



PAPER ROUTES

5 ITINERARIES FOR EXPLORING PAPER ROUTES
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MUSEU MOLÍ PAPERER DE CAPELLADES
MUSEU DE LA CIÈNCIA I DE LA TÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA



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Ajuntament de
Capellades



Diputació
Barcelona



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Capellades Paper Mill Museum

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Capellades Paper Mill Museum

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PAPER RELATED ELEMENTS THAT YOU CAN FIND IN THE LANDSCAPE WHILE FOLLOWING THESE ITINERARIES:

SAFAREIG (WASHHOUSE)

Some houses used the water channels of the paper mills to do their laundry. The paper mills often had their own washhouses, used for washing the rags and cloths that were the primary material for making paper.



REC (WATERCOURSE)

These were water channels used to direct water for irrigation or to supply factories. In Capellades, there is one known as the *Rec de Corronaire* or *Rec Major*, in La Pobla de Claramunt; there is the *Rec de les Figueres* (fig tree channel), in Carme there is the *Rec de Carme* (Carme waterway), which originates in the Orpi reservoir.



COMPORTES (CHANNEL LOCKS)

These were planks of wood or sheets of iron placed vertically in an irrigation ditch or canal to stop or regulate the passage of water.



WATERWHEELS

These were wheels with blades or buckets on their outer circumference driven by water from a mill race falling onto them from a height and so turning them. There were axles attached to each of them which then drove machinery in the mill.



MIRADOR (VIEWPOINT)

This was the term used to refer to the upper floors of paper mills where paper was hung up to dry. The *miradors* were open spaces, with lines and lines of cords, acting like washing lines, upon which the sheets of paper, still damp from the vats, were hung to dry. They had many windows on all four sides of the building.



WINDOWS

The windows of the *mirador*. The word window obviously comes from the word wind. The doors on these windows have a device that allows the angle at which they are open to be fixed. This system was used to control the airflow in the building.



BASIC TIPS FOR WALKERS

1. Please respect private property. Please do not cross crop fields.
2. Respect our cultural and historical heritage. We need to preserve it for future generations.
3. If you come across gates or barriers, please leave them as you found them (either open or closed).
4. Before you leave, it is a good idea to check on the expected weather conditions during your walk. If inclement weather is forecast it might be better to postpone your trip for another day.
5. Note that the weather can change very suddenly. Bring warm and waterproof clothing.
6. Plan the activity and its duration, consult with our guides and study the map of the route.
7. Wear clothes and footwear suitable for hill walking. It would also be a good idea to carry a basic first aid kit.
8. It is best to always be accompanied on the walk, but if that is not possible, then tell someone of your plans to follow a particular route.



YOU WILL FIND MORE ROUTES AND PLACES TO VISIT IN THE REGION AT WWW.ANOIATURISME.CAT

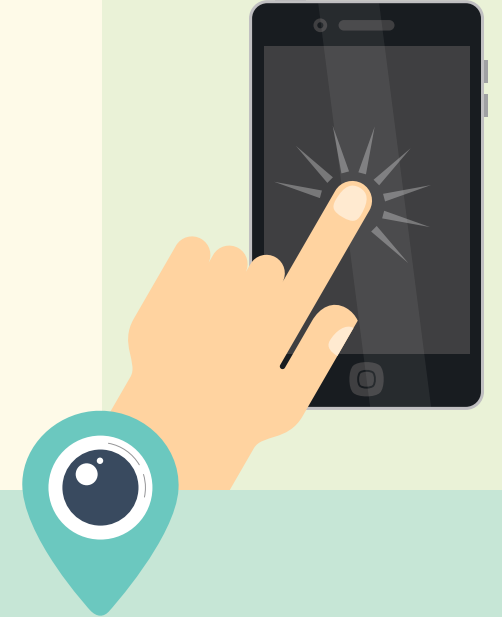
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ALL THE ITINERARIES ON THE PAPER ROUTES HAVE AS THEIR STARTING POINT THE CAPELLADES PAPER MILL MUSEUM
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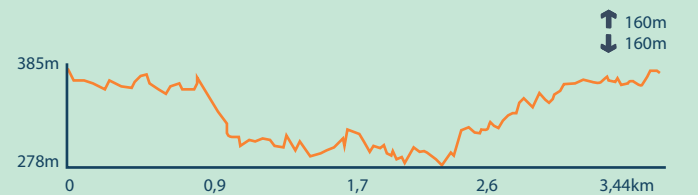
SCAN THE QR CODE AND FOLLOW THE ROUTE THROUGH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE USING THE WIKILOCC APP OR ENTER THE WIKILOCC ID ON THE WEB

