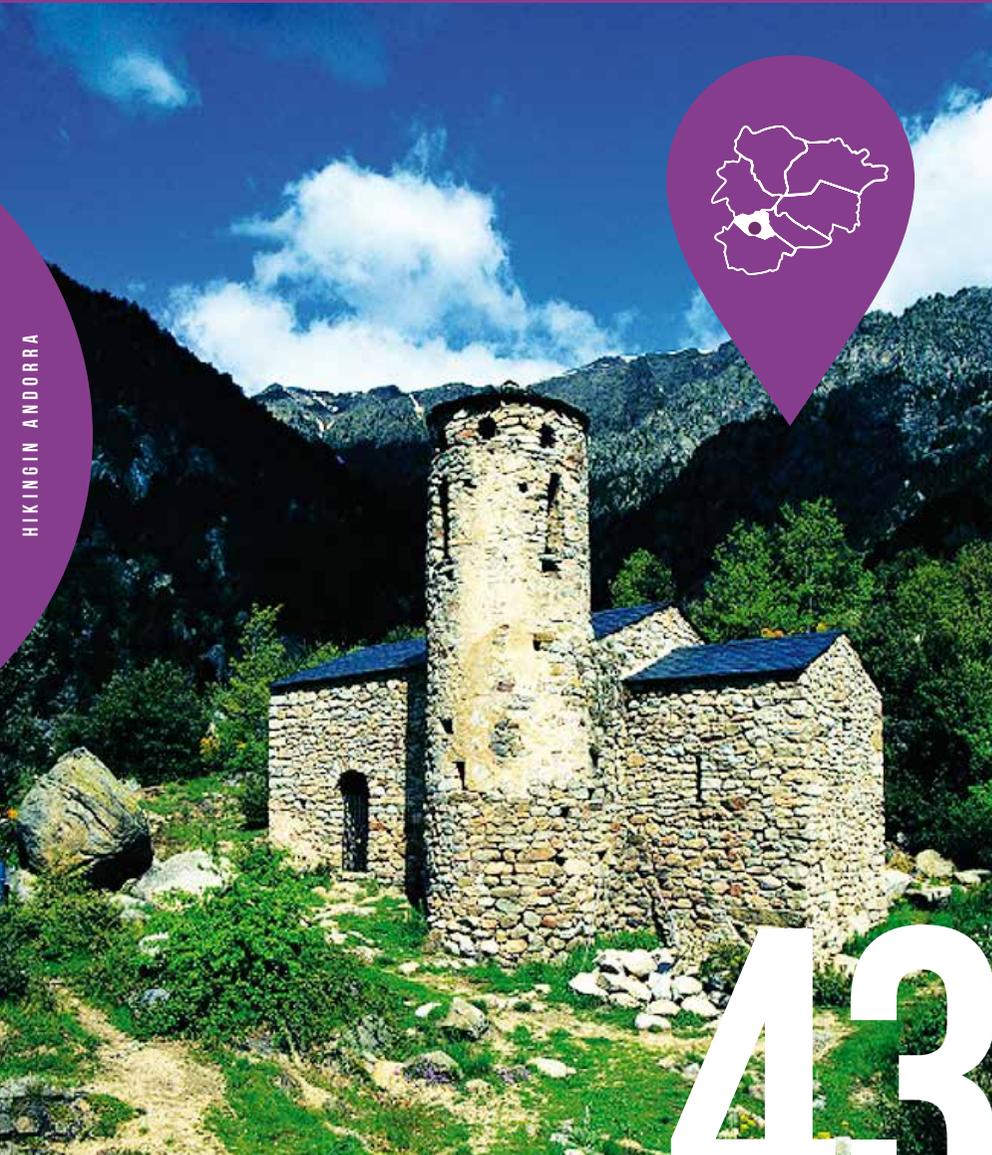


# 43 ROUTE THROUGH THE ENCLAR VALLEY

## (TO THE PRATS DEL PAQUETAIRE)

HIKING IN ANDORRA



# 43

### DON'T MISS...

The visit to Sant Vicenç d'Enclar, at the very top of the plateau, is part of the Roc d'Enclar Archaeological Park, this is a strategic location for viewing the entire valley. The area was inhabited by people since the Early Bronze Age until the late 18th century, highlighting the fact that it is home to the oldest temple in the country. The different excavations have provided in-depth knowledge of the occupation of the Roc. It's walls have unveiled the only evidence of Muslim occupation within the entire Principality.

