



## A land of biodiversity

The biological wealth of the Natural Area is a result of the varied terrain and the legacy of age-old human activity.

*It boasts a wide variety of forests where Mediterranean and Euro-Siberian vegetation coexist. The wildlife in each is equally rich and specific.*

Although animals are difficult to spot, they often leave traces of their presence. If you listen carefully, you're sure to hear the call of the great tit, the warbler, the jay and the hoopoe. You should also be able to hear the European Green Woodpecker and see the holes it makes in dead trees.

There's no shortage of diurnal and nocturnal birds of prey in the Natural Area. Notable among them are the Eurasian eagle-owl, the tawny owl and the falcon, and it's easy to catch sight of the griffon vulture and the Egyptian vulture from the cliff tops.

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## Farmhouses, castles and hermitages

The built heritage of the Natural Area includes numerous legacies from times gone by that capture the interest of visitors.

*Many of the historical sites are located in elevated areas and offer extraordinary panoramic views.*

The oldest traces of human existence in the Natural Area can be found on the engraved stones and in the area around Sant Feliuet de Savassona (Tavèrnoles), as well as in the Iberian Ausetani settlement of Casol de Puigcastellet (Folgueroles).

Constructions such as the Malafogassa Bridge, Bellpuig Castle, Sant Llorenç Castle, Sant Feliuet de Savassona, Sant Andreu de Bancells, Sant Romà de Sau and Santa Maria de Vallclara are fine examples of Romanesque and pre-Romanesque architecture. The Baroque and neoclassical periods are both represented in the Puig-l'agulla Sanctuary.

Don't miss the rich popular architectural heritage of the numerous farmhouses scattered throughout the Natural Area, including Ca l'Arumí, Cal Guàrdia, Can Garbells, Can Tramuntana and Mas d'en Coll.

## Agricultural, livestock and forestry activities

The way people feel connected to the land and their environmental awareness are key to preserving the countryside.

*The Natural Area promotes and is committed to traditional activity, and encourages those who work with local products to foster sustainable economic development.*

Agricultural, livestock and forestry activities remain some of the richest assets of the Les Guilleries-Savassona Natural Area. The Natural Area strives to ensure that these activities are compatible with ecological conservation.

Adaptation of forests to the effects of climate change is a future project that is just getting under way and will prove key to mitigating the impact on natural ecosystems.

However, the gradual downturn in these activities underscores the current interest in boosting the flow of tourists to the area and establishing it as an important tourist centre.

## Get the most out of your visit

It's easy to do, whether it's an impromptu stroll or an activity-packed stay.

*The Natural Area has readily accessible facilities and programmes for you to get to know the place better and enjoy everything on offer.*

The Les Guilleries-Savassona Natural Area has several centres and an information point, numerous recreational areas, environmental education facilities and signposted trails, such as the Carboneres trail, the Domus del Pi trail (in Vilanova de Sau) and the Font de la Riera trail (in Sant Julià de Vilatorrada). It also boasts several permanent exhibitions and general interest publications.

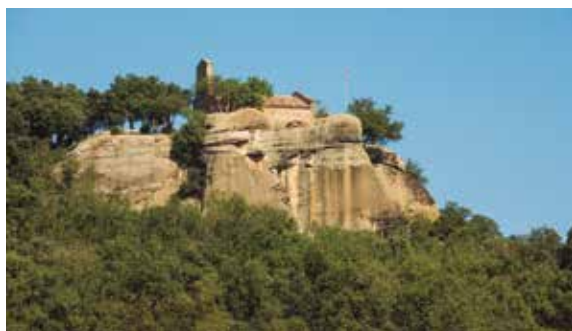
All year round, there are activity programmes, environmental education workshops and talks, leisure and cultural events, such as "Viu el Parc" (Live the Park) and "Poesia als Parcs. Lletres i Paisatges" (Poetry in the Parks. Literature and Landscapes), and the school programme "Coneguem els Nostres Parcs" (Discover our Parks). A wide range of options which allow visitors to discover and enjoy nature in a respectful way.

© Ricard Badia



## 1 Sant Feliuet de Savassona

One of the most distinctive archaeological heritage sites in Tavèrnoles and Osona.



