

Emblematic **M**editerranean **M**ountains as **C**oastal destinations of excellence (**EMbleMatic**)

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CASE STUDY **PP2 - PEDRAFORCA MOUNTAIN**



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WP3 – Studying

Activity A3.3 Conduction of the in depth study of the criteria composing the emblematic dimension of the EMM

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SUMMARY

This case study is drafted in the framework of the WP3 “Studying” of EMbleMatiC project.

This document presents the recording of the elements of the emblematic dimension of mountain of Pedraforca based on the template produced by PP4’s subcontractor (ETAM), approved and adapted by the project’s Study Scientific Committee (LP1, PP4, PP6, PP8).

This case study document will consist a reference document for **the overall in depth study of the emblematic dimension of the project’s touristic dimension** whilst it will constitute the emblematic dimension characterization document for Pedraforca mountain.

The case study is operative in correlation with D.3.3.2-Report on participative workshop, results of which have been incorporated in it.

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Executive Summary

In 2013, the Development Agency of Berguedà - formerly Consortium of training and initiatives Cercs - Berguedà - representing the Pedraforca mountain and the Grand Site of France Ste Victoire were invited to participate in the Emblematic Mediterranean Mountains project which included the mountains of Canigó (France), Olimp (Greece), Pirin (Bulgaria) and the Italian University of Piacecibosano.

This project was developed between the years 2013 and 2015 and served to start creating a network of emblematic Mediterranean mountains that worked under the same objectives. Within the framework of this project, the five first criteria that gave the category of emblematic to these mountains were defined. These criteria were: picturesque scenery, myths and legends, power of inspiration, historical sites, excellent biodiversity and local specific services.

In 2015, the Mountain Network was expanded and in 2016, funding was achieved within the framework of the European Interreg MED program to carry out a new project called EMbleMatiC, Emblematic Mountains of the Mediterranean as coastal destinations of excellence.

In December 2016, the development agency of Berguedà presented the project to the elected representatives and the local agents of the municipalities that are in the valleys of Pedraforca.

From that moment on, the creation of a local work group to advance the project began with the idea of creating one or more eco-itineraries in the area of Pedraforca. The group also had to serve to better structure the territory and work to achieve a series of challenges towards sustainable tourism. On March 20, 2017, the first session of this group established a meeting every last Monday of the month to advance on various topics.

The first part of the work presented below is the result of the reflections made by this group together with the contributions of the technicians of the Development Agency of Berguedà and focus on the characterization of the emblematic dimension of the mountain

The second part of the work has been done with information from several external sources as well as from data provided by the same managers of tourist establishments in the region. This is part of the analysis of the tourist offer and demand of the territory.

The eco-itineraries are just a proposal that can be modified depending on the final conclusions of the study.

PART I

1.1 Introduction

The Pedraforca mountain is located in northeastern of Catalonia, in Berguedà county, in the northern part of the province of Barcelona. This is where the first mountains of the Pyrenees rise, and the mountainous area that we can find in the province of Barcelona. For this reason, Berguedà is known as the Pyrenees of Barcelona.

Pedraforca was the first mountain explored and visited by Catalan hikers and here is the beginning of mountaineering and climbing in Catalonia.

1.2 Physical and human geography of the mountain

Pedraforca is 140 km far from Barcelona, 150 km from Girona. It is also 160 km away from the Costa Brava (Platja d'Aro, Lloret). It is 50 km from the French border and 110 km from Prades, the gateway to Canigou.

By road, you can reach it via the B-400 road that leaves the Collet, at kilometer 112.9, the Llobregat axis, C-16 / E-9). There is also the road that goes from La Seu d'Urgell and passes through Tuixén, Josa del Cadí and Gósol, C-563.

In the area of direct influence of Pedraforca we find 5 municipalities (Saldes, Gósol, Gisclareny, Vallcebre and Josa and Tuixent). In total there are 910 people occupying an area of 255 km². In the area of influence of Pedraforca, it would be necessary to add 4 more municipalities: Bagà, Fígols, Guardiola de Berguedà La Vansa and Fórnsols. With them we would add 3300 inhabitants to the area, making a total of 4200 people living in this area. 7 municipalities are part of the county of El Berguedà and 2 of the Alt Urgell. In addition 6 belong to the province of Barcelona and 3 in the province of Lleida.

You can only access the area by car, since the train does not exist. Public transportation is very scarce, at most we can find a bus every day and with unfavorable schedules. Practically it can be said that you can only access the area by private car. A plan is currently underway to improve this aspect.

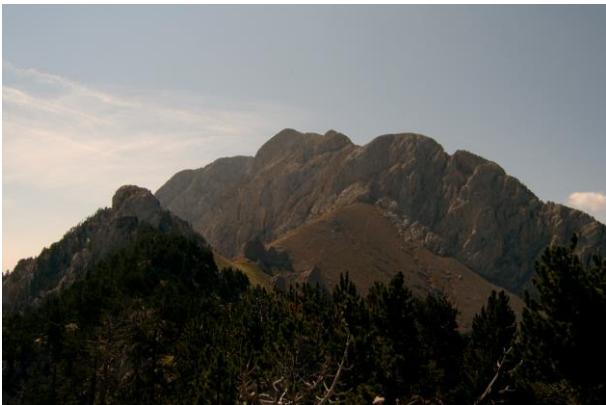
The economy of the area is based on agriculture, livestock, forestry, tourism sector (lodgings, restaurants, companies of activities, guides, center of the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park, ...) and services sector (banking, education ...). We can say that the industry is non-existent in the area except for small agri-food craft industries.

Focusing on the geographic aspect of the Pedraforca massif, we can say that we are facing a Pyrenean massif of some 25 km² of flat-area extension, which rises from 1,200 meters from the river Salades to the 2,507 m from the upper Pollegó summit (ICC 2009). It is located in the extreme northwest of the Berguedà region, between the Sierra del Cadí, in the north, and the green relieves and Ensija mountains in the south, forming part of the municipalities of Saldes and Gósol.

The main feature of the Pedraforca massif is its geological complexity, of great interest. In an area of few square kilometers, the upper mantle of the Pedraforca, the lower Pedraforca mantle and the Cadí mantle converge, from top to bottom, testimonies of the rising of the Pyrenees during the alpine orogeny. The upper mantle consists of a series made up of materials from the Keuper,

the Jurassic, a considerable thickness of sediments from the lower Cretaceous and a few meters from the Upper Cretaceous. This pack of rocks is located on the lower mantle of Pedraforca formed by materials from the Keuper, the Jurassic and the complete series of the Upper Cretaceous-Paleocene (Gresolet series). The folds of these materials are derived from the upper mantle site, which also produced a deposit of calcareous pebbles that ended up consolidating in the conglomerates of the Roca Roja and the Coll de la Trapa. Within the landscape, the Cadí mantle emerges in the area of the Gresolet cliffs, on the basis of which it is possible to clearly see the contact with the rocks of the upper mantle of Pedraforca, which follows approximately the route of the torrent of the Women. The characteristic form of the Pedraforca is because the polygons correspond to two vertical bars of limestone from the lower Cretaceous, with an interleaved level of marls. Differential erosion of marbles, softer, with respect to limestone, harder, has shaped this so peculiar relief.

But the Pedraforca almost unique characteristic shape reminds us to a hurdle, consisting of a pole on each side and the Enforcadura with the so-called Tartera in the middle. This perspective, appreciable from the eastern side of the mountain (Maçaners, Saldes, Gisclareny ...) is the most popular, but if you see the massif from other directions, the aspect changes a lot and has little to do with the mentioned way.



The two pollegons are formed by massive limestone rocks, from the lower Cretaceous (specifically from the Aptià period), while the area of the Enforcadura and the Tartera are formed by blocks and calcareous pebbles released from the polygons and accumulated during the Quaternary, more specifically the Holocene (IGC 2009).

The Pollegó Superior is formed by the ridge that joins the peak of the same name of 2,507 m, the Calderer peak of 2,497 m and the peak of the Cabirols of 2,322 m. The north face of this junction falls almost vertically about 1,300 m above the valley and the Gresolet forest. With regard to the Pollegó Inferior, with a maximum altitude of 2,445 meters, we should also emphasize the verticality of the walls, falling to the north on the Enforcadura and to the south on Prat de Reo and Coll de Jou (General Direction of Natural Heritage and Physical Environment 1997).

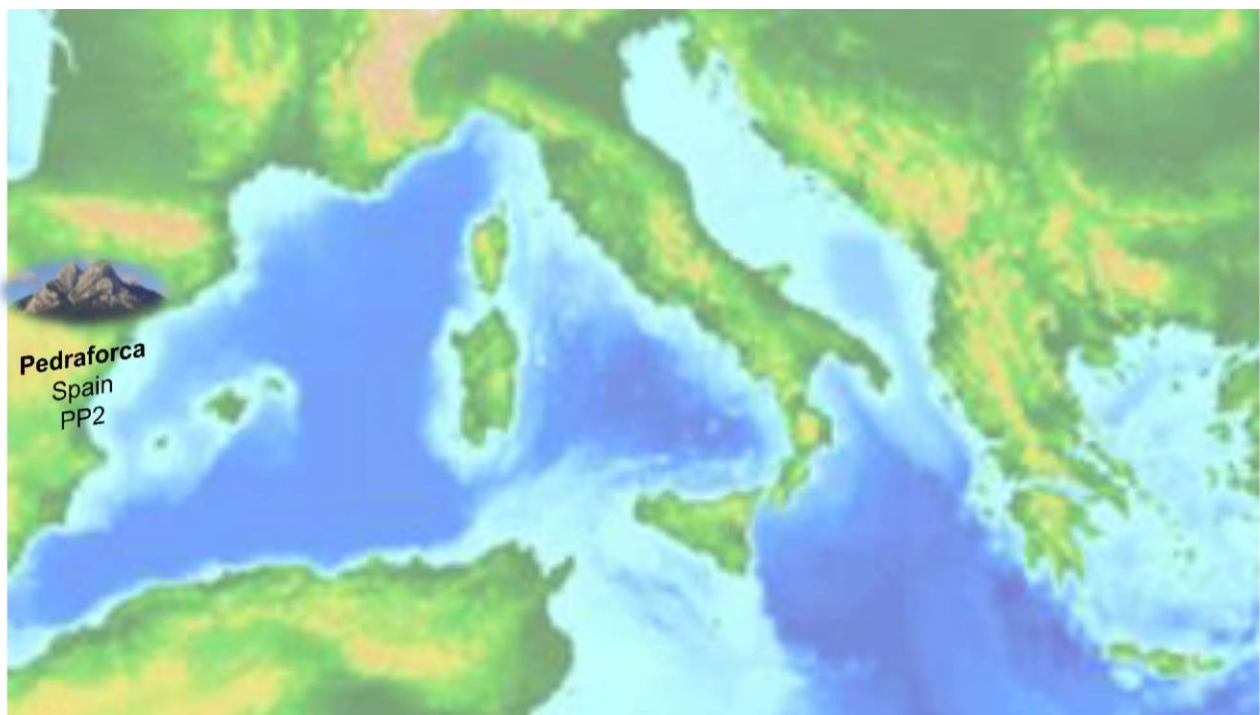
The Enforcadura joins the two pollegons and presents slopes lighter on both sides where the demolition of the polygons accumulate forming a crest on each side. These plots receive the name of the municipality that is closest to them; Thus, on the western side we find the Tartós de Gósol and the east of Saldes.

