C O L O R
IS COMING

Guide Sorteny
Nature Park

ORDINO
Reserva de biosfera

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Reserva de la Biosfera

A Unesco Biosphere Reserve
since October 2020, Ordino is one area of Andorra where the natural environment has been respected and successfully conserved.
www.biosferaordino.ad

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Sorteny Valley Natural Park is in the Principality of Andorra, in Ordino. This natural park has highly significant biological variety and is a leading contributor to the preservation of the biodiversity of the Pyrenees. The natural park has a great diversity of flora, with more than 800 species, many of which are endemic to the Pyrenees and one hundred of which are rare species.

To discover the park, there are experienced guides available who will help you find out about this wonderful part of Andorra. There are numerous excursions with varying levels of difficulty.

From the park, you can climb up to two of the highest peaks in the Principality, Pic de l'Estanyó (2,195 m), passing through next to a beautiful lake, and Pic de la Serrera (2,913 m) passing through Collada dels Meners. For more demanding people, It exists a four-day Andorra-Arieja circuit and the long-distant footpaths such as the GRP (long-distance country footpaths) and ARP (high Pyrenees footpaths). The park has a manned refuge, open winter and summer, and a restaurant service.

GPS coordinates of Prada del Serrat car park:
Latitude: 42º37'06.7"N Longitude: 1º32'17.7"E
Decimal: 42.618525, 1.538258

By car: take Avinguda de les Moles in Ordino, heading to Arcalís, until you have passed El Serrat. At 1.4 km from El Serrat, you will see the signposted crossroad to the right that leads to the **Natural Park's car park** (July and August you have to pay the parking). The Sorteny Valley Natural Park Information Hut is in this area. Remember that you can get to Cap dels Graus along the forest track in 4x4 vehicles before 10:00 and after 19:00. You can return at any time. In winter, due to the large amount of snow, the forest track is not accessible to 4x4 vehicles. During the months of July and August it is advisable to leave the vehicle in the parking lot of Prada del Serrat, and take the **public transport** for 0,20€ in El Serrat to the park or you can walk up to there using the mountain path.

By public transport: Bus from Ordino to Sorteny From July 1st to the first Sunday in September. From 09:00 to 18:30 hours. Every 30 min. 0,20€ per person.

Information Point Schedule (WC and free WIFI):
June: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm / July and August: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm / September: 10 am to 4:30 pm

Flora

From the parking area to the Botanical Garden, there are three different **marked routes** so that you can discover, point by point, the nature and countryside that will leave you breathless. These are El Camí de la Marta, El Camí de l'Esquirol and El Sender del Grau de la Llosa .
The Botanical Garden covers more or less 800 m² with almost 300 species of flora classified by habitat, such as the meadow, megaphorbia, alpine meadow, scree, edible plant and medicinal plant areas. The two latter groups are the best-known and the most photographed parts of the garden.

Medicinal plants

ARNICA MONTANA. Anti-inflammatory properties for treating bruises, blows, preventing infections and curing wounds.

CUMIN. Stimulates the metabolism and improves the lymphatic and immunological system. Also for culinary use.

GREATER YELLOW GENTIAN
Gentiana lutea. Digestive, antibiotic and anti-inflammatory properties

Edible plants

RED RASPBERRY
Rubus idaeus

ROCK REDCURRANT
Ribes petraeum

AQUATIC SAXIFRAGE
Saxifraga aquatica

INTERPRETATION PATHS

Squirrel

Marten

Slope plain

The best time to visit the Botanical Garden and discover the different colours of its flowers is during the flowering period, which runs from the end of June to the end of July, although there are some flowers that bloom in August.

Wild mushroom collectors enjoy finding penny bun mushrooms in the forests of the park. Apart from this species and some species that are traditionally used, such as cumin, arnica and kermes oak, plants in the Park may not be dug up or cut.

