



Winter 2022/2023

# PRESS KIT



[visitandorra.com](https://visitandorra.com)

WINTER 2022-2023

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## AN ATYPICAL WINTER WAITS FOR YOU

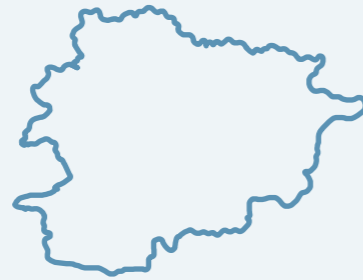
Nestled between France and Spain, in the heart of the Pyrenees, is Andorra. A tiny country with a surface area of just 468 km<sup>2</sup>, 90% of which is natural and 10% of which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the winter, Andorra is best known for snow! With 303 km of slopes, the country becomes a dreamland for all nature and winter sports lovers. During the winter, everyone can make the most of the season with activities like alpine skiing, ski mountaineering, snowshoeing, and much more.

Andorra has all the best options for coming into the warm and having a wonderful time. To start with, the Principality is home to a rich cultural heritage, which you can get to know through the museums, monuments and churches spread out all over the country. Then, don't miss our mountain cuisine, shopping in our more than 1,000 shops, and wellness, with the biggest spa in southern Europe.

If you want to escape for a few days this winter, Andorra is the place to go! Come for an unforgettable break in the snow and spend it however you want: with family, friends or your partner... you choose!

# SOME STATISTICS



Area:  
468 km<sup>2</sup>



POPULATION  
**77.543**

Life expectancy:  
**83 years**

Average age:  
**41,6 years**

(2019)

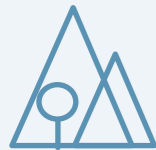


**8.234.993**  
Annual visitors (2019)

Spanish:  
50 %

French:  
41 %

Other nationalities:  
9 %



**90%**  
forest

**70** lakes

**72** mountains higher than 2000 m  
Highest peak : Comapedrosa  
2942 m de hauteur



more than

**300 km**  
skiabes



more than

**200**  
ski slopes



more than

**20**  
skimo circuits

## 3 NATURE PARKS:

**Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley** (4.247 ha)

**Sorteny Valley nature park** (1.080 ha)

**Comapedrosa Valleys natural park** (1542,6 ha)



## SKI RESORTS:

**Grandvalira** (217 km )

**Ordino Arcalís** (30,5 km)

**Pal Arinsal** (63 km)



We save energy



We turn on experiences



## WE SAVE ENERGY, WE TURN EXPERIENCES

If you're coming to enjoy Andorra, you can help by saving energy. Individual actions contribute to overall savings!

Our country has signed up to the European energy consumption plan, with a number of measures involving the whole of society: public authorities, businesses and the general public.

For this reason, while you are enjoying the tourist offer and facilities available in Andorra, we would also like to inform you of the measures within your reach so you can work with us and help save energy.

Further information: <https://visitandorra.com/en/we-save-energy-we-turn-on-experiences/>

## WE ARE SNOW

The most eagerly awaited time of year for many is now here! Winter is here in Andorra, so you can enjoy all your favourite seasonal sports and activities.

Andorra is a real paradise for anyone who loves the snow. Its more than 300 kilometres of ski slopes, on top of its ski mountaineering and snowshoeing circuits, make the country a unique destination where you can enjoy winter to the fullest.

Those who are not so fond of winter sports can also have a great time, thanks to the wide range of activities on offer at the ski resorts: Grandvalira Resorts and Vallnord-Pal Arinsal and from specialist companies.

In the Principality, everyone can enjoy the cold!



### Snowy scenery you cannot miss

With 90% of the country covered in forest, there are natural spots you cannot miss at any time of year. Especially in the winter, when you can admire some spectacular snow-covered scenery:

#### Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley:

This park, located in the south-east region of Andorra, occupies 10% of the Principality's surface area and is spread out over four parishes (Sant Julià de Lòria, Andorra la Vella, Escaldes-Engordany and Encamp). In the winter, you can get there by going ski mountaineering until you arrive at L'illa Shelter, where you can spend the night at one with nature.

#### Sorteny Valley:

Located in the north of the country, in the parish of Ordino, this park is ideal for nature lovers. During the winter season, you can enjoy it on one of several snowshoeing routes.