In the area of influence of Pedraforca we find the Natural Park of the Cadí Moixeró with about 3 peaks that exceed 2000 meters of altitude.

Regarding the weather, the area of Pedraforca presents a sub-Mediterranean climate with a certain continental influence and clearly modified by altitude.

We only have series of precipitation and temperatures taken at Saldes itself, where the annual average temperature is 10.8° and precipitation totals 910 mm (Aymerich et al., 1998). As a result of altitude, the conditions in the area of Pedraforca are different. The temperatures are lower with an estimated annual average of about 4-5 °C in the higher parts, where winters have some months with monthly averages below zero. Regarding the annual average precipitations they would increase up to the 1,050-1,100 mm, with great variations, as much between years as between months. The summer is the rainiest time with monthly averages of up to 225 mm and the winter of the busiest station. There is no data on what proportion of these precipitations is in the form of snow, but in fact it is regularly snowed from October to May and even some summer day. (Atlas Climàtic Digital de Catalunya and SIMA 2009).

As for the vegetation, we find the altitudinal zonation characteristic of the Eastern Pre-Pyrenees. Up to 1400-1,700 m (depending on the orientation of the slopes) the landscapes are typical of the submediterranean mountain with pine forests, beech trees and bushes. Above these altitudes, we find high mountain landscapes with slopes covered with black pine forests, subalpine pastures, and above all, rocks and scrub vegetation (due to the great presence of these) (Carreras et al.1997, Vigo et al., 2003). The habitat map at 1: 10,000 scale of the area (Lluent & Carreras 2007), recognizes different environments in the area of the massif. Broadly speaking, in the polygon zones, the habitat of limestone rocks in the high mountains is very widespread, while in the area of the Enforcadura and part of the Tartera there are ussona meadows along with Limestone peat bogs, high mountain rocks. In the lower parts we would find calcareous black pine forests of the Pyrenean calcareous and box of the average mountain.



In relation to natural dangers and accidents in the mountain we are facing a mountain that is not under any type of seismic or similar risk. The main danger is the loosening of rocks that can occur

next to the walls or also that the users may suffer some impact on the part of stones that go down uncontrolled by the scree. There are also exposed areas where users who are not careful can easily fall off.

Most accidents occur due to bad behaviours of the users, either as a result of starting the trip too late, of having a bad physical preparation or of not being properly equipped.

The number of serious accidents in which firefighters or other security forces have had to intervene are at an average of 25 per year. The rest of the accidents are usually mild.

PART II

C1 PROUD LOCAL PEOPLE

As far as we refer to spatial cohesion we do it from two points of view: cohesion of the population and territorial cohesion of space.

Regarding the population, historically there has not been much cohesion between the inhabitants of the various peoples that make up this space. In recent years, this aspect has evolved positively and in some aspects it has improved more than in others. At the tourist level, for example, there is good cohesion at the corporate, institutional and promotion levels.

On the other hand, if we refer to the pride of the people of the territory to be part of the place, there is a feeling of great belonging

As for the territory, the area is considered very well cohesive. The space has the Pedraforca as a hub in the centre. For the surrounding area, Pedraforca is surrounded by mountain ranges that have just delimited the space. To the north we find the Cadí and Moixeró mountain ranges, to the west the Serra del Verd and to the south of Serra d'Ensija. To the east, there is the valley that descends to find the Llobregat.

The areas surrounding Pedraforca are protected areas with the cataloging of natural spaces of natural interest, except for the Cadí Moixeró mountain range that has the cataloging of the Natural Park, the second highest level of protection in Spain, only surpassed for national parks. The most significant difference in Spain between national and natural parks is that the former do not allow any kind of economic activity while the second ones allow it. The element that gives cohesion to this territory is the Pedraforca Mountain.

Within the area we can find two well differentiated areas at the level of human settlements. In the west, there are some more grouped villages (Gósol, Josa, Tuixent), while in the area the population is more widespread and scattered in small groups of houses or directly in isolated farmhouses (Salades, Vallcebre, Gisclareny)

There is a difference between the legal limits and the virtual limits of this space since the legal limits of the natural spaces end up in the valley while the virtual limits correspond to the geographic limits that are placed in the ridges. Therefore, they only include the southern part of the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park, the eastern part of the green mountain range and the northern part of the Ensija mountain range. In the level of legal protection only the PNIN of Pedraforca would be in the total servitude, the other protected natural areas would be partially.

We talk about taking advantage of the name that is used lately "Valls del Pedraforca" instead of "Pedraforca" as it gives a broader view of the territory and could help to establish the idea of "visit the valley" and not "climb the mountain".

The area is considered a continuous area.



C2 Institutional recognition

The massif of Pedraforca is a protected area declared a Natural Place of National Interest (hereinafter PNIN) in 1982. The area, in addition, is located within the limits of the Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park, which was declared a year later.

The first official proposal for the protection of space dates back to 1932 in the Draft Regional Planning project, which proposed the Cadí area (which included that of Pedraforca) as an area of parks and forests reserved. The difficult political-social situation of the time caused that this Preliminary Project never got to be approved.

The strong impact of the extraction of open-air lignite in the southern zone, which began in the 19th century and intensified in the 1950s, affected the urgency of seeking a figure of protection for space. This came in 1963 with the Planning Plan of the province of Barcelona, which included the so-called Cadí-Pedraforca Natural Park within a network of 13 parks. This figure, however, did not push forward either.

The definitive push for protection of the area came in 1980 when the Urban Planning Commission of Catalonia proposed the figure of a special national space for the Cadí-Moixeró-Pedraforca mountain ranges. This proposal was formalized in 1982 with the declaration of Pedraforca as a PNIN (Law 6/1982 of May 6) with a surface area of 1,671 ha, of which 1,352 has been included in the municipality of Saldes and 319 ha in that of Gósol. In 1983, as indicated, the legal protection was completed with the declaration of the Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park (Decree 353/1983). Finally, in 1992, Pedraforca was included in the Plan for spaces of natural interest (PEIN; Decree 328/1992).

The declaration of Pedraforca as PNIN has led to the introduction of a set of protection standards. Among others, we find the possibility of maintaining traditional agricultural and livestock uses, the cataloguing of non-urban land, the regulation of hunting activities, the prohibition of introducing non-autochthonous plant species or animals and the non-authorization of Installation of artificial elements that degrade the landscape (General Direction of Natural Heritage and Physical Environment 1997).

As we have said, the PNIN of the Massif of the Pedraforca is included in the Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park, but the condition of Natural Place gives it a different categorization within the Park itself and provides it with management independence, although in many respects It has common links with Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park.

The PNIN Patronage of the Massif of Pedraforca was created to achieve the protection and conservation objectives set forth in the Declaration of the Place. Decree 233/2004 of March 16, assigned its management to the Board of Directors of the Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park. According to this norm, the Board of Directors of the Park must prepare the proposals for action and the preliminary draft of the annual budget of the Park prior to the report of the Patronat del Massís del Pedraforca; In addition, the management actions of this space must be carried out with the collaboration of the Board of Trustees. In some way, the Board of Directors of the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park has an executive function and the Patronat del Massís del Pedraforca has a control function.

The Patronat del Massís del Pedraforca is chaired by the General Director of the Natural Environment and has as members two representatives of the Department of the Environment and

The PNIN does not have its own budget allocation, it depends on that of the Park. Therefore, but also to facilitate its management, the possibility of including the Park within the Natural Park has been considered, while preserving the protection categories established in the Declaration of the Place. This proposal, however, this has not been welcome by the City Councils of Gósol and Saldes, since they believe that integrating the Park into the Natural Park would lose management force over the same space as this would be managed by the governing body of the Park Natural of the Cadí-Moixeró (where they would hardly have the same representation as the Patronage).



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The declaration is applied in spaces where it is considered convenient to preserve the quality of the night sky due to its unique characteristics, such as spaces of natural interest, environments of astronomical observatories, or urban areas that include parks or areas landscaped. The protection must be accompanied by a Plan of actions that includes the improvement of the outdoor lighting of the area and activities of environmental sensitization and promotion of sustainable tourism around the observation of the natural environment nocturne.

The points that have been declared Spaces of Night Sky of Quality are Plaza de l'Espà, and the Mirador de Gresolet, although the entire municipal district has a good and excellent quality.

To guarantee the quality of the sky, the municipality is deploying a Plan for the Prevention of Light Pollution to maintain and improve its conditions. The plan includes a series of actions that promote the valuation of this environmental resource, through specialized staff talks; activities aimed at promoting the knowledge of the nocturnal natural environment, such as astronomical observations, night excursions, or rural tourism; habilitation of the signaling and the facility of access of the declared spaces; and improvements to lighting installations.

The highest quality points result in a darkness 30 times greater compared to the metropolitan areas, which allows you to see thousands of stars and the Milky Way in the summer with total clarity.

C3 Reputation

One could find a difference between the reputation of the mountain at a global or national level (people from abroad) and at the regional or local level (people from here)

Regarding the global or national reputation, we have a handicap since it is not legally included in the Pyrenees for geological or geographical reasons against which we can not do anything, but, on the other hand, we can differentiate ourselves by nature, the environment, panoramic views and singularity

There is also a problem of semantic naming. In Catalonia it is considered that the massif of Pedraforca is "a natural place of national interest", while at the level of Spanish law, Pedraforca is recognized as a natural monument. It would be interesting to refer to Pedraforca as a natural monument instead of a natural place of national interest as it identifies more clearly what is spoken.

The Catalan law that determines that the Massif of the Pedraforca as a natural place of national interest was approved in 1986 and since then it has not been modified while the Spanish law of 1997 has been updated on several occasions. It is, therefore, a totally current and valid denomination that gives more strength to the mountain and that could be used when it is named speaking and disseminating it.

Regarding regional or local reputation, it is more related to emotion, feeling and closeness, and it is seen as something more accessible. The reach the peak of Pedraforca presents a technical difficulty higher than to that required by other mountains that are part of the project (example of Canigó).

