

17 ELS AGOLS REFUGE AND PEAK

DON'T MISS...

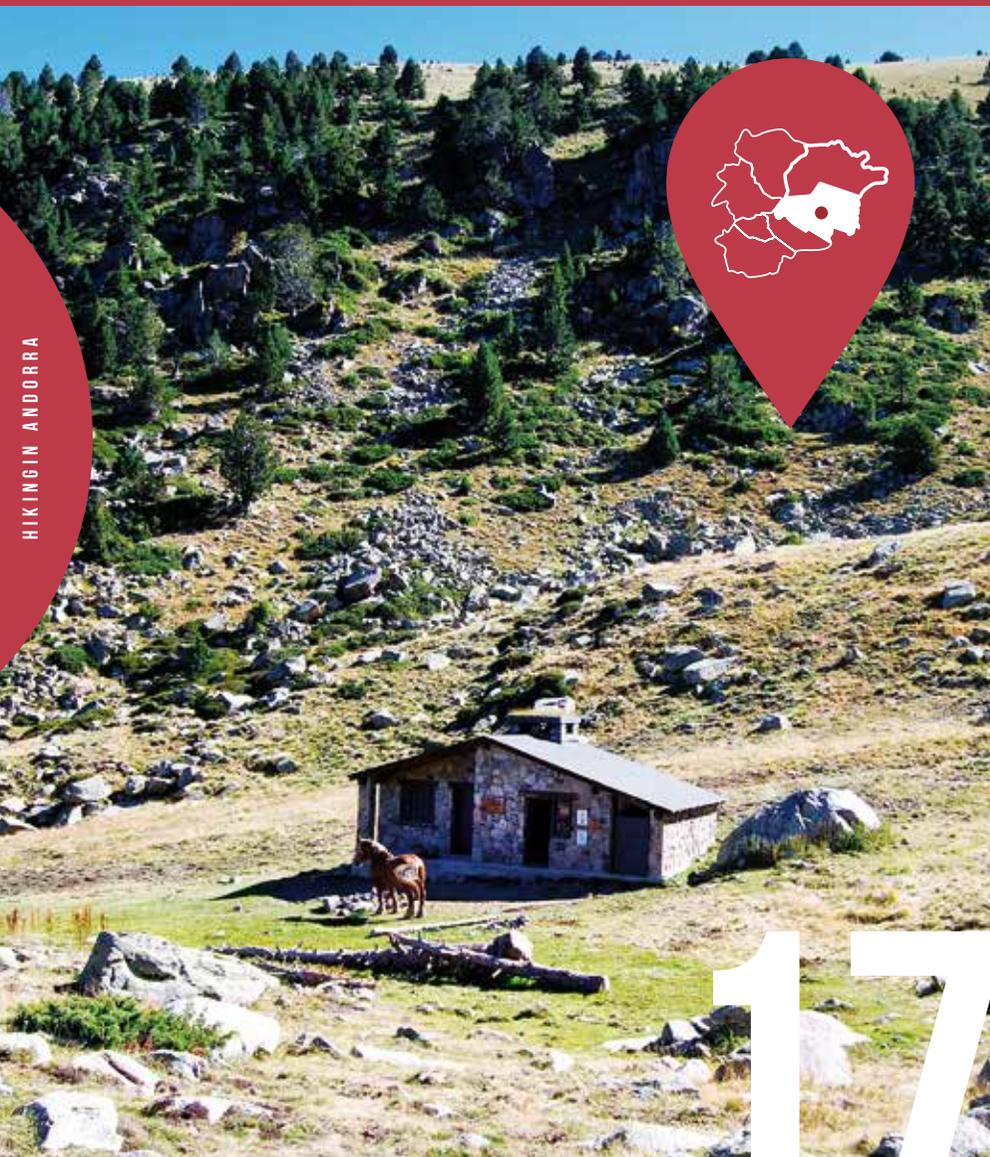
the viewpoint in L'Allau forest, 50 metres from the new church of Sant Jaume dels Cortals. This viewpoint is fully integrated into forest of mountain pine and oak.

DID YOU KNOW?

the Agols refuge is one of the 29 refuges found in Andorra and has capacity for 6 people. There is water nearby, and the refuge is located at 2,231 meters above sea level.

TOPONYMY

Agols: Local plural variant of the word *aigual*, meaning "swamp" or "pond".



Blau lake



Globeflower
(*Trollius europaeus*)



Buttercup
(*Ranunculus pyrenaicus*)



