Grabenbach / Jabron

Grabenbach

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:53	**Update:** 2026-08-07 00:03:28	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:17
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Oberösterreich **Subregion:** Bezirk Gmunden **Town:** Bad Ischl		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v3 a3 III	**Total time:** 2h40
Approachtime: 30min	**Tourtime:** 2h	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 690m	**Altitude exit:** 550m	**Delta Altitude:** 140m
Canyon length: 900m	**Highest rapell:** 15m	**Amount rapells:** 11
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:** 11-15 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 3.8 (20)	**Info:** ★ 2.4 (12)	**Belay:** ★ 2.5 (17)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x40m

Summary: (machine translated)
Be sure to check the water level before starting the tour; good physical condition and sure footing are required; slippery throughout; the double cascade is dangerous when the water level is high; many sections require walking and climbing; many rappelling spots are in the water jet; some jumps can be done with caution

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
Coming from Strobel on Lake Wolfgang, head toward Bad Ischl --> after the tunnel, turn right into the Rettenbach Valley --> after the bridge near the inn, follow the mountain road/gravel road (dead-end sign) --> !Do not drive to the exit of the road; instead, park on the left at a large street alcove (a small forest road branches off to the right here)

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot, head right down the forest road --> before the bridge, you can check the water level at the wooden measuring station --> after the bridge, continue along the steep forest road --> past the commemorative plaques --> shortly after that, follow the trail down to the stream (small cairn on a tree stump; see “Waypoint” coordinates).

For the “alternative canyon start,” you can continue to the clearing (flat area) and enter the stream here to the right, just before the raised stand (small red iron bridge at the entry!).

Tour: (machine translated)
From the “Alternative Canyon Start” (approx. 4 hours): Immediately after the bridge comes the first slide, which you can also downclimb and jump off --> after a short walking passage, there’s an approx. 12-meter rappel into the “Dome” --> after the “Dome,” there’s a longer walking passage -->
From ‘Canyon Start’ (approx. 2 hours): The route begins with the well-known double cascade (approx. 2 x 15-meter rappels), which can be very dangerous when water levels are high (however, there are enough bolts to set up a rope system) --> After this section, several slippery walking/climbing passages and smaller abseil sections follow in the middle of the canyons --> Ideally, there are also several jumping spots (usually very slippery) --> At the end of the canyons, continue to the confluence with the Rettenbach.

The belay station at the excavator wreck is difficult to reach—an alternative belay station with no risk of falling is located on the orographic right at this point.

Return: (machine translated)
Once you reach the Rettenbach, hike upstream until you find a spot where you can start the (steep!) ascent up to the forest road. Once you reach the top, follow the road to the right back to the parking lot.

Coordinates:
Alternative Canyon Start 47.6806 13.6945
Canyon Start 47.6859 13.6858
Canyon End 47.6924 13.6803
Parking Entry and Exit 47.6932 13.6838
Waterlevel Checkpoint 47.6923 13.6806
Waypoint 47.6865 13.6865

Reports:

2026-10-04 | Der Insel Affe | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | 👍 Completed
Awesome canyon—I'll definitely do it again. However, it's VERY slippery right now. To get out, I'd recommend heading up off-trail right below the parking lot, since we walked along the stream all the way to the bridge. There are a couple of "technical" rappels along the way, including some overhanging ones. (machine translated)

2026-10-03 | Marosffy Dániel | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | Low | 👍 Completed
It is not simply slippery, it is extreme. One can hardly stand on feet. The infamous double cascade can be bypassed on the right, but this time it was simple. The excavator wreck is rather a sad experience, for I guess there might have been someone in it when it fell. The entire canyon is somewhat gloomy.

2026-09-08 | Michael Bräuer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ | Low | 👍 Completed
Unfortunately, there are a few more trees in the canyon than last time (e.g., a large beech tree). Otherwise, everything's fine ... (machine translated)

2026-08-23 | Wolfgang | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 | ⚓ | Normal | 👍 Completed
But there have been some changes since my last visit over a year ago; unfortunately, there’s also more wood in inconvenient places; still, it’s beautiful and worth restoring (machine translated)

2026-08-02 | Michael Bräuer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | 👍 Completed
Cool canyon! Next time, though, I’d skip the upper section and just do the lower part... Unfortunately, there was very little water—if the water level were higher, the 10-meter slide would be more fun and some of the jumps would be less nerve-wracking... It was brutally slippery in places... The excavator was totally impressive! (machine translated)

