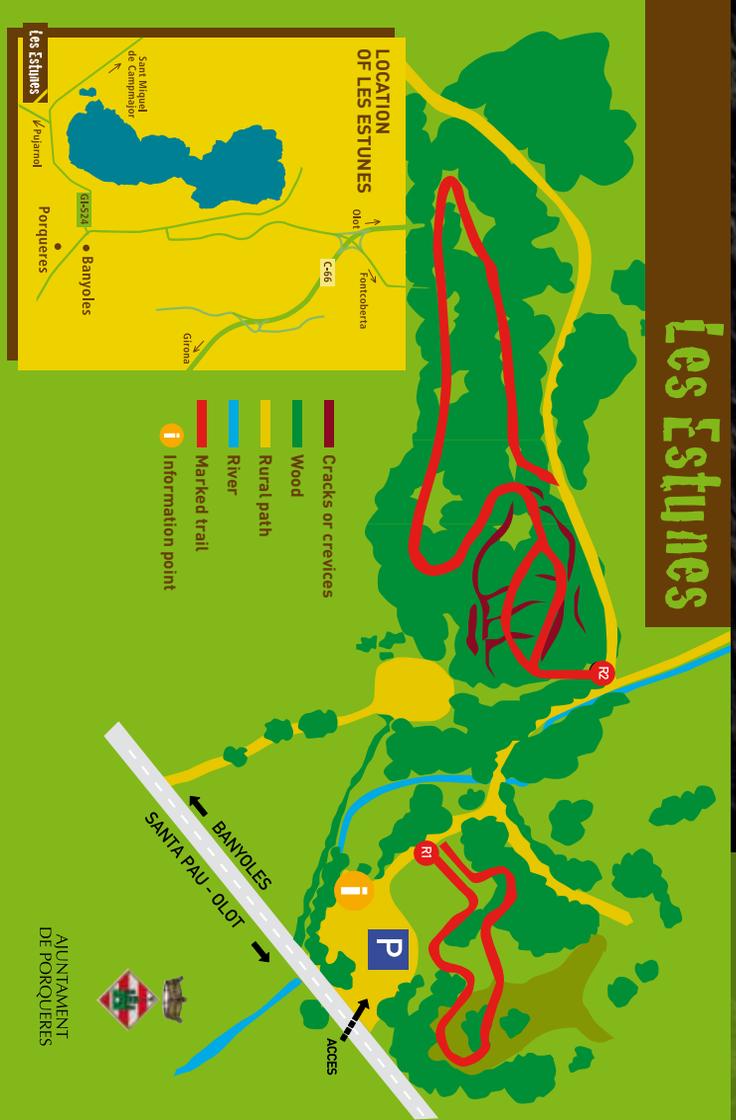




The natural site of Les Estunes is one of the most remarkable spots in the municipality of Porqueres: cracks and crevices in travertine rock, oak trees and lush holm oaks, the beautiful legend of the Goges (water nymphs), the silence and the cool shade, the climbing ivy, and the discreet singing of the birds invite the visitor to a walk around this calm and peaceful place. The trail that we propose here is therefore an invitation to visit Les Estunes, a place where anyone who respects and cares for the environment is always welcome.

MORE INFORMATION: [www.consorcidelestany.org](http://www.consorcidelestany.org) · [www.porqueres.cat](http://www.porqueres.cat)



signalized route

# the legend

A long time ago, Les Estunes was home to some fantastic, ethereal and invisible beings, personified by women of extraordinary beauty and finesse.

In their stone palaces, the Goges celebrated grand parties and banquets, which were known to the people of the region because of their dazzling brightness and the piercing screams coming out of the cracks and crevices.

During the day the Goges hid away from the light, enjoying the privacy of their palaces, which they secured by weaving, with an imperceptible thread, a very fine web that prevented the entry of the curious and daring. Only those who did not wish to ever return to the world of the mortals and wanted to stay forever in the magical fantasy world of the rock palaces of the GOGES of Les Estunes would be able to enter.

# the site

## LES ESTUNES: A PRIVILEGED ECOSYSTEM

The Estunes is an area of great natural value, which is demonstrated by the fact it has been declared a geotope, an area of geological interest, and included in the PEIN (Plan for areas of natural interest).

In its small size, it summarises the ecosystem of the oak grove and the oak wood. It is the habitat of a variety of species, ranging from microscopic subsurface microorganisms to vertebrates typical of the Mediterranean forest, through to a rich presence of shrubs, climbing plants, mosses and ferns. This area is still relatively well preserved and quite clearly reflects the richness of the natural spaces and the real need to make every effort to preserve them.



# the forest

## LES ESTUNES: A SPACE FOR THE FOREST

The Les Estunes forest has always been utilised by humans. Rural life generally benefits with wisdom and respect from everything that nature provides so selflessly. This intimate relationship between man and forest has been etched into this place, in the names of some of the oak trees and holm oaks, names that remind us of how the farmer used the trees and that you will find signed throughout this trail.

# the travertine

## LES ESTUNES: A SPACE FOR THE TRAVERTINE

The most noteworthy aspect of Les Estunes is the travertine stone that can be found all over. It is a rock created by biochemical processes which are typical and characteristic of the lacustrine basin. At Les Estunes, this rock forms a plate that was probably fragmented as it found itself on top of softer materials of the subsoil, the rupture leading to the appearance of the cracks and crevices seen today.