#### Comapedrosa Valleys:

This nature park is found in the parish of La Massana. These valleys give their name to the highest peak in the Principality: Comapedrosa Mountain, standing at 2,942 metres tall.

Andorra also offers all kinds of classic winter experiences, like mushing (a sled pulled by dogs), so that you can feel like you are in the Arctic, or a snowmobile ride around its snow-covered forests, for a fix of adrenaline.

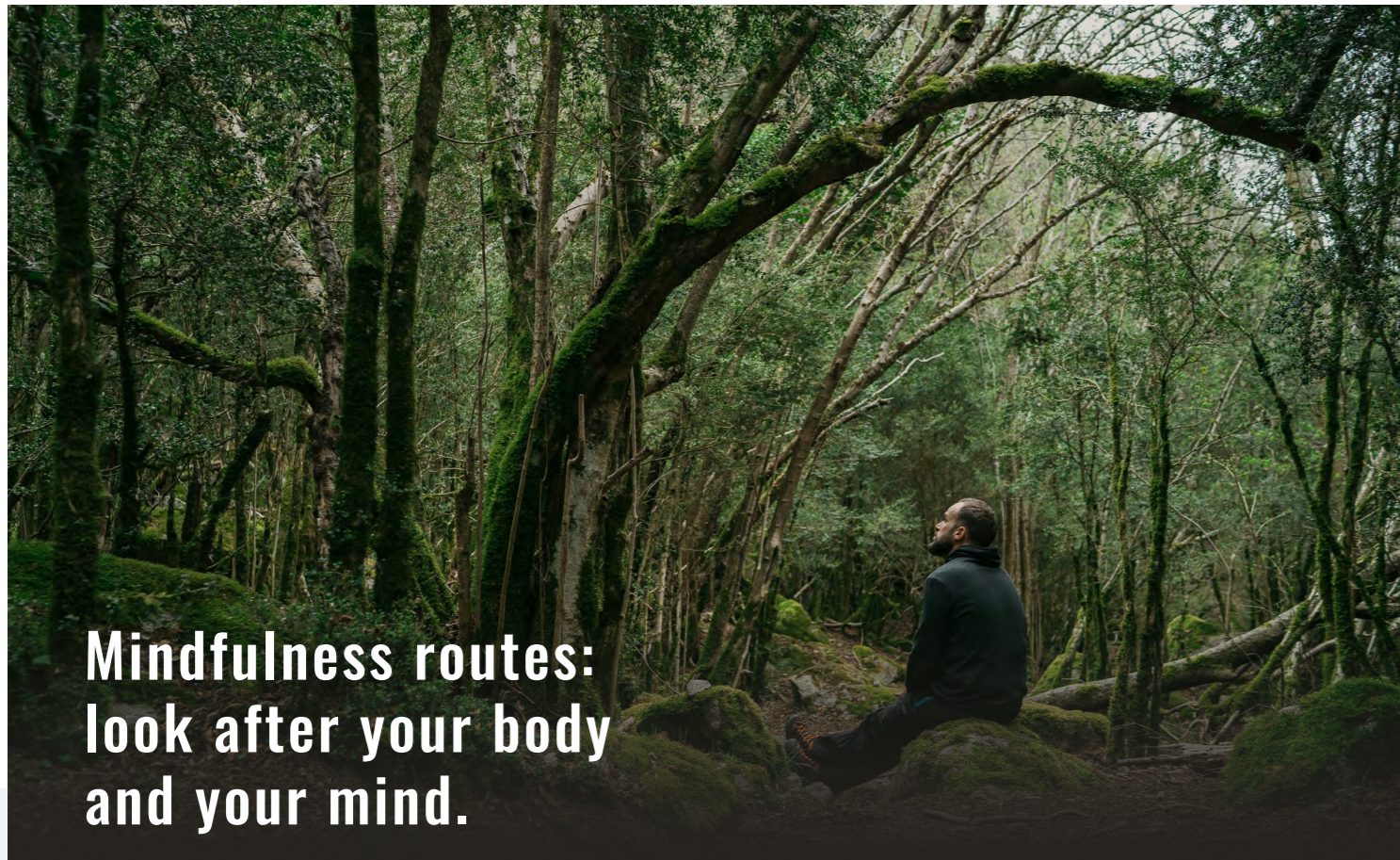
Or you can try something you have never done before, like riding in a helicopter to the top of a mountain before skiing down like a real freerider, hitting the slopes before the resorts open, or spending the night in a unique spot, like a cabin or a dome in the middle of the forest.