### DID YOU KNOW?

That the Roc d'Enclar archaeological site and continuing along the valley floor which crosses the Valira river until Margineda, is home to the largest concentration of sites of cultural interest in Andorra. Several different paths will allow you to relive the most relevant milestones of our history, all the way from the Palaeolithic period up until current times.

### TOPONYMY

**Enclar:** If the etymology of this word is Latin, from *claru*, "that which lets itself be seen well", it generally means "peeled" in the names of mountainous areas and may be of Celtic etymology.



Chamois  
(*Rupicapra rupicapra*)



Com d'aigua. Water spring



Scree



Path

The Enclar valley route starts off from the town of Santa Coloma. The starting point, where there is a table and bench, is surrounded by elders (*Sambucus nigra*), wild cherry trees (*Prunus avium*) and elmleaf blackberries (*Rubus ulmifolius*). Visitors will often come across the typical fauna of the areas close-by the urban centres such as the Eurasian crag martin (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*), the common swift (*Apus apus*), the black redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*) and the European serin (*Serinus serinus*). The path climbs meandering among Scots pine trees (*Pinus sylvestris*), evergreen oaks (*Quercus ilex*) and downy oaks (*Quercus pubescens*). The undergrowth consists of common box (*Buxus sempervires*) and snowy mespilus (*Amelanchier ovalis*). Among the stones there are many Iberian wall lizards (*Podarcis hispanica*) and common wall lizards (*Podarcis muralis*).

The Enclar path is one of the best places to watch the large birds of prey, especially during

the migration season, given that there are reasonably open areas of granite torrents, providing glimpses of black kites (*Milvus migrans*), griffon vultures (*Gyps fulvus*), etc. As the trail gains altitude, you will see more downy oaks (*Quercus pubescens*) accompanied by the European fly honeysuckle (*Lonicera xylosteum*). On the Sant Vicenç hill you will find the path that leads to the church of the same name, hidden among lime trees and privets, a bush with leaves that are quite similar to olive leaves. The more humid areas are home to the common horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). At dawn and dusk it is easy to come across a few roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*) and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*). The Enclar valley is the area with the largest population of ungulates in the entire country. If the visit reaches this area very early or late in the day, you will surely get a glimpse of this specimen. Or you can always try to find traces of them, such as tracks or excrements.

