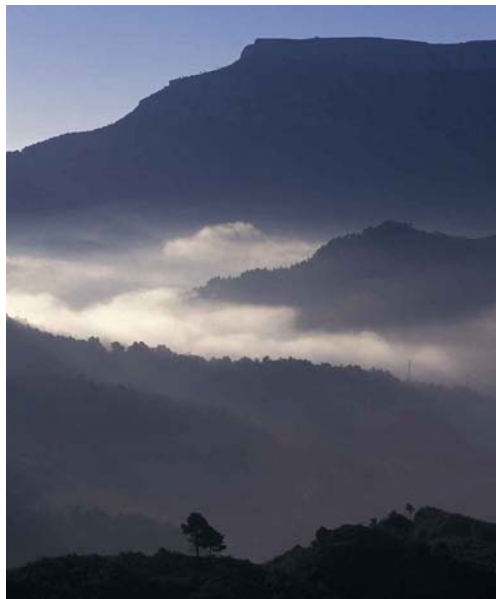


La Mola de Coldejou is a great mountain shared by both Priorat and Camp de Tarragona regions alike.

Viewed from the coastal plains, its silhouette is easily recognised with cliffs which constrict its slopes as if in a corset and its flat-headed top is like a great long balcony, which splits the land down the middle from the Penedès mountains to those of the Ebro river valley; all this with the luminous Mediterranean as a glittering backdrop. The trail we suggest follows the two main traditional paths which ascend La Mola and which provide a delightful hike, enjoying the character of this much loved mountain.



They say that these old ways trace our memories and guard the secrets of our past. We have cleared and restored a good few of them here in Priorat, so that our younger generations can once again take the paths which their grandparents used. From this perspective, they can contemplate the future of their land through the eyes of those who worked it in centuries gone by. For there are secrets which can only be discovered on foot, at one's own pace.

La Xarxa de camins del Priorat (The Priorat Hiking Paths Network) is made up of former royal ways, pack-horse trails, footpaths and also cart tracks and modern farm tracks. These are paths which have been cleared and are maintained by the Consell Comarcal (County Council), local town halls and Parc Natural de la Serra de Montsant (Montsant Natural Park) and the Consorci de la Serra de Llaberia (Serra de Llaberia Consortium).



Consell Comarcal
del Priorat



PRIORAT REGION TOURIST OFFICE

Castell de Falset, 43730 Falset Tel. 00 34 977 831 023 www.turismepriorat.org

ENG



A Rocky Fortress on the Cliffs

LA TORRE DE FONTAUBELLA





La Torre de Fontaubella

Level: Demanding route,
for experienced walkers

Time needed: 4 h

Ascent: 580 m

Distance: 12,4 km

Map: Serra de Llaberia 1:20.000
Editorial Piolet

Suggestions:

This is a demanding route, aimed at experienced walkers. The consortium which manages the nature reserve of La Mola de Colldejou and Serra de Llaberia have re-opened several traditional paths and regularly organise guided walks and activities to get to know the area.

Nature Guides:

Catsud T. 00 34 636 162 426

El Broguet Guatges T. 00 34 689 006 199

Pedrenca T. 00 34 690 251 295

GPS track at www.turismepriorat.org

From La Torre de Fontaubella to La Mola de Colldejou mountain via Coll Roig and returning via Coll del Guix

The route starts at the **church** ① and leaves the village by taking the steps on **Carrer De Dalt** (De Dalt Street) and then traverses the main road. We will find a hard surfaced farm track with a signpost which indicates the start of the walk ②. As the path twists between olive trees and almond groves it becomes a dirt track and meets up with the **old trail** which elegantly ascends as it reminds us of days gone by. We continue in a south-easterly direction and a path leaves the track to our right and heads towards some beehives. A few metres later on, we hit another path which descends from the main road. At this point, the path becomes straighter and narrower and crosses between former dry stone walled terraces until it reaches a fallen-down stone structure. Keep straight on, ignoring any paths to our left or right.

We are rudely brought back to reality as we hit the main road ③ with the constant and rhythmic sounds of the wind farm. We follow the road part of the way until we reach a dirt track to our right ④. In a short while, this track bends sharply to the left and joins the **GR 173** (European Hiking Network Long Trail) ⑤. Follow the GR red and white painted trail markers and signposts which head **towards La Mola**. The path slowly penetrates the wood and becomes shady. As we come out of the wood, the path climbs decidedly upwards to reach the escarpment at the entrance to the **Cova del Llamp** (cave) and then up onto the higher plain which crowns the mountain and where we can find the former Carlitz look-out tower dating from the 19th century ⑥.

We continue following the painted trail markers whilst encircling a large water hole for the herds of local sheep and goats. We commence our descent via the **Portell de les Processions** path ⑦ which leads us

directly to the **Coll del Guix** (mountain pass) ⑧. We keep straight on here, following the Vall de Massanes path and the red and white markings of the GR 7 until we reach the next crossroads ⑨. We leave the GR and head downhill, following the white and yellow painted markings of the PR (European Hiking Network Short Trail). A little while after having left the **Massanes water pool**, on our right, we come to the old pack-horse trail which takes us straight to the village of **La Torre de Fontaubella** ⑩ and which still to this day has kept some of its old cobblestones. Finally, we emerge onto a concreted farm track ⑪ which takes us back into the village.

The paths of the Priorat Hiking Paths Network are marked with painted yellow waymarkers except for those which coincide with parts of GR (European Hiking Network Long Trails) or PR (Short Trails). On these paths, the FEEC (Catalan Rambling Club Federation) waymarkers are used.

