

Distance 8 Km.
(if all the points of interest are seen)

Duration 2 hours 30 minutes

Difficulty low.

This itinerary can also be enjoyed on bicycle.

0. Start - Estany de Banyoles Tourist Office (0h 00min)

The Estany de Banyoles Tourist Office is located in a refurbished fishing house (pesquera). The work undertaken on the house allowed it to regain the features it had enjoyed at the end of the 19th century. Of particular interest is the skylight which lights the interior from above, and a wooden lever to the rear.

1. Historical Garden (0h 05min)

The first section of this itinerary, which takes in the walks around the lake and the fishing houses, has been declared a Cultural Heritage of National Significance in the Historical Garden category by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Catalonian Parliament). There are 20 fishing houses in total, all located to the east of the Estany de Banyoles and dating back to the mid-19th and early 20th centuries.

2. Travertine rock in formation (0h 10min)

Alongside the Marimon fishing house, on clear days it is possible to see travertine rock in formation (formed by bio-chemical processes characteristic of a lacustrine basin).

3. Els Desmais (0h 15min)

At the end of the Historical Garden comes Els Desmais, named after the trees which it contains, the weeping willows. Although these trees are not indigenous to the area, this has become a symbolic spot on the Estany de Banyoles. Here you will find two fountains: the Font de la Filosa, in honour of



4. El Vilar (0h 20min)

You will now find yourself at the Estanyol del Vilar, the largest and closest of all the ponds surrounding the Estany de Banyoles. In mid-August a fishing contest is held here, which has been running for almost one hundred years. At the lakeside there is the Font del Vilar fountain

5. Porqueres Church (0h 30min)

Entering the Porqueres municipal area, the first thing you will see is the Romanesque Church of Santa Maria, built in the 12th century.

6. Font del Rector Fountain (0h 35min)

Right by the Church, and down a small path which winds its way through the vegetation, lies the Font del Rector fountain.

7. Punta Freixenet (0h 45min)

The Punta Freixenet offers great views over the southern point of the lake, the area through which the greatest levels of underground water enters.

8. Estanyol Nou (1h 15min)

This spot is a real pond area: the Estanyol Nou, the most recently formed (in 1978); the Estanyol de can Cisó or Vermell, which sometimes takes on a reddish appearance due to the colonies of bacteria it contains; and the source of the Riera del Castellar stream.





9. La Cuaranya (1h 15min)

Closer to the lake is the La Cuaranya viewpoint. This is the perfect spot to observe the lake's indigenous flora and fauna.

10. Can Morgat Forest(1h 30min)

If you follow the path you will soon come to Can Morgat Forest. This holm oak forest is home to several types of tree characteristic of Mediterranean forests: holm oaks, oaks and pines.

11. Llacuna dels Amaradors (1h 40min)

The Amaradors Pond was created through an EU Life Natura project, and is a small floodable area, home to various species of birds, fish, amphibians, etc.

12. Lió (1h 45min)

The path leads on through a river-side forest, where it is also possible to see the wattle plants right by the water's edge.

13. Torre del rem (1h 55min)

From the finishing tower for the regatta course, built in 2004 for the World Rowing Championships, great views can be enjoyed over the northern area of the Estany de Banyoles. As well as the tower, grass and plant-covered levels have also been set into the area, adapting perfectly to the surrounding environment.

14. Caseta de Fusta (2h 05min)

This area is predominated by the riverside forest. During the summer it also serves as a swimming area, the only one with free access.



Caseta de Fusta



15. La Draga Park and the Neolithic Park (2h 15 min)

Upon leaving the forest you find yourself in La Draga Park, the biggest in the city. It was opened to the public for the 1992 Olympics, when Banyoles was the Olympic Sub-headquarters for rowing. This is the only spot on the lake where you can enjoy a picnic, and has become an ideal area for taking a stroll or enjoying various sporting activities. The remains of a Neolithic settlement have been uncovered in the park, and the reconstruction of huts and demonstrations of prehistoric activities bring us right into the life of Neolithic man.



16. The Recs and Banys Vells

Close to the Club Natació Banyoles (Banyoles Swimming Club) and the Banys Vells (Old Baths), the other two points where swimming is allowed, you can see several of the water channels which leave the lake and head towards the city. If you follow their path, it is possible to reach the centre. Just slightly further on is the start of the itinerary.

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Tour around
the Estany de Banyoles

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una volta a l'estany

ITINERARIES THROUGH NATURAL SPACES