

Route 1. FROM ELS HOSTALETS TO SANT ESTEVE

Fact sheet:

Difficulty: Low

Distance travelled: 3,800 m

Highest and lowest points: 499 and 477 m

Duration: 1 h 10 min

Route:

- Park the car in the car park at the entrance of Els Hostalets village and head towards the high street, Teixeda. Continue to the end of the street and in front of the church turn right, following Vic street.
- Leave Els Hostalets behind and head along Parcel·lària road. A little further on from Can Bianya farm, take a farm path that you will find on your right, following the signs for Camí de Sant Jaume on a wooden plinth.
- Follow this path until you reach Can Benet, where you will find one of the bridges of Romanesque origin in La Vall d'en Bas and which was part of the ancient Olot-Vic road. Continue on the path up to Pomareda road, where you have to turn to the right. To reach the village of Sant Esteve you have to cross the C-153 Vic road.
- Once in Sant Esteve d'en Bas, we will enter the village via **Martins road**, opposite the park, where you will find the G79 Sant Esteve d'en Bas vertical post; continue to the right in the direction signposted as Hostalets d'en Bas 35 min, via the passage to **the train track**. From this point on and until you reach Els Hostalets you can follow the yellow painted marks of the Itinerànnia trail network. Pass the Riudaura river via the Cau bridge, which retains the characteristics that bear witness to its Romanesque origin.
- You will see that the sand trail is cut off by a road, which you have to cross via the path on the left. Rejoin the sand trail that will now border the immense Cau house.
- When you come across an asphalted road, cross it and continue along a grass path until you reach the Can Pere Petit house. Once there, you have to cross the road to reach Els Hostalets d'en Bas.

On the left you will find the monuments dedicated to the farming family and to Francesc de Verntallat.

- Follow the pavement that passes round the side of the village football field until you reach the parking lot where you started the tour.

Notes:

- Ideal to do with the family.

- The first part is not signposted, the way back from Sant Esteve d'en Bas to Els Hostalets is indicated with yellow painted signs of the Itinerànnia trail network.

- To follow this route you can download the mobile Itinerànnia application for free.

The attractions of the route

Walking from Els Hostalets to Sant Esteve is one of the best ways to discover the spirit of La Vall d'en Bas. Although there are many other corners, this itinerary has all the ingredients that give this area its personality.

Els Hostalets d'en Bas is one of the most charming towns in our region, with its wooden balconies, where every spring there is strong competition to see who can show off the best geraniums.

Along a practically flat path we will come to Sant Esteve d'en Bas ("en Bas", in the local parlance), with its steep, narrow streets. The plain is dominated by roads and paths amongst a mosaic of colourful crops depending on the seasons, the old Romanesque-origin bridges, the winding Fluvià river between the fertile lands that were deposited on the bottom of the old lake, the riverside forest, the omnipresent Puigsacalm and the mountain ranges surrounding it.

The suggested itinerary forms a circuit and returns on itself via another path that shows other sides of the same area, but the visitor will see that it is easy to find their way and also other route alternatives in an area that, albeit greatly explored, still maintains characteristics that match what we look for in a park or in spaces designed for leisure.

Throughout the entire route you will see small typical farm houses and large country houses scattered amongst the fields.