

Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici: itinerary "Camino del Estany Llong i el Portarró D'Espot"



Itinerary: Planell d'Aigüestortes - Estany Llong - Estany Redó - Portarró d'Espot.

Access: from Boí to the Aigüestortes car park (with the public transport service) or to the La Molina car park (private vehicles) and then, following itinerary 10 to the Planell d'Aigüestortes.

Duration of the tour: 3 hours.

Difficulty: moderate; the itinerary runs all the time along an old forest track.

Gradient: 600 meters (1,830-2,430).

Recommended season: from June to October.

Observations: the route has a staggered longitudinal profile that makes the walk very pleasant. Shortly before reaching the first lake, we will find the sheltered refuge of Estany Llong, with food and accommodation services during the months of more influx of visitors. From the Portarró we can go to Espot (see itinerary 6).

Overview

The forest track that leaves the Aigüestortes hut becomes a magnificent walking itinerary that directs us, from west to east, towards the head of the Sant Nicolau riverbank, and that will allow us to discover, both in the sun and in the shade, the different valleys that remain hanging on the bottom of the main bank (Morrano, Dellui, les Corticelles, Contraix, Coma de Amitges, Gavatxos and Colomers d'Espot). The first section is very simple and runs between forests and pastures. We will find two sources, that of the Planell Gran and that of the Forn de la Pega. Shortly after this we will be able to appreciate the destructive force of the avalanches, before going, a little further on, towards the Prats d'Aiguadassi, an ancient lake today converted into a formidable carpet of grasslands and mountain wetlands through which the water flows. Then begins the climb to the Estany Llong, located at the limit of 2,000 m. A little further up, in the middle of the sunny slope, we find the Estany Redó, with its characteristic circular morphology, typical of the circus bottom lakes. If we go back to the Llong, we can continue to the Portarró d'Espot, a natural passage to jump to the neighboring valley of the Escrita, where the Estany de Sant Maurici is located.

Points of interest

1. **Font del Planell Gran:** the waters of this fountain are born in a scree located on the sunny slope, perfect habitat of one of the most charismatic animals of the National Park: the viper. Shortly after, the same path leads us, in just over 50 meters, from the heat of the waters to a penetrating silence.
2. **Prats d'Aiguadassi:** last plain before the ascent to the lake, in which is located, within the forest (pay attention to the signage), the refuge of the Centraleta, which remains open when the one of Estany Llong is closed. Before, behind you, you will discover the peaks of the Montanyó de Llacs, one of the few areas where schist rocks and calcareous rocks predominate in the Park.
3. **Estany Llong:** it is an elongated lake, in the shape of a crescent, where the cows and mares that take advantage of the alpine pastures in summer are concentrated. The left bank is covered by a beautiful forest of black pine with rhododendron, while the right is deforested. The meadows of *Festuca gautieri* that cover it and the stony ground that intermingle are one of the favorite places of the chamods. In the background, we will see a wide mountain pass: it is the Portarró d'Espot.
4. **Estany Redó:** it is one of the most beautiful lakes on the banks of Sant Nicolau. It stands out on the east shore, sunnier, a small island that has already been colonized by a black pine. Above the lake, an imposing ridge connects the Gran Tuc de Colomers with the Portarró.

5. **Portarró d'Espot**: a large port that is, due to its geographical location, the navel of the Park. Originated by a platform glacier, it still preserves today a rich vegetation of snowfields that includes very rare species in the Pyrenees.

© Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge | [Accessibility](#) | [Web Map](#) | [Navigation](#)

[Guide](#) | [Legal notice](#)