ITINERARIES PAPER ROUTES

ITINERARY
01
CAPELLADES



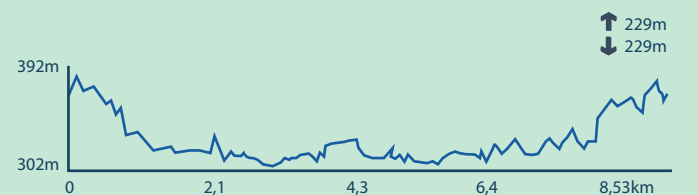
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OUTWARD AND RETURN
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DURATION: 45'
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ITINERARY
02
CAPELLADES - LA RATA - LA POBLA DE CLARAMUNT



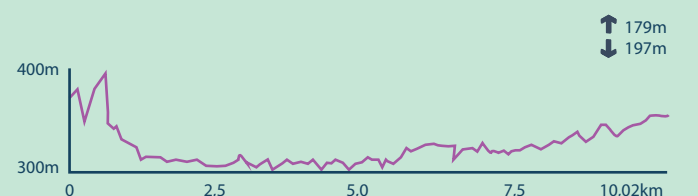
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OUTWARD AND RETURN
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DURATION: 1H 49'
WIKILOCC-ID: 14907160



ITINERARY
03
LA RATA - LA POBLA DE CLARAMUNT - VILANOVA DEL CAMÍ



DIFFICULTY: MODERATE
OUTWARD TRIP
DISTANCE: 10,02 KM
DURATION: 2H 13'
WIKILOCC-ID: 15034788



ITINERARY
04
CAPELLADES - CA LA FOU-BEDORC



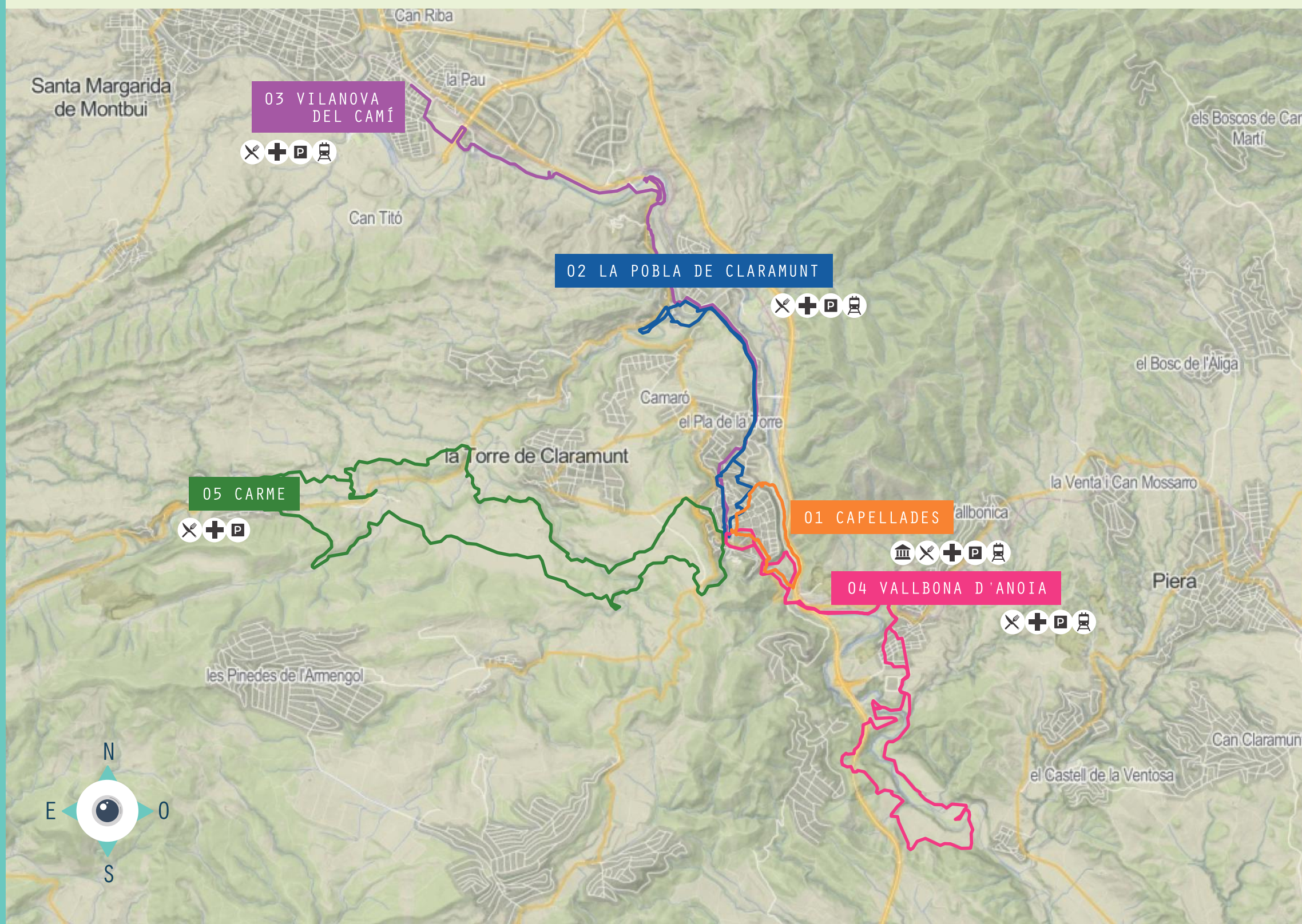
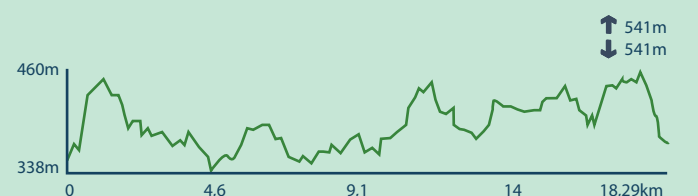
DIFFICULTY: MODERATE
OUTWARD AND RETURN
DISTANCE: 16,41 KM
DURATION: 3H 27'
WIKILOCC-ID: 15134327



