

TOURISTIC TOUR BY COOLTUR TURISME CULTURAL

ROMANESQUE IN SOBREMUNT



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Turisme Cultural
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The Romanesque

Feudalism was a social, political and economic system that was formed in Western Europe during the ninth and tenth centuries, a few centuries after the disintegration of the Roman Empire.

Feudalism was characterized by the pacts of vassalage between the feudal lords and the King of each kingdom that were throughout Western Europe. In these agreements, the feudal lords promised allegiance to the king in exchange for economic privileges and power.

Probably, for this reason, one of the great features of this system was the strong presence that had the Catholic Church, which enjoyed large share of power in all feudal kingdoms, and which was marked, quite clearly, the life of everybody.

During the early centuries of feudalism (X-XIII) appeared in all realms, an artistic, cultural and architectural movement, **the Romanesque**.

The Romanesque was the first movement since the collapse of the Roman Empire to have representation across the European territory. It must be said, therefore, that although this style was present in all European kingdoms, once introduced unique features in each kingdom.

Although, with this style, several civil and military works were built, the main theme was the Church, being used to build a large number of monasteries and churches that are still standing today.

The material used to construct these buildings, in this style, was the stone, a material characterized by its weight. It is for this reason that the buildings are, in general, thick walls, often reinforced with buttresses. In addition, another feature is the low presence of windows in the Romanesque buildings. The few windows present in these buildings are small openings to let inside these buildings a little light. In addition, this style reused Roman building techniques, such as arch.

Another feature of the religious buildings of Romanesque style is that all of them have a bell tower, which is used to call prayer. We can also see how some churches presents the altar at the east of the building, as it was where entered the first light of day.

Most of these buildings had a decoration inside and outside. The exterior decoration has deteriorated with the passage of time, leaving the walls views, as we know them today.

There are few buildings that still presented a decoration inside, as in the nineteenth century there was a big traffic of these decorations, some of which were sold to private collectors.

Sobremunt

In the case of Sobremunt still kept, today, various elements of Romanesque style.

From COOLTUR we propose a tour in Sobremunt to see the Romanesque buildings that still remain in this villa.

We start this tour in the parking at the entrance of the village, situated on our left, at the end of the road. That will help us to leave the car and to do our tour.

We headed east on the street there

150m



*We pass next to the church of **Sant Martí**. At this point, we turn right.*

50m



*We arrive at the **City Council of Sobremunt**. At this point, we continue along the road there, south-eastward*

391m

We come to another road. We continue straight on the right path

163m

We turn to our left by a road out in the middle of the curve

376m

Turn right on a new path

262m



*We arrive at the front of **Cal Portelles**. We continue along the cement path*

321M



*We pass next to **Can Quelet**. We continue along the cement path to the final 579m*



We arrived at the church of **Santa Llúcia de Sobremunt**. We must take the detour on the left and climb a staircase.

The current building of this church is not documented until 1370, therefore, was refurbished in 1720, retaining some of the elements of the first Romanesque church.

We return to the road and continue south.

259m

At the fork, we continue along the road on the left

509 m

We continue along the path on our left

1.7 km

*In **Baulenes**, we continue along the road on the left*

212m

We continue south through the middle path

1,21km



We arrived at the church of **Sant Martí Xic**. This Church belongs to **les Masies de Voltregà**, a town located at south.

There is evidence that this church had functions of parish since 1110 until the mid fifteenth century, and by 1656 this church merged with the

parish of Sant Hipòlit de Voltregà.

With the loss of the title of parish, little by little, this church was being forgotten. The present building that we can see is the result of a restoration done in 1984. It must be said that, when making the restoration, the church still had the structure and cover.



On the hill next to **Sant Martí Xic** we can still see remnants of the old **castle of Voltregà**, documented from the year 902. For the visible remains, we can say that this castle was rectangular.

*We return along the same road, now heading north
255m*

*At this point, we turn left and continue along a small path through the woods
712m*

*Turn left and continue along a forest trail
204m*

*Continue north direction, the middle path
219m*

*In the **Fountain of Baulenes** we continue on the right path
1,64km*

*We continue straight on the right path
500m*

*We continue on the right path
252 m*

*Turn left by the cement path.
1,14km*

*Leave the cemented road and take the path left to our left
385m*

*Turn right
167m*

*We continue along the road on the left
610m*

From COOLTUR we hope that you have enjoyed this tour, and you'll have a nice day.

