

Andorra

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Andorra is a tiny, **landlocked** principality tucked high in the eastern Pyrenees, between France and Spain. Most visitors come for two things: skiing in winter and duty-free shopping year-round, but the country also has quiet stone villages, Romanesque churches, and one UNESCO-listed valley for hikers.

It suits travelers who want an easy mountain break rather than a city trip. Andorra has no airport and no railway, so almost everyone arrives by road from Barcelona or Toulouse. The country is small enough to cross by car in under an hour, and its seven parishes each have a slightly different character, from busy shopping streets to quiet high-altitude hamlets.

Money & payments

Andorra uses the euro, even though it is not a member of the European Union.

Currency

CURRENCY
€
EUR

1 EUR
1.12 USD
1 USD = 0.8925 EUR

Cards widely accepted

Cash machines are common in every town, and cards are accepted almost everywhere. Andorra is popular for tax-free shopping, so bring a card with a good foreign-transaction rate for larger purchases like electronics, perfume, or ski gear.

Typical costs

Rough prices in touristic areas, per person

Hotel (double room, per night) mid-range hotel, double room	70 – 180 € $78 – $202
Dinner (mid-range restaurant) per person, mid-range restaurant	15 – 35 € $17 – $39
Inexpensive meal	10 – 15 € $11 – $17
Local beer	3 – 6 € $3 – $7
Coffee	1.5 – 3 € $2 – $3
Transit ticket andbus intercity fare	1.5 – 3 € $2 – $3

Tipping

Tipping in Andorra is optional and never expected, though it is appreciated when service is good.

Restaurant round up, or 5-10% at dinner	Optional
Bar small change	Not customary
Taxi	Not customary
Hotel small change for porters	Optional
Tour guide a few euros	Optional

In cafés, leaving small change is enough. At restaurants, rounding up the bill or adding 5-10% for good service is common at dinner; lunch and quick meals usually just get rounded up. Tip in cash when you can, since it does not always reach staff when added to a card payment.

Electricity

Andorra uses Type C and Type F plugs at 230 V / 50 Hz, the same standard as the rest of continental Europe.

ELECTRICITY



Type C

ELECTRICITY



Type F

220 V · 50 Hz

Language

Catalan is Andorra's only official language, though Spanish and French are spoken just as widely in daily life, and English is common in ski resorts, hotels, and shops. Menus and signs are often in several languages, so getting by without Catalan is easy.

Useful phrases

Hello	Hola
Thank you	Gràcies
Please	Si us plau
Yes	Sí
No	No
Goodbye	Adéu
Excuse me	Perdoni
How much?	Quant costa
Where is...?	On és
Cheers	Salut

Staying connected

Andorra is not part of the EU, so 'roam like at home' plans from EU or UK carriers usually do not cover it, and using your normal phone plan here can bring high roaming charges. Buying a local prepaid SIM from Andorra Telecom, or an eSIM that explicitly includes Andorra, is the cheapest way to stay connected for more than a day or two. Mobile coverage is reliable across the country, including most ski slopes.

Safety & emergencies

Andorra is one of the safest countries in Europe, with very little violent crime. The main risks for visitors are pickpocketing in busy shopping streets and ski-related injuries, so make sure travel insurance covers winter sports if you plan to hit the slopes.

Emergency numbers

GENERAL EMERGENCY	POLICE	AMBULANCE
112	110	116

Health

Tap water is safe to drink throughout the country. Pharmacies (farmàcies) are easy to find in every town and can advise on minor ailments without a doctor's visit. No special vaccinations are required for Andorra. Many towns and ski resorts sit between 1,000 and 2,500 meters, so visitors with heart conditions or limited fitness may notice mild effects from the altitude for the first day or two.

Visas & entry

Andorra is not a member of the EU or the Schengen Area, but it has no border posts with France or Spain, and since June 2026 its territory is treated as part of the Schengen system in practice, with no

passport stamps on entry or exit. Citizens of the EU, UK, US, Canada, and most other visa-exempt nationalities can enter for up to 90 days with a valid passport, or a national ID card for EU citizens.

Because Andorra sits outside Schengen on paper, travelers on a single-entry Schengen visa should check that leaving Andorra back into France or Spain will not cause a problem before planning a day trip.

> Visa and entry requirements change frequently. Verify current requirements with the official immigration authority or your country's embassy before travel.

Etiquette

Andorrans are relaxed and informal, similar to their Catalan neighbors. A handshake suits a first meeting; two cheek kisses are common once people know each other.

