

COUNCIL OF EUROPE 9 TH LANDSCAPE AWARD
CANDIDACY DOSSIER
LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM “PRIORAT, MONTSANT, SIURANA: A RESILIENT MEDITERRANEAN MOSAIC”

What are we submitting to the Council of Europe Landscape Award?

The landscape management system “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: a resilient Mediterranean mosaic”.

Why we believe it is eligible for the Council of Europe Landscape Award?

- 1. Because it is a clear example of the application of the Landscape Convention OF THE Council of Europe, the Law 8/2005 on the protection, management, and planning of the landscape of Catalonia, and the National Cultural Landscape Plan.** The project involves implementing a public policy and measures aimed at the protection, management, and/or planning of its landscapes: everyday, productive landscapes, full of value, which require management that combines tradition and innovation, fostering coherence among public policies and administrations at different levels, and demonstrating lasting effectiveness, thus serving as an example for other local and regional authorities.
- 2. Because it is a project that puts the people who live there first, those who shape it day by day.** This has generated an increase in self-esteem and, therefore, in the will to advocate for a territorial model that ensures the maintenance of the ecological, aesthetic, social, productive, and heritage values that this landscape and its sustainable management can contribute to society as a whole.
- 3. Because it is an example of a cross-cutting project in which the landscape is at the heart of the local development strategy.** The Landscape Management System stems from an extensive debate on the values that underpin the Priorat region.
- 4. Because it is a project that helps maintain a living, high-quality, and resilient landscape.** The Priorat's Mediterranean mountain agricultural landscape exceptionally represents the continuous and sustainable interaction between the land and the communities that have inhabited it throughout the centuries and millennia. The Management System succeeds in maintaining an active primary sector, coexisting with other sectors such as tourism, resulting in a mosaic landscape with remarkable natural, aesthetic, historical, symbolic, social, and productive values. It also adapts the landscape to climate change, promotes biodiversity, and preserves the culture, memory, and identity of the place. In this sense, the Priorat's mosaic landscape becomes more resilient and makes a significant contribution to reducing the risk of large forest fires.
- 5. Because it is an example of a bottom-up approach.** A project that originated in civil society, continued with the local councils and the Priorat Regional Council, and has gradually involved higher levels of government (Tarragona Provincial Council, Government of Catalonia and Spanish Ministry of Culture). This represents an exceptional case in the development and formulation of a Landscape Management System.

- 6. Because it is an adaptable project, since, despite the challenges, it adjusts to all kinds of changes:** landscape, social, economic, environmental, political, and institutional. Following the approval of the Landscape Charter in 2012, actions to enhance the value of the landscape, as outlined in the management system, have continued to be developed.
- 7. Because it is an example of governance.** The landscape management system “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: resilient Mediterranean mosaic” involves communities to guarantee a management system that is rooted, participatory and consistent with good governance criteria, engaging all areas of competence related to the landscape.
- 8. Because it is a living and active project.** Since the creation of the Management System and its governance, a whole series of actions have been developed to enhance the landscape, which should be understood as an integral whole:
- Priorat Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan 2023-2026.
 - Priorat Regional Renewable Energy Implementation Plan 2023-2026.
 - Priorat Land Bank. Project for access to abandoned land.
 - Guide to good agricultural practices for mitigating climate change in strategic crops of Priorat.
 - Active participation in the program “*Landscape Territories Network*” promoted by the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia.
 - “*Habitar*” (Inhabiting) A traveling Exhibition about landscape appreciation activity in the villages of Priorat.
 - Landscape Day. An annual meeting for discussion about the landscape.
 - *Priorat en Persona* (Priorat in Person). Meetings between writers and residents of Priorat and activities in schools.
 - *Coneguem lo Priorat* (Discovering Priorat). Activity designed to (re)discover the landscape values of each village with primary and secondary school students.
- 9. Because it is a project that can be replicated in other territories.** The project is characterized by its holistic and integral approach in the application of public policies that affect the landscape, and the open methodology allows it to be applied in other territories and fosters collaborative networks.

1. THE PRIORAT REGION AND ITS LANDSCAPE VALUES

Priorat is a region located in southern Catalonia, inland in the province of Tarragona, beyond the Prelitoral mountain range. It covers an area of **498.60 km²**, has a **population of 9,239**, a **low population density (18.5 inhabitants/km² in 2021)**, and a very elderly population. The region comprises **twenty-three municipalities**, twenty of which are **micro-villages**, meaning they have **fewer than 500 inhabitants**. Falset, the capital, with 2,724 inhabitants, and Cornudella de Montsant, to the north, with 965, are the most populated municipalities.