Regarding highly valued characteristics globally, there is the shape, the geology of the mountain, the nature and the fact that it is the cradle of climbing in Catalonia.

The international public gets more motivated by the fact of enjoying space than by climbing the mountain, they only does if conditions permit. It should be noted that the possibilities of looking at the mountain, and having a good vision are very limited. There are few places from where it is seen in all its amplitude. The surrounding mountains make it difficult as they end up hiding it. There are not so many points from where you can contemplate

For the local population, it is a mountain known for hiking, mountaineering, climbing and its silhouette. It is a mountain that has very good accessibility from the metropolitan area of Barcelona.

We should also mention the importance of wildlife since there are people who come explicitly to see certain protected species that are endemic. This fact gives him a reputation among the naturalist sectors.

The fact that its ascent presents some technical difficulty makes it a challenge for some people and gives a reputation in the hiking and mountain sector.

In addition, it would be necessary to add a last element, that gives reputation to the local regional, and it's the fact that gives to the region a patriotic character. It seems clear that the mountain presents this character although it does not do it for a single reason but for the sum of several. It is

said that in order to obtain the "good Catalan passport" four summits must have been made: Montserrat, Pica d'Estats, Canigó and Pedraforca.

In order to count people walking through the Pedraforca area, in 2005, from the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park, eco-counters began to be installed. In total there are 5 counters that provide us with very interesting information.



Although it is often difficult to interpret the movements of the walkers interpreting the data of the counters, the hypothesis of people who have climbed to the top in the last 6 years are these:

2011 > 17.883

2012 > 17.897

2013 > 16.273

2014 > 17.547

2015 > 18.816

2016 > 18.482

In addition, there have been many other walkers in the area who have walked in the valley, without climbing the mountain.

C4 Legends and myths

The witches have always been associated to the Pedraforca mountain. Even, it is often called the Witch's Mountain. There are numerous legends on the theme related to this place.

In the past, people who lived through these area did not find a rational explanation of the shape of this mountain was and they had to find a supernatural explanation that explains this very characteristic shape.

This could be one of the motives around which there were so many legends and myths related mainly to witches, but also devils, giants, magic, ghosts, treasures, demons, ghostly beings.

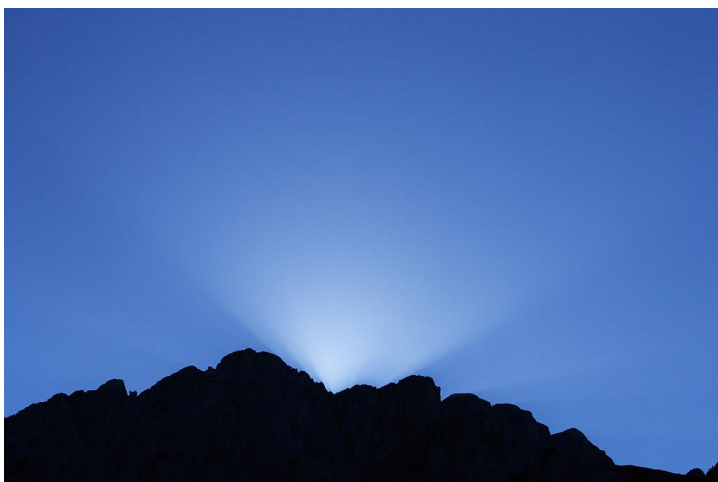
The book "Pedraforca mágica" by Isabel Artero collects 77 legends of the area, recovered mainly from the oral tradition, and 20 of them speak explicitly of the Pedraforca. The others, are located around the villages of Saldes, Gósol, Gisclareny, Vallcebre... whose have views to the mountain.

One of the most widespread legends says that the night of Saint Silvestre (December the 31st) witch it is said the witches gather in the Pedraforca and jump and dance above the mudguards.

Another legend explains why the mountain has this so characteristic shape: one night of sang Silvestre the witches celebrated a quarry at the top of a tall mountain that was located where there is now Pedraforca. The witches were divided in two sides and they fought between them, they made so much noise that even shook the earth. The inhabitants of Saldes were scared so much that they began to entrust themselves to Saint Michael and to ask for help in their prayers, he listened to them, he lowered himself from the sky and with a blow he broke the mountain in two parts, leaving a side the witches on the two poles. At the same time, with that sword blowing broke the millstone of the old mountain in millions of pieces: you can still see the remains of stones from that peak in the Pedraforca scree.

All this makes it an interesting mountain for sociologists and anthropologists.

We also talk about the fact that Pedraforca is part of a triangle of energy points along with two other mountains.



C5 Power of inspiration

Pedraforca is referenced in poems, paintings, books, documentaries, films, TV series, advertisements, ... as an example of the inspiration that arises.

Already in 1888, Jacint Verdaguer in his poem *L'Arpa* (The harp) included in the book *La Pàtria*, said:

“I vegí vostres peus i vostres cingles
 i vostres fonts, o serres de la pàtria !;
 i al pondre's damunt seu l'astre del dia,
 corona d'or irradiant de flama,
 engollis-se'l vegí l'alt Pedraforca
 fet un Vesubi atapeït de lava;
 i entre el floreig d'estrelles que naixien
 del vespre hermós entre les fosques ales,
 com aurora divina que em somreïa,
 vegí en lo cel la Musa catalana”

I en el poema Canigó deia així:

“Lo vell Puigmal d'espalla rabassuda
 és l'arc d'aqueixa altiva fortalesa,
 que en set-cents anys lo sarraí no ha presa,
 fent hi bocins la llança fulgurant.
 Prop d'on Cadí amb lo Cadinell encaixa
 s'alça el doble turó de Pedraforca;
 és del castell la inderrocable forca, feta,
 si cal, a mida d'un gegant”.

In the book *Excursions and trips*, Cinto Priest makes two more references to Pedraforca, one when he talks about the hermitage of Mare de Déu del Mon in l'Alta Garrotxa, writes:

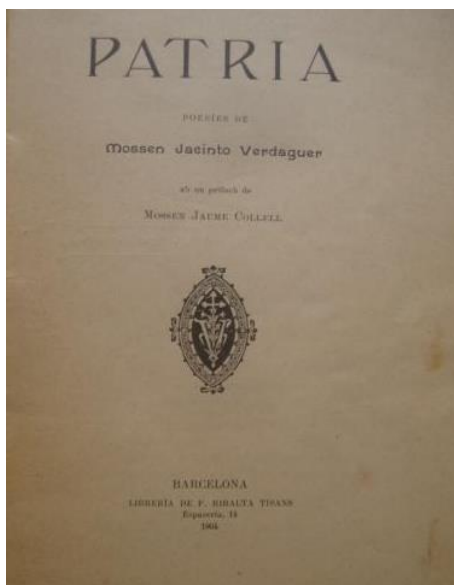
"On the west, after the spectacular Pedraforca, you can start from this great mountain of Santa Magdalena, to the Huesca de Cabrera: here you turn towards the east towards the sanctuary of La Salut, joining the Sierra de Santa Cecilia, to form both the promontory of the Lighthouse, which looks like a long-lined ship that runs from the mountains, on the strange sea of greenery of the Guillerries. "

The other, speaking of Gósol, says "... to the east has the superb and stunning mountain of Pedraforca. This mountain for that part is not inaccessible, although it would not be prudent to climb, from the fork, through a canal or bottom cornice, which only has water in temporary days; It is divided into two, that go down peeled and with little grass to the level, not taking it by tribute more than avalanches of rocks "

Verdaguer also has another reference in the poem "La Nit de Sant Joan" that was posthumously published by Francesc Matheu in 1925 and says:

“S'ouen los alarits
 I rialles feréstegues

Que al cim del Pedraforca
 Llancen les bruixes velles
 Ballant amb sos marits
 De cara escardalenca”



The painter from Malaga, Pablo Ruiz Picasso, in his stay at Gósol in 1906 was also inspired by the mountain to make his painting evolve. The serenity that gave him this place, with the Pedraforca in front, led him to what has been catalogued as the transition to the modernity of his pictorial work.

In the book of the route prepared by his companion Fernande Olivier, he talks about the trip he made to go from Guardiola station to Gósol and the impression that Pedraforca caused him from the moment he saw it.



La dona dels pans. Picasso

In 2008, the documentary *L'altra cara de la forca*, which reproduces the first ascent to the north wall made by Lluís Estasen, Josep Puntas, Josep Rovira and Jofre Vila in 1928, was awarded the best Spanish film in the 26th edition of the international festival of mountain cinema Vila de Torelló.

S

Several TV ads have been recorded in the area, especially from the area of Cal Xisquet, from where the views are spectacular.

There have also been several recordings of series produced for Televisió de Catalunya, such as La leyenda del conte Arnau (Arnau count legend) and Terra Baixa (low ground)

Finally, note that there is a great proliferation of paintings, engravings, photographs, local paintings and that Pedraforca is present in most objects made as souvenirs in the area.

C6 Picturesque landscape

Pedraforca is a mountain with a unique shape (characteristic silhouette in the form of a fork) that arises from nothing, as if it were an island in the middle of a rural, natural and humanized environment, in a totally harmonious way in the middle of a mosaic of forests and changing crops throughout the year.

Although it is not the highest mountain in the area, its majesty gives off a magnetism that captivates the gaze in front of everything else and causes everything to be relegated to the background.

The formation of the Pedraforca began 230 million years ago, in triassic and Jurassic times and evolved in the Cretaceous and Eocene until taking the form that it has at present with the hard calcareous materials in the peaks and soft gilded materials to the descent. These differences in the materials that make it up, are those that have given the mountain the characteristic silhouette of the fork and the characteristics of flats located on either side of the hurdle.

This peculiar way that reminiscent of a hurdle - with a pulley on each side and the hurdle with the peat in the middle - is the characteristic that makes Pedraforca almost unique.

This perspective is the most popular and can be seen from the eastern side of the mountain. If the massif is observed from other sides, the appearance changes a lot and has nothing to do with the mentioned form. Probably, its location is the one that allows you to visualize its unique silhouette. The Pedraforca is isolated from the rest of the mountains, without being part of a mountain range but emerges from nowhere, as if its importance were not around.

On the other hand, the environment where it is located, still more emphasizes its silhouette. A perfect mosaic that combines forests of deciduous trees, cultivated areas, pasture areas, rocky cracks, small population centres and alternate dispersed farms in perfect harmony, as if it had been made expressly.

