

8 Balada's Pier

#### Fauna typical of rice paddies:

Mallard, Grey Heron, Cattle Egret, Little Egret, Lapwing, Black-Winged Stilt.

**River:** Kingfisher, Cetti's Warbler, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Buzzard, Robin, Cormorant.

#### Typical riverside flora:

Poplar, Elm, Ash, Salt Cedar, Cane, Reed, Lesser Bulrush, Sea Rush.



European Robin



Cattle Egret



White Poplar



Poplar

#### Recommendations

Cyclists must wear a helmet, and take plenty of food and water. Depending on the time of year, take sun cream and mosquito repellent. The trail is completely flat, but be careful, it can be very windy in this area. Don't forget your puncture repair kit. If you like birdwatching, binoculars will come in handy.

#### Suggestion

As this is a linear route, with opportunities to park along the trail, we can vary our route according to our needs and abilities. So, we can start in Balada, Sant Jaume d'Enveja or any parking area along the way.

#### Rules and Recommendations



Please follow the signs and keep out of no-entry areas.



Respect the plants and animals and the environment.



Do not leave litter. Help us keep the area clean.



Camping is allowed only on established campsites.

#### Park Information Centres



##### Ecomuseum

Martí Buera, 22  
43580 Deltebre  
Tel. 977 489 679  
[www.gencat.cat/parcs](http://www.gencat.cat/parcs)

##### Casa de Fusta

Bassa de l'Encanyissada  
43870 Amposta  
Tel. 977 26 10 22  
[www.gencat.cat/parcs](http://www.gencat.cat/parcs)

##### Amposta Tourist Information Office

Av. Sant Jaume, 1  
43870 Amposta  
Tel. 977 70 34 53  
[www.turismeamposta.cat](http://www.turismeamposta.cat)

##### Oficina d'Informació Turística Sant Jaume d'Enveja

C/ Carles I, 22  
Tel. 977 478 056  
[www.santjaume.cat](http://www.santjaume.cat)



Parc Natural  
del Delta de l'Ebre



Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia,  
Pesca, Alimentació i Medi Natural



With the collaboration of:



# Route

## The Delta Towpath

Amposta - Balada - Sant Jaume - Migjorn



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#### Route

The Delta Towpath

#### Technical specifications

**Distance:** 43.2 km (there and back)

**Location:** Amposta, Balada, Sant Jaume d'Enveja

**Time:** 6 hours

**Elevation gain:** none; completely flat

**Difficulty:** medium

**Users:** on foot, by bicycle

**Surface:** dirt

**Best time of year:** all year round

#### Reference sistem UTM-31N (ICC)

Km		X	Y
Start	Amposta Information Office	295972	4509881
Link	Start riverside promenade	296232	4509655
Km 0	Start of the Sirga towpath		
	Carpark 1	296855	4509174
Km 1,2	Carpark 2	298032	4508890
Km 1,6	Carpark 3	298272	4508838
Km 2,4	La Sínia	299068	4508982
Km 3,9	Carpark 4	300388	4509566
Km 5,6	Sapinya Island	301992	4510024
Km 8,4	Carpark 6	304426	4509770
Km 8,5	Balada	304399	4509549
Km 8,7	Gràcia Island	304920	4509649
Km 11,3	Sant Jaume d'Enveja	307215	4509459
Km 13	La Comandanta Forest	310587	4508794
Km 17	Carpark 7	314027	4507272
Km 21.6	River Migjorn – end of path	316368	4508392



1 Camí de Sirga start





**Route**  
The Delta Towpath

**Description**

This trail is part of the Riverside Woodland Restoration Project on the stretch of the River Ebro between Tortosa and the estuary, developed by the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs.

The project has recovered forest on the right bank of the Ebro and the old delta towpath. This path ran along the riverbank and was closely linked to the llaguts, vessels that sailed the Ebro transporting mainly rice upstream and materials that were scarce in the delta (stone, wood, etc.) downstream.

The llaguts were dragged upstream from the bank, by animals called matxos, or by people, called sirgadors (towers). Downstream, they made use of the current and hoisted a lateen sail to catch the wind.

In the mid-20th century, with better road and rail links and the building of the Riba-roja, Flix and Mequinensa reservoirs, the Ebro ceased to be a transport link. Consequently, there was less river travel and the llaguts fell into disuse.

Currently, you can see two llaguts in the delta: one is on display at the Ecomuseum and the other in front of the Club Nàutic Deltebre. A third llagut, Lo Sirgador, does runs for tourists from Amposta to Miravet.



2 The Sínia



3 Carpark 7



4 Balada's Oleander. Monumental Tree



5 Balada

**Route**

The trail starts at Amposta Tourist information Office. With the Ebro on our left, we go towards the riverside promenade, 300 metres further on. Once on the promenade, and keeping the river on our left, we continue for 800 metres to km 0 of the towpath.

Here, we start our ride along the delta towpath, where we will be for practically the whole way with a wooden fence on either side. After 2.4 km we come to the Sínia (wheel), which lifted water from the river for irrigation of the nearby fields.

We continue past it and after 3.2 km we come to the island of Sapinya (km 5.6). The island, declared a Partial Nature Reserve, covers 3 ha of riparian woodland, although not well formed as yet, areas of false brome and helophytes.

