

**regions** of the province  
of Valencia

# LA CANAL DE NAVARRÉS



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REGION





A visit to **La Canal de Navarrés** includes abundant sites with magnificent examples of Levantine cave paintings (declared a World Heritage Site).

A multitude of picturesque nooks and crannies, urban wash places, springs, churches, shrines and castles standing atop the high hills of its towns prompt us to delve deeper into one of the last enclaves where nature can be found in all its forms.

Water as a life source, woods, fauna and flora are the main components that intermingle with the small villages that spring up in the valley formed by **La Canal de Navarrés**: a series of villages stretching between **Millares** and **Enguera** from north to south, which still have a rich heritage.

The dominant vegetation is formed by pine forests, mastic trees and kermes oaks, although there are also holm oaks and ash trees. The lower part of the region is Mediterranean rural countryside, with a predominance of fields and crops. If you want to find out about the town's historical and cultural importance, don't fail to visit the *Castillo-Palacio*, or stately mansion, of the Counts of *Cervellón* (BIC).

“ Anna is water, the coastal lagoon (*albufera*), a lake surrounded by vegetation and leafy trees which offer welcoming shade in the summer, the river gorges (*gorgos*) of La Escalera, Gaspar and Catalán surround the village, forming an idyllic landscape comprising a haven of crystal-clear waters with abundant springs. ”

As you follow the road inland, it is worth visiting the narrow, picturesque streets of each and every one of the villages, visiting natural enclaves such as: *Playa Salvaje* or *El Salto* in Chella, the beauty spot known as “*Los Chorradores*” (a succession of waterfalls) or the *Playamonte* lake in Navarrés, the source of the *Fraile* and *Cazuma* rivers in Bicorp, with the constant imposing outline of the Pico Caroché mountain



“Cuevas de la Araña”  
(Spider Caves)- Bicorp



in the background, from where access is easier via forest tracks. *Los Charcos* in **Quesa** is the best-known beauty spot in this attractive, welcoming mountain village that has genuine marvels of rugged, wild nature.

Nowadays, all these areas are appropriately marked out for activities like hiking, trekking and cycle tourism. Notable features of **Bolbaite** are the recreational area by the river, the shrine of *Santa Bárbara* and the *Castillo-Palacio*, or stately mansion, of the *Cabanyelles*. The Parish Museum of the Assumption of Our Lady of **Navarrés** houses a notable collection of sacred art and precious metals from the 17th to the 20th centuries.

The important examples of cave art in the area deserve to be visited from the Bicorp *Ecomuseo*, the Centre for Interpretation of Archaeological, Ethnological and Palaeontological Heritage.

The *Cuevas de la Araña* (Spider Caves) and the *Barranco Moreno* complex in **Bicorp**, together with the shelters

located in **Millares**, **Quesa** and **Navarrés**, make the territory the main focal point for cave paintings in the province.

Continuing along the road towards **Millares** is a real adventure. Here, over time, the River Júcar has carved into the rock one of the most impressive landscapes: deep canyons alternate with peaceful oases and waterfalls. **Millares** is surrounded by defensive fortresses, because it was a frontier town in Muslim times and in the Middle Ages. This past is still palpable when you walk around its streets, with their Muslim layout and water channels. The town is home to the Ichnological Site of *Tambuc*, one of the most important in terms of fossilised dinosaur tracks.

**Enguera** and its surroundings form one of the largest mountainous enclaves in the Valencia Region. Its farmhouses, like those of *Benali* and *Navalón*, dotted around



“Gorgo Catalán”- Anna

the mountains, are evidence of the way of life of the area's former inhabitants.

We can take a look at the “*Cucos*”, circular-shaped dry-stone constructions which were used to protect shepherds and field workers from inclement weather. The cultural heritage of La Canal de Navarrés intermingles with its natural heritage.

At the beauty spot of Umbría-La Plana in **Enguera**, we find sites of great interest such as the Iberian settlement of *Cerro de Lucena*, dating from the 3rd to 1st centuries BC, and the *Encomienda Castle*, the most important remains of which are on show in the Municipal Archaeological Museum.

A notable feature of the historic centre is the Archpriest Church of Saint Michael Archangel (*Iglesia Arciprestal de San Miguel Arcángel*), dating from the 17th century, and the Convent of the Barefoot Carmelites (*Carmelitas Descalzos*), which has a cloister that houses the Cultural Centre and the Ethnological Museum.

Handicrafts involving lace-making or work with esparto grass are common in the majority of the towns and villages in this inland region. Also highly valued are the traditional cold meats, not to mention the production of high quality honey and wine; however, without a doubt, the most highly appreciated product in the region is the excellent olive oil made here, which gives the area's gastronomy a very particular flavour.