Cover shoulders and knees when visiting churches such as Church of Sant Joan de Caselles or Our Lady of Meritxell. Shopping streets fill up with day-trippers from France and Spain on weekends, so a little patience at the checkout goes a long way.

Holidays & opening hours

Public holidays can close shops and restaurants for the day, especially in smaller villages, though shops in Andorra la Vella and Escaldes-Engordany more often stay open for shoppers.

Public holidays

Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 6	Epiphany
Mar 14	Constitution Day
May 1	Labour Day
Aug 15	Assumption Day
Sep 8	National Holiday
Nov 1	All Saints' Day
Dec 8	Immaculate Conception
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 26	St. Stephen's Day
movable — Feb/Mar	Carnival
movable — Mar/Apr	Easter Monday
movable — Mar/Apr	Good Friday
movable — May/Jun	Whit Monday

Most shops open Monday to Saturday, with a midday break of a couple of hours outside the main shopping streets. Sunday opening is common in the tax-free retail districts but rarer in smaller villages.

Getting around

- **By air**: Andorra has no airport of its own. Most travelers fly into Barcelona-El Prat or Toulouse-Blagnac and continue by direct coach, a journey of about 3 hours. A small regional airport just across the Spanish border, Andorra-La Seu d'Urgell, has limited seasonal flights.
- **By bus**: direct coaches run from Barcelona, Toulouse, and Girona airports straight to Andorra la Vella; book ahead during ski season.
- **Within the country**: a national bus network (andbus) links all seven parishes cheaply and runs frequently, and taxis are available in every town.

There is no railway in Andorra.

Driving

- **Roads**: winding mountain roads with hairpin bends connect the parishes; there are no motorways.
- **Speed limits**: 30-50 km/h in towns, up to 90 km/h on the open road outside built-up areas.
- **Winter driving**: snow chains or winter tyres are mandatory on many roads between November and April; check conditions before driving up to the ski resorts.
- **Parking**: paid parking is standard in Andorra la Vella and Escaldes-Engordany; look for blue-zone meters or covered car parks.
- **Fuel**: fuel is noticeably cheaper than in France or Spain thanks to lower duties; look for **benzina** (petrol) and **gasoil** (diesel) at the pump.
- **Electric vehicles**: charging points are limited outside the main towns, so plan longer routes in advance if driving an EV.

URBAN	RURAL	PETROL	DIESEL
50 km/h	90 km/h	Benzina	Gasoil

Drive on the right

No motorway vignette needed

Food & drink

Andorran food follows the Catalan and Pyrenean mountain traditions of its two neighbors, built around hearty, warming dishes. Breakfast is simple, usually bread and coffee. Lunch, often the largest meal of the day, is eaten around 1-2pm, with dinner starting from 8pm onward.

Trinxat, a fried mix of cabbage, potato, and bacon, and escudella, a slow-cooked meat and vegetable stew, are classic mountain dishes worth trying, alongside cured meats and mountain cheeses from local farms. In ski season, look out for cargols (snails) and meats grilled over an open fire, often served in the small, family-run restaurants known as bordes.

What to eat & drink

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Formatge d'Andorra
Local mountain cheese, often served with cured meats.

DRINKS

Vi negre
Local red wine, though most wine is imported from nearby Catalonia.

SIGNATURE DISHES

Trinxat
Fried cabbage and potato mixed with bacon, a classic Pyrenean mountain dish.

Escudella
Slow-cooked meat and vegetable stew, popular in the colder months.

Cargols
Snails, a traditional dish especially popular in ski season.

Andorra – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
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Scan to download the app

Where to explore

Andorra is made up of seven parishes, each with its own character.

Andorra la Vella is the capital and main shopping hub, built around the historic Casa de la Vall. Next door, Escaldes-Engordany is home to Caldea, one of Europe's largest thermal spas.

Canillo and Encamp, in the east, sit closest to the Grandvalira ski slopes, the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley — Andorra's only UNESCO World Heritage Site — and the cliffside Mirador Roc de Quer viewpoint.

La Massana and Ordino, to the north, are quieter and greener, with access to the Vallnord ski area.

Sant Julià de Lòria, in the south, is the main entry point from Spain and home to Naturlandia, a mountain adventure park.