## Cycle all year round

Andorra is also a country for cyclists: a fact demonstrated by its 21 mountain passes. Cycling is another way of getting to know every nook and cranny of the Principality and discovering its scenery and wealth of nature. Fans of mountain biking, cycling tourism or e-bikes can see the whole country on two wheels, on the various signposted trails.

Further information: <https://visitandorra.com/en/cycling-in-andorra/>



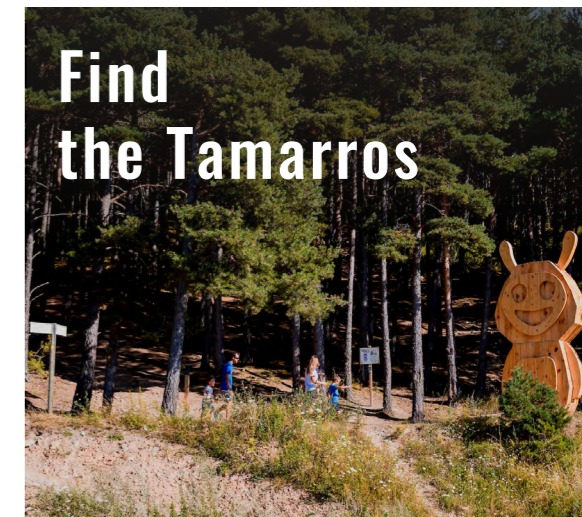
## Mindfulness routes: look after your body and your mind.

As inhabitants of this planet, we are all increasingly aware of the importance of taking care of nature and of ourselves. This is the idea behind the **Moments** project. It consists of two routes relating to well-being.

Both routes focus on learning to connect with nature by working on different areas, such as self-discovery, teamwork and our society's responsibility to be more sustainable and respect the environment.

For those not familiar with them yet, the Tamarros are mischievous beings that are half legend, half imagination, who live in the forests of Andorra. These creatures are tasked with protecting and safeguarding nature, so we are very thankful for them. In total, there are seven across the country: one per parish. To find them, pay a visit to Andorra's tourist offices, and ask for a leaflet with all the details you need. Anyone who finds them will be rewarded!

Further information: <https://visitandorra.com/en/nature/find-the-tamarro/>



## Find the Tamarros



## Macarulla, magical little trails

**Macarulla** is the name of a set of magical little trails designed for families, with the aim of giving kids their first taste of the world of hiking in a fun, entertaining way. This summer, there are four themed routes, in the parishes of La Massana, Canillo, Escaldes-Engordany and Encamp.

These are easy, short, relatively flat, circular trails: ideal for a morning or afternoon out enjoying nature with your little ones. Each route revolves around play and imagination, with various stops for the kids to take part in activities or discover things hidden around them.

## NEW WINTER DEVELOPEMENTS AT THE RESORTS

# Grandvalira Resorts



Grandvalira Resorts Andorra is the largest and most modern ski area in the Pyrenees, as well as one of the largest in Europe, with a total of 303 km of slopes.

The new feature this year is the combination of all the ski resorts in Andorra: Grandvalira, Pal Arinsal and Ordino Arcalís. This results in a universe of versatile and complete experiences where you can experience snow sports intensely every day of the winter season with a single pass.



This winter season, Grandvalira has prepared a series of new features that are sure to impress every visitor:

**L'Abarset:** the temple of après-ski returns for another season after receiving more than 50,000 people during its first run. And some new features as well: the Belvedere Shot Bar, a place where you can enjoy the most original shots, makes its grand debut. The other novelty is Abarset The Club, a bistronomic restaurant serving magnificent lunches and dinners.

**Snowrow Festival:** this will be the first edition of Snowrow, a music and sports festival that will feature a programme full of music, immersive shows, pop-ups, competitions and all kinds of proposals designed for both families as well as adult-only audiences. It will take place in different spaces in the Pas de la Casa and Grau Roig sectors.

**Mountain and snowshoe circuits:** Grandvalira continues its commitment to all ski disciplines and creates new mountain and snowshoe circuits. On the one hand, there is a new ski mountaineering circuit in Forn "Cap de Rep" in Canillo, and a new circuit that will facilitate the ascent from Soldeu to Espiolets on snowshoes.

