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CASTELL D'ALARÓ

**T**he walk begins in the town's Plaça, which is presided over by the town hall and the parish church of Sant Bartomeu, and you head off in a north-easterly direction along the street named Carrer Petit.

Following a crossroads, you continue along Carrer del Ponterró, pass by the town's wash houses and continue along Carrer Solleric.

Once in the outskirts of the town, carefully go along the Ma-2100 road, until you reach the place known as Sa Sort, where you will see a route on the left that leads to Alaró Castle.

At the following crossroads, take the road that appears on your right, it will lead you past the houses of Son Curt, which are on one side and barely visible from the path, and those of Son Penyaflor, which are closer.

You keep going until you come to Codolí des Gegant, a crag that is said to have broken off from the shoe of a giant. Next to it is the beginning of the first shortcut that forms part of the old bridle path, thus named because only horses and people were allowed to travel on it. It provides two shortcuts for the paved path.

When the houses of Es Verger come into view, leave the cart track and head off on the right along a path of steps which runs, firstly along terraces of olive trees and, after going through a gate, along the hillside covered in holm oaks.

You now move closer to the cliff, and further on, at a crossroads, take the road on the right that soon leads to the doorway of the walled enclosure. Inside, you will cross L'Homenatge tower, and pass the remains of a water tank. After a short climb you will arrive at the oratory of the Mare de Déu del Refugi and the guesthouse.

Return along the same route, until you reach the first crossroads; at that point head off towards the north towards Pla des Pouet, before then taking the route suitable for carts, leaving the path on the right that connects with Orient via the GR 221.

The cart road snakes along, through the holm oak grove, until you reach the houses of Es Verger, and soon afterwards you will find yourself back on the route that you came up, which will take you back to the town of Alaró again.



## LA POTADA DEL GAVALL DEL REI EN JAUME

According to legend, the conquest of the castle, seated on a hill surrounded by vertical walls and with a single narrow and steep access route, required all of the energy and courage of King James. It is said that he fought ferociously on his horse and managed to corner all of the Saracens inside the castle.

The most intense conflict took place on the staircase at the foot of the wall, and the thrust and fury of the King's horse was such that it left a hoof print at the edge of the entrance, that is still visible today.

It is said that so much blood was spilled that day that the grass was dyed red, and the animal was so powerful that the dust it kicked up rose into the sky and spread out, creating the "Carrera del Rei En Jaume", also known by the name of the Milky Way.





**Start / End:** Alaró, Plaça de la Vila  
(224 m)

**Distance:** 14.152 m

**Time required:** 4 h 53 min

**Difficulty:** high

**Net increase  
in altitude:** 643 m

**Net decrease  
in altitude:** 643 m

**Not suitable for:** children under the age of 3,  
prams for children,  
wheelchairs

# 4 CASTELL D'ALARÓ

## CABRIT AND BASSA

In the distant past, good King James II governed this small island with great skill. Even so, things did not go smoothly for long, and his nephew and the King of Aragon, Alonso or “Anfós”, promised to his father that he would conquer these lands.

The dreaded invasion took place in 1285 and the few people that were faithful to the legitimate king took refuge in Alaró Castle, where the soldiers Guillem Capell Cabrit and Guillem Bassa resisted with great courage.

Alfonso himself came to the foot of the walls to urging the defenders to surrender. Cabrit responded that he knew of no other king than James and that, in Mallorca, they ate oven roasted “anfós” (grouper). The king, filled with anger, asked for the name of the man who dared to talk to him like that, and when he heard the response he swore that he would take revenge for the offense by roasting the traitor on a grill.

And he did. When the castle's defenders surrendered because of hunger, Cabrit and Bassa were arrested and burned in the Plaça del Lledoner de Los d'Amunt, in Alaró. As a result of what happened, Mallorcans considered them to be martyrs and people elevated them to the status of saints.

