



en

ANDORRA

 **Andorra**
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Acknowledgements:

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06

Identity card

08

Brief history

11

Geography, climate
and nature

15

Leisure, sports
and health

25

Culture

29

Tourist bus

30

Traditions, festivities
and celebrations

32

Shopping

34

Gastronomy

39

Accommodation

42

Transport

46

Business
tourism

49

Tourism in
parishes

57

Practical
information





A visit **to the Principality of Andorra** is a unique experience. We invite you to discover our country, in the heart of the Pyrenees. This **area of outstanding natural beauty** offers numerous outdoor leisure possibilities and is one of the most attractive of the 468 km² that make up our state. Get ready for a unique experience during your stay in Andorra!

MORE THAN JUST LANDSCAPES

Although nature and spectacular landscapes are an important part of this country, Andorra is much more than just that. A thousand-year-old history **has left us** a rich cultural and artistic heritage in the form of monuments and Romanesque art, as well as various festivals and celebrations. There are several cultural itineraries and museums to help you get a real feel for Andorra.

Andorra is of course also a very modern country. Andorra is the perfect place to enjoy excellent food, high quality hotels and more than 2,000 shops with top brand products. Get ready to discover all that Andorra has to offer!

06 Identity card



Location:

Eastern Pyrenees, between France (Ariège) and Spain (Catalonia).

Area: 468 km²

- 8% urbanised and farmed
- 92% forests, lakes, rivers, mountains

Capital: Andorra la Vella

Population: 86,610 inhabitants*

Average age: 40 years*

*2022 census

Official language

While **the official language of Andorra is Catalan**, there is a diverse range of nationalities living in the country. As a result, Spanish, French and Portuguese are all widely spoken.

Administrative structure

The country is divided into **7 parishes** - and these are Andorra's local authorities: Canillo, Encamp, Ordino, La Massana, Andorra la Vella, Sant Julià de Lòria and Escaldes-Engordany. These are managed by the town councils.



Casa de la Vall, former Parliament of Andorra, Andorra la Vella



Religion

The Andorran Constitution establishes religious freedom, but Catholicism is the most widely practised religion in the country.

Economy

Andorra's economy is mainly based on trade and tourism, which account for 60% of the total. Finance is Andorra's third economic axis.

Official currency

The official currency of Andorra is the euro. Credit cards are widely accepted.

Political system

Andorra has a one-of-a-kind political system, as it is **a parliamentary coprincipality**. This means that it has **two Heads of State**, the Bishop of Urgell and the President of the French Republic, who represent the people jointly and equally. This form of government has its origin in the Middle Ages, as documents from this era known as *pareatges* prove.

In addition, the first written constitution of this country was signed in 1993, making the Principality a constitutional, democratic and social state. The members of its General Council are elected by popular vote every four years.

08 Brief history

A review of the main events that have marked the history of Andorra is a good way to help explain the historical importance of this country.

From prehistoric times to the pre-Roman period, the first inhabitants of Andorra settled in some local areas such as La Balma de La Margineda, El Cedre in Santa Coloma or El Antuix in Escaldes-Engordany.

Legend has it that in the **year 805 Charlemagne founded Andorra** to thank the inhabitants of these lands for their help in the struggle against the Saracens.

The first written mention of the existence of the parishes of Andorra as a fief of the Counts of Urgell was made in the act of consecration of the Cathedral of Santa Maria in Urgell in the middle of the 9th century.

In 1133, the bishop of Urgell was endowed with the rights to the valleys of Andorra that had hitherto been held by the Count of Urgell.

A century later, these rights would lead to fierce boundary disputes between the Counts of Foix and the Church. The solution to the situation was found when the paretges feudal charters establishing the shared sovereignty of the bishop of Urgell and the Count of Foix over the territory were signed in 1278 and 1288. The Principality of Andorra **was born**.

Andorra's first form of parliament, the **Consejo de la Tierra (Earth Council)**, was created in 1419 and brought together representatives of all the parishes.

In 1589, Henry, King of Navarre, Count of Foix, Viscount of Bearn and Lord of Andorra, became King of France and added his rights over the Principality to the French crown. This union was to survive the French Revolution when Napoleon re-established the feudal tradition and the rights of the French government over the Principality of Andorra.

Another important date for Andorra is 1866, when the **New Reform** that brought about



such important changes as allowing all heads of family the right to vote and increasing the power of the General Council was approved. However, it was not until 1933 that universal male suffrage was established - universal female suffrage did not emerge until 1970.

Also worth mentioning is the fact that in 1978, Escaldes-Engordany became the seventh parish in the country.

The Executive Council, the Government of Andorra, was also established in 1981, and its reforms culminated in the decision to **draw**

up a written constitution for the country. In any case, it was not until 14 March 1993 that Andorra's first constitution was signed, making it **an independent, constitutional, democratic and social State**, and redefining the powers of the institutions, while continuing to maintain the traditional co-principality form.

In 1993, **Andorra became a member of the UN**, thus gaining international recognition, and the following year it became a member of the Council of Europe.

www.visitandorra.com



Geography, climate and nature

Andorra is a mountainous country. Its skyline features 80 peaks, some of which are over 2,000 metres in height. **The highest mountain is Comapedrosa, which is 2942 meters high**, and the lowest is on the Runer River, which marks the border with Spain, and is 838 meters high. In fact, the average height of the Andorran mountain range is 1996 metres, making it one of the highest in Europe.

The rivers and lakes of Andorra are also **worth visiting**. The layout of the main river axes of the country - the Valira del Nord, the Valira d'Orient and the Gran Valira - shows its origins in the Quaternary period and also allows us to get to know the secondary rivers, on whose banks the main towns are located.

Another indispensable element of Andorran geography is its lakes. Of the more than 80 that you can find in these lands, Juclà, Tristaina and Pessons are some of the must-sees.

Lake **Juclà** is the largest lake in Andorra and covers an area of 21.3 hectares. Likewise, **Circ de Pessons** and the **lakes of Pessons** form an impressive landscape that is worth visiting. The cirque is of a granite glacial type and is surrounded by peaks nearly 2,800 metres above sea level, which makes the setting very majestic. There are also several lakes in the area with crystalline waters.

Andorra **has** a mountainous Mediterranean climate, with hot summers and cold winters with frequent snowfalls. The average minimum temperature is -2 °C and the maximum temperature is 24 °C. Most of the rainfall is between October and May.



The rich biodiversity that you can enjoy in this country is the result of the combination of this climate and its unique geographical features. Its **1500 species of flora and fauna** are distributed among the four types of vegetation that exist: Mediterranean, mountain, subalpine and alpine.

If you are interested in the plant world, in Andorra you will have the opportunity to discover Andorra's most emblematic flower, the poet's daffodil known locally as grandalla or Narcissus Poeticus.

The **grandalla** is considered the **national flower of Andorra**. It is dainty and grows in the mountain meadow grass in spring. It belongs to the family of daffodils and has a perennial buried bulb, from which long, flat leaves emerge, culminating in a solitary flower that opens vertically or with a slight inclination. Its central crown, light yellow and orange in colour, stands out between the pure white petals, forming a bright, perfectly symmetrical flower.

Andorra' flora is completed by **medicinal plants** (strawberry and holly), wild mushrooms (boletus, truffle and the fairy ring mushroom)

and a large number of trees and shrubs, such as hazelnut and boxwood.

In terms of **the abundant wildlife** in Andorra, in the highland areas, you can see chamois and river trout, in addition to the marmot, the Pallar lizard, the squirrel, the wild boar, the chamois and birds of prey such as the bearded vulture.

All this rich biological heritage of **Andorra has been protected** in various hunting and fishing reserves, as well as in its natural parks

The Comapedrosa Nature Reserve and the Sorteny Valley Nature Reserve are two protected areas created with a dual intention: firstly, to conserve ecosystems and, secondly, to make rational social use of them.

The Comapedrosa Nature Reserve offers numerous possibilities for hiking and high mountain routes. This means visitors can experience first-hand its impressive high mountain landscape of forests, lakes and waterfalls, as well as its native fauna and flora.

Several ecotourism routes are offered here in summer. You can also visit the interpretative circuit that is perfect for the whole family



and stay in its 3 mountain huts. One of them, Comapedrosa, is monitored and has a catering and accommodation service during the summer months.

This park also organises horse riding treks and, you can also try **geocaching**, a fun activity that involves **looking for hidden treasures with the help of a GPS**.

Furthermore, the **Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley** was declared a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO** in 2004 for its natural and cultural wealth. Efforts to maintain it in the best possible condition have resulted in it being the only area without road access.

