



## **POZZO DEL DIAVOLO OF MOUNT VENERE (CAPRAROLA, VITERBO) DESCRIPTION OF THE ONLY VOLCANIC CAVE IN LATIUM (ITALY)**

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### **Abstract**

This report show information about “Pozzo del Diavolo”, that is the only volcanic cave in Latium (Italy). This little cave - near the top of the cone of Monte Venere in the natural reserve of Lago di Vico (Caprarola, Viterbo) - is very interesting also for archeological discovery.

The volcanic history of Vico spans the period from 0.8 Ma until about 85-90 ka ago. The final phase of volcanism was strongly influenced by the presence of a lake filling the newly formed caldera, and thus was violently hydromagmatic. Only in its very final stage the character of the eruptions became magmatic again, building the cone of Monte Venere that lies eccentrically in the N part of the caldera basin. The activity of this fourth period lasted from 140 to about 90 ka ago.