Others plants

ENGLISH IRIS
Iris latifolia

PYRENEAN LILY
Lilium pyrenaicum

ALPINE GENTIAN
Gentiana alpina

POET'S DAFFODIL
Narcissus poeticus

WHITE GENEPI
Artemisia umbelliformis

WILD TULIP
Tulipa sylvestris subsp. australis

ESTRIPAGECS

Estripagecs 6

Next to the botanical garden you will see the sculpture of L'*Estripagecs*, a group of five large totem poles created by the Andorran artist Pere Moles, which takes the form of five *estripagecs* (metal bars with irregular side spikes that are placed in windows to stop people from coming in; their name in Catalan comes from their function which was to rip the jackets of thieves). They are part of the cultural and architectural heritage of Andorra and are exact replicas of the *estripagecs* in Ordino parish. You can also discover two more *estripagecs*, in Estanyó and Serrera peaks, in the same natural park.
For more information on the estripagecs, consult the guide at:
www.visitordino.com

The Park is also worthy of a mention due to its interesting wildlife; as it has been a hunting reserve for more than 20 years, you can see herds of chamois with up to 30 members. You can also find roe deer, marmots, stoats, Pyrenean brook salamanders, Aurelio's rock lizards and others.

The park has more than 60 species of very special birds, such as the golden eagle, the short-toed snake eagle, the bearded vulture, the vulture, the rock ptarmigan, the grey partridge, the western capercaillie, the common rock thrush, the red crossbill and more than 90 species of butterflies. The Rivers Serrera, Cebollera, Sorteny and Estanyó run through the Park. In any of these rivers as well as in the Estany de l'Estanyó lake, with the corresponding permit, you can do fly-fishing without a harpoon or with a flat harpoon and the help of a fishing net. Fishermen appreciate being able to enjoy this pastime in an idyllic, peaceful area, as the number of fishermen per day is limited to 5. Fishing permits can be acquired at Casa de la Muntanya and www.mediambient.ad.

REFUGE

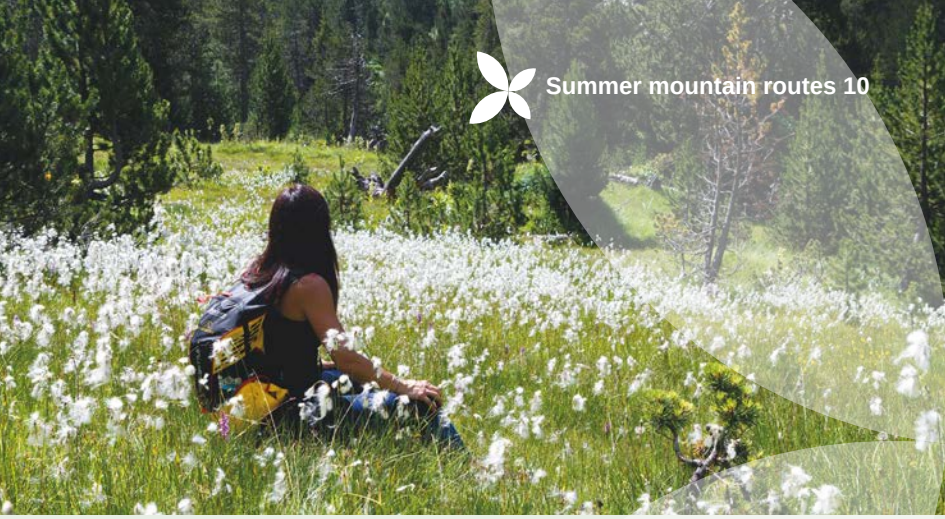
The Sorteny hut is at an altitude of 1,965 m, in Sorteny Valley Natural Park. From the refuge, you can enjoy magnificent views of La Serrera and Estanyó peaks.

You arrive to the refuge after a 30-minute walk from Sorteny car park. The former Sorteny hut, which is been renovated and extended, is now equipped with all comforts. It has five bedrooms with eight beds and another one with 10 beds. The refuge has a free area with eight places.

Check out opening times and booking conditions at www.refugisorteny.com or by calling (+376) 846446

VIEWPOINT

Just 20 minutes from Borda de Sorteny mountain hut, this new viewpoint offers a wonderful panorama of the valley. There is a viewpoint indicator, an information board showing which birds can be seen from there, and two wooden loungers where visitors can rest and admire the view.



