

# THE "ANTIC TRENET" GREEN WAY

Following the old railway line from Carcaixent to Dénia, once considered to be a pioneer amongst the peninsular narrow-gauge railways, this ancient line has been recently adapted into a recreational nature trail, lying under the cover of the Agulles and the Murta mountain ranges.

This ancient railway route, spanning over 29km, has been now refurbished by the Association of Municipalities of la Ribera Alta and la Safor, with the support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing and Food. The above mentioned route connects both towns of Carcaixent and Alzira with the beach of Tavernes de la Valldigna.

The Carcaixent – Gandia line (later renamed Carcaixent–Dénia) had been operating actively for more than a century (1864-1974). It was originally an animal-powered tramway, which was used as a variety of cargo, to carry either citrus fruits and rice as well as passengers all the way down from la Ribera to Gandia and Dénia harbours. Several railway stations were later set up along the railway line in Carcaixent, La Barraca d'Aigües Vives, Tavernes de la Valldigna, Xeraco and Gandia.

This trail runs through a number of different towns such as Alzira, Carcaixent, la Barraca d'Aigües Vives, Benifairó de la Valldigna, Simat de la Valldigna and Tavernes de la Valldigna as well as through the railway stations in Alzira-Carcaixent (line C2) and Tavernes de la Valldigna (line C1) of the Spanish National Railway Company (RENFE)



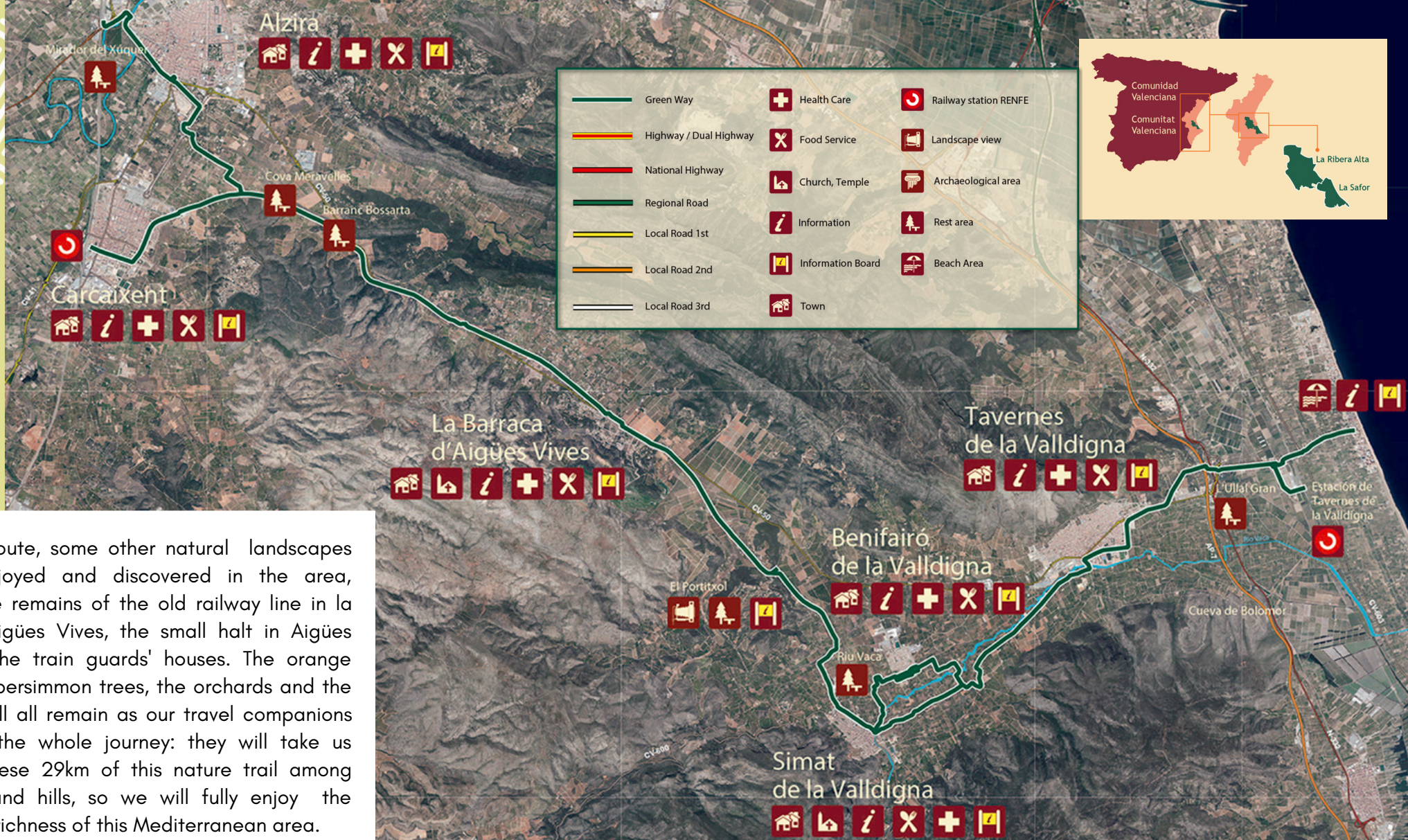
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Along this route, some other natural landscapes can be enjoyed and discovered in the area, specially the remains of the old railway line in la Barraca d'Aigües Vives, the small halt in Aigües Vives and the train guards' houses. The orange groves, the persimmon trees, the orchards and the sea itself will all remain as our travel companions throughout the whole journey: they will take us along all these 29km of this nature trail among mountains and hills, so we will fully enjoy the beauty and richness of this Mediterranean area.

The road will also accompany us for some moments during this route, since there exist few sections which are enclosed between several wooden fences and various farms' external walls. In some other locations, the views of sprawling crop fields, along the old railroad line, will also appear.

The natural path also runs parallel to another important cultural route in the Valencian Community, the GR-236, also known as *Ruta de los Monasterios* (**The trail of the Monasteries**) Several monasteries can be found at various spots along this trail, such as the **Real Monasterio de Santa Maria d'Aigües Vives** and the **Real Monasterio de Santa Maria de la Valldigna**.

A number of offices, rest areas, and information boards are located along this route to invite us to get to know and learn more about the history of this trail.