

# 76 CAMÍ DE CANÒLICH

## DON'T MISS...

a visit to the sanctuary of Canòlich, dedicated to the patron saint of the parish of Sant Julià de Lòria, located at the end of the route, at 1,652 metres above sea level.

## DID YOU KNOW...

Legend has it that a resident of Bixessarri saw a very colourful bird in the field where he was going to put his herds to pasture. He caught it and brought it home, but the next day the bird returned to the place where he had found it. This went on for several days, until the man poked around and discovered that an image of the Blessed Virgin lay half-hidden in the same field.

## BEHIND THE NAME

**Canòlich:** This word may come from *Canonicus*, which refers to canonical possession, or to a canonical building in another sense. We should also allow for the hypothesis that this is a syllabic metaplasm of the Latin word *colonica*, meaning "farm house, land of settlers".

WALKING IN ANDORRA



Stream



Blue tit  
(*Parus caeruleus*)



Path going up



Sanctuary of Canòlich

From the starting point, 960 metres above sea level on the Bixessarri road, the path goes up the mountain. Due to the topography of the area, which is mainly oriented toward the north, the forest is cool and damp, an ideal retreat from the long and hot days of summer. The tree layer is dominated by Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), with its reddish bark and greyish-green leaves, but hazel (*Corylus avellana*), large-leaved lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*) and birch trees (*Betula pendula*), all deciduous species, are also present. Also worthy of mention are wild strawberries (*Fragaria vesca*), liverwort (*Hepatica nobilis*) and ramonda (*Ramonda myconi*), of course, a very particular plant that is thought to be a survivor from before the last

ice age, from the Quaternary period, and that always grows on walls of carbonate, mostly made of chalky rocks.

The most common birds that you may find along the route include the wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), notable for its powerful and melodious song, and the chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*). The tit (*Parus sp.*) can also be heard, chirping with more monotonous and metallic tones.

The woods of this area are also home to the roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), a forest-dwelling, black-snouted deer with a white rump and short horns.

# SANT JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

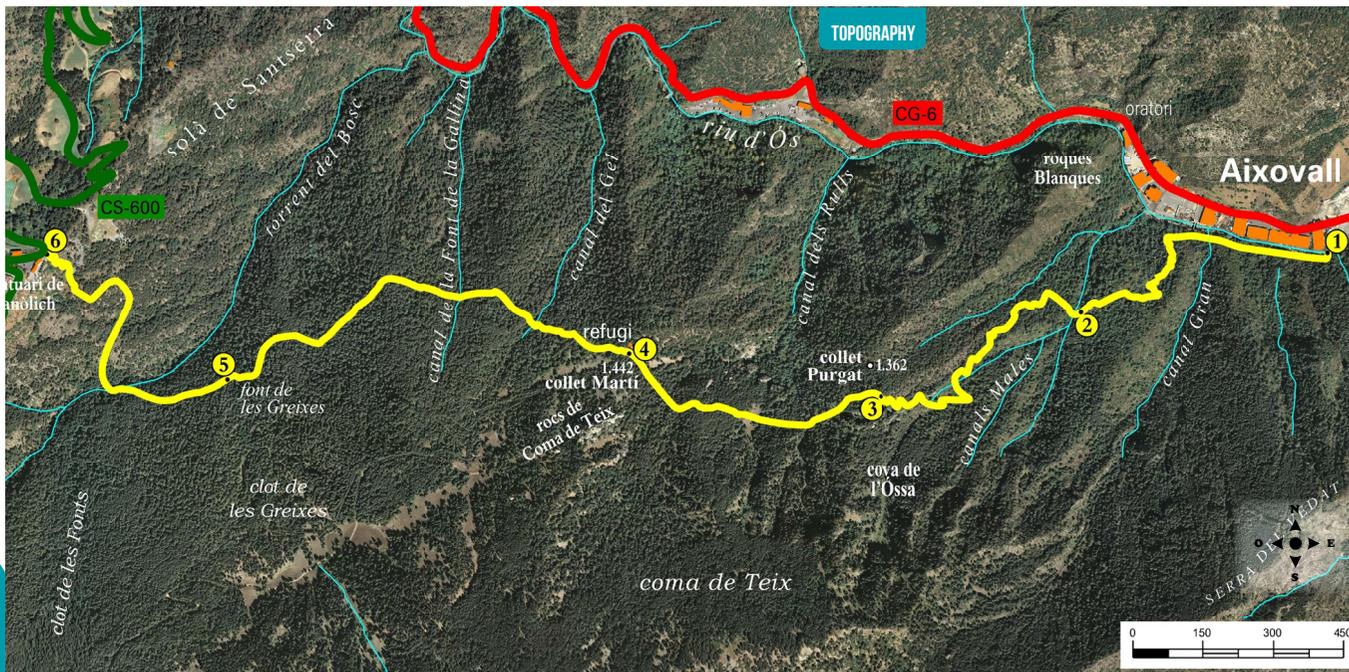
## 76. CAMÍ DE CANÒLICH

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- ● ● ●
- 2H 45 MIN
- 1H 30 MIN
- +645 M
- 50 M
- 3.700 M
- NO\*
- APPROXIMATE TIME

### ROUTE SIGNAGE

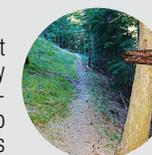
- ● ●
- WRONG DIRECTION



PLACE	ALTITUDE	DISTANCE ASCENT/DESCENT	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
<b>1</b> AIXOVALL (CG-6 KM 0,2) IN FRONT OF THE WATER TANK	930 m	-- (--)	--	N42 28.316 E1 29.077	To reach the starting point, take the CG-6 road until kilometre 0.2, on the left you'll see the starting point for this route, after having crossed a small bridge over the River Os.
<b>2</b> ELS MENERS FOUNTAIN	1.115 m	470 m (+165 m)	30'	N42 28.427 E1 28.752	The route follows the yellow dots along a stretch that climbs steeply through a Scots pine forest.
<b>3</b> PURGAT PASS	1.390 m	1.170 m (+275 m)	1h 10'	N42 28.328 E1 28.442	Continue ascending up a steep incline in the middle of the forest with the help of some well cut wooden steps.
<b>4</b> MARTÍ PASS	1.440 m	1.900 m (+50 m)	1h 50'	N42 28.373 E1 28.050	The rise continues to be quite demanding and then levels until you come to a small pass, where you'll find a fountain and a mountain refuge. This is a rather pleasant stretch with open views over the valley.



PLACE	ALTITUDE	DISTANCE ASCENT/DESCENT	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
<b>5</b> INTERSEC- TION OF EL SOLÀ PATH AND L'AVETAR PATH	1.390 m	2.960 m (-50 m)	2h 20'	N42 28.339 E1 27.424	Once past the pass, you'll make a slight descent and come to a flat and surprisingly beautiful stretch in a rather humid environment populated with fir trees. You'll come to the intersection and follow the path that goes level to the right, heading toward Canòlich.
<b>6</b> SANCTUARY OF CANÒLICH	1.635 m	3.700 m (+155 m)	2h 45'	N42 28.480 E1 27.142	Continue walking over level ground until you cross the stream and go back up the sunny side until you arrive at the destination, the sanctuary of Canòlich, a pretty location with wonderful views of the parish of Sant Julià de Lòria.



### ROUTE PROFILE



\*You can return by following the same route in the opposite direction, or by providing for a vehicle in the destination area and using it to return down the Canòlich road.