

## Verger or Ses Ànimes tower viewpoint

### Location



Municipality: Banyalbufar

U.T.M. coordinates (31N ETRS89):  
X: 457129  
Y: 4392771



### Difficulty and duration



1 min

1 2 3

### Access

The viewpoint is at km point 88+600 on the Ma-10 road that runs along the Serra de Tramuntana.

### Principal interest

Tectonic

### Secondary interest

Geomorphological

## Description of the locality

The Torre des Verger offers a view of the southern structure of the Tramuntana range.

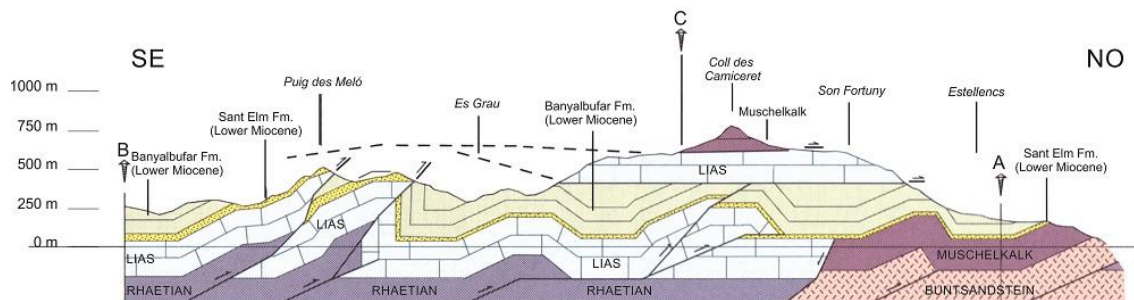


Torre des Verger and view from its interior over the coast of the southern end of the Tramuntana

The Tramuntana range constitutes a mountainous alignment oriented SW-NE with a length of 89 km and an average width of 15 km. The line of summits exceed 600 m and the highest part corresponds to the central sector, the Puig Major being the highest point at 1445 m.

These important reliefs are formed by large masses of rock called laminas which have slid and piled up one each other in the form of thrust faults due to a force of compression.

The base of the slide tends to correspond to a more deformable soft level, in this case from the Rethian (Upper Triassic, 225-200 Ma) and is called the gliding plane or *décollement*, over which slide hard materials, normally of the Lias (Lower Jurassic, 200-185 Ma). The origin of these thrust faults is situated in a period of intense activity called the Alpine Orogeny, which began some 25 Ma ago.

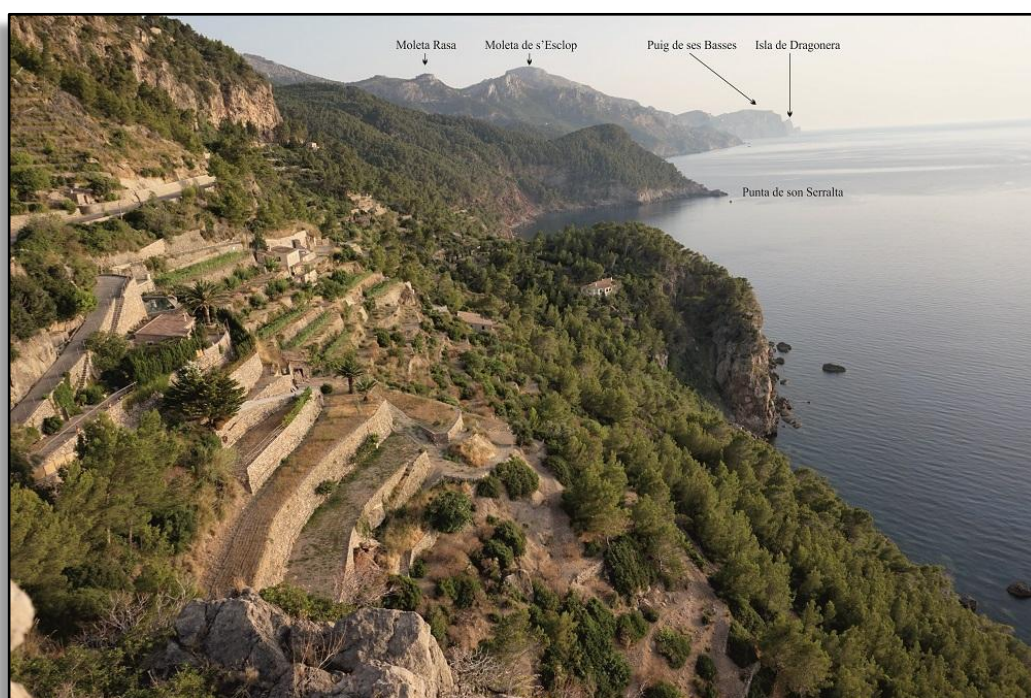


Tectonic diagram of the Serra de Tramuntana in the Banyalbufar zone (modified from Bernardí Gelabert, 1998).

There is a great difference between the coasts of the central and northern sectors of the range and the southern sector where we are now. While the central and northern coast is predominated by the large limestone cliffs of the Lias, carved sheer over the sea, the southern sector has outcrops of the Triassic and the Lower Miocene which, being softer, form steep slopes.

Due to the steepness of the slope and the nature of the materials forming it, there are frequent spoon-shaped slides (also called circular or rotational) and, in the vicinity of the Jurassic reliefs, rock falls.

In this zone of the island there are abundant terracings on the slope (*marjades*) for agricultural exploitation, created by means of stone walls (*marges*). These terracings favour the stability of the slope.



View from the Torre des Verger. In the distance, the silhouette of Isla Dragonera can be seen.

### For more information

Bernardí Gelabert Ferrer, 1997. *La estructura geológica de la mitad occidental de la isla de Mallorca*. Doctoral thesis. Colección Memorias del ITGE. 129 pp.

### Recommendations

It is recommended to visit the viewpoint in the early morning or late evening, as these are the moments of the day when the atmosphere tends to be at its clearest.

It is recommended to follow the Itinerary of Geological Interest Cala Estellencs-Banyalbufar, or to visit the SGI of Cala Estellencs.