If you like hiking and mountaineering, this valley offers you several hiking routes and high mountain huts, which will allow you to really explore the area and enjoy its amazing flora and fauna. You will also get to see the traditional restored shepherd's huts. One of its best known features is its cobbled path, which corresponds to certain sections of the GR7 and GR11.

These are by no means the only protected areas in the country. In the glacial **Incles valley**; the **Enclar valley**, part of the Green Belt project; the **Pessons cirque**; the **Tristaina valley**; the **Angonella valley**; and the **Old Trade Roads (Caminos de los Antiguos Oficios)** you can do various ecotourism tours with professional guides to discover the rich natural heritage of Andorra.



www.visitandorra.com

Department of Tourism and Environment
www.mediambient.ad

Sorteny Valley Nature Reserve
www.sorteny.ad - www.visitordino.com

Comapedrosa Nature Reserve
www.comapedrosa.ad
www.visitlamassana.ad

Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley
www.madriu-perafita-claror.ad

Pessons Cirque
www.encamp.ad

Green Belt Itinerary
www.andorralavella.ad

Old Trade Roads
www.santjulia.ad/turisme



**LET'S START A
BIG DAY**



ANDORRA

15

Leisure, sports and health

ENJOY OUR SKI SLOPES ALL YEAR ROUND

Andorra is **the perfect destination for snow lovers**. You can do different winter sports here (Alpine, Nordic or cross-country skiing, snowboarding, freestyle or freeride) and a range of outdoor activities with a partner, friends or family.

Grandvalira is a ski area found in the valleys of Canillo and Encamp and includes six sectors: Encamp, Canillo, El Tarter, Soldeu, Grau Roig and Pas de la Casa. There are also around 210 kilometres of pistes available for you to choose from.

The **Ordino Arcalís Grandvalira Resort** resort is found in the valleys of Ordino and features 30.5 kilometres of marked pistes and 422 hectares of off-piste area, which you can access using your Grandvalira ski pass.

Pal Arinsal Grandvalira Resort, in the La Massana Valley, is a ski area with two sectors, Pal and Arinsal, with 63 kilometres of pistes.

Do you prefer Nordic skiing? Naturland has 15 km of slopes in the Rabassa forest in Sant Julià de Lòria. It is the perfect place to do sports and, at the same time, enjoy nature as a family. Here you will find a snow slide, snowshoeing routes, snowmobiles and quads. Do you like thrills? Don't miss the Tobotronc, the world's longest alpine slide, 5.3 km long. Your best bet for unique experiences!



Zip-line (Grandvalira, Canillo section)



Best of all, you can also enjoy these Andorran ski resorts in the summer, which provide the perfect setting for **outdoor activities** such as adventure circuits, zip lines, mountain biking and electric cycling. If you are a fan of these trails, in Vallnord Bike Park you have numerous routes to choose from at different levels specially designed for mountain biking.

Also, these resorts offer two facilities that will be a must for you if you are a fan of snowboarding: Freeride Area and Snow Park.

In Arcalís, Naturland and Canillo you can also try your hand at orienteering and adventure activities.

**Pal Arinsal**

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Grandvalira

Tel. (+376) 891 810
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Ordino Arcalís

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Naturland

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www.naturland.ad



SUMMER IN ANDORRA, SO MUCH TO CHOOSE FROM...

Andorra is so much more than just skiing. If you decide to visit us in summer, you will also be able to enjoy Andorra's spectacular landscapes and do numerous outdoor activities. Discover all we have to offer for your stay in this country during the hottest months. *Via ferrata protected routes*, ravines, climbing routes, horseback riding or ecotourism routes are some excellent options to discover the impressive Andorran countryside.

The best fishing spots

Do you like fishing and want to discover some new fishing spots? **Andorra's lakes and rivers** can be enjoyed from mid-April to mid-November.

However, you must have your fishing licence and the corresponding reserve permit to spend your holiday fishing in Andorra. **For more information** on intensive fishing, catch and release fishing and natural population reserves, **contact the local tourist offices**.

Macarulla, little magic trails

Macarulla, little magic trails, are routes in the heart of nature that are **ideal for families and designed for small children**, aiming to introduce them to the world of hiking in a fun and entertaining way. They include a series of theme-based routes set in Andorran nature spots, to which more will shortly be added. These are simple, short, mainly flat



circular trails that offer an ideal way to spend a morning or an afternoon surrounded by nature. Each route is presented through play and imagination, and encourages discovery of different stopping-off points where children can do different activities or find items hidden nearby. Pick up the booklet on each route at Andorran tourist offices.

Find the Tamarros

For anyone who doesn't already know, the Tamarros are mischievous beings who are half legend and half popular imagination, and who live in Andorra's forests. These odd-looking creatures are entrusted with protecting and looking after our nature, which is why we appreciate them so much. There are seven of them in total, distributed throughout the Principality, with one in each parish. To go looking for them, all you need to do is visit the tourist offices, where you will find a booklet with all the information about them. There is also a reward for finding them!

If you like hiking....

Hiking and excursions are one of the great attractions of Andorra in summer. In the mountain guide of Andorra, you will find several ecotourism route options so you can discover **the most important natural spaces of the country and its flora and fauna**. Choose which one you want to start with: The Comapedrosa Nature Reserve, the Sorteny Valley Nature Reserve, the Incles Valley, the Enclar Valley, the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, the Pessons Cirque and the Old Trade Roads in Sant Julià de Lòria.

Of course, you can also organise your own excursions. The **Andorran Trails Guide contains 101 itineraries**, while the **Map of Mountain Huts and Long Distance Walks of Andorra** contains details of all the existing routes and the 30 high mountain huts.

GRP...

Would you like to get to get to know the whole country in one week? If you



enjoy hiking, Andorra presents the **GRP** or *Gran Recorregut País* (**Grand Tour of the Country**), a wonderfully signposted circuit of approximately 100 kilometres, split into seven stages of between 12 and 20 km each. Although, if you prefer a gentler approach, you can also split it into 10 stages.

The GRP has been designed so that anyone can do it, with none of the sections being too difficult and with the option to do it at your own pace in the number of stages you like. It has also been designed around the various refuges you can stay in along the route. However, we do recommend that you have some knowledge and experience in the mountains.

Hiking route: Coronallacs



The Coronallacs allows you to enjoy amazing panoramic views throughout, as the route crosses high mountain terrain. It is divided into **five stages ranging between 13 and 22 km each**, with an average of 18.4 km/day.

It follows hiking trails that vary in difficulty and length, and nights are spent in Andorra's four high-mountain shelters.

If you manage to complete these trails, you'll get a certificate from the Andorran Ministry of Tourism and an award. Do you fancy walking around an entire country?

Cross-border trails

El Camino del Reencuentro (The Path of Reunion)

The route starts in the village of Auzat, in France, and ends in La Seu d'Urgell, in Spain, crossing Andorra. It is a **path full of history and culture** that follows ancient shepherds' paths crossing borders to share the vast heritage of these three regions.

If you decide to follow the Camino de Reencuentro, bear in mind that it is a walking route, and that you can choose two different itineraries: a more physical one and a more relaxed family route.

The hiking route to Capcir, Andorra la Vella and Alt Urgell

This route brings you through all the Catalan-speaking areas of the region and reveals the natural, cultural and historical heritage. If you are spending a few days in Andorra, you can do the stretch that connects Capcir with the Catalan region of Alt Urgell. In total, there are 160 kilometres of beautiful landscapes and charming villages.

Enjoy the mountain with the "ferrata" routes, climbing, canyoning...

Do you like to be in the mountains? In the **Principality of Andorra** you will find plenty of ways to enjoy a unique experience in each of its parishes.

You can practice **all the sports and adventure activities in a natural environment** with its unique beauty and mountainside features. You won't find 18 via ferrata routes, 5 ravines and climbing routes across 9 areas in every country. This is a mini paradise for those who love the mountains and enjoy getting to know every inch of them. Best of all, most of these activities suit everyone.

Finally, we should also mention **that canyoning is very popular in Andorra**. This activity combines river rafting and climbing to give you a unique adrenaline rush. If you want to try it, start from the Encodina ravine - near the Sorteny Nature Reserve - one of the least difficult.



Are you already an experienced canyonist? In that case, the ravines of Torrent de l'Aviar, Ensegur and Canaleta will provide you with the challenges you need.

You can also get to know the valley from a different perspective. You can do this if you go to one of Andorra's two equestrian centres.

Enjoy golf and pitch & putt in the loveliest valleys...

Andorra also offers golf and *pitch & putt*, one of the most popular sports in the world today.



