

43 PIC DE L'ESTANYÓ

DON'T MISS...

stop to eat at the Sorteny Valley's refuge, where you will taste some traditional food.

DID YOU KNOW...

the fruit and the leaves of the raspberry plant (*Rubus idaeus*) are both beneficial for human beings. Raspberries have a high concentration of vitamin C, while the leaves are hypoglycaemic and therefore indicated for people suffering from diabetes. Moreover, raspberries are one of the ingredients of the famous Andorran liquor "Ratafia".

BEHIND THE NAME

Ordino: its meaning seems to stem from *ordo* (By declension, it becomes *ordinem* or *ordine*), meaning "order", although it could also be connected to *Orde*, referring to religious orders (e.g., the Franciscan order).



Boloria



Arnica montana



Isard



Estanyó Peak

This itinerary leads to the top of the majestic Pic de l'Estanyó (Estanyó Peak), 2,915 m above sea level. This is a taxing trek with an elevation difference of 1,135 m, but those who have the courage will get to discover La Vall de Sorteny Nature Park and surmount one of the 7 peaks in Andorra exceeding 2,900 m of altitude. Needless to say, the view from atop Estanyó Peak is spectacular.

The itinerary runs through sub-alpine meadows, watercourses and forests made up of mountain pine (*Pinus Uncinata*). In short, this route is the perfect setting to discover Andorra's alpine flora and fauna. During the first stretch of the route, hikers will find plenty of aspens (*Populus tremula*) and silver birches (*Betula pendula*), and might also get the chance to hear or see a bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) or a great spotted woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*). Butterflies are also a common sight, the most prevalent species being the pearl-bordered fritillary (*Boloria euphrosyne*),

which is similar to the small pearl-bordered fritillary (*Boloria selene*) but with a different pattern on the underside of its wings. While the first adult specimens appear in the beginning of May, it isn't until the last two weeks of June and first two of July hikers can expect to see them fluttering around them at every turn.

La Vall de Sorteny Nature Park is also full of medicinal plants such as the common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), which is used for colds, bronchopulmonary disorders, indigestion and circulatory problems; the snowy mespilus (*Amelanchier ovalis*), which is beneficial for hypertension and blood cleansing; and the Arnica Montana, which is renowned for its pain relieving and anti-inflammatory properties, among others. If you're quiet and watchful, you might even see a trip of Pyrenean chamois.



ROUTE PROFILE



TECHNICAL INFORMATION



3H 45 MIN

2H 30 MIN

+1.135 M

-1.135 M

11.720 M

NO

APPROXIMATE TIME

ROUTE SIGNAGE



| PLACE | DISTANCE | TIME | COORDINATES | DESCRIPTION |
|--|--------------------|------|-------------------------|---|
| ALTITUDE | ASCENT/DESCENT | | | |
| 1 VALL DE SORTENY NATURE PARK CAR PARK | -- (--) | -- | N42 37.549 E1 33.113 | From Andorra la Vella, drive along the CG-3, towards Ordino-Arcalis, until milepost "km 18". A few metres from the milepost, take road CS-370 until you reach the Canya de la Rabassa car park, where you'll find the La Vall de Sorteny Nature Park information hut. |
| 2 BOTANICAL GARDEN | 620 m (+95 m) | 20' | N42 37.365 E1 33.222 | Take the La Vall de Sorteny Nature Park forest track. After 200 m, the Camí de la Marta branches off to the right. Follow it, through the forest, to the botanical garden. |
| 3 CAMÍ DEL PIC DE L'ESTANYÓ | 1.100 m (+35 m) | 30' | N42 37.309 E1 33.583 | Follow the forest track until you reach a metal gate; the path leading to the peak and Estanyó pond. |
| 4 PLETA DEL DUEDRA | 1.700 m (+60 m) | 45' | N42 37.239 E1 33.966 | Cross the River Sorteny, pass over the Planell dels Besos plateau and enter the forest. You'll soon reach Pleta del Duedra. |

| PLACE | DISTANCE | TIME | COORDINATES | DESCRIPTION |
|--|---------------------|--------|-------------------------|--|
| ALTITUDE | ASCENT/DESCENT | | | |
| 5 PLETA DEL LLOMAR | 2.400 m (+200 m) | 1h 20' | N42 36.981 E1 34.046 | The path will pass through the forest, ascending constantly. Follow it until you exit the forest. |
| 6 RIVER ESTANYÓ | 3.250 m (+80 m) | 1h 40' | N42 36.708 E1 34.445 | The path is much flatter here. It runs along the Pleta del Llomar until it reaches a stone wall. Cross the River Estanyó. |
| 7 ESTANYÓ POND | 3.700 m (+90 m) | 2h | N42 36.381 E1 29.404 | From here, you'll gradually gain altitude until you reach the lake. |
| 8 SERRA DEL ROC DEL RELLOTGE | 4.450 m (+130 m) | 2h 30' | N42 36.415 E1 29.171 | Leave the pond behind, heading NE. After you pass a small scree, the path turns northward and becomes steeper as it heads towards the Serra del Roc del Rellotge mountain range. |
| 9 ESTANYÓ PEAK | 5.860 m (+445 m) | 3h 45' | N42 36.521 E1 35.553 | Follow the crest of the mountain until you reach a hollow. Cross it and keep following the ridge. Shortly afterwards you'll reach the summit. |

