Trail guide

Sant Cugat section of the Way of Saint James

on foot	point to point	lenght	duration	difficulty	elevation gain
		17,2 km	5 hours	moderate	+ 401 m – 506 m

Route starting point: Foot of the hill known as Turó del Maltall de Magarola. Edge of the municipality of Sant Cugat del Vallès

Coordinates of the starting point of the route:

Lat. 41.439722º - Long. 2.129357º

UTM: 31T 427266.00 m E - 4587938.00 m N

Itinerary description:

The Way of Saint James is a route taken by pilgrims from across Spain and Europe to reach the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, where the relics of Saint James are venerated. In the Middle Ages, this route was heavily trod. Although it later fell into oblivion, it has once again become popular with thousands of people that walk it each year. There's no single route, but rather a network of trails converging on Santiago de Compostela. One of these trails begins in Barcelona, crosses the Collserola mountains and Sant Cugat, and continues beyond Catalonia through Aragon and Logroño.

The Sant Cugat section of the Way starts in Barcelona and ends in Montserrat. Besides crossing Collserola nature park, it passes by other representative spots in Sant Cugat such as the Pi d'en Xandri, Can Borrell or the Monastery.

The Way of Saint James reaches the city by crossing over the Collserola mountains, following the blazes of the GR-6 trail until the base of the hill known as Turó del Maltall de Magarola. From there, we'll pass Sant Medir and Can Borrell, eventually reaching the Pi d'en Xandri and the Torreblanca neighbourhood.

Once inside the city, the Way continues down Avinguda del Pla del Vinyet and the Rambla del Celler until it reaches the Monastery of Sant Cugat and the square of Plaça Octavià. The Way continues down the Carrer Major, with its 15th-century arched porticoes, and then follows the Avinguda de Rius i Taulet. When it veers down the Avinguda de Graells, we see the chapel of Sant Domènec to our left. The Way then reaches the Plaça dels Pagesos, where it turns right and continues to the Plaça dels Cistellers. Once there, it crosses the railroad from Barcelona to Sabadell and the AP-7 highway. The Way continues through the Plaça de Xavier Cugat and the Plaça de la Recerca and heads north until it reaches the neighbourhood of Can Barata, the last stop in the municipality of Sant Cugat.

Points of interest:

Sant Medir:

A heavily-modified Romanesque church with a gothic relief from 1447. With a rectangular footprint, it includes a barrel-vault and a bell-gable. This spot is extremely popular; every March 3rd the Aplec de Sant Medir, a traditional gathering in honour of one of the patrons of the city, is held here.

Can Borrell:

Sant Medir. The current structure dates to the 18th century. Nearby sits the pond of Can Borrell, which collected water that was redirected to the farmhouse for agricultural uses.

Pi d'en Xandri:

A stone pine (Pinus pinea) planted by Pau Serrabogunyà around 1775 to mark the limit of his property. The tree became a symbol of Sant Cugat in the late 20th century and was declared a tree of local interest in 1995. 23 meters tall, its trunk is 3.2 meters around at its widest point, one meter above the ground. In 1997, vandals attempted to chop down the tree and set it on fire. This required extensive restoration work, and the pine is still propped up by supports. It's known as the Pi d'en Xandri, or 'Xandri's Pine', after the nickname of the landowner.

