GUIDE

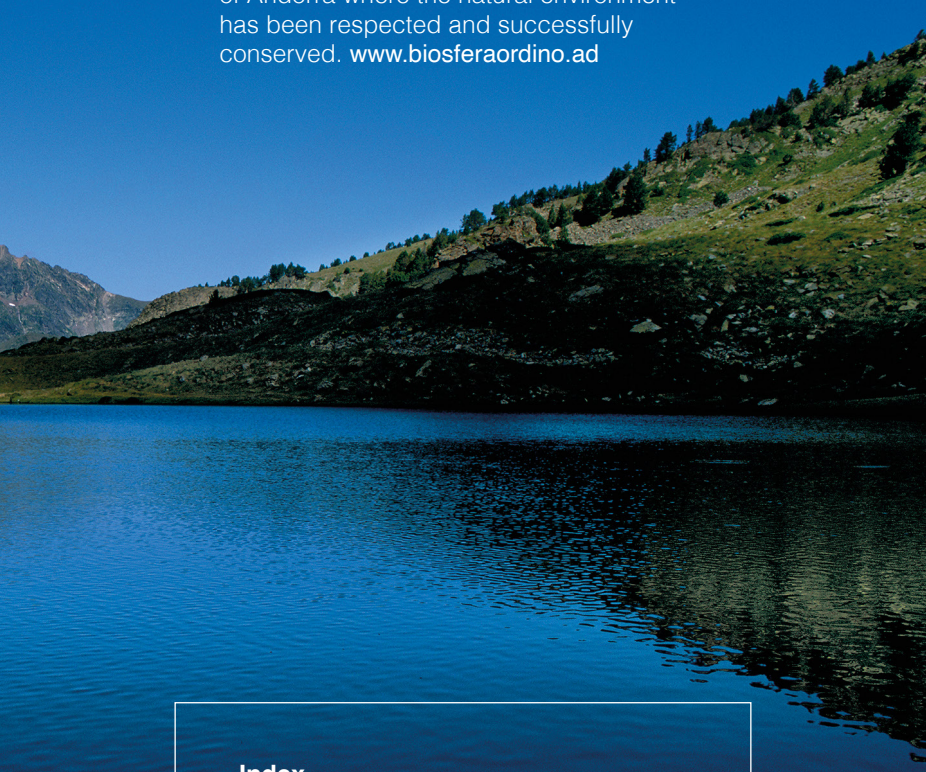
SORTENY VALLEY NATURAL PARK

ORDINO 2025

ORDINO
Reserva de biosfera

unesco
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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PRESENTATION

Sorteny Valley Nature Park is found at the heart of Ordino's biosphere reserve declared by UNESCO in 2020. With a great biological diversity, this park is essential for the preservation of wildlife in the Pyrenees. The territory shelters more than 800 plant species, many of which are endemic to the Pyrenees and others are either of great rarity or endangered. This makes the park a unique and special place for nature and wild flora lovers.

The park offers a wide range of signposted routes and itineraries adapted to all levels. Among the most popular routes, we highlight the climbs to two of the highest peaks in Andorra: L'Estanyó peak (2,915 m) and La Serrera peak (2,913 m).

For the most demanding hikers, the park offers the 4-day circuit of Andorra-Arieja, as well as some long-distance routes such as the GRP (Andorra's great country route) and the ARP (high Pyrenean route). Moreover, at the Borda de Sorteny staffed refuge you can stay overnight and enjoy local traditional cuisine.

Additionally, if you want to enjoy the routes along with an expert, the park offers a guide service where you can hire a mountain guide to go together with you in your hikes and make your experience more enriching and safer.



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 8.30 and after 18.00. 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 07:30 to 19 hours. Every 30 min. 0,20€ per person.



Horari caseta d'informació (wifi i wc gratuïts):
From 12th to 31st May, Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm
From 1st June to 31st August, Monday to Sunday, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. From 1st to 30th September, Monday to Sunday, 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 latter, even though being known by their attributes, must be held with caution. You can also see several species endemic to the Pyrenees, which are very valuable to the biodiversity in the area.

INTERPRETATION PATHS

Squirrel

Marten

Slope plain



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



XATARDIA / CHAMOIS' PARSLEY
Xatardia scabra
Endemic and endangered plant.



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



PYRENEES STAR OF BETHLEHEM
Ornithogalum pyrenaicum
Endemic plant.