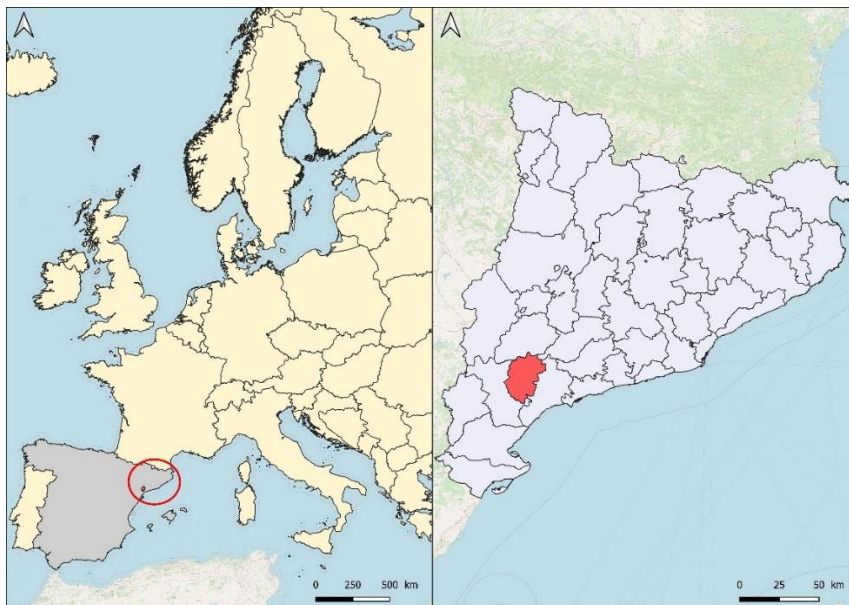


Image 1: Situation of Priorat in the European context

Human presence dates back to 50,000 BC, but it was between 13,000 and 8,000 BC that a strong population settlement was established, as evidenced by the high concentration of **cave paintings**. **Hermits** are known to have lived in **Montsant** (meaning Sacred Mountain) as early as the 7th century AD, as demonstrated by more than a dozen hermitages. In the 12th century, **Escaladei** (from the latin voice “Scala Dei” or “Stair of God”), **the first Carthusian monastery** on the Iberian Peninsula, was founded.

Since the phylloxera plague, which devastated all the vineyards of Europe at the end of the 19th century, the region has suffered a continuous population decline. Nevertheless, at the end of the 20th century, the region's economy underwent a revolution in the **wine sector** and focused its economic model on small-scale, high value-added mountain artisanal agriculture and on tourism that sought well-preserved spaces and a living and dynamic mosaic of Mediterranean agricultural landscape, the opposite of the agro-industrial model spread throughout Europe, based on specialization and monoculture, driven by the common agricultural policy and the global market.

This new economic model shapes and preserves a **mosaic landscape of typically Mediterranean polyculture agriculture**, with values that characterize it and give meaning to the uniqueness of its agri-food products: the vineyards of a wine sector led by the Qualified Designation of Origin Priorat (DOP Priorat) and the Designation of Origin Montsant (DOP); the olive trees and their oils, also protected by the Protected Designation of Origin Siurana (DOP Siurana); and, to a lesser extent, nuts, cereals, vegetables and livestock, which are in clear decline.

Landscape values of the Priorat landscape

Throughout the development of the Landscape Management System “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: Resilient Mediterranean Mosaic,” the following landscape values, which define the territorial identity of Priorat, have been agreed upon with the community:

Clarity

A clear and clean landscape, in which the different components (villages, agroforestry areas) are well-defined, without confusing or poorly defined spaces. A landscape that is easy to understand because, upon observation, it reveals the history of its evolution over the centuries. A history of resistance and resilience.

Harmony

A balance of dimensions and a sense of scale in a landscape where the components of the mosaic are proportionate and maintain a good relationship with each other, without disproportionate elements. Villages integrated into the environment without jarring contrasts. A dense, rich, and well-maintained network of trails.

Sustainability

Respect and balance between human activity and nature, an exchange based on habitats and farming systems adapted and scalable to the environment, topography, local resources, and a combination of tradition and innovation. A landscape that effectively contributes to maintaining biodiversity and to mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Diversity

In a small area of less than 500 km², remarkable richness and variety are concentrated. A natural diversity, from geology to climate, that is replicated in all aspects of culture, creating a rich, diverse, and yet an inseparable mosaic that exceptionally represents the complex and unique identity of this land.

Culture

A tangible and intangible cultural heritage that encompasses and expresses a wealth of traditions and customs. An archaeological record of universal value. A living language that reflects the diverse mosaic of the cultural landscape from which it originates. A spiritual tradition associated with the numerous religious buildings scattered throughout the territory.



Image 2 and 3: View of the Mediterranean mosaic landscape, the first from the village of La Figuera and the second from the village of La Vilella Alta.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Landscape Management System “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: A resilient Mediterranean Mosaic” emerged primarily from the convergence of two initiatives:

On the one hand, civil society, organized through **PRIORITAT, a non-profit association** founded in 2007 and currently comprised of more than 200 members: individuals, families, organizations, businesses, institutions, and municipalities, whose objective is to **work on a project to enhance the value of the landscape** (see www.prioritat.org).

On the other hand, the **Priorat Regional Council**, which in 2004 began drafting the **Priorat Landscape Charter**. After a period of internal reflection, the consensus document known as the “**Priorat Landscape Pact**” was finally signed in October 2012. This pact is the seed of what has become the Landscape Management System “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: A resilient Mediterranean Mosaic.”