In Andorra you can find courses for both sports, allowing both beginners and experts to enjoy them in a privileged setting between May and September. Vall d'Ordino Golf Club and Pitch & Putt El Torrent, in La Massana, are a must for golfers passing through Andorra. The most spectacular course in Andorra though is Golf Soldeu, located at an altitude of 2,250m and considered the highest golf course in Europe.

Viewpoints

Andorra is a country with an extensive road network and a very attractive natural environment. Several viewpoints have therefore been created, each with a particular charm that is linked to nature.

Nature on the road: you can visit these viewpoints conveniently in your vehicle, without having to go elsewhere or enter forests or woods. There are 14 in total, spread out over several parishes.

Viewpoints on foot: Although not so easily accessible, the views they offer and their charming surroundings make a visit to these places a must. The Roc del Quer viewpoint, located in Canillo, the Roc de Senders viewpoint, in Andorra la Vella, and the church of Sant Cristòfol d'Anyós viewpoint, in La Massana, are some examples.

Tristaina Solar Viewpoint: a viewpoint-sundial located in Ordino Arcalís, on the peak of Peyregils, at an altitude of 2,701 metres, just a few yards from the geographical border of Andorra and France. This peak is part of the Tristaina cirque, along with the peaks of Costa Rodona, Tristaina, Creussans and Cabanyó.

Tour the country by mountain bike....

Would you rather do miles on a mountain bike? If so, then Andorra is also the place for you! In each parish you will find several mountain trails that are perfectly suited to mountain bikes. Andorra also has 2 large,



specially prepared and equipped bike parks: Vallnord Bike Park and BMX - Four Cross in Arinsal.

Or how about a road bike?

For those who prefer bigger biking challenges, Andorra has no less than **twenty-one cycling mountain passes**. It is 200 kilometres long and features some of the most spectacular landscapes in the country, such as the mountain passes of the Coma de Arcalís, the Pal station, Envalira or the Coll de la Gallina. All of them have been part of La Vuelta de España or the Volta Catalunya bike races, so get ready to give it your all on the pedals.

Andorra Active Tourism App



Do you want to know more about what Andorra has to offer in terms of tourism and nature? Download the **Turisme Actiu Andorra** (Active Tourism) application and you'll have access to all the details you need to do these activities on your own.

You can find **free outdoor trails, maps and GPS tracking**, as well as full information on all the different activities that take place. It even has a path finder *function* to help you navigate if you get lost and an SOS geolocation function.

This **app** also has all the information and advice you need to prepare your activities in Andorra to suit your needs.



More information: Mountain Guide, Cycle touring Guide, Road Guide (€), Fishing Map (€) and GRP Map (€). These are all available in the Principality's network of tourist offices.

www.visitandorra.com



WE CARE ABOUT YOUR WELL-BEING....

Andorra has for many years been a pioneer in **wellness tourism and holistic health**. The range of products available in this field is growing, meaning you will be able to enjoy the latest health and beauty treatments during your stay here.

A number of hotels, thermal centres and spas in the Principality offer facilities and treatments so you enjoy a feeling of well-being all year round.

Caldea, the biggest thermal spa in Europe

The **Caldea thermal baths** have achieved international renown for their range of treatments and unique facilities.

When you arrive at Caldea, the first thing you will notice is its unique architecture, designed by the architect Jean Michel Ruols. It is an avant-garde construction with mineral and crystalline references designed to captivate you.

The centre has several complementary offers which have been designed so that you can fully enjoy the unique facilities. The thermal recreational area is designed for guests to enjoy the thermal baths with family or friends, while silence and relaxation are the main focus of Inúu.

www.caldea.com



Leisure, sports and health



GET IN SHAPE IN ANDORRA...

Sport is part of life in Andorra. There are therefore many facilities where you can get in shape: both indoors at sports centres, Olympic swimming pools, and an ice-skating rink; and outdoors on ski slopes, MTB and e-bike routes, and mountain passes, etc.

Sports holidays

Andorra's high altitude and temperate climate in spring and summer make it an ideal place for many different sports activities. The Andorra Sports Training Country platform (andorrasportstraining.com) can help you to organise your stay.

Sporting events

The Principality is a world leader in mountain sports and in recent years has become the venue for a number of major competitions and events.

If you visit Andorra in winter, you can take in some of the world's most important snow competitions, which are regularly held here; world cups in Alpine skiing, mountain skiing and speed skiing, as well as the Freeride World Tour or the Total Fight Masters of Freestyle. World Triathlon Winter Championships

In summer, the country often hosts stages of the Vuelta a España, the Tour de France, the Mountain Bike World Cup and the Trial World Championship. Popular competitions such as the Ironman 70.3, the Spartan Race, La Purito Andorra, the Andorra Ultratrail, the Volta als Ports d'Andorra and the Mussara Andorra are also held here.



www.andorrasportstraining.com

25 Culture

MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

Andorra is also a perfect destination for **cultural tourism**. Our museums and monuments will help you to learn about the history and culture at the heart of Andorra.

The Casa de la Vall was once the smallest parliament in Europe. Today it is a museum that will help you understand how Andorran politics - undoubtedly one of the distinctive elements of this country - is organised.

It is also worth visiting the magnificent Nostra Senyora de Meritxell Basilica, which, in addition to being of architectural interest, is an important religious landmark. In fact, it is part of the Marian Route, which includes the Spanish and French sanctuaries of Pilar, Torreciudad, Lourdes and Montserrat.

Likewise, you cannot leave Andorra without visiting the Electricity museum, as well as the Iron Interpretation Centre. All of these **help explain how the country's industry has evolved**.

Andorra's museum infrastructure also includes several ethnographic centres, which provide

information about life in Andorra in the 19th century. If you are interested in the subject, then you should definitely visit Casa Cristo, Casa Rull, Casa d'Areny-Plandolit and Cal Pal social and cultural space.

Other interesting museums include the Miniature Museum and the Escaldes-Engordany Art Centre, dedicated to the work of Josep Viladomat. Of course, **if you love art**, you can't miss the Carmen Thyssen Museum Andorra.

 RUTAMariana



Nostra Senyora de Meritxell Basilica



PASSMUSEU

PassMuseu is an interesting, easy and money-saving way to discover Andorra's museums. The passport costs 2.5 € (taxes incl.) and allows you a 50% discount on the admission price for three museums you choose.

Please note that it is a personal, non-transferable document and is valid for one year.



ROMANESQUE ART

Pre-Romanesque and Romanesque art are predominant in Andorra. Numerous religious and community buildings that survive today bear witness to the formation of parish communities and to the early power relationships. These are again built in the Andorran Romanesque style.

In Andorra you will also find more than **forty Romanesque churches** with impressive interior mural paintings and a simple yet beautiful décor, mostly in the Lombard style.

The mission of the **Columba Space** is the custodianship, conservation and preservation of the mural paintings of the apse of the Church of **Santa Coloma** and various other religious objects belonging to the Andorran Romanesque churches. A visit here complements a visit to the Church of Santa Coloma as there is a **videomapping projection** which recreates the original aspect of the interior of the church in the 12th century.

CULTURAL ITINERARIES

The wide range of itineraries offered in Andorra reflects the many charms of the different valleys and their heritage elements.

These itineraries are a ticket to **the country's past** and offer a more active insight into its culture. Worthy of special note are the Rural Habitat, the Iron Route, and the Engolasters Hydroelectric Road, which reflects the traditional Andorran society, its customs and industry.

Some of these cultural routes are designed to help visitors learn about the most distinctive features of each specific parish, such as the Twelve Footprints of the Canillo Way, the Verdaguer de Ordino Itinerary, the Green Ring in Andorra la Vella, the El hombre y la Materia de Sant Julià de Lòria Itinerary and the Granite Architecture of Escaldes-Engordany.

In Canillo you cannot miss the itinerary that joins its water holes, springs and washing places - also an excellent way to explore **the traditional way of life of the people** of Andorra.



LA MARGINEDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

The Margineda site, opened in 2012, is one of the most important sites of medieval origin in the country. This little village consisting of 5 houses from the 12th to 14th centuries and their corresponding public spaces, which represent Andorran life in medieval times in detail, is well worth a visit.





CLASSICAL MUSIC, JAZZ, DANCE AND THEATRE

Most parishes have a wide range of music, dance and theatre events each year to promote Andorran culture. One of these festivals that you can enjoy during your stay here is the Colores de Música de Escaldes-Engordany festival.

Other unmissable cultural events include the music and dance season in Andorra la Vella, Sax Fest, Jambo Street Music and for several months a year, an extensive international theatre programme featuring some of the best-known actors and plays from around the world.

Finally, don't forget that in summer you can enjoy a wide range of cultural activities at night in Andorra's museums.

