Torrent du Fournel

Fournel

Create: 2023-08-18 10:18:22	**Update:** 2025-09-25 19:34:35	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:05
Country: France **Region:** Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur / Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur **Subregion:** Hautes-Alpes **Town:** L'Argentière-la-Bessée		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v2 a3 II	**Total time:** 1h40
Approachtime: 10min	**Tourtime:** 1h20	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 1250m	**Altitude exit:** 1210m	**Delta Altitude:** 40m
Canyon length: 750m	**Highest rapell:** 5m	**Amount rapells:** 3
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** 45.00km²
Season: July - September	**Orientation:** East	**Best Time:** 10-16 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 3.1 (7)	**Info:** ★ 2.6 (7)	**Belay:** ★ 2.6 (7)

Specialities:
Dam (autom. flushing),

Gear:
Ropes: 1x 20m

Summary: (machine translated)
The descent is a series of small ledges and slides.

Hydrology: (machine translated)
There is a clearly visible scale at the entrance to the canyon - if the water level is above the "0" mark, you must leave the canyon immediately. Attention, there are warning signals in the canyon - if these are triggered, the water intake has been opened and the canyon must be evacuated immediately. Nobody is allowed to stay in the canyon after 6 pm.

Access: (machine translated)
In L'Argentiére, take the road that leads to the Fournel valley and the silver mines of the same name. Follow the road to the parking lot of the mine, which is the lower parking lot (small wooden hut with telephone booth).

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot, follow the asphalt road uphill to the beginning of the canyon (signposted).

Tour: (machine translated)
The level can change quickly. The canyon has a number of exits that are equipped like via ferratas and, above all, are well marked. There is a scale at the entrance that shows the water level.
Access to the canyon is only permitted when the scale at the entrance to the canyon shows 0 or lower. No one is allowed in the canyon after 6 pm.

The descent consists of a series of small jumps, slides, etc. (Check the water depth!). (Check the water depth! The level can change quickly)
During the walk down, there are 3 or 4 passages under blocks or siphons that break up the descent. One of the siphons is remarkable in the middle of the canyon. The blocks form a floor with a siphon in the middle. Despite the feeling of confinement, it goes very well and you end up in the pool below in a fraction of a second. Everything can be done without ropes, without having to worry.

July to September seems to be the best time for this canyon, which is heavily frequented by tour guides.

It is the most frequented canyon of the Haut Val-Durance as it is one of the easiest and is suitable for a first discovery of the area, taking place in a beautiful natural setting. If you know how to use the terrain, it even offers good opportunities for jumps, slides and unexpected passages.

Return: (machine translated)
At the mine, exit on the left bank via the path

Coordinates:

Parking lot Alternative access 44.7905 6.5220
Parking at Exit 44.7872 6.5339
Parking at Entry 44.7890 6.5268
Alternative Canyon Start 44.7899 6.5236
Canyon End 44.7860 6.5339
Canyon Start 44.7887 6.5264

Reports:

2026-08-12 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2026-08-09 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel Le passage qui a été mortel à un canyoniste l'an dernier est dans l'étroiture du canyon, vers l'endroit où un tronc d'arbre est bloqué entre les deux parois. C'est au niveau d'un énorme rocher qui divise le courant en deux. La partie de droite est une petite désescalade, pas très haute, mais où le courant peut être important ; le canyoniste l'avait descendu assis, prudemment, mais sa longe ou une quincaillerie suspendu à son baudrier s'est accrochée dans les rochers, ce qui a entraîné la noyade. On peut la contourner en prenant le rappel sur le bras de gauche du torrent. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2026-08-05 | Kanyon Kerke | ★★★½ |🕮 ★★★ |⚓ ★★★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
The canyon was extremely crowded today. You quickly find yourself stuck among the commercial groups, which makes the whole experience very uncomfortable. A crowded canyon. (machine translated)

2026-07-30 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Crazy | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel Depuis plusieurs jours, un incendie brule sur la commune de l'Argentière et de Freissinières. Le canyon et la route d'accès ont donc été fermés afin de facilité le travail des pompiers. A partir de demain, le canyon sera provisoirement réouvert pour les groupes encadrés par des pros et l'accès au parking de départ sera limité à un seul véhicule par groupe. Ceci est provisoire et l'on espère un retour à la normal très prochainement, dès que l'incendie sera définitivement éteint. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2026-07-18 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Crazy | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel Attention, ce canyon est certes facile mais n'est pas une Rando aquatique donc il est indispensable d'avoir une corde et du matériel de canyoning adapté. De plus, vérifié le profondeur avant de sauter car la profondeur des vasques varie assez souvent. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2026-07-03 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2026-06-27 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel -10 à l'echelle.Vu personne.Pas de changement notable sur le parcours. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2025-09-07 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel Dernier Fournel de la saison. Personne dans le canyon. -10 a l'échelle. Top conditions. Pas vu de conséquences notables des récentes crues. Tout passe comme d'habitude. Toujours peu de fond dans le second ressaut de l'étroiture finale. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2025-09-05 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Fournel Attention, les sauts qui étaient encore possibles la semaine dernière ne l'étaient plus aujourd'hui, car l'eau dans les bassins n'arrivait plus qu'à hauteur des hanches. Prudence donc après de fortes pluies.Descente agréable et très court, si vous n'êtes pas encore épuisé après avoir parcouru un autre canyon de la région. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/276/observations.html)

2025-09-05 | Christian Balla | ★★½ |🕮 ★★ |⚓ ★★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Compared to a week ago, hardly anything is still jumpable - pools are full and sometimes only knee-deep (machine translated)

2025-08-30 | Christian Balla | ★★½ |🕮 ★★ |⚓ ★★★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Nice canyon. Nice cuts, even if only short - great rock. Lots of groups on the way. The "upper parking lot" makes