Valle del Chignolasc

Bignasco

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:54	**Update:** 2025-06-03 09:04:41	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:51
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Tessin / Cantone Ticino **Subregion:** Bezirk Vallemaggia **Town:** Cevio		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a4 III	**Total time:** 3h48
Approachtime: 15min	**Tourtime:** 3h30	**Returntime:** 3min
Altitude entry: 700m	**Altitude exit:** 450m	**Delta Altitude:** 250m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 85m	**Amount rapells:** 11
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.1 (14)	**Info:** ★ 2.5 (6)	**Belay:** ★ 1.8 (13)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x90m

Summary: (machine translated)
Beautiful granite canyon with spectacular final waterfall; several sharp edges; many slippery spots; some rusty belays, some exposed; adventurous mountain road.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Locarno drive into the Maggia valley until you reach the village of Bignasco. Shortly after entering the village, turn right over the first bridge (Maggia), then immediately right again and straight ahead to the parking lot in front of the open-air swimming pool. Here you park the shuttle car (450m). With the 2nd car you drive back, but not over the bridge but through the beautiful village with stone houses. Then you continue to follow the steep narrow mountain road (not suitable for novice drivers.) to the church "Madonna di Monte". Arrived at the old church, there are several parking facilities (730m).

Approach: (machine translated)
If you only have 1 car, you can also go up on foot via the hiking trail starting in the village in the direction of Madonna di Monte (approx. 1 hour). From the church (parking lot), follow the gravel road to the last house. Then look for a suitable place on the right to climb through the forest to the stream (700m).

Tour: (machine translated)
The Bignasco is a beautiful open canyon. Despite the 2 high abseiling points of 70m and 85m, the canyon is very varied with several jumps and slides. Removable rope traverses are required to safely reach several exposed stands. Some slippery spots and sharp edges at the abseiling points require attention and rope-protecting techniques. The pools are usually deeply washed out and invite you to jump. After the approx. 70m abseil, the canyon becomes more continuous. This is followed by several shorter abseils, slides and jumps until the final waterfall at 85m. Beautiful views and curious glances from onlookers at the waterfall are guaranteed!

Return: (machine translated)
Exit to the right after the final waterfall and you will soon reach the parking lot.

Coordinates:
Canyon End 46.3358 8.6128
Parking at Entry 46.3364 8.6167
Canyon Start 46.3332 8.6189
Parking at Exit 46.3357 8.6108
Waterlevel Checkpoint 46.3357 8.6127

Reports:

2026-09-21 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Bignasco Dc-Equipement rasLa 85peut se fractionner avec un relais (pas tout jeune) à la moitié. Attention par gros débit il est peut être derrière l'eau et non visible (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2655/observations.html)

2026-09-18 | Roland Ivenz | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Nice tour, everything was fine (machine translated)

2026-09-12 | Roe_Noerd | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Very low water level. Not particularly slippery. This makes the canyon seem a little less daunting. Caution!: The 67-meter rappel has a sturdy chain anchor. But the maillon used for rappelling is very large. It’s so large that the #8 could slip through if it isn’t backed up. Logically, though, that’s not possible for the last person in the group. I consider this situation a risk. (machine translated)

2026-08-02 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Bignasco Aller guten Dinge sind 3 :-) (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2655/observations.html)

2026-08-02 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Automatisch importiert von Schlucht.ch für Canyon Valle del Chignolasc / Bignasco, Wasserstand: "Niedrig " Verankerungen: "Noch ok" Herbstliches Ambiente (Quelle: https://schlucht.ch/schluchten-der-schweiz-liste/1093-valle-del-chignolasc-bignasco)

2026-08-02 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
All good things come in threes this year :-) An autumnal atmosphere. We've never had so little water in the Chignolasc before... but it was still beautiful. (machine translated)

2026-06-06 | Jackcachpot | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Not nearly as slippery as I thought. A few rusty anchors; they could use replacing. Otherwise, a nice stream with great rappelling spots. The 67-meter rappel is closer to 60 meters than 70. Dead chamois after the 67-meter rappel; it doesn't smell (yet). (machine translated)

2026-06-04 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Bignasco (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2655/observations.html)

2026-06-04 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ ★ | | 👍 Completed
Unfortunately still quite slippery, but still beautiful. (machine translated)

2026-05-24 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Automatisch importiert von Schlucht.ch für Canyon Valle del Chignolasc / Bignasco, Wasserstand: "mittel" Verankerungen: "Ok, teilweise schon älter...." Immer wieder schön, aktuell ziemlich rutschig. (Quelle: https://schlucht.ch/schluchten-der-schweiz-liste/1093-valle-del-chignolasc-bignasco)

2026-05-24 | Matthias Holzinger | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
All ok (machine translated)

2026-05-23 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Bignasco Very slippery, but nice. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2655/observations.html)

2026-05-23 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Automatisch importiert von Schlucht.ch für Canyon Valle del Chignolasc / Bignasco, Wasserstand: "Mittel-niedrig" Verankerungen: "Schlecht" Rutschig. Viele rostige Anker; Einzelhaken. (Quelle: https://schlucht.ch/schluchten-der-schweiz-liste/1093-valle-del-chignolasc-bignasco)

2026-05-23 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Quite slippery, all stances OK but some of them a bit outdated. We drilled a stance in the "channel" (before C67) so that the ropes no longer get stuck when pulling off. (machine translated)
