

Grape farmers have always preferred to have their vineyards close to home, but of course, some are not so lucky.

Many El Lloar villagers have worked vineyards in the Damunt Roca area of the village, that's to say the fields above La Figuera hills. The old pack-horse trails which lead here, remind us of the constant bustle of mules loaded with grapes during the harvest, climbing to and fro from the hills to the village in days gone by. People say that some even did the same journey five times in one day.



They say that these old ways trace our memories and guard the secrets of our past. We have cleared and restored a good few of them here in Priorat, so that our younger generations can once again take the paths which their grandparents used. From this perspective, they can contemplate the future of their land through the eyes of those who worked it in centuries gone by. For there are secrets which can only be discovered on foot, at one's own pace.

La Xarxa de camins del Priorat (The Priorat Hiking Paths Network) is made up of former royal ways, pack-horse trails, footpaths and also cart tracks and modern farm tracks. These are paths which have been cleared and are maintained by the Consell Comarcal (County Council), local town halls and Parc Natural de la Serra de Montsant (Montsant Natural Park) and the Consorci de la Serra de Llaberia (Serra de Llaberia Consortium).



Consell Comarcal
del Priorat



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Vines from a Bird's eye View

EL LLOAR



El Lloar

FALSET

Level: Gentle walk, apt for all types of public, including children

Time needed: 2 h

Ascent: 240 m

Distance: 6 km

Map: Camins del Priorat 1:30.000
Editorial Piolet

Suggestions:

This is particularly interesting for the panoramic views it offers of the vineyards and the geological contrast between slate, chalk and limestone soils. It is suitable for all walkers and is recommendable for children. More experienced walkers can continue to the village of La Figuera by following the GR 171 (European Hiking Network Long Trail) signposts and painted way-markers.

Nature Guides:

Catsud T. 00 34 636 162 426

El Broguit Guitges T. 00 34 689 006 199

Pedrenca T. 00 34 690 251 295

GPS track at www.turismepriorat.org

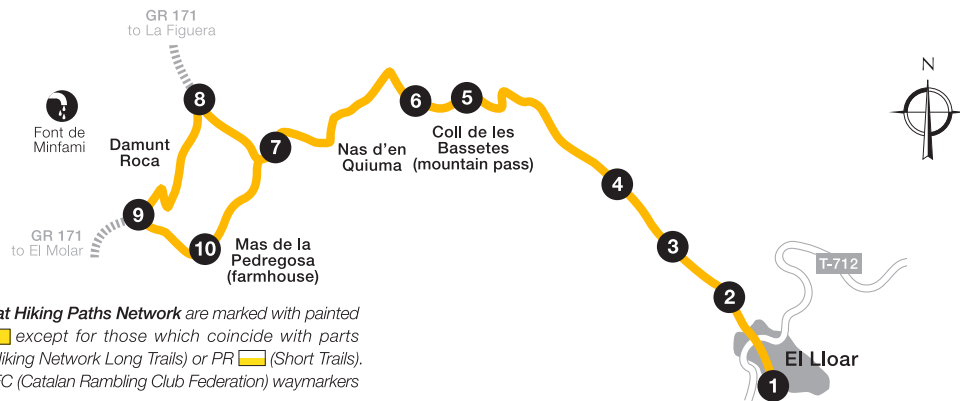
A hiking trail from El Lloar to Damunt Roca via Rogerals, returning via Mas de la Pedregosa

This trail invites visitors to re-live these ancient ways and is painted with yellow trail markers which are part of the Priorat Hiking Paths Network. The first signpost takes us from the **Church square** ① along Carrer del Pla Moré (Pla Moré Street). Cross the main road and continue upwards ② where you will come to the old royal way which connected El Lloar with **La Figuera** in the past. This path is also known as the Font de Minfami. Straight away, you will find yourselves amongst vines and the new Torres winery in Priorat will also be clearly visible ③. We come to a crossroads below the winery and keep straight on ④. Continue along the left hand side of the winery and take the farm track which takes us up the hill. The path gently climbs upwards until we reach the area known as **Les Bassetes** ⑤. There are three tracks leading off from the top of the hill. Take the one in the middle where we immediately come to the former pack-horse trail ⑥.

The path ascends gracefully, clinging to the slopes of red sandstone. Some parts of the path are beautifully cobbled and also marked on either side by more stones.

On our left there is an emblematic rock formation known as the **Nas d'en Quiuma** (Quiuma's nose). Further up there are red sandstone cliffs which then give way to white limestone towards the peaks. At the next signpost ⑦ the path divides in two. To the left, the path continues on to the Font de Minfami, which is where we will come down on our return. We take the right towards **La Figuera** until we reach the wide farm track at the top ⑧. Turn left onto this track and follow the GR 171 towards **El Molar**. Almost immediately, to our left, there is a small gap between the mountain tops which allows us views of El Lloar and the old Priorat of Palaeozoic slate, dotted all around with vineyards.

The path follows the area known as **Damunt Roca** and breathes an atmosphere of airiness. The path reaches another crossroads where the one on the right continues on the **Font de Minfami** (Minfami spring) ⑨. In front of us, we will see the former path to the Minfami spring, which we will follow on our return journey. The path passes close by the **Pedregosa farmhouse** and continues (the path becomes unclear in parts) along the main terrace and comes back to the Font de Minfami path next to a set of cypress trees ⑩ planted by the owner as a welcoming avenue to the farmhouse. From this point onwards the path descends towards the Rogerals and crosses the **Figuera path** again ⑦. Follow the same way you came now back to el Lloar.



The paths of the Priorat Hiking Paths Network are marked with painted yellow waymarkers except for those which coincide with parts of GR (European Hiking Network Long Trails) or PR (Short Trails). On these paths, the FEEC (Catalan Rambling Club Federation) waymarkers are used.