SELF-GUIDED ROUTES

Estanyó Peak	
Climb	+/- 1.135 m
Estimated duration	7 h (go and return)
Departure & arrival	Sorteny car park
GPS departure	See page 3

La Serrera Peak	
Climb	+/- 1.133 m
Estimated duration	7 h (go and return)
Departure & arrival	Sorteny car park
GPS departure	See page 3

GUIDED ROUTES FOR GROUPS

Grau de la Llosa Viewpoint	
Climb	+/- 275m
Estimated duration	2h45 (go and return)
Departure & arrival	Sorteny car park
GPS departure	See page 3
Price	15€ adult / ages 6 to 12 7€

Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 in July and August. Bookings at Casa de la Muntanya ot@ordino.ad or by calling (+376) 878173

ROUTES

Riberamunt	
Climb	+/- 50 m
Estimated duration	2 h 45 min. (go and return)
Departure	Free parking Prada del Serrat
GPS departure	See page 3
Price	15€ adult / ages 6 to 12 7€

Every Friday at 9:30 in July and August.
Bookings at Casa de la Muntanya
ot@ordino.ad or by calling (+376) 878173

L'Estanyó Lake	
Climb	+/- 560 m
Estimated duration	5 h (go and return)
Departure & arrival	Sorteny car park
GPS departure	See page 3
Price	15€ adult / ages 8 to 12 7€

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 in July and August. Bookings at Casa de la Muntanya
ot@ordino.ad or by calling (+376) 878173

Meeting the mountain animals	
Climb	+/- 560 m
Estimated duration	5 h (go and return)
Departure & arrival	Sorteny car park
GPS departure	See page 3
Price	15€ adult / ages 6-12 7€

20th and 27th July / 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th August
Bookings at Casa de la Muntanya
ot@ordino.ad or by calling (+376) 878173

Remember that on these excursions you will come to a manned refuge, the Borda de Sorteny refuge, which has a bar service. www.refugisorteny.com

MATERIAL YOU SHOULD BRING WITH YOU

BACKPACK
30-40 litres

COMPULSORY TREKKING BOOTS
(ideally covering the ankle)

GORE-TEX TYPE WATERPROOFS
rain cape recommended

A FLEECE OR SIMILAR

A THERMAL VEST

LONG TREKKING TROUSERS

SUNGLASSES

HAT

SUN PROTECTION CREAM

TELESCOPIC HIKING STICKS

PERSONAL FIRST-AID KIT

WATER AND FOOD
sandwich, energy bars, fruit

SELF-GUIDED ROUTES

Canya de la Rabassa - Planell del Quer	
Difficulty	Medium / 2,7 km
Climb	+ 275 m
Time outward journey	1 h 45 min
Time return journey	1 h 30 min

Follow the track from the car park, climbing up to Cap del Graus, passing by some sculptures: *Els Estripagecs*. Leave the Botanical Garden behind you, which is covered in snow in winter, and go on to the pass from where you will continue along the main path until you arrive to Borda de Sorteny manned refuge. Pass the refuge heading towards the drinking trough, which you will leave behind on your left to follow the path that goes to the Planell del Quer, from where you can enjoy panoramic views of the Sorteny and Rialb Valleys. Go back the way you came.

Canya de la Rabassa - Estany de l'Estanyó	
Difficulty	Fairly high / 4,3 km
Climb	+ 560 m
Time outward journey	3 h
Time return journey	2 h 30 min

Follow the track from the car park, climbing up to Cap del Graus, passing by some sculptures: Els Estripagecs. Leave the Botanical Garden behind you, which is covered in snow in winter, and go on to the pass from where you will continue along the main path for more or less hundred and fifty m before taking the path to the Estany de l'Estanyó on your right. After going over a bridge, follow along a plateau, go through a forest and cross another plateau before starting to climb the forest on the shady slope (the most difficult part of the itinerary) to the Pleta del Llomar. Follow to the Estret de l'Estanyó, where you will go through a narrow pass and continue through the Saleres de l'Estanyó plateau until you cross a stream across the footbridge. The last slope will take you to the lake, which will no doubt be frozen and covered in snow. Go back the way you came.

