

A Life-Natura project of the EU allowed different lagoons to be built on the Can Morgat plain between 2005 and 2007. These are good examples of the restoration of wetlands which were dried out in the past to increase the farm land, and which currently allow an improvement of the landscape and an increase in the biodiversity around the lake. You can see the aquatic fauna in the Margarit lagoon from a lookout point. Then, going towards Puig Clarà, you pass along the very bank of the Aulina lagoon. From here onwards, the path begins to wind towards the hills.

#### 4. Puig Clarà (1h 20min)

As you climb up, you go through some Mediterranean pine forests. This is an environment prone to fire, which destroyed the highest part of the hill in the summer of 2001. In the last stretch of the climb, you can see the slow recovery of the vegetation formed by sprouts and thickets, while you go around the summit and begin the final climb on the northern slope.

The Puig Clarà (315 m) offers an unusual view of the lake and its surroundings. First of all, towards the east, the Can Morgat lagoons and the rural patchwork of the fields and hills of Porqueres can be seen. Further afield, you can see the depression of the lake and the town of Banyoles, the Martís plain and, on clear days, the Ampurdan plain up to Montgrí and the sea, the Gavarres, the Alberes, the Roda mountains and the Pení. Northwestwards, the mountains of l'Alta Garrotxa and the Eastern Pyrenees, and the summits closest to the Transversal Mountain Range, with the San Patllari mountains and chapel in the foreground.

Go back to the main path and follow the signs of the route to go down to the Castell stream and the Tenyers.

#### 5. Les Tenyers (1h 50min)

Between the Turó del Castell and the Frigolet, go through the Tenyers, a wetland area with swamps and bulrushes. Before you reach the asphalted road, you will find a small building on the right where the rust-coloured Castell spring rises.

#### 6. Hort del Castell (1h 55min)

After a small stretch of road, take a new path parallel to the Tenyers stream, which will take you through the Hort del Castell to the end of the route. In this last stretch, you can see on the right, behind the riverside forest trees, a dense reed which is permanently flooded.



##### Oficina de Turisme

Plaça Major, 38  
17820 Banyoles

Tel/Fax 972 575 573

[turisme@ajbanyoles.org](mailto:turisme@ajbanyoles.org)

[www.banyoles.cat/turisme](http://www.banyoles.cat/turisme)

##### Oficina de Turisme de l'Estany

Pg. Darder - Pesquera núm 10  
17820 Banyoles

Tel 972 583 470

[turisme@ajbanyoles.org](mailto:turisme@ajbanyoles.org)

[www.banyoles.cat/turisme](http://www.banyoles.cat/turisme)

##### Consorci de l'Estany

Tel/Fax. 972 576 495

[consorci@consorcidel'estany.org](mailto:consorci@consorcidel'estany.org)

[www.estanyespainatural.net](http://www.estanyespainatural.net)

Diseny: Marcia Pagès - Fotografies: Mikel Lauburu i Josep Curto  
Cartografia SIGTE - Marcolobart

### The Can Morgat and Puig Clara Route

3



## Distance

7 Km.

## Duration

2 hours  
(if you visit all  
the places of interest)

## Difficulty

average

### How to get there

From the Estany de Banyoles Tourist office, follow route 1 (Tour around the Estany) until you reach the Church of Santa Maria de Porqueres, the first item of interest on the route.

### 1. Turó de Porqueres (0h 00min)

Here you can visit the Romanesque church (XII century) of Santa Maria de Porqueres and the comunidor (XVII-XVIII centuries), where people used to ask for protection against storms and for bad spirits to be banished. Humans have occupied the hill for a very long time and remains from the Iberian era can be found on it.

Go back down to the foot of the hill to continue the route marked out along a wide path that winds between the fields and the lake, from where you can smell the sulphurous smells from the Font Pudenta de Santa Maria. Continue the indicated route until you reach the foot of the Turó de Can Morgat.

### 2. Estanyol Nou (0h 15min)

Here you find an area of ponds: the Estanyol Nou, the most recent one, was formed in 1978; the Estanyol de Can Siso or Estanyol Vermell (red pond), which sometimes turns red due to the bacteria populations living in it; and the spring of the Castellar stream.

### 3. Can Morgat and the Can Morgat lagoons (0h 30min)

The Can Morgat farm at the top of the hill reminds us of the legend that traditionally explains the lake's origin ("Morgat! Morgat! Go home or you will drown!"). In the stream with the same name, which has water all year round thanks to some subterranean emergences, the last indigenous fish of the lacustrine area, the mountain barbel and the catfish, have taken refuge.