**Funcross:** these are three new circuits with fast curves, jumps, dubbies, tunnels and other obstacles located in Soldeu.

**Clicquot Bubble Experience:** An exclusive gourmet experience where customers are picked up in an SUV at the foot of the slopes and are taken to a truly extraordinary area of the forest where they can dine inside a transparent bubble.

**Snow tubing by Dots:** This is the longest tubing track in Europe at 350 meters, located in the El Pas de la Casa sector. The activity can also be done when the sun sets, which is a unique experience for winter nights.

**Space Gliss:** activities designed for families which expand leisure options in the Soldeu area with the addition of Mini-Snake Gliss, sleighs and Tubing.

**QuickFlight:** the Mon(t) Magic Family Park debuts a jump from a platform placed seven metres in the air which lets you experience the unique sensation of freefall.

**In the Snow Veuve Clicquot:** the remodeling of the kitchen and the interior space with a much more exclusive design allows for a luxurious environment where the star, par excellence, will continue to be the champagne.

Further information: <https://www.grandvalira.com/>



## GRANDVALIRA RESORTS

The ski, bike and trail resort that's open 365 days a year is back this season full of new features. Specifically, from 2 December to 16 April, fans of skiing and snow activities will have a great time with: 47 ski slopes for a total of 63 kilometres of runs, eight skimo circuits, six snowshoeing trails and a snowpark.

This season, Pal Arinsal has boosted its culinary offerings with three important additions to the Arinsal sector:

**El Niu, fast good food:** the old Obelix bar, one of the resort's most iconic restaurants, is back with extensive renovations, a new name and a new concept. A space of authenticity with an author's seal in a warm environment with exotic touches.

**Terroir Kitchen Cafè:** located on the terrace of the Comallemple building, and one of the largest spaces at the resort, the Cafè has undergone a comprehensive renovation and has become a self-service restaurant with a menu featuring homemade pizzas and pastas.

**Piccolo Italian Food:** a restaurant designed for families, friends and couples who wish to make a technical stop to enjoy a high mountain menu during ski hours.

Further information: [www.vallnordpalarinsal.com](http://www.vallnordpalarinsal.com)



For yet another season, Ordino Arcalís is committed to offering extraordinary food:

**Restaurante La Coma:** this season it boasts a significant renovation, with a new menu based on rice dishes, grilled meats, pizzas and pasta. The most iconic restaurant in the resort offers lunch and dinner that can be enjoyed on a panoramic terrace with mountain views.

**Mountain dinners:** nocturnal meals continue to be one of the great attractions of the gastronomic experience in Ordino Arcalís, where it is possible to get on a track in the Borda de la Coma to enjoy dinner in a unique mountaintop atmosphere or spend a magical night at the Sorteny Refuge, which also has a special menu on full moon nights.

Further information: <https://www.ordinoarcalis.com>



Naturland is the outdoor adventure park located in Sant Julià de Lòria that's been specially designed for families. It is open almost all year round and offers activities both in winter and summer.

**Cota 2000:** in winter it becomes the cross-country ski resort of Rabassa-Naturland, with a total of 15 kilometres divided into five slopes to practice Nordic skiing. This year, as a novelty, outings with Moonbikes are offered so you can discover the forests of La Rabassa with completely electric snowmobiles. In addition, during this time you can also enjoy other activities such as: two snowshoe itineraries or three skimo circuits. You can also go down a Nordic sleigh, a real adventure for the whole family.

This January, the **Borda Conangle Mountain Lodge** will open. It is a small hotel located at altitude 2000 and will have a total of eight double rooms, which will give you the chance to stay in a unique environment.

There's also **Cota 1600**, where the activities that debuted last summer and that are compatible with the winter season are maintained. In this way the Tubby, the Sklide, the Scab Circuit, the labyrinth and the Forest Line are launched. In addition, the most daring will be able to enjoy the main attractions such as the Tobotronc (the longest alpine slide in the world with a length of 5.3 km), and the Airtrekk.

As for restaurants, Naturland continues to offer quality cuisine. Proof of this are the El Foc restaurant, located at Altitude 1600, and La Borda Conangle, at Altitude 2000.

Further information: <https://www.naturland.ad/>





What are 'Els Pareatges'?

