

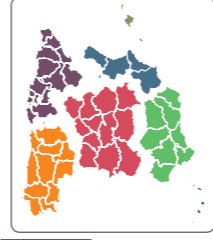
NATURE TRAIL LA SÈQUIA



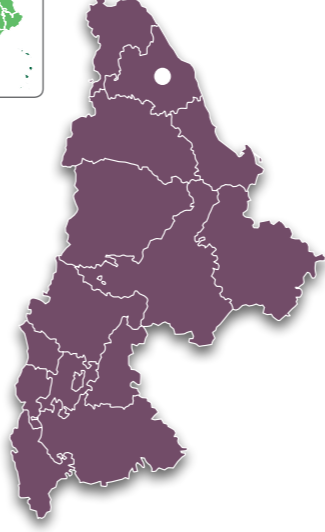
Guide to the
Nature Trails
of Spain

SECTOR NORTHEASTERN PENINSULAR NATURE TRAIL LA SÈQUIA

1. The starting point for this nature trail is Reclusa dels Maresans in Balsareny, where the waters of the Llobregat are captured using a semi elliptical dam. This first section of the canal is underground. The meeting place of many aquatic birds, this is an interesting place and an observatory post has been installed.
2. The trail follows the banks of the Llobregat through river-bank woodland that gives way to an area of orchards that depend on the waters of La Sèquia. The first crossing offers the opportunity to visit Balsareny Castle, although the trail itself continues towards the Santa Maria aqueduct, which the traveller will encounter just before the bridge which crosses the River Llobregat. At this point the visitor can enjoy a drink of water from the Sant Roc fountain before continuing on their way between the small orchards.
3. The trail passes under the road and continues parallel to it. At this point the old El Molino textile factory can be seen and, a little further on there is a short detour that leads to the Vinya d'en Martí aqueduct. The track continues its course in the company of the canal and the road until it crosses it once again.
4. The next section passes by a quarry before arriving at a rest area, where an interpretive panel describes the characteristics of the route. Signs indicate the way and the remaining distance to the next point of interest, the Conangle aqueduct.
5. The canal crosses a farm until it reaches the surroundings of Sallent, where it approaches the road. At this



SECTOR NORTHEASTERN PENINSULAR



Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment'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. We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of La Sèquia Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Parc de La Sèquia: 0034 938 74 91 30

DL NPO

According to the records, in the 14th century, the municipality of Bages suffered a devastating drought that forced the inhabitants to call for better distribution to prevent future supply problems. The definitive solution to the problem came in 1383, when the construction of the 26 kilometre-long La Sèquia canal was completed to take water from the River Llobregat from Balsareny to Manresa.

A CANAL IN THE HEART OF CATALONIA



this time the Riu d'Ordoscientos, the trail reaches a recreation area at Font de la Riera.

10. The trail crosses the railway tracks to approach the Ermita i Mas de Sant Iscle, one of the oldest medieval houses in Bages, where you can also visit the another Romanesque church.

11. After passing through a rest area and a tunnel of the C-25 motorway, the trail reaches Parc de L'Aguilla, where an artificial lake guarantees the water supply and collects the flow of the canal where the trail ends, just metres from the Parc de la Sèquia visitors centre.

THE MYSTERIOUS LIGHT

In the 14th century, after a devastating drought, the village of Manresa called for King Pere III of Catalonia to build a canal that would guarantee water supply. The Bishop of Vlc was opposed to the Sèquia project, refusing to allow the canal to cross lands belonging to the diocese and threatened to excommunicate the villagers of Manresa if the project began. It is said that a miracle then occurred when a mysterious beam of light reached the Iglesia del Carme from the mountain of Montserrat. This event was interpreted as a divine sign that convinced the Bishop to change his mind and grant permission for the work. Since then, a popular festival has been held every February in commemoration of those prodigious events, called La Fiesta de la Llum.



