



STAGE 5: TÍRVIA - ÀREU

TÍRVIA – MARE DE DÉU DEL ROSER – ARAÓS – AINET DE BESAN – ALINS – ÀREU

Time needed approx: 2.35 h (until a path is available for the Alins-Àreu section this part should be done by car)

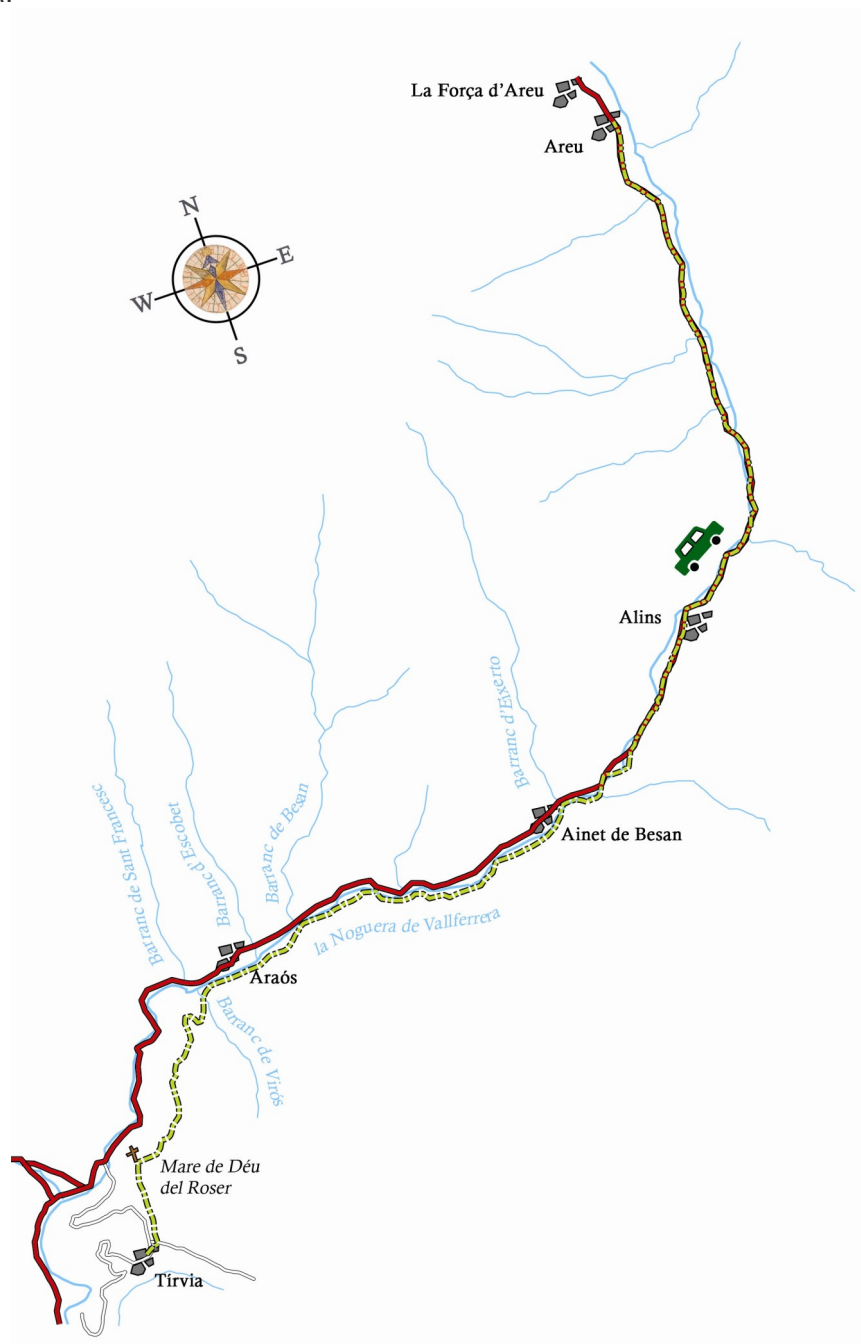
Ascent/descent approx: 355 m ascent, 310 m descent

