

It is true that no village actually falls within the boundaries of the Montsant mountain range, but La Bisbal de Falset really feels as if it were.

Its houses have been built clinging to the oligosclenic Montsant rock formations, on rocks which are fat-bellied and rounded. La Bisbal seems as if it has been placed on a roof-terrace for people to enjoy views over to the mountain and Montsant river valley. **This charming trail takes us up and over the Grau del Cingle Gran (Great Cliff Pass)** and lets us stroll between well kept olive groves and dry stone walls built by the hard-working Bisbal villagers.



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



PRIORAT REGION TOURIST OFFICE

Castell de Falset, 43730 Falset Tel. 00 34 977 831 023 www.turismepriorat.org



ENG



Olive trees on the Rocks

LA BISBAL DE FALSET



La Bisbal de Falset



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

Time needed: 45 min

Ascent: 100 m

Distance: 3 km

Map: Camins del Priorat 1:30.000
Editorial Piolet

Suggestions:

This is a charming shorter route, apt for all walkers and great for children. People say that the olive oil of this corner of the Montsant mountain range, that of La Bisbal, Margalef and Cabacés is of extraordinary quality and finesse.

Nature Guides:

Catsud T. 00 34 636 162 426

El Broguet Guiatges T. 00 34 689 006 199

Pedrenca T. 00 34 690 251 295

GPS track at www.turismepriorat.org

A walk along the Cingle Gran of La Bisbal de Falset

We leave the village by **Carrer de la Costa** (Costa Street) ①. At the top of the street, we turn left and a few metres later, to our left again ②. Here we find a wide track which heads for the foot of the cliff (**Cingle del Grau**) and through our first almond groves. When the hill starts to climb steeply, the path changes to a former pack-horse trail and we come to the first cobbled areas of the track. The path spirals upwards, elegantly clinging to the rock as it overcomes the escarpment and makes a pronounced turn to the right in an easterly direction ③. It continues upwards towards the top of the cliff. From the **look-out point of the Grau**, the views over the village rooftops and the Montsant river valley below are magnificent ④.

We follow the backbone of the ridge and we soon come to our first **olive groves**. We leave these fields and continue along a farm track along the ridge until we reach a wide hollow ⑤ and the **road to Bellaguarda** leading up from the village. We turn right and descend following a tractor track which drops down to the olive terraces.

At the last stop, we come to a small **pack-horse trail** ⑥ which enables us to descend from the cliff and find the path which enters **Les Oliveres del Raconet** (olive groves). We come out onto the farm track again ⑦ and we wind down until we reach a well marked crossroads ⑧. We turn right on the level between dry stone walls and olive trees. We reach another crossroads and we keep straight on along the foot of the mountain to return to the village of La Bisbal. We enter the village via **Carrer Metge Curcó** (Metge Curcó Street) ⑨, which is one of the most spectacular and surprising streets in La Bisbal, where rock and houses combine to create a unique atmosphere.

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.

