

PRATDIP + TIVISSA + VANDELLÒS

Stories from deep in the Mountains *



The Saint who marked paths
Tivissa *

5:2

ENG



Saint Blaise... *

As he was being carried off to prison, a mother accosted him in tears: her son had a bone stuck in his throat and could not breathe. It was the year 316. The prisoner was an Armenian bishop and a good physician. He managed to save the child but soon afterwards he was martyred and beheaded.

Since then everybody has known that Saint Blaise is the great healer of sore throats. However, not so many people know that he could well be the patron saint of walkers...



Other *
saints

If Saint Blaise spent his time marking paths, in Pratdip there's a saint who seems to have specialised in matchmaking...

Santa Marina... want to meet her?



A Simbòlic.cat project

...and paths *

On 2nd March 1975, something took place at Sant Blai which has gone down in the history of long-distance walking in Catalonia.

The first mark was painted for the GR-7, the first long-distance footpath on the Iberian Peninsula. Today there are thousands of kilometres of paths marked in the same way and the GR-7, which comes from France, has reached Gibraltar.



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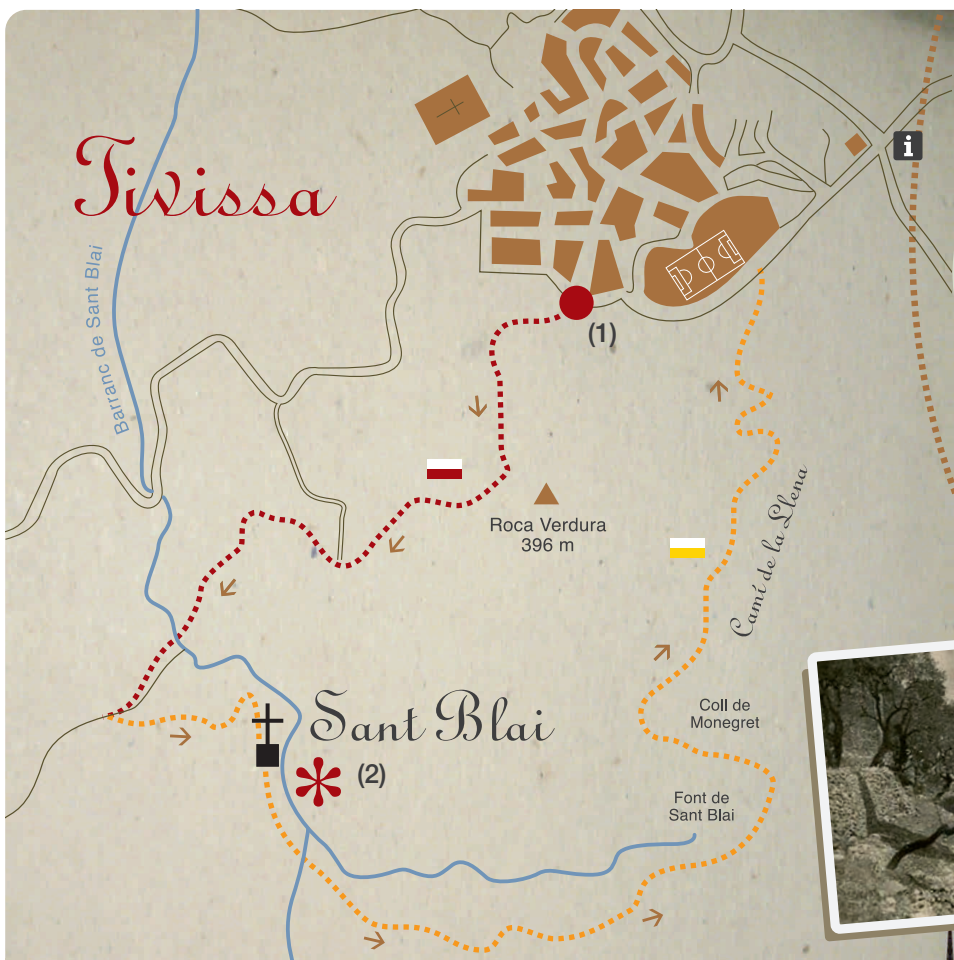
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
Tivissa




A walk*

The route from the village to the chapel is a wonderful short walk, ideal for doing with children. You can't miss it: it's clear and well-marked.



(1) The old path sets out from the upper part of the village,  in front of the fire station. Fortunately **much of the old mule track has survived, with fine stone paving**. How many sandals and horseshoes must have trodden these stones!

You can come back the same way or, if you have a good map, go via the **Coll de Monegret** from the spring of Sant Blai, following the yellow and white  paint marks to come down on the spectacular **Llena path**.

The height difference is 280 m and it can be done in a morning (between 2 and 2.5 hours).



Blaiets*

Here in Tivissa, as well as the flatbread *coques* de Sant Blai, some delicious biscuits are made with the figure of the saint on them, known as *blaiets*. They may or may not cure sore throats, but they have been proven to sweeten the soul!



The chapel*

of Sant Blai (2) clings to one side of the craggy mountains of Tivissa, close to the remains of a fortification said to have been built by the Saracens. The existing chapel dates from the 19th century and is located beside the old track from Tivissa to El Perelló via the Plans dels Burgans.

On the Sunday following

3rd February*

there is a pilgrimage to the chapel of Sant Blai.

Caldereta soup, coca flatbreads, sardana dancing...

