

**RAMAT
DE CAMINS**

STAGE 11: SALARDÚ - BOSSÒST

SALARDÚ – UNHA – GESSA – ARTIES – GARÒS – CASARILH – ESCUNHAU - VIELHA – GAUSAC – AUBÈRT – PÒNT D'ARRÒS – ES BÒRDES – ERA BORDETA – BOSSÒST

Time needed: 7.50 h

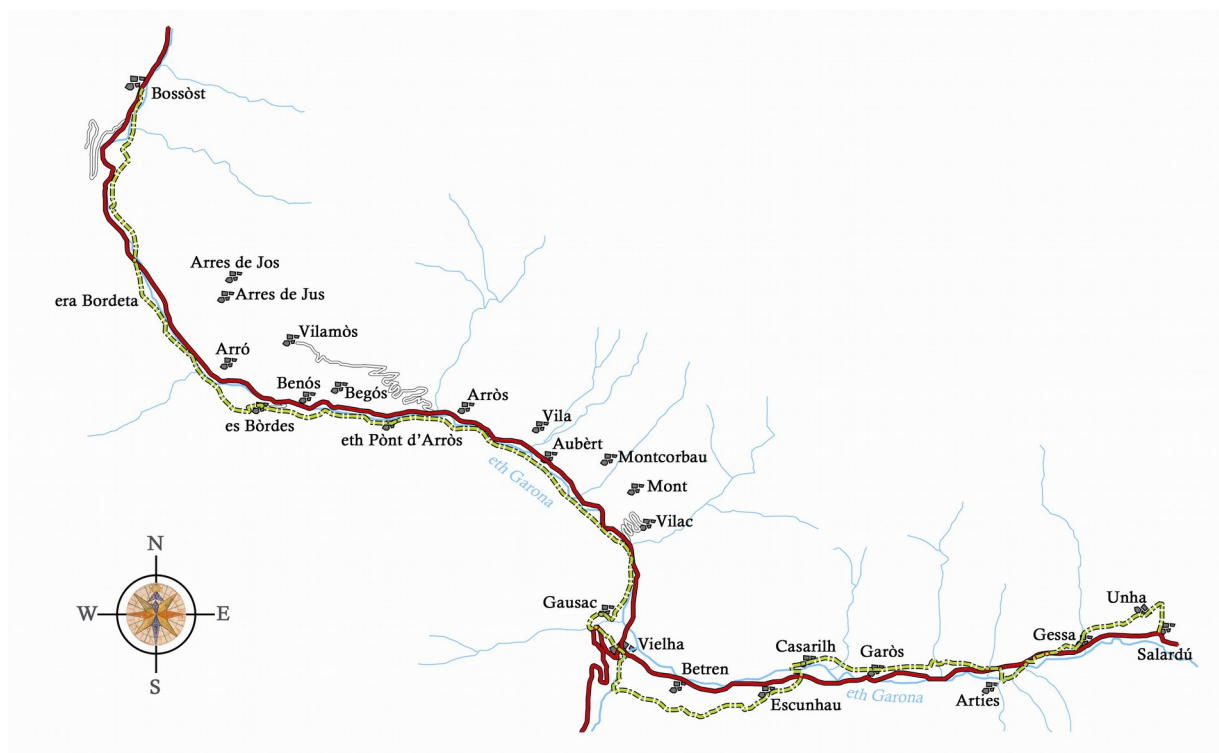
Ascent/descent (approx): 540 m ascent, 910 m descent

Distance (approx): 30.3 km

Highest point: 1,285 m

Lowest point: 710 m

Map recommended: *Val d'Aran*. Scale 1:40,000. Editorial Alpina.



