



Field maple



Basilica of Santa María la Real



Chamois (Rupicapra pyrenaica)

as the griffon vulture and golden eagle.

The ecosystems related to the Atlantic forest are home to more than one hundred species of birds, among which the black woodpecker and the threatened Cantabrian capercaillie are worth mentioning. You can find elusive species like chamois in the cliffs, whereas roe deer and wolves are common in the plentiful forests of the area. One exceptional inhabitant of this park is the brown bear, protected species for which there is a recovery plan in force. In the park and its environment you can find great birds of prey, such

located, known as the "santina", and also the grave of Don Pelayo. Another monument that must be visited is the Basilica of Santa María la Real, designed by Roberto Frassinelli and erected by the architect Federico Aparici, between 1877 and 1901. It is purely Neo-Romanesque style with pink limestone. On the Basilica's terrace, next to the Monastery of San Pedro, you can find the Chapter House and the bronze statue of Don Pelayo, constructed in 1964 by the sculptor Eduardo Zaregoza. Worth mentioning about this group is the big bell which is three metres high and weighs 4,000 kilograms, "La campanona", built in 1900 in La Felguera by the Italian sculptor Sortini. This piece of art, donated by the court Sizzo-Norice and Luis Gómez Herrero won the first prize at the Universal Exhibition in Paris. Moreover, the

4- The route ends at the Eastern part of the Covadonga Monumental Group, located in an exceptionally beautiful setting: the landscape of this natural environment.

3- Leaving the forest behind, the trail becomes a slight slope which runs along a traditional stable and a field, where it is more common to find beech trees. Step by step, the trail goes deeper into the Picos de Europa National Park, and the Monastery of San Pedro and the towers of the Basilica of Santa María la Real can be seen through the trees.

2- To the left of the route, the traveller can see the Cruz the Priena, an uneven promontory taller than 700 metres high. It is a privileged observatory, with difficult access, from where you can enjoy the view of the sea, the Sueve mountain range, Arriondas, Cangas, Covadonga, the Lagos road, and also the highest peaks of these valleys.

1- This nature trail starts shortly before reaching the "Las Llerices" parking, located on the AS-262 road, between the last two houses at the edge of Muñigo. Going to the right from the road, the trail starts climbing up a ladder covered in broom and gorse, and continues afterwards on flat ground until it plunges into a great chestnut, birch and maple trees forest.

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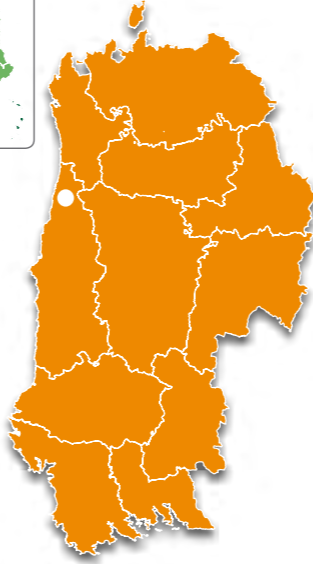
THROUGH THE HEART OF THE PICOS DE EUROPA NATIONAL PARK

The Muñigo - Covadonga Nature Trail is located some 7 kilometres away from Cangas de Onís, capital of the town named like it, located in the Eastern part of the Principality of Asturias. It is approximately 1.5 kilometres long, and it runs along the entrance of the Picos de Europa National Park until the Real Sitio de Covadonga through a pedestrian path.

The history of this protected area started on 22nd July 1918, when the eastern part of this mountain range was declared Montaña de Covadonga National Park. Some decades later, the protected area was extended to 64,660 hectares and it was declared Picos de Europa National Park. Lastly, in 2003, UNESCO approved its Biosphere Reserve status.



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Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

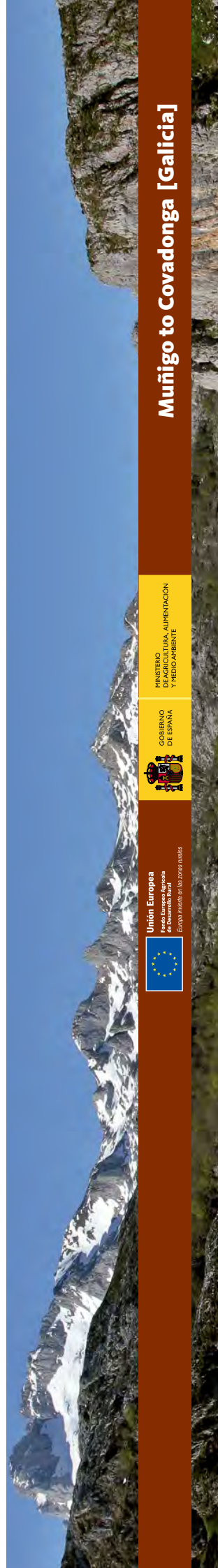
These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