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



ANDORRAN CAMPANULA
Campanula jaubertiana subsp. andorrana
Endemic plant.

IN NATURAM SPACE

If you want to know more about the park's heritage, at the In Naturam interpretation centre you can discover and experience Sorteny's natural wealth by means of different expositions and interactive proposals about both wildlife and traditional livestock activities that have shaped and preserved its different ecosystems until now. This space helps visitors to better understand the ecological value of the park and offers an educational and enriching experience for everybody.



MONKSHOOD/WOLFSBANE
Aconitum napellus
Toxic. Highly dangerous.



WHITE HELLEBORE/WHITE VERATRUM
Veratrum album
Toxic.



ENGLISH IRIS
Iris latifolia



PYRENEAN LILY
Lilium pyrenaicum



DOGTOOTH VIOLET
Erythronium dens-canis



POET'S DAFFODIL
Narcissus poeticus



LARGE-FLOWERED BUTTERWORT
Pinguicula grandiflora



WILD TULIP
Tulipa sylvestris subsp. australis

ESTRIPAGECS

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

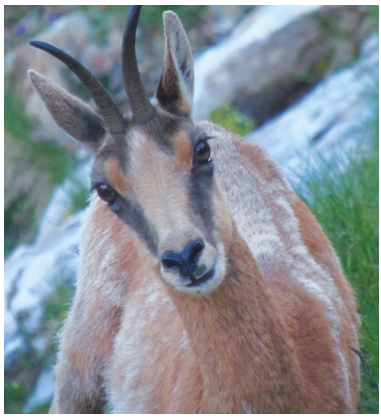


ROCK GARDEN

Andorra's Rock Garden, located near the botanical garden in Sorteny, is an open window to geodiversity in the Pyrenees. A walk around the garden allows contemplating the variety of rocks that outcrop in the country, each one with an individual history, marked by tectonic movements and metamorphic processes. Several explanatory panels reveal how these rocks have been essential to local architecture, from the use of granite to the art of dry stone. This experience is an invitation to appreciate the value of Andorra's geological richness.



FAUNA







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.