In **2014**, the Priorat Regional Council and the Tarragona Provincial Council formed a working group. Together, they developed a proposal for landscape improvement: “**Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: A Mediterranean Agricultural Mosaic.**”

From **2014 to 2017**, a **scientific committee** was established to **develop the Landscape Management System** for “Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: A Mediterranean Agricultural Mosaic.” This committee also included the participation of the **Landscape Observatory of Catalonia** (www.catpaisatge.net). The resulting document is published in two volumes: the first contains a description of the landscape and the values that underpin the project, and the second presents the Landscape Management System itself.

Based on extensive debate about landscape values, the Management System creates a model for economic and social development that places the landscape at the heart of the local development strategy. It includes a management body, a strategy, and a series of actions.

On **March 1, 2017**, the “**Escaladei Manifesto**” was signed, a document formalizing the agreement to develop the Landscape Management System and the creation of the Priorat Landscape and Sustainability Commission as the body responsible for landscape governance and management.



Image 4: Photograph of the signatories of the “Escaladei Manifesto”

The Landscape Management System and associated actions are currently being implemented.

3. TWO KEY DOCUMENTS THAT FEED BACK EACH OTHER AND LEAD TO THE “PRIORAT, MONTSANT, SIURANA” LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The development of the Management System coincides with the development and implementation of two key regional instruments:

- Priorat Landscape Charter (approved in 2012)
- The European Charter for Sustainable Tourism of Priorat – CETS (approved in 2016)

3.1. Priorat Landscape Charter

Web: <https://www.priorat.cat/carta-del-paisatge-del-priorat>

Approval: 2012

Status: In force (2025)

The **Priorat Regional Council**, driven by the desire to promote the appreciation of the region's landscape, **launched the Priorat Landscape Charter in 2004**, with the support of the municipalities, entities, and institutions of Priorat.

The **Landscape Charter is a tool established by the Catalan Law on the Protection, Management, and Planning of the Landscape**. It is a publicly accessible, consensus-based document that represents a commitment to the landscape, in which the signatories pledge to society to participate in a collective project and to work accordingly to achieve the signed commitments.

The **Department of Territory and Sustainability of the Government of Catalonia** and the **Landscape Observatory of Catalonia** participated in the development of this collaborative instrument, ensuring its consistency with the objectives of the Landscape Law and the Camp de Tarragona Landscape Catalogue, and advising the drafting team and other stakeholders.

It consisted of **four main phases**, in which **Articles 6C and 6D of the Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe**, as well as **Article 14 of the Landscape Law of Catalonia**, were faithfully applied in the Priorat territory:

First phase: Between 2004 and 2006, an **initial diagnostic document** was prepared that identified the distinctive characteristics and landscape values of the region; detected the dominant transformation dynamics; described the variables and agents associated with the changes; and established the challenges and opportunities for achieving landscape improvement in Priorat.

Second phase: **Definition of landscape quality objectives.** These objectives were determined, both generally and specifically, for each of the landscape units of the Charter, in accordance with the quality objectives established in the Camp de Tarragona Landscape Catalogue, prepared by the Landscape Observatory. To define the landscape quality objectives and determine the actions, a parallel mediation process was carried out with public and private stakeholders through a consultation forum, as well as another process of participation and communication with the public.

Third phase: Drafting of the Agreement Document, which includes the actions agreed upon by the stakeholders in a Consultation Forum, to achieve the landscape quality

objectives. In October 2012, the consensus document entitled "**Priorat Landscape Pact**" was signed.



Image 5 and 6: Cover of the Agreement Document and photograph of the signing of the Document.

Fourth phase: Implementation of the commitments, which has been carried out progressively since the signing of the "Priorat Landscape Pact." One of the agreements in the Charter is to "support and promote the Priorat's candidacy for the Declaration of Agricultural Cultural Landscape, World Heritage Site – UNESCO." This agreement is the seed for the development of the Landscape Management System "**Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: A Mediterranean Agricultural Mosaic.**"

3.2. La Carta Europea de Turismo Sostenible del Priorat-CETS

Web: <https://parcsnaturals.gencat.cat/ca/xarxa-de-parcs/serra-montsant/viure-hi/turisme-sostenible/carta-europea-del-turisme-sostenible/cets-priorat/index.html>

Approval: 2016

Status: In force (2025)

In **2016**, Priorat made a firm commitment to responsible and sustainable tourism and **obtained certification from the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism**. The European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas (ECST) is an initiative of the EUROPARC Federation whose overall objective is to promote the development of sustainable tourism in Europe's protected natural areas. The ECST is a method and a voluntary commitment to applying the principles of sustainable tourism, guiding protected area managers and businesses in defining their strategies in a participatory manner.

In 2014, the Montsant Natural Park (PNMON) began the process of joining the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (ECST) with the participation and collective work of local stakeholders. In the case of Priorat, the ECST is not limited to the natural park but encompasses the entire region, recognizing that a sustainable tourism strategy can guide tourism development throughout the area. In 2016, the region successfully completed the EUROPARC verification visit and obtained official certification under the Priorat European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. **The Charter is jointly managed by the Montsant Natural Park and the Priorat Regional Council.**

Since 2017, within the framework of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism, the coordination mechanism of public policies with the productive sector is carried out through the bodies of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission of Priorat, which is the governing body of the Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System.



