



VEGETATION AND GEOLOGY

This route runs along the edges of the *Carrixet* ravine, which originates in Gátova and flows into the sea near Alborata. We can enjoy the view of several meanders and their *macollades*.

A "macolla," according to the RAE, is a "group of shoots, flowers, or spikes that sprout from the same stem." In Olocau, they are known as macolles, referring to the clusters of ancient carob trees with thick, twisted trunks that rotate around a central trunk in a counterclockwise direction.

There are four concentrations or *macollades* of these carob trees (*Ceratonia siliqua*) spread across the areas of l'Edua, l'Amara, la Barrançà, and l'Aigualeja, creating the largest grove in Europe with these characteristics. This route passes through all four concentrations, allowing us to observe their diversity of shapes, colors, and the different stone solutions used by farmers to support their heavy branches without breaking, known in Olocau as *trones, pilars, piers, and puntals*.



LES MACOLLADES ROUTE



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CAJALAD TURISTICA

AJUNTAMENT DE LA VILA D'OLOCAU



VALENCIA TURISME

Àrea de Cultura
DIPUTACIÓ DE VALENCIA

MUSEU DE PREHISTÒRIA



Visitor Rights and Obligations



Along the route, we can also observe other dryland crops such as olive trees (*Olea europaea*) and almond trees (*Prunus dulcis*), as well as irrigated crops such as lemon trees, orange trees, medlars, and the still active vegetable gardens of the inhabitants of Olocau.

We will also find species such as Mediterranean dwarf palm (*Chamaerops humilis*), rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*), myrtle (*Myrtus communis*), nettle tree (*Celtis australis*), anthyllus (*Anthyllis citisoides*), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*), broom (*Gentista scorpius*), and esparto grass (*Stipa tenacissima*).

ETHNOLOGY AND HERITAGE

The route starts at the *Casa de la Senyoria*, the former ancestral home of the *Counts of Olocau*, dating back to the late 18th century, which, along with the *Torre de Pardines*, a 13th-century Islamic tower, forms what is known in Olocau as "El Castell" (The Castle). Here, you will find the Tourist Office and the Museographic Collection of the *Puntal dels Llops* (an Iberian watchtower dating back to the 5th century BC), with archaeological materials from the site that bears its name.

Upon leaving the urban area, you will discover different ethnological elements that, along with the *macollades*, help us understand the agricultural past of the locality. In the area of l'Edua, we will cross l'Horta de Dalt, the irrigated cultivation area (of Islamic origin) that is still in use, revealing a multitude of colors, especially in spring, due to the diversity of crops. At the end of the orchard area, we will reach the *Bassa de l'Amara*, which provides water to l'Horta de Dalt and also served as a workplace for esparto grass processing and as a washing area. Dating back to medieval times, it was renovated in 1967 and is well-preserved.

Walking along the irrigation channels that border the *Carrixet* ravine, we will come across the *Senia dels Simeons*, a mule-driven waterwheel that was used to lift water and irrigate the nearby terraced fields in the late 19th century.

On the return to Olocau, the route shares the same path as the ancient medieval road to Marines.



Type: On foot
Length: 5,6 km
Difficulty: Moderada
Elevation: 40 m.
Time: 2-3 h.



SPECIFICATIONS



LES MACOLLADES ROUTE

- 1** TORRE DE PARDINES AND CASA DE LA SENYORIA 
- 2** MACOLLADA DE L'EDUA
- 3** MACOLLADA DE L'AMARA
- 4** BASSA DE L'AMARA [AMARA POND](#)
- 5** SÈNIA DELS SIMEONS
- 6** MACOLLADA DE L'AIGUALEIG
- 7** OLD CART TRACKS
- 8** MACOLLADA DE LA BARRANCA

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

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