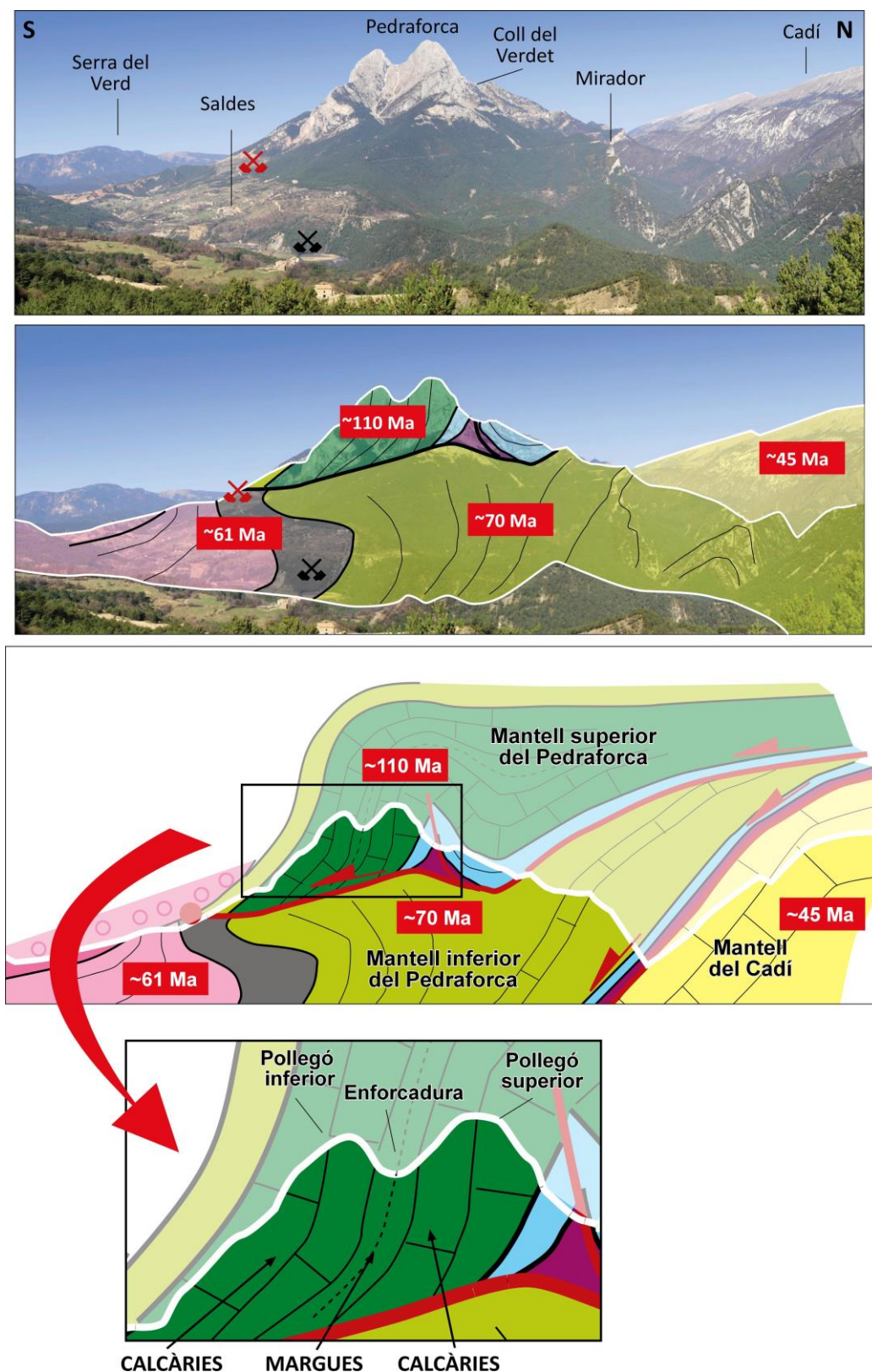
Who arrives for the first time in the area, is completely captivated by the majesty of this mountain that causes you to avoid everything that is around. The Pedraforca gives off a special magnetism that does not let anyone escape.

Geologically, the Pedraforca and its environments are like an open-class study room that has led scholars from around the world to make stays in the area to analyze various aspects.

This presence is reflected in many logos, shields, memories ... The same shield of the Consell Comarcal del Berguedà or the logo of Turisme del Berguedà, uses the icon of Pedraforca.



As a result of the geological interest that arouses, a few years ago, a series of geological itineraries were published in order to show the evolution of the mountain from different periods.



C7 Particular ecosystems

The flora of Pedraforca is made up of calcicular plants typical of the montane, subalpine and alpine states.

Some of the most remarkable plants are endemism or relics from the pre-quaternary like the Pyrenean saxifrage (*Saxifraga longifolia*), Pyrenean-violet or rosette mullein (*Ramonda myconii*), the Pyrenean honeysuckle (*Lonicera pirenaica*), the heart-leaved globe daisy (*Globularia cordiflora* ssp. *nana*), the *Woodsia glabella* and the very rare *Woodsia pulchella*.

In terms of plant communities, the most abundant are the scot pinewoods (*Pinus silvestris*), the mountain pinewoods (*P. uncinata*) and also the European box (*Buxus sempervirens*) communities in the montane zone and the bushes communities in the subalpine zone. Then there are also meadows, rocky vegetation and woods of European beech trees (*Fagus sylvatica*) with European box (*Buxus sempervirens*) and European silver fir (*Abies Alba*) and also small patches of pubescent oak (*Quercus pubescens*).

With regard to the fauna, the diversity of forests and meadows of the massif houses a rich fauna in which the species typical of alpine and mountain environments clearly dominate. The proximity of the Cadí and Moixeró ranges has made available to these species important surfaces, vital to meeting their territorial needs.

It emphasizes the varied invertebrate fauna, with species as interesting as *Parnasius apollo* butterflies, *Parnasius nemosine*, *Zyagena carnicola*, *Graellsia isabelae*. Also present are *Aphantopus hyperantus*, *Aporia crataegi*, *Argynnis paphia*, *Argynnis adippe*, *Brintesia circe hispanica*, *Colias hyale*, *Gonepteryx cleopatra*, *Gonepteryx rhamni*, *Inachisio*, *Ladoga camilla*, *Limenitis reducta*, *Pandoriana pandora*, *Parnassius apollo*, *Pieris rapae*, *Quercusia quercus*. There are also interesting species of snails such as the *Pirenaria parva*, endemic to the area, or *Abida secale cadinensis*; or arachnids such as *Tegenaria carensis*.

Among the vertebrate fauna, it is possible to mention as the mammals of Pyrenean chamois (*Rupicapra pirenaica*), the wild herbivorous that dominates the tops of the massif, the roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), the wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), marten (*Martes Martes*) and snow vole (*Microtus nivalis*) among many others



Pyrenean chamois (*Rupicapra pirenaica*)

Birds are the main characters of the mountain. It highlights the western capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), very difficult to see for its solitary habits and the characteristics of its habitat. Another

settler in the forests of Pedraforca is the black woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*), which lives in the firs, pine forests and beech forests of the area. In the cooler and humid cliffs, we can find the wallcreeper (*Tichodroma muraria*), a small insectivorous bird that climbs up the cliffs in a surprisingly agile way. Other sedentary species of birds that we can find in alpine environments are the Citril finch (*Serinus citrinella*), the Red crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*), the red bill chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) and the alpine chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*). There are others who breed in the area but leave it after the summer like the ring ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*) and the common rock thrush (*Monticola saxatilis*), ... On the montane zone, we can find the Eurasian nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*) and the Eurasian woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*), to name only a couple. Other birds in the area are the grey partridge (*Perdix perdix*), the subalpine warbler (*Sylvia cantillans*) or the coal tit (*Parus ater*) among many others



Black woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*)

The common kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), short-toed snake eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*), griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) and bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) are raptors that nest in the mountain specially in the most inaccessible cliffs.

At night, at the bottom of the valleys during the summer months, we can find the small Eurasian scops owl (*Otus scops*) and a large number of tawny owls (*Strix aluco*).

The presence of fish is limited to the trout in the rivers (*Salmo trutta fario*), and among the amphibians we find interesting species such as the Pyrenean Brook Salamander (*Calotriton asper*), the common midwife toad (*Alytes obstetricans*) or the salamander (*Salamandra salamandra*). Finally, reptiles such as the interesting green whip snake (*Coluber viridiflavus*), the southern smooth snake (*Coronella girondica*), the ocellated lizard (*Lacerta lepida*) and the viper (*Vipera aspis*) which is the most dangerous species in the area due to its poison.

In the Gresolet valley, at the foot of the Pedraforca, we can discover several large-scale monumental trees, unique in Catalonia, as well as some local interest trees for their more modest, but also spectacular, sizes. Some are the "Faig setrill", the Fir of women or the bees of the Clot de l'Om. All of these trees have signposted trails to facilitate your visit.

The Gresolet berry forest was the protagonist of one of the first conservation campaigns that took place in Catalonia in the years 1920 and 1921.

Another aspect to consider that gives this uniqueness to the ecosystem is the geology of the site. This aspect has been dealt with in the geography section but it is an important element to show the singularities of the territory.



C8 Mediterranean cultural identity

Talking about a specific cultural profile of the area is currently complicated, as it should be included in a larger context that would be, at least, mountain areas or even the Pyrenees or the Mediterranean. In this sense, as specific characteristics we can mention traditional music (accordion), dance (dance of the “coces” in Gósol, the “caramelles” in several municipalities), festivities related to witches and “trementinaries”, medicinal plants ... Everything that refers to intangible heritage of the area.

Another important point would be the festivities related to the fire (“Fia faia” in Bagà and Sant Julià de Cerdanyola, “el foc de Nuet” in Vallcebre also held in other villages along the Pyrenees. Those celebrations are very ancient and it seems they come from pagan times but they give a strong cultural identity that is common throughout the mountain area, not just Pedraforca.

Related to historical themes we find the Cathars that connect us with the south of France. You can follow the migration route through the “Camí dels Bons Homes” (path of good men).

In gastronomy, we would highlight the black peas, the beef, the mushrooms or the mountain potatoes. In addition to traditional activities, there is also an artisanal production of cheeses, cold meats, jams, beers, comfitures, etc.

There is a living, but not exclusively, cultural force in the area of Pedraforca, since people have always been going up and down and with them the intangible culture and various professions. If we refer to these traditional trades, we could highlight some: the reapers, the shepherds or the blacksmiths among men and the “trementinaires” (women who knew about plants and remedies and travelled with them from village to village”. Both men and women invested time to travel up and down the paths looking for pastures, fields to be harvested, cattle to be ironed, to gather herbs, markets to sell herbs. This coming and going of these people was a way of transmitting popular culture between places, even between the sea and the mountains. Currently in Gósol, there is the celebration of the harvest and in Tuixent they keep the celebration of “trementinaries” trades.