Andorra Essentials

Andorra blends high-altitude Pyrenean landscapes with a dense concentration of Romanesque architecture. This selection includes Caldea, one of Europe's largest thermal spas, and the UNESCO-listed Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley. Historical sites range from the 16th-century Casa de la Vall parliament to the 9th-century Church of Santa Coloma. The list also covers the Grandvalira ski area, the world's longest alpine slide at Naturlandia, and panoramic viewpoints like Mirador Roc de Quer, providing a comprehensive overview of the principality's natural and cultural landmarks.





A Caldea

Thermal spa resort featuring water treatments and wellness facilities. It is one of Europe's largest spas and includes a distinctive 80-meter tower.

Passeig del Valira, AD700 les Escaldes, Andorra (42.51152, 1.53733)

Mo–Fr	10:00–22:00
Sa	10:00–00:00
Su	10:00–22:00

caldea.com, +376800999



B Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley

The Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley is a glacial valley in the southeast of Andorra.

AD700, Andorra (42.48965, 1.60295)



C El Pas de la Casa

El Pas de la Casa is a ski resort, town, and mountain pass in the Encamp parish of Andorra, lying on the border with France.

19 Avinguda d'Encamp, Pas de la Casa AD200, Andorra (42.54117, 1.73336)

pasdelacasa-andorra.com



D Our Lady of Meritxell

Our Lady of Meritxell is an Andorran Roman Catholic statue depicting an apparition of the Virgin Mary.

8 Camí del Santuari, AD100, Andorra (42.55520, 1.59078)

santuariodemeritxell.com/ca/, +376 851 253



E Mirador Roc del Quer

Cantilevered 20-meter-long metal walkway that extends 12 meters over a cliff edge, suspended 500 meters above the valley floor. It provides panoramic views of the Pyrenees, including the Montaup and Valira d'Orient valleys.

AD100, Andorra (42.56735, 1.59158)

Mo–Su 09:30–19:00

ponttibetacanillo.com/en/, +376753600

F Naturland (Sector 1600)

Family-friendly mountain adventure park and year-round outdoor activity center featuring the world's longest alpine slide. The facility includes forest-based attractions such as ropes courses and zip lines across two mountain sectors.

(Unnamed Road), AD600, Andorra (42.44278, 1.50312)

web.naturland.ad/en, +376741444



G House of the Valley

Casa de la Val is a historical house in Andorra la Vella, Andorra. It is former headquarters of the General Council of Andorra.

Carrer de la Vall s/n, AD500 Andorra la Vella, Andorra (42.50647, 1.52061)

+376 829 129



H Noblesse du temps (Salvador Dalí)

A five-meter-tall bronze sculpture by Salvador Dalí featuring a melting clock motif draped over a tree trunk. Located in the capital's commercial hub, the artwork symbolizes the inevitable passage of time and was donated to the Andorran government by the artist's confidant, Enric Sabater.

75 Avinguda Meritxell, Andorra la Vella AD500, Andorra (42.50876, 1.52948)



I Bridge of La Margineda

Pont de la Margineda is a bridge located in Santa Coloma, Andorra la Vella Parish, Andorra.

(Unnamed Road), AD600, Andorra (42.48518, 1.49354)

+376 873 103



J Church of Sant Joan de Caselles

Església de Sant Joan de Caselles is a church located in Canillo, Andorra.

76 Carretera General 2 - Tram Sant Joan De Caselles, AD100, Andorra (42.57083, 1.60778)



K Church of St. Coloma

The Church of Santa Coloma d'Andorra is a church in Santa Coloma, Andorra la Vella Parish, Andorra, and is Andorra's oldest church.

8 Carrer Major, Santa Coloma AD500, Andorra
(42.49415, 1.49755)



L Town Square

A popular assembling place for the people. Other than that, the views of the surrounding mountains are simply breath-taking from here.

22 Carrer Doctor Vilanova, Andorra la Vella AD500, Andorra
(42.50665, 1.52223)

Andorra's Alpine Shelters & Climbing

This collection highlights Andorra's network of high-altitude mountain refuges and technical climbing routes. Situated between 1,865 and 2,420 meters, these stone-built shelters provide essential overnight stops for hikers traversing the Pyrenees, with many featuring fireplaces and proximity to glacial lakes. The selection includes the challenging Canal del Grau via ferrata, a 400-meter vertical ascent, alongside critical refuges like Comapedrosa near the country's highest peak and the remote Borda de Sorteny in the Ordino parish.





A Refugi Borda de Sorteny

Guarded mountain hut at 1,965 meters in the Sorteny Valley Nature Park. Includes a fireplace and serves as a base for botanical excursions.

