



# THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE

*A stunning example  
of Roman engineering*



The Ferreres Aqueduct, or Devil's Bridge, is one of the most monumental and best-preserved aqueducts from the Roman world. Although it seems incredible, it was built two thousand years ago using a single material: stone. The Romans of Tarraco were very proud of it! But in addition to being beautiful, it was also very practical, because it used to carry water from the River Francolí to the city of Tarraco. This monumental bridge is 217 metres long and 29 metres high. If you don't suffer from vertigo or fear of heights, you can walk across the whole bridge.

## LEAVE NO TRACE

Please remember that you are in a natural space, never light a fire. Be careful not to throw anything on the ground, and respect the monument, vegetation, insects, birds and small mammals – even if you can't see them, they are everywhere!

This aqueduct is part of the Devil's Bridge Ecohistoric Park. Here you will find paths and trails for walking or cycling. There are also the remains of some romantic gardens, designed by Tarragona native Rafael Puig i Valls, who was the landlord with his brother Mariano. Rafael was a forestry engineer and he designed a series of walks and spaces adorned with different plant species. Some of them are still there today: see if you can find them!



Legend has it that the people of Tarragona were building a bridge to bring water to the city. When it was almost completed, a strong wind blew it down. In desperation, the master builder shouted "Only the devil could build a bridge that would last a thousand years!"



No sooner were the words out of his mouth than the devil appeared. The devil offered him a deal: "I'll build a bridge in a single night that nothing and no-one can tear down, but you'll have to give me the soul of the first person to drink its water".



In fact, the next day, the foreman made a donkey drink the water. The devil, beside himself with rage, wanted to tear down the bridge, but he couldn't do it. He himself had sworn that nothing and no-one would be able to bring it down!





## FIND THE SNAIL

At the entrance to the Park there is a snail that is unique in the world. It has no shell or horns, but it's so much fun that all the boys and girls want to play with it. In actual fact, it's a shrubby maze!



## BE A NATURALIST

Before smartphones and cameras came along, naturalists used to draw the species they found in notebooks. Do as they do, and locate and draw the four plant species named below which grow in the park:

- European fan palm
- Aleppo pine
- Mastic tree
- Cypress



## MARK THE RIGHT ANSWER

Look for the path that goes to Mas dels Arcs, which is now in ruins. The Puig i Valls brothers used to live on this estate. Nearby there is Mas de l'Àngel, it has a column crowned by the Roman goddess of victory.

Find the monument, have a good look, and tell us which elements decorate the supporting column:

- Three swords     Three demons  
 Three boats



## COUNT AND FIND

Look at the aqueduct and count how many arches there are on the top level and how many on the bottom.

Write down the numbers and then find them in this number jumble.

Handwritten numbers in a jumble: 15, 1, 11, 6, 38, 67, 3, 7, 2, 34, 2, 80, 7, 34, 2, 62



## THE PARK'S WILDLIFE

The Devil's Bridge Park is home to many animal species.

Link each one's name with its description.

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Scops owl <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> Flying invertebrate      |
| Toad <input type="radio"/>        | <input type="radio"/> Arboreal rodent          |
| Butterfly <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> Nocturnal bird of prey   |
| Squirrel <input type="radio"/>    | <input type="radio"/> Bird that lives in rocks |
| Crag martin <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Jumping amphibian        |



## FIND THE INTRUDERS

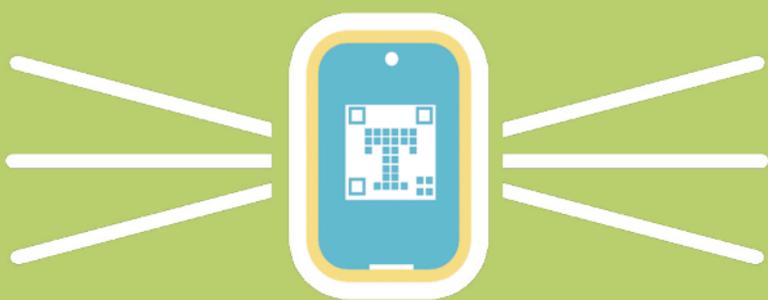
The demon and the donkey are hiding somewhere on this page.

Can you find them?

# BEFORE YOU GO...

The Devil's Bridge Park is part of the Green Ring of Tarragona, a 34 kilometre route that can be done on foot or by bike. Very close to the aqueduct, following the paths of the Green Ring, there are some interesting dry stone structures, made following a traditional technique that consists of fitting stone blocks together without any mortar to hold them, just using sand to fill in the holes.

**If you're interested in seeing them, look out for the huts between the Mas d'en Granell area and Rodolat del Moro.**



## TAKE A PHOTO AND SHARE IT

Take a photo of yourself with the Devil's Bridge in it.



Afterwards, share it on the social media with the hashtag **#FamilyTarragona**

**Solutions:** Mas dels Arcs: c. Three boats. Park's wildlife: Scops owl: nocturnal bird of prey; Toad: jumping amphibian; Butterfly: flying invertebrate; Squirrel: arboreal rodent; Crag martin: Bird that lives in rocks. The aqueduct has 25 arches on the upper level and 11 arches on the bottom level.