

02 THE GALL PATH

DON'T MISS...

going ice skating in the Palau de Gel d'Andorra, where you can also enjoy ice karting.

DID YOU KNOW?

The capercaillie, a protected animal, is a relic of the last ice age and has gradually found itself cornered in the highest parts of the forest massifs across most of the Pyrenees for climatic reasons.

TOPONYMY

Canillo:
From the Latin *cana-canae*, meaning "white".
Ribaescorjada:
From the Latin *ripa*, a word designating a riverbank.

HIKING IN ANDORRA



Alpine pasqueflower
(*Anemone alpina*)

Sheep's bit
(*Jasione montana*)

This easy hike begins in the village of Canillo, located on the shady side of the Valira d'Orient valley. Although it covers a distance of 7 kilometres, the incline is very low, making for an ideal hike to do with the family.

Leaving Canillo at 1,530 metres altitude, after about a hundred metres difference in elevation, you'll arrive at the Canal path, at 1,640 metres altitude. Without losing hardly any altitude you'll head for the Ransol dam.

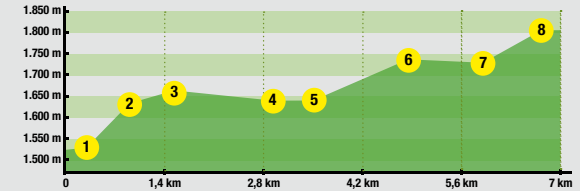
The route has signs pointing the way to different panoramic views, like that of the village of Canillo and its surroundings, or that of the church of Sant Joan de Caselles and La Cabaneta peak, among others. You'll be able to make several stops along the way (9 *exactly*) where you can

see different forms of vegetation such as Scots pine (*Pinus silvestris*), alpenrose (*Rhododendron ferrugineum*), bearberries (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), dandelions (*Taraxacum pyrenaicum*), beard lichens (*Usnea barbata*), alpine pasqueflowers and sheep's bit.

As for wildlife, keep in mind that it is difficult to observe it directly, although you may be able to detect its presence through different signals such as food scraps, droppings or the tracks of animals such as the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), the squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*), the raven (*Corvus corax*) or the capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), which is found in the forests of the parish and has come to symbolise this route. You may also hear the singing of various types of birds.



ROUTE PROFILE



*You can return by following the same route or by bus.

DATA SHEET

- 2H 20 MIN
- 2H 20 MIN
- +285 M
- 15 M
- 5.860 M
- NO*
- APPROXIMATE WALKING TIMES

ROUTE SIGNPOSTING



LOCATION	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
1 CANILLO PATH STARTING POINT 1.535 m	-- (--)	--	N42 33.955 E1 36.016	The route begins at the entrance of the car park for the Canillo gondola lift, where you'll find a large wooden sign with all information on the route. We can also start the excursion in the village of Soldeu.
2 TERRES DEL CASADET 1.630 m	910 m (+95 m)	20'	N42 34.063 E1 36.373	Follow the track about 150 metres until, under the gondola lift, you come to the first path, which continues to the right and increases in slope. Continue and you'll find a wooden bridge and a tunnel; soon afterward you'll come to Terres del Casadet.
3 SEIG RIVER 1.655 m	1.530 m (+25 m)	40'	N42 34.186 E1 36.720	Now the path becomes narrower and you come to an intersection between the Ribaesconjada path and the Aina path, which descends to the CG-2. Soon you'll be able to enjoy a viewpoint with a vista of the huts of El Vilar and the Seig river.
4 HUTS 1.645 m	3.000 m (-10 m)	1h	N42 34.475 E1 37.586	The path crosses the river, and soon you'll see the Vall del Riu waterfall viewpoint and a path going down to the CG-2. Next you'll pass by a cave shelter. About 500 metres past this, you'll see some transmission towers and La Mandurana forest. Go straight ahead on the Ribaesconjada path toward the huts.

LOCATION	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
5 TIBETAN BRIDGE 1.645 m	3.850 m (0 m)	1h 20'	N42 34.663 E1 38.092	You can reach the huts by taking the third exit of the CG-2. The path continues level. Soon there is a pronounced slope until Les Marrades, where we come upon a dry stone wall and reach the Tibetan bridge.
6 EL TARTER TRAIL 1.735 m	5.050 m (+90 m)	1h 40'	N42 34.604 E1 38.891	About 350 metres onward lies the Ransol dam and exit no. 4 to the CG-2. The path sticks close to the road and suddenly gains altitude and passes by some scree. You'll soon pass under a gondola lift and cross a ski slope. The path continues upward for about 100 metres (see sign).
7 EL COLLART BRIDGE 1.730 m	6.040 m (-5 m)	2h	N42 34.575 E1 39.529	The path zig-zags until you cross the slope. You'll cross one last ski slope and a picnic area. Continue past the Avetar river and the El Collart canal. The path loses incline as you near the El Collart bridge, where you'll cross the Valira d'Orient river.
8 SOLDEU 1.805 m	6.900 m (+75 m)	2h 20'	N42 34.663 E1 39.777	You'll gain altitude until coming to a road where exit no. 5 heads to the CG-2. The path skirts some private property and you arrive at El Palinqueró. Once you hit the road, there will be a bus stop about 200 meters on the right that you can use to return to Canillo.