ITINERARY
05
CAPELLADES - LA TORRE DE CLARAMUNT - RIERA DE CARME



DIFFICULTY: MODERATE
OUTWARD AND RETURN
DISTANCE: 18,29 KM
DURATION: 4H 26'
WIKILOCC-ID: 15341057





PAPER ROUTES

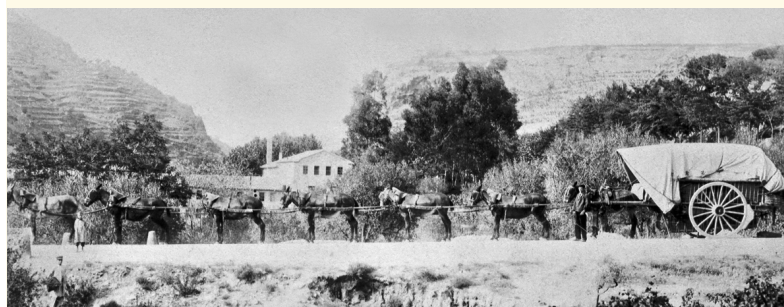
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INTRODUCTION

Between the 18th and 19th centuries, Capellades and its environs constituted one of the most important centres for paper making in Spain. It specialized in top quality deckle edged paper and in cigarette papers. Manufacturers such as Romaní, Soteras, Guarro, Serra or Romeu, among others, supplied much of the Spanish, South American and Phillipine market.

Along the basin of the River Anoia evidence exists of more than 40 paper mills. To this day, paper has been one of the main motors of the area's economy. Whole families worked in the mills; either slashing rags into strips, forming sheets of paper, preparing glue for the sizing process, hanging up sheets to dry or packing the reams of the finished product. Many generations have worked, day by day, making quality paper here.

We would like to suggest some paper related local sights you might like to visit. In this area, an industrial landscape unfolds along the River Anoia, its tributaries, channels, locks and mills. Through five itineraries, leaving from Capellades, we invite you to discover our Paper Routes.



