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**Press release - 21 September 2020**

**Baqueira plans to open the winter season in the first week of December**

**The resort of Val d’Aran and Valls d’Àneu has upgraded its facilities for the new 2020-2021 winter season, including the normal tasks on the slopes as well as the indoor facilities, ensuring that the resort is safe and sanitary for visitors and employees. We plan to open 4 areas (Baqueira, Beret, Bonaigua and Baciver) in the first week of December, if conditions allow.**

**To keep people as safe as possible and ensure a speedy pass process, the mobile app has been improved by adding the BaqueiraPASS, and a top-up pass has been introduced which allows you to easily and conveniently top-up online on skiing days - meaning you don't need to physically go to the booths each time you visit the slopes.**

During a summer where the mountains have been a refuge for many visitors, Baqueira Beret has worked hard on the slopes and the food, office and other service facilities. In the mountain area, the resort technicians have significantly improved snow production, with the completion of the Beret lake which helps ensure good snow coverage in one of the most popular parts of the resort. Other work completed in the area includes maintenance of ski lifts, buildings, machinery and slopes, which ensure an opening at the start of an even bigger season, since the objective this winter, weather permitting, is to cover as many of the 167 km of available routes across Baqueira, Beret, Bonaigua and Baciver.

In the indoor food, office, equipment rental areas, etc. the customer service areas have been adapted to comply with COVID-19 protection measures. During the summer, Hotel Montarto applied the health measures outlined by the authorities, which means that its infrastructure and operations are already ready to tackle the pandemic. The resort also opened the Blanhiblar ski lift to visitors during the summer period, which means that social distancing and hygiene measures have been established for using the ski lift which can be carried through to winter, as well as other measures as indicated by the health protocols outlined by the authorities.

**Digital upgrades**

A significant step has also been made in digitalising processes, with the BaqueiraPASS added to the Baqueira mobile app (available on iOS and Android) so the pass can easily be topped up without visiting the booths. The new app offers more features like geolocation, a 3D trail map and the option to make a booking at the resort’s restaurants. The BaqueiraPASS is a personal card which provides the user with their own area to manage the pass. They can top up their own pass (or their family and friends’ passes) for a whole season or for single days at reduced rates, and without needing to visit the booths. In addition, this winter a top-up pass is also being introduced which allows customers without a BaqueiraPASS to top-up online, without needing to visit the booths. The free holder for this product only needs to be collected the first time from different resort points or partner locations.

The planned start of the season is the first week of December, and the end of the season for the first week in April - depending on the snow, health and economic conditions. Throughout autumn and winter the resort is continuing to provide its customers with an online booking centre at [**www.viajes.baqueira.es**](http://www.viajes.baqueira.es) where you can get everything you need to enjoy the snow at the best price, guaranteed.

**More press information**:

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