

## STAGE 4: RIALP - TÍRVIA

RIALP – RODÉS – BORDES DE LA BOTELLA – BORDES D'ARNUI – LLAVORSÍ - TÍRVIA

**Time needed:** 8.15 h

**Ascent/descent approx.:** 1,330 m ascent, 940 m descent

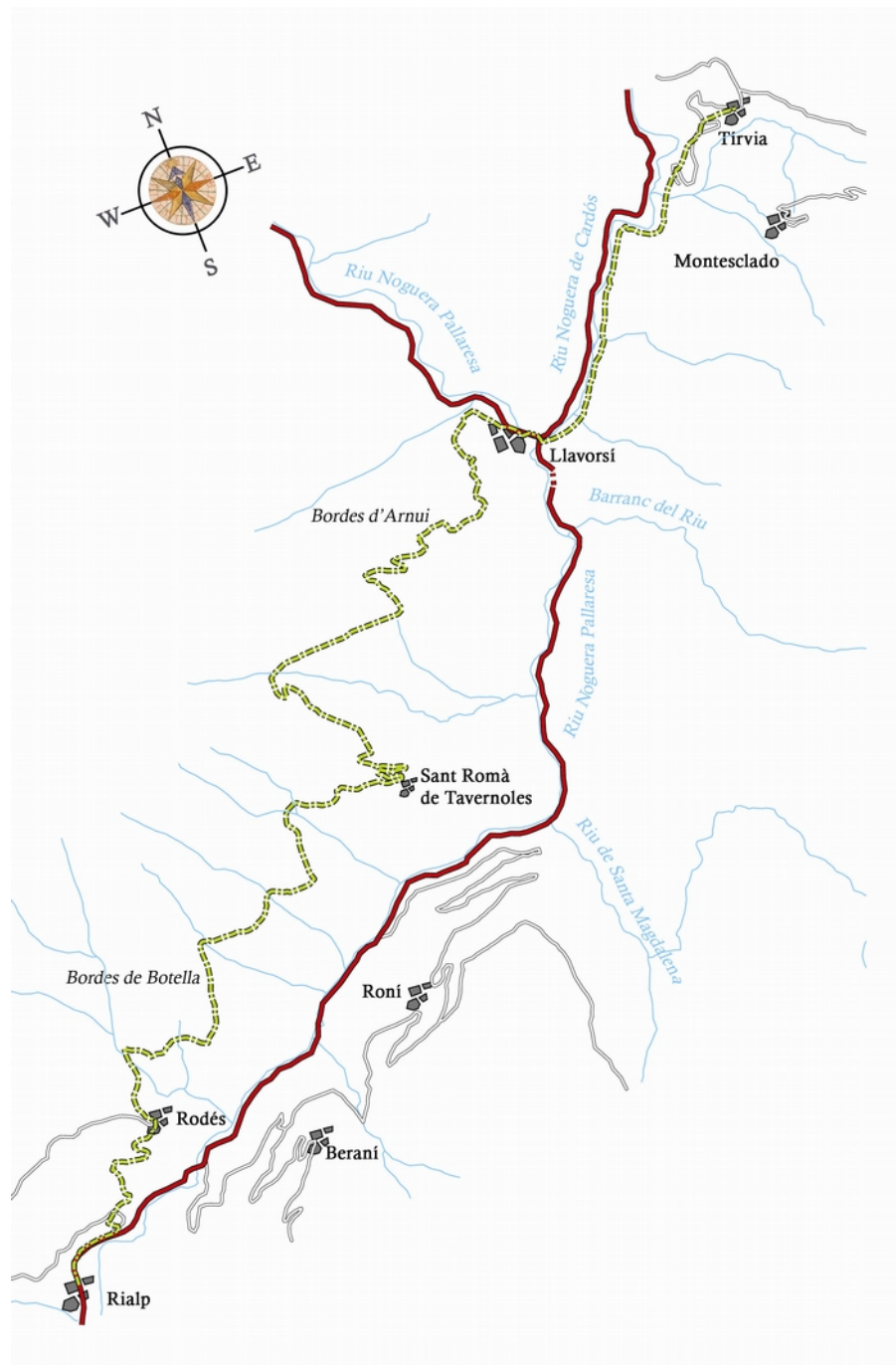
**Distance approx.:** 20.2 km

**Highest point:** 1,600 m

**Lowest point:** 745 m

**Map recommended:** *Ramat de l'Est*. Esc. 1:50.000. Mapa Guia Excursionista. Editorial Alpina.

**Description last updated:** June 2014



- 0 h **Rialp**, 745 m. We leave Rialp on the C-13 road, heading north. From here we can see some of the houses in the village of Rodés, our next stop. We pass the Fustes Sebastia saw mill on the left, up above the road. Shortly we come to a road on the left which leads to the villages of Surp, Escàs, Rodés and Caregue. We follow this road as far as **Rialp cemetery** and just before the entrance take a dirt track on the right, leaving the cemetery and a field behind us to our left. We head up as far as two circular water tanks. The path is marked with signposts and yellow paint markings.
- 0.20 h **Water tanks** and fork in the track, 790 m. We take the path to the right, leaving the water tanks below. Some twenty metres further we get off the track and take another very steep track on the left. This section may be overgrown. The track soon becomes a wider path, with thorny ginesta. The path leads upwards and includes some curves until it comes out on top of a small outcrop. We continue along a narrow path which shortly leads off to the right and carries on upwards following wide zig-zags through woodlands. There are fine aerial views of Rialp from here. A little later on, we're very close to reaching the white bell tower of the church in the village of Rodés.
- 1 h **Rodés**, 1, 085 m. Not to be missed: views from the village. Crossing through this small village to the approach road on the other side we turn left as far as some waste containers, followed by a bend. There's a signpost here and we turn right onto a track. Almost immediately there's a fork in the path. We take the upper path, which is flat at first but then drops down as far as the ravine. Yellow paint markings indicate the path.
- 1.15 h **Rodés ravine**. The track ends here. We cross the ravine and carry on along the old path. With Rodés still in sight, we come to a narrow path with a rope handrail. There are some cobbled sections along the path. We pass through woodlands, leaving Rodés further behind us.
- 1.35 h **Fork**. We take the upper path, which has a small rock wall on the right.
