



NATURE TRAILS IN BALEARIC ISLANDS AND CATALONIA




 Guide to the Nature Trails of Spain

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Here, the Natural Trails- running through the Balearic Islands and Catalonia are briefly described. Among them, there are short routes as Montfalcó to Congost de Mont-Rebel, River Glorieta and Son Juny; longer routes such as Muga, Camí de l'Aigua, Muntanyes de Prades or Carrilet and routes in the vicinity of 200 km such as the Camí de Cavalls.

Camí de l' Aigua (Lleida). Sheltered by peaks over 3,000 m high and close to the Aigües Tortes i Estany de Sant Maurici National Park, one of the first protected areas in Spain, this 27,9 km route offers a journey back in time to visit some of the finest examples of Catalan Romanesque architecture.

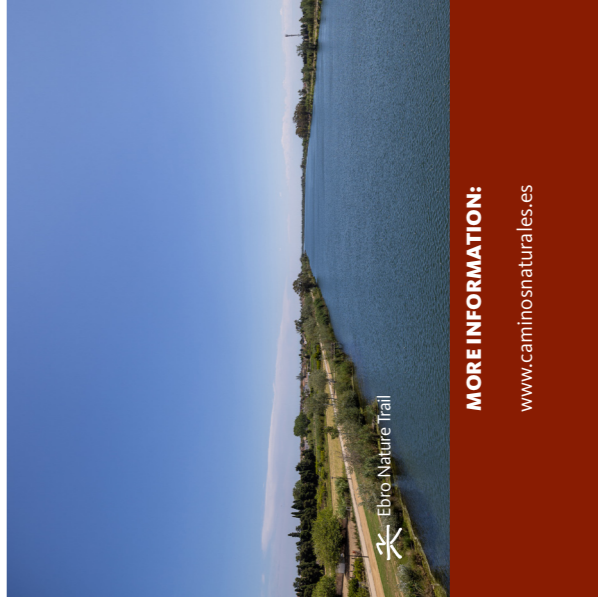
Carrilet Greenway (Girona). Over its 54 km, this nature trail joins the towns of Olot and Girona and runs along the valleys of the rivers Fluvià, Brugent and Ter. The Carrilet II Nature Trail crosses the regions of Gironès and Baix Empordà and descends slowly to the sea.

Carrilet de la Cava Greenway (Tarragona). This 7 km long route takes its name from the old railroad called Carrilet de la Cava that joined Tortosa with La Cava (nowadays Detebre), which was vital for the transport of agricultural products from the Ebro Delta.

Ebro (Cantabria, Burgos, Vitoria, Rioja, Navarre, Zaragoza, Huesca, Lleida, Tarragona). For centuries, the Ebro valley has been occupied by many cultures, and proof of its rich cultural past remains along its course. The Ebro river spans 1,280 km from Reinosa to Tortosa, a long course along which its natural and cultural richness may be enjoyed.

El Ferro i el carbó Greenway (Girona). This 13,7 km trail, follows, parallel to the River Ter for the best part of the route, the mining railway which up to the late 1960s transported coal from the mines of Ogassa and passengers to Sant Joan de les Abadesses.

Riu Lleida). The River Segre guides these two alternative trails from the suburban park of La Mitjana in Lleida: the first one, heading North, leads to the Chapel of Butsenit, while the second, heading South, leads to the confluence of the Sèquia de Torres and the Canal de Serós.



NIPO: 013-17-167-6

Since 1963 the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

Llanell Verd (Barcelona). This route joins the municipalities of Sant Boi de Llobregat, Santa Coloma de Cervelló and Sant Climent de Llobregat. Along its 17,9 km, the traveller may enjoy beautiful natural landscapes and areas with a rich architectural heritage.

La Muga (Girona). The trail follows the course of the River Muga across different natural environment in the province of Girona, between the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean Sea. Its 40,5 km take us closer to the region of Alt Empordà.

La Sèquia (Barcelona). According to the records, in the 14th century the municipality of Bages suffered a devastating drought. The solution arrived in 1383, when the construction of La Sèquia, a 26 kilometre-long canal which has been taking water from Llobregat River from Balareny to Manres.

Les Mines (Lleida). This nature trail covers 24,3 km across the municipality of Ribera de Urgell, in the region of Alto Urgell, in Lleida, in an area with a mining past. This trail also connects this area with the municipalities of Pla de Sant Tirs, Adrell and Arfa.

Matarraña-Algars (Teruel, Zaragoza, Tarragona). This Nature trail is composed of a main itinerary divided into 13 stages plus some detours. This trail goes through the counties of Matarraña/ Mataranya (Teruel), Bajo Aragón-Caspe/Baix Aragó-Casp (Zaragoza) and Terra Alta (Tarragona). Mountains, river terraces and towns full of history are just some of the attractions of this route that is recommended for those who love nature and history.