Images 7, 8 and 9: Sustainable tourism activities in Priorat

4 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM “PRIORAT, MONTSANT, SIURANA: A RESILIENT MEDITERRANEAN MOSAIC”

The Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System (<https://www.priorat.cat/que-es-el-consell-comarcal-del-priorat/paisatge-i-sostenibilitat>) offers a comprehensive and integrated vision of this landscape, reflecting the consensus reached in the territory through a participatory, open, cross-cutting, and deliberative process. This process involved public and private institutions, economic and social sectors, and community organizations, with the aim of preserving and enhancing the values of the Priorat agroforestry landscape. This landscape is key to a development model that respects its quality, curbs depopulation in the region, and plays a fundamental role in combating climate change and maintaining biodiversity.

This management system is also an instrument designed at the appropriate scale, fully adapted and adjusted to the territory and landscape of Priorat-Montsant-Siurana, to the local world, to its economic and social fabric, to its community, to its reality, and with the unequivocal vocation to safeguard and enhance this heritage as raw material for local economic development.

The Management System represents an efficient and effective model that recovers and revitalizes all current instruments, energizes, and, above all, coordinates all the institutions and stakeholders involved to foster cooperation among the public, private, and community sectors. This aims to achieve the best results with the endogenous resources available for each program and action within the Management System.

Therefore, the Management System is the instrument that must guarantee the value of an agricultural model based on the agroforestry mosaic, which harmonizes the still-current Mediterranean agricultural tradition with innovation and creativity, with a forward-

looking perspective. Recognition of the Management System would lead to the dissemination of these values and, consequently, of the related products and services.

The Management System was conceived and promoted, from its inception, throughout its development and implementation, by civil society. This represents **an exceptional case of application of the Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe** and the Catalan Landscape Law, since from the outset, special emphasis has been placed on community participation in these processes to guarantee a deeply rooted, participatory, and coherent management system, aligned with the principles of good governance, which involves all areas of competence related to the landscape (urban planning, nature conservation, agriculture, water management, tourism, and culture).

The Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System is structured around **three strategic lines**:

1. **To give content to the strong territorial identity**, based on the identification, knowledge and recognition of the values and attributes that shape this identity.
2. **To promote self-organization, coordination and cooperation, to ensure participatory and efficient governance**, both in the social and political spheres and in their interrelation.
3. **Implement a comprehensive and cross-cutting territorial model.**

The drafting and subsequent implementation of the Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System continues to foster discussions that delve deeper into the exceptional values of the Priorat's Mediterranean agricultural mosaic landscape, reinforce awareness of the immense value this landscape represents, and, at the same time, highlight its fragility.

The Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System has placed the landscape at the heart of the region's development and has led to **alignment in the design of regional public policies and in all the documents, plans, and strategies agreed upon in recent years**: the Landscape Charter, the Regional Strategic Plan for Socioeconomic Development, the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (ECST), the "Work in the Regions" project of the Catalan Employment Service (SOC), the Priorat Strategic Plan for Sustainable Tourism, and the Priorat Regional Plan for the Implementation of Renewable Energies. They all agree on the **importance of preserving the identity and quality of this agroforestry mosaic landscape, the need to build alliances at all levels and sectors, and the willingness to catalyze commitments and share efforts** and objectives.

3.3 The Priorat Landscape and Sustainability Commission

The Plenary Session of the Priorat Regional Council, held on March 13, **2017**, approved the **creation of the Priorat Landscape and Sustainability Commission**, a sectoral body for participation and governance of the Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System. This Commission coordinates and oversees the Priorat Regional Council's policies regarding territory, landscape, and sustainability. It also monitors the actions planned within the framework of the Management System.

The Priorat Landscape and Sustainability Commission is made up of the main socio-economic, public, private and community agents, including: the Priorat Regional Council, representatives of the municipalities of the region, the Tarragona Provincial Council, the

Departments of Territory, Culture and Agriculture of the Government of Catalonia, the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, the Montsant Mountain Range Natural Park, the Llaberia Mountain Range Consortium, the Prioritat entity, the Priorat Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), the Montsant PDO, Priorat Enoturisme...

The Priorat Landscape and Sustainability Commission is structured in three areas:

- **Scope of Decision: Assembly, Permanent Committee and Presidency.**
- **Scope of Execution: The Landscape Office** provides the necessary operational support for monitoring the Plan's actions: it drafts proposals, reports, and opinions at the request of the Permanent Committee or the Assembly. It is staffed by technical staff from the Committee members (currently technical staff from the Priorat Regional Council and PRIORITAT).
- **Scope of Participation:** Participation is channeled through complementary bodies, which may take the form of Working Groups focused on addressing specific issues. These groups include entities and individuals who, due to their experience or knowledge in the relevant field, can contribute significantly to achieving the group's objectives. Forums are also established, conceived as spaces for dialogue open to the participation of the entire community. Their purpose is to facilitate citizen participation in matters of regional interest. Forums have already been established in the areas of tourism, agriculture, culture, and education.