Regarding the elements that attribute a unique character to the area, there is talk of the possibility of working other gastronomic products linked to the subsistence gastronomy of the mountain and that have remained as a kind of “endemic” agriculture. This also happens in other mountains (the

lentils of Gran Sasso, for example). As for the development of an eco-tourist product, everything related to the land is very valuable. Mushrooms must also be considered as proof that everything that comes from nature is collected and used. Now it is a luxury, a precious product, but before it was for subsistence and because there was nothing else to eat: for that reason mushrooms, snails, herbs, hunt...



We want to emphasize the forest theme, in the recollection of everything that comes from the forest as a cultural event.

As for material heritage, we could start from the moment of dolmens, the megaliths of prehistory to the present day, but this is already included in the historical sites section. Just highlight the theme of sanctuaries as an element to be taken into account. In Salades we would find the sanctuary of the Gresolet Virgin as a place of reference in local pilgrimages.

Regarding thematic routes, the mining route is available, a cultural identity route that takes you to visit the old mines in the area. It is a route that can be done by car.

C9 Sustainability and anthropogenic environment

Architecturally, it has survived the real estate boom and, despite the pressure of recent years, the towns have remained attractive and well preserved and have an appeal to both the resident and the visitor. Years ago, the mining activity also exerted a lot of pressure on the environment, but its impact has also been restored.

These impacts have been invested and now the same remains of the mining activity are an asset and a claim to visit the territory.

Regarding the damages that have been done in the natural environment, we would find these negative impacts:

- Water is a scarce asset in times of many people,
- treatment of wastewater,
- Rubbish,
- Erosion for the mountain and the roads.

An anthropogenic environment that is very positive to promote and publicize the territory.

There is talk of climate change in relation to the theme of water, but it is also said that years ago it had been documented that there were many problems: pilgrimages, prayers ... However, it should be taken into account that there is a lot more water expenditure that should be controlled mainly during peak periods.

It has been pointed out that the main problem of the erosion of the Pedraforca scree is not the people but the torrential rains.

Wastewater in the area is not a big problem in this area, only in some very specific places.

Finally, we are talking about what we are in an area without any type of industry, which totally maintains the rural and mountain nature.



C10 Historic places

In the surroundings of Pedraforca, man has been present from prehistoric times to present times, as evidenced by the presence of historical vestiges of various periods.

Pedraforca is one of the mythical mountains of hikers and climbers, since in the beginnings of climbing in Catalonia, the difficulties of the north face of this mountain - especially in winter - made their ascent comparable to that of other winter climates in the Alps, and was a gesture of heroism for all who tried it.

In fact, wanting to climb the mountains - and this is precisely - it is necessary to date it towards the end of the 19th century. Until then, the inhabitants of the area -which were from prehistoric times- never showed any interest in climbing there. There were no pastures, there were few forests, the extraction of timber and hunting was complicated... Therefore, they did not have any interest. If we add to this the fact that the area was full of legends about witches and unexplained facts, the interest in approaching them became almost null.

Surely, the first people who were interested in climbing the mountain were people of the city, with the needs covered, captivated by their particular form and the harshness of the whole, apart from the attractiveness of being the few that had been. Until 1942 when the old road arrived at Gósol, accessing the Pedraforca was supposed to have been used for 3 or 4 days as it had to be reached on foot from the Collet train station in Guardiola de Berguedà.

Anyway, in 1894, Artur Osona published the "Guide: Lluçanès, Pirineus, Cerdanya, Serres del Cadí and Andorra" where he mentioned the main ascents to the summit of Pedraforca from Saldes and Gósol. This interest continued and in 1903, the newsletter of the Excursionist Centre of Catalonia, related for the first time an ascent to Pedraforca. In 1905, César August Torres published "Catalan Pyrenees-guide Berguedà and Valls Altes del Llobregat" with three itineraries to go up there.

At that time the ascents were counted and they were usually made from the side of Gósol that were more affordable.

Later, and especially after the arrival of the road, the mountain began to climb all sides.

At that time, the first attempts to open roads to climb the mountain began. The first way in which the news is heard is that of Grallera in 1922. And it also wanted to climb on the north side. The first to achieve this was Lluís Estasen - with three other companions - arriving at Calderer summit in 1928, after several attempts.

As the expeditions were becoming more frequent, the need arose to create a centre near the mountain skirt to rest, to keep the material, ... and from here the proposal was created to create a shelter in "La Jaça dels Prats". The shelter was opened in 1949 and took the name of Lluís Estasen, the hiker who opened the first climbing route and who just died in 1947 on a trip to put the first stone of what would be the shelter.

The opening of this shelter widened the range of possibilities to discover the mountain and contributed - along with the construction of the road that leads to it - to fully open the mountain to a large social mass.

Currently dozens of books, blogs, web pages explain multiple excursions to the mountain: ascents from Gósol and Saldes, by the scree, by the hurdle, the turn to the mountain...

The climbing tracks have also multiplied and each novelty appears in guides, books, websites...

If we speak properly of architectural heritage, in the Neolithic era, the area was already inhabited, as evidenced by several dolmens and neolithic vestiges.

Towards the Middle Ages, several castles and churches were built that are still preserved today, such as

- The castle of Saldes
- The castle of Gósol
- The church of Santa Maria de Saldes
- Sanctuary of Gresolet
- Medieval centre of Bagà



Bridge of Empedrats



Castel of Gósol

In addition, from this moment we find the remains of the town of Palomera inhabited since the end of the s.XII until the fifteenth century by shepherds who closed their herds to the balms located at the bottom of the rock. 27 homes have already been identified.

The story ends with the exploitation of the mines that took place from the beginning of the 20th century until 2007, when it closed the last mine in the area. All this history can be seen in the Museu de les Mines de Cercs.

These mining operations and the impact they caused on the mountain and the environment in general were one of the reasons that caused the first naturalistic and social movements to preserve the mountain and also the Gresolet forest. One of the creators was Lluís Estasen himself.

Open-cast mining allowed the paleontological history of the site to be revealed with the identification of more than 3,500 dinosaur ichnites that, together with bones, eggs and fossilized skin, have made the space one of the most important in the world. All this can be found at the Fumanya Interpretation Centre.

Another architectural heritage element to highlight is the traditional paths. There are various traditional paths that pass through the area, especially as regards livestock paths, because in the area and its surroundings there are areas of high mountain pasture that are very important in Catalonia. These roads conserve remarkable annexes such as stone walls, plots, bridges and hostels.

Finally we could talk about art since in the summer of 1906 Pablo Ruiz Picasso visited Gósol where he transformed his style and became very productive. Last summer, Picasso left Gósol, passing the Cadí through the Gosolans pass, to reach Paris, where he began his Cubist era. The memory of the visit of the genius is indelible for “gosolans”, who have a centre dedicated to Picasso with reproductions of the works painted by the artist in this town of Berguedà.

In the area we can find two itineraries that relate several of these elements or historical facts:

Camí dels Bons Homes (The Way of the Good Men), an 189 km route that goes from Berga to Montsegur (France) and that runs the way that the Cathars did when they were persecuted in France and took refuge in Spain. This route goes through traditional paths and you can do it on foot, on horseback or by bicycle with small variations for each one of the modalities.

The Picasso Way is a cultural route that reproduces the steps that the Malagan painter made to arrive and leave Gósol at the beginning of the 20th century. It is a 60 kilometer tour that links Guardiola de Berguedà and Bellver de Cerdanya passing through Saldes and Gósol. The route can be done on foot.

Another route that can be done on foot but which has a more naturalistic nature is **Cavalls del Vent** (Horses of the wind). This is a 80 km route that runs through the Natural Park of Cadí Moixeró and allows you to spend the night in 8 different shelters in case that you want to do in 8 stages. Longer stages can be made and less time spent. This route is commercialized globally by the shelters that are part of it.

Synthesis of the extraordinary-emblematic characteristics of the mountain

1. Rank and name 10 emblematic characteristics (please write within brackets the criteria related to each characteristic).

- Included in the popular imagination of the Catalans (reputation)
- Pride of belonging to the mountain by the locals (particular cultural identity)
- Willingness to preserve the mountain (particular cultural identity)
- Myths, legends and enigmas associated with the mountain (legends and myths)
- The magic that comes out (legends and myths)
- Enigmatic mountain (legends and myths)
- Extraordinary silhouette (picturesque landscape)
- Immensely photographed, especially from the side that looks at the characteristic silhouette (picturesque landscape)
- Cradle of climbing and hiking in Catalonia (historical sites)
- Authenticity and harmony with its surroundings (spatial cohesion)

2. If any, isolate from the previous list 5 globally unique characteristics

- Pride of belonging to the mountain by the locals
- Willingness to preserve the mountain
- Extraordinary silhouette
- Immensely photographed, especially from the side that looks at the characteristic silhouette
- Authenticity and harmony with your surroundings

3. provide 10 key words with reference to the mountain

- Pedraforca
- Strengthening
- Berguedà
- Pyrenees
- Nature
- Sports
- Harmony
- Protection
- Wellbeing
- Solitude

PART III

III.1 Tourism infrastructure and supply

The villages that make up the Pedraforca valleys have all the tourist services necessary to facilitate the stay of visitors and tourists: tourist offices, accommodation, business activities, museums, interpretation centres...

We find tourist offices in Bagà, Saldes, Gósol, Saldes I Vallcebre open to the public at different times according to the days and the time of year.

Regarding accommodation capacity, the municipalities of the Pedraforca valleys can accommodate more than 3000 people divided between campsites (1354 places), hotels and pensions (438 places), rural tourism establishments (201 places), apartments (94 places), shelters (40 places), colonial houses (322) and refuges (582 places) distributed among the 9 municipalities found in the Pedraforca Valley, which are: Bagà, Fígols, Gisclareny, Gósol, Guardiola de Berguedà, Josa and Tuixent, Saldes, La Vansa and Fórns and Vallcebre. Most of the area's tourist establishments are open throughout the year. In Annex 1 there is the data of tourist accommodation broken down. Of the total tourist offer in the region, 30% are located in the area of the Pedraforca valleys.

In the area we could say that four types of tourism are practiced: nature tourism, active tourism, cultural tourism and rural tourism.

Berguedà, in general, has a network of signposted paths of little more than 2000 km. These trails include long-distance trails, small-distance trails and local network that are based on the network of historical paths that have been used since time immemorial to unite several places. Some of these paths have been used to create themed tourist itineraries for several days. 3 of these itineraries run through the Pedraforca area and mention has been made in the section of historical sites. They are Camí dels Bons Homes, Camí de Picasso and Cavalls del Vent.

