

## Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark

Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark belongs to the Global and European Geoparks Network since September 2006, and since 2015 of the UNESCO International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme.

A voluntary association of zones working together to conserve and valorise their geological heritage.

In Sobrarbe you can find the three UNESCO site designations to celebrate our heritage while at the same time conserving the world's cultural, biological and geological diversity: World Heritage Sites (Pyrenees-Monte Perdido and Rock Art of the Mediterranean) Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (Summer solstice fire festivals in the Pyrenees), Biosphere Reserve (Ordesa-Viñamala) and Global Geopark.



**1** Point of interest of Roadside Geology Route

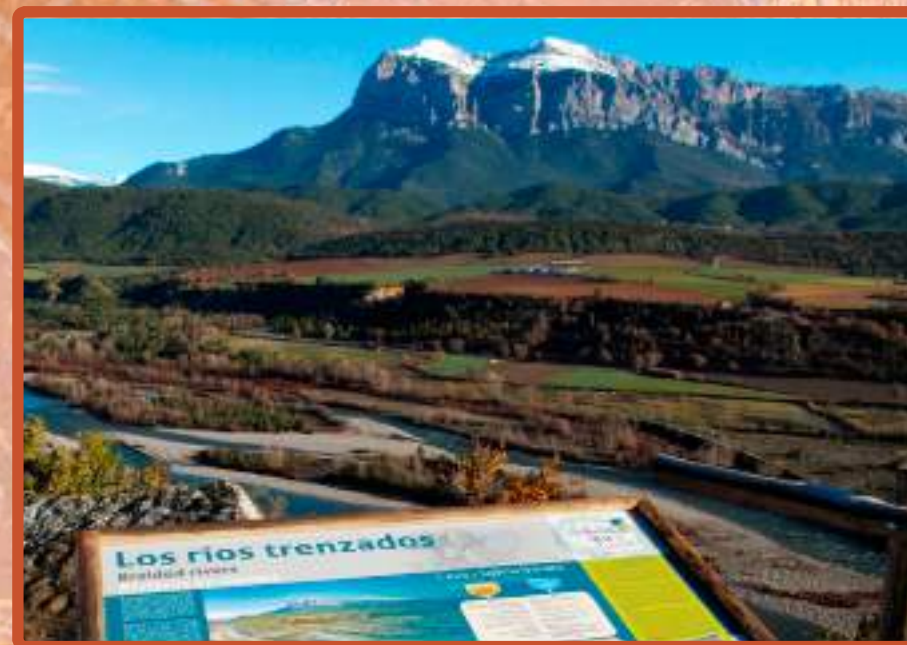
### MORE INFORMATION IN:

GEOPARK SPACE  
Tower South-east.  
Castle of Ainsa.  
Tel. (+34) 974 500 614  
info@geoparquepirineos.com  
www.geoparquepirineos.com

REGIONAL TOURIST OFFICE  
Tower Northeast.  
Castle of Ainsa.  
Tel. (+34) 974 500 512  
info@turismosobrarbe.com  
www.turismosobrarbe.com

## Roadside Geology Route

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[www.geoparquepirineos.com](http://www.geoparquepirineos.com)

## The treasure of the rocks

Concealed in its rocks, the District of Sobrarbe jealously guards numerous stories about its past: bygone worlds inhabited by strange and impressive creatures; huge eruptions of energy that shattered rocks and folded them like paper; geological races between rivers and glaciers that gave rise to the beauty of the landscape around us; deep underwater gorges transformed today into highpoints; seas, rivers, lakes and glaciers now gone forever; and tiny animals petrified to hard rock.

To tell these stories, the Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark has erected explanatory panels in 13 sites of special interest.

These panels describe the geological peculiarities of the location and will help you to look at the landscape of Sobrarbe with new eyes, understand its origins, learn about its history, discover the signs of its distant past and to picture the mark left by humankind on a land whose recent history has run parallel with that of its occupants.



