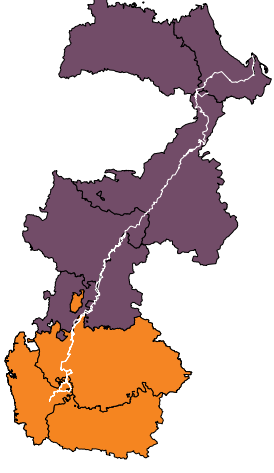


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NPO

NATURE TRAIL EBRO GR 99



Guide to the
Nature Trails
of Spain



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- 1.** Besides the numerous Medieval Romanesque archaeological remains, exceptional natural values as the Natural Park of the High Ebro Gorges and Rudrón and its winding meanders, should be highlighted in this section. These are breeding grounds for vultures, peregrine falcons and golden eagles, among other species.
- 2.** The second section of this route provides numerous examples of mountain architecture. The Natural Trail leaves the region of Las Merindades to reach territories of La Rioja running between pines, oaks and boxwoods.
- 3.** The river enters the valley of the same name, offering a great variety of riverside vegetation. The river widens between orchards, poplars and irrigation canals and, highlighting the Imperial Canal of Aragón, because of its size and age.

- 4.** Great plains make up the landscape of this section, subject to numerous floods throughout history. The old vegetable gardens sometimes allow room for plaster manufacturing industries that take advantage of the characteristic chalky soil in the area. There are also alabaster workshops, almost unique in Spain.
- 5.** The Reservoir of Mequinensa or "Sea of Aragón" is located in Caspe, the starting point of this last stretch of the trail. After this point the landscape begins to rise and the road leaves the plains of Zaragoza, to pass between the mountains of the Cordillera Costero-Catalana, flanking the Ebro, and offering landscapes of unquenchable beauty.
- 6.** Near Detebre, there is a branch of the trail that takes to the town of Camarles. The trail ends at the Ebro Delta, by the rice fields near the lighthouse of Garxal, close to the lake of the same name that permanently houses a rich bird community.

EBRO RIVER

The etymological origin of the name comes from "Ibero" by the Romans or "Hiberus" by the Greeks. The exact meaning is not known for certain, but it may come from the indigenous word for "river" that gave its name to the Iberian Peninsula and, by extension, to its inhabitants.

The magnitude of the basin, with a runway of over 900 km, allows multiple overlapping landscapes, from high mountains to the sea, across the deserts of Las Bardenas Reales and Monegros, which brings a huge biodiversity of fauna and flora.

THE IMPERIAL ARAGON CANAL

Considered one of the most important water constructions in Europe, the construction of this channel began in the eighteenth century with the purpose of having a navigable irrigation canal, with access to the sea.

The channel, 110 kilometers long, connects the towns of Navarra Ribaforada, Buñuel and Cortes and enters Aragón, approaching Novillas, Mallén, Gallur, Boquiñeni, Luceni, Pedrola, Figueruelas, Grisen, Alagon, Pinseque, Zaragoza, El Burgo and Fuentes de Ebro. Currently the average flow is around 25 to 30 m³/s and provides water for almost 27,000 ha.

THE WATER ROUTE



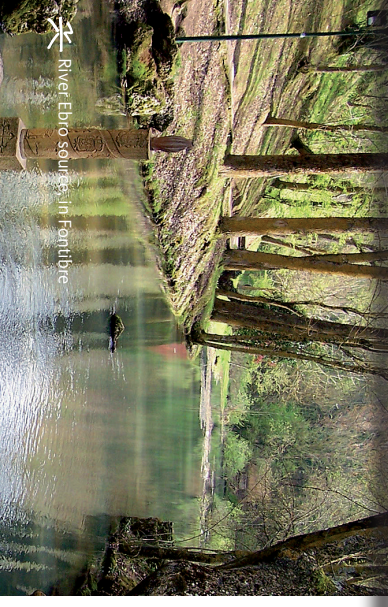
Since ancient times the valley of the Ebro River has been a human settlement. Throughout the centuries, this enclave of particular interest was occupied by many civilizations; that is the reason why many vestiges of its vast cultural past can be found along its course.

