Rio Siera Di Sappada

Create: 2023-03-09 20:50:31	**Update:** 2025-12-18 12:53:08	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:12
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Sappada		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v3 a2 III	**Total time:** 3h45
Approachtime: 55min	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 20min
Altitude entry: 1550m	**Altitude exit:** 1200m	**Delta Altitude:** 350m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 25m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 2.9 (4)	**Info:** ★ 2.3 (4)	**Belay:** ★ 1 (4)
Specialities:		
Gear:		
Summary: (machine translated) Open and incised canyons alternate. Caution: slippery! The first two abseiling sections can cause the biggest problems in strong currents.		
Hydrology:		
Access: (machine translated) On the SR355 to Sappada. On the west side of the bridge over the Rio del Mulino (right bank), a road branches off down to the Piave. At the T-junction, turn right for another 150m to a reasonable parking lot next to the Piave river.		
Approach: (machine translated) At the parking lot, cross the Piave bridge and follow trail 316 up through the forest. Later, the path runs along the rock face to a junction. Follow the right-hand path down to the stream (317). Entry at the small wooden bridge.		

Tour: (machine translated)
The initially open canyon cuts in more and more and increasingly becomes a real canyon. If you can't find the belay in the lower third (where the gorge is darkest), look far to the right to spot the lone anchor.

1. 8m R (right)
2. 15m R (two pools to go)
3. 8m R, old but stable anchor (still two bolts)
4. 10m L, natural anchor with ropes
5. 15m L 2 points(!), possible dry variation on the right with very long traverse (looks scary)
6. 3m R, natural anchor and ropes under a boulder, well hidden
7. 12m R
8. 5m obligatory slide (an aid point should be added here)
9. 10m R
10. 5m L
11. 13m L
12. 5m R
13. 4m R (also NA on a tree, but looks unreliable)
14. 6m R
15. 15m R
16. 5m R (anchor and nut)
17. 25m R behind a boulder, another possibility is 10m back (2 points)
18. 15m L, do not go all the way to the stream, but exit 2m before to the left, otherwise you have to climb over a rather slippery boulder to the next anchor
19. 15m L
20. 6m R
21. 10m R
22. 20m R
23. 15m R

Return: (machine translated)
Either follow the streambed directly back to the parking lot or take the yellow-marked path down to the orographic left (crosses to the orographic right about 2 minutes before the parking lot - here are the water level pictures from the descriptions).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.5486 12.6947
Parking Entry and Exit 46.5615 12.6879
Canyon End 46.5557 12.6952
Alternative Canyon End 46.5521 12.6958

Reports:

2025-10-26 | MirkoT | |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Descended today with average flow on 30-40l (Thursday 23 had dropped 35mm of rain) then growing after a few small confluences from the left arrive eventually on 50-60l. Adequate arms for this flow, but to be improved. We tightened a nut on a small plate that turned 90°. The 15 rappel on the left immediately after the 30 rappel needs to get out of the flow and not descend into the puddle below the boulder, but stop on the boulder from where the next limb is, still on the left bank. Also watch out for rope recovery as there is a treacherous log under the boulder for rope jamming. At elevation 1430 on the berm you can strain into either bank. If you climb to the right you will reach the approach trail. Photo 1: the first rappel where you can immediately tell if the flow is ok for the descent Photo 2: corridors in the first half Photo 3: flow at the check point (machine translated)

2025-09-20 | Marosffy Dániel | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
We did some construction works where it was really necessary. Now the canyon can be safely done, but the anchors are still single-points, and sometimes rusty. Taking spare maillons and maybe a bolting kit seem to be a good idea. (The full upgrade would require 20-22 additional bolts.) Here is what we found: 1. 8m R (right) 2. 15m R (two pools to go) 3. 8m R, old but stable piton (two pools to go) 4. 10m L, natural anchor with ropes 5. 15m L 2 points(!), possible dry option on the right with very long traverse (looks scary) 6. 3m R, natural anchor and rope under a boulder, well hidden 7. 12m R 8. 5m obligatory slide (aid point should be added here) 9. 10m R 10. 5m L 11. 13m L 12. 5m R 13. 4m R (also NA on a tree but looks unreliable) 14. 6m R 15. 15m R 16. 5m R (piton and nut) 17. 25m R behind a boulder, another option is 10m back (2 points) 18. 15m L, don't go till the stream but exit to the left 2m before, otherwise you have to climb up a rather slippery boulder to the next anchor 19. 15m L 20. 6m R 21. 10m R 22. 20m R 23. 15m R Narrow all the way, not recommended in high water. There are several improvised exit possibilities in the first part (none verified but look possible).

2025-05-29 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Beautiful canyon, very slippery! Anchorages really in bad condition. Many rapid links are missing. But we were able to walk the canyon without drilling. Water level after 3 days of light rain (4-8mm) was fun/dangerous. (machine translated)

2024-06-04 | Montie | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | High | Completed
The description of the canyon makes you think that you should go in during high water levels, which I do not agree with. I suppose the description was written in the fall or in a dry summer, because on june 4th (and 3 days after a lot of rain) the water level during our descent (see pictures and video) would be what I would consider the maximum level with the current anchor situation. The anchor situation is currently bad - very bad! We had to place nuts and pitons on some rappels (unfortunately only brought a hand drill, did not want to spend too much time drilling). Next person to descend this canyon: please take a drill and a good amount of bolts :) The anchors are currently placed so that you have to take the most intense route straight through the water, which at higher water levels is uncomfortable or dangerous. This can easily be avoided with better anchor placement. Check the water level before you go (follow the path parallel to the Rio Siera the reach the point of the picture).

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
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