The thirteenth century saw the beginning of a period of conflict and hostility between the Bishops of Urgell and the Counts of Foix over control of Andorra, which ended with the signing of two treaties, known as *Els Pareatges* (1278 and 1288), by the Bishop of Urgell, Pere d'Urg, and the Count of Foix, Roger Bernat III. The first treaty (1278) set out the rules of shared sovereignty, thus creating the Principality of Andorra. In order to avoid further conflict, on 6 December 1288, a second treaty was signed by Pere d'Urg and Roger Bernat III.



This document reiterated the provisions of the first treaty and regulated other obligations, such as the administration of justice and military service.

This pact has been preserved over the centuries, though with some important changes, to the extent that the Constitution of Andorra refers to the system of the parliamentary co-principality, with the Bishop of Urgell and the President of the French Republic as Co-Princes of Andorra, on equal terms and on a personal basis.

## A WALK THROUGH OUR HISTORY

**850** Charlemagne founds Andorra in recognition of the help provided in the conflict with the Saracens.

**1278-1288** Two treaties known as 'Els Pareatges' are signed to create the Principality of Andorra, under the sovereignty of the country's two Co-Princes: the Bishop of Urgell and the Count of Foix.

**1993** The Constitution is established and states that Andorra is a social democratic country bound by the rule of law.

**1993** Andorra joins the UN.



## The Casa de la Vall, a key part of the country's history

Sitting in the old quarter of Andorra la Vella is the *Casa de la Vall*: an essential site for anyone wanting to learn more about the country's history and political past.

This iconic building, built in the late sixteenth century, belonged to the Busquets family. In 1702, it was acquired by the Consell General (created in 1419), and thus became the seat of the country's parliament. In fact, Andorra has one of the oldest parliaments in Europe.

As well as witnessing the country's political development, this building was also the Principality's judicial headquarters for a time.

In 2011, due to its changing needs, the Consell General moved parliament to an adjacent, newly constructed building. Since then, the Casa de la Vall has been a museum, which is well worth a visit. It is also used for certain institutional events.



## Experience our culture first-hand

Andorra offers everything you need to enjoy our culture and immerse yourself in our history. With over **40 Romanesque monuments and churches**, Andorra has preserved a rich heritage of Romanesque art.

Your schedule should include a visit to some of the more than **20 museums** spread out all over the country. The most recent additions include the *Espai Columba*, where you will learn all about the significant legacy of Romanesque culture in the Principality, and the *Carmen Thyssen Museum Andorra*, which is a modern, innovative, interactive space where you can visit the exhibition: *Talents with Designation of Origin. From Rigalt to Puigdemoglas*.

The streets of Andorra are imbued with history, having witnessed Andorrans' day-to-day lives for centuries. So, why not explore them? On our urban routes, you can get to know our historical heritage and all the most charming spots in the country.

## A PLACE FOR DISCONNECTING



### Andorra Health Destination

When you talk about the **Andorra Health Destination** you're talking about holidays to enhance your health and well-being! As we are aware of the importance of our guests' well-being, the Andorra Health Destination gathers together professionals in the sector to offer quality therapies and treatments to people who not only come to the country to visit it, but also want to take care of their body and mind.

The country's natural surroundings, together with our most qualified professionals, make Andorra an ideal health tourism destination. Whether you're a nature or sports enthusiast, or you love shopping, in the Andorra Health Destination you will find plans of one or more days, which you can enjoy with your family, partner or friends!



Here in Andorra, we love taking care of ourselves... And especially when we can do so in southern Europe's biggest spa. This is Caldea, with facilities covering 44,849 m<sup>2</sup>, dedicated to wellness in every sense of the word.

Caldea is split into four spaces, so that you can be sure to find the relaxation experience that best suits you.

**Termolúdic:** This is the spa for families or groups of friends. Children aged five and over are allowed here. It is the ideal spa for discovering hydrotherapy, thanks to its range of different baths, including hammams, saunas and Indo-Roman baths, and its panoramic lagoon, where you can enjoy breathtaking views over the Valira River.

**Orígens:** This area is located just above *Termolúdic* and is smaller but offers more intimate experiences. Treat yourself to a massage or a spa treatment after trying out the grapefruit bath or the Aztec bath.

**Inúu:** This is the adults-only spa. It is a quieter space where everything is designed to create a more personalised experience. Relax your senses as you lie back on a bubble bed, or let go as you take in the sensations given off by the chromatic showers. As the cherry on top of your visit, why not try one of the massages or Ayurvedic treatments on offer?

