

**Freatisk og vados, grotteforskningens trylleformular?**

Vadose and Phreatic - The Magic words in Speleology

The concept of vadose and phreatic is explained and related to the water-table concept in Limestones. The phreatic characteristics explained are phreatic tube cross-sections, solution pockets, spongework, network, anastomoses and intricate and fragile schist protrusions. The vadose forms are canyons, pot-holes (rock mills) and shafts. The term phreatic loop is explained, as well as combined phreatic/vadose forms as water-line corrosion, Laughöhlen, and key-hole cross sections. Active and fossil passages are explained and their connection to caving potential as well. Collapse modification is dealt with in the last paragraph. It is hoped that this essay will encourage the readers to a closer understanding of the caves they visit.