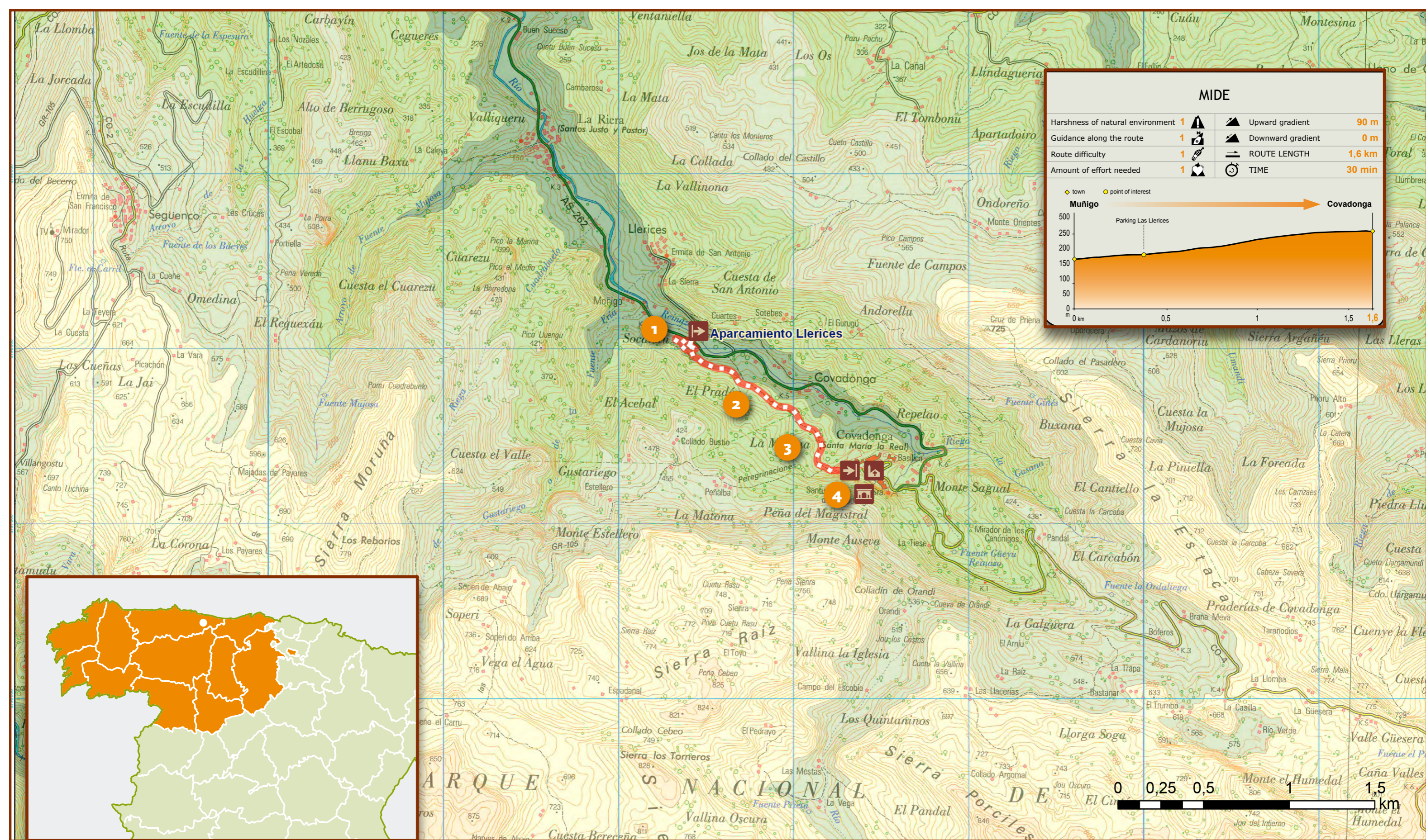
We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of the Muñigo - Covadonga Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

- TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:**
- National Park Information (Casa Dago): 0034 985 84 86 14
 - Cangas de Onís City Council: 0034 985 84 80 43
 - Picos de Europa National Park: 0034 985 24 14 12 / (central offices) 0034 985 25 53 76



NATURE TRAIL - MUÑIGO - COVADONGA





MIDE

Harshness of natural environment	1	▲ Upward gradient	90 m
Guidance along the route	1	▼ Downward gradient	0 m
Route difficulty	1	📏 ROUTE LENGTH	1,6 km
Amount of effort needed	1	🕒 TIME	30 min

◆ town ● point of interest

Muñigo → **Covadonga**

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NATURE TRAIL
MUÑIGO - COVADONGA

- ➔ Starting point
- ➔ End of trail
- 🏠 Religious building
- 🏛 Monument