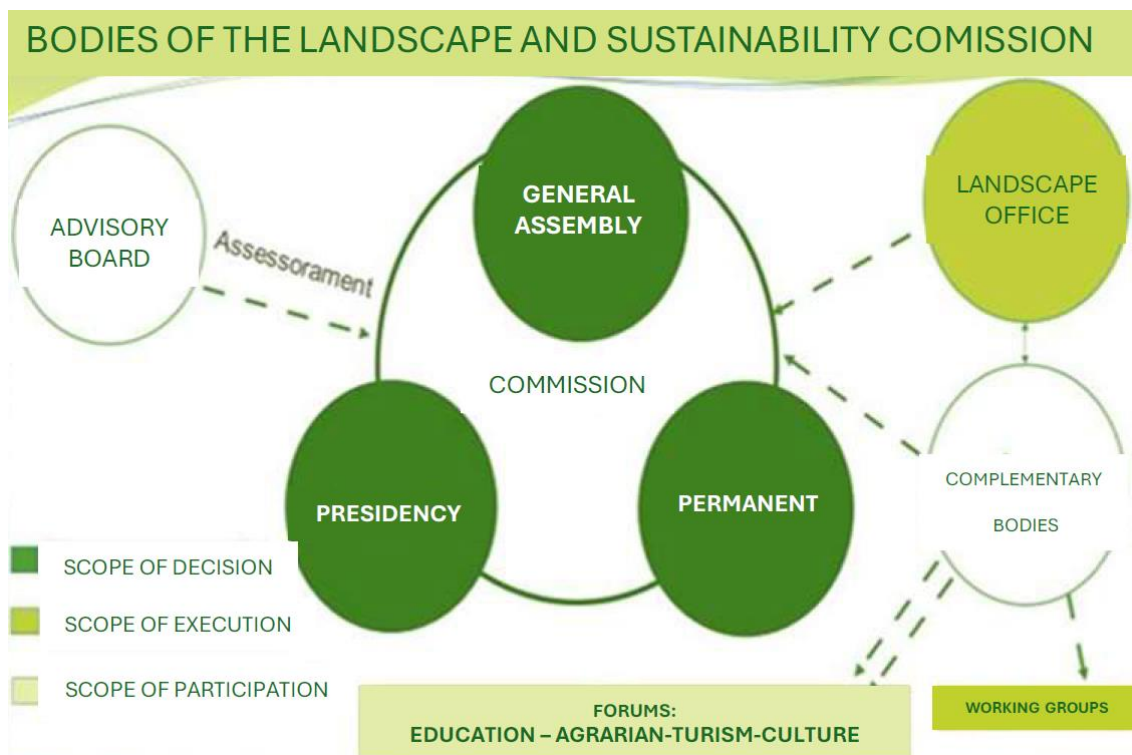


Image 10: Diagram of the composition of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission

4. SOME PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES FOR THE PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING OF THE LANDSCAPE PROMOTED BY THE PRIORAT, MONTSANT, SIURANA LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The development and deployment of the Priorat Landscape Management System have driven numerous projects. Some of these are highlighted below:

Actions related to landscape planning:

- **Regional plan for the implementation of renewable energies**

Implementation year: 2022-2025

Promoter: Energy Transition Working Group of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission

Description: This plan originates from the Regional Pact for the Implementation of Renewable Energies, signed in 2021 by nearly 2,000 individuals and organizations, the 23 municipalities of Priorat, the Priorat Provincial Council, the Priorat PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) and the Montsant PDO. The agreement aims to promote a participatory implementation of renewable energies adapted to the characteristics of the Priorat landscape, through the development of this regional plan, agreed upon with the region's socioeconomic stakeholders.

The Regional Plan for the Implementation of Renewable Energies (2023-2025) was developed by the Energy Transition Working Group of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission (comprised of 15 members from the public and private sectors). This document is based on information obtained from a participatory process with the municipalities of the region and defines the spaces where the development of renewable energies is viable, promoting sustainability, proximity and energy sovereignty to face the challenges of climate change.



Image 11: Poster for a conference where the Regional Plan for the Implementation of Renewable Energies was presented

Links related: <https://www.priorat.cat/actualitat/el-consell-comarcal-del-priorat-presenta-el-pla-comarcal-dimplantacio-denergies>

- **Priorat Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan**

Implementation year: 2022-2026

Promoter: Sustainable Tourism Working Group of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission.

Description: Within the framework of promoting sustainable, climate-resilient, and environmentally friendly tourism, a collaboration was established in 2022 between eight territorial entities (Priorat Regional Council, Priorat PDO, Montsant PDO, Llaberia Consortium, PNMON, PIMEC, Prioritat, and Priorat Enoturisme) to develop a set of strategic actions for the sustainability of the tourism sector. This collaboration was formalized with the signing of a cooperation agreement between these partners in 2025.

