el Periòdic News

MOUNTAIN REFUGES

Frequency continues at record levels in 2024

The recorded data confirms a constant upward trend since 2009

AGÈNCIES

ESCALDES - ENGORDANY

Frequency in the country's mountain refuges, guarded or not, continued at record levels last year. Thus, in 2024 it was very close to the record figure achieved in 2019 in guarded refuges, when the year was closed with 10,289. In fact, it was more than 9,200, specifically, 9,238. And as for free refuges, the year was closed with 4,930 frequencies, very close to the record of 2023, which was 4,956.

Therefore, the figures confirm a constant upward trend in both types of refuges since 2009 and how more and more people are choosing to go out into the mountains and spend the night in one of these accommodations.

Among the guarded refuges, the one that recorded the most overnight stays last year was Sorteny, with 2,685, followed by l'Illa, with 2,306. Juclar recorded 2,179 and Comapedrosa closed the year with 2,068. It should be noted that in 2023 the two refuges that had the most people

THE FIGURES

14,168

This is the total number of visits during the past 2024 between guarded and free shelters.

2,685

Number of overnight stays at the Sorteny refuge, the guarded refuge that recorded the most last year.

41,040

Total number of overnight stays recorded at unguarded refuges over the last decade.

who spent the night there were also Sorteny and l'Illa, with 2,526 each.

As for the unguarded refuges, the one that comes in first place is Fontverd, which recorded 735 hikers. In second place, we find the 548 overnight stays in Pla de l'Estany and behind it are the 440 of the Coms de Jan refuge. It should be noted that Font-



An image of the Illa refuge.

verd was already the one that recorded the most overnight stays in 2023 and, in fact, it is the refuge that has topped the list since 2014, with an accumulated 5,572. In other years, it was the Cabana Sorda that used to be in second position, although this 2024 has registered a significant decrease, since it has gone from 788 overnight stays in 2023 to 374 in 2024. In fact, in the accumulated since 2014 it is the second refuge with the most hikers, with 4,918, and is followed by the 4,010 overnight stays recorded in Coms de Jan.

If we take into account the data from the last decade, we ha-

ve that unguarded shelters have registered 41,040 overnight stays and that the most important percentage in terms of growth occurred in 2019, when the increase was 64% compared to 2018, going from 2,464 hikers to 4,041 and it is also necessary to highlight the decrease that was registered due to Covid in 2020, from which point the figures have gone up with the small decrease of last year, set at 1%. As for guarded shelters, the evolution of the last decade also shows a spectacular increase. Not surprisingly, it went from 3,998 hikers in 2014 to 10,289 in 2019, reports the ANA.

CULTURE

The Smugglers' Trial fills Plaça dels Arínsols

There was no shortage of satire: they made reference to the CBD and some Mossos appeared looking for Puigdemont

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Bundles of contraband, an Andorran court and Spanish carabinieri. It would not be an exaggeration to say that around 500 people came this Sunday afternoon of Carnival to enjoy, for another year, the representation of the Smugglers' Trial, starring, as the ritual indicates, the Sis Dits gang. A staging that, once again, has been interpreted by the members of the Encamp

The day ends with a children's show, the performance of a cover band and a DJ session

Festival Committee, who have represented – with some variation and a nod to the present day – the script written by Rossend Marsol, dating from the 1950s.

This year, there has been no



A moment from the Smugglers' Trial.



The smugglers arriving at the Plaça dels Arínsols in Encamp.

shortage of satire either. In fact, the actors have made reference to the CBD at some point and some Mossos d'Esquadra have also appeared pretending to be looking for former president Puigdemont. Finally, the representation has closed with the usual cry 'The Carnival of Encamp is and will be immortal!'.

The Judgment has continued with the traditional distribution of

sausages followed by the children's show 'El Pony Menut', which has been performed in the Sala de Festes of the Complex. Towards the evening, from 11:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., the cover band 'The Tutsies' will perform, and from 1:30 a.m. to 3:30 a.m., the band 'Bandidos Perversions'. Finally, the day will end with a DJ session with DJ Toni Peret in the Complex's Party Room, reports ANA. •

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