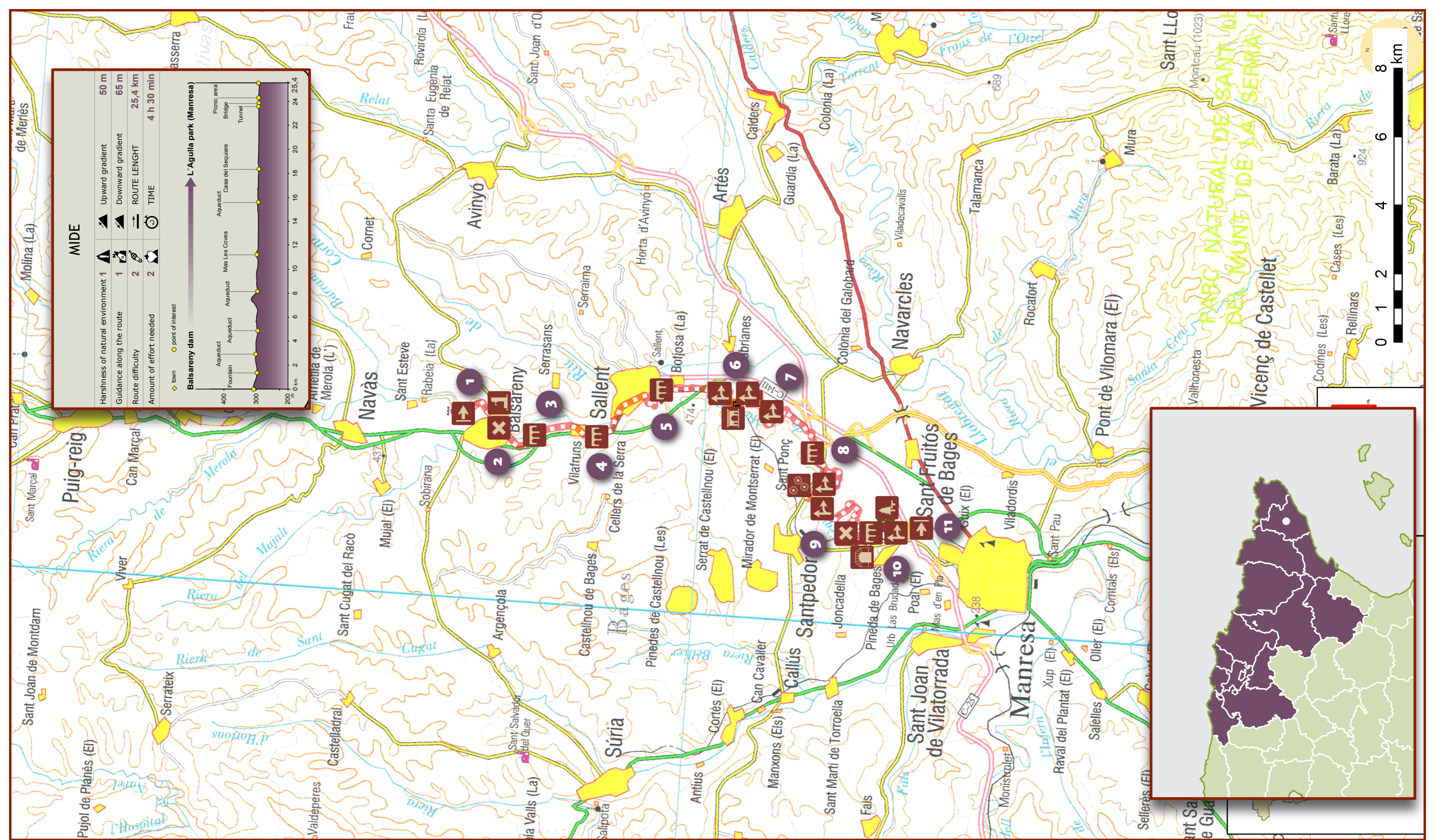
Ermita i Mas de Sant Iscle



Mountain formed by the residues of potash extraction from the mines of Sallent.



Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

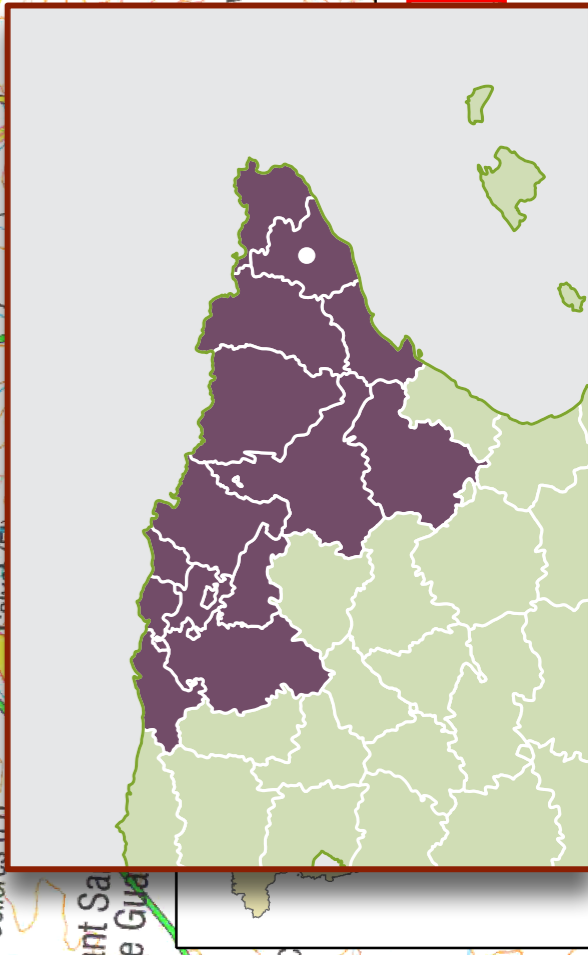


MIDE

Harshness of natural environment	1	▲	Upward gradient	50 m
Guidance along the route	1	▲	Downward gradient	65 m
Route difficulty	2	▲	ROUTE LENGTH	25,4 km
Amount of effort needed	2	▲	TIME	4 h 30 min

● town ● point of interest

Balsareny dam ▲ L'Agulla park (Manresa)



SECTOR
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NATURE TRAIL
LA SÈQUIA

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Fountain
- Rest area
- Detour
- Junction
- Bridge
- Tunnel
- Monument
- Other sights of interest