Cirque du Soleil Show

Cirque du Soleil has a regular fixture on the calendar of events in Andorra, bringing an event to the country that's one of a kind in Europe.

For more information, visit www.visitandorra.com to find out future dates and register so that you can be first to book tickets.



More information: Culture Guide. Available in all Andorran tourist offices
www.visitandorra.com

29 Tourist bus



Santa Coloma

JOURNEY BACK IN TIME THROUGH ANDORRAN CULTURE

One of the best ways to get to know everything that Andorra has to offer is to follow the many itineraries offered by the **Andorran Tourist Bus**. There is always a tour guide on board who will give all the information about the route. Also included are tickets to the museums and churches along the route.

There are morning tours Sunday to Friday and on Saturday lunch is included. It is well worth booking in advance so you can relax and enjoy them without any hassles.



More information:

Tourist Bus Guide. Available in all Andorran tourist offices

Andorra la Vella Tourist Office

Tel. (+376) 750 100

info@oficinaturisme.ad

www.visitandorra.com/busturistic

30 Traditions, festivities and celebrations

The **Andorran people** are very proud of their ancestral customs and traditions, which are still very much alive today. Andorran folklore includes a variety of traditional dances, which feature in most of the religious celebrations and local festivals held throughout the year. Two of the most important events of this kind are the **Aplec de Canòlich** and **Meritxell Day**.

The **Aplec de Canòlich** takes place on the last Saturday of May in the parish of Sant Julià de Lòria. This is a religious event with a long-standing tradition, a day when the people of Sant Julià come together and celebrate.

The festival includes mass, firework launching and various recreational events. The famous Canòlich breads are also handed out outside the sanctuary to celebrate sharing with others. Many pilgrims walk up to the shrine to celebrate this traditional *aplec*.

St. Meritxell Day on 8 September celebrates the patron saint of Andorra. This is the most important festival in the Principality and has been celebrated since 1873. If you are in the country on this day, you can enjoy a wide range of activities, including a variety of public and religious events. The most important of these are the Aurora Mass, the young Eucharist, the solemn service in honour of the patron saint celebrated by the Bishop of Urgell, the singing of the joys of the Virgin Mary and the Meritxell dels Petits Cantors concert.

www.visitandorra.com





FALLAIRES DE ANDORRA LA VELLA

One of the popular traditions you can't miss if you are in Andorra during the summer is its unique fire festival **Fallaires** - Las Fallaires.

To celebrate **St. John's Eve** and the summer solstice, on 23 June, in Andorra it is tradition to light torches and spin them around quickly to give the illusion that they are big balls of fire. This is a truly spectacular show, which is still closely linked to the history and tradition of Andorra and which will undoubtedly remain etched in your mind if you are lucky enough to see it at least once.

The importance of these festivals is such that UNESCO has included the summer solstice fire festivals in the Pyrenees on its list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.



32 Shopping

WHY SHOP IN ANDORRA?

Who has not heard of Andorra's shops? This country has gained worldwide recognition for its rich shopping tradition, which has been thriving for decades.

The competitive **prices and huge variety of products** sold in Andorra make the country an international commercial hotspot. Also, worthy of special mention is that Andorra is a very safe place to visit, which is an added attraction for tourists who come to Andorra to shop.

What sets Andorra apart from other cities and countries around the world when it comes to shopping? Basically, Andorra has a shopping street, with more than **2000 shops** of all kinds. All of them offer the latest trends in their sector each season. Start thinking about everything you need to buy in Andorra!

Where to shop?

You can shop all over Andorra, please note that most establishments are concentrated in the parishes of **Andorra la Vella and Escaldes-Engordany**.

There are also plenty of shops in **Pas de la Casa**, whilst **Sant Julià de Lòria** is the parish which contains more large shopping centres than anywhere else, and where you'll easily find a great range of electronic products, music, gastronomy, and home accessories.

The Shopping Mile

Along The Shopping Mile you will find fashion and accessories, perfumes, the latest in consumable electronics and devices, as well as clothing and materials to practice your favourite sport by leading international brands.

From **avenida Meritxell** to **Vivand**, and along **Fener Boulevard**, there is a partially-pedestrianised mile with a vast array of gastronomic establishments where you can take a pleasant break. What's more, very close to The Shopping Mile, you will find several nearby commercial thoroughfares, such as the upper part of Escaldes-Engordany, where the **Carmen Thyssen Museum Andorra** is located; the Riberaigua i Travesseres district of Andorra la Vella; and **the historic centre** of



the city, with the **Casa de la Vall**, a must-see museum.

The sales

If you like shopping, the sales are sure to be one of the most appealing periods for you. Andorra has two sales periods when your favourite products can be found at even more attractive prices: in winter, from the end of December to the beginning of March; and in summer, from the end of June to the beginning of September.

Please note that sales in the Principality usually start **a few days earlier than in neighbouring countries, Spain and France.**

Events

The list of shopping events you can enjoy during your stay in Andorra includes the Noche de Compras (Shopping Night) or Noche Vivand (Vivand Night) in Escaldes-Engordany, which is held in May and October, and the Gran Mercado de las Oportunidades (Great Market of Opportunities), which takes place in July in Pas de la Casa. The Snow Experience

€ EXEMPTIONS

If this is your first time shopping in Andorra, you should take customs taxes into account, as they may affect the final price of your purchases.

You can only take products up to a value limit of 900 euros out of the country **without having to pay customs duties.**

takes place in the same place, but in December.

Also, in June the *De Copes* event is held in the old town of Andorra la Vella.

Also worth seeing is the clothing and accessories market Vide Dressing La Massana (May and October).

The Andorra Shopping Festival takes place between October and November. You'll have unique experiences as you enjoy all the events and soak up the celebrations organised around the world of shopping and sales.

More information: Shopping Guide. Available in all Andorran tourist offices
www.visitandorra.com



34 Gastronomy

If you like to get to know the gastronomy of the countries you visit, then you must try the traditional dishes of Andorra during your stay here.

Andorra's gastronomy combines French and Catalan influences with the legacy of its ancient inhabitants. Visit some of the **Andorran restaurants** to learn about traditional dishes made with top quality local products and a touch of modern cuisine. An unforgettable experience!

Also, keep in mind that Andorran gastronomy is closely linked to the main traditions of the country. This means that many of the most important gastronomic gatherings take place during the main festivities.

Thus, visitors should not miss the escudellas of Sant Antoni and Sant Sebastià during the month of January; the sardines, the butifarrada during Carnival and the Tapa de Sant Julià de Lòria Route in February; "Lo Mandongo" in La Massana between January and February; the "Andorra a Taula" culinary festival in May and November; the Ordino culinary exhibition on

the second Sunday of November; and the La Massana Fogons in October.

Other important events include **craft fairs** such as the Fira del Bolet in September, the Fira d'Andorra la Vella in October or the Santa Llúcia fair in December.





Traditional dishes

Due to its unique geographical location, **mountain cuisine** forms an integral part of Andorra's culinary tradition.

During your stay here, we recommend that you try traditional dishes based on mushrooms, river trout, as well as the traditional pastries known as cocas. Also not to be missed are Andorra's sausages (donja, bringuera, bull or bisbe), its traditional escudella stew, its game meat stews and especially one of its most distinctive recipes: trinxat, made with potatoes, green cabbage, bacon and garlic.

Tradition

The culinary tradition is still alive in many of Andorra's dishes and, of course, in the popular **mountain restaurants known as bordas**. These buildings are one of the main hallmarks of Andorran identity and were formerly an annex of the high mountain houses where the grass and cattle were kept.

Today, about twenty fully restored bordas are used as restaurants. Eating here gives you the opportunity to enjoy the excellent traditional Andorran cuisine in a unique environment, featuring the unique architecture and décor of this type of construction.

Gourmet shops

If you love cooking, you can buy high quality gourmet products in specialised shops, as Andorra has a great shopping culture. In these shops you will be able to try the most delicious snacks or find everything you need to offer your guests the best international delicacies.



More information: Andorra Restaurant Guide.
Available in all Andorran tourist offices
www.visitandorra.com
www.agricultura.ad



Local products

Ramaders d'Andorra S.A.