**NOTES:**  
The hermitage at Sant Feliuet is located on a private estate. It is important to respect the environment and follow both the rules concerning behaviour and the signs.

The hermitage (10th-11th centuries) is an example of pre-Romanesque architecture. The surroundings are home to Neolithic remains such as excavations to store water and anthropomorphic tombs. The Savassona plain features large blocks of rock, such as the Pedra del Sacrifici, the Dau, the Pedra de les Bruixes and the Pedra de l'Home.

## 5 Font Trobada Recreational Area

An iconic part of Folgueroles, the perfect spot for leisure, recreation and relaxation.



**NOTES:**  
The location has a parking area, picnic tables, a drinking water fountain and an open area to enjoy nature.

To mark the centenary of Jacint Verdaguer's death, Perejaume created a land art piece that reproduces the poet's signature and follows the course of the stream. It forms the starting point for the Torrent del Lledoner trail, the SL-C 123 El Casol de Puigcastellet trail and the GR 151 Camins del Bisbe i Abat Oliba trail from Folgueroles to Sant Pere de Casserres.

## 7 Malafogassa Bridge

A beautiful, narrow bridge that passes over the Riera Major in Vilanova de Sau.



**NOTES:**  
The Riera Major is home to some spectacular hidden spots. It supplies the Sau Reservoir with most of its water and is one of the most important watercourses in the Natural Area.

This Romanesque bridge has two different-sized arches, one of which is very wide. If you follow the signs for the SL-C 121 El Pont de Malafogassa trail, you'll cross several watercourses, where you'll have the chance to take in aquatic environments and admire common oaks, holm oaks, alders, ash trees, chestnuts and poplars.

## 9 Sau Reservoir

The creation of this reservoir changed the appearance of the Natural Area forever.



**NOTES:**  
From the Sau Reservoir recreational area, follow the signs for the SL-C 94 Ruta de les Carboneras trail and you'll come to the Domus del Pi site.

In 1963, when the floodgates closed for good, the reservoir submerged 17 kilometres of the Ter valley and wiped out the village of Sant Romà de Sau and buildings such as the Romanesque bridge, the Sau flour mill and the Sant Romà church. It forms part of the Les Guilleries reservoir system along with the Pasteral and Susqueda reservoirs.

## 2 Casol de Puigcastellet Iberian settlement

This Iberian settlement from the 3rd-century BC belonged to the Ausetani people and was used for defensive purposes.



**NOTES:**  
To get there, leave the Font Trobada recreational area and follow the signs for the SL-C 123 El Casol de Puigcastellet circular trail.

Strategically located in the foothills of Les Guilleries, it stands out for its rectilinear wall, which features a watchtower, and eleven walls of the adjacent structures that separated storerooms and dwellings. Around the site, signs describe the function of each of the rooms.

## 3 Salt de la Minyona

An iconic viewpoint that offers spectacular and impressive views.



**NOTES:**  
From here, follow the GR 2 to climb the cliff in the direction of Roques Vermelles and Puig del Far.

Located in the cliffs of Vilanova, next to Els Munts, the landscape and the extraordinary panoramic views of Les Guilleries have made this a popular destination. The safety railing, lightning rods and access steps have recently been restored, and an information panel and bicycle parking area have been added.

## 4 Fageda de les Valls

A unique, majestic forest with a great biodiversity of species.



**NOTES:**  
The unique forests attract great sociocultural and educational interest due to the exemplary forest management which has been carried out.

Next to the municipality of Sant Hilari Sacalm lies a beech forest classified as a unique forest, where human intervention has been minimal and mature trees of a remarkable age grow. Beech trees and deciduous forests like this grow in the highest parts of the Natural Area, at elevations close to 1,000 metres.

## 6 Bolet del Gili

The remains of a double erosion process caused by the Sant Julià stream.



**NOTES:**  
You'll find it signposted halfway along the Puig-l'agulla (GR 2) trail.

The slope of the mountain and the erosion of the stream have caused the slabs above to fall. These rocks have formed a natural defence against rain erosion and have formed these unusual pillars, which can be found in other locations, such as Tavèrnoles.