(Unnamed Road), AD300, Andorra (42.62260, 1.56415)

refugisorteny.com, +376 846 446

B Refugi de Comapedrosa

High-altitude refuge at 2,265 meters, located near the base of Comapedrosa, Andorra's highest peak. Essential stop for summit attempts in the La Massana parish.

AD400, Andorra (42.57898, 1.44935)

refugicomapedrosa.ad, +376 327 955



C Refugi del Pla de l'Estany

Wilderness hut at 2,050 meters featuring a fireplace. Also known as the Joan Canut refuge, it serves the Pla de l'Estany hiking area.

AD400, Andorra (42.59404, 1.46052)

visitandorra.com/dormir/refuge-pla-de-l-estany/



D Refugi de Francolí

Basic mountain shelter situated at 1,865 meters in the Sant Julià de Lòria parish.

(Unnamed Road), AD600, Andorra (42.48991, 1.42629)

visitandorra.com/dormir/refugi-de-francoli/



E Refugi de Coms de Jan

Stone wilderness hut at 2,220 meters in Canillo. Features a fireplace for hikers on high-altitude Pyrenean trails.

AD100, Andorra (42.61844, 1.63879)

visitandorra.com/dormir/cabana-coms-de-jan-hut/



F Refugi de Ribaescorjada

Mountain shelter at 2,075 meters in the Canillo parish, equipped with a fireplace.

AD100, Andorra (42.56589, 1.64077)

visitandorra.com/dormir/ribaescorjada-hut/



G Refugi Riu dels Orris

Located at 2,230 meters in the UNESCO-listed Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, this wilderness hut includes a fireplace.

AD700, Andorra (42.48501, 1.63981)

visitandorra.com/dormir/refugio-riu-dels-orris/



H Refugi d'Ensagents

High-altitude shelter at 2,420 meters near the Ensagents glacial lakes. Offers drinking water and a fireplace.

AD200, Andorra (42.51700, 1.64207)

visitandorra.com/dormir/ensagents-hut/

I The Racons Iron Way

Take this 400 metres long and 210 metres high climb on the rock wall. Be careful, it is very demanding and there are no escape routes.

AD100, Andorra (42.56350, 1.58893)



J Refugi Baiau "Josep Maria Montfort"

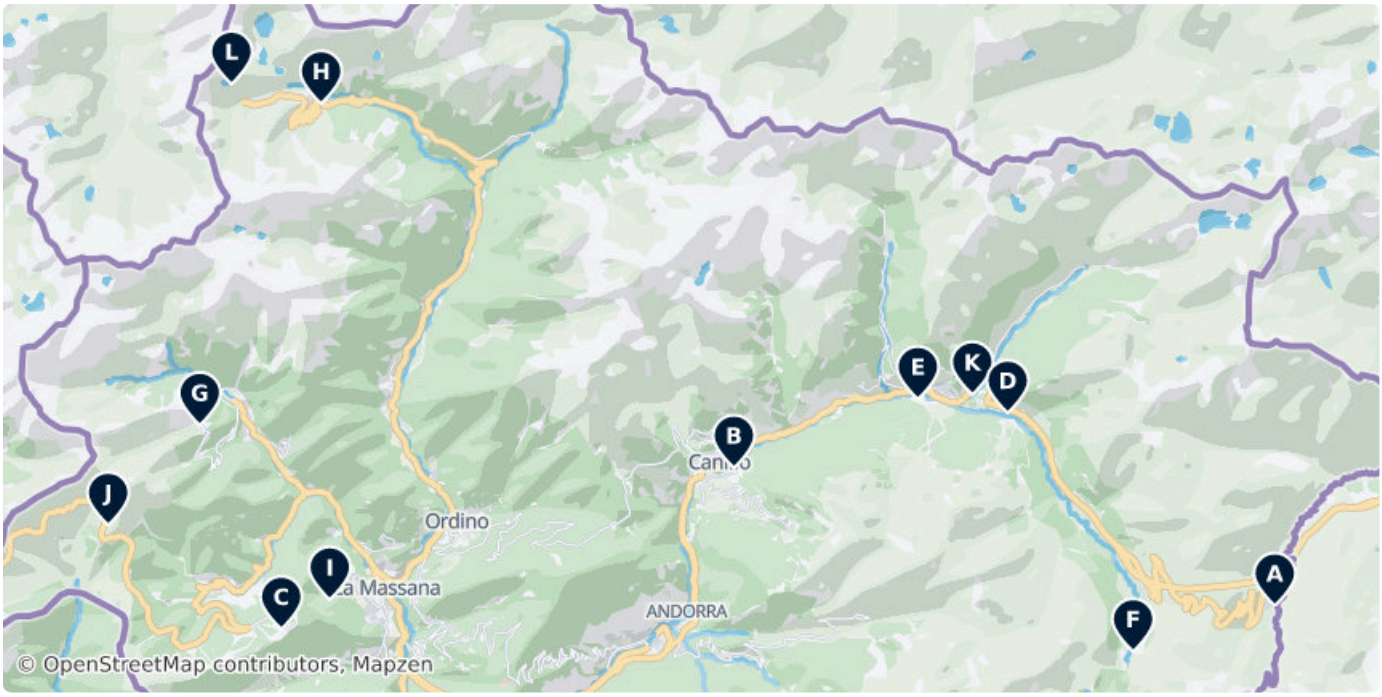
Unmanned bivy-style shelter providing emergency and overnight accommodation for high-altitude hikers near the Spanish border.