This company produces excellent quality meat with the PGI seal of controlled quality from Andorra. It sells ox, lamb, kid goat and horse.
agricultura.ramaders@andorra.ad

Poltrand

ORDINO

If you are looking for organic foal meat, you can buy it directly from Poltrand, whose products are produced from animals raised in the Andorran mountains. This company has the Andorran quality controlled meat seal.
www.poltrand.ad · info@poltrand.ad

Borda Sabaté

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

Certified organic wines are produced in these bodegas, where the biodynamic process is also followed to produce unique wines.
www.bordasabate.com · info@bordasabate.com

Casa Beal

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

This bodega uses fruit from their own highland vineyards. Its commitment to making white wine with the *gewürztraminer* variety sets it apart from most other producers, both in Andorra and Spain.
www.casabeal.com · info@casabeal.com

Casa Auvinyà

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

This is another Andorran bodega that produces wines with a view to fully respecting the environment and nature. Naturally, all this while not forgetting the high quality of the wines produced.
www.casaauvinya.com

Mas Berenguer

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

The Mas Berenguer bodega produces wine using traditional techniques passed down from generation to generation. Its sparkling wine, Tancat Rocafort and Mas Berenguer, is well worth a try.

www.cellermasberenguer.com
clr2709@hotmail.com

Casus Belli

ORDINO

The highest vineyards in Andorra. Unique wines that showcase the soul and fruits of our land.
info@casusbelli.ad

Beer Alpha

LA MASSANA

Production and sales of organic craft beer. They offer product tastings.
alphandorra@gmail.com

Cervesa AND

ANDORRA LA VELLA

Beer brewed with all the purity of water from the Pyrenees.
www.andgaradel.com
garadel@andorra.ad

Boris Craft Beer

ORDINO

Brewing and sales of craft beer.
www.boriscraftbeer.com
info@boriscraftbeer.com

Asgard

CANILLO

Creating a legendary taste by making mead at an altitude of over 1,500 metres.
asgardandorra@gmail.com

Ratassia de la Carmeta

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

One of Andorra's traditional liqueurs. It is a digestif made with medicinal herbs and green walnuts as its main ingredients.

lessenciadelesvalls@gmail.com

Casa Raubert

LA MASSANA

Shepherd's cheeses made exclusively from the milk of domestic sheep.

www.casaraubert.ad

f.casaraubert@andorra.ad

Els Escaubells

ANDORRA LA VELLA

This company manufactures traditional Andorran sausages, such as bringuera, donja, butifarras, longaniza and all kinds of black pudding.

www.andorcarn.ad · info@andorcarn.ad

Cal Jordi

CANILLO

This traditional Andorran sausage manufacturer specialises in the production of black puddings and sausages such as butifarras, donges and bringueres without using any chemical preservatives or colourings.

artedademuntanya@gmail.com

Biobo

ENCAMP

This brand is proud to be the first company in Andorra to obtain the European certification guaranteeing that its products - traditional dishes made with organic ingredients - are 100 % environmentally friendly.

www.bomosa.ad/empresa/bio-bio-restauracio

El Rebst del Padri

ANDORRA LA VELLA

Here visitors can buy Andorran handcrafted products, and ready-made meals or enjoy a full catering service *and* restaurant.

www.elrebstdelpadri.com

elrebstdelpadri@hotmail.com

Autèntic

CANILLO

100% honey from the mountains of Andorra 100% natural products, produced by our bees and packaged directly by the beekeeper.

autentic@andorra.ad

Casa Folch

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

Sales of natural honey, with no added sugars, preservatives or artificial additives.

casafolch@gmail.com

Naturalis

CANILLO

Naturalis produces highland honey, mead and artisan liqueurs, following guidelines that respect natural cycles.

www.naturalis-andorra.com

naturalis@andorra.ad

El Pastador

LA MASSANA

It offers a wide range of home-made marmalades of different flavours, made using 100% natural ingredients.

www.elpastador.com · info@elpastador.com

Casa Gendret

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

Forest fruits are the mainstay of Casa Gendret's range of products, which it produces and sells directly. It also produces home-made jams and jellies of different flavours that are free from additives of any kind.

gendret@andorra.ad

Nectum

ANDORRA LA VELLA

This product can only be found in Andorra. It is a pineapple syrup macerated with organic sugar produced from a traditional recipe.

elrebostdelpadri@hotmail.com

Xocland

LA MASSANA

Andorra's generally cold and dry, mountain climate allows us to produce an intense, pure chocolate containing 100% natural ingredients.

www.xocland.com · esther@xocland.com

Cafè El Conseller

ANDORRA LA VELLA

The fourth generation of a long line of coffee roasters.

www.magatzemscoma.com

hola@magatzemscoma.com

Pâtisserie Estopián

ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Treat yourself to something sweet in just a click: the Principality's top e-commerce bakery.

info@patisserieaestopinan.com

<https://patisserieaestopinan.com>

Pocions de Lluna Nova

LA MASSANA

Natural cosmetics laboratory that makes beauty treatments in a way that respects the environment and complies with European regulations.

www.pocionsdellunanova.com

info@pocionsdellunanova.com

Capricho de Luna

LA MASSANA

100% natural handmade soaps made with the best ingredients. Protection for your skin and for the environment.

www.capricholuna.com

info@capricholuna.com

Agricultura Cal Jordi

CANILLO

Chicken eggs from Ransol valley, located at a height of over 1,800 metres.

casajordi@andorra.ad

Can Sona

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

The company's core business is the production of eggs from hens fed with certified organic wheat, peas, rye and oats, as well as pulses and vegetables.

blogscat.com/cansona · bio.cansona@gmail.com

Cortal Llumeneres

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

Production and sales of all types of seasonal, natural produce grown in the country. Collection and sale of fresh eggs.

cortalllumeneres@gmail.com

Adrimar

LA MASSANA

Vegetables, eggs and soaps.

www.adrimarcentre.com

info@adrimarcentre.com

Vital

ST. JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

Artisan crafting using sheep's wool from the Andorran flocks.

vital.ad · albert.goma@vital.ad

L'Ànima del Bosc

ORDINO

L'Ànima del Bosc collects birch sap by hand and creates vegetable-based products.

lanimadelbosc@gmail.com

39 Accommodation

ACCOMMODATION TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS

If there is one thing that Andorra can boast about it is its wide variety of accommodation options, which are adapted to the individual needs of those who want to spend a few days here.

If you decide to stay in Andorra, it will feel like a home away from home. You have no less than **40,000 beds** to choose from when searching for that perfect place to stay.

For those who prefer an urban setting....

There are more than 200 hotels of all categories, offering top quality services in Andorra's cities. Whether your stay is for leisure or business, these hotels offer the most modern and up-to-date facilities, designed to ensure your comfort at all times.

The **short distances within the country** also make the main leisure and shopping areas just a stone's throw away from wherever you are.

For all the family...

Discover the wide range of **aparthotels and tourist apartments** in Andorra offering comfortable yet practical accommodation for families. Some establishments even have themed rooms designed to keep the little ones happy.

This type of accommodation is located close to Andorra's main sports and leisure centres.

For those who just want to relax....

One of the main aims in Andorra is to make our visitors feel at ease, especially in the many spas and thermal spas located here.

For those who like to bring everything but the kitchen sink....

Do you like caravanning or camping? In Andorra you will find 8 well-equipped campsites with all the comforts you need to enjoy your stay.



Most of these establishments are located in high mountain parishes and enable access to sports and leisure centres. You can also choose to park your motorhome in any of the specially prepared areas.

For nature lovers....

Those wanting to experience nature first-hand in some of the most impressive landscapes of Andorra can opt to stay here in some of the **mountain huts** dotted around Andorra's mountains. This way, you can enjoy nature and relax in a stunning natural setting.

Thirty or so mountain huts offer the basic

comforts for an unforgettable experience. Or, if you prefer, you can choose from six shelters in different categories that offer accommodation and catering services to make visitors feel right at home: These are the Comapedrosa, Juclà, Sorteny, Natur Refugi Cortals de Sispony, Borda les Reineres de Incles and Illa refuges.

For those travelling in a group....

If travelling with friends, you are sure to be looking for the best value for money accommodation. In other words, accommodation that is both comfortable and



PICTOGRAMS

If you're looking for accommodation in Andorra, there are four official pictograms identifying hotels that are equipped to welcome tourists who enjoy the following activities: **hiking**, **general sports**, **fishing** and **cycle touring**.



affordable. If this is the case, then **hostels and summer camp houses or casas de colonias** may well be the perfect option for you, as they are located in areas where visitors can also enjoy nature or some of Andorra's most



More information:

Tourist Accommodation Guide, Camping and Mountain Huts Guide. Available from all the Principality's tourist offices

www.visitandorra.com

42 Transport

HOW TO GET TO ANDORRA?

The privileged location of the Principality of Andorra is a luxury to be enjoyed by all those who come here. Andorra's proximity to the major urban centres of France and Spain is an added plus that facilitates access to the country through an extensive communications network that includes **bus, train, car and plane.**



By car



If you are just coming to Andorra for a few days, you won't have any problems driving your car even if you don't have an international driving licence. If travelling by car, check out the **distances from Andorra la Vella to some of the most important towns in the neighbouring countries:**

Paris	861 km	Valencia	496 km
Bordeaux	427 km	Zaragoza	300 km
Toulouse	185 km	Girona	271 km
Perpignan	163 km	Barcelona	208 km
Foix	100 km	Tarragona	198 km
Madrid	613 km	Lleida	185 km
Bilbao	601 km		

By plane...



