

ARBÚCIES – A STROLL ALONG THE CREEK

Introduction: A peaceful stroll alongside the Arbúcies Creek, particularly pleasant in the autumn, covering sections which have been restored, with signposts recalling the words written by Rusiñol about an Arbúcies already consigned to the memory. It should be pointed out that there are two different options: either as far as the Les Pipes Mill, returning along the same path, or a circular route joining up with the PR and passing by the houses of El Congost and the Caseta d'en Rabat. One notable feature is the ancient Les Pipes bridge alongside the mill of the same name.



The Arbúcies Tree of Freedom: The legend recorded by Víctor Balaguer, of the Arbúcies Tree of Freedom is an example of local history recalling the clashes which occurred during the era of the Carlist Wars. It is said that during the war the Carlists arrived in the main square of Arbúcies to chop down the tree which had been planted there to mark the proclamation of the Republic. As they were getting ready, a number of local residents and aldermen called on the leader of the Carlists, who went by the name of General Huguet, to leave the tree alone, not as a symbol of the Republic but because it was used by the locals as a place of relaxation. The general agreed, provided that a sign was hung from the tree declaring "Tree of Leisure" rather than "Tree of Freedom". And true to his word, the leader of the Carlist forces posted four guards to protect the tree and prevent any troops from damaging it.

Time: 1 hour 35 minutes

Climb: 190 metres up and the same distance back down.

Difficulty: easy

Sources of water: There are two springs, at La Corbadora and at the Les Pipes Mill.

Reference Points:* Arbúcies town square * Arbúcies Creek * El Roquer Forge * La Corbadora Spring * Arbúcies Creek * Les Truites Creek * Les Pipes Mill * Les Pipes Bridge * Les Truites Creek * El Congost * Sot de l'Infern * Caseta d'en Rabat * Sot de Can Pairana ravine * Arbúcies football pitch* El Roquer Forge * Arbúcies Creek * Arbúcies town square.

Starting point: Arbúcies town square.



Associació
d'Empresaris
Turístics
Montseny

Route: 0.00h. Arbúcies town square. Head down the cobbled street at the base of the square, below the town hall, the church and the Tree of Freedom. “Camí” and GR path marking on the corner. On the way down the street, turn left under a covered walkway. This alleyway will take you straight to the creek.



0.04 h. Bridge over Arbúcies Creek. Immediately after crossing the watercourse you will see a sign and a post indicating that you should head to the left, along the wide path which runs parallel to the creek itself.

0.07 h. Fork. Go past a bridge on the left. Continue down the wide path which runs along the right-hand bank of the watercourse.

0.09 h. Stop off at the viewing platform slightly below the path itself, on the left. There is a fine view of the waterfall up ahead. Return to the path where there is an uphill section with tree trunk steps.

0.13 h. Head across a local road. A sign marks this as the site of the Farga del Roquer forge. On the other side of the road a wide path marked “Camí” continues along the right-hand side of the watercourse. The terrain here is very flat.

0.16 h. Pass by a row of terraced houses, walking between them and the creek. A path heads down diagonally to the right to join the one you are following. Continue straight ahead.

0.17 h. La Corbadora Spring, away to the right.

0.20 h. Fork. Take the left-hand branch which continues over a small wooden bridge crossing over a tributary stream. You then continue through a flat area in the shade of the tall trees growing alongside the creek, mainly plane trees.

0.24 h. Head past the narrow metal walkway to the left. Continue along the right-hand side of the watercourse down a wide horizontal path. The signposts indicate “Camí”.

0.26 h. Continue past the picnic area. Information sign. Ignore the path heading off uphill diagonally to the right. Continue straight along the bank of the creek heading W-SW.



0.27 h. Arbúcies Creek. Cross the bridge. On the other side of the water you will see the ruins of a grand old house. Fork. Take the right-hand branch.

0.31 h. Cross back over Arbúcies Creek using the new bridge. You will now be back on the right-hand side of the water. There is a fork not far ahead. Information sign. Take the branch heading uphill to the right.

0.33 h. Paths merge. Continue uphill towards the left. Here you will come across a section of path which rises and falls, with steps made in the earth with the support of tree trunks.

0.40 h. Head as far as the wide path alongside a bend. Continue along this to the left, crossing back over Arbúcies Creek.



0.42 h. Ignore the two paths in the form of a "V" heading off on the left (marked as "circuits saludables" exercise trails). It is quite straightforward to continue along the wide path which gradually but constantly climbs uphill.

0.45 h. The track passes over the conduits of the Les Truites Creek.

0.50 h. Les Pipes Mill. The path continues to the right, with some steps dropping down to the level of the creek. Head past the spring on the right and continue between the Mill and the Creek, alongside the ancient Les Pipes Bridge. The path is narrow but easy to spot. "Cami" markings. At this point you can either follow your own footsteps back along the same route, or continue along the circular track.

0.52 h. Fork in the paths. Continue along the branch to the left.

0.53 h. Head as far as the wide track, continue along this for a few metres towards the left. Here you will immediately come across a track which once again heads off from the path, climbing up to the left. A sign marks this path as leading to the PR-C 202. You should therefore follow this track if you plan to return via the circular route.

0.56 h. Once again cross over the Les Truites Creek on a wooden walkway. Continue along the track. There are no marks or signposts along this section.

1.00 h. El Congost. Fork. Head left alongside the building. Follow the track, which straightaway becomes a wide path.

1.06 h. Sot de l'Infern ravine. Head as far as the wide path which you should then follow eastwards towards the left.

1.13 h. Head past the Caseta d'en Rabat which you will see below. Cross the Can Pairana Ravine. A branch joins your path from the right. Simply follow the main track.

1.20 h. Here you reach the tarmac, with the Arbúcies football pitch straight ahead. Follow the tarmac track eastwards to the right.

1.30 h. Join up with the walking path right by the sign marking the former site of the El Roquer Forge, and continue to the right, leaving the tarmac behind and returning over the same terrain as before. "Camí" is signposted.

1.35 h. Once again cross the Arbúcies Creek for the last time, head up the cobbled path, under the covered walkway, and you will find yourself back at your starting point, in other words in Arbúcies town square.



Associació
d'Empresaris
Turístics
Montseny