



ACTIVITY BALANCE

The Tibetan bridge exceeds 100,000 visitors, 31.5% more than expected

42% of respondents place the infrastructure as the main reason for their stay in the Principality

Profits reach 521,500€ (+232%) and turnover exceeds one million euros (+56%)

EL PERIÒDIC

CANILLO

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The number of visitors the Tibetan bridge has had during this first year of operation has exceeded 100,000 people

(101,108), 31.5% more than the target set by the Municipality of Canillo, according to the survey carried out to 3,600 users between the last months of June and November that the corporation presented last Tuesday at the Motorcycle Museum. On the other hand, the Roc del Quer viewpoint did not reach 100,000 visitors (97,159), 25.3% less than expected.

The tickets sold, which could be bought separately or in a package that included the two infrastructures, were 149,080, a third for each modality. 73.3% of tourists have visited the bridge and viewpoint between the months of July and September, with August as the leader with more than 52,000 people. Regarding the sales channel, the box office (55%) has surpassed the web (43%), especially in the case of the viewpoint.

Regarding the profile of the visitors, the average age was 42.6, with the majority, with 26%, between 46 and 55 years old. The average number of people in a group was 3.3, with the family (46%) and the couple (37.7%) being the most common types of grouping. The majority came from Catalan tourists, 80% of the Spaniards who visited the parish (10% from Valencia). In this way, 76% of Spaniards and only 7.1% of French people, while visitors from the country were 11%.

In addition, the vast majority of tourists spent at least one night in Andorra (86%), with Andorra la Vella being the most chosen parish (26%) and Canillo the second, with 23%. The average stay was 3.1 nights. Going to restaurants and shopping in Canillo or other places in the country were the two most chosen activities to complement the visit to the Tibetan bridge. Caldea and Naturland also appear as prominent options. On the other hand, another piece of data from the survey stands out: nearly half (41.7%) of the visitors said that the Tibetan bridge had been the main reason for their stay in Andorra. At the same time, 56% also assured that they would not have visited



Francesc Camp

CONSUL MAJOR OF CANILLO

«We will certainly not touch the prices next summer, because they are acceptable for the vast majority of users»

the parish of Canillo if it had not been for the Tibetan bridge.

If we look at the marks given by the respondents, most of them exceeded 8. Only the value for money (7.3), the toilets (6.5) and the ease of parking the car (6.5) are below this mark. Regarding expectations, the majority of tourists affirm that the visit had been as they expected, while a significant percentage even better than they had in mind.

The turnover of the Tibetan bridge has exceeded one million euros (1,080,079€), 56% higher than what was planned, while that of the Roc del Quer lookout has only been 331,000 euros (+1.8%). As for the benefits, they were 521,000 euros in the first case (+232%) and 139,000 euros in the second (+25%).

Regarding the prices, the Consul Major of Canillo, Francesc Camp, said that «we will certainly not touch them, because they are acceptable for the vast majority of visitors». In addition, he added, «it must be taken into account that it incorporates the bus service, the most important item». Regarding the improvements, he stated that «in the short term they can have a relative impact». For example, «we can improve traffic, but there will still be queues, they are inevitable».

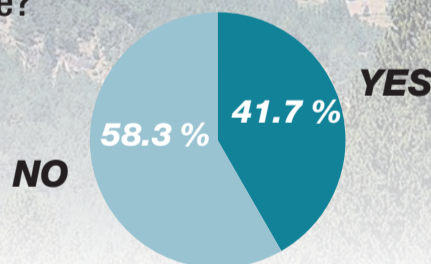
On the other hand, Camp revealed that the 2023 budget of the municipality will be approved in the first fortnight of February. «We want it to be balanced and not get us into debt,» he said. ≡



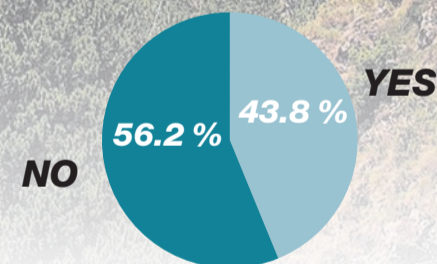
SOURCE COMÚ DE CANILLO GRAPHIC PAKO TEMPRADO

VISITORS' ASSESSMENT

One of the main reasons for your stay in Andorra was the visit on the Tibetan bridge?