There are no airports in Andorra, but there are a number of **major international airports that allow easy access** to the country: Toulouse-Blagnac (France) and the Spanish airports Barcelona-El Prat, Girona, Lleida's Alguaire and **La Seu-Andorra**.

There is a daily direct bus service to Andorra from some of these airports, with routes taking between 3 and 4 hours.

By train ...



You can't reach Andorra directly by train, but you can travel by train to **Barcelona, Lleida or Toulouse**. These cities all have a bus service with a direct connection to Andorra.

Spain:

Sants station (Barcelona)
Lleida Pirineus station (Lleida)
www.renfe.com

France:

Matabiau station (Toulouse)
Andorra station- Hospitalet-près-l'Andorre (Hospitalet)
www.voyages-sncf.com



National Bus Station

By bus...



A good way to get to Andorra from France, Catalonia, Spain and Portugal is by **bus**. The bus station in the French city of Toulouse has a regular service to Andorra, and you can travel from the main Catalan towns of Barcelona, Vic, Girona, Tarragona and Lleida.

Spain:

La Seu d'Urgell

La Seu d'Urgell - Andorra (Camino Bus)

Barcelona

Barcelona Est. Nord - Ponts - Andorra la Vella (ALSA)

Barcelona Est. Nord - Túnel del Cadí - Andorra la Vella (ALSA)

Barcelona Aeroport (T1/T2) - Andorra la Vella (Andbus)

Barcelona Aeroport (T1/T2) - Barcelona Est. Sants - Andorra la Vella (Directbus)

Barcelona Est. Nord - Solsona - Andorra la Vella (ALSA)

Lleida

Lleida Est. d'autobusos - Lleida RENFE - Escaldes-Engordany (Grup Montmantell)

Lleida Est. d'autobusos - Lleida RENFE - Andorra la Vella (ALSA, Viatges Soldevila)

Tarragona

L'Hospitalet de l'Infant - Andorra la Vella (Grup Montmantell)

Reus - Andorra la Vella (La Hispano Igualadina)

Salamanca

Salamanca - Andorra la Vella (Damar tours)

France:

Toulouse

Tolosa SNCF - Aeroport de Tolosa - Andorra la Vella (Andbus)

Portugal:

Arcos de Valdevez

Arcos de Valdevez - Valença - Escaldes-Engordany (Camino Bus)

Arcos de Valdevez - Vila Praia de Âncora - El Pas de la Casa (Cooperativa Interurbana Andorrana)

Porto

Porto - Andorra (Camino Bus)



ALSA:

Tel. (+34) 902 422 242 · www.alsa.es

Directbus:

Tel. (+376) 805 151 · www.andorradirectbus.es

Camino Bus:

Tel. (+376) 865 500 · www.rutasvigo.com

Cooperativa Interurbana Andorrana:

Tel. (+376) 806 555 · www.interurbana.ad

Damar tours:

Tel. (+34) 654 216 214

Grup Montmantell:

Tel. (+376) 807 444 · www.montmantell.com

La Hispano Igualadina (Reus):

Tel. (+34) 902 292 900
www.igualadina.com

Andbus:

Tel. (+376) 803 789 · www.andorraybybus.com



GETTING AROUND...

Public transport

Two **regular bus routes** link the parishes to one another.. Its main stops are located in the busiest streets in the city centre and the normal service hours are from 6.20 am to 9 pm.

Orange express bus stops are found **on the outskirts** of the towns.

Andorra also has 6 intercity **bus lines** that connect the various towns and cities. In addition, each parish has a community transport service that services the small towns that are not covered on the main routes.

Transport numbers and websites

Traffic Information and Management Centre:
Tel. (+376) 1802 1802

Road conditions:
Tel. (+376) 848 884 (24 h) · www.mobilitat.ad

Telephones to check traffic before entering Andorra

Spain: Servei Català de Trànsit
Tel. (+34) 93 567 40 00 (24 h) / 902 400 012

France: Info Routes (Ariège)
Tel. (+33) 5 61 02 75 75 (24 h) - www.dirso.fr



Taxi Association of Andorra:

Tel. (+376) 863 000

Taxi Exprés Reservations:

Tel. (+376) 812 345

Taxi Domenec: Tel. (+376) 327 791



Avis: Tel. (+376) 871 855

www.avis.es

Cimex Auto: Tel. (+376) 720 955

www.cimexautorent.com

Europcar: Tel. (+376) 874 290

www.centreprestigiautomobils.ad

Goldcar: Tel. (+376) 818 888

www.pirenaica.ad

Ifrent: Tel. (+376) 866 067

www.ifrent.com

Hertz: Tel. (+376) 818 444

www.hertzandorra.com

By taxi

Unlike most European cities, in Andorra you have to **book taxis by telephone or look for them at the bus stops** located in the main streets of the shopping districts. You can also hire a private taxi service.

Car hire

One way to get around and get to know Andorra with absolute freedom is to rent a car at any of the car rental centres in Andorra, with or without a private driver.

46

Business tourism

Shopping tourism is well-established in Andorra. The country offers high-quality facilities, additional amenities, professionalism and the application of new technologies to promote its appeal as a stage for business events all year round.

The Principality also has the infrastructure needed to organise effective business meetings in a unique setting. Congress centres, specially adapted rooms in hotels and companies that specialise in organising conferences are also important factors for business tourism in Andorra.

The **Andorra Convention Bureau** has consolidated the country's position as a major shopping tourism destination within Europe. This body allows business meetings and trips proposed by customers to be channelled and organised.

Conference organisers have more than 40,000 hotel places in more than 260 establishments, as well as multiple outdoor leisure and adventure activities and a variety of cultural trails available to them.

To promote and guarantee the quality of hotel establishments specialising in MICE tourism, some accommodation providers have attained business, meeting and conferencing seals of approval awarded by the Government of Andorra.



www.andorraconventionbureau.com



CONFERENCE AND MEETING CENTRES

Andorra la Vella Conference Centre

Tel. (+376) 730 005

www.andorralavella.ad

www.turismeandorralavella.ad

Arts and Conference Centre Lauredià

Tel. (+376) 744 044 / F. (+376) 744 014

www.cccl-andorra.com

Palau de Gel (Ice Palace) of Andorra

Tel. (+376) 800 840

www.palaudegel.ad

Ordino Conference Centre (ACCO)

Tel. (+376) 878 153

www.ordino.ad

Les Fontetes i La Closeta Tourist and Cultural Centre in La Massana

Tel. (+376) 835 693

www.lamassana.ad

Prat del Roure and Events Hall in Escaldes-Engordany

Tel. (+376) 890 884

www.e-e.ad

Encamp Dance and Congress Hall

Tel. (+376) 732 700

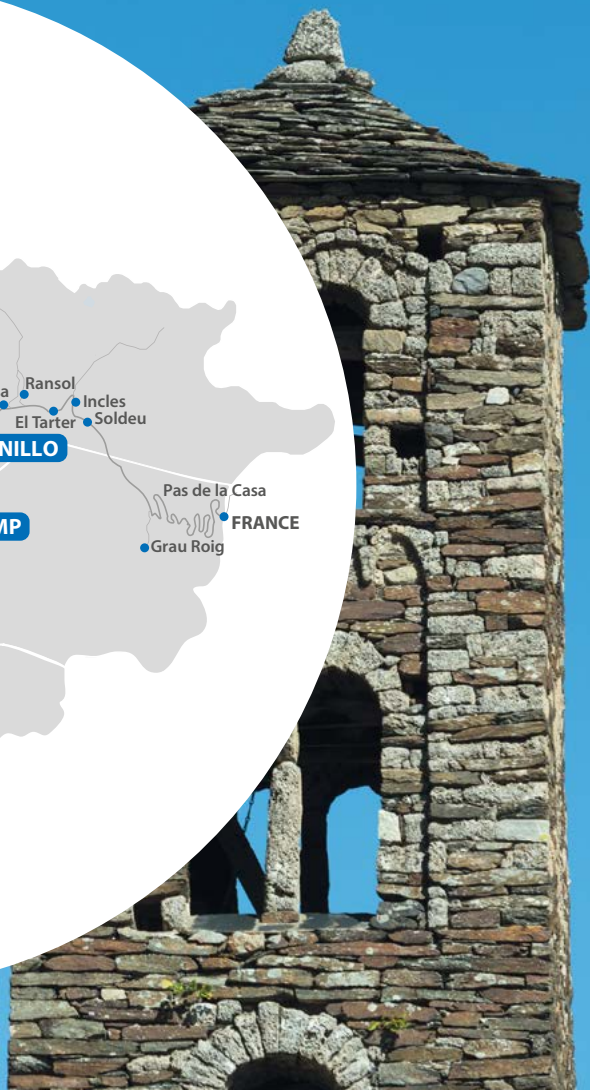
F. (+ 376) 832 220

www.encamp.ad

Meeting rooms at the Ordino Sports Centre

Tel. (+376) 878 110

www.ceo.ad



Tourism in parishes

Each parish in Andorra has its own unique characteristics and activities. Knowing the most important information will help visitors discover the real charm of Andorra, from its customs and traditions to its beautiful villages and valleys.