WORKERS AT THE CAL SEPÀRA FACTORY, HANDLING PAPER

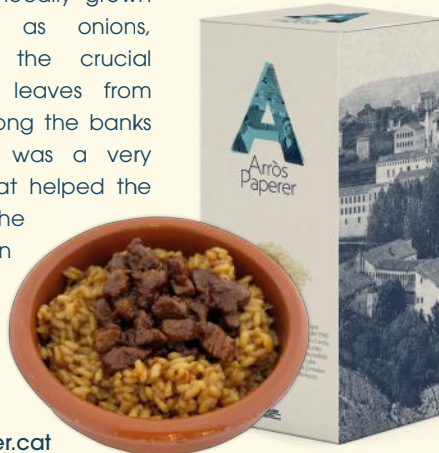


WORKERS AT THE ESCARRÀ FACTORY. FEBRUARY 1922.

DISCOVER OUR DELICIOUS PAPER MAKER'S RICE

Sometimes, oral history offers us gastronomic pearls; paper maker's rice is one of them. We learned about this dish, in 2008, from a story told by Montserrat Miquel (a descendent of the founding family of the still extant Miquel i Costas Paper Company) which was forwarded to us at the Capellades Paper Mill Museum. "Arros Paperer" (Paper Maker's Rice) is a stew that was made in the old factories with meat and rice, seasoned with local wine and other locally grown products such as onions, tomatoes and the crucial ingredient: bay leaves from trees growing along the banks of the river. It was a very nutritious dish that helped the workers through the harsh conditions in the early paper mills.

MORE INFO:
www.arrospaperer.cat



ITINERARY 01 CAPELLADES

The Capellades route is the most urban and the shortest. Despite that, it is one of the itineraries on which we can see more sights connected with our paper making heritage. We start off from the small lake known as the Bassa in the shadow of the Molí de la Vila (home to the Capellades Paper Mill Museum). We then follow the water channel known as the Rec del Corronaire. Eventually, we will end up at the viewpoint called the Mirador de la Miranda, from where you can see all the Molins de la Costa (the paper mills sited along the watercourse). The route will take us down to the ancient Camí Rei (Royal Way) passing through the hamlet known as the Font de la Reina (The Queen's Fountain). We then shadow the River Anoia with the spectacular cliffs of Capelló on our right to the Pas de l'Aigua (a seasonal waterfall) at which point there is a track that will bring us back up to Capellades.

HISTORIC VIEW OF THE MOLÍ DE LA VILA AND THE BASSA LAKE.



CAPELLADES PAPER MILL MUSEUM

Located in Capellades, the Paper Mill Museum can be found in an old paper mill known as the *Molí de la Vila*, which preserves the characteristic structure of an 18th century paper mill. Right next to it, there is a small lake fed by a natural spring of crystalline water, which once provided water for the 16 mills of the town.

In the permanent exhibition spaces in the museum, the history of paper (from its origins to current manufacturing processes) is explained. In the basement of the mill, visitors can learn in detail about the craft of paper making with the original tools and machinery. Indeed, we still continue producing handmade paper there today.

The collections and documents preserved on the upper floors make this museum one of the most important centres, internationally, dedicated to the study and dissemination of all aspects of paper making.



ELS MOLINS DE LA COSTA

In Capellades there were two groups of paper mills; the *Molins de la Costa* and the *Molins del pas de l'aigua*. The former were the largest group of mills receiving water from the *Bassa* (the pond next to the *Molí de la Vila*- home to the Capellades Paper Mill Museum). The water was used to turn water wheels which then powered the machinery in all the mills along the irrigation channels known as the *Sèquia Major* or the *Rec del Corronaire*. The mills served by these channels, in order, were the *Molí de la Vila*, the *Molí del Fages*, *Cal Fortugós*, the *Molí del Pla* (*Cal Titllo*), *Cal Castells*, *Cal Mata*, *Cal Sapara*, *Ca l'Anton*, the *Molí Xic*, *Cal Farreres*, *Ca Mats*, the *Molí d'en Pau Vidal*, the *Molí Joan Pere*, *Can Almirall*, the *Molí d'en Tortet* and the *Molina mill*.



PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE MOLINS DE LA COSTA IN CAPELLADES

ABRIC ROMANÍ

Geologically, the *Abric Romaní* is a cavern in the cliffs known as the *Cinglera del Capelló*. These cliffs are made of travertine rock and are a kilometre long and an average of some 50 metres high. They were formed by the action of carbonated water emerging from the spring that is the source of the *Bassa*. The heavy lime content of the water fossilized any vegetation growing in the area.

THE CLIFFS OF CAPELLÓ



Along the length of the cliffs the action of falling water formed a considerable number of caves, ledges or rock shelters. These were later used as temporary homes by countless generations of early humans. Among all of these occupations, the most notable for its importance is the Palaeolithic site known as the *Abric Romaní*. This was discovered on 9th August 1909 by a paper-making industrialist called Amador Romaní i Guerra. Today it is considered one of the most important Neanderthal sites in the world. Since 1983, the excavations, held every summer, have been directed by Dr. Eudald Carbonell. The dig has brought to light dozens of wooden objects and more than two hundred remains of fires once used for cooking, light or heating. These finds have helped document the lives of these hunter-gatherer communities.



ABRIC ROMANÍ



CLIFF FEATURE KNOWN AS THE BARRET DEL CAPELLÓ

LA FONT DE LA REINA

The Font de la Reina district was a strategic stop along the old royal road linking the towns of Piera and Igualada. As a main pathway into the interior, it once housed numerous coaching inns. Next to one of the arched doorways of one of these traveller's stopping points (*Can Carol*, dated between the 16th and 17th centuries) there is a fountain with a neoclassical carved female bust. Two jets of water once sprang from her breasts. It is believed that it was carved in memory of Queen Petronella of Aragon, wife of Ramon Berenguer IV, who while in the process of moving to Barcelona in 1151, passed through the place. It has been associated with her ever since. La Font de la Reina became a busy junction for the carts and carriages that transported Catalan paper to the interior of the Iberian peninsula.

MAIN ROAD IN THE FONT DE LA REINA



PAS DE L'AIGUA

This group of mills comprised the *Molí Vell*, *Cal Manel* and *Cal Violant*. The water that moved the water wheels of these mills came from the water channel that emerges beneath the overhang known as the *Barret del Capelló*. The water was used by each mill in turn. In addition, for the clean water needed to actually make the paper, all three drew water from wells.



THE MOLÍ VELL, CAL MANEL AND CAL VIOLANT ALONG THE BANKS OF THE RIVER ANOIA

ITINERARY 02

CAPELLADES - LA RATA - LA POBLA DE CLARAMUNT

This is the most industrial of the proposed routes. Here we will see how the old mills have given way to modern factories. The tall buildings, presided over by rows of windows on their upper floors, used for drying paper, have yielded to huge factories housing enormous machines. We start from Capellades and follow many of the mills known as the Molins de la Costa, down to the district called La Rata. There we cross the River Anoia and enter the heart of the small town called La Pobla de Claramunt where we will find more paper mills and other historical sites.

MOLINS DE LA COSTA



CAL FARRERES AND THE MOLINS DE LA COSTA

Cal Farreres is one of the mills that were part of the so called "Mills of the Coast". Today it is one of the few that have been restored. It was constructed in 1755 and added to in 1749. Nearby you can discover two more paper mills: *Cal Cats* and the *Pau Vidal mill*.

MODERN VIEW OF THE CAN FARRERES MILL.



MOLÍ DE CA ALMIRALLÓ

Built in 1756 by Francesc Almirall, you can find this mill near the centre of the small town of La Pobla de Claramunt. Apparently, it never actually manufactured paper due to an error in calculation when building the mill race that prevented it operating the water wheel.

MOLÍ DE CA L'ALMIRALLÓ



CASTELL DE CLARAMUNT

From La Pobla de Claramunt, you can clearly appreciate the imposing Claramunt Castle. Its history, marked by conflict and war, is full of destruction and reconstruction. Despite this, it has managed to maintain its structure and its aspect as an impressive fortress. First constructed in the second half of the 10th century, it formed part of a dense network of castles that marked the border between the lands of the Christian Count of Barcelona and the Moorish lands of Al-Andalus. The job of this network was both to protect and organize the territory.



CLARAMUNT CASTLE. LA POBLA DE CLARAMUNT
PICTURE BY JOSEP NAS

REC DE LES FIGUERES

This "waterway of the fig trees" can be followed from the lower section of the *Ca Almiralló* mill. The water in this canal was first used by flour mills, then later by cloth mills and finally by paper mills.