- 1.45 h **La Botella ruins**, 1,250 m. There's a track here which starts from Rodés and heads up as far as the peak of La Collada. We take this track north for a while, skirting the mountain. Looking ahead it's possible to see the ruins of the village of Sant Romà de Tavernoles, which is where we're heading.
- 1.50 h **La Botella ravine**. We cross the ravine. After a short descent, and a point where part of the slope has given way, the track ends. We carry on along a narrow path, through woodlands.
- 2.30 h **Trianis ravine**. On other side of the ravine, the path is narrowed by points where small sections of the slope have given way. Straight afterwards we cross another ravine in a shaded spot.
- 2.35 h After a short climb we pass a **building in ruins** on the left.
- 2.50 h **Sant Romà de Tavèrnoles**, 1, 260 m. Abandoned village. Up ahead, on the other side of the Noguera Pallaresa river, we can see the ski slopes of Port-Ainé and the Pic de l'Orri summit. There's a signpost in the middle of the village. In the upper section there's a drinking trough which normally has water running down into it. From here we head up behind the village following the yellow paint markings. The route takes us to the other side of the small hilltop just above the village, a unique spot, before flanking it in a broad movement.

- 3.35 h **Building**, 1,470 m. A little further on there's another property with a farm building, a *borda*, typical of the Pallars. After this we enter pine woodlands.
- 3.55 h **Marguilló ravine**. There's another ravine straight afterwards, with more water.
- 4.20 h Scots pine woods, 1,575 m. The path takes us past various springs.
- 4.50 h 1,600 m. **Change to the other side**. From this point we start dropping through very pretty woodlands, winding our way through pine trees, with numerous old fallen trees on the ground. We keep following the yellow paint markings, which change from straight lines to yellow circles at a given point
- 5.35 h **Bordes d'Arnui**, in a clearing in the woods. 1,385 m. Two different paths lead down to Llavorsí from here, forming a circular route between the town and these old farm buildings. We can take either path, both of which have yellow paint markings and lead down through woodlands to the town.
- 6.50 h **Llavorsí**, 855 m. (hotel, restaurant, campsite, shops, chemist's). Not to be missed: Headquarters for the Alt Pirineu Natural Park, a stroll around the town.

Alternative

**SHORT CUT TO AVOID THE FERRERA AND CARDÓS VALLEYS.** It's possible to go straight from Llavorsí to Escaló, passing through Aidí, Estaron and the Sant Pere del Burgal Monastery. This alternative takes two days off the whole route (13h of walking approx). See the description at the end of this itinerary.