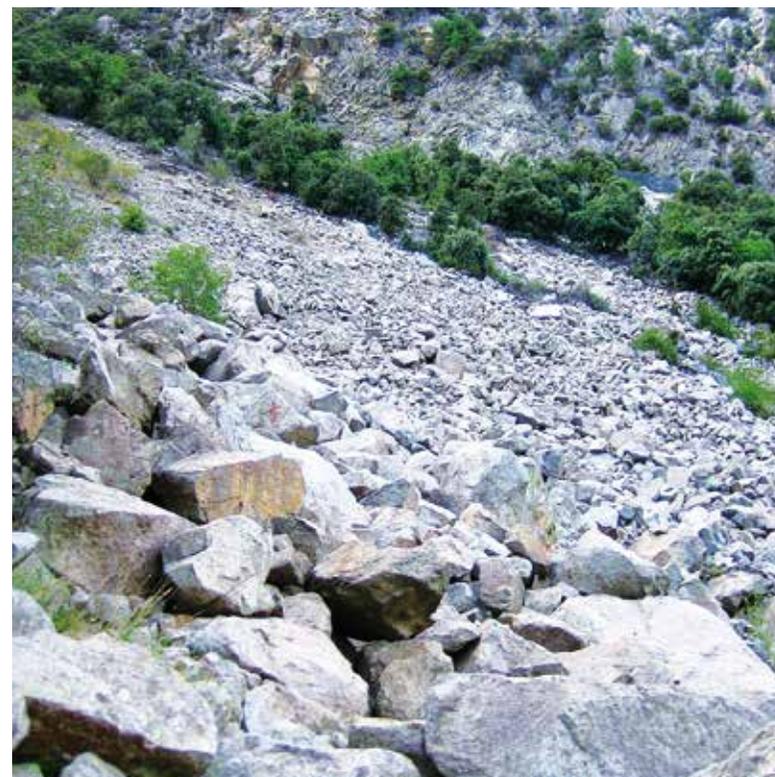
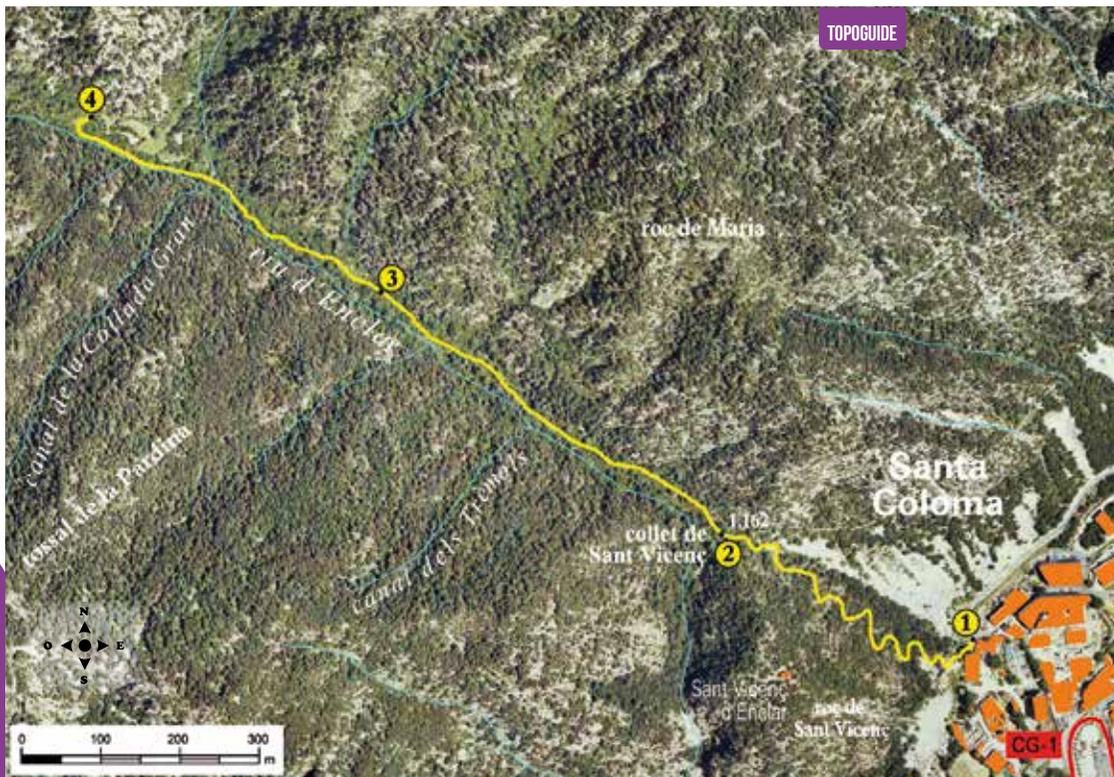
### DATA SHEET

-    
-  1H 10 MIN
-  1H
-  +380 M
-  1.720 M
-  NO\*

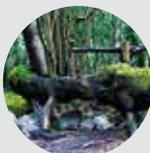
 APPROXIMATE WALKING TIMES

### ROUTE SIGNPOSTING

-   
-  WRONG WAY



LOCATION HEIGHT	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
<b>1</b> CARRER DELS BARRERS 985 m	-- (--)	--	N42 29.769 E1 29.799	Leaving from the car park next to Santa Coloma church and heading towards the bottom of the Enclar valley on the inside of the Prat Condal building, where you'll pass by a sculpture by the Canadian artists Dam de Nogales. Moving on to the higher part of the park that borders the Ral path, you'll come to Carrer dels Barrers and at the end of this street you'll reach the climb to the valley.
<b>2</b> SANT VICENÇ HILL 1.166 m	620 m (+181 m)	25'	N42 29.838 E1 29.566	The path climbs making detours around the scree, protected from the area at risk of falling rocks, until reaching the hill.
<b>3</b> COM D'AIGUA WATER SPRING 1.265 m	1.300 m (+99 m)	45'	N42 29.999 E1 29.250	From the Sant Vicenç hill, you continue walking while heading into the Enclar valley, following the path with the same name. The trail gradually gains altitude along the bottom of the valley and leads to a water spring where there are remains of a farm building, evidence of the people that used to live in the valley.



LOCATION HEIGHT	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
<b>4</b> PRAT D'ENCLAR 1.365 m	1.720 m (+100 m)	1h 10'	N42 30.116 E1 28.982	The path continues climbing at a comfortable pace along the valley until reaching Prat d'Enclar, where you come across another two farm buildings and several terraces with dry stone walls.



\*You can return by following the same route.

### ROUTE PROFILE

