

**Current information for the site IDA contact:**

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**Does the site currently have a Provisional status? If so, what work has been done in the past year to resolve concerns that resulted in the Provisional designation?**

Albanyà Dark Sky Park was officially designated an IDA dark sky park on July 1st 2017 by John Barentine. Since then We've upgraded our lighting inventory by replacing all outdoor lighting at Bassegoda Park n. New lights are 2200K LED.



**Does the site plan to apply for a tier status upgrade in the future? If so, what work has been done in the past year furthering the application?**

IDA designation at Albanyà has had a great impact on spreading the word about light pollution. As a consequence, the town of St. Llorenç located a few miles east of Albanyà is considering upgrading their street lights to reduce the level of light pollution. Although they have not expressed their formal will to adhere to the park as of yet.

**Were any new lighting projects completed this year? If so, describe.**

This year, we've built a new stadium for the Albanyà astronomical observatory with the goal to enable our guests to be comfortable all year around. A new lighting system is setup to highlight the presentation of the stargazing sessions. A very dim illumination is used.

As part of our outreach activities we educate our visitors about the threat of light pollution. To this effect, we intentionally have some small 3W green LED and blue LED lights pointing at the entrance of the stadium and at the observatory that only light up before dusk to educate people on how this kind of lighting is inappropriate. Needless to say, this is not public lighting and astronomers make sure all colour lights are turned off before astronomical twilight except for red and orange lighting to preserve the night sky.



**Stadium picture just after Sunset and before nautical twilight. (Taken with Modified Canon 6D).**



**Stadium lighting during nautical twilight. (Taken with Modified Canon 6D).**



**Stadium lighting during the stargazing session at round 23:00. (Taken with Modified Canon 6D).**

**Is any lighting within the Park/Reserve non-compliant with the LMP (as permitted at the time of IDA designation)? If so, what is the plan to bring the remainder into compliance within the allowed window of time?**

Some exposed light bulbs at the restaurant of Bassegoda Park are not yet fully IDA compliant. Due to their low impact (as the restaurant typically is closed when astronomical night comes) we haven't changed those particular lights yet. The trees above these lights are growing fast and are starting to naturally shield those lights. If we see that shielding is insufficient, we'll replace the lights within the allowed window of time.

**Was any new territory added to the Park/Reserve? If so, does any lighting on it comply with the LMP? If lighting on new territory doesn't comply, is there a plan to bring it into compliance?**

No territory has been added to the Park yet.

**Were any changes made to local/municipal outdoor lighting policy in the past year? If so, describe and include text of any code language added or changed.**

No changes were made to the already adequate and IDA compliant municipal outdoor lighting policy. The town of Albanyà is pilot testing a new kind of LED lighting made by Ignia light with color temperature of 2700K. Although there are no official plans to adopt this kind of lighting yet.



**Pilot testing of 2700K LED lighting.**

**Were there any new municipal lighting installations (or similar, large-scale installations on commercial property) built in the last year to show as examples built to your dark sky-friendly code?**

The new Albanyà Astronomical Observatory stadium is precisely built following a strict dark sky-friendly code to teach visitors on how appropriately use lighting.

**Estimate number of site visitors in the last year. Of those, how many participated in dark-skies programming?**

We've been visited by 15.000 people, including families, 14 schools and high schools. All learning centres and up to 6.000 people participated in dark skies programming.

**Were sky quality data taken in the past year?**

We now use the observatory (MPC code L17) to routinely assess sky brightness as we frequently detect magnitude 20 asteroids. We haven't detected any significant changes to sky brightness.

**Is a permanently mounted sky monitor installed, or are there plans to install one?**

There are mid-term plans to install a dark sky monitor in one of the mountain peaks.

**Any ongoing conservation and/or research programs at the site? If so, who runs them, and what are the goals?**

Camping Bassegoda Park run conservation programs to teach kids about the dangers of light pollution. Observatori Astronòmic Albanyà also does that as part of its weekly outreach activities. There's an upcoming research paper from the Leibniz-Institute for Astrophysics featuring an exoplanet light curve taken at Observatori Astronòmic Albanyà.

**Currently administering any grants related to dark-skies programming? If so, describe. Were any new grants won this year? Are there plans to apply for any future grants?**

We do not administer any kind of grant of that nature. We would appreciate if you could inform us of any grants similar to what you describe.

**Is any programming ongoing or planned blending the arts/culture with dark skies? If so, describe.**

Yes, Festival Art I Cel is intended to be a festival performed on a yearly basis to blend art with the skies. We'll have famous musicians and composers like Pep Sala participating.

<https://www.observatorialbanya.com/ca-festival-articel>

**Were any new outreach programs started this year? if so, are they complete or ongoing? Are statistics available (e.g., how many visitors served, donations, etc.)?**

Yes, as mentioned previously, we started a program to educate students on schools and high schools. On May 2018 the first scholarship program of Albanyà Astronomical Observatory was introduced. Participants underwent a three day intensive training in our astronomical facilities. At the end of the course, a winner student was selected (among all participants) to join the Shelios 2018 scientific expedition to Namibia, Africa.

The Albanyà Astronomical Observatory Scholarship program is targeted towards 15-16 year old High School students in Alt Empordà country with interest in science and technology.

Participating high schools selected up to three students to participate in our scholarship program.

These programs are ongoing, hopefully we'll be able to provide statistics by next year.

**Any new media coverage you would like us to know about? May include e.g., PDFs as attachments**



**A new sign has been placed at the entrance of Albanyà to raise awareness of Albanyà IDA dark sky park.**

**State newspapers**

<http://www.elmundo.es/cataluna/2018/03/11/5aa4270f268e3ef7488b46af.html>

<https://www.elperiodico.com/es/sociedad/20170702/inauguran-un-nuevo-observatorio-astronomico-en-albanya-girona-6142311>

**State TV Channel 5 (Minute 33)**

[https://www.telecinco.es/informativos/informativos\\_fin\\_de\\_semana/Informativos-Telecinco-Fin-Semana\\_2\\_2601930048.html](https://www.telecinco.es/informativos/informativos_fin_de_semana/Informativos-Telecinco-Fin-Semana_2_2601930048.html)

**Catalan TV (Minute 31)**

<http://www.ccma.cat/tv3/alcanta/telenoticies-migdia/telenoticies-migdia-27072018/video/5779178/#.W2EInUVvOqU.facebook>

**Regional newspapers**

<https://www.diaridegirona.cat/alt-emporda/2017/07/01/albanya-estrena-observatori-astronomic-telescopi/854554.html>

<http://www.horanova.cat/albanya-tindra-lobservatori-astronomic-mes-gran-de-les-comarques-gironines/>

<https://gironanoticies.com/noticia/46144--albanya-inaugura-lobservatori-astronomic.htm>

<http://www.elpuntavui.cat/territori/article/-/1164007.html>