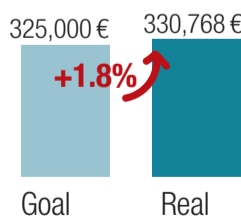
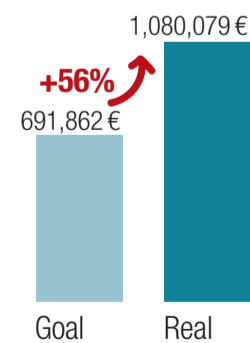
Would you have come to Canillo if there wasn't the Tibetan bridge?



BILLING AND RESULT

TIBETAN BRIDGE

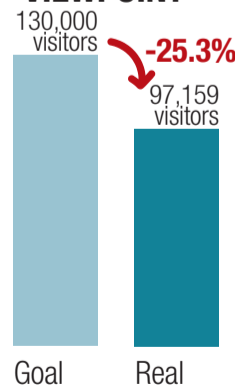
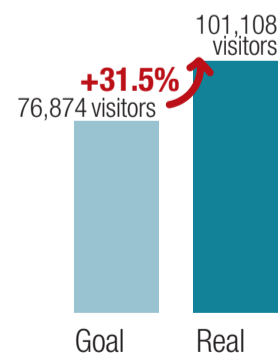
ROC DEL QUER VIEWPOINT



AFFLUENCE

TIBETAN BRIDGE

ROC DEL QUER VIEWPOINT



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RETIREMENT

All pensions below 2,572 euros will increase by 7.1%

The increase will not take effect until next month, once the Budget Law is approved and published

EL PERIÒDIC
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The Budget Law that will be approved next Tuesday foresees that all pensions that are less than twice the minimum wage will have an increase of 7.1%, the CPI of 2022, regardless of the years contributed and the place of residence, as Jacint Risco, the representative of pensioners at the Andorran Social Security Fund (CASS), explained to EL PERIÒDIC. Specifically, they will be the lowest at 2,572 euros.

On the contrary, the approval of the package of urgent measures to improve the purchasing power of citizens, which provides that people with a salary of less than 1,400 euros will have an increase of 7.1% and, from here, the increase will gradually decrease until it reaches 4,000 euros, it states that pensions below the minimum wage will also increase by 7.1%. Of course, on condition that the person has contributed for a minimum of 25 years and resides in the Principality. In addition, this legislation will increase solidarity pensions for people with disabilities and the elderly.

When someone does not meet the aforementioned requirements, then, the Budget Law will come into play. «It would be unfair that a person who has contributed for 20 years and receives a pension of 500 euros is not given an increase», lamented Risco. In this sense, the budget law determines the revaluation of the financial benefits paid by the CASS, establishing that when the contributions of the insured person are lower than twice the minimum wage established, in this case the 1,286 euros for 2023, are revalued according to the CPI.

In other words, «from zero pension to twice the minimum wage, everyone will have a 7.1% increase», as pointed out by the representative of the pensioners at the CASS, either for the contributory part, the one that pays the Andorran Social Security Fund, or the non-contributory one, paid by the Government.



►► The entrance of the CASS.

Pensioners who earn more than double the minimum wage will continue to suffer no increase

The other side of the coin are the financial benefits that exceed 2,572 euros, which will not suffer, once again, any increase. «They've been frozen since 2015, it's unfair,» declared Risco. Thus, the representative of the pensioners was outraged by the situation: «These people have lost 14% of their purchasing power, that's a lot.» To try to allevi-

ate this matter «I made a proposal to do the same thing that has been done with salaries. This was sent to the Government, but they did not consider it», he remarked. Nevertheless, «I am convinced that the majority that emerges from the elections will help to fix it». The solution for Risco, therefore, would be based on making the highest pensions have a



Jacint Risco
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PENSIONERS IN THE CASS



«The higher economic benefits have been frozen since 2015, it is unfair. These people have lost 14% of their purchasing power»

lower CPI, «because it is not normal that there is this barrier», he added.

Finally, the CASS informed last Tuesday through a statement that the 2023 CPI increase will not be reflected in pensions for the month of January until this year's budget is approved and published. In other words, the 7.1% increase will not take effect until next month. In relation to this, the representative of the pensioners stated that personally he would like the retirees to collect this percentage during the first month of the year, but that it cannot be carried out by law, although «some years we got ahead, and we were given a touch of attention». Finally, Risco explained that the situation for March «will be to explain to pensioners that the money they received in February is retroactive to January, and not the increase for the whole year. And that will happen». ≡

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