

03 LAKE JUCLÀ

DON'T MISS...

a visit to the Sanctuary of Meritxell, built by the architect Ricard Bofill. The sanctuary has three towers: the Coprínceps tower, the Consell General tower and the Canillo tower, with many narrow and elongated windows.

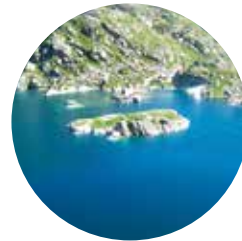
DID YOU KNOW?

on the path between Prats and Meritxell, you'll find the "Creu dels set braços" ("Seven-armed cross"), a 16th-century Gothic cross linked with the legend of the same name.

TOPONYMY

Juclà:
Clar, from the Latin *claru*, "bare massif, without trees". As for the prefix *ju-*, it might seem to come from the archaic form *jus-*, "under". In reality, the entire county is under the heights of Juclà.

HIKING IN ANDORRA



First Juclà lake



Buttercups
(*Ranunculus lanuginosus*)



Second Juclà lake



Alpine clover
(*Trifolium alpinum*)

Juclà lake is in northeastern Andorra, in the parish of Canillo. With a surface area of 120.76 km², it is the first parish in order of protocol, and the largest in Andorra.

Framed by Siscaró peak and Escobes peak, the route to Juclà begins in the same valley as other routes in this guide: Incles valley, of ice age origin. This lake, with 21,3 Ha, its deep blue waters, is the largest in Andorra and the perfect place for a magnificent day of hiking. All types of hikers can enjoy it. There are climbing walls for experts and easy-access hikes for children and families.

It is important to note that this route also takes you to the Juclà refuge, which was restored in

2009 to turn it into a full accommodation refuge with capacity for 45 people. The facilities are very modern and have adopted the latest developments in terms of lighting, hot water, waste disposal, hygiene, etc.

As for wildlife, you may spot the Pyrenean brook salamander (*Euproctus asper*), which can only live in pristine waters, or an Egyptian vulture (*Neophron pernopterus*) may fly overhead. Plants you'll see may include the buttercup (*Ranunculus lanuginosus*), alpine pasqueflower (*Anemone alpina*) and alpine clover (*Trifolium alpinum*), among others.



DATA SHEET

- 2H 10 MIN
- 1H 40 MIN
- +465 M
- 4.570 M
- NO
- APPROXIMATE WALKING TIMES

ROUTE SIGNPOSTING

- GRP
- WRONG WAY

LOCATION	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
1 BRIDGE BALADOSA	-- (--)	--	N42 36.122 E1 41.224	This is one of the best hikes in Andorra, as it allows you to ascend to the largest lake in the country. After following the narrow Incles valley road (3 km) and past the Baladosa bridge, you'll find a car park and the starting point.
2 EL TRAVENC INTERSECTION	840 m (+85 m)	20'	N42 36.075 E1 41.771	After crossing the Incles river, you'll follow the forest trail. The path starts with a slight slope surrounded by dry stone walls, mountain pine and alpenrose, which are in full bloom in the month of July. Without much effort, you'll come to the El Travenc intersection (see signs).
3 WOODEN BRIDGE OVER JUCLÀ RIVER	2.090 m (+205 m)	50'	N42 36.177 E1 42.468	The path continues to the left. After a few metres you'll reach the bridge and a picnic area. The path climbs up the sunny side, surrounded by broom shrubs. Next, you'll cross the river again over a walkway.
4 JUCLÀ LIVESTOCK PEN	2.680 m (+105 m)	1h 20'	N42 36.209 E1 42.734	The path soon passes over blocks of gneiss that form steps. As you walk further from the river, the incline becomes steeper until you reach the Juclà livestock pen, where the path goes level again.

LOCATION	DISTANCE DROP	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
5 FIRST JUCLÀ LAKE	3.480 m (+70 m)	1h 45'	N42 36.478 E1 42.960	Next, cross the Juclà river again. A few metres afterward, you'll find a new weather station. The path will pass over some more blocks of gneiss before you arrive at the largest lake in Andorra. A few metres to the southeast stands the new Juclà refuge, with full accommodation from mid-June to mid-September and capacity for 45 people. Another part, open all year round, has capacity for 6 people. Food and drinks are served there.
6 SECOND JUCLÀ LAKE	4.570 m (+0 m)	2h 10'	N42 36.564 E1 43.409	From the refuge, do not take the path marked with yellow dots. After crossing the lake, you should descend with the help of a handrail, which is very useful when the ground is wet or iced over. Continue descending to the second Juclà lake.

ROUTE PROFILE

