

# 13 Les Abelletes lake

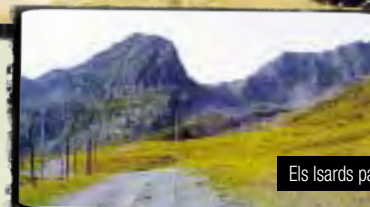


El Pas de la Casa



River trout  
(*Salmo trutta fario*)

Les Abelletes lake



Els Isards pass



Les Abelletes path

Les Abelletes lake is at the head of the Arieja river basin, which is a tributary of the Garonne river. This river is a natural line that sketches out the French-Andorran border, providing it with both an Andorran and French side.

Les Abelletes lake often plays host to fishermen looking for trout. In Andorra, apart from river trout (*Salmo trutta fario*) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), you can also find brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*). In the southern part of the country, otters (*Lutra lutra*) have also been spotted.

The starting point is at the Pas de la Casa ski resort, and from there you'll climb up along the Arieja riverbank until reaching Les Abelletes lake. This is a quite level and short path, which offers spectacular views of a lovely Pyrenean mountain lake.

To reach the top, keep snaking up until you come to Els Isards pass, where you'll have to turn to the left until you come to Les Abelletes peak (2,596 m).

Don't miss...  
the *vias ferratas* at Isards pass, if you're a fan of adventure. One is for beginners and the other is for more sportive types, with a 30-minute climb and an hour return.

Did you know?  
Pas de la Casa was one of the most guarded passes by the Germans during World War II, as escaping prisoners often used it.

### TOPONYMY

**Arieja:**  
This river hardly touches Andorran territory. Its name most likely comes from the Latin *aurifera* (*aurigera*), meaning "golden waters".



Les Abelletes lake

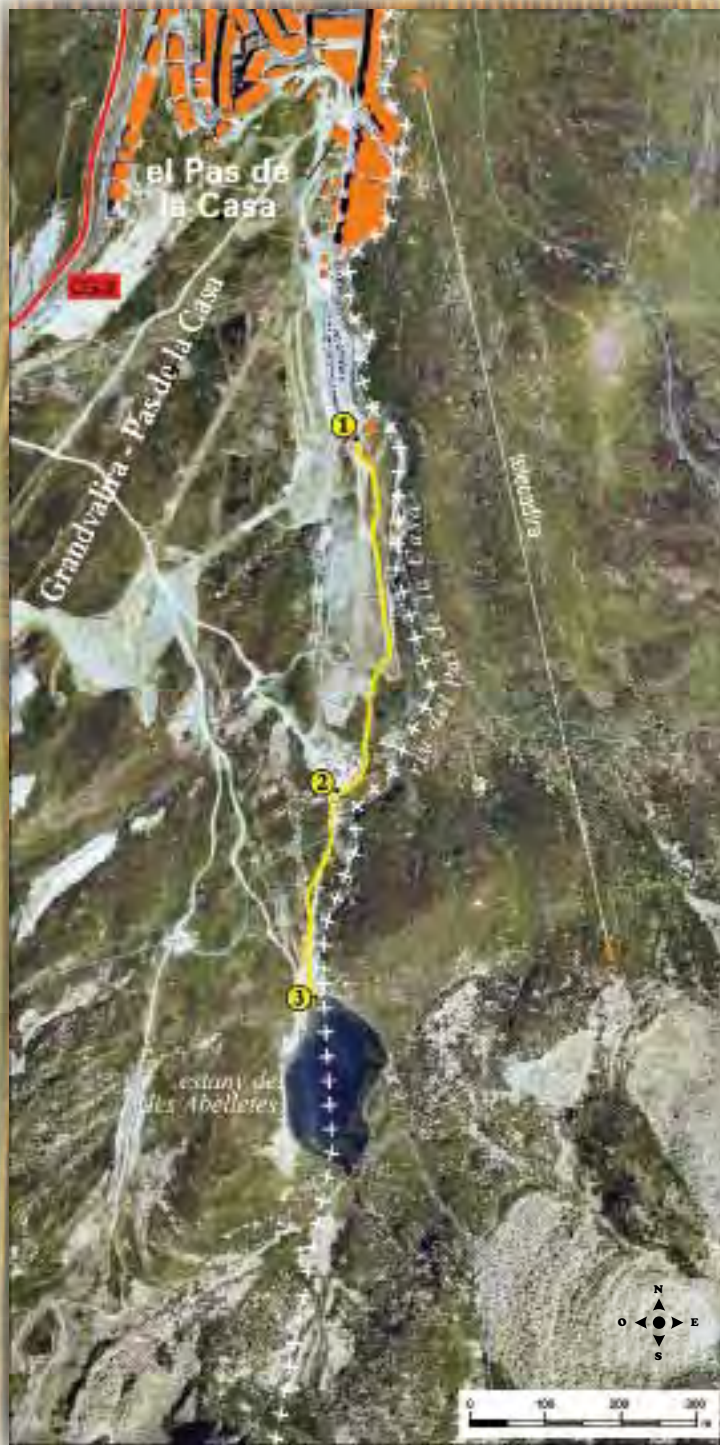
DATA SHEET






- 35 min
- 25 min
- +120 m
- 808 m

ROUTE SIGNPOSTING

NO SIGNS. FOLLOW THE MARKS ON THE PATH.



TOPOGUIDE

LOCATION	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
<b>1</b> TELE-CHAIR AT ELS ISARDS PASS 2.140 m	-- (--)	--	N42 32.203 E1 44.016	This route starts at the Grandvalira ski resort, in the Pas de la Casa area, at the bottom of the Els Isards pass chair lift and close to the snow garden in the Les Abelletes zone. 
<b>2</b> WATER TANK 2.110 m	519 m (+70 m)	20'	N42 31.951 E1 44.000	Take the path that crosses the snow garden to the south. Go up along the banks of the Arieja river until you reach a landing where you'll see the water tank. 
<b>3</b> LES ABELLETES LAKE 2.260 m	808 m (+50 m)	35'	N42 31.804 E1 43.981	Continue ascending along this stage of the forest trail, and then go back up the path that keeps to the right side of the Arieja river until you reach Les Abelletes lake. 



RETURNING

You can return by following the same route.

ROUTE PROFILE