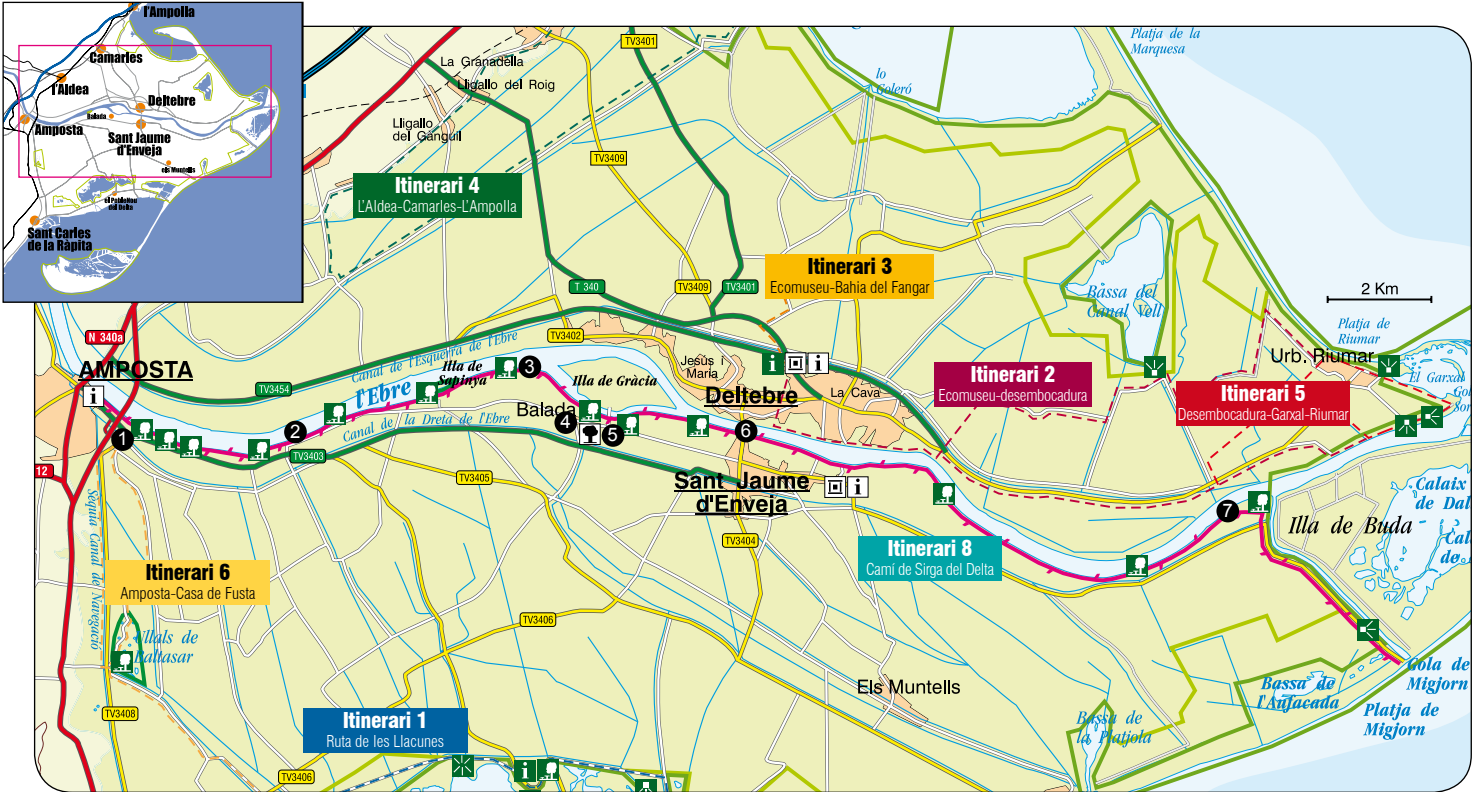
We go on for another 2.9 km until we get to Balada (km 8.5) a small hamlet opposite Gràcia Island on the River Ebro. Its only street marks the boundary between the municipal areas of Amposta and Sant Jaume. We can visit the Baladre de Balada (the Balada Oleander), listed as a monumental tree.

Off we go again with Gràcia Island to our left for a long stretch up to Sant Jaume d'Enveja (km 11.3). Here, we can cross the Ebro over the Passador bridge and meet up with Trail 2 (Ecomuseum-estuary) and the GR 99 trail, part of the Caminos Naturales programme.

At Sant Jaume, we recommend a visit to the Barraques del Delta Interpretation Centre (Tel.: (+34) 977 46 80 39 and (+34) 977 47 80 56).

We carry on along the towpath and after 1.7 km we come to la Comandanta Forest (km 13), one of the few riverside woodland areas that has reached notable density. We leave the Forest behind us and head for the River Migjorn about 8.6 km away, and the end of the Camí de Sirga trail, a total outward journey of 21.6 km.

This trail runs along country paths (13%), cycle paths (87%), asphalt (5%) and dirt (95%).



6 "Lo Passador" Bridge



7 The Ebre river near Migjorn



- Hide
- Viewpoint
- Natural Parc Boundaries
- Urban Areas
- Main Roads
- Route 8
- Picnic Area