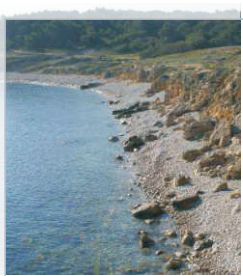




**Les Planasses-Salpatx**, located in the municipality of l'Escala, is a coastal limestone area. Geologically, it is a northward extension of the Montgrí Massif. It is a small hill, approximately 60 m high. As is characteristic of the seafront of this Massif, there is a constant presence of cliffs, islets, reefs and pebble beaches.



In addition to the spectacular landscape and morphology of the coastal façade, there is a high density of plant communities distributed over a small area -about 40 hectares-, as well as the shapes that many of the species take as they adapt to the severe conditions imposed by external agents, such as the Tramontane wind and the high salinity conditions.



L'Escala-Empúries



Ajuntament de l'Escala

Plaça de les Escoles, 1  
17130 l'Escala (Girona)  
Tel. 972 77 06 03  
turisme@lescala.cat

[www.visitlescala.com](http://www.visitlescala.com)

ENG

## Slot Les Planasses Salpatx



Foto: Miquel Bataller



L'Escala-Empúries

# Main Natural Environments

Alongside the coastal limestone cliffs, with small pebble bays and rocky ledges that are extremely exposed to the Tramontane wind, the space comprises a dune area, which is both embryonic and stabilised or residual: Aleppo pine forests (*Pinus halepensis*) and stone pine forests (*Pinus pinea*), thickets — mainly rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) and Kermes oak (*Quercus coccifera*) —, and dry meadows, such as grasses (*Brachypodium retusum*) and the perennial false brome (*Brachypodium phoenicoides*).

Within this space, there are more than 270 species and the flora includes the presence of endemic and/or protected flora, such as goat's thorn (*Astragalus tragacantha*), lavenders (*Limonium* spp.), sea daffodil (*Pancretium maritimum*), campion (*Silene sclerocarpa*) and armeria (*Armeria ruscinonensis*). In addition, the combination of a limestone substrate and sandy materials leads, in some places, to the coexistence of plants with very contrasting soil preferences. Although the calcicolous plants or those indifferent to the substrate are predominant, the number of plants that thrive in siliceous soil is significant. These include *Genista linifolia* and the *Cistus crispus*.

At present, nearly all of the space is part of the national park of Montgrí, Medes Iland and Baix Ter and the Natura 2000 Network.

The area can be explored by means of a path between the port of Clota and the Montgó bay, which are on the GR-92. Bunkers built to control the Bay of Roses have been conserved on this stretch.



**1. Aleppo pine forests.** These form the most extensive wooded space. They are notable due to the tortuous shapes presented by many of the individual trees on the seafront, which have suffered the effects of the Tramontane wind.

**2. Kermes oak and rosemary.** These are the most common shrubs. They are characterised by sharp, aromatic plants established on rough, rocky ground.

**3. Coastal dune.** This coastal sandy environment of great ecological value is located in a single place and covers a very small surface area. In this area, we find coastal dunes in an embryonic state and also covered by vegetation.

**4. Coastal cliffs.** Limestone cliffs of up to 40 metres high define the structure of the seafront. Pebble beaches, islets, caves, reefs and headlands define a geomorphology that is as diverse as it is spectacular, and are inhabited by many species of flora of great ecological interest.

**5. Residual dunes planted with pine trees.** This sandy environment has been pulled by the Tramontane wind. It is currently fixed through the planting of pine trees, to prevent the wind advancing and clogging more inland areas.