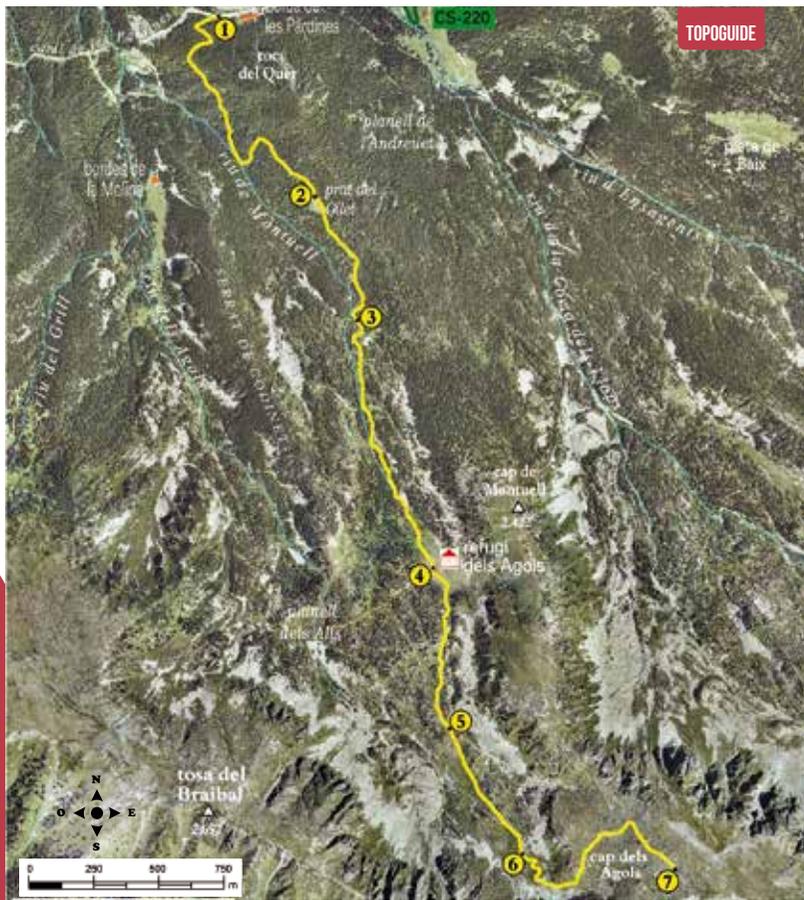
Red fox
(*Vulpes vulpes*)

This route goes through a very beautiful, forested area typical of Andorra. The dominant tree throughout the route is the mountain pine (*Pinus uncinata*), but you can also find a deciduous tree, the mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*). This elegant and thick tree produces a small red berry that is part of the diet of local foxes. For this reason it has received the name *moxiera de guilla*, which means "fox berry" in Catalan.

Arriving at the refuge, on a beautiful high plateau you'll be able to see a wide range of colours coming from many different species of flowers. There is the globeflower (*Trollius europaeus*), with its brilliant yellow colour, the fragile and spectacular monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*), the kingcup (*Caltha palustris*), which grows along riverbanks with yellow-orange petals and finally the stemless gentian (*Gentiana acaulis*), with no stem and a captivating blue tone.

ENCAMP

17. ELS AGOLS REFUGE AND PEAK



TOPOGUIDE

DATA SHEET

- ● ● ●
- 3H 15 MIN
- 2H
- +1.030 M
- 5.370 M
- NO
- APPROXIMATE WALKING TIMES

ROUTE SIGNPOSTING

- ● ●
- LANDMARKS
- WRONG WAY

LOCATION HEIGHT	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
1 STARTING POINT 1.635 m	-- (-)	--	N42 31.811 E1 35.912	Take the CS-220 road toward Els Cortals. Carry on until the 3 km mark, and then turn right at the intersection and follow the signs to Engolasters lake. You'll reach a car park, and from here you'll continue on foot for a small stretch of road until you reach a metal gate that marks the beginning of the Les Pardines path. After 30 metres or so, you'll see a path going up to the left. Follow the directions to the Els Agols refuge.
2 EL GILET MEADOW 1.920 m	1.250 m (+285 m)	1h	N42 31.439 E1 36.188	The path heads quite straight through the El Quer forest and starts ascending on the left of Montuella river. You'll come to an intersection with a path going left, in the opposite direction of El Feritxet. Leave this path and continue up a bit until you reach El Gilet meadow.



LOCATION HEIGHT	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
3 INTERSECTION 2.030 m	1.860 m (+1410 m)	1h 15'	N42 31.184 E1 36.311	Pass by the path on the right leading to the huts of La Molina and continue toward the Els Agols refuge. From this point, the path rises gently until you come to an intersection with a wooden sign.
4 ELS AGOLS REFUGE 2.230 m	3.060 m (+200 m)	1h 50'	N42 30.672 E1 36.530	The path continues southward, always following the banks of the Montuella river. Stay on the Montuella path, which goes through forested areas and clearings until finally coming to the Els Agols refuge.
5 LONELY PINE TREE 2.355 m	3.750 m (+125 m)	2h 10'	N42 30.340 E1 36.581	Follow the path that continues heading left, above the refuge. From here the path is not very well marked, and it is important to stay aware and follow the marks and landmarks that you see. Shortly afterward, you'll see a lonely pine tree in the middle of the path.
6 LAND-MARK 2.425 m	4.340 m (+70 m)	2h 25'	N42 30.082 E1 36.790	Once out of the forest, the path heads south along the bottom of the valley. If you look on your right, you'll have an impressive view of El Braibal hill. You cross a marshy area and then come to the next stretch of the route, where you'll see a landmark letting you know that you are on the right track.
7 ELS AGOLS PEAK 2.665 m	5.370 m (+240 m)	3h 15'	N42 30.052 E1 37.221	The path continues gradually upward until it reaches 2,450 metres. From this point, it goes up through a zone with some scree until you reach Els Agols peak. You'll see an impressive esplanade where you can enjoy some panoramic views of the country's mountains. If you hike southward, you'll see Blau lake just below and the Madriu valley above.



ROUTE PROFILE

