Otro

Cascate d'Otro,Caldaie d'Otro

Create: 2024-06-05 22:53:11	**Update:** 2026-09-19 23:17:04	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:33
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Piemonte **Subregion:** Vercelli **Town:** Alagna Valsesia		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a5 II	**Total time:** 3h40
Approachtime: 35min	**Tourtime:** 3h	**Returntime:** 5min
Altitude entry: 1350m	**Altitude exit:** 1150m	**Delta Altitude:** 200m
Canyon length: 500m	**Highest rapell:** 30m	**Amount rapells:** 12
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** gneiss	**Drainage area:** 19.28km²
Season: August - October	**Orientation:** Northwest	**Best Time:** 8-13 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 4.2 (4)	**Info:** ★ 3 (2)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (3)
Specialities:		

Gear:
Ropes: 1x70 m + 1x60 m

Summary:
Interesting canyon with a spectacular start; the subsequent rappels are less impressive, but the final section features more interesting waterfalls. The water is cold and always abundant, partly due to the presence of a small glacier. Some long handrails to avoid dangerous places.

Hydrology:
Under the North face of Corno Bianco there's a small glacier, in very hot days the ice melting can quickly double the flow during the day.

Access:
Take the SP299 towards Alagna Valsesia, reach the town, and park wherever available near the entrance roundabout.

Approach:
Take the path from Alagna towards Otro, overcome the first houses at "Cascinetti di Otro", keep the right at next fork (the left path brings down to "Caldaie d'Otro" (a possible water checkpoint) and left at the next two forks, slightly after the second one with a water fountain (height 1400m) you'll notice blue marks on stones and trees that you need to follow down to the canyon and exactly right after the first pitch (height 1350m).

Tour:
The canyon has been equipped by various groups—and not just for canyoning (ice climbing too)—so the anchor points aren't always in the most intuitive locations; there are some anchors for old rappels that are visible but inaccessible.

- Immediately to the left, you find the first multi-point, exposed handline leading to the anchor for the first R30 (left). Watch out for the current in the pool below, which pulls you directly toward the second waterfall; fixed ropes on the right lead to the R12 (right). Next, you reach another handline starting from a boulder on the left and ending at an anchor on the right (an intermediate point). From here: R12 (right) + R10 (left). Then R12 (from a tree on the left), or alternatively MC10 (right) + R10 (right), followed by R15 (left) + R20 (left). This sequence can be bypassed by down-climbing on the left. Then some walking and downclimbing lead to another large waterfall; there is a large concrete pipe on the right, and the anchor consists of a rope attached to the pipe (R20). Below, a diverter (right) allows you to reach the intermediate R10 rappel. With low water level from the pipe you can directly rappel in the water (R30 right) Then, a long handline on the left follows a ledge, leading to the R25 (left). Finally, another multi-point handline (right) allows you to reach the R10 (right) + R30 (right).

Return:
After the last waterfall with houses and Alagna town visible, climb the ridge on the right and overcome the wood fence to take the path with stones to follow to reach the main road.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 45.8440 7.9309
Canyon End 45.8471 7.9361
Parking Entry and Exit 45.8489 7.9379
Parking Entry and Exit 45.8472 7.9394

Reports:

2026-09-26 | Alfredcanyon | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
We could see the waterfall from our hotel so... Amazing first gloomy section, then some smaller drops and beautiful last waterfall with the Alagna view... Some tecnical rope traverses, freezing water

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2026-09-20 | Dani B. | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Convenient parking in front of the Carabinieri station; otherwise, if it’s full, use the parking lot across from the Carrefour on the dirt road. The blue markers make it easy to find the way—thanks ;) . You reach the riverbed via a double rappel from the trees. Water levels were normal, allowing us to descend the gorge without too many issues from the current. In the first pool, cut across the current toward the fixed ropes on the right bank. A very beautiful and technical alpine stream due to the presence of handrails with numerous fixed points; only a few sections are overgrown, but there are countless stunning views. Thanks for upgrading and re-equipping the route! (machine translated)

2026-09-06 | Matteo Delfitto | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Finally, after so many years, we managed to organize this descent! We found some equipment from a previous exploration, but it was completely inadequate and damaged by the floods, so we added what we needed to make the descent (chains, intermediate anchors for handrails)... A truly spectacular start in the “Caldaie d’Otro,” followed by a few smaller waterfalls, and a finale with other beautiful vertical sections rising high until we emerged directly in the village. Most of the route is equipped to avoid the direct current and water movement in the pools, since the flow rate is very high even in a year like this one, which has been marked by drought. In terms of vertical difficulty, this route should not be underestimated due to the presence of several long handrails with many intermediate anchors, and a belay station shifted to the right that’s accessible only via a bypass (plus, the rock is very slippery) Thanks to the Varese team and also to Paolo ... the approach is marked with blue tags and arrows (machine translated)

2026-02-20 | Matteo Delfitto | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ | | 👎 Not done
Entrance: 45.8439707, 7.9309551 Elevation: 1350 m Exit: 45.8471344, 7.9363105 Elevation: 1150 m Elevation gain: ~200 m Canyon divided into 2 parts: the first one is locally called "Caldaie d'Otro", at the end of this there is a path that offers an easy escape, from here other more modest waterfalls lead to the final forking that has probably the most technical and watery passages, it ends directly in the village with the last 30/35 m waterfall. Still not equipped (machine translated)

2025-10-16 | Matteo Delfitto | |🕮 |⚓ | | 👍 Completed
The Otro is probably the most beautiful canyon in Valsesia, with some spectacular forked sections; it was explored many years ago by an unknown team that equipped it with resinati. Over the years there has been little left of these weapons and now it would need to be retooled; which is not easy because of the always high flow rate that makes entry possible for a short window of time. (machine translated)

2025-09-12 | Herbert von Neumann | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👎 Not done
We entered in the canyon with the intention to explore but found some old bolts and some old webbing... anyway we descended the first two waterfalls and decided not to continue because of the enormous (and increasing) water flow... The first waterfall is something amazingly strong and aesthetically stunning, so we're psyched to come back and finish the descent! (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://ropewiki.com/Otro

First descent: 06.09.2026 by Matteo Delfitto, Paolo Testa, Peter Lindner, Massimo Loriato, Uilli Cassani