The first step was the development of the "**Priorat Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan 2023-2025**," which proposes various strategic lines and actions. The first actions implemented within the framework of the Plan are part of the project "PRIORAT, MONTSANT, SIURANA: A Mediterranean agricultural mosaic, a proposal for regenerative tourism," **90% subsidized by the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO) and co-financed by the eight partners**. These actions are as follows:

- **Improve the competitiveness of the wine route.** Advising wineries to improve the competitiveness of the wine tourism product, which includes the development of a quality manual, the creation of an operational and efficient network for joint work, the implementation of a tourism intelligence system for the route, the creation of a management system and a methodology for data collection, and support in the brand strategy for the dissemination, positioning and marketing of wine tourism products.

Related links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RF2FU1XiAZU&ab_channel=ConsellComarcaldelPriorat
<https://www.priorat.cat/actualitat/presenten-la-nova-ruta-del-vi-de-la-comarca-del-priorat>

- **Promotion of local products, olive oil, and gastronomy.** Advising olive oil producers on structuring their olive oil offerings, establishing the **gastronomic brand "Priorat Landscape Cuisine"**, improving marketing channels for local products through sales and networking activities, and developing gastronomic events to showcase local products. In this regard, the **first Priorat Landscape Cuisine Gastronomic Days** were held during **October, November, and December 2025**, with the participation of all project partners.

Related links:

<https://www.turismepriorat.org/ca/1es-jornades-gastronomiques-de-la-cuina-del-paisatge-del-priorat>



Images 12 and 13: Poster for the Conference and image of the typical Priorat dish “Truita amb suc”

- **To promote the routes and viewpoints of the Mediterranean mountain agricultural cultural landscape.** To structure a network of routes and viewpoints around the agricultural landscapes of Priorat, highlighting their scenic value.



Image 14: View from the Montsant viewpoint in the village of La Figuera

Actions related to Landscape Management

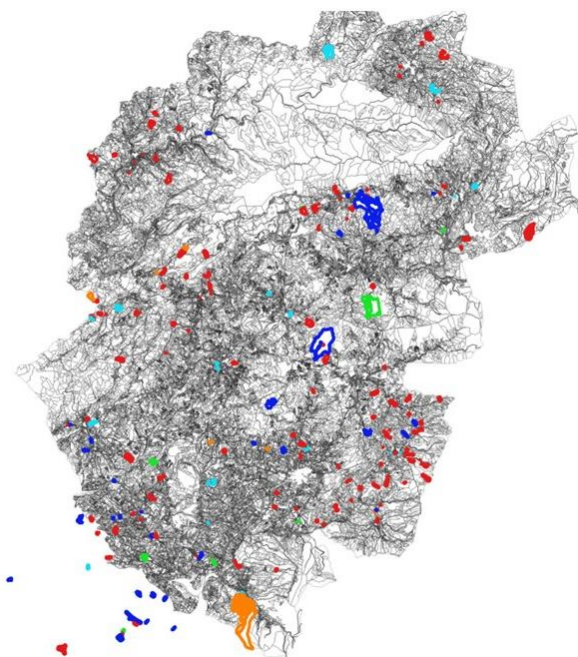
• Priorat Land Bank

Implementation year: 2019 – 2025

Promoter: Agrarian Forum of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission

Description: The Priorat Land Bank is a tool to revitalize and support the management of agricultural land. Its main function is to mediate and facilitate agreements between owners of disused or nearly disused rural properties and those seeking to manage them.

The Priorat Land Bank aims to reverse the decline in agricultural activity, facilitate access to land, and promote generational renewal—key aspects for maintaining the Priorat's diverse landscape, which in turn helps reduce the risk of large forest fires.



Land Bank Results 2021 – 2025

Available Properties: 270

Total Area: 627 ha and 100 ha **under study**

Landowners: 94

Land Applicants: 110

Formalized Agreements: 63

Area with Agreements: 190 ha

Agreements in Mediation: 7

External Agreements: 21

Image 15: Results of the Priorat Land Bank from 2021 to 2025



Image 16 and 17: Shepherdess using the Priorat Land Bank and farm managed by the Bank

Related links:

<https://www.priorat.cat/que-es-el-consell-comarcal-del-priorat/banc-de-terres-del-priorat>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNzMKznTeNw>

- **Guide to good agricultural practices to mitigate climate change in strategic crops of Priorat**

Implementation year: 2023

Promoter: Priorat Regional Council

Description: The Guide to Good Agricultural Practices aims to provide guidelines for agricultural sustainability across a wide range of crops, with a particular focus on the region's strategic crops, such as grapes and olives.

This document **details recommendations and aspects to consider, from the design and implementation phases of crops to the daily management of farms.**

The guide **offers advice and best practices** for soil conservation, efficient energy and water use, biodiversity preservation, the rational use of fertilizers and pesticides, and the reduction of agricultural pollution, among other aspects related to **climate change mitigation**. To facilitate the transfer of these best practices to the agricultural sector of Priorat, the Priorat County Council organized two **workshops**.

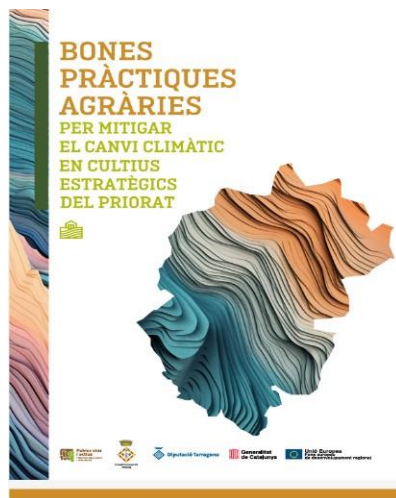


Image 18 and 19: Cover of the Guide and image of the workshops on good practices in the field.