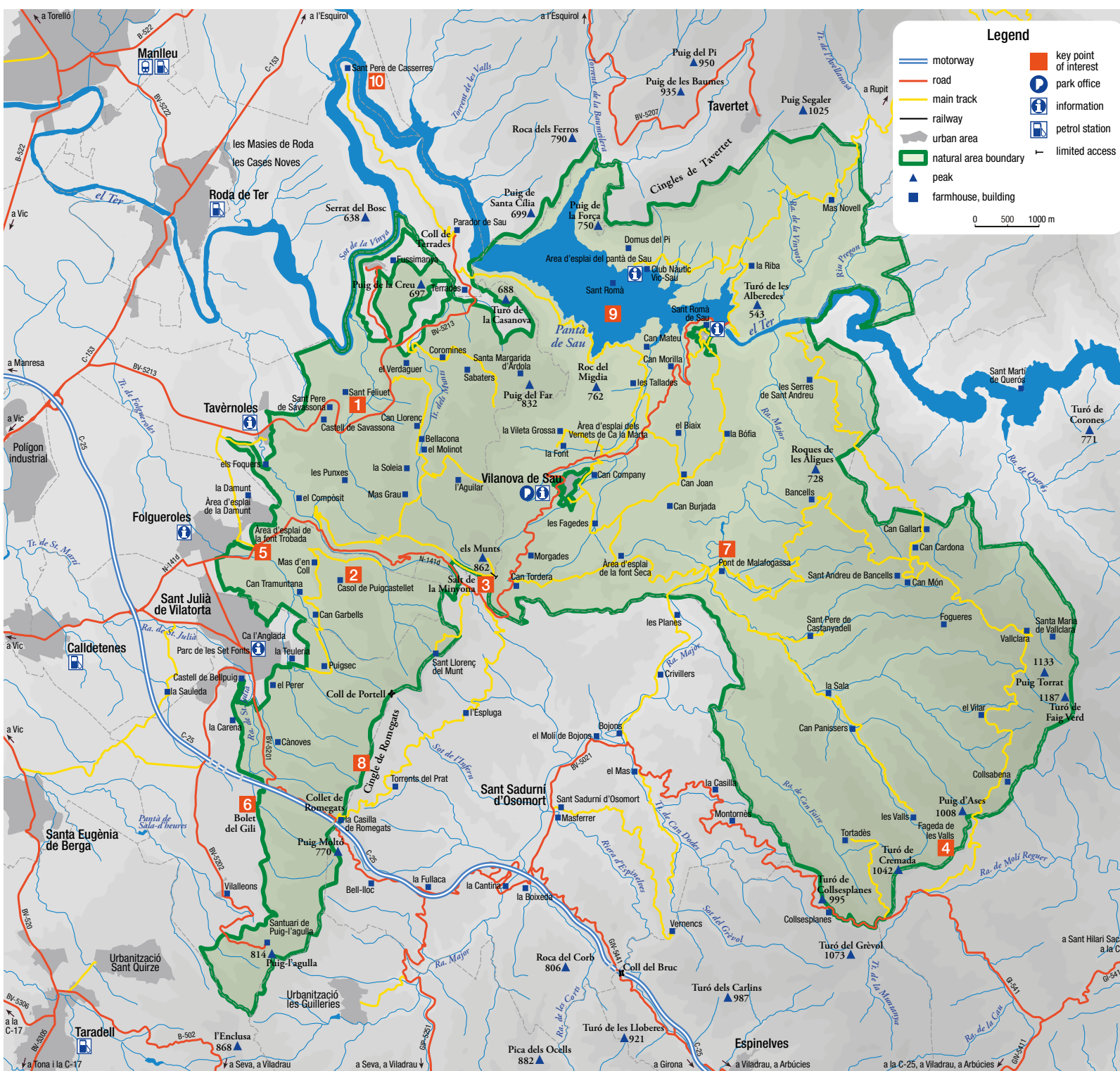
## 8 The Cliffs of Romegats

One of the natural boundaries of the Natural Area and a privileged viewpoint.