- 0 h **Salardú**, 1,260 m. We have to go by road from Salardú to Unha. It's only half a kilometre.
- 0.10 h **Unha**, 1,285 m (hotel, rural accommodation, restaurant, shops.) Not to be missed: a walk round the village streets, the church and Ço de Brastet, a former stately home. This 16th-century house is on our right as we enter the village, which we go through.
- 0.20 h We leave Unha passing a **drinking trough** on our right, with signs next to it. The cobbled street we are on immediately becomes a track that makes its way through fields, ash trees, hawthorn, etc. Ahead of us we can already see the houses in Gessa.
- 0.40 h **Gessa**, 1,263 m. (restaurant.) Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We make our way through the top end of the village until we come to some signs that tell us to turn left to go down to Arties and Garòs. The street we go down is Carrer deth Barranc, which runs parallel to the Corilha ravine (*barranc*) on our right. We come out on the high street, Carrer Major. Then we cross a bridge over the ravine and follow a narrow track.
- 1 h **Road**, C-28 We cross this and go down some steps with a hand rail to the road below, a bypass to Arties. We pass the Garona, cross a public car park and pass an enclosure on the right where some bears live in rather poor conditions.
- 1.05 h **Arties**, 1,140 m (hotel, apartment, campsite, B&B, restaurant, shops, service station, chemist's). Not to be missed: a walk round the village streets, the churches. We turn right to climb up to the C-28 road, to the Sant Joan church, which is a museum. The Camin Reiau (Royal Way) starts from the church. It begins with a stretch of paved road and immediately enters a small path that goes to Garòs and Sant Jaime. The track is quite flat.
- 1.10 h **Junction**, 1,176 m. The path to the Sant Jaime hermitage is on our right. Just after it we pass the Salides ravine and come to Garòs.
- 1.11 h **Garòs**, 1,144 m. (rural accommodation, hotel, B&B, restaurant.) Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We cross the village, passing a children's recreation area to our right, and then come to the Sant Julià church, also on our right. We leave the village via a concrete path. Not long after that on the right we pass the Early Christian Deth Taro necropolis, which dates from the end of the 4th / beginning of the 5th century. The track turns into a little path that skirts to the left of the villages of Casarilh and Escunhau, which we reach by crossing a bridge over the Garona (Garonne) river. A track takes us to the village.
- 1.50 h **Casarilh**, 1,044 m. (rural accommodation, restaurant.) Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. From here you can go to Betren and Vielha (short route) or Escunhau below the La Tuca ski slopes and Vielha (long route). We describe the latter. After crossing the road by a zebra crossing, we go up the other side of the village, where the buildings are newer. We climb Carrer dels Còms, a narrow street with an asphalt surface.
- 1.55 h **Junction**. Go left and you come to Escunhau lake, while straight on brings you to Escunhau. We carry straight on.
- 2 h **Escunhau**, 1,055 m. (hotel, rural accommodation, restaurant). Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We pass the church and village lower down, on the right, and take a track that runs up the middle of a wood which offers some shade. Parts of it conserve the old stone paving. We climb to 1,135 m. There the track turns into a path for pack animals edged with stone on both sides, until we reach a fork.
- 2.20 h **End of the path, which forks into two tracks** The one below has a fence. We take the upper one, which climbs quite steeply.