Related links:

<https://www.priorat.cat/actualitat/els-consell-comarcal-del-priorat-impulsa-la-creacio-duna-guia-de-bones-practiques>

- **Active participation in Territoris pel Paisatge, a key tool of Catalonia's landscape policies**

Implementation year: 2016-2025

Promoter: Landscape Observatory of Catalonia and all territories involved.

Description: *Territoris pel Paisatge* (Territories for the Landscape) is a space for exchange, debate, and collective work on the development of various local landscape planning and management initiatives in Catalonia (landscape charters, landscape plans, etc.). It is **promoted by the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia**. Its main activity is holding annual meetings with all participating initiatives to address various landscape-related topics. These meetings have covered issues such as citizen participation in landscape charters and plans, local management of agricultural areas, the role of local landscapes in the energy transition, and the development of landscape-based initiatives.

The Priorat region has been one of the most active members of *Territoris pel Paisatge* since its inception, hosting the annual meeting in Falset in 2022. Over the years, the **Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System has become a benchmark for other territories** seeking to promote landscape policies at the local level within the framework of the Catalan Law on the Protection, Management, and Planning of the Landscape.



Image 20: Territoris pel Paisatge Day in Falset (10/26/2022)

Related links:

<https://www.catpaisatge.net/es/el-paisaje-en-cataluna/territorios-para-paisaje>

Awareness and education actions in the landscape

- “*Habitar*” (Inhabitting) Travelling exhibition

Implementation year: 2022-2025

Promoter: PRIORITAT Association

Description: “*Habitar*” is a traveling, interactive exhibition that showcases the landscape values of the Priorat region and, at the same time, encourages reflection on the need to reach a consensus on a participatory territorial model that respects history, combines tradition and innovation, is capable of incorporating new activities, and allows us to inhabit this territory fully and respectfully. The exhibition is interactive because it is designed as a tool for generating participatory sessions in which knowledge about the Priorat is shared, as well as the problems, challenges, and opportunities we face as a community and territory. These sessions contribute to keeping the Priorat-Montsant-Siurana Landscape Management System alive. By 2025, the exhibition had visited 15 municipalities in the Priorat region, and a report with the collected data had been published.



Images 21 and 22: Day of exhibition and debate “*Habitar*” in the village of Cabacés

Related links:

<https://prioritat.org/projectes/itinerancia-de-lexposicio-habitar/>

- **Priorat en Persona (Priorat in Person)**

Implementation year: 2009 – 2025

Promoter: *Centre Quim Soler, La literatura i el vi*, member of the Culture Forum of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission

Description: *Priorat en Persona* (PEP) it's a biennial project. It consists of a **meeting between six writers and four residents of the Priorat region**, who act as their hosts for a few days. Each edition comprises two parts (a round trip), during which the invited authors write their texts.

The written word—poems, narratives, descriptions, reflections—captures each author's decision to transcribe their experience, their perspective of the place, and the impression it has left on them. The result is a **"literary dictionary"** that compiles the words of the Priorat Project and is built and interwoven with each new meeting, a product of the exchange of perspectives among the participants.

In its second year, the project also includes interactions with students from schools and institutes in the region, based on the reinterpretation of the texts produced. To date, **nine editions have been held**, and all the towns in the region have been visited by their inhabitants.



Image 23: Poster for the in-person meeting of writers from Priorat



Image 24: Writers and hosts getting to know the Priorat

Related links: <https://prioratenpersona.cat/>

- **Coneguem lo Priorat (Discovering Priorat)**

Implementation year: 2017-2025

Promoter: Education Forum of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission

Description: "*Coneguem lo Priorat*" (Discovering Priorat) is an initiative **designed to help schoolchildren learn about and appreciate the tangible and intangible values** of their region and foster a sense of belonging.

This project arose from working sessions held by the Education Forum, made up of volunteer teachers, the Priorat Regional Council and the Priorat Educational Service. Each year, over the course of a full day, third and fourth grade students from all the schools in Priorat visit a village in the region to explore its landscape through hands-on experiences and workshops organized and led by fourth-year secondary school students from the region's two high schools.



Image 25: *Coneguem lo Priorat* in the town of Torroja del Priorat



Image 26 and 27: *Coneguem lo Priorat* in the town of Morera de Montsant and Margalef de Montsant

Related links:

<https://prioritat.org/projectes/coneguem-el-priorat/>

<https://www.priorat.cat/actualitat/exit-de-coneguem-lo-priorat-en-la-seva-visita-al-loar>

• Priorat Landscape Day

Implementation year: 2017-2025

Promoter: Landscape and Sustainability Commission.

Description: Priorat Landscape Day is an event **open to the entire community and designed to encourage participation**. It takes place at the Escaladei Charterhouse, in collaboration with the Department of Culture of the Government of Catalonia. Its aim is to be an **annual space for meeting, reflection, and debate** on all the work being done in the region regarding landscape management.