25574, Spain (42.59753, 1.42923)

feec.cat/refugi/refugi-baiau-josep-maria-montfort/

Ski Resorts in Andorra

Andorra's high-altitude terrain is divided into two primary domains: Grandvalira, the largest ski area in the Pyrenees, and the Vallnord sectors. This collection covers diverse alpine environments, from the FIS World Cup slopes in Soldeu to the freestyle hubs of El Tarter. Key infrastructure like the La Massana cable car and the Arinsal-Pal link connects these sectors, providing access to north-facing freeride zones in Arcalís and family-oriented forest runs in Pal.





A El Pas de la Casa

El Pas de la Casa is a ski resort, town, and mountain pass in the Encamp parish of Andorra, lying on the border with France.

19 Avinguda d'Encamp, Pas de la Casa AD200, Andorra (42.54117, 1.73336)

pasdelacasa-andorra.com



B Grandvalira Ski Resort

A grand total of four resorts in one place - a skier's paradise. Do not miss this modern resort that can satisfy all of your needs.

C/ Prat de la Creu, 59- 65, Andorra la Vella, Andorra (42.56594, 1.60124)

grandvalira.com, +376 891 800



C Vallnord: Sector Pal

A family-oriented sector characterized by forest-lined runs and gentle slopes. It is directly accessible from the center of La Massana via a dedicated cable car.

CS-420, AD400, Andorra (42.53695, 1.49067)

D Grandvalira (Sector de Soldeu)

A central sector of Grandvalira known for hosting FIS Alpine Ski World Cup events. It features wide, technical downhill slopes and extensive high-end hotel infrastructure.

(42.57580, 1.66810)

E Grandvalira (Sector del Tarter)

Home to the El Tarter Snowpark, one of the largest freestyle areas in the Pyrenees. The sector offers a mix of wide blue runs and steep black slopes for advanced skiers.

(42.57831, 1.64615)

F Grandvalira (Sector de Grau Roig)

The most alpine sector of Grandvalira, featuring high-altitude terrain and extensive off-piste opportunities. It is unique for being the only sector without a residential village.

(42.53291, 1.69873)

G Vallnord: Sector Arinsal

Located in a steep valley, this sector offers a significant vertical drop and a variety of red and black runs. It is connected to the Pal sector via a cross-valley cable car.

(42.57362, 1.47075)

H Vallnord: Sector Arcalís

Renowned for its north-facing slopes and a microclimate that ensures long-lasting snow. It is a premier destination for freeride skiing and technical off-piste terrain.

(42.63139, 1.50039)

I Cable Car La Massana

A primary transport link that carries skiers from the town of La Massana directly to the Pal sector in approximately five minutes.

AD400, Andorra (42.54226, 1.50252)

J Arinsal-Pal

A 50-person capacity cable car that spans the valley to provide a direct physical connection between the Pal and Arinsal ski sectors.

Carretera del Coll de la Botella, AD400, Andorra (42.55566, 1.44837)

K Estació esquí Parador Canaro

A private ski area featuring two beginner-friendly slopes and a specialized ski school, located between the sectors of Soldeu and El Tarter.

26 Carretera General 2 - Tram D'incles, AD100, Andorra (42.57913, 1.65945)

skiparadorcanaro.com

L Creussans

A chairlift in the Arcalís sector that provides access to the Creussans peak, offering views of the Tristaina lakes and the French border.

AD300, Andorra (42.63492, 1.47852)

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