CAMÍ DE LA TRANS HUMÀNCIA ESTIES

WELCOME TO AN AREA WHERE TRANSHUMANCE TAKES PLACE





COMÚ DE CANILLO



Govern d'Andorra









TRANSHUMANCE, THE SEASONAL MOVEMENT OF LIVESTOCK IN THE PYRENEES

Crop and livestock farming were the main economic activities in the Pyrenean mountains for centuries, up until the middle of the last century.

These activities are closely linked to the natural cycles of the mountain environment.

Every year, in summer and autumn, farmers and shepherds (men and women) organise the movements of their livestock, following traditional pastoral rituals. Whenever possible, the animals are still moved on foot, tracing the paths or tracks of ancestral herds.

Transhumance has left both a tangible cultural heritage of architecture (traditional buildings, remote barns, shepherds' huts, orris, drystone walls, etc.) and landscapes (alpine pastures and heathlands, intermediate zones of hayfields and terraces, etc.), which still survive today, and an intangible heritage relating to crop and livestock farming which is still handed down from generation to generation. A socioeconomic system has developed around transhumance, from gastronomy to local handicrafts, and the fairs and festivals that mark the beginning and end of each season.

Transhumance has been incorporated into UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, offering recognition to a traditional practice that favours sustainable development, promotes animal welfare and the production of local products, and helps to protect natural resources and preserve the biodiversity of mountain ecosystems.

Today, the movement of livestock faces a new challenge, with the return of protected predator species, notably bears and wolves. These two species often attack herds for food, causing great damage to the livestock sector and leading to the gradual, insidious decline of pastoral lands.

The survival of transhumance therefore requires new legal mechanisms that acknowledge its overriding public interest, in order to support a lasting, dynamic livestock sector; perpetuate life in the valleys; develop sustainable, responsible tourism, and preserve the very rich biodiversity.

Friend, hiker, citizen, consumer - you can easily help to preserve this common good, this ancient and wise blend of tradition, cultural heritage and fragile nature by:

- Respecting the rights and customs of the land you cross.
- Enjoying the gastronomy produced by the transhumant community.
- Supporting the local farmers who employ their skills on a daily basis to preserve this invaluable environment.





BRUNA DE ANDORRA

Numbers: 1400 cows Category: bovines



Weight:

females 550 - 600 kg
males (bulls) 900 - 1,000 kg

E Height:

average shoulder height 1.35 m

Location: throughout the Principality of Andorra

CHARACTERISTICS

- Hardy, suitable for meat production.
- Adapted to the mountain geography

• Dark brown coal with black-lipped, while horns	I
 Good maternal qualities, easy calving 	1
• Strong, well-formed legs of an average length and width	I
• Broad muzzle	1
• Good muscle development	1
• Calm, docile nature	I
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Production:

quality-controlled meat from purebreds or crossbreeds

Quality Seals:





Quality-controlled meat from Andorra

IGP Carn d'Andorra



SHEEP IN ANDORRA

Numbers: 2 100 ewes

Category: ovines

Weight:

- E Height:
- females 55 65 kg
- males 75 100 kg
- females 75 cm
- males 90 cm

Location: throughout the Principality of Andorra

-CHARACTERISTICS

<u>Rouge du Roussillon or Berberina</u>

- White or reddish, thick, fine wool
- Red face and legs
- One lamb per birth
- Adapted to mountain conditions in extensive farming
- Can stand high temperatures above 40°C

Xisqueta

• Small, very hardy breed
 Highly-valued, quality white fleece
• One lamb per ewe each year
• Adults hornless
 White coat with black nostrils, eyes and ears
 Adapted to high mountain conditions and transhumance
Lacaune
 Large breed, good meat production
• Twin births
 Poorly adapted to mountain conditions
• Early ewe breeding age
• White face, legs and fleece
 Suitable for meat and milk

Production: mostly farmed for the production of lamb meat which is marketed under the "Quality-controlled meat from Andorra" seal

Sellos de calidad:



Quality-controlled meat from Andorra

Contribution: sheep production helps to conserve biodiversity and maintain the production and quality of forage in the pastures and communal woodlands. Pasturing helps to minimise and prevent natural risks (wildfires and avalanches), which is beneficial to the development of activities for tourism, such as discovering the landscape and nature (hiking, etc.) or local cuisine.

HORSES IN ANDORRA

Numbers: 356 females Category: equines



E Height: 1,45 – 1,60 m

Location: throughout the Principality of Andorra

- CONTRIBUTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION -

The production of equines helps to conserve biodiversity and maintain the production and quality of forage in the pastures and communal woodlands. Pasturing helps to minimise and prevent natural risks (wildfires and avalanches), which is beneficial to the development of activities for tourism, such as discovering the landscape and nature (hiking, etc.) and the local cuisine.

Production: quality-controlled horsemeat.

Quality Seals:



Quality-controlled meat from Andorra

PYRENEAN GASCON

Numbers:23 000 cowsCategory:bovines



• cows 650 – 700 kg

• bulls 900 – 1,150 kg

E Height:

- cows 1.35 m
- bulls 1.45 m

Origin: Saint-Gaudens (France)

- CHARACTERISTICS --

Hardy breed

Body black nostrils and hooves

Coat grey, lightening in summer

Head black-tipped lyre-shaped horns, black ear tips, eyes and eye contours



Production: purebred or crossbreed quality meat

Distribution map

of Pyrenean Gascon females in France (2020) No documented presence

- < 100 females
- 100 499 females
- 500 999 females
- 1000 1999 females
- >= 3 000 females

Sellos de calidad:







TARASCONNAISE

Numbers: 152,100 ewes Category: ovines



ewes 60 kg
rams 80 kg

E Height:

- ewes 65 cm
- rams 80 cm

Origin: Tarascon-sur-Ariège in the Pyrenees

CHARACTERISTICS

Wool fine, white, dense with no guard hairs, 5-10 cm, curly Head large, white, horned. The ram's horns are thick and spiralled, the ewes' horns are slender. Slight Roman nose and medium-sized horizontal ears



Production: Meat breed. Production of grass-fed lambs aged 6-10 months, live weight 35 kg. Lambs for slaughter.





Quality Seals:



Label Rouge: "Free-range



Indication Géographique Protégée (IGP):





MÉRENS

Numbers:493 breeding mares in 2019Category:equines

Weight:

• 400-600 kg

E Height:

• 1,35-1,55 m

Origin: upper Ariège valley, in the Pyrenees
CHARACTERISTICS

Head straight nose, broad flat forehead, short ears

Body strong legs; developed muscles; hard, dark hooves



Production: Mérens are very versatile. Their hardiness and sure-footedness make them excellent for riding and eco-grazing. They are often used to pull carriages.

Mérens foals born and registered

in France (2017)















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