Some of these paths can also be used for mountain biking. In addition, there is a BTT center that includes routes of varying difficulty and duration. One of these routes passes through the Pedraforca area. In the Natural Park of Cadí Moixeró there is a return to the park in BTT that is a 100 km route. There is also the possibility of going around the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park by road bike. A last option to do in BTT is the "Pedals del Pedraforca" route, a tourist itinerary that can be done in a couple of days and that runs through several municipalities in the area.

In the Pedraforca area there is no alpine ski resort. Instead, in the municipalities of Tuixent and Vansa there is a Nordic ski resort. Nordic skiing can also be practiced on the north face of the Ensija mountain range, on a route that is marked when there is snow. Another option is the practice of mountain skiing that can be practiced in various mountains of the area when snow permits it.

Various local products are offered in the area. The most significant would be black pea. This product celebrates a fair and a conference on the last Sunday of October.

In the area there are also several mountain races. The most notable is the UltraPirineu that turns the Cadí Moixeró with a route of 110 km. It takes place every year in September and has a total of

2000 runners. Another important event is the Gósol trek that is celebrated in July and is attended by 1000 people. In the area of Pedraforca other races are held but with a lower number of participants: Xtrail de Salles, Rise to Pedraforca, ...

Summary of strengths and weaknesses in relation to the tourist infrastructure and the territory:

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Variety and diversity of tourist offer	Lack of high quality hotel offers
Extensive network of signposted paths	Duplication of signaling, in some cases
Existence of tourist companies with a solid structure with a lot of experience	Aged entrepreneur
Good offer of walking trips	Lack of funding to carry out some strategic tourism projects
Existence of dynamic municipalities and many future projects	Lack of signposted routes for the bicycle
Good conditions for the practice of BTT	Lack of signaling of mountain ports for the practice of road cycling
Good conditions for the practice of climbing	Lack of snow for snow tourism in many years
Good conditions for the practice of road cycling	Low budget funding to manage the Natural Park and protected natural areas
Good conditions for the practice of snowshoes	
Existence of a natural park and other protected spaces of great ecological value	
Good natural, cultural and historical resources to make known	
Existence of tourist offices	
Organization of relevant sporting events in the mountain sports calendar	

III.2 Tourism operators

The valleys of Pedraforca are a zone not very exploited by tour operators. At international level there are only 5-6 operators offering trips to this area for several days. Most tourists come individually and organize the trip on their own.

At national level there are several travel agencies that bring people to the area, especially retirees and school children. Most times, however, these are day trips.

With regard to active tourism businesses, there are several local or foreign companies that organize activities taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the natural environment. The most common are hiking trails, bicycle routes, vias ferratas, adventure parks or snowshoe excursions. In the area there are 3-4 companies specialized in active tourism.

Summary of strengths and weaknesses in relation to operators

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Territory well prepared to be able to receive small-scale tour operators	Almost no packages are available
Active tourism with its own management model (ferrata, ravine, ...)	Ignorance of the international market by local companies
Ideal territory to organize sports events in nature	Little interest from local stakeholders to work with tour operators
	Little professionalization of the sports event organization sector

III.3 Tourism demand

There are no segregated data of tourist demand for the area of the Pedraforca valleys. The data we currently have refers to the whole region of Berguedà but we can take it as a reference since the behaviour of the demand seems very similar throughout the territory.

At the offer level, it should be taken into account that the total number of accommodation available in the region is 10.000. 30% of these places are located in the 9 municipalities that are in the area of influence of Pedraforca. From this, all the figures that are quoted from now on would have to be divided by 3 to obtain an approximation to the figures of the Pedraforca area.

According to the study of the economic impact of the Berguedà tourism activity carried out by the “Cambra de Comerç de Barcelona in 2012”, 172,500 tourists visited Berguedà who stayed in establishments in the region. Overall, they generated a total of 428.800 overnight stays.

It is necessary to add the visitors by day that they are considered in 221.000 visitors. (Data provided by Laboratory of Tourism of the Delegation of Barcelona).

In addition, it would be necessary to add 850.000 overnight stays to the second homes.

In general, in Berguedà we find a very repeat tourist of the destination. More than half of people who visited Bergueda county had already done so before (59,2%).

The most representative tourists are those who travel with a partner (33,2%) although it is worth noting the importance of families (27,3%) followed by groups of friends (19,3%).

The main motivation for the trip is the holiday, which represents almost 68% of the total number of tourists followed by a visit to family or friends with 16,4%.

Current demand values the Berguedà with 4,34 on a total of 5 points. The best valued aspects are hospitality and the treatment that they receive, tourist information and the offer of leisure and culture.

We also have the study of hiking as a tourist activity for economic development in Berguedà in 2015, which determines that the total number of hikers in Berguedà would be approximately 111.600, with 82.752 in high season and 28.848 in low season. Therefore, this would show that a very important part of tourists and visitors do it with the motivation to walk in the area.

Finally, we would like to quote the number of visitors to the cultural places of the region of Berguedà that would be located almost 150.000 a year. This includes museums, interpretation centres, visitor churches... They are broken down in annex 2

Summary of strengths and weaknesses in relation to tourist demand

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Consolidated and faithful tourism	High dependence on the national market
Variety of nature, culture, active offer	Little international tourist
Many hikers	Lack of French public
Proximity to Barcelona and metropolitan area	Seasonality at some times of the year

Proximity to large populations of France	
EMbleMatiC project to consolidate demand based on eco-itineraries	

III.4 Tourism impact

According to the study of the economic impact of tourism in Berguedà by “La Cambra de Comerç de Barcelona” in 2012, the cost of tourists is estimated at € 78,60 per person per day. As for the average expense of visitors who do not spend overnight, it would be around € 47,50 per person per day. Finally, it would be necessary to add the expense of the second residences that would be placed in € 33 per person and day.

Based on these data, we can estimate total spending on the region by tourists of 43,20 million euros, 10,5 million by visitors and 28 million by the second homes. In total, 80,50 million euros for the region.

When calculating the impact of tourism on the economy, it stands at 7,1% of the gross domestic product of the county economy.

In this report we can see an excessive dependence on a single issuing market: the tourist who visits and last night in the region of Berguedà is mainly Catalan (85%) and especially from the province of Barcelona.

Tourism from the rest of Spain accounts for 9,2% while international tourism, still very minority, represents only 4,8%. France is the international market that most tourists bring to the region.

The diversification of the tourist demand and, specially, the internationalization of the demand, is one of the great challenges pending of the Berguedà. Attracting more international demand through attractive, differentiated and adapted value proposals could represent a significant qualitative leap forward for tourism in the region. The EMbleMatiC project can contribute to this challenge.

In general, tourism is not causing negative impacts on the territory as the level of development is very low despite having a strong impact on the economic activity of the region.

On the other hand, we have detected negative impacts on some very specific points that have caused impacts on the environment. Most obviously it is in the Pedraforca scree with problems of erosion caused by frequentation but also for reasons of natural origin.

Summary of strengths and weaknesses in relation to the tourist impact

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Good contribution to the regional gross domestic product	Low average expenses of tourists and visitors
Little tourist development	Degradation of the Pedraforca scree
Good preservation of natural and cultural spaces	

III.5 Public infrastructure and services

The telecommunications in the area are good, not excellent, but sufficient to ensure a good level of mobile coverage throughout the area and high speed response in the event of an emergency. At the level of internet connection there are more deficiencies since in some places the connectivity is very low and, in general, slow.

Rescue and rescue teams are located in the same area and, if necessary, reinforced by external teams that provide all kinds of specialized material and means (helicopters for evacuation ...)

Summary of strengths and weaknesses in relation to public infrastructures and services:

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Good mobile coverage	Little internet connectivity
Good rescue equipment	Difficulty of access in some points
Good communication between shelters for rescue or incidents	

III.6 Partner's perception of the tourism vision of their territory

In Gran Sasso, the tourist strategy of the Pedraforca and its area of influence was presented in a general way.

Pedraforca acts as a pole of attraction in the territory. Most visitors are attracted to this mountain and to the activities of nature and mountains that can be done around them. That is why, around it, several tourist offers related to nature have been created: hiking, mountain biking, climbing, via ferrata...

The territory's strategy is to develop the area in terms of environmental, economic and social sustainability. This means keeping the territory and the mountain preserved in the long term; increase the economic income of the people of the territory and improve the quality of life of these people.

Pedraforca mountain is approximately 140 km far from Barcelona's metropolitan area. This means that we have some very important visitor flows that do not turn into tourists because they only make one-day visits. The challenge would be to provide the territory with a more interesting tourist offer that would allow them to extend the stay of these visitors and turn them into tourists. This implies that the tourist offer can not be centred only on the Pedraforca mountain, but it is necessary to include a wider radius and take advantage of the entire territory included in the valleys of Pedraforca delimited by Cadi Moixeró natural Park, the Verd range and the Ensija mountain range (as already explained above) and dynamise all the municipalities that are included in this space.

Apart from nature and the activities that can be carried out in the natural environment, it is necessary to include all the cultural offer, either from the tangible heritage (museums, interpretation centres...) and from the intangible heritage (festivities, trades, traditions ...).

PART IV

IV.1 SWOT analysis regarding the implementation of an emblematic slow tourism product (eco-itinerary)

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
- Good tourist infrastructures at a quantitative and qualitative level	- Lack of financing to carry out certain investments in infrastructures
- Very well preserved natural environment	- Pressure in some specific points of the territory
- Possibility of developing different types of tourism (nature, geology, palaeontology, wildlife, ...)	- Little innovation in the development of tourist products
- Pride to belong to the site and to contribute to its preservation	- Little structured information addressed to specific markets
- Territorial support to the EMbleMatiC project	- Difficulty converting visitors into tourists
- International recognition	- Public transport deficit to structure sustainable tourism products

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
- High number of visitors to the area	- Low conversion in tourists
- Growth demand for sustainable tourism	- Increase in competition in the sector of sustainable tourism
- Awareness of the markets towards sustainable and social tourism	- Not being able to offer an offer to the height of the expectations of the clients
- Needs of the metropolitan population to find activities in nature	- Degredation of the environment by an excess of tourism
- Become part of a network of mountains with	- Not being able to complete the necessary

similar problems or concerns	equipment
- European grants to develop these types of projects	- Exhaust some natural resources necessary to develop the products (water)

IV.2 Indication of ideal locations for an eco-itinerary and possibilities to engage stakeholders

Two eco-itineraries are proposed: the first one from a more naturalistic point of view that takes into account the part of ecosystems, landscapes, and local products and a second more cultural, historical and anthropological itinerary that could follow more or less this route:

ITINERARY 1. Parc Natural del Cadí Moixeró.

Depending on the intensity of the visits, the itinerary can last more or less days. We recommend, at least, to be able to spend two days.

