Val Grande (superiore)

Val Grande superiore,Riale Chiegg-Riale Teia,Gordevio - Val Grande superiore

Create: 2023-03-09 20:53:23	**Update:** 2025-05-26 09:03:14	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:55
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Tessin / Cantone Ticino **Subregion:** Bezirk Vallemaggia **Town:** Gordevio		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a3 IV	**Total time:** 5h35
Approachtime: 1h15	**Tourtime:** 3h50	**Returntime:** 30min
Altitude entry: 800m	**Altitude exit:** 450m	**Delta Altitude:** 350m
Canyon length: 880m	**Highest rapell:** 37m	**Amount rapells:** 19
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season: June - September	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.9 (14)	**Info:** ★ 2.7 (9)	**Belay:** ★ 2.6 (13)
Specialities:		
Gear: Ropes: 2x40m		

Summary: (machine translated)
At the beginning vertical rappel canyon, later narrow canyon and towards the exit hiking canyon with smaller rappels and slides.
1h access (at lunchtime in the sun!); be sure to check water level at the lower stone bridge; medium-high rappel; key section after tributary; longer tour; clean cold water; some trees in the canyon; most sun from noon.

Hydrology: (machine translated)
Highest point in the catchment area 2218m; 2/3 of the catchment area is forested/meadows.

Access: (machine translated)
As for the V. Gr. inf.: Coming from Locarno, turn into the Maggia valley at Ponte Brola. After about 4.5 km, cross the stream coming from the Val Grande and turn right immediately after the bridge onto a dirt road. Follow this until the exit, the last few meters across an agricultural estate. Now park your car at the edge of the path above the stream.

An alternative access is via the tarred road, which goes off to the right before the bridge. Park here in a suitable place in front of the barrier.

Approach: (machine translated)
Initially as for Val Gr. inferiore: from the parked car on the path continue upstream, keeping right through the property of a "collector" and on a bridge over the creek. After the bridge, go up on the tarred road. This crosses the Val Grande again. Where you reach some houses, you go up on a mule track under chestnut trees on the right towards Salvabella - apparently a kind of Calvary path. At a prominent bend to the left (520m a.s.l.), a path branches off to the right under trees, signifying the beginning of the descent to the entry to the lower part of Val Grande.\But we continue up the main path, passing the few houses of the hamlet of Dömna (60m a.s.l.) and at 765m a.s.l. we come to a fork in the path with a signpost: we follow the instruction "Cortascia, Chiegg" to the right and at 800m a.s.l. we reach the stone bridge over our stream - in front of it on the right a somewhat larger wayside shrine. To the left of the bridge, a chute leads down to the entry.

Tour: (machine translated)
Arriving at the stone bridge (approx. 770m) you can immediately enjoy the wonderful view --> to make the descent into the stream before the bridge left safe, a rope should be set up on the railing approx. 15m --> then it starts immediately with the rappels in open terrain R4, C37, C25, R30, R26 --> over the next small steps you can slide or descend --> then follows a rappel left approx. 27m before it gets narrower --> in the narrow place is left approx. 5m rappel (large jammed tree) --> several uncomplicated rappels follow in between short walking passages and small climbs --> when you reach the large boulders you have the option of taking the emergency exit on the left --> after the rock arch there is an inflow on the left and a large clamping block with the key point C26 on the left (the arrival pool is narrow and turbulent - -> dangerous if there is a lot of water)-> dangerous if there is a lot of water) --> after this breathtaking place there is a small narrow passage --> the next abseils are no longer difficult --> in between there are always walking and downclimbs --> at the end of the superiore the terrain becomes flatter --> at an open point (slight left bend) you have an exit at approx. 450Hm right the exit.

Return: (machine translated)
At about 450Hm there is a steep exit or access from the canyon on the right --> once at the top, turn left and return to the trail that has already gone up --> follow it to the parking lot --> 2nd option: via Val Grande to the trail that has already gone up --> follow it to the parking lot --> 2nd option: descend via Val Grande inferiore (2-3h).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.2253 8.7651
Canyon End 46.2219 8.7583

Reports:

2026-09-10 | thijs | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
beautiful together with inf, both parts are completely different.

2026-09-07 | BiodiversitAndy | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
A beautiful canyon with turquoise-green water and a lovely old bridge at the entry. (machine translated)

2026-08-19 | Simone & Armin | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Everything's great! We've covered the superiore and lower sections. Very little water :-((machine translated)

2026-08-17 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) manque un peu d'eau pour le rendre encore plus exceptionnel... très beau et sauvage, glisse beaucoup (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-08-09 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) DC- (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-07-03 | Roie | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
From the bridge go down on your left- North-west side of the bridge or by rappelling or slowly downclimbing. Then your reach the stream.

2026-07-02 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-06-14 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-06-14 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Automatisch importiert von Schlucht.ch für Canyon Val Grande superiore, Wasserstand: "Mittel-niedrig" Verankerungen: "Gut" Wir hätten es rutschiger erwartet. (Quelle: https://schlucht.ch/schluchten-der-schweiz-liste/1099-val-grande-superiore)

2026-06-14 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
It's always a pleasure. Not nearly as slippery as I expected. (machine translated)

2026-06-08 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-06-08 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) sympathique et tout roule (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2026-05-23 | RURE | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
somewhat slippery but good to walk (machine translated)

2025-09-09 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Grande (supérieur) DC+ (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2682/observations.html)

2025-08-14 | Michele Dini | ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Good (machine translated)

2025-08-14 | MirkoT | |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Lukewarm water for 30-40 l/s. Weapons ok (machine translated)

2025-06-14 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed

Parts:
Val Grande (sup-sup), v4 a3 IV, 2h30+4h10+1h
Val Grande (superiore), v4 a3 IV, 1h15+3h50+30min
Val Grande (inferiore), v3 a4 III, 45min+3h+5min