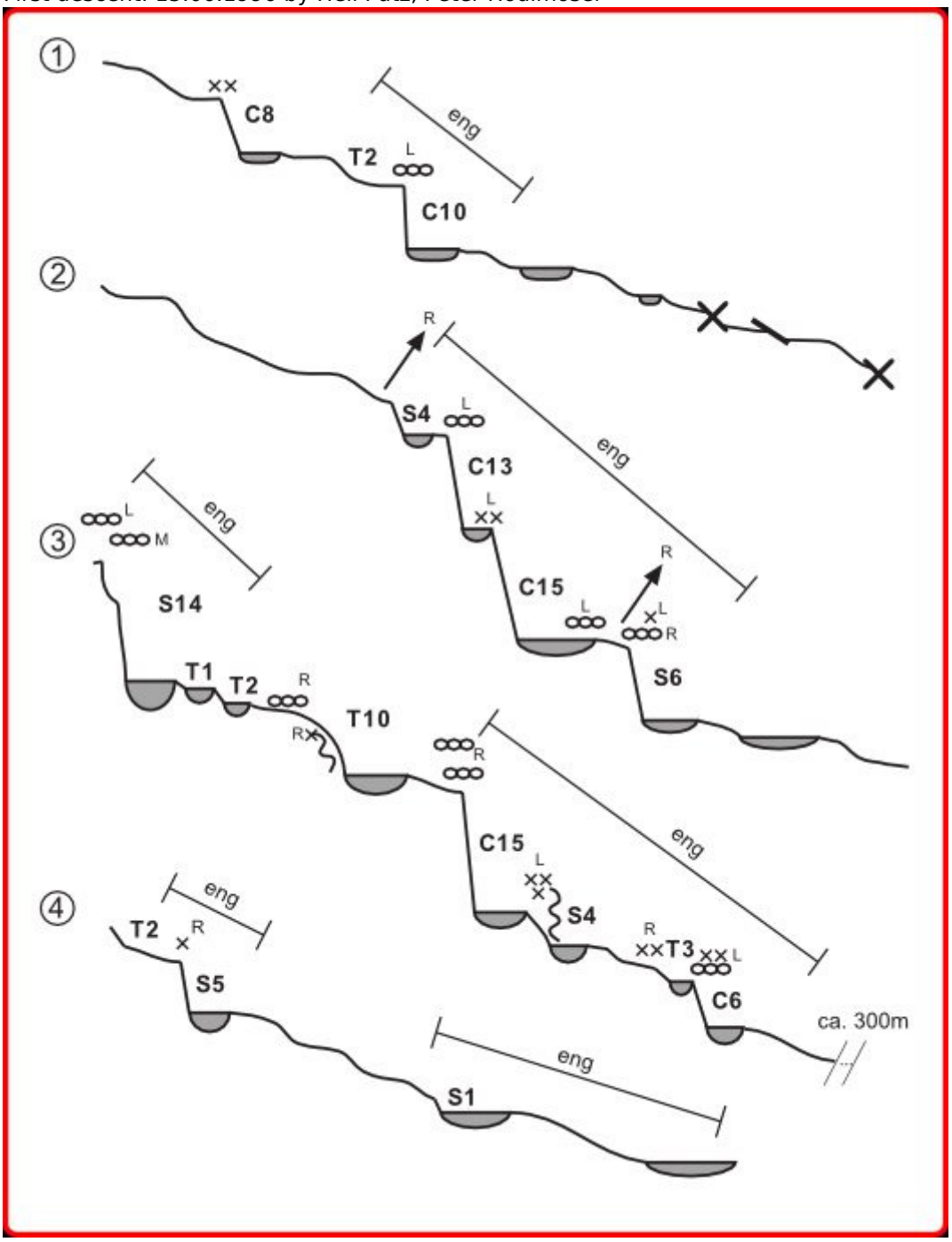
2026-07-22 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | 👍 Completed
We checked out the lower section. Everything was fine (regarding the last comment about the spot near the excavator wreck—there’s actually another one to the right with no risk of falling). Not all of the pools have enough depth to jump! (machine translated)

2026-06-26 | Aivaras | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | 👍 Completed
The approach and the canyon itself are in the shade pretty much all the time so it's not too bad even during the hot summer days. The canyon itself is slippery, but all the anchors are in great condition. Despite that, in order to reach an anchor near the excavator wreckage, you have to walk on a slippery, unsecured section right next to the drop, which was not too fun (perhaps there was another anchor I simply did not see). Like others have said, it's not really worth it to start the canyon right from the beginning as it's mainly just walking. If I'm ever gonna repeat it, I will start from the "alternative start", the waterfall. Funnily enough, the most challenging part for me was finding the path to the exit. For this reason, I would suggest going backwards: first finding the path that leads back from the parking to the end of the canyon, then walking back and towards the start. Also, personally I had no reception anywhere at the canyon and even at the parking lot. The only place where the reception was ok, was the bridge, a few hundred meters from the parking lot.

2026-06-06 | Florian Heufler | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | High | 👍 Completed
We went down the Grabenbach as our second canyon after the Altersbach. The water level was challenging, but we managed it all without any trouble. The Grabenbach has been renovated and is currently very well secured. To check the water level: Where the Grabenbach flows into the Rettenbach, there is a prominent rock; this rock must NOT be submerged—if it isn’t, the canyon is passable! The canyon is currently very slippery. Time: 2 hours for the lower section (machine translated)

2025-08-28 | Montie | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | 👍 Completed
It would make sense to separate the upper and lower part of this canyon (superiore & inferiore, obere & untere etc.). The upper part isn't bad, but the two small rappels, of which one is nice, and a small slide just don't quite make up for the following hike to the lower part. The upper part for me is very much an optional part, which on repeat I would probably leave out. The lower part was, however, much nicer than expected. Perhaps we were lucky, because it wasn't very slippery at all. The water level was nice, no complications or dangers. Nice rappels, some jumps (though a few currently not possible due to the logs in the pools) and narrow sections. Entry for the upper part is not at the clearing but slightly beyond it at a concrete bridge. As for the duration: I was a bit sick, so we (2 people) took our time, had a 20 minute break in between, managed to miss the path out and took a way longer route back, and we still did not need the full 5 hours.

First descent: 15.06.1996 by Heli Putz, Peter Hödlmoser



Topo aus dem Jahr 2014 erstellt von Peter Sykora - Original SVG zum Bearbeiten liegt unter https://canyon.carto.net/cwiki/pub/Canyons/JabronCanyon/jabron_topo.svg