**Likids:** This is Caldea's spa for kids aged between three and eight. It is an area where they can explore the world of wellness through jacuzzis, saunas, treatments and mindfulness activities, all of which are adapted to suit their age.

## HIGH GASTRONOMY

In Andorra, you can enjoy mountain cuisine all year round, with a great selection of local products. Thanks to its location, Andorra's cuisine is influenced by both France and Spain, resulting in an exclusive, delicious culinary offering.



### The borda: the home of Andorran cuisine

*Bordas* are old stone buildings where you will find authentic Andorran cuisine. They used to house livestock during the winter. But gradually, over the years, these constructions have been renovated to become what they are today: restaurants serving the Principality's traditional cuisine.

If you want to try cold meats from the mountains or savour classic seasonal dishes, like *trinxat*, mountain rice and grilled meats, or stews with mushrooms from local forests, book a table at a *borda* and enjoy!

There are more and more small producers in Andorra who make excellent-quality culinary products. From cold meats to farmhouse cheeses and even jams, all products from the Principality are made artisanally – sometimes with centuries-old techniques – so that they represent the essence of our valleys.

Further information: <https://visitandorra.com/en/indigenous-products/>

## Our small but great producers



## High-altitude wines and beers

Thanks to Andorra's Mediterranean mountain climate, there are five micro-producers that make wine in vineyards at an altitude of over 1,200 metres. *Casa Beal*, *Casa Auvinyà*, *Mas Berenguer*, *Borda Sabaté* and *Casus Belli* have received various awards for their exquisite wines and boast some of the highest-altitude vineyards in Europe.

But it is not all about wine: craft beers like *Alpha* and *Boris* are brewed in the Principality. Andorran water is used in the production process, resulting in a unique, delicious taste.

Further information: <https://visitandorra.com/en/eating/wine-tourism-in-andorra/>

## EVENTS THIS WINTER

Andorra plays host to plenty of important sports and cultural events. Despite the health crisis over the last years, the country has worked hard to welcome international events for all audiences.



## CALENDAR

### ANDROS E-THROPÉE

Pas de la Casa - 16 & 17 december

### COMAPEDROSA WORLD CUP

Pal Arinsal - 21 & 22 january

### ANDORRA MULTISPORT FESTIVAL - WINTER TRIATHLON EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Naturland - 28 & 29 january

### FREERIDE WORLD TOUR

Ordino Arcalís - 4 - 9 february

### ANDORRA SKIMO 2023

Andorra- 4 & 5 march

### FINALS ALPINE SKI WORLD CUP

Grandvalira (at Soldeu – El Tarter) - 13-19 march

### KILOMETER RUNNING WORLD CUP

Grandvalira (Slope Riberal KL - Grau Roig) - 20-30 march

## BUSINESS TOURISM

With more than 31,000 rooms spread out over 225 hotels and other kinds of tourist accommodation, Andorra is the ideal business tourism destination.

Here, urban centres are just a stone's throw away from nature, making it much easier to organise activities near hotels. This is yet another reason for businesses to book stays here for their teams, to improve their performance through various coaching, team-building and empowerment exercises.

It is worth noting that every one of Andorra's parishes has its own conference centre. The most impressive ones include the Andorra la Vella Congress Centre (with its 900-seat auditorium, other rooms and car park), the Ordino Congress Centre, and the Espai Empresa Palau, located inside the Palau de Gel in Canillo. In addition, most hotels offer their own fully-equipped meeting rooms.



## HOW TO GET HERE



### By car

From Spain: on the N-145 road.  
From France: on the RN22 road.

### By bus



#### From Barcelone :

Daily departures from Sants and Nord bus stations, as well as from Barcelona-El Prat airport.

Further information: <https://www.andorraybus.com/> ;  
<https://autocarsnadal.com> ; <https://www.alsa.es/>

#### From Lleida:

Daily departures from Lleida bus station and train station.

Further information: <http://www.montmantell.com>

#### From Toulouse:

Daily departures from Blagnac airport and Matabiau bus station.

Further information: <https://www.andorraybus.com/>

### By plane

**Andorra-La Seu d'Urgell Airport:** the company Air Nostrum will operate flights to Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport.

Further information [here](#)



#### Other airports near Andorra:

- El Prat de Barcelona (198 km)
- Toulouse-Blagnac (194 km)





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