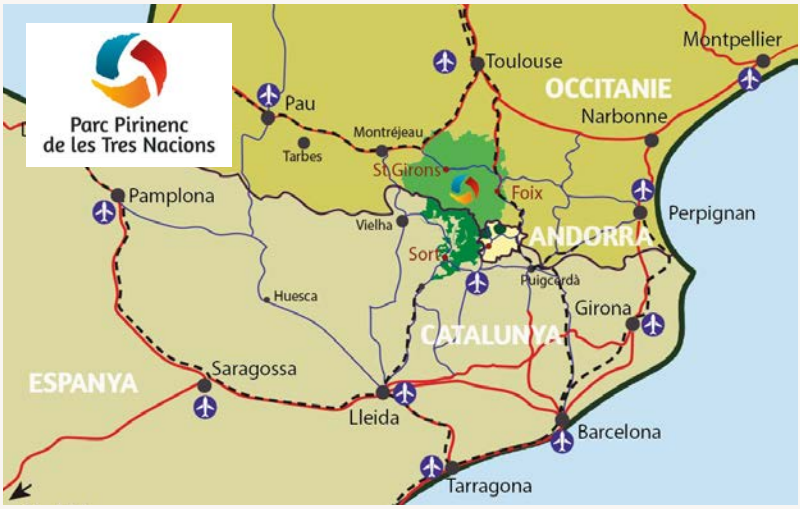
DO NOT WALK ON THE FROZEN LAKE, AS THE THICKNESS OF THE ICE IS OFTEN INSUFFICIENT TO BEAR THE WEIGHT OF A PERSON.

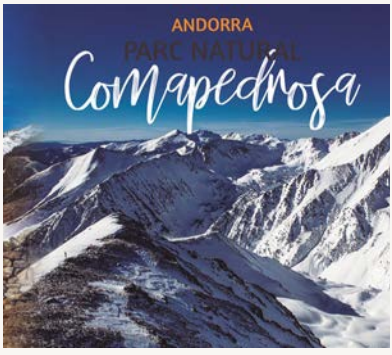
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EXCURSIONS AT: **WWW.VISITORDINO.COM**
AND THE AVALANCHE'S CONDITION: **WWW.ALLAUS.AD**

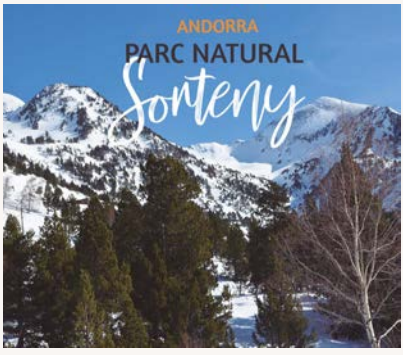
The Sorteny Valley Natural Park is part of the Three Nations Pyrenean Park, the umbrella for one of the largest, cross-border conservation areas in Europe (4,287 km2), at the heart of the Pyrenees.