PANEL 6 - The Legacy of ice. Linás de Broto

## Points of interest

	INFORMATION PANELS	LOCATION	CONTENT
1	LANDSCAPES OF YESTERDAY, LANDSCAPES OF TODAY	ERIPOL. At the top of a hill, near the village 259721 4685404 31 N	Two types of rock can be seen from this viewpoint. Formed from sediments deposited in very different environments, they have given rise to two different landscapes: Landscapes made of limestone and marl. And Detrital rock landscape.
2	A TURBULENT HISTORY	BOLTAÑA Castle. 259031 4703908 31 N	From this viewpoint, we can see a striking structure that clearly shows the part played by compressive forces in the formation of the Pyrenees: an anticlinal fold.
3	AN OCEAN OF ROCKS	GUASO. Tozal de Guaso viewpoint. 30T0677471 UTM4616060	This viewpoint is an excellent place from which to observe how the geological substrate has determined the shape of the Sobrarbe region. Looking around us, we can see an ocean of rocks, within we can distinguish various landscapes with characteristic geological and anthropic features.
4	FOSSILS AND COINS	JÁNOVAS. Promontory going to the Ara river, opposite the village. 30T0259638 UTM4685188	Nummulites were abundant throughout the Eocene period, which lasted 22 million years. As a result, Eocene limestones formed from the shells of these organisms are abundant today.
5	A GEOLOGICAL RACE	BROTO. On the way to Sorrosal Cascade. 735842 4721168 30 N	The Sorrosal waterfall is a work of art created by the action of two great sculptors: the ice of a glacier and the water from a mountain stream.
6	THE LEGACY OF ICE	LINÁS DE BROTO. Near the church. Opposite the trough. 30T0732198 UTM4722651	Some of the most impressive landscapes in the Sobrarbe district were created by ice. An example of these traces would be the "glaciolacustrine deposits" near to Linás de Broto. How was this deposit formed?

	INFORMATION PANELS	LOCATION	CONTENT
7	THE LANGUAGE OF ROCKS	MORILLO DE TOU. On the path which goes to the dam. 265884 4695595 31 N	It is often said that the layers of rock which form part of our landscapes are like the pages of a book chronicling the history of the Earth. The Mediano Reservoir is where processes are occurring now which will lead, in a geological future, to the formation of rocks.
8	CASTLES ON VANTAGE POINTS	MORILLO DE TOU. Viewpoint. 265971 4695727 31 N	Deep, steep-sided valleys known as submarine canyons cut into the sea floor. The rocks on which Morillo de Tou sits were formed in one of these canyons, on the floor of the sea which covered Sobrarbe about 42 million years ago.
9	BRAIDED RIVERS	Path called La Serreta in AÍNSA. 264497 4701151 31 N	Historically, rivers have provided elements which are vital for human beings. However, it is only recently that we have begun to understand that rivers have their own dynamics which are changed, sometimes drastically, by these human activities. An example is the Cinca River.
10	A WORLD IN RUINS	LASPUNYA. Rest area on the road from Laspuña to El Pueyo de Araguás. 267523 4707110 31 N	Even as a mountain starts to be formed, it simultaneously begins to be destroyed by external geological agents which commence their role in shaping the landscape. Anticlinal fold of Añiselo: history of its construction and its relentless destruction...
11	THE ORIGINS OF PEÑA MONTAÑESA	ROAD from ESCALONA to BUERBA. 262729 4710335 31 N	This mountain has a long history which includes a "journey" known in geological terms as a thrust fault.
12	GEOLOGY AND LANDSCAPE	BESTUÉ. Square in Bestué. 262821 4716384 31 N	From this viewpoint we can see how geology determines the landscape which lies before us. The shape of the terrain, the presence of diverse vegetation, land use ... all this is related to the type of geological substrate that supports the landscape.
13	A RED AND BLUE PLANET	PLAN. Next to the Tourist Office. 281534 4717894 31 N	If you look at the landscape around Plan, you might notice the presence of rocks with a deep red colour. These are rocks that come from sediments generated about 200 million years ago, during the Triassic, a time when the Earth was very different from today.



PANEL 11.- The origins of Peña Montañesa. Puyarruego

## An exceptional geological heritage

The rocks that make up our mountains have featured in many chapters of the Earth's history.

Geologists have discovered within them the remains of tropical seas, ancient mountain ranges older than the Himalayas and of course a detailed record of the formation of these mountains that we enjoy today: The Pyrenees.

Scientists from all over the world come to study the folds and faults, the different types of rock, fossils that tell us about the eco-systems of the past or the enormous variety of relief patterns characteristic of this mountain region.

More than 100 sites have been declared Places of Geological Interest, representing the best of Sobrarbe's geological heritage.

This scientific information has been made publicly available by the Geopark so that we can fully understand and enjoy these magnificent landscapes.



PANEL 12 - Geology and landscape. Bestué



PANEL 10 - A world in ruins. Laspuña

## A voyage to lost worlds

We tend to think of living and travelling as a journey through a physical space, and this is partly true.

The Sobrarbe Geopark, however, offers us another kind of voyage, a trip back in time, a path that leads to landscapes that have disappeared forever but whose image is recorded in the memory of its rocks.

Heed the call of these lost worlds, learn to decode the language of the rocks and, when you return home, take with you the thrill of the breathtaking landscapes of today and the long distant past.

### Tips

**Safe visits, unforgettable experiences.** There are collaborating companies with the Geopark where you can hire specialized guides to make your tour a unique and safe experience.



**Respect the geological outcrops.** Do not break off sample of rocks, mineral or fossils.