BAGÀ-GISCLARENY-SALDES-GÓSOL-JOSA DE CADÍ-GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDA

Where we can include the following visits and activities:

1. BAGÀ

Center of the Cadí Moixeró Natural Park

Guided tour or self-guided tour in the historical center of Bagà of medieval origin

Visit to the medieval center of the Cathars

2. GISCLARENY

Excursion to Dou del Bastareny, birth of the Llobregat river

Excursion through the torrent of Empredrats (PR C-125), “bullidor de la llet” and Sant Jordi shelter. From here you can climb to the summit of Moixeró or Penyes Altes.

Mirador de la Gargallosa and / or Mirador Albert Arilla from where you have a good perspective of Pedraforca, Cadí, Moixeró, Ensija and Vall del Pedraforca

Landscape observation points of Coll de la Bena, Coll de Bauma, Les Bassotes or Collell.

3. SALDES

Mirador de Gresolet with very good views to the Gresolet valley

Night watch of the quality sky from the Mirador de Gresolet or from Espà

Center for the interpretation of the Massif of Pedraforca and the Mining of Saldes

Several options for excursions to Pedraforca: climb to the mountain, Pedraforca 360º (PR C-127), small excursions...

Castle of Saldes and church of Santa Maria

Mirador de Maçaners from where you can see the typical view of the Pedraforca.

Excursion to the summit of the Gallina Pelada I Ensija range

Possibility of snowshoeing in the Parc de Palomera / Ensija

4. GÓSOL

Castle of Gósol and medieval town

Picasso Centre

Route of the “mallarenga petita”

Excursion to Cabradís bridge

Painting workshop related to Picasso and the others of Gósol

5. JOSA DE CADI

Visit a cheese-maker and tasting of products

Nordic ski resort (in winter) of Tuixent la Vansa

6. GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDÀ

Visit to the monastery of St. Llorenç

ITINERARY 2. The cultural heritage of the Pedraforca valleys.

Depending on the intensity of the visits, the itinerary can last more or less days. We recommend, at least, to be able to spend two days.

SALDES-VALLCEBRE-FÍGOLS-CERCS

1. SALDES

Visit to various points of geological interest

Medieval village of Palomera

Other routes for the geological, palaeontological and miner heritage

2. VALLCEBRE

Active space Vallcebre. Space where you practice ferrata, climbing, canyoning...

Point of view of Cap Deig, with spectacular views of the cliffs

Interpretative itineraries of the local cultural heritage that can be followed by QR codes

3. PHYSICS

Fumanya interpretation centre. About dinosaurs and palaeontology

Rasos de Peguera. Abandoned town. In winter, snowshoes can be made in this area

4. CERCS

Museum of the mines of Cercs

Baells Dam, where nautical activities can be performed

Visit to the dam of the Baells

ANNEX

Tables and diagrams

ANNEX 1.

Tourist accommodation: type and towns

CAMP SITES	Cat	Name	Nº spaces	Nº places	Bungalows
BAGÀ	2a. Cat.	Bastareny	80	200	Sí
GÓSOL	2a. Cat.	Cadi Vacances	105	262	Sí
GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDA	2a. Cat.	El Berguedà	73	182	Sí
SALDES	1a. Cat.	Repòs del Pedraforca	140	350	Sí
	2a. Cat.	El Pedra	48	120	No
	3a. Cat.	Mirador al Pedraforca	50	125	Sí
	3a. Cat.	Can Susèn	46	115	Sí
Total				1354	
RURAL TOURISM			Nº room	Nº places	Obser.
BAGÀ	M	Molí del Casó	6	14	
GISCLARENY	M	Rústic Vilella	5	15	
GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDA	MV	Rectoria de Sant Genís de Gavarrós	3	5	
GÓSOL	CPI	Cal Puxica	2	4	
	CPI	Ca l'Esteve	2	4	
	CPI	Cal Tinent	4	5	
SALDES	CPI	Cal Cuiro I	2	4	
	CPI	Cal Cuiro II	2	4	
	MV	Cal Mianet 'El Porxet'	2	5	
	MV	Cal Mianet	5	10	
VALLCEBRE	MV	Cal Victòria	4	9	
	MV	Cal Monjo	4	9	
	MV	Cal Ponç de Belians	7	15	
LA VANSÀ	MV	Cal Pallerola		13	
	MV	Cal Puigdemasa		11	
	MV	Molí de Fornols		15	
	MV	Cal Jan - Cadi		4	
	MV	Cal Jan - Cadinell		4	
	MV	Cal Jan - Verd		8	
	M	Cal Paller		15	
TUIXENT	CPC	Cal Gabriel		8	
	CPC	Cal Farragets		12	
	CPI	El Paller de Ca Sinca		8	
Total				201	
HOTELS			Nº rooms	Nº places	
BAGÀ	H***	El Blat	32	62	
	H*	Ca L'Amagat	18	33	
	H*	La Pineda	15	28	
	H*	Niu Descans	7	14	
	P	Cal Batista	15	37	
GÓSOL	P	Cal Franciscó	28	52	
	P	Cal Triuet	9	14	
GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDA	H***	El Jou	21	80	
	H*	Casa Duaner	12	23	
SALDES	H**	Hostal Pedraforca	24	42	
	H***	Ca l'Andreu	6	12	
	P	Cal General	8	13	
TUIXENT	P	Can Custodi	5	10	
VALLCEBRE	H***	Ca l'Agustinet	9	18	
Total				438	

APARTMENTS		Nº Apartaments	Nº places	
BAGÀ	Ca l'Agustinet	1	8	
	HUTCC-000312	1		
	HUTCC-000313	1		
	HUTCC-000314	1		
	HUTCC-000370			
	HUTCC-000371			
FÍGOLS	Cal Barbut	1	14	7 habitacions
GISCLARENY	Mas Cal Però	1	6	
GÓSOL	HUTCC-000152	1		
	HUTCC-000153	1		
	HUTCC-000151	1		
	HUTCC-000369			
GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDÀ	Apartaments Berguedà	1	4	
	Apartaments Berguedà	1	4	
	Apartaments Berguedà	1	4	
	Monserrat Navarro Albaiges	1	8	3 habitacions
	Vip Immobles	1	4	
	Vip Immobles	1	4	
SALDES	Cal Blau	1	10	
	Cal Grill	1	8	
	Cal Pajant	1		
VALLCEBRE	Cal Pinós B	1	6	
	Cal Pinós C	1	6	
	Cal Pinós D	1	8	
Total			94	
YOUTH HOSTELS		Nº rooms	Nº places	
SALDES	Cal Manel	10	40	
Total			40	
REFUGES				owner
BAGÀ	Rebost		60	UEC
	Niu de l'Àliga		24	FEEC
	Santuari de Paller		20	
GISCLARENY	Cal Tasconet		20	particular
	Vents del Cadí		14	
GÓSOL	El Molí	de 6, 8 i 10	24	
GUARDIOLA DE BERGUEDÀ	Cal Companyó		60	
	Sant Jordi		44	
SALDES	Delgado Ubeda		32	FEEC
	Lluís Estasen		87	FEEC
	Gresolet		33	
	El Ferrer		52	particular
	Can Cadi		42	
	El Roget		17	particular
TUIXENT	L'Arp		21	
	Coll de Port		32	
Total			582	

CASES DE COLÒNIES, CAMPAMENTS JUVENILS I AULA NATURA			Nº places	
BAGÀ	CJ	Sant Joan de l'Avellanet	120	
GISCLARENY	AN	Aula Natura La Salle	69	
SALDES	CC	Pedraforca	73	
LA VANSA	CC	Els Falcons	60	
Total			322	
CAPACITAT TOTAL			3031	

ANNEX 2.

Cultural resources visitors in the Berguedà (year 2016)

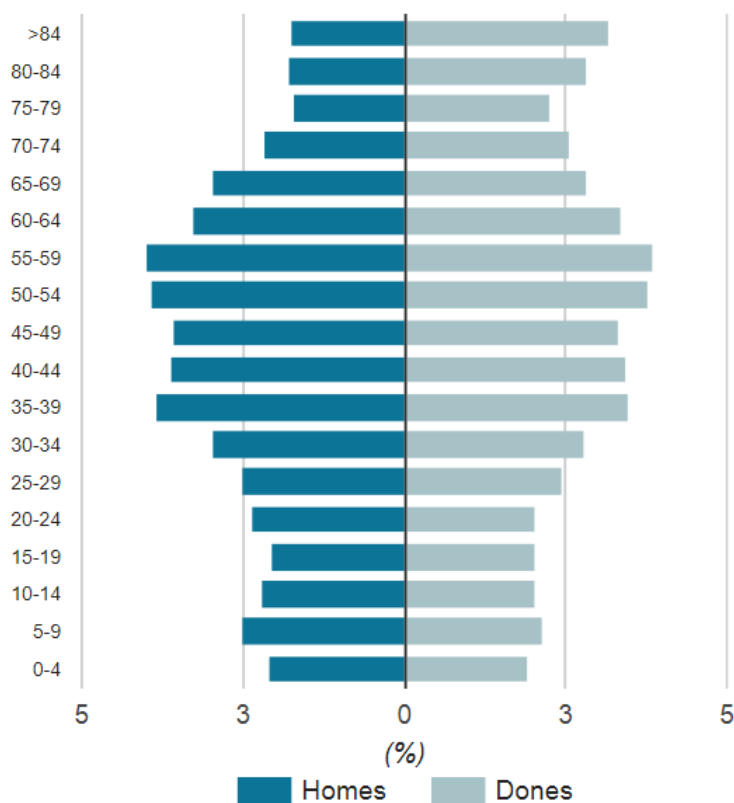
2016	
Nom equipament	Nº visitants
Museu les Mines de Cercs	23.361
Patrimoni paleontològic de Fumanya	990
Centre Interpretació Presa de la Baells	1.483
Itinerari Colònia minera St Corneli	383
Joc de Rol, la Mina Virtual	100
Jardins Artigas	26.954
Sant Llorenç	1.263
Sant Vicenç de Rus	122
Sant Quirze de Pedret	2.546
Museu del Cement Asland de Castellar de n'Hug	10.798
Centre Picasso i Gósol	2.250
Sant Sadurní de Rotgers	178
CMC Bagà	1.201
L'Estació de Guardiola	712
Centre d'informació massís Pedraforca	1.606
Centre del Parc Natural Cadí Moixeró	6.459
Mina de Petroli de Riutort	4.672
Tren del ciment	21.205
Sant Vicenç d'Obiols	368
Torre de l'Amo de Viladomiu Nou	1.589
Casa Pairal Teixidor-Bassacs	324
Museu de la colònia Vidal	17.576
Col·lecció del circ	4.220
La casa de la Patum	4.220
Espai d'interpretació de Berga	6.513
Espai d'interpretació de la Natura del Berguedà	4.220
Santa Maria d'Avià	21
Camadoca	3.102
TOTAL VISITANTS	148.436