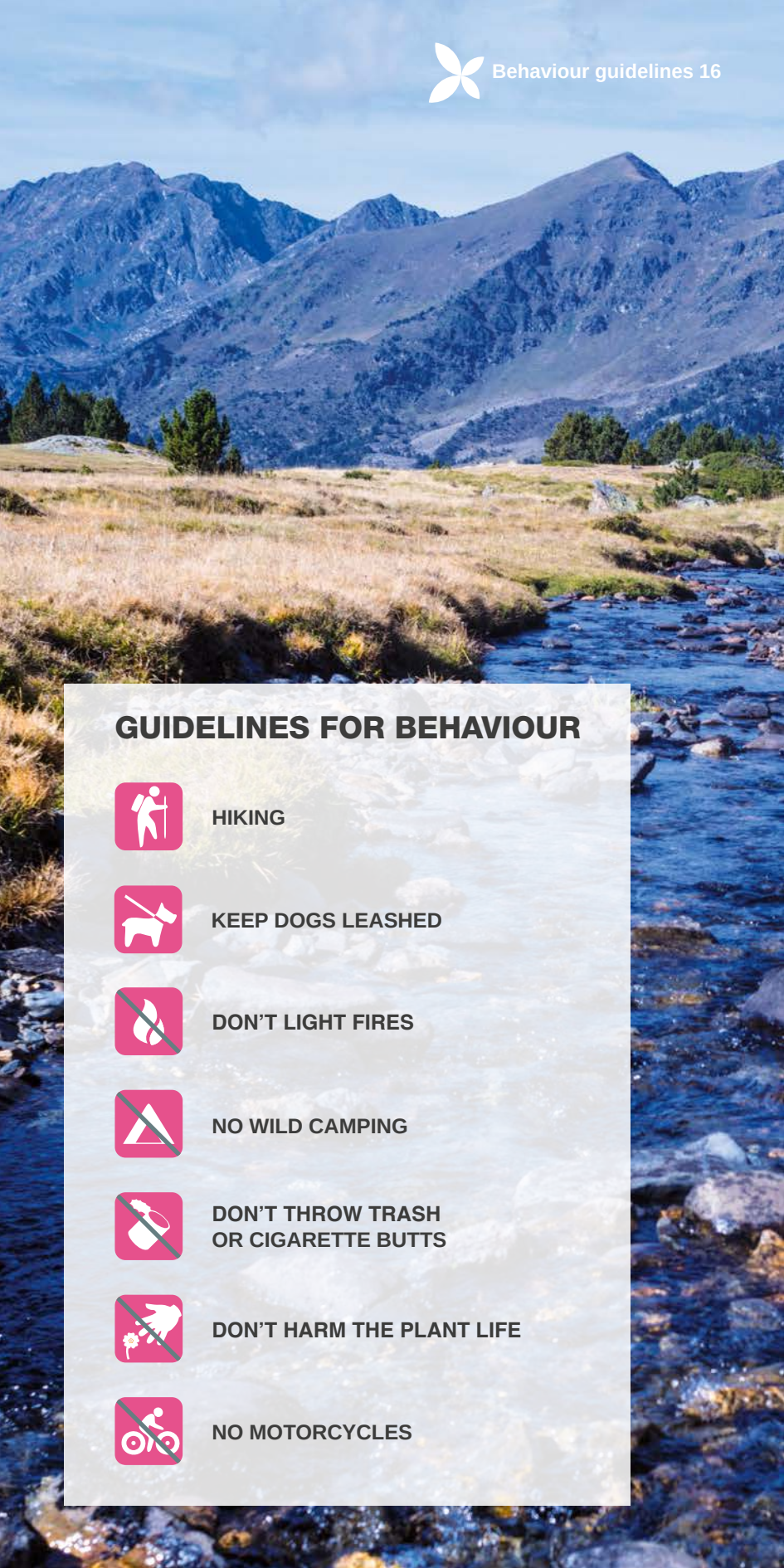
This area encompasses the natural parks of Comapedrosa (Andorra), Sorteny Valley (Andorra), Pyrénées Ariégeoises (Ariège, France) and Alt Pirineu (Catalonia, Spain).

Within this rich, dynamic environment, the distinctive biodiversity, landscape and culture of the high Pyrenees have been extremely well preserved. The 2,910m-high peak of Medacorba is a symbolic landmark, standing at the point where the borders of Andorra, Catalonia and France converge.









GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOUR

- HIKING
- KEEP DOGS LEASHED
- DON’T LIGHT FIRES
- NO WILD CAMPING
- DON’T THROW TRASH OR CIGARETTE BUTTS
- DON’T HARM THE PLANT LIFE
- NO MOTORCYCLES

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EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Mountain Rescue Group
International Emergencies
112

APPS

ACTIVE TOURISM

Discover a large number of open air routes, with off-line maps and detailed follow-up by GPS. Plan your mountain activities now!

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+ info: www.visitandorra.com

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