Montfalcó to Mont-Rebel gorge (Huesca, Lleida). This 4,1 km trail allows the traveller to enjoy the spectacular orography of the Sierra del Montsec which, at the points where it is pierced by the River Noguera Ribagorçana, forms the deep Mont-Rebel defile. The trail leaves behind two chalky walls by means of wooden bridges anchored to the rock, and a hanging bridge allows to cross over the Canelles Reservoir.

Muntanyes de Prades (Tarragona). The 35,8 km of this trail run in the municipality of Prades, in Tarragona, and crosses landscapes of great forest, geological and cultural interest. In the future, it is intended to make this trail connect other surrounding municipalities, such as Capafonts, Vilanova de Prades, La Febró and Mont-ral.

FROM THE PYRENEES, LOOKING OUT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Covering a relatively small territory, the Nature Trails that cross the Autonomous Communities of Catalonia (and the Balearic Islands offer a striking landscape and cultural diversity. Some of these trails lead us into the valleys of the Pre-Pyrenees and some run out to the sea, crossing the fertile valleys and flood plains of the lower Ebro valley.



Port de Vielha (Lleida). The 12,1 km of this trail run along an old natural path used from ancient times as a way communicating the regions of Arán and La Ribagorça. This natural path, classified as GR-211-5 is now replaced by the current tunnel.

River Segre and Utxesa Reservoir (Lleida). At the beginning of the 20th century, the company 'Riegos y Fuerzas del Ebro', belonging to Barcelona Traction, Light and Power, Company Limited, and popularly known as 'La Canadiense' (The Canadian) began the works of the Canal de Serós and the Utxesa Reservoir. This nature trail is 12,6 km and runs along the old surveillance path, from Torres de Segre to the reservoir.

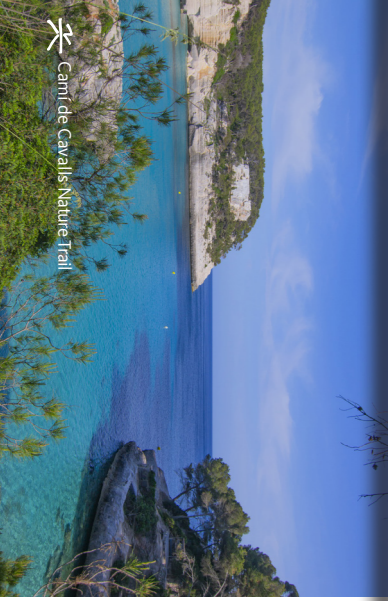
Glorieta Route (Tarragona). This nature trail, 10,2 km long, that crosses the municipalities of Alcover and Mont-ral, runs along the River Glorieta Valley and shows the traveller many infrastructures related to the traditional uses of water, which form an hydraulic site classified as local historical heritage.

Sort i la Vall d'Àssua (Lleida). This nature trail takes us along 51,3 km to the secluded area of Fallars Sobirà, in Lleida, a mountain area dotted by quaint villages with unique churches and medieval castles, which stand in the middle of the nature.

Val de Zafán Greenway (Teruel, Tarragona). This Nature Trail follows the former railway track of the same name. Starting at Tortosa, in Tarragona, it leaves behind the agricultural lands of Baix Ebre region and enters the gorges of Terra Alta County. Then, entering Teruel, it reaches Matarraña County, through a land where Argonese, Catalanian and Valencian influences.

Camí de Cavalls (Minorca). The Camí de Cavalls is characterised by the presence of horses and strongholds. This trail, 186 km long, all around the island of Menorca, takes us back to the 18th and 19th centuries, when this path was frequently used to move troops and army supplies.

Son Juny (Majorca). The town of Sant Joan was founded by the Arabs and now it is an agricultural town located in the centre of the island of Majorca. The half kilometre that separates Sant Joan to the Sanctuary of Nuestra Señora de la Consolación runs among dry stone walls and crops.





CN del Port de Vielha

CN del Camí del'Aigua

CN de Sort i La Vall d'Àssua

CN de La Muga

CN del Ferro

CN de Les Mines de la Ribera d'Urgellet

CN del Carrilet I

CN del Carrilet II

CN de La Sèquia

CN de Montfalcó - Congost de Mont-rebei

CN del Riu

CN del Río Segre y pantano de Utxesa

CN de las Muntanyes de Prades

CN de l'Anell Verd

CN del Glorieta

CN Camí de Cavalls

CN de Matarraña-Algars

CN de Son Juny

CN de la Terra Alta

CN del Ebro GR-99

PALMA DE MALLORCA

CN de Matarraña-Algars

CN del Baix Ebre

CN del Ebro GR-99

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