REFUGI

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

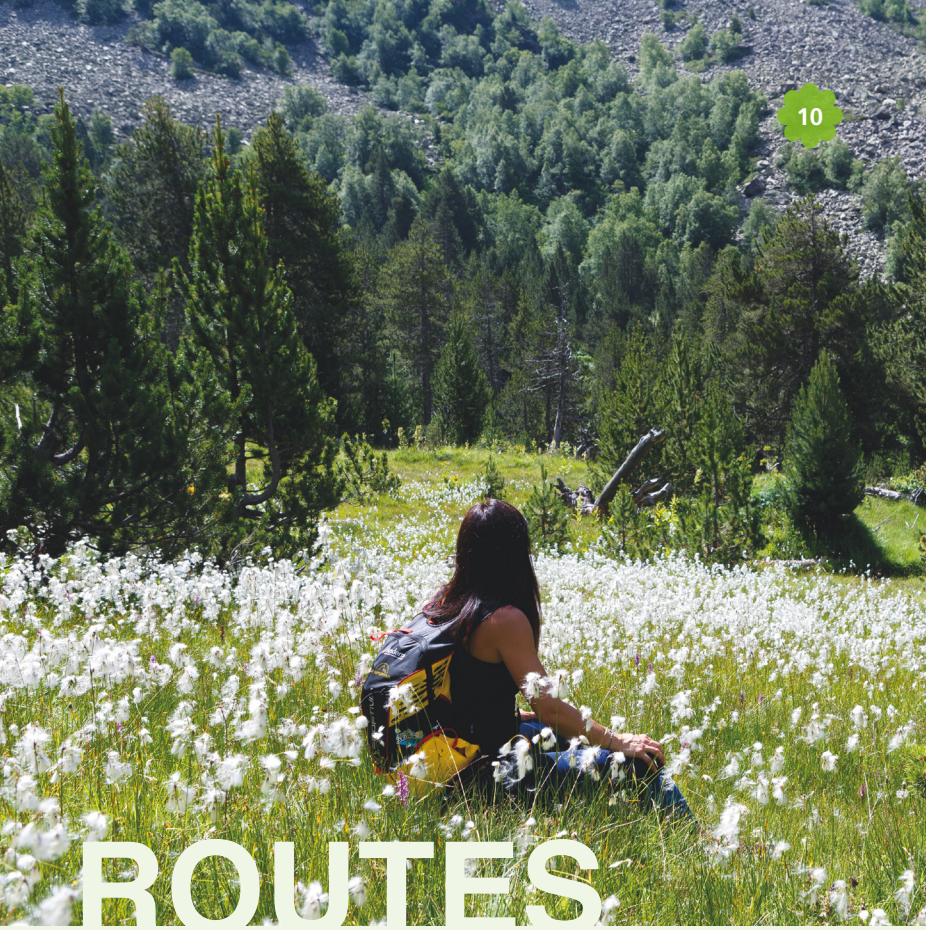


VIEWPOINT
GRAU DE LA LLOSA



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.



ROUTES

SUMMER MOUNTAIN ROUTES

Self-guided routes

Estanyó Peak

+/- 1.135 m

7 h (go and return)

Sorteny car park

GPS See page 3



La Serrera Peak

+/- 1.133m

7 h (go and return)

Sorteny car park

GPS See page 3



Guided routes for groups

Bookings at:
Casa de la Muntanya
ot@ordino.ad
or by calling (+376) 878 173

Grau de la Llosa Viewpoint



+/- 275m

2h45 h (go and return)

Sorteny car park

GPS See page 3

$ 16,46€ adult / 8,10€ ages 6 to 12

Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 in July and August

L'Estanyó Lake



+/- 560m

5 h (go and return)

Sorteny car park

GPS See page 3

$ 16,46€ adult / 8,10€ ages 6 to 12

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 in July and August

Observation of large mammals



+/- 600 and 750 m

5 h (go and return)

Sorteny car park

GPS See page 3

$ 16,46€ adult / 8,10€ ages 6 to 12

July and August

Climb **Estimated duration** **Departure & arrival** **GPS departure** **Price**

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







Remember that on these excursions you will come to a manned refuge, the Borda de Sorteny refuge, which has a bar service.
refugi@refugisorteny.com or (+376) 846 446.



WINTER MOUNTAIN ROUTES

Self-guided routes

Canya de la Rabassa - Planell del Quer

Medium / 2,7 km

+ 275 m

1h 45 min

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 - L'Estanyó Lake

Fairly high / 4,3 km

+ 560 m

3 h

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.

Difficulty **Climb** **Time outward journey** **Time return journey**



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

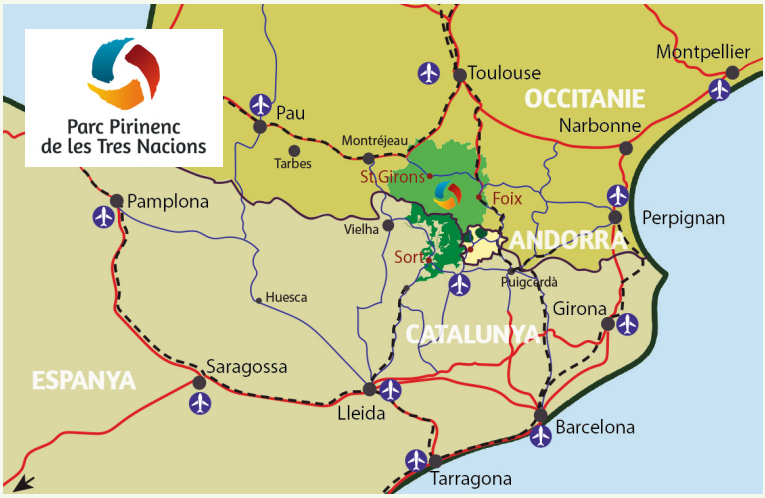
More information about excursions at: **www.visitordino.com**
and the avalanche's condition: **www.allaus.ad**

THREE NATIONS PYRENEAN PARK

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.











EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Mountain Rescue Group
International Emergencies
112

GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOUR


It is prohibited to step off the marked paths


It is mandatory to always keep the dog on a leash and pick up its excrement


Don’t light fires


No wild camping


Don’t throw trash or cigarette butts


Don’t harm the plant life


No motorcycles or bikes


People nor pets are allowed in the rivers and ponds


It is prohibited to fly and/or land drones within the park



Sorteny
Parc natural

ORDINO
Reserva de biosfera

Casa de la Muntanya
(376) 878 173 · ot@ordino.ad
www.sorteny.ad · www.visitordino.com

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