



SOCIETY

## Els Serradells debuts the giant slide in the outdoor pool

With this reform, the reform of the Serradells Sports Center is completed

The slide costs 220,000 euros and it is intended to become an attraction for the parish

COMÚ D'ANDORRA LA VELLA/TONY LARA



► Inauguration of Els Serradells outdoor pool with the giant slide.

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The Municipality of Andorra la Vella inaugurated the slide and outdoor swimming pool of Serradells the day before yesterday. The senior consul, David Astrié, explained that «the remodeling has been practically complete, a synthetic floating floor has been placed that imitates parquet, 1,000 square meters of grass has been laid, the tiled from the inside of the pool vessel, and finally the slide has been placed». The latter has a cost of 220,000 euros, and aims to become another attraction for all the children of this parish.

The slide is 74 meters long, starts

at the top of the beams and makes several turns until it reaches the pool. Astrié reminded that its use is limited by height, with a minimum of 1.10 meters, to guarantee the safety of users and avoid possible accidents, especially among children. For this reason, «there is a watchman who will always be controlling access to the slide», detailed Astrié.

On the other hand, the garden area surrounding the pool, which is approximately 1,000 square meters, has also been completely renovated. From the municipality they explain that thinking about the comfort of the users, they have enabled about forty hammocks, thus renewing the furniture, and they have also installed a food truck to



**David Astrié**

CONSUL MAJOR OF ANDORRA LA VELLA



«With the renovation of the outdoor pool, we complete the entire Serradells renovation, which began due to the unfortunate fire»

«Today we inaugurate the slide here in Els Serradells outdoor pool, but we also inaugurate the pool itself»

provide catering services.

In total, the cost of executing the remodeling was close to 800,000 euros, Astrié detailed that «what is the outdoor pool with the pavement, the pool vessel and the garden area is about 565,000 euros, plus the 220,000 euros that correspond to the slide».

The outdoor swimming pool of Els Serradells was opened for the first time in July 1993. 30 years after its launch, it has been decided to carry out this comprehensive rehabilitation to give it a new image and give users a renewed space to bathe during the summer. During

**A floating synthetic floor** that imitates parquet has also been laid and 1,000 meters of grass have been laid

the season, entry prices will be 6.27 euros for adults, 4.70 euros for children and the elderly. Astrié recalled that as announced a few weeks ago, subscribers to the Sports Center and people over 65, residents of Andorra la Vella have free entry. «Before there were 120 members here in the Serradells and once this free service was announced, it has increased to 190 members», pointed out the consul.

With all this work, the entire Serradells reform is completed, which, as the Consul Major recalled, began with the fire that occurred in 2018. This fact caused the outdoor swimming pool to be closed for three years, and restarted last summer. The rehabilitation of the Sports Center has included the indoor pool, the outdoor pool, the gym area, all the insulation, the introduction of cogeneration and the reception, among others. ≡

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CULTURE

# Melendi will be the highlight of the Andorra la Vella Festival

A program full of music, popular culture, traditions, street games and sports to enjoy the festivities

COMÚ D'ANDORRA LA VELLA/ TONY LARA



►► The Consul Major, David Astrié, and the Consul Minor, Miquel Canturri, at the presentation of this year's Andorra la Vella festivities.

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The Consul Major, David Astrié, and the Consul Minor, Miquel Canturri, of Andorra la Vella presented last Tuesday the program of the parish's festivities which will take place on August 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. This year's line-up brings back the old spirit, with lots of music, traditions, street games and sports. Referring to this fact, Astrié declared that «in recent years we have managed to bring the festivities to the center of the parish and have given it strength».

The highlights of this festivities are Melendi, who will perform on Monday, August 7th at 9 p.m. in the Prada Casadet car park. This is the only concert that will be in a different place from the rest and the only one that is not free. Today, Wednesday, July 5th, tickets for this concert go on sale and can be purchased on the Municipality of Andorra la Vella website [www.andorralavella.ad](http://www.andorralavella.ad) and also on the singer's official website, [www.melendioficial.as](http://www.melendioficial.as) for a price of 20 euros. On the same day, the other star concert will be at

11:00 p.m. in Plaça Guiller mó and will be performed by the three finalists of the Eufòria program: Mariona, Triquell and Edu, they will be in charge of making the end of the party. The rest of the concerts will be at the same place.

The evening performance program, however, will begin on Friday, August 4th with a double concert, first with 'Delafé y las flores azules' and then Porto Bello. The next day it will be the turn of Buhos and Gerturdis, while on Sunday 6th La Principal de la Bisbal and Els Senyora will perform.

Another of the novelties of the main festival is the person in charge of making the proclamation. This year it will be Casimir Arajol, a cultural activist, a well-known person in the parish, much loved and with extensive knowledge of Andorra la Vella. «He has just turned 90 years old and for him to act as a crier is the best tribute we can did to him», stressed Canturri. Next, the Esbart dancaire will perform the Dansa del pregón, to kick off the four days of celebration.

«It's a very varied party for all audiences and there will be a performance by the castellers of the

Xiquets de Valls», commented Astrié. For children, various proposals from the Children's Council have been programmed, such as the foam party, the water party and a children's gymnasium. A new activity will also be offered this year: Football with remote-controlled cars for



**DAVID ASTRIÉ**

MAJOR CONSUL FROM ANDORRA LA VELLA

«In recent years we have managed to bring the festivities to the center of the parish and have given it strength»

**MIQUEL CANTURRI**

JUNIOR CONSUL FROM ANDORRA LA VELLA

«He has just turned 90 years old and for him to act as a crier is the best tribute we can did to him»

over 10-year-olds in the square of the old fire station.

This 2023 there will also be a castle display in Plaça Príncep Benlloch with the Colla Jove dels xiquets de Valls, as Astrié commented, sardana and couplet dances, the Mercat de la Vall, which will be held all weekend at the Center historical until 11:00 p.m., circus shows at night and al fresco cinema in Ciutat de Valls.

In the area of popular culture and traditions, you will see the participation of the giant gangs of Sant Pol de Mar and Valls, twin cities with the parish. «We wanted to bring back the popular parade that had been celebrated with such success years ago», remarked Canturri.

The Consul Major was asked about the amount allocated for this Major Festival. Astrié and Canturri commented that there has been a 5% increase compared to last year and this year 350,000 euros have been allocated.

The festivities concerts used to take place in the car park next to Pyrénées, a place far from the center and any local bars. «Bringing it to Plaça Guiller mó has been a success because it's more surrounded by bars», highlighted Astrié. ≡

**unmissable**

**Delafé y las Flores Azules + Porto Bello**

**August 4th at 11 p.m**

Guiller mó Square

**Gertrudis and Buhos**

**August 5th at 11:30 p.m**

Guiller mó Square

**La Principal de la Bisbal + Els Senyora**

**August 6th at 11 p.m**

Guiller mó Square

**Melendi**

**August 7th at 9 p.m**

Municipal bus parking - Prada Casadet



**Eufòria: Mariona, Triquell and Edu**

**August 7th at 11 p.m**

Guiller mó Square

**Water festival**

**Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th August from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. and from 3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.**

Central Park

**Foam party**

**Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th August from 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

Central Park

**Open-air cinema: «Lenos de Gracia»**

**Sunday, August 6th at 10 p.m**

Courtyard of the old Spanish school in Ciutat de Valls

**Children's gymnasium**

**Monday, August 7th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m**

Central Park

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