- 2.30 h **Junction**, 1,142 m. Left leads to La Tuca de Betren. We carry on straight ahead, going down.
- 2.45 h **Bend in the track and junction**, 1,083 m. Going right takes you to Betren. We follow the path to the left, which ends up at Vielha.
- 2.50 h Telecommunications **antennas** on top of a hill, 1,086 m. The track ends and we keep going via a very narrow path that runs down the middle of some hazel trees and, after that, some fields.
- 3 h This path comes out on a **road**. Turn left and you go to the Vielha pass on the GR211-5, while turning right, which is where we are heading, takes you to Vielha, just half a kilometre away. We enter this small town on the Nere river side.
- 3.05 h **Vielha**, 1,000 m. (hotel, rural house, apartments, restaurant, shops, chemist's, service station.) Not to be missed: the church, the wool factory (Era Fabrica dera Lana), the Val d'Aran Museum, the Aran historical archives (Archiu Istoric Generau d'Aran). We cross the Nere and go down to the main road. Here we turn left to the roundabout in the road to go to Lleida, via the Vielha tunnel, Baqueira or France. We have to take the road that climbs to Gausac from the other side of the roundabout. We leave that road when we reach Carrer de Casau and go up that street, passing the Pirene hotel on the left. Behind the Sacuma building we climb some steps, cross some fields and take a narrow path, passing the road to the Vielha tunnel where it bends round on our left.
- 3.30 h We pass the **Comes ravine**, which descends through a channel, and follow a narrow path with stone paving in places that climbs steeply. Then we come to a broader, grassy path that cuts across it. Here we turn right and go downhill towards Gausac. Turning left would take us up to Casau.
- 3.35 h **Junction** as we reach Gausac's first houses, 1,030 m. The upper path goes to Artiga de Lin, while the lower one we are going to follow will take us to Gausac and Aubèrt.
- 3.35 h **Gausac**, 1,030 m. (apartments, restaurant). Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We go down a very steep street called Carrer Porter to the square, Plaça Major. Carrying on along Carrer Major we come to the Gausac approach road and the church bell tower. We turn right on the road and soon take a track on the left.
- 3.55 h The track ends in a **meadow**. Leaving the meadow to our right, we follow a narrow path between the grass. We enter a shady wood of hazel, ash, boxwood and other trees, following a level path. The sound of cars can be heard on the road nearby and there are wooden footbridges and handrails.
- 4 h We come out opposite the **treatment plant**, 944 m. Passing it on the right, we go up a track.
- 4.10 h Track **junction**. To the left it goes up to Plan Batalhèr but we go straight ahead towards Aubèrt and take a narrow path back into the wood.
- 4.20 h **Fork**. We take the path that continues straight ahead through the middle of the wood and ignore the one that descends steeply to the river. This is a very pretty stretch. To the left we pass a trough and a fountain dating from 1952. After a steep descent we come out onto a meadow above the river. We turn left and follow a grassy track.
- 4.40 h **Aubèrt**, 929 m. (hotel, restaurant). Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We arrive via Carrer Prats de Mont. Without crossing the bridge on the right, we carry on by the road, on the Baricauba path

- 4.45 h **Fork.** The asphalt road carries on up. We take the path to the right.
- 5.10 h **Pònt d'Arròs** on the right, 857 m. (campsite, hotel, restaurant). We pass by without stopping and go straight ahead on the same path into the wood.
- 5.20 h We pass the **Verneda campsite** on our right, below the path.
- 5.35 h We go under some big **pipes** belonging to the Benós Hydroelectric Power Station, which is on our right, on the opposite side of the Garona (Garonne) river.
- 6 h **Es Bòrdes**, 853 m. (rural accommodation, restaurant). Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets. We go along Carrer del Camin Reiau to a junction. To the right it goes down to Arró. We carry straight on towards Era Bordeta. The path to Artiga de Lin starts from the square, Plaça de Major. We follow the signs for Era Bordeta.
- 6.20 h **Fork**, 798 m. We take the track below, which goes through a very pretty landscape.
- 6.40 h We pass a **campsite** beyond the river on the right and continue along the asphalt road, which has a slight incline, immediately passing another campsite on the left. The road starts to descend.
- 6.41 h **Era Bordeta**, 778 m. (campsite, restaurant, hostel, service station). As a result of the floods in 2013, the old path has been lost. Now you have to take the bridge over the river, cross a meadow that runs parallel to it, follow the road to the Prado Verde i Forcanada campsite and take the bridge back over the river to get back to the path damaged by the floods.
- 6.55 h We pass the **Era Lana hostel** on the right.
- 7 h **Road**, 770 m. We turn left. We enter Terçon de Quate Lòcs and keep going alongside the road. A few metres further on we cross it, take a stretch of the old road, pass the Pas deth Lop bridge and immediately leave the asphalt to start climbing a track.
- 7.05 h **Fork.** We take the grassy path above as the one below goes to a private property. It climbs a bit at first but immediately starts to drop between some lush vegetation. A very pretty stretch.
- 7.35 h **Bend** in the asphalt road. We still have 1.7 km to get to Bossòst. Going left would bring us out on the general road but we carry on uphill. Now we can see the small town of Bossòst in the distance. We carry on along the asphalt road, passing some rocks equipped for rock climbing to our left.
- 7.40 h We pass the **Bossòst Hydroelectric Power Station** on the right and continue along the asphalt road.
- 7.45 h We pass a small **chapel** dedicated to Sant Jaime, which is on the right, and then some pipes.
- 7.50 h **Bossòst**, 710 m. (hotel, apartment, rural house, campsite, restaurant, shops). Not to be missed: the church, a walk round the village streets.

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.

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