The Nature Trail begins at the site of Fontibres, named after the Roman "Fontes Iberis", "Fuentes del Ebro" -source of the river-, near the Ebro Interpretation Centre, and ends in Riumar, on the Mediterranean Sea. Its total length is 1287,32 km and runs through the regions of Cantabria, Castilla y León, the Basque Country, Navarra, La Rioja, Aragón and Catalonia.

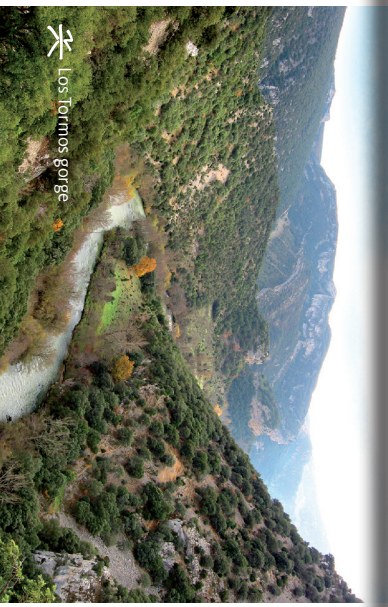
Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment. These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of the Ebro GR-99 Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

MORE INFORMATION:
<http://www.mapama.gob.es/en/desarrollo-rural/temas/caminos-naturales>



