

Pontirone (Superiore)

Pontirone Superiore, Lesgiüna, Pontirone superiore - Lesgiuna superiore , Lesgiuna superiore

Create: 2023-03-09 20:50:03	Update: 2026-05-18 09:25:34	Print: 2026-06-16 10:06:25
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland Region: Kanton Tessin / Cantone Ticino Subregion: Bezirk Riviera Town: Malvaglia		
Difficulty: a little difficult	Grading: v4 a4 IV	Total time: 4h20
Approachtime: 5min	Tourtime: 4h	Returntime: 15min
Altitude entry: 830m	Altitude exit: 470m	Delta Altitude: 360m
Canyon length: 2600m	Highest rapell: 30m	Amount rapells: 13
Transport: Car optional	Rock type:	Drainage area: km ²
Season: June - September	Orientation: West	Best Time: 10-12 o'clock
Rating: ★ 4.4 (13)	Info: ★ 2.7 (7)	Belay: ★ 2.1 (9)
Specialities: Dam (inform operator),		
Gear: Ropes: 2x 35m		
Summary: (machine translated) Long, in places deeply cut canyon with some hiking trails. Possible jumps up to 15m and a rather aquatic 30m waterfall are the highlights of this scenic tour. The canyon has a large catchment area; long walking passages; several rocky downclimb passages; day tour; artificial water catchment at the beginning of the tour (Info: 0041 (0)91 756 66 15).		
Hydrology:		
Access: (machine translated) From Biasca one drives in the direction of Lucomagno. At Ponte Lesgiuna, before the big bridge on the right (town sign 'Valle di Blenio'), park the shuttle car (380Hm). With the 2nd car one continues in northern direction (Malvaglia). In Malvaglia turn right towards Malvaglia Chiesa and follow the road for about 700m (northwards). At marker 372 follow the signs for Val Malvaglia and Pontirone, pass marker 640 and continue up towards Val Pontirone. Just before the village of Pontirone, turn right onto a forest road. The forest road descends slightly to the bridge where you park your car at the water intake.		
Approach: (machine translated) From the parking lot descend by the bridge to the stream (830Hm).		
Tour: (machine translated) At the 30m rappel there is an intermediate stand orographic right about in the middle from which the remaining part of the waterfall can be rappelled dry or from which you can jump. The upper part of the canyon exits after a chaos of blocks that is best downclimbed on the orographic right bank. There is an emergency exit from the gorge to the left (cairn and red color dot). The lower part should definitely also be done. Before and after the tour, please call the power station operator on +41 91 756 66 15. The Pontirone superiore is a long and deeply incised granite gorge. The long walking sections are followed by short abseils, some of which are aquatic. After checking the water depth, several sections can also be jumped. The water level should be correctly assessed before an ascent as there is a 30m narrow section/step in the middle section of the canyon which can be very unpleasant at higher water levels. At the 30m rappel there is orographic right about in the middle an intermediate stand from which the remaining part of the waterfall can be rappelled dry or from which you can jump. In addition, you are in a very secluded environment for a long time. Between the longer walking passages, there are large rock labyrinths, especially in the lower part of the Pontirone inferior, where you have to climb your way down. The canyon as a whole is worth seeing, but the highlight is and remains the short and very impressive Pontirone inferiore, which you can add on after the superiore (see Pontirone inferiore).		

Return: (machine translated)

At 470Hm at Felschaos can be exited on the orographic left side. After a short steep ascent comes the cross-cut and descent to the main road (parking lot). Alternative: descent via the Pontirone inferiore (Attention: 2x50m ropes necessary!).

Coordinates:

Canyon Start [46.3817 9.0193](#)

Parking at Entry [46.3832 9.0172](#)

Parking at Exit [46.3881 8.9862](#)

Canyon End [46.3878 8.9897](#)

Alternative Canyon Start [46.3825 9.0029](#)

Reports:

2026-05-30 | Joris Walch | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | 🗣️★ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Upper + lower, debit 1.4m3/s = DC-, magnificent canyon despite lots of wood. 2-3 jumps compulsory as no anchorage (or inaccessible). Relatively slippery. All jumps and slides OK (machine translated)

2026-05-17 | Christoph Cramer | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | 🗣️★★ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Started via the alternative entry with the Mega 60m rappel into the Ponti superieure. Good grip and pleasantly free of wood from entry. Terrific as always! (machine translated)

2026-05-01 | Stephan Gehringer | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | 🗣️★ | 🌊 Low | 🍏 Completed

1 impact hook at the key point could be replaced by a proper stand... was used as a detour... otherwise all anchors top (machine translated)

2025-08-30 | Bergtauglich | ★★★★★ | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Gigantic canyon ... More info to follow (machine translated)

2025-08-15 | System User | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pontirone (supérieur) Le point rouillée n'est pas gênant car il ne sert pas (saut de 3/4m).Ras sur l'équipement, les sauts sont faisables.Beaucoup de marche (Quelle: <https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22524/observations.html>)

2025-08-10 | System User | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pontirone (supérieur) (Quelle: <https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22524/observations.html>)

2025-08-03 | Roman | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | 🗣️★★ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Beautiful. Full grip and freshly cleaned! Water crystal clear, but cool. Water level slightly higher than normal. Went well, the one rappel really washed. Jumps mostly free (machine translated)

2025-07-29 | System User | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 High | 🍏 Completed

Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pontirone (supérieur) Première c30 un peu problématique avec ce débit, le reste passe correctement. Prévoir un ou deux points en plus pour le départ (une plaquette pliée sur une vasque suspendue) qui saute après être aller sonder au masque en premier. Le rappel de corde à cet endroit là peut être problématique et le seul point disponible est vieux et rouillé et a 3,5M de haut sur la rive gauche. Beau canyon assez discontinu. On a mis 5h15 à deux pour l'intégral, pont à pont. Retour pour monter chercher la voiture en 1h10, à vide. (Quelle: <https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22524/observations.html>)

2025-06-27 | System User | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pontirone (supérieur) Soooo nice. Wonderful jumps. Walking parts still dominant :P (Quelle: <https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22524/observations.html>)

2025-05-04 | Bibtore | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | 🗣️★★ | 🌊 High | 🍏 Completed

The wood blockages have become more compact since last year, now it's easier to get through (fewer Mikado spots). The water level is sporty, from 30 to the intermediate level you can really feel the water creeping into the pores. (machine translated)

2025-05-02 | Wolfgang | ★★★★★ | 📖 | 🗣️★★ | 🌊 High | 🍏 Completed

Still high water level, a few trees are hiking further down, so again a few "new paths" through the hid places compared to last year (machine translated)

2024-09-20 | System User | 📖 | 🗣️ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pontirone (supérieur) DC, très nombreux embacles et chaos rocheux, mais malgré tout, une ambiance magnifique. (Quelle: <https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22524/observations.html>)

2024-09-19 | Bavarian Canyoning | ★★★★★ | 📖 | 🗣️★★ | 🌊 Normal | 🍏 Completed

We entered via the side stream. There are 6 rappels to complete, with the last one landing directly in the main trench at approx. 60 m. All pools were deep and the stands are in good condition. At the exit of the canyon there

Parts:

Pontirone (Superiore), v4 a4 IV, 5min+4h+15min

Pontirone (Inferiore), v4 a4 III, 20min+1h30+1min