- 6.50 h **Llavorsí**, 855 m. Getting from Llavorsí to Tírvia means starting from the riverbank of the two rivers which go through the town. We cross the Noguera Pallaresa river and leave the Noguera de Vallferrera to our left, following a narrow road which also goes past the Riberies municipal campsite on the left. After that we pass the Hotel Riberies on the right and when the asphalt ends we start walking along a track between the woods and the river.
- 7.15 h **Track ends**. There are some steps here and we carry on using a narrow stone path which is flat. We pass some chalets and storage buildings on the left, after which the path is no longer paved under foot.
- 7.40 h **Fork**. The path on the right would take us to Montesclado and Farrera, but we keep going straight on towards Tírvia. The path immediately drops a little, coming out on a track and crossing a gully before coming to a fork. We take the track on the left here.
- 7.45 h The track has been leading us upwards and now we turn off of it to get onto the **old path**, which crosses the track immediately and carries on upwards. Shortly afterwards it crosses the track again.
- 8 h We come out at a bend in the track. We get onto the track and head uphill.
- 8.05 h We get off the track again here and re-join the old path on the left, taking us closer to Tírvia and continuing to gain height. Gradually we enter the Coma valley. Shortly afterwards we cross the track again.
- 8.15 h **Tírvia, 975 m**. (hotel, restaurant, hostel for residential camps, heliport). Not to be missed: Medieval stone steles, the church, a stroll around the village, Easter ceremonies, bakery.

IF YOU FIND ANY MISTAKES IN THE DESCRIPTIONS OR CHANGES TO PATHS, OR IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE, PLEASE WRITE TO [info@ramatdecamins.cat](mailto:info@ramatdecamins.cat).

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## SHORT CUT AVOIDING THE FERRERA AND CARDÓS VALLEYS

**Time needed:** 1.50 h. **Ascent/descent:** 300 m ascent, 75 m descent. **Distance:** 5.7 km

0 h	<p><b>Llavorsí power station</b>, 855 m. The power station is located at a crossroads where the road from Rialp to Llavorsí intersects the road from the Ferrara valley to the Cardós valley. The old path to Aidí starts behind the crossroads. The path had no signage initially but was easy to follow. It's paved at first and has a metal handrail on the left. Further on there's an adventure sports company, specialising in rafting. The Llavorsí cemetery is on the right. Straight after that there's a fork in the path and we take the option on the right, going between two houses. After the houses we're on a narrow path, with the Noguera Pallaresa river down to our left. Soon we come to a track and follow it for 50 metres before re-joining the same narrow path on the right as it goes between two rocks. The next sections are stone under foot and take us higher up. We go past an information panel corresponding to one of Llavorsí town council's short walks.</p>
0.15 h	<p><b>Prats</b>. The path is not clearly defined here but if we look at the terrain carefully we see it goes over the top of a dry stone wall, between two meadows on different levels. The land has given way slightly here. We go past an electricity pole in a meadow on the left, right by the path. After that we're in oak woodlands, with various cattle tracks that may be confused with the path. We keep going straight on until we get to a broader part of the path, after which the narrow path is easy to follow again. It carries on at the same height, except for a section where it drops down by the river. This is a very pretty and shaded section, through ash and hazelnut trees by the river. The sound of the river provides pleasant company for us here before we move away from the water and head upwards through holm oak woods.</p>
0.45 h	<p><b>Meadow with an electricity pylon</b>, 850 m. Skirting the meadow on the lower side we go past the pylon on our right. There's an overgrown narrow path here.</p>
0.50 h	<p><b>Track</b>. We carry straight on, among holm oaks. On the right we go past an old slate quarry which for years provided people in the area with the slate used to build roofs for houses.</p>
0.55 h	<p><b>Farm building on the left of the track and a bend in the approach road to Aidí</b>, 875 m. Electricity pylon. From here on we head to the right and carry on upwards, following the road. There's a point up to the right, above the road, where erosion has turned some piles of conglomerates into sculptures.</p>
1.10 h	<p><b>Old path</b>. As soon as we see the first houses in Aidí we get off the road to take a pretty section of the old path. It takes us under some power lines and has dry stone rock walls on both sides. It crosses the road and then meets it again at the entrance to the village.</p>
1.15 h	<p><b>Aidí</b>, 970 m. We go through the village, as far as the upper section. After the last house we'll find the start of the path, which may be signposted. It starts between an asphalt track on the left and a dry stone wall on the right. From time to time there are small yellow paint markings. With a few very minor exceptions, the path is mainly flat and makes its way between meadows. We can soon see the village of Estaron, between the mountains.</p>

## Stage ascent/descent