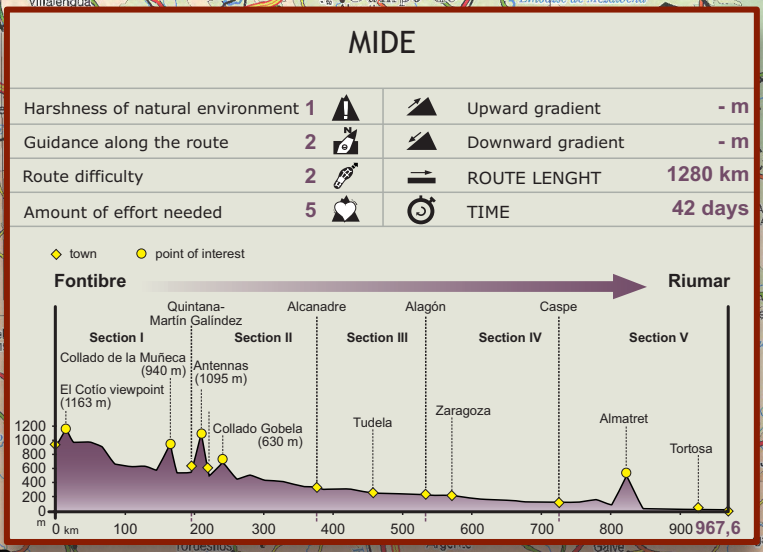
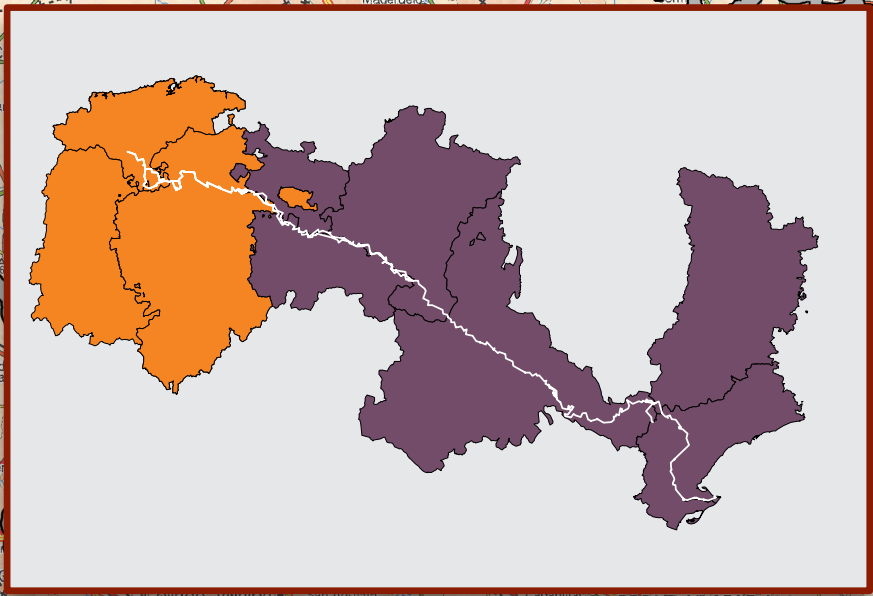
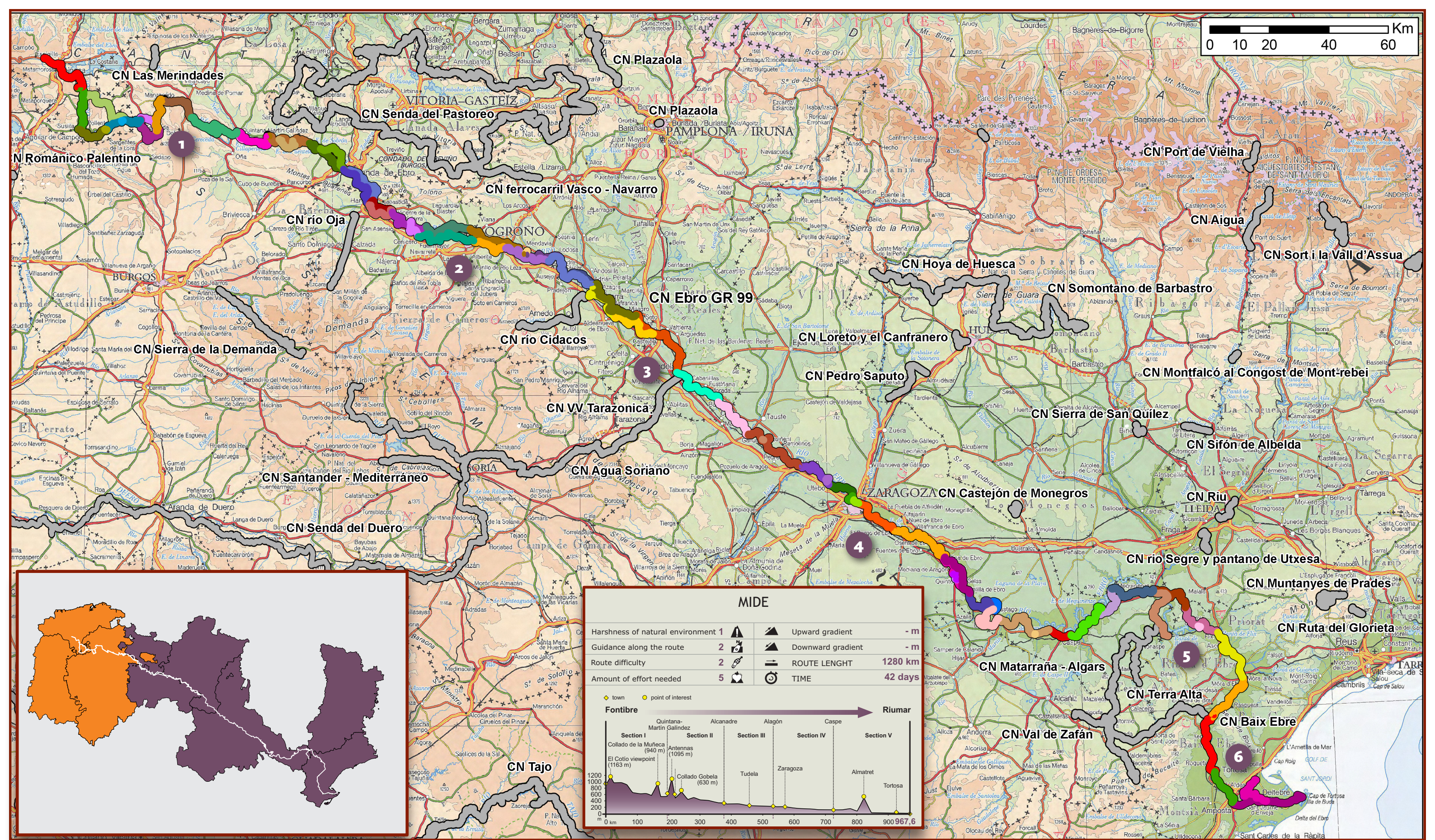
River Ebro source in Fontibre



Los Jorrios gorge



Start of the Imperial Aragón Canal in El Bocal



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