

# Sant Esteve d'Olius

"A journey through history"

This comfortable flat itinerary takes us from Solsona to Sant Esteve d'Olius along the GR-7.5. Across the Olius plateau, it's a historically crowded route due to it being the main access to the communication axis of the area, the Cardener River, the very same route that knife-makers had to walk in order to sharpen their knives at the Cardener mills. This route, which takes a little over than an hour to complete, leads us to Sant Esteve d'Olius, an important monumental ensemble with a Romanesque Church, along with a singular crypt in its interior, a modernist cemetery and the remains of an Iberian settlement and silo field.

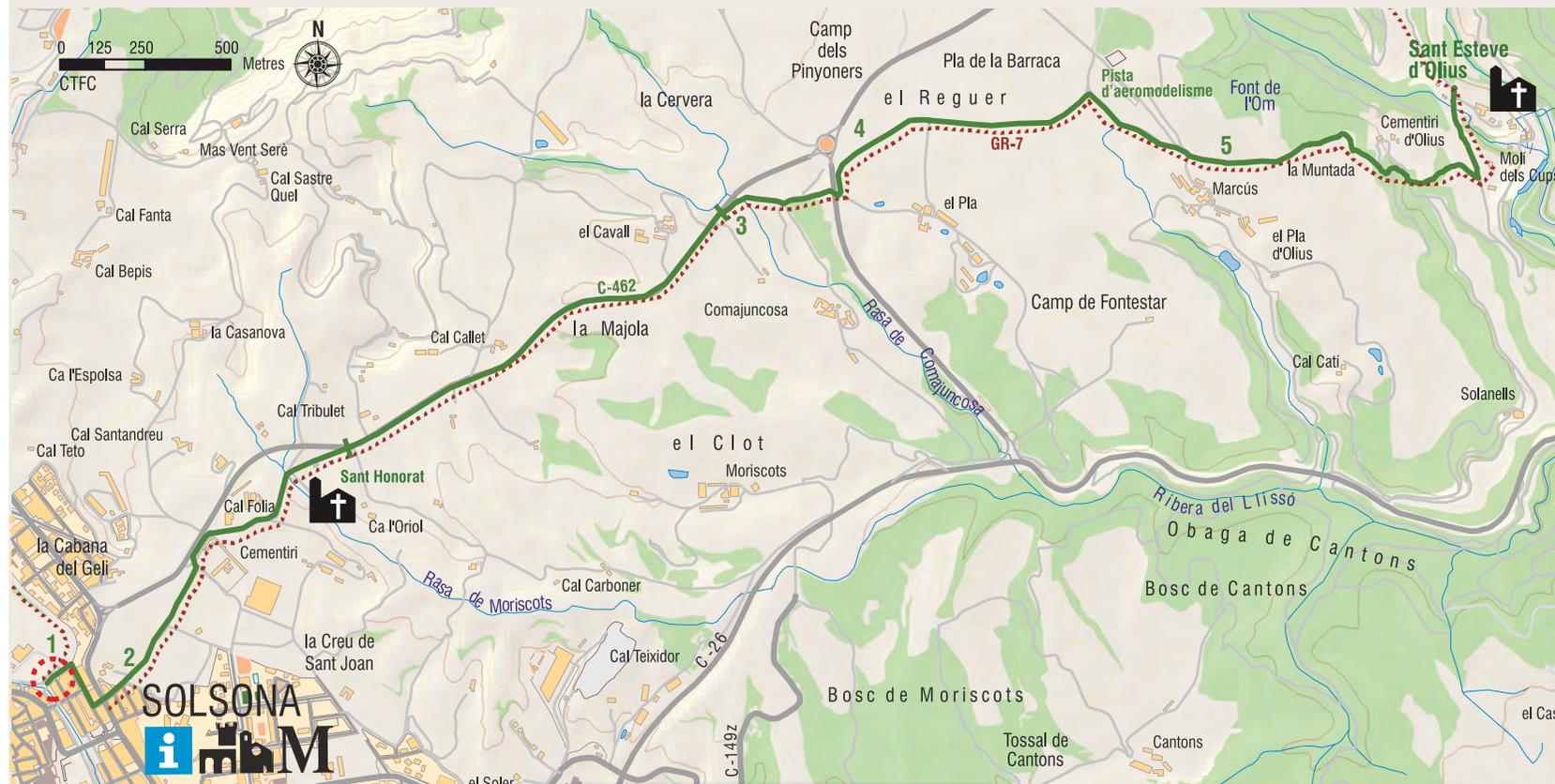
## Router

The starting point of this route is next to the Black river, which we will follow until we reach the first signpost. There, we turn to Bòfia street (1) and then we take Drac street, we cross St Llorenç road (2) until we get to the cemetery. Then, to the north-west side, we continue without getting across the road until **Sant Honorat**, a small and attractive Romanesque chapel.

After that, the trail continues alongside the road and we get to see the true landscape of the Vinyet area: the surroundings of Solsona, a mosaic of meadows, forests and farmhouses. Before we get to the roundabout, we find a milestone, we take a turn to the right (3) and we follow the GR. Then we cross the road and enter a section of the path that crosses some fields, an area commonly referred to as **Plans d'Olius** (4), where some species of birds common to agricultural landscapes can be seen.

This part of the route is in a pure agricultural landscape, with massive fields on both sides, an open space that only ends with the views of the Pre-Pyrenees on the horizon. Following the GR, we reach a runway for light aircrafts and then we follow a trail into the woods, thus entering the final section of the route.

**The Sant Esteve d'Olius church** is a Lombard-Romanesque style monument dating from year 1079. It has a very singular crypt of great beauty, which has six columns that open to form a palm-like shape. It's one of the most outstanding Romanesque ensembles in Catalonia. Close to it, there is an **Iberian archaeological site** from the 3rd century BC with remains of the wall and of a big silo field (holes in the ground used to store grains). You can also visit the **Modernist cemetery**, which is perfectly blended with nature and which was designed in 1915 by archi-



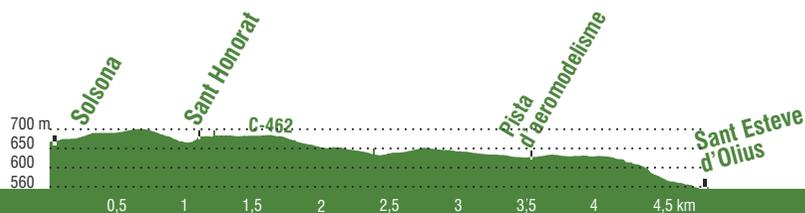
## Technical data sheet

1 h 10 min (one way)	Easy
5 km	Easy
125 m	290 kcal
Linear	250 kcal



Inside the crypt of Olius

tect Bernardí Martorell, who was influenced by Antoni Gaudí. Olius is located near the Cardener River and is an interesting spot due to its conservation and the river species that live there.



Olius cemetery (Gaudinian style)