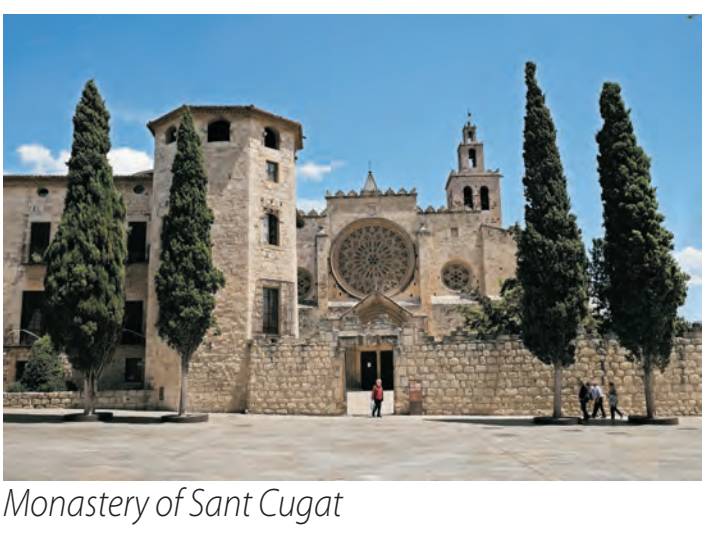
Monastery of Sant Cugat:

The monastery of Sant Cugat is one of the best examples of medieval Catalan art. The cloister is considered a jewel of Romanesque sculpture, one of the best-preserved and most important in Europe. One of the highlights of the cloister is the decoration of its 144 unique capitals. The church is a privileged example of the transition from Romanesque to Gothic.

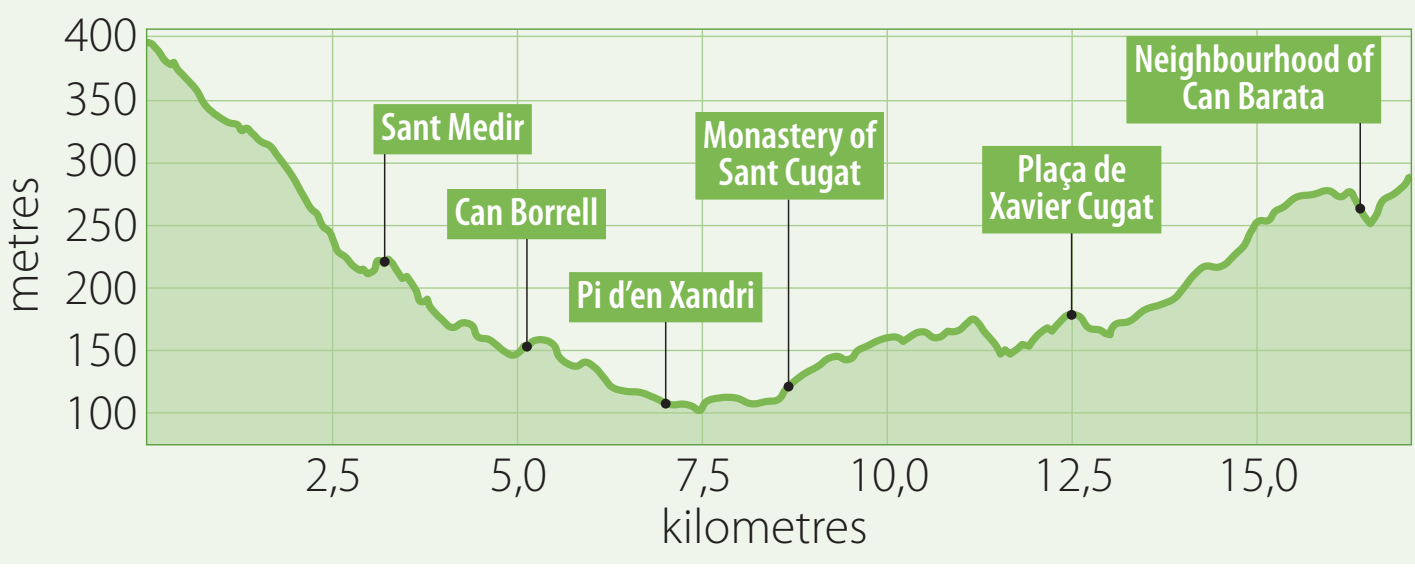
Sant Medir

Can Borrell

Pi d'en Xandri



Monastery of Sant Cugat



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Route Sant Cugat section of the Way of Saint James formats: **kmz** i **gpx**

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