



Comunicat de premsa

The Catalonian Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs opens a line of subsidies for the promotion of projects involving rural tourist signalling

The objective of the subsidies, with a maximum of 10,000 € per project, is to promote the signalling of rural itineraris for hiking and mountain biking, and of tourist routes of territorial scope

Monday, 18 April 2005.— The Catalan Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs opened a lined of subsidies aimed at financing rural tourist signalling projects promoted by the Regional Councils of Catalonia. The subsidies, with a maximum amount of $10,000 \in$ per project, will be destined to the signalling of rural itineraries for hiking and mountainbiking, as well as the creation of tourist routes of a wide territorial scope. The signalling projects that are the object of this subsidy will have to be carried out before the end of Ocober 2005.

The Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs seeks to promote tourist signalling with the aim of bringing the visitor closer to the natural, sporting or cultural resources of the territory. In this sense, the Ministry of Tourism wants to favour activities of a regional and interregional nature whose aim is the signalling of paths of long or short distance (GR or PR), and the signalling of tourist routes of territorial scope, as well as the carrying out of itineraries that form part of a plan to create tourist products in the territory. Subsidies also provide for the signalling of itineraries for the practice of mountain biking.

The content of signalling will depend on the continuity, the monitoring and the situation of the route. The continuity signal is used when the distance between two signs is very wide. As regards the badge, this will have the logo of the route (hiking). The situation signal will be used to inform the visitor of the stage of the route in which he finds himself, and will include information about the location to which reference is made.

The deadline for the submission of applications is one month counting from the coming into force of the subsidies Order published today at the DOGC no 4365 of 18 April 2005. For further information, please visit <u>http://www.catalunyaturisme.com/</u>.