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**THE TOWNS OF THE VALLEY
OF SOLLER AND FORMALUTX**

The tour begins in Plaça de la Constitució in Sóller, from where you continue the path of stage 5 of the Dry Stone Route. Take Carrer de Sa Lluna, the town's shopping street "par excellence", and turn left on Carrer de la Victòria 11 de maig.

Without changing direction, you continue along Avenida de Asturias and, once you have passed the bridge over the stream of Fornalutx, with the municipal sports pitch opposite, turn right to keep going along the Camí des Murterar, always parallel to the course of the water.

Without coming off the GR 221, just before Pont de Can Rave, turn to your left, forget about the Ses Marjades path and the Sa Capelleta route on your left, and you will reach a sharp bend, where on the left, a route begins that will lead to the farmstead of Binibassí.

Here you leave the stage that continues on towards Biniaraix, and choose the one that goes to Fornalutx. You will find it between the wash houses and the tower of the Binibassí estate.

Once you have passed Fornalutx cemetery and the Sa Rutlana municipal pitch, head into Fornalutx along

Carrer de Joan Albertí Arbona, which joins up with the town plaza. Opposite, look for Carrer Major, afterwards, Carrer de Sa Font and walk by the house and tower of Can Arbona, which is where the Council is located.

You will then come across the manors of Can Xoroi and Pont des Creuer and, at a bend, you begin heading up the Camí des Creuer towards the olive trees of Es Marroigs, where there are spectacular views over the valley and, further up, next to Penyal d'en Carles, you will join up with Monnàber cart road (paved).

Take this path, and heading downwards, you will arrive at the wash houses of Biniaraix, where you will join up again with the Dry Stone Route and continue along Carrer de Sant Josep. You will pass Plaça de la Concepció, with the village's church and Carrer de Sant Guillem, where you turn at the first detour that emerges on the right.

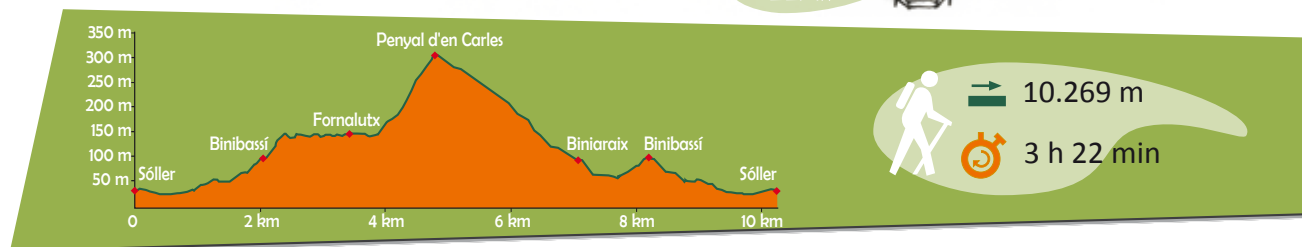
After leaving the town centre, you will cross the Biniaraix vegetable garden and come to the road that goes from Fornalutx to Sóller, where after one hundred metres you turn to the right to take the path that allows you to return to the village of Binibassí, which is visible on a small hill. From here, you retrace the path that takes you back to Plaça de la Constitució in Sóller.



PAINTED ROOF TILES

Superstition has always had a real presence among the inhabitants of Serra de Tramuntana, who used to do everything needed in order to encourage good luck and protect themselves against evil spirits.

Some of the most popular rituals were the ones linked to properties. On the day when owners entered their home for the first time, they would notify the spirits of their presence by cutting branches from the trees, opening and closing doors and windows and crying out loudly that they were taking possession of the residence. They also decorated the roof overhangs with animal, vegetable and human motifs and inscriptions of symbolic value, whose meanings are now unknown. Even so, they are one of the most unique elements of Fornalutx's architecture and they will undoubtedly continue to protect their inhabitants.





Start / End: Sóller, Plaça de la Constitució (33 m)

Distance: 10.269 m

Time required: 3 h 22 min

Difficulty: medium

Net increase in altitude: 384 m

Net decrease in altitude: 384 m

Not suitable for: children under the age of 6, prams for children can only be taken as far as Torrent de s'Ermida mountain stream

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BINIBASSÍ AND KING ARTHUR

Once upon a time there was a knight who lived in Binibassí. One day, he went to the Port of Santa Catalina, the name used for the Port of Sóller in the past. There, he was kidnapped by a whale and a parrot that took him to an enchanted island, where he met King Arthur from Britain (the one from the Round Table), and his sister Morgana. They ordered him to return to Mallorca and explain to his fellow countrymen all that he had seen and heard during his travels. And that is exactly what Guillem de Torroella, lord of Binibassí, did in the book entitled "La Faula", written towards the end of the 14th century.