**NOTES:**  
Beyond the cliffs of Romegats lies the 10th-century Sant Llorenç del Munt Castle, declared a Cultural Asset of National Interest (BCIN).

The cliffs of Romegats separate Sant Julià de Vilatorrada from Sant Sadurn d'Osona and stand out for the magnificent panoramic views of Les Guilleries, El Montseny and the Collsacabra cliffs. It can be reached from the Coll de Romegats car park, on the BV-5201.



## 10 Monastery of Sant Pere de Casserres

One of the most impressive examples of Catalan Romanesque architecture.



**NOTES:**  
To get there, take the GR 151 Camins del Bisbe i Abat Oliba trail, that goes from Folgueroles to Sant Pere de Casserres.

Located in Les Masies de Roda, on a rocky meander overlooking the River Ter, it currently houses an audiovisual presentation and a permanent exhibition that interprets the life of the monks and recreates the various rooms of the monastic complex: cellar, cloister, kitchen, refectory, dormitory, chapter house, scriptorium, prior's chamber, church and hospital.

## How to get there

### BY CAR

#### Eix Transversal (C-25)

- To get to Folgueroles, Sant Julià de Vilatorrada, Vilanova de Sau and the Sau Reservoir, take **exit 187** (Caldetenes/Sant Julià de Vilatorrada/Folgueroles) then take the N-141d.
- To visit Tavèrnoles, take **exit 183** (Roda de Ter/Tavèrnoles), then take the C-153 and turn right onto the BV-5213.
- To visit Sant Sadurn d'Osona, take **exit 194** (La Fullaca). This will take you to the BV-5201, which leads to the municipality.

### BY TRAIN

Renfe. Tel. +34 902 240 202  
**Line R3 (L'Hospitalet de Llobregat - Puigcerdà, via Vic).** Get off at Vic. At the station, there is a taxi service and some regular bus lines that will take you to the municipalities within the Natural Area.

### BY BUS

#### Autocars J. Comasólvies

Tel. +34 938 862 614 | +34 637 527 347  
From Vic to Sant Julià de Vilatorrada and Folgueroles (Monday to Saturday).

### BY TAXI

**Sant Julià de Vilatorrada Taxi**  
24 h service. Tel. +34 608 774 811 | +34 662 390 599

[mobilitat.gencat.cat](http://mobilitat.gencat.cat)

## Facilities

### NATURAL AREA OFFICE

Guilleries, 5 (Vilanova de Sau)  
Tel. +34 938 847 888  
Email: [en.guilleries@diba.cat](mailto:en.guilleries@diba.cat)

### INFORMATION CENTRES AND POINTS

**Folgueroles Information Point**  
Pl. Verdaguer, 2 - Can Dachs (Folgueroles)  
Tel. +34 938 122 329

**Sant Julià de Vilatorrada Information Point**  
Ca l'Anglada building  
Plaça Major, 7 (Sant Julià de Vilatorrada)  
Tel. +34 938 122 786

**Tavèrnoles Information Point**  
Montseny, 2  
08519 Tavèrnoles  
Tel. +34 938 122 036

**Vilanova de Sau Information Centre**  
Sau Reservoir Viewpoint Building  
N-141d, km 20 (Vilanova de Sau)  
Tel. +34 620 131 211

**Information Point in the Sau Reservoir Recreational Area**  
Camí del Parador, s/n (Vilanova de Sau)  
Tel. +34 937 430 426

### ADDITIONAL FACILITIES

**Font Trobada Recreational Area**  
N-141d, km 6.2 (Folgueroles)

**Sau Reservoir Recreational Area**  
Carretera del Club Nàutic Vic-Sau, s/n (Vilanova de Sau)

**Vernets de Ca la Marta Recreational Area**  
N-141d, km 15.5 (Vilanova de Sau)

**Sau School of Nature. Can Mateu**  
Camí del Parador, s/n (Vilanova de Sau)  
Tel. +34 934 744 678

**Verdaguer House Museum**  
Major, 7 (Folgueroles)  
Tel. +34 938 122 157

For information on the opening hours and services of the Natural Area's facilities, see: <https://parcs.diba.cat/web/guilleries>