

## ITINERÀNNIA, NETWORK OF TRAILS

"Itinerànnia" is a network of trails, with over 2,500 kilometres between the neighbouring regions of "Ripollès", "Garrotxa" and "Alt Empordà".

A network of hiking trails is like a road map, but with footpaths, allowing the hiker to get from any one point to another.

It retrieves the old historic roads between the villages to reach many small places.

The network offers many different hikes depending on the time or difficulty and your interests over nature, architecture or culture. Each route that we propose is just a little taste of an extensive network of trails that you can walk to discover the Ripollès, Garrotxa and Alt Empordà counties.

## THE SIGNS

All the trails of the network are marked regularly over the paths with horizontal painted yellow signs.



The marks are placed approximately every 300 metres painted on tree's bark, stones or using and other medium already deployed in the area.

In the cross roads you will find signposts indicating the nearest four villages in each direction with time information. (a maximum of 6 hours)

If the same village or town appears more than once on different signs of the same signpost, you will need to read the description below the town. If there is no description below the place name then you are looking at the shortest route to the town or village. If the indication says "Per..." (I.e via) it means that this is a longer alternative route to get to the same place.

Each signpost has a small plaque that shows the name of the place where it is located, the altitude and the UTM coordinates.

You will find information boards with a map of the county's trails in every village or city integrating the network.



+INFO:  
[www.itinerannia.net](http://www.itinerannia.net)  
[www.elripolles.com](http://www.elripolles.com)

In the Ripollès county you will find 18 touch screens located in different towns containing tourist information.

Aquesta actuació està subvencionada pel Servei d'Ocupació de Catalunya en el marc del Projecte "Treball a les 4 Comarques" i cofinançada pel Fons Social Europeu.

**ITINERÀNNIA**  
 XARXA DE SENDERS  
 Ripollès - Garrotxa - Alt Empordà



ENG



FROM NÚRIA TO QUERALBS THROUGH PASTURE FIELDS AND OLD MINING ROADS



High



5h. 45min.

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# FROM NÚRIA TO QUERALBS THROUGH PASTURE FIELDS AND OLD MINING ROADS



The route begins in the valley of Núria. From its Sanctuary head towards the lake going along its right bank and passing by the chapel of "Sant Gil". Once you arrive at the **R113** sign **Creu d'en Riba** turn to your right towards Queralbs through Fontalba and "Collet de les Barraques". From here the zigzag path steeply climbs up to afterwards get flatter above the valley. You will pass along the "Coma de les Perdius" and "Coma de Gombren", where you will see the remains of old shepherd's huts.

After a short climb you will leave Núria's valley behind to enter into Fontalba's valley. You are now on the hillside of the Puigmal peak, and the path goes along its width glacial valley while crossing the Puigmal stream. All over the hillside you can see many water springs. Once on the other side of the valley and after crossing the stream, the path climbs gently towards "Collada de Fontalba". Shortly before the car park, the path turns uphill to your right taking you above the river Freser valley. From this point the views are jaw-dropping, towards the East, the twin Torreneules peaks and Balandrau peak dominate the Freser's gorges. Towards the South, "Serra Cavallera" range, the Taga peak, "Sant Amand" and the "Serra d'Estremera" range.

The path gently starts going downhill while surrounding the southern slopes of "Puig de la Dou" mountain. In summer it is usual to find livestock in this area. You must be careful and follow the yellow and white marks as there are many different livestock paths in the area. You have to cross the "Collet d'Estevenis" pass, then pass by the Mantegosa hut and finally descend rapidly to the Estremera stream. Cross the stream by a wooden lever and you will arrive at the "Font de l'Home Mort" spring.

On the other side of the stream you will see the end of a track. Leave the marked trail for a while and follow the track downhill for 1,800 meters until arriving at the signs of the Saragossa mine. This iron and arsenic mine is the highest in the area. To carry downhill the minings a pair of aerial cables were installed and a four and a half kilometres wagons road was built. From here, the route mostly follows the same path that followed the extracted ore in the old busy days.

Leave the track to rapidly descend towards the bottom of the valley following a windy little path.

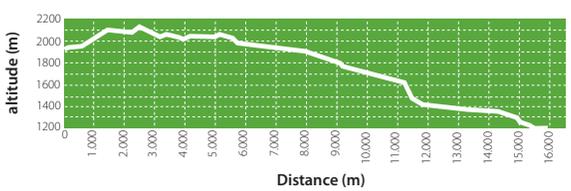
Cross the stream by a metal bridge and on the other side you will arrive at the end of the wagons road that coincided with the lower station of the aerial cable. Follow the wagons road gradually narrowing above the valley. Little by little the valley opens up and the path widens. Just before crossing a stream by a bridge you will see the red and white marks of the GR (a GR is a long distance hike).

You have to follow the marks until Queralbs. The track keeps descending and while taking some shortcuts you will soon enter Queralbs passing by its Romanesque church of **Sant Jaume de Queralbs, R115** sign. Go down by the church street passing by the main square and finally following Pla street you will arrive at the **Plaça del Raig, R114** sign, the end of the route. You can optionally return to Núria with the rack railway from Queralbs.

- ITINERÀNNIA NETWORK
- ROUTE
- ROAD-TRAIL
- RIVER
- TOURIST SERVICES (see website)
- VERTICAL SIGNPOSTS OF THE NETWORK

## SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- Time:** 5h. 45min.
- Total distance:** 16 km
- Highest altitude:** 2.156m above sea level (Serrat de la Fita)
- Lowest altitude:** 1.202m above sea level (Plaça del Raig de Queralbs)
- Accumulative slope ascent:** 267 m
- Accumulative slope descent:** 1025 m
- Difficulty:** High (Not recommended in winter considering the amount of snow and the difficulties to follow the marks)



**JUST TO PERSUADE YOU:**  
*A hike mostly through high mountain areas with spectacular views over the mountains surrounding the valley of Núria and the upper Freser valley, and towards the south, with splendid views over Taga peak and Serra Cavallera mountain range. On its last stretch the route follows old mining roads bringing you closer to some remains of this important activity.*

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