had not been listed in the previous inventories of caves by K. Kowalski or by M. Szelerewicz and A. Górny. The plan and general description of the cave was presented during 47th Polish Speleological Symposium in 2013 [3], and there was also proposed the name, „Perspektywiczna Cave” (Pol.: *Jaskinia Perspektywiczna*), taken after the name of the shelter. The sedimentary fill of the cave was described in schematized way also during the symposium [3], while more detail information on the loessy strata was given during the 7th international Loess Seminar in 2014 [4] and in the following publication [5]. Some information on archaeological assemblages from the cave was given in papers presenting the cultural background of the Ryczów Upland during Paleolithic [6], [7], together with drawings and photographs of chosen lithic artifacts. The preliminary results of use wear analysis of several flint artifacts were presented during 12th SKAM workshop [8]. The fossil fauna of mollusks and mollusk paleoecology were characterized during 21st Polish Malacological Symposium in 2015 [9], while fauna of vertebrates was preliminary presented during 48th Polish Speleological Symposium [10] and 21th International Cave Bear Symposium [11], together with initial isotopic paleoecology of the fossil community of large mammals. The detail isotopic data on cave bear were presented in the following publication [12] and discussed on the wider European background of cave bear isotopic signature.

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Instruction for authors

Around the *Perspektywiczna Cave Newsletter* is publishing any report or other material concerning the Perspektywiczna Cave or related subjects that may give background for any phenomenon studied in the Cave. We especially encourage to publish here:

- excavation reports;
- reports of archaeological prospection and testing in the nearby area;
- observations of natural and cultural processes and phenomena nearby, that might affect the Cave, either currently or in the past;
- photographic reportages;
- any other short reports, reportages, interviews, graphics or essays concerning the speleology, geomorphology, geology, climatology, archaeology, palaeontology, biology, social perception, and natural or cultural heritage of Perspektywiczna Cave and its vicinities.

The manuscript should not exceed 1 page of printed material. It may consist of text, figures, tables, photographs, but also other elements. The structure of manuscript is free to authors, however, the manuscript has to include the following elements:

- title;
- full names or nicknames or artistic pseudonyms of all authors;
- contact information of at least one author;
- date of preparation;

- funding bodies if any;
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▲ Perspektywiczne Shelter - a part of Perspektywiczna Cave karst system - as seen from north on May 3rd, 2012, during a programme of geological survey in the rockshelters situated in the Udorka and Wodaça valleys by M.T. Krajcarz, M. Sudoł and M. Krajcarz, before the start of the first excavation season. An entrance of tunnel connecting the shelter and the main cave is visible in a centre. Photo by Magdalena Krajcarz