Get to know the Andorran parishes so you can really enjoy the true Andorra.



- 50.** Canillo
- 51.** Encamp
- 52.** Ordino
- 53.** La Massana

- 54.** Andorra la Vella
- 55.** Sant Julià de Lòria
- 56.** Escaldes-Engordany



CANILLO

▲↑ | 1526 m. 👤 | 6111 (2022 census).

Towns: Canillo, Meritxell, Prats, l'Aldosa, Ransol, Molleres, El Vilar, El Forn, Els Plans, l'Armiana, Sant Pere del Tarter and Soldeu.

To really get to know the parish of Canillo, don't forget to check out its visitor attraction list, which will give you a very concrete idea of all the main attractions of the area.

The Romanesque church of Sant Joan de Caselles (12th century) and, more importantly, the Sanctuary of Meritxell (Andorra's patron saint) are located in this parish. Every year **Meritxell Day** is celebrated here with numerous religious, artistic and formal events.

Those looking for direct contact with nature should check out the **ecotourism routes** in the

Incles Valley and Coma de Ransol. Juclà lake, the largest in the Principality, is also worth a visit, as is the **Mirador del Roc del Quer** with its impressive views of the surrounding landscape.

And if vertigo isn't a word in your vocabulary, then **the new Tibetan bridge** at Canillo, 603 m long and located at 1875 m high, is for you.

You prefer sport? Canillo is home to Palau de Gel (Andorra's Ice Palace) and the Grandvalira ski resort. Activities such as the Magic Gliss alpine coaster, the zipline and Golf Soldeu, the highest golf course in Europe, are also found here.

www.turismecanillo.ad
Tel. (+376) 753 600





Encamp
El Pas de la Casa



ENCAMP

 1250 m.  13057 (2022 census).

Towns: Encamp, La Mosquera, Vila, El Pas de la Casa and Les Bons.

The parish of Encamp has an extensive architectural and cultural heritage that is reflected in its various museum buildings and structures.

In terms of **religion**, the churches of Santa Eulàlia de Encamp and Sant Romà de Les Bons are an integral part of Andorra's medieval heritage, as is the medieval complex of Les Bons. More modern churches such as Sant Miquel and Sant Joan de la Mosquera and Sant Pere del Pas de la Casa also worth a visit.

The Museum of Electricity **and the Automobile Museum** provide an interesting insight into how Andorra's trade and commerce has evolved over time and are worth a visit. The Casa Cristo Ethnographic Museum and the Sacred Art Museum are also a must for those who want to get to know Andorra better.

If you're passionate about **sports and nature**, in this parish you'll find the Circ de Pessons glacier, Cortals d'Encamp, various ecotourism itineraries and the Grandvalira ski resort, where you can take part in snow and mountain sports in an environment with a unique natural beauty.

www.encamp.ad
Encamp: Tel. (+376) 731 000
Funicamp: Tel. (+376) 834 011
El Pas de la Casa: Tel. (+376) 755 100





ordino **O**



ORDINO



 1298 m.  5426 (2022 census).

Towns: Ordino, Segudet, Sornàs, Ansalonga, La Cortinada, Arans, Llorts and El Serrat.

The list of interesting places to visit in the parish of Ordino includes la Casa de Areny-Plandolit, the only manor house in Andorra, the Romanesque church of Sant Martí de la Cortinada (12th century) and the Miniature and Postal museums. It is also worth seeing the typical routes in the area such as the Verdaguer Route, the Riberamunt Route and the Iron Route, or visiting Cal Pal mill and saw works, the Llorts iron mine and the Arcalís

solar viewpoint, one of the highest in the Ordino Biosphere Reserve.

If your interest lies in nature and outdoor activities, in this parish you will be able to do adventure sports all year round, from via ferrata routes to canyoning or zip-lining. Andorra is also home to jewels of great natural beauty with a rich heritage such as the Sorteny Valley Nature Reserve and the Tristaina Lakes.


In winter, you can do snow sports at the Ordino Arcalís ski resort.

www.visitordino.com
Tel. (+376) 878 173





LA MASSANA

 1230 m.  11785 (2022 census).

Towns: La Massana, Sispony, Anyós, l'Aldosa, Erts, Pal and Arinsal.

La Massana is home to the ceiling of Andorra: Comapedrosa peak, standing 2,942 metres tall. It's found in the nature park of the same name, a protected site with a wide variety of routes leading to glacial lakes, wetlands, peaks and one-of-a-kind places.

The outstanding beauty of its landscapes has made it a stunning setting for mountain races, such as Skyrace Comapedrosa, which draws elite skyracers from all over the world every year. Apart from the park, La Massana has over 80 mountain trails, making it perfect for any hiker.

The main tourist and economic driver in La Massana is the Pal Arinsal Grandvalira Resort, open 10 months a year. In winter, it combines skiing and snowboarding with different

snow activities such as snowshoeing or snowmobiling, with an amazing culinary offering. The unmissable experiences available include night-time snowshoe excursions that end with an amazing dinner in idyllic surroundings. In summer, the resort turns into a mountain bike paradise, with routes for all levels and top international events.

In terms of culture, must-visit sites are the Casa Rull Museum, Rossell Forge and various Romanesque churches, such as the Church of Sant Climent de Pal and Church of Sant Cristòfol d'Anyós. Highlights of the local events calendar include the La Massana Còmic show, the Andoflora fair and La Serenalla Market.

www.visitlamassana.ad

Tel. (+376) 835 693

 @lamassana

 @comudelamassana





**Andorra
la Vella**



ANDORRA LA VELLA

 1013 m.  24382 (2022 census).

Towns: Andorra la Vella, Santa Coloma and La Margineda.

Visitors to Andorra la Vella can shop on its main streets; visit the Andorra la Vella Conference Centre or the pre-Romanesque church of Santa Coloma and the medieval bridge of La Margineda, built between the 13th and 14th centuries.

The **Casa de la Vall** house is certainly another interesting spot to visit in the parish of Andorra la Vella. It is a former Andorran house of

parliament, considered the smallest in Europe at the time, and now serves as a museum to explain the political structure of the country. After visiting it, why not continue on to the old town centre? It is a living example of how the region has developed over the centuries.

Also, **the Green Belt tours and ecotourism circuits in the Enclar Valley are a must** for all the nature lovers out there.

www.andorralavella.ad
Tel. (+376) 750 100





SANT JULIÀ DE LOIRA



909 m.



10112 (2022 census).

Towns: Sant Julià de Lòria, Aixovall, Bixessarri, Fontaneda, Aixirivall, la Peguera, els Plans, Juberrí, Auvinyà, Nagol, Certers, Llumeneres, Pui d'Olivesa, Aixàs, Mas d'Alins, Les Pardines and La Moixella.

Some highlights of the parish's points of interest are the four wineries in the area and the guided tours through the town of Santa Julià de Lòria, where you'll be able to see the Lauredià cultural and congress Centre and other interesting sites in the town.

Another highlight of the parish of Sant Julià de Lòria is the chance to follow different **Tomb Lauredià routes** that combine nature and culture while passing through magical spots with amazing views. As for **artistic and religious heritage**, we recommend visiting the Romanesque Church of Sant Serni de Nagol, built between the 11th and 12th centuries,

and the mosaics in the church of Sant Julià and Sant Germà created by the Jesuit priest, theologian and writer Marko Ivan Rupnik, called the 21st-century Michelangelo and the Shrine of the Mare de Déu de Canòlich, patron saint of Sant Julià de Lòria. A gathering takes place at this shrine on the last weekend of May, a celebration dedicated to the Virgin that ends with the symbolic distribution of the consecrated bread as a symbol of the duty to be generous and share with others.