ANNEX 3. SOCIOECONOMIC DATA OF BERGUEDA

DEMOGRAPHY DATES (December 2016)

Total population	38,950
Annual variation -	0.87%
Variation 2012-2016 -	4.96%
Inhabitants for km	2 35
Men	19,330
Women	19,620
Percentage of young people	13.82%
Percentage of adults	62.07%
Percentage pop. Large	24.11%
Aging index	174.39
Average age	46.46
Global dependency index	61.10
Replacement index	161.99
Seasonal population	16,733
Population residing abroad	984
Births	293
Synthetic Index of Fecundity	1.31
Deaths	491
Gross mortality rate	12,55
Foreign population	2,829
Annual variation -	3.48%
Variation 2012-2016 -	25.81%
Average age	32.19
Aliens rate	7,26%
5 main nationalities	2,059
Morocco	1.133
Romania	667
Poland	105
Ecuador	88
Dominican Republic	66

AGE STRUCTURE. 2016

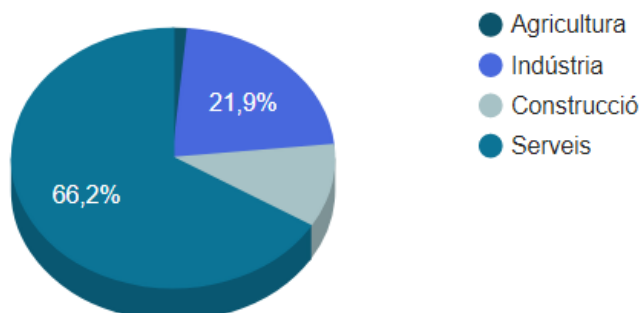


LABOR MARKET

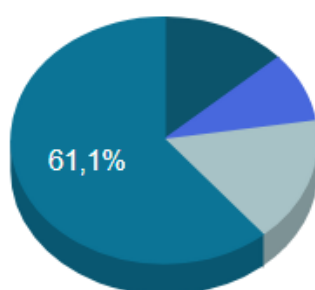
Salaried workers (III Trim 2017)

7,882

Annual variation	5.09%
Variation 2013-2017	18.51%
Agriculture	117
Industry	1,728
Construction	820
Services	5,217
Occupations with a high technological content	193



Self-employed workers (III Trim 2017)	3,457
Annual variation -	0.37%
Variation 2013-2017	1.05%
Agriculture	462
Industry	320
Construction	564
Services	2,111

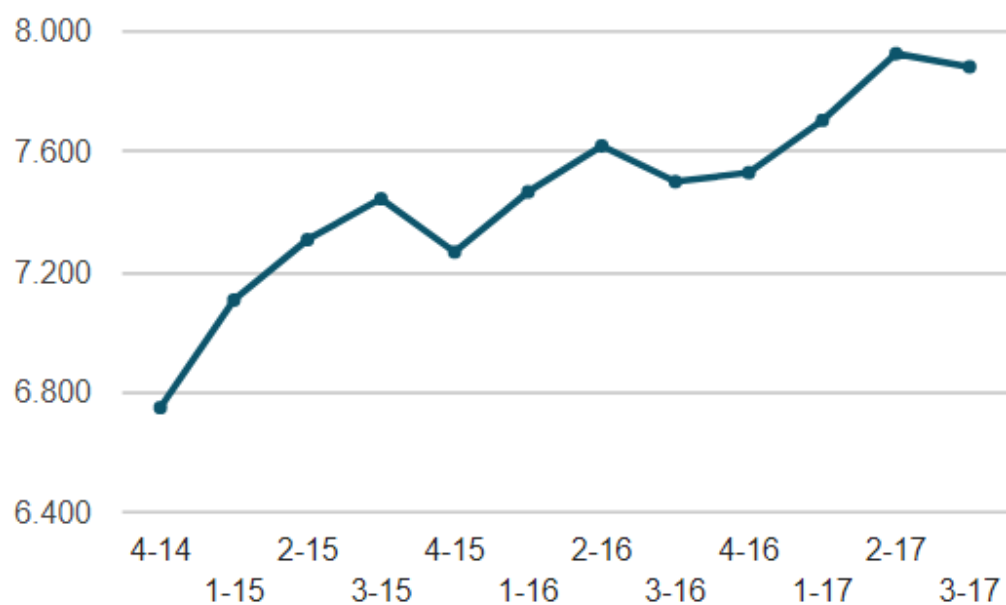


● Agricultura
● Indústria
● Construcció
● Serveis

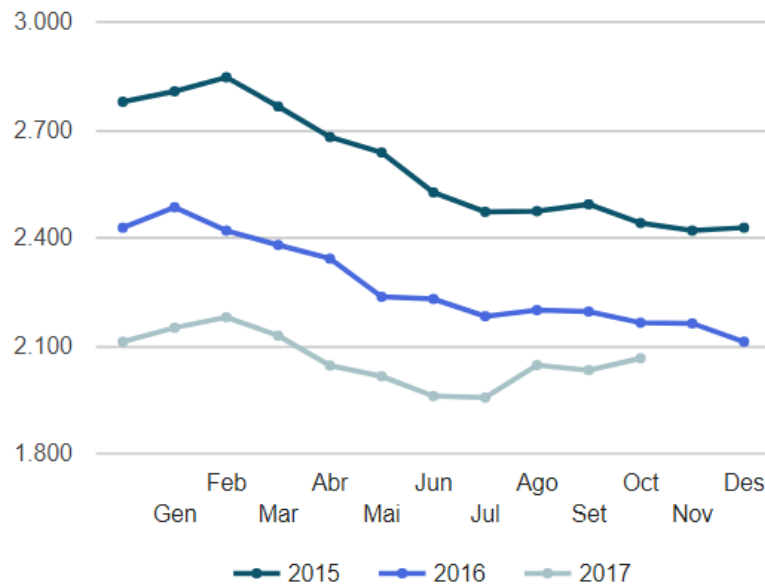
Registered unemployment (October 2017)	2.065
Annual variation -	4.57%
Variation 2013-2017 -	38.56%
Men	877
Women	1,188
From 16 to 24 years old	152
25 to 34 years	323
From 35 to 44 years	374
> 44 years	1,216
Agriculture	40
Industry	336
Construction	195
Services	1,322
Without previous employment	172
Low educational level	276
High educational level	263
Foreign registered unemployment	367
Annual change	5.46%

Registration unemployment rate (October 2017)	11.85%
Men	9.61%
Women	14.33%
From 16 to 24 years old	13.62%
From 25 to 34 years old	10.10%
From 35 to 44 years old	6.95%
> 44 years	15.74%

Evolution of employees



Wage earners

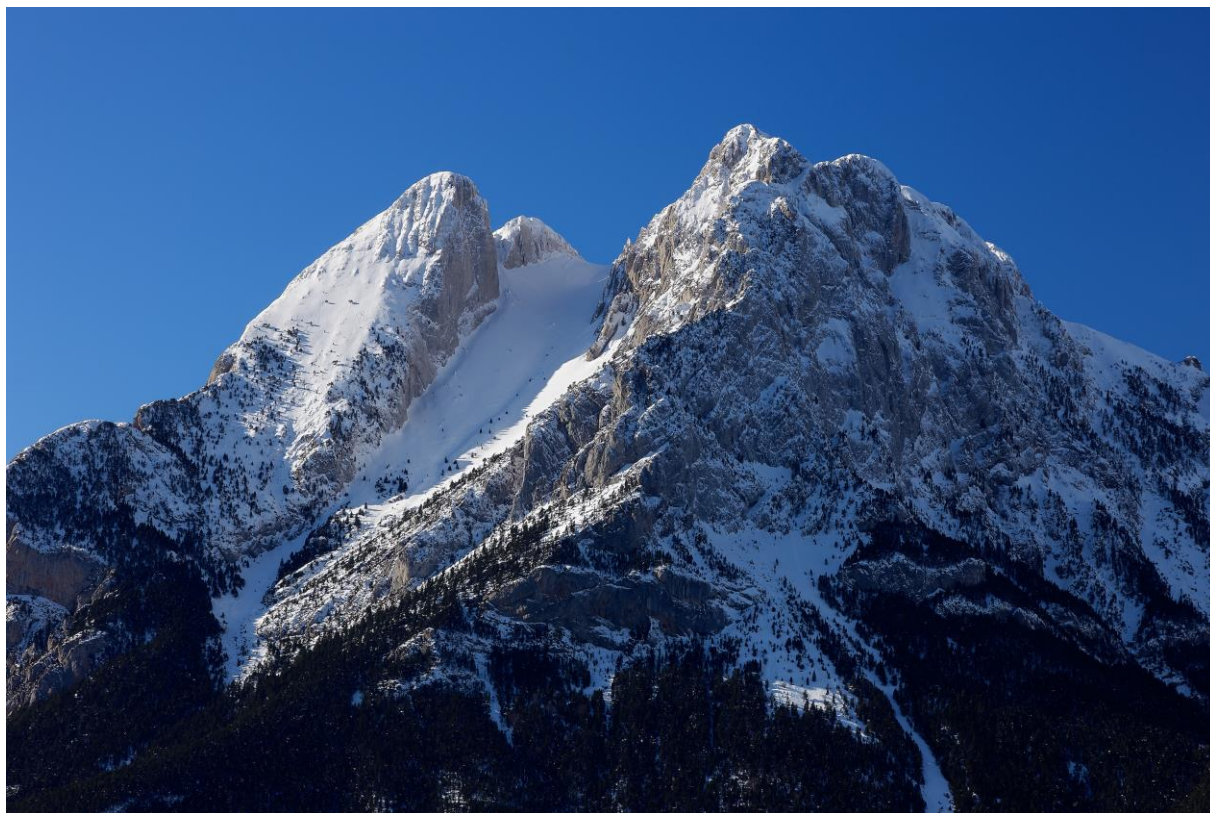


Photographs









Self-evaluation table

Aquesta puntuació ha estat obtinguda de la mitjana de puntuació dels participants en el grup de treball local.

CRITERIA		Score
C1 Proud local people	1-10	8
C2 Institutional recognition	1-10	8
C3 Reputation	1-10	7
C4 Legends and myths	1-10	8
C5 Power of inspiration	1-10	8
C6 Picturesque landscape	1-10	9
C7 Unique ecosystems	1-10	7
C8 Particular cultural identity	1-10	6
C9 Sustainability and anthropogenic environment	1-10	7
C10 Historic places	1-10	6
TOTAL	10-100	74

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

Arguments: No arguments

Bibliography

No English bibliography

Visit video <http://bit.ly/2zJOXVT>