

# Geographic Names Standardization Policy for Andorra

United States Board on Geographic Names  
Foreign Names Committee



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## 1. Introduction

This geographic names standardization policy has been prepared as an aid to those geographic names experts who are the working staff for the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in the standardization of the geographic names of Andorra for United States Government use. The BGN and its staff work to effect consistent treatment of geographic name spellings in US Government databases, publications, maps, and charts. The country policies are intended to satisfy, in part, the statutory requirements levied upon the BGN in Public Law USC 80-242 to develop principles, policies and procedures for geographic names standardization, and to promulgate decisions with respect to the principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography.

## 2. Languages and Language Policy

### *a. Demographics*

As of July 2017, the population of Andorra is approximately 76,965. There is no majority ethnic group. As of 2016, 46.2% of the population is ethnically Andorran, 26.4% is ethnically Spanish, 12.8% is ethnically Portuguese, and 5% is ethnically French. The remaining 9.6% of the population is classified as ‘other.’<sup>1</sup>

### *b. Languages*

Andorra’s official language is Catalan (ISO 639-3 code ‘cat’). French, Spanish, and Portuguese immigrants continue to use their native languages, but these are not in official use by the government.

### *c. Geographic Names Standardization*

According to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), Andorra’s national authority for geographic names is *la Comissió de Toponímia d’Andorra* (Andorra Toponymy Commission).<sup>2</sup> Within the UNGEGN, Andorra participates in the Romano-Hellenic division.<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Toponymic Policies

### *a. Script and Orthography*

Catalan geographic names standardization policy will follow Catalan orthographic conventions.

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<sup>1</sup> Andorra, *CIA World Factbook*, CIA. URL: <[www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/an.html](http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/an.html)> (Accessed 2 March 2018).

<sup>2</sup> “Authorities List.” *UNGEGN*. United Nations, Web. URL: <[unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/NNA/Authorities\\_list\\_September%202016\\_rev.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/docs/NNA/Authorities_list_September%202016_rev.pdf)> (Accessed 2 March 2018).

<sup>3</sup> “UNGEGN Divisions.” *UNGEGN*. United Nations, Web. URL: <[www.unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/divisions.html](http://www.unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/divisions.html)> (Accessed 2 March 2018).

### **b. Romanization**

Romanization is not required.

### **c. Diacritics**

Diacritics are shown in standardized name forms in conformance with native sources and Catalan orthography. Uppercase letters retain diacritics.

The *punt volat* is a middot that is used in Catalan to represent a geminated letter *L*, differentiating the phoneme from a double *L*. The diacritic can be seen in words such as *col·legi* and *paral·lel*.

The following letter/diacritic combinations are encountered in standardized name forms in Andorra:

Character Name	Upper Case	Unicode Value	Lower Case	Unicode Value
A with grave accent	À	00C0	à	00E0
C with cedilla	Ç	00C7	ç	00E7
E with acute accent	É	00C9	é	00E9
E with grave accent	È	00C8	è	00E8
I with acute accent	Í	00CD	í	00ED
I with dieresis	Ï	00CF	ï	00EF
L with middot	L·	013F	l·	0140
O with acute accent	Ó	00D3	ó	00F3
O with grave accent	Ò	00D2	ò	00F2
U with acute accent	Ú	00DA	ú	00FA
U with dieresis	Ü	00DC	ü	00FC

### **d. Generic Terms**

A generic is a term used to describe a geographic feature, such as ‘river,’ ‘hill,’ and ‘lake.’ If the generic term does not identify the feature, the term should be considered a false generic and should not be added to the generic field of the GNDB. Generic terms are not collected for populated places. Appendix A provides a partial list of common generic terms one may encounter in Andorran geographic names sources.

### **e. Hyphenation, Capitalization, and Spelling**

Andorran geographic names follow Catalan grammar and spelling conventions.

When hyphenated place names are encountered on authoritative sources, they should be included in the feature name, as in *Escaldes-Engordany*.

On native sources, definite articles such as *el*, *la*, *l'*, *els*, and *les* (the) are generally not

capitalized when in initial position as part of the proper feature name; however, in the standardized name form, they should be collected as capitalized. For example, *l'Aldosa de la Massana* (on source) should be collected as *L'Aldosa de la Massana*.