Distance approx: 9.6 km

Highest point: 1,275 m

Lowest point: 910 m

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



- 0 h **Tírvia**, 975 m. We leave Tírvia on the road that heads up towards Farrera. On the right we go past the Sant Joan chapel, painted white, and on the left there's a signpost showing the way to the Mare de Déu del Roser hermitage and the old path to the Ferrera valley. We get on to a track that goes past some allotments on the left and soon come to a traditional farm building, with its threshing yard and hay barn on the upper floor etc. The track forks here and we take the lower option, passing the house on the right. On the left, through the meadows below the village we can see the heliport. At the next fork we carry on along the lower path.
- 0.10 h **Mare de Déu del Roser**. Hermitage built into the rock and last renovated in the 18th century. The cobbled stone floor inside is of particular interest. Once we go past the hermitage on our right there's an esplanade with a spring and a table etc. Just above this area there's a track. At the point where the track is signposted to Araós there's a fork. We take the upper track, which starts with a slight climb and then carries on flat until it ends. There's a signpost here and some steps take us up to the old path. The woods here is varied, with holm oaks, pines etc. We carry on upwards. There's stone under foot along some sections. The path leads up to the top of a small hilltop, where it forks. We take the option on the left, rather than the one going upwards. We go through pine woodlands until we go past a small hill on the left. This is a key point in the route, where we don't want to lose our way. Follow the indications carefully as there may not be enough markings. On the other side of the hill there's a drop of a few metres to a clearing. Ignore the overgrown narrow paths to the right here. The clearing itself is actually the old path, something which soon becomes clearer. It carries on downwards to the right and suddenly we can see the village of Araós, where we are heading.
- 0.45 h The path comes out on a **track**. We turn left and stay on it until we reach the village.
- 1 h **Araós**, 910 m. (rural accommodation). Not to be missed: a stroll around the village, the church, the community centre, which sometimes houses exhibitions. The village is on the other side of the river and we cross a bridge to get to it. To get to Ainet, instead of crossing the river and going to Araós we can follow the road up through the Virós woods. After a few metres there's a signpost on the left for Ainet de Besan and Alins. This is a narrow path which runs parallel to the river, with hazel trees on either side.
- 1.20 h We go past a very large **meadow** on the right, and on the left, a track which comes out on the road. We carry straight on, with dry stone walls on either side
- 1.25 h **We cross a track** which to the left crosses the river and comes out on the road. After that we cross a small bridge over a water channel and enter woodlands. On the left, on the other side of the river, we can see the Felip farm building, a working cattle farm. From the farm building there's a path to the Sant Miquel de Besan hermitage and the abandoned village of Besan.
- 1.35 h To the right, very close to the path, we go past the **La Trenca** spring. After some wooden walkways, saving us from getting our feet wet in the sodden ground here, we come to a section where some wooden structures have been constructed to our right to prop up any small landslides.
- 1.45 h We come out on a **track**, which we follow.
- 2 h **Ainet de Besan**, 1,000 m. The village is on the other side of the river. From there we can take a path to Aixerto (restaurant, rural accommodation, hostel). Not to be missed: a stroll around the old village and the new village. If we don't stop off to go to Ainet we carry straight on using a track which crosses over some water channels.

- 2.05 h **Small wooden bridge.** We carry on along the track. There comes a point where it enters a meadow a couple of times. We skirt the meadow on its lower side.
- 2.15 h We come out at the **road**, cross it with care. On the other side there's a track and from there the old path can be found, to the right, taking us towards Alins alongside the road. We can see the Sant Quirc hermitage on a hilltop and behind that, the silhouettes of the Monteixo and Noris mountains and the Gerri and Palomer summits in the Alt Pirineu Natural Park.
- 2.20 h We come out on the **road** again, which we follow upwards between the fencing which protects us from cars and the river.
- 2.25 h We go past a track on the right which leads to Santes Creus, the Buiro woods and the Gall Fer refuge.
- 2.30 h Now we just have to follow a straight section along the **road** to get to Alins. We cross the road to use the old path on the other side.
- 2.35 h **Alins**, 1,050 m. (hotel, campsite, rural accommodation, restaurant, shop). Not to be missed: The Mall de la Farga (a huge cast iron piece in the façade of the town hall); Sant Vicenç church, the Torre de les Bruixes dovecote and the 13th century watchtower; Sant Quirc (12th century); summer solstice bonfires; Santa Maria de la Torre (12th century), a stroll around the village streets.

Alins – Àreu by car.

Àreu, 1,275 m. (hotel, restaurant, rural accommodation, campsite, shop). Not to be missed: Museu de la Fusta, a stroll around the village, the church.

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.

Support the '**Apadrina un camí!**' project and sponsor a footpath

Stage ascent/descent

