

41 ESTANYS DE L'ANGONELLA

DON'T MISS...

taking a drink of the ferrous waters coming from the valley's rivers.

DID YOU KNOW...

Bordes ("huts") were typical two-storey constructions with a separate entrance. The lower floor was used to house livestock and the top storey was used as a threshing floor.

BEHIND THE NAME

Angonella: From the Basque *gona*, meaning "slope". In the case of *Angonella*, it is a diminutive with the suffix *-ella*, (indeed, the valley's slope is very narrow).

WALKING IN ANDORRA



Llevant peaks



Purple foxglove
(*Digitalis lutea*)



Toadflax
(*Linaria repens*)



Yellow gentian
(*Gentiana burseri*)

Angonella Valley, which is surrounded by the mountains of Ordino, is one of the few entirely unspoilt spots in the Principality of Andorra. It's an extremely valuable and well-preserved natural area. Thanks to the harshness of the route, the ponds found here remain isolated and pristine, as opposed to those found along the more crowded and common routes.

The itinerary begins in the town of Llorts, next to the Romanesque church of Sant Serni, which dates from the 12th century, where you begin the ascent along a small, steep street.

During first stretch of the route, which is surrounded by vast expanses of pine trees, junipers and ferns, you might feel like you've been

transported several centuries into the past: you'll pass by ancient stone huts, such as Borda de la Mollera, which is a magnificent example of the art of drystone construction, as well as ferruginous rivers like the Aiguarrebre, and centennial trees.

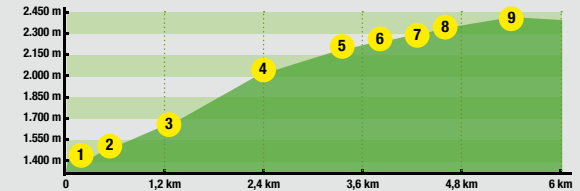
A bit further up you'll enter a glacial valley where you'll find the unmanned Angonella shelter, which can accommodate 6 people and has bunk beds, a chimney, benches, a table and fresh water.

The first lake is the lowest: Its emerald-coloured waters are 2,300 metres above sea level. A bit further up is Estany del Mig, the middle pond, at 2,440 metres of altitude. This is the largest and deepest of these ponds.



*The return journey follows the same path. If you have two vehicles, you can go up to the Cap de la Coma range and return to La Coma, at the Arcalis-Vallnord ski resort. The path is marked with yellow dots.

ROUTE PROFILE



TECHNICAL INFORMATION



ROUTE SIGNAGE



PLACE	ALTIITUDE	DISTANCE ASCENT/DESCENT	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION	
1	LLORTS 1.425 m	-- (--)	--	N42 35.769 E1 31.585	Following the CG-3 toward El Serrat, you'll come upon the lovely town of Llorts. Next to the church of Sant Serni, is a car park. Go up the narrow street called Carrer de l'Angonella, where you'll see a sign. A few metres past the sign you'll come to L'Angonella path.	
2	WATER TANK 1.540 m	480 m (+115 m)	30'	N42 35.836 E1 31.409	The path's slope is very steep at the start of the route. The path climbs up through oak and Scots pine trees until it comes to the first water tank.	
3	HUTS OF LA MOLLERA 1.680 m	1.280 m (+140 m)	1h	N42 36.108 E1 31.110	Your path levels out a bit until you'll come to the huts of La Mollera, which can't be seen from the path. On the right-hand side is a fountain in the middle of the forest.	
4	CANYA DE LA SUCARANA 2.010 m	2.430 m (+330 m)	2h	N42 36.415 E1 30.353	A few metres onward, you'll see a milking stall in the middle of the path. Cross the Aiguarrebre river, after which the path becomes very steep until you exit into the clearing, Canya de la Sucarana.	
5	L'ANGONELLA PASS 2.190 m	3.400 m (+180 m)	2h 30'	N42 36.507 E1 29.962	The climb becomes easier as you leave the mountain pine forest behind. Next, the path will snake up until it crosses a small river near El Racó pond. You can also see a waterfall. Now cross L'Angonella pass.	

PLACE	ALTIITUDE	DISTANCE ASCENT/DESCENT	TIME	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION	
6	L'ANGONELLA INTERSECTION 2.230 m	3.790 m (+40 m)	2h 45'	N42 36.438 E1 29.725	A few metres above L'Angonella pass, you'll find a refuge with capacity for 6 people. The path continues on the left without passing by the refuge and crosses the L'Angonella river. A few metres on, you'll reach the intersection and the sign for the L'Angonella path.	
7	MÉS AVALL LAKE 2.300 m	4.320 m (+70 m)	3h 10'	N42 36.381 E1 29.404	Turn off the GR and follow the path along the river with the yellow dots indicating the way. Cross the river and climb up a rocky area until you reach Més Avall lake, with its bucolic scenery.	
8	MIG LAKE 2.350 m	4.630 m (+50 m)	3h 25'	N42 36.415 E1 29.171	Continue on a level path along the riverbank, which gives you an opportunity to enjoy this beautiful natural setting after your strenuous hike. Soon you'll come to Mig lake.	
9	MÉS AMUNT LAKE 2.440 m	5.450 m (+90 m)	3h 45'	N42 36.492 E1 28.783	Go along the left side of the lake. The path's slope gets steeper until you go past the canal. From there, follow a level path until your arrival at Més Amunt lake.	