Unless capitalized on the native source, definite articles, conjunctions such as *i* (and), and prepositions (see chart below) found beyond the initial position are written in lowercase letters in the standardized name form, as in *Riu de la Comarca de les Fonts* and *Serra de Coma Obaga i Ferreroles*. If the place name is written in all capital letters on the native source, a non-initial definite article, conjunction, or preposition will be in lower case when the standardized name form is derived, unless nearby associated features suggest otherwise.

In Catalan orthography, when a definite article or the preposition *de* precedes a singular noun that begins with a vowel or an *H*, the article is attached by an apostrophe as in *Obaga de l'Orri* and *Bosc de l'Hoste*.

### **Common prepositions found in Catalan toponyms**

Catalan	English
<i>a</i>	at, to
<i>a l'</i> ( <i>le</i> or <i>la</i> when followed by a vowel or an <i>H</i> )	at the, to the
<i>a la</i>	at the, to the
<i>a les</i>	at the, to the
<i>al</i> (contraction of <i>a + el</i> )	at the, to the
<i>als</i> (contraction of <i>a + els</i> )	at the, to the
<i>d'</i> ( <i>de</i> when preceded by a vowel or an <i>H</i> )	of, from
<i>de</i>	of, from
<i>de l'</i> ( <i>le</i> or <i>la</i> when followed by a vowel or an <i>H</i> )	of the, from the
<i>de la</i>	of the, from the
<i>de les</i>	of the, from the
<i>del</i> (contraction of <i>de + el</i> )	of the, from the
<i>dels</i> (contraction of <i>de + els</i> )	of the, from the
<i>en</i>	in

### **f. Long and Short Forms**

Administrative division names are accorded long and short forms. Example: *Parròquia de Sant Julià de Lòria* [long form]; *Sant Julià de Lòria* [short form]. Short form names are to be ranked as the primary Approved name and the long form as the secondary Approved name.

Long and short forms of names of populated places are approved when supported by official evidence.

Short forms are not added for Variant names in the GNDB.

## ***g. Numbers***

Names containing cardinal or ordinal numerals should be treated according to the following guidelines:

- Arabic numbers are generally expanded in the Catalan language; i.e., *Carretera General Número 3* (on source) should be written as *Carretera General Número Tres*.
- Roman numerals are retained throughout, although these are not commonly found in Andorran geographic names.

These guidelines apply to numerals in both initial and non-initial positions.

## ***h. Abbreviations***

The following is a list of abbreviations of generics which are commonly found on cartographic products of Andorra. This list is not exhaustive, and other abbreviations may be found. Any abbreviations must be spelled out in the GNDB.

<b>Abbreviated Form</b>	<b>Unabbreviated Form</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<i>A.</i>	<i>Avinguda</i>	Street
<i>C.</i>	<i>Carrer</i>	Street
<i>Ctra.</i>	<i>Carretera</i>	Street
<i>Est.</i>	<i>Estany</i>	Lake
<i>Ntra. Sra.</i>	<i>Nostra Senyora</i>	Our Lady
<i>Núm.</i>	<i>Número</i>	Number
<i>Pl.</i>	<i>Plaça</i>	Square
<i>Ptge.</i>	<i>Passatge</i>	Street
<i>St. / Sta.</i>	<i>Sant / Santa</i>	Saint

## **4. Political Geography Policy**

### ***a. Country Name***

Conventional long form:      Principality of Andorra

Conventional short form:      Andorra

Catalan long form:              Principat d'Andorra

Catalan short form:              Andorra

### ***b. Capital Name***

Approved name:                  Andorra la Vella

### ***c. First-order Administrative Divisions***

Andorra consists of seven (7) parishes, which serve as first-order administrative divisions (ADM1s). Please see Appendix A for a map depicting the first-order administrative divisions in Andorra.