The discussions focus particularly on the projects and strategies promoted by the various sectoral forums of the Landscape and Sustainability Commission and are framed within the implementation of the Landscape Management System being carried out across all institutional and social spheres. The program also includes speakers who present other inspiring experiences or reflections on aspects that can contribute new elements to the internal territorial debate. **Six editions of Landscape Day have been held, with the participation of more than 100 people at each one.**



Image 28: Presentation of Landscape Day in Escaladei



Images 29 and 30: Example of a poster and brochure for Landscape Day

Related links:

<https://prioritat.org/projectes/dia-del-paisatge/>

<https://prioritat.org/cronica-de-la-5ena-edicio-del-dia-del-paisatge/>

- **First Conference on Good Practices in Cultural Landscape**

Implementation year: 2025

Promoter: Ministry of Culture, Government of Catalonia, Catalonia Landscape Observatory and Priorat Regional Council.

Description: The First Conference on Good Practices in Cultural Landscape aims to **disseminate the experiences and good practices of Priorat within the framework of the National Plan for Cultural Landscape**, the Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe and the Catalan Landscape Law.



Imagen 31 y 32: Presentation at the Carthusian monastery and group photo of the attendees

Related links:

<https://ipce.cultura.gob.es/ipce/en/eventos-y-actividades/2025-otros-eventos/2025-12-12-paisaje-cultural-buenas-practicas.html>

**I JORNADA DE BONES PRÀCTIQUES
DE PAISATGE CULTURAL**

12 DE DESEMBRE 2025

Cartoixa d'Escaladei,
La Morera de Montsant, Priorat.
difusion.ipce@cultura.gob.es

La I Jornada de bones pràctiques de paisatge cultural té com a objectiu difondre les experiències i bones pràctiques del Priorat en el marc del Pla Nacional de Paisatge Cultural, el Conveni Europeu del Paisatge i la Llei de Paisatges de Catalunya.

El Pla Nacional defineix el paisatge cultural com el "resultat de la interacció en el temps entre les persones i el medi natural, la manifestació del qual és un territori percebut i valorat per les seves qualitats culturals, produït d'un procés i suport de la identitat d'una comunitat".

El paisatge cultural és una realitat dinàmica i complexa, en què conflueixen components naturals i culturals, materials i immaterials. Per això calen mecanismes d'identificació, protecció i gestió que en permetin la conservació i valoració.

**ACTIVITAT GRATÛTA
CAL INSCRIPCIÓ PRÈVIA**

8.30 Recepció i inscripcions

9.00 Benvinguda institucional

- Meritxell Martorell, alcaldessa de la Morera de Montsant.
- Subdirecció General de l'Institut del Patrimoni Cultural d'Espanya, Ministeri de Cultura.
- Carme Calvo, Subdirector General adjunt de la SG de Gestió i Coordinació de Béns Culturals, Ministeri de Cultura.
- Ricard Illera Oñá, Director dels Serveis Territorials de Cultura a Tarragona, Generalitat de Catalunya.
- Sergi Miralles, president del Consell Comarcal del Priorat.
- Pere Sala, director de l'Observatori del Paisatge de Catalunya.

9.25 El Priorat en el marc del Pla Nacional de Paisatge Cultural

Antonio Antequera, Coordinador del Pla Nacional de Paisatge Cultural.

09.45 Projectes de planificació del paisatge

- La Carta del Paisatge del Priorat, Jordi Grau, Observatori del Paisatge de Catalunya, Sergi Miralles, President del Consell Comarcal del Priorat.
- Carta Europea de Turisme Sostenible del Priorat (CETS Priorat), David Illera, Director del Parc natural de la Serra de Montsant.

10.15 Pausa cafè

10.45 Projectes de protecció i gestió del paisatge

Sistema de gestió del paisatge cultural "Priorat, Montsant, Siurana: mosaic agnari mediterrani", Joan Vagstad, Consell Comarcal del Priorat.

11.00 Politiques públiques sectorials

- Acord Comarcal i Pla Comarcal sobre renovables (2023-2025), Joan Arenal i Sergi Saldaña.
- Pla Estratègic de Turisme Sostenible (2023-2025), Maria Jesús Sánchez.
- Banc de Torres del Priorat, Mireia Vilamala.
- Gestió de la Cartoixa d'Escaladei, Carme Bergès Saura.

11.40 Altres projectes

- Habitatge Angel Cortadellas.
- Priorat en Persones, Joan Domingo.
- Coneguem la Priorat, Elia Barceló.
- Dia del Paisatge, Maria Camp.

12.40 Conclusions i tancament institucional

- Àngels Albert, DG de Patrimoni Cultural i Belles Arts, Ministeri de Cultura.

13.15 Visita guiada a la Cartoixa de Santa Maria d'Escaladei

14.30 Dinar

15.45 Visita a bona pràctica «Les pastores del Mas de Sant Blai»

Logo of the Ministry of Culture, Government of Catalonia, Priorat Regional Council, and the Catalonia Landscape Observatory.

Imagen 33: Program of the conference