“Los Charcos de Quesa”





Gastronomy

## FESTIVALS\_

The calendar of festivals is chock-full all year round, starting with the celebrations for San Antón (celebrated in a variety of the region's towns and villages) and the traditional lighting of bonfires, and also the different Patron Saint Festivals held in each town or village. **Chella** in February. **Bolbaite**, the week before Holy Week. **Millares, Bicorp** and **Quesa** in August, in particular the *Fiesta de la Reserva* in Quesa in the second weekend of February.

**Anna**, the second week in September. **Enguera** in September, with the colourful celebration of *San Gil*, and **Navarrés** in October. A whole range of festivals combining religious, pagan and gastronomic celebrations.



Celebration of San Gil - Enguera



“Los chorradores”,  
Navarrés

## TOURIST INFO\_

### **ANNA**

#### **Tourist info Anna**

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### **ENGUERA**

#### **Tourist info Enguera**

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## **QUESA**

### **Tourist info Quesa**

Avenida Valencia, 64

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## **BICORP**

### **Centro de interpretación del patrimonio**

Ecomuseo de Bicorp

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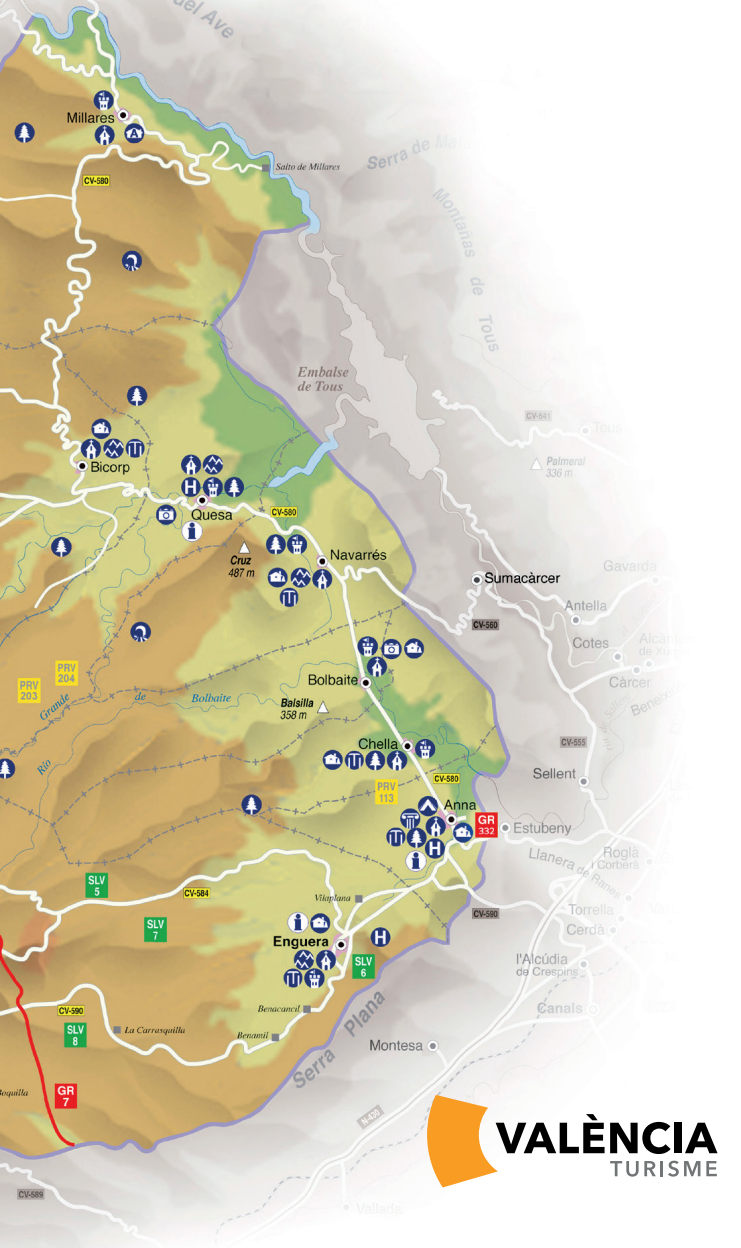
Albufera de Anna



# LA CANAL DE NAVARRÉS

	Historic building		Rural Accommodation
	Cave		Camping area
	Nature		Hotel
	Castle / Palace	<b>Walking Trails</b>	
	Religious Monument		Long Distance Trails (+50Km)
	Hostel		Short Distance Trails (10-50Km)
	Campsite		Local Trail (-10Km)
	Panoramic View		GR (Long Distance) Trail Line
	Tourist Municipality	0 <span style="margin-left: 100px;">5 km</span>	
	Tourist Info		





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