#### ***First-order administrative divisions of Andorra***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Generic</b>	<b>GEC</b>	<b>GENC</b>	<b>Seat</b>
Andorra la Vella	Parròquia	AN07	AD-07	Andorra la Vella
Canillo	Parròquia	AN02	AD-02	Canillo
Encamp	Parròquia	AN03	AD-03	Encamp
Escaldes-Engordany	Parròquia	AN08	AD-08	Escaldes-Engordany
La Massana	Parròquia	AN04	AD-04	La Massana
Ordino	Parròquia	AN05	AD-05	Ordino
Sant Julià de Lòria	Parròquia	AN06	AD-06	Sant Julià de Lòria

### ***d. Conventional and Anglicized Names***

#### ***Conventional Names***

<b>Name</b>	<b>UFI</b>	<b>UNI</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Iberian Peninsula	-2167107	-3001016	PEN
Principality of Andorra	-1394437	-2002054	PCLI
Andorra	-1394437	14103743	PCLI

### ***e. Unique Geopolitical Situations***

For the latest information on country-specific boundary disputes, consult the US Department of State Office of the Geographer and Global Issues.

## **5. Sources**

The preferred authority for Andorran map sources is the *Àrea de Cartografia* which falls under the aegis of the *Ministeri d'Ordenament Territorial*. The organization's contact information is below:

Address: Edifici Administratiu Prat del Rull  
C/ de la Grau s/n  
AD500 Andorra la Vella

Phone: +376 875 700

Email: [cartografia@govern.ad](mailto:cartografia@govern.ad)

Website: [www.cartografia.ad](http://www.cartografia.ad)

### ***a. Preferred Sources***

The following is a partial listing of preferred sources to be used for geographic name selection:

#### ***Visor de mapes, IDE Andorra***

[www.ideandorra.ad/geoportal/index.jsp?lang=ca](http://www.ideandorra.ad/geoportal/index.jsp?lang=ca)

This online resource allows users to search for features by name, coordinate, or address.

#### ***Plànols de viles, Cartografia, Govern d'Andorra***

[www.cartografia.ad/planols-de-viles](http://www.cartografia.ad/planols-de-viles)

This is a series of large-scale maps depicting Andorra's main cities; they include the names of streets and major buildings.

#### ***Nomenclàtor d'Andorra, Butlletí Oficial del Principat d'Andorra, 13 October 2010***

[www.bopa.ad/nopa/022060/Documents/687B6.pdf](http://www.bopa.ad/nopa/022060/Documents/687B6.pdf)

This is the official gazetteer of Andorra, published in 2010. The list does not provide coordinates of features, only the *parròquia* in which they are located.

#### ***Valls d'Andorra, 1:10,000 map series, M.I. Consell General, 1976***

This large-scale map series provides complete coverage of the country.

## Appendix A. Glossary of Generic Terms

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
Agulla	peak	PK
Allau	stream(s)	STM
Alt	mountain, peak, ridge(s), slope(s)	MT, PK, RDGE, SLP
Ambaixada	diplomatic facility	DIP
Aspre(s)	vineyard	VIN
Avinguda	street	ST
Balmes	cliff(s)	CLF
Bancal	trail	TRL
Barraca	hut	HUT
Barranc	stream(s)	STM
Baser(s), Basera	cliff(s)	CLF
Bassa	headwaters, lake	STMH, LK
Basses	lake, lakes	LK, LKS
Bassot	lake	LK
Boïga, Boïgues	cultivated area	CULT
Bony	hill, mountain, peak, rock, spur(s)	HLL, MT, PK, RK, SPUR
Borda, Bordes	farm, hut	FRM, HUT
Bosc, Boscarró, Bosquet	forest	FRST
Cabana	hut	HUT
Cal	house	HSE
Callissa	stream(s)	STM
Camí	trail	TRL
Càmping	camp	CMP
Canal(s)	canal, ravine(s), stream(s)	CNL, RVN, STM
Canya	cave(s), gorge(s)	CAVE, GRGE
Cap	peak, ridge(s), spur(s)	PK, RDGE, SPUR
Carena	ridge(s)	RDGE
Carrer, Carrera	road, trail	RD, TRL
Carrerada, Carrerons	trail	TRL
Carretera, Carretera General	road	RD
Casa	house	HSE
Cascada	waterfall(s)	FLLS
Cementiri	cemetery	CMTY
Circ	cirque	CRQ
Clot(s)	cirque, headwaters, ravine(s), slope(s), talus slope	CRQ, STMH, RVN, SLP, TAL



Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
Clotada	ravine(s), slope(s)	RVN, SLP
Coll, Collada	gap, pass, peak, spur(s)	GAP, PASS, PK, SPUR
Collades	pass	PASS
Col·legi	school	SCH
Collet	pass, peak, spur(s)	PASS, PK, SPUR
Coma	cirque, headwaters, ravine(s), slope(s), valley	CRQ, STMH, RVN, SLP, VAL
Comella	ravine(s), stream(s)	RVN, STM
Comes	valley	VAL
Cóms	lake	LK
Conreu	cultivated area	CULT
Consolat	diplomatic facility	DIP
Corral	grazing area	GRAZ
Cortal(s)	corral(s), hut	CRRL, HUT
Costa	slope(s), spur(s)	SLP, SPUR
Costes	slope(s)	SLP
Cova, Coves	cave(s)	CAVE
Cresta	spur(s), ridge(s)	SPUR, RDGE
Crestes	cliff(s)	CLF
Cylindre	peak	PK
Devesa	grazing area	GRAZ
Drecera	trail	TRL
Emprius	park	PRK
Escola	school	SCH
Església	church	CH
Estació Meteorològica	weather station	STNM
Estany	lake, reservoir	LK, RSV
Estanyó	lake	LK
Estanys	lakes	LKS
Estret	gorge(s), pass	GRGE, PASS
Étang	lake	LK
Feixa(ns)	cultivated area	CULT
Font(s)	stream(s), spring(s)	STM, SPNG
Fontanal	spring	SPNG
Forat	ravine(s)	RVN
Gorges	gorge(s)	GRGE
Grau	ravine(s), slope(s)	RVN
Hospital	hospital	HSP

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
Llac	lake	LK
Llanesques	cliff(s)	CLF
Llosers	quarry(-ies)	MNQR
Marrades	trail	TRL
Mas	farm	FRM
Molí	mill	ML
Museu	museum	MUS
Obac, Obaga, Obagot, Obagues	slope(s)	SLP
Oratori	church	CH
Pala	cliff(s), slope(s), spur(s)	CLF, SLP, SPUR
Palanca	bridge	BDG
Pales	cliff(s), slope(s)	CLF, SLP
Parc	park	PRK
Parròquia	first-order administrative division	ADM1
Pas	pass, trail	PASS, TRL
Passatge, Passeig	street	ST
Pedrusques	talus slope(s)	TAL
Península	peninsula	PEN
Pic(s)	mountain, peak, ridge(s)	MT, PK, RDGE
Pla	upland	UPLD
Plaça, Placeta	square	SQR
Plana	slope(s), upland	SLP, UPLD
Planada, Planades, Planell(s)	upland	UPLD
Planella	spur(s)	SPUR
Pleta, Pletes	grazing area	GRAZ
Pont	bridge	BDG
Port, Portell, Portella	pass	PASS
Prat(s)	grazing area	GRAZ
Presa	dam	DAM
Principat	independent political entity	PCLI
Ras	slope(s)	SLP
Rec	stream(s)	STM
Riu(s)	stream(s), section of stream	STM, STMX
Roc(s)	cliff(s), mountain, peak, promontory(-ies), ridge(s), rock, rocks, slope(s), spur(s)	CLF, MT, PK, PROM, RDGE, RK, RKS, SLP, SPUR
Roca	peak, rock, rocks, slope(s)	PK, RK, RKS, SLP

Generic	Generic Designation	Designation Code
Roques	rocks	RKS
Rotonda	traffic circle	RDCR
Saleres	salt area	SALT
Santuari	church	CH
Serra	mountain, ridge(s), spur(s)	MT, RDGE, SPUR
Serrat	ridge(s), slope(s), spur(s)	RDGE, SLP, SPUR
Solà, Solana, Solanelles	slope(s)	SLP
Tartera	slope(s), talus slope	SLP, TAL
Tarteres	talus slope	TAL
Terregalls	ridge(s), spur(s), talus slope	RDGE, SPUR, TAL
Toll	grazing area	GRAZ
Torrent	stream(s)	STM
Tosa	peak, slope(s), upland	PK, SLP, UPLD
Tossal	peak, spur(s)	PK, SPUR
Túnel(s)	tunnel(s)	TNL
Turó	peak, spur(s)	PK, SPUR
Vall	valley	VAL
Vial	road, trail	RD, TRL

## Appendix B. First-order Administrative Divisions of Andorra<sup>4</sup>



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<sup>4</sup> Source: Wikipedia.org