ITINERARY 03

LA RATA - LA POBLA DE CLARAMUNT - VILANOVA DEL CAMÍ

This route can either be a circular walking route, or else you can do the outward leg on foot and get the train back to Capellades. We start this route in Capellades, pass the Molins de la Costa, discover the paper-making past of La Pobla de Claramunt and follow the River Anoia upstream to see two mills that are close to Vilanova del Camí.

MOLÍ DE LA BOIXERA

Located on the left bank of the River Anoia, the *Boixera* Mill manufactured both white and brown paper until the end of the 19th century. During the 20th century it operated as a flour mill and sawmill.

THE BRIDGE AND THE BOIXERA MILL



MOLÍ DE RIGAT

This mill's waterwheel was moved by the waters of the River Anoia, but it also made use of the current from one of its tributaries, the Castellolí stream. It produced white paper until the end of the 19th century. In 1923, Romulus Gabarró bought the mill and its water rights in order to supply drinking water to Igualada and Vilanova del Camí.

MOLÍ DE RIGAT



ITINERARY 04

CAPELLADES - CA LA FOU - BEDORC

This route follows the River Anoia downstream allowing us to immerse ourselves in the forests of Valbona d'Anoia and Cabrera d'Anoia. On this route you can enjoy nature and discover two mills, one of them inside the only "industrial colony" (company town) in the whole River Anoia basin.

PAS DE L'AIGUA (CAPELLADES)

This group of mills comprised the *Molí Vell*, *Cal Manel* and *Cal Violant*.

The water that moved the water wheels of these mills came from the channel that emerges beneath the overhang known as the *Barret del Capelló*. The water was used by each mill in turn. In addition, for the clean water needed to actually make the paper, all three drew water from wells.

CA LA FOU. PART OF THE OLD COLÒNIA MARÇAL



CA LA FOU

Located on the right bank of the river Anoia, *Ca la Fou*, also known as *Colònia Marçal*, was the only industrial colony in the whole of the River Anoia basin. Founded in 1902, it was dedicated to cotton spinning. A fire destroyed most of the buildings, but did not affect the structure of the 18th century paper mill, which can still be seen.

MOLÍ D'EN FERRER DEL COLL



MOLÍ D'EN FERRER DEL COLL

This paper mill was built in the late 18th century by Antoni Ferrer. In the mid-19th century it was converted into a yarn factory, significantly modifying its structure. On the surrounding estate there is a protected pine forest, with several examples of Aleppo Pines (*Pinus halapensis*) identified as the tallest pine in the species.

ITINERARY 05

CAPELLADES - LA TORRE DE CLARAMUNT - RIERA DE CARME

The seasonal stream known as the Riera de Carme is one of the tributaries of the River Anoia. Along its course we can explore a unique natural environment where, every now and then, we will stumble upon paper mills. In order to get to the stream we must pass through the small town of La Torre de Claramunt. This was another paper making town. In addition, it has a very well-preserved medieval castle that is still inhabited.



THE RIERA DE CARME

MOLÍ MAJOR

On the left bank of the stream of Carme, there is the *Molí Major* (main mill) it was built by Francesc Claramunt in 1735, with some terraced buildings added later. Its isolated location, among crop fields, was a common feature of all mills at that time, despite the fact that at present many have been integrated within more urbanized areas.



THE MOLÍ MAJOR AT CARME

MOLÍ DE CARME

The *Molí de Carme* can be found in the centre of this village. It first operated in 1713 and during its working life was used to manufacture different types of paper; from deckle-edged paper through smoking papers to parafin treated brown paper.

CAL ROIO AND CAL COSTAS

Located on the right bank of the stream of Carme, where it flows past the Torre de Claramunt, these two mills were originally the property of the Guarro family. During the second half of the 18th century it was bought by the Costas family. Between 1912 and 1930 cigarette papers for the Miquel i Costas brand were manufactured here.

CAL ROIO AND CAL COSTAS



BALÇ DE LES ROQUETES

The cliffs known as the *Balç de les Roquetes* is a natural area along the Riera de Carme in the *Esplugues* area. It is a formation of Travertine rock deposits from the Quaternary Period.