Nature also has a strong presence in this parish thanks to the Estany de la Nou lake and Naturlandi, the only cross-country ski resort where there's also an activity park and Tobotronc, the world's longest alpine toboggan run.

www.santjulia.ad/turisme
Tel. (+376) 744 045





escaldes-engordany



ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

 1050 m.  15737 (2021 census).

Towns: Escaldes-Engordany, Engolasters and Els Vilars.

Welcome to Escaldes-Engordany, the city of thermal waters.

The city of Escaldes-Engordany is the second largest in Andorra and is made up of two urban centres: Engordany, the older area, and Escaldes, the modern part, geared towards tourism and shopping.

One of the largest natural spaces in the country and a must-see for nature lovers is the Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the cultural landscape category.

There are many cultural attractions in Escaldes-Engordany, including unique museums such as the Carmen Thyssen Museum of Andorra, the Centre d'Art Escaldes-Engordany art centre

and Espai Caldes. Be sure to take part in our traditional festivities, visit the Romanesque churches, tour the historical routes and enjoy some music in the street!

The main shopping centre has been transformed into a pedestrian area called Vivand, where you can find more than 200 shops, restaurants and hotels. A culture, leisure and shopping district allowing you to make the most of the large outdoor shopping area.

As for thermal waters, Andorra has had this natural resource since ancient times and they are found in the urban area, with public fountains and spa hotels. The thermal baths culminate in Caldea, the largest spa in southern Europe, designed for visitors to enjoy the well-being and escape provided by these hot springs.

www.e-e.ad
Tel. (+376) 890 881



Practical information

Documentation and visas



No visa is required to travel to Andorra, whatever your nationality. However, you must bear in mind that to get here you need to pass through Spain or France. Therefore, if you are not from a Schengen country, it is recommended that you find out about the possibility of having a multiple entry and exit visa in your country of origin. This will allow you to cross the Spanish or French borders to reach Andorra. Also, keep in mind that in these cases each country may have its own specific administrative requirements.

If you come from the Schengen area, it is much easier to enter Andorra. Adults only need a **valid ID card or passport**, as do minors accompanied by their parents.

Children coming from countries in the Schengen Area, but travelling alone must present a permit to leave this area, together with a valid identity document.



Visitors travelling with their pets should be aware that they will be asked for their **pet's passport, an up-to-date health and vaccination card**, and the pet will need to be identified with a **microchip**.



More information:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tel. (+376) 875 704
www.exteriors.ad

Currency, banks and exchange



If you need to change currency or make any other arrangements, please note that most banks in the country have the same opening hours: **Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm without interruption.**



More information:

Asociación de Bancos Andorranos
Tel. (+376) 807 110
www.andorranbanking.ad

Medical cover for accidents



In the unfortunate event that you suffer an accident in Andorra **you should know that this country has a medical cover agreement with Spain, France and Portugal**, through which you can request reimbursement of expenses from the Andorran Social Security Fund.

Visitors from other countries would have to pay the costs of medical care themselves.



More information:

Caja Andorrana de Seguridad Social (Andorran Social Security Fund)
Tel. (+376) 870 870
www.cass.ad

Citizen safety



The fact that the country has only two access points and the remarkable work of the police and customs services ensure a high level of public safety and guarantee visitors a tranquil stay.

Lost property

If you find a lost item or wish to report an item missing, you should contact the Andorran Police Department.

Police: Tel. (+376) 872 000 · www.policia.ad

Roadside assistance



Each parish has a traffic service and a citizen's advice service that will inform you about the private companies that provide this service.

Canillo	(+376) 346 000
Encamp	162
Pas de la Casa	162
Ordino	163
La Massana	164 / (+376) 321 400
Andorra la Vella	165 / (+376) 730 011
Sant Julià de Lòria	166 / (+376) 744 021
Escaldes-Engordany	167



Traffic Information and Road Conditions:

(+376) 1802 1802
www.mobilitat.ad



Internet access



Andorra offers several **Wi-Fi hotspots** with free access in the ski resorts, the streets of the main towns, public places and shopping and leisure centres.

Also, keep in mind that there is a public network called Andorra Wi-Fi. This can be accessed on Avenida Carlemany in Escaldes-Engordany, Avenida Meritxell in Andorra la Vella and El Pas de la Casa. Accessing Andorra Telecom's website you will be able to purchase the *pass* that suits you best.

More information:

www.andorratelecom.ad
www.visitandorra.com



Postal address



All parishes have easy access to the Spanish and French postal systems.

La Poste

French Postal Service

Tel. (+376) 820 408
 Monday to Friday
 from 8.30am to
 1.30pm
 Saturdays from 9am
 to 12pm

Correos

Spanish Postal Service

Tel. (+376) 820 257
 Monday to Friday
 from 8.30am to
 2.30pm
 Saturdays from 9am
 to 1pm



GMT

Andorra shares the same time zone as its neighbouring countries, Spain and France: GMT +1.



220V



www.meteo.ad

NATIONAL MEDIA AND PRESS

Television



Radio i Televisió d'Andorra (RTVA)
www.andorradifusio.ad

Radio



Andorra 1: **96.0 FM 3** · www.andorra1.ad

Flaix FM: **93.8 FM** · www.andorra1.ad

RNA: **94.2 FM** · www.andorradifusio.ad

AD Ràdio: **101.5 FM** · www.adradio.ad

Ràdio Principat: **107.5 FM** · www.radioprincipat.com

Ràdio Valira: **93.3 FM** · www.cadenapirenaica.com

40 Principals Andorra: **103.3FM** · www.los40.com

Cadena Ser: **102.3FM** · www.cadenaser.com

Press



Altaveu digital
www.altaveu.com

Diari d'Andorra
www.diariandorra.ad

El Periòdic d'Andorra
www.elperiodicdandorra.ad

Poble Andorrà
pobleandorra.com

Bondia
www.bondia.ad

Més Andorra
www.mes.ad

Forum.ad
www.forum.ad

Ara Andorra
www.ara.ad



Public holidays



1 January	New Year's Day
6 January	Feast of the Epiphany
February	Carnival
14 March	Constitution Day
Easter Week	Good Friday and Easter Monday
1 May	May day
May or June	White Monday (in line with Easter Week)
15 August	Feast of the Assumption
8 September	Our Lady of Meritxell, the patron saint of Andorra
1 November	All Saints Day
8 December	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	St. Stephen's Day



+376 International Code | Calling Andorra from abroad

Useful numbers

Police:

110

Firefighters:

118

Hospital Nostra Senyora de Meritxell:


(+376) 871 000


Medical Emergency Service (Sum): 116


Mountain Rescue: 112

Telephone information service


National / International: 111

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www.visitandorra.com

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App Store

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NETWORK OF TOURIST OFFICES IN ANDORRA



Canillo

Av. St. Joan de Caselles
AD100 Canillo
Tel. (+376) 753 600
vdc@canillo.ad
www.turismecanillo.ad
www.facebook.com/
TurismeCanillo

Encamp

Plaça del consell 1
AD200 Encamp
Tel. (+376) 731 000
turisme@encamp.ad
www.encamp.ad

Funicamp

Av. François Mitterrand 87
AD200 Encamp
Tel. (+376) 834 011
turismefunicamp@encamp.ad

El Pas de la Casa

Av. del Consell General
AD200 El Pas de la Casa, Encamp
Tel. (+376) 755 100
turismepas@encamp.ad

Ordino

Casa de la Muntanya
C/Major nº20. AD300 Ordino
Tel. (+376) 878 173
ot@ordino.ad
www.visitordino.com

La Massana

Plaça de les Fontetes
AD400 La Massana
Tel. (+376) 835 693
turisme@comumassana.ad
www.visitlamassana.ad

Andorra la Vella

Plaça de la Rotonda
AD500 Andorra la Vella
Tel. (+376) 750 100
info@oficinaturisme.ad
www.visitandorra.com
www.andorralavella.ad

Sant Julià de Lòria

Plaça Laurèdia
AD600 Sant Julià de Lòria
Tel. (+376) 744 045
turisme@comusantjulia.ad
www.santjulia.ad/turisme

Escaldes-Engordany

Plaça Santa Anna
AD700 Escaldes-Engordany
Tel. (+376) 890 881
oficinaturisme@e-e.ad
www.e-e.ad

Tourist Offices abroad

Madrid

C/ Alcalá, 73
28009 Madrid
Tel.: (+34) 91 431 74 53
embajada@embajadaandorra.es
ambaixada_espanya@govern.ad
www.exteriors.ad

Lisbon.

Embaixada do Principado de Andorra em Portugal

Rua do Possolo, 76, 2º
1350-251 Lisboa
Tel.: (+351) 21 391 37 40
ambaixada_portugal@govern.ad
www.exteriors.ad

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tourist offices



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