Picchions-Vinadia

Picchions-Vinadia,Rio Pichions,La Vinadia,Vinadie

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:55	**Update:** 2023-10-14 09:16:06	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:35
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Lauco		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a4 V	**Total time:** 6h7
Approachtime: 2min	**Tourtime:** 6h	**Returntime:** 5min
Altitude entry: 770m	**Altitude exit:** 340m	**Delta Altitude:** 430m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 30m	**Amount rapells:** 16
Transport: Car required	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.7 (6)	**Info:** ★ 2.3 (4)	**Belay:** ★ 2.3 (4)
Specialities:		

Gear:
Ropes: 2x40

Summary: (machine translated)
It is recommended to do the Picchions-Vinadia in June or July, because then the sun can penetrate into the deep canyons.
The Picchions-Vinadia is rarely visited, so it is advisable to have an emergency drill kit. The canyon is quite demanding and strenuous, because there are some downclimb passages in boulder terrain. Be sure to drink and take a snack with you into the canyons.

Geologically beautiful canyon, which is framed almost throughout by high walls - practically no escape possibility. The Picchions part is quite narrowly cut and aquatic (water check). The upper part of the Vinadia (before the water drainage) has some walking and downclimb in the boulder terrain. The lower part is completely cut and fantastically beautiful.

There would possibly be the possibility to escape at the diversion through a long tunnel. Here, however, one must have 1. light and 2. check before the entry whether the grids at the exit of the canyons are still cut. Conversely, you can use the tunnel if you want to do only the lower part of Vinadia.

Info from canyon.carto.net (not verified):
"There is also the possibility to do only the lower part of the gorge starting from the power station in the middle of the gorge. From the parking lot west of the bridge over Torrente Vinadia, ascend on an indistinct path for about 120m and then traverse on horizontal climbing tracks to the left to the entrance of the tunnel. Down to the right through the grate and hike for about 15-20 minutes through the tunnel to the power station - headlamp necessary. In April 2016, however, this tunnel was blocked again and thus NO intermediate entry possible. This also eliminated the possibility of an intermediate exit at the water diversion."
It is therefore advisable to first check the grids before planning an exit - these are cut again and again and renovated again ;-)

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From the large oval traffic circle in Tolmezzo, take the SS52 towards Ampezzo. Stay on the SS52 for about 4.2 km until you pass the Vinadia canyon. At km 16/III turn onto the SP125 towards the village of "Vinadia". Stay on this road for about 700m until you pass a house on the right ("Legnonlandia") where you can park. (N46,4103890/E012,9669440)
With the shuttle car, return to the SS52 and turn right towards "Villa Santina".
Stay on the SS52 for 3.2km until you reach the traffic circle in Villa Santina. Here you turn right onto the SP44 in the direction of Lauco. You go uphill for 5.6km (about 10min) to Lauco. From Lauco you continue for another 5 km (10 min) through Allegnidis until you reach Vinaio. You drive through the small town before parking just before the bridge over the Picchions after a long straight that goes slightly downhill. It takes 25 minutes to arrive at the upper parking lot in the shuttle car. (N46.443770,E12.950147)

Approach: (machine translated)
Cross the bridge and go down on the ortographic left. Side over the embankment down. The Picchions is narrow in certain passages, so check the water under the bridge. Reference picture see attachment - at this water level the walk is no problem.

Tour: (machine translated)
Arrived in the streambed of the Picchion first follows a somewhat longer walking passages, before it then goes blow-on-blow. The first rappel is from a chain or. right, which is attached to a tree. Immediately after follows a relatively aquatic rappel, which can also be jumped after prior testing. This is followed by a 20m rappel which can be reached or. left via a rope traverse. The rappel leads down into a pool with a return, which must be swum through with ropes before the remaining 3m can be rappelled. If the return is strong, it is recommended to rope up to the next stall so that the pool can be bypassed. Another 20m rappel follows, which can be dry rappelled either from a chain anchor in the water or over a rope traverse to a single hook - which is actually meant to serve as a redirect. This was the short, narrow part of the Picchion. You reach the exit of the Picchion after about an hour.

After that, from or. right, the Vinadia enters the canyon and it becomes a bit more open again.
After about 5 min walking in the streambed follows a very narrow and dark part of the Vinadia. About 300m lasts the very dark and beautiful part, which must be partially swum through.
Now follows a relatively strenuous descending part in a more open environment. Here a few bolts would not have hurt, but you look for them in vain. Here you partly meet an old via ferrata, which helps with the downclimb. When the canyon narrows again, one comes to several large boulders, where it is mandatory to use the former via ferrata. In this part the belays are rather moderate (rusty single nails).
A 22m rappel or. right into a relatively dark part ends the cut part and it becomes successively more open again. Walking, downclimbing and swimming passages follow, interrupted by a smaller rappel and jump. Partly a body belay is recommended to secure inexperienced downclimbers. After about 3h the canyon becomes a bit narrower again and you come to the water drainage, which can be used as an exit if necessary via the shaft (see special features) after a previous grid check. The exit of the upper part of Vinadia (Vinadia I, incl. Picchions) is reached after about 3h.

Now follows the beautiful lower part of Vinadia (Vinadia II). Crystal clear water, which you would not expect after the derivation, paired with several small rappels, which can be partially jumped. Unique scenery as the canyon narrows to as little as a meter in places with about 100m-150m walls above you. After several small rappels with jumps paired with swims, walks and climbs, you come to the highest rappel in the canyons: a 30m rappel from a chain anchor. Partially, in the lower part, the former via ferrata must be used as anchor. For almost 2h you are in the narrow part, where you have practically no possibility to get out or get to safety. In June or July in stable weather, however, sensational, as light also penetrates to the bottom of the canyon again and again.
A somewhat longer walking passage, where the canyon becomes increasingly open, ends one of the most scenic canyons in Friuli. The dry streambed can be left or. left on a gravel road that leads to the former stone custom.

Return: (machine translated)
From the exit of the canyon on the left simply walk along the road for about 200m to the parking lot of the lower vehicle.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.4437 12.9502
Canyon End 46.4127 12.9639
Parking at Entry 46.4438 12.9501
Parking at Exit 46.4121 12.9626

Reports:

2026-08-15 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) Deux encaissements magnifiques et imposants au départ puis de la marche jusqu'à la confluence avec Vinadia. Encaissement superbe.Fait sans navette en se garant à Lauco. Retour une seule personne a vide. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2026-07-17 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |📖 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Like they did in Vinadia (but got destroyed), there's bits of via ferrata in Picchions (in great condition) which helps in tackling the boulder fields. Picchions has more water than its eastern neighbour but is more discontinuous. Surprising to find number plates at every abseil in conjunction with a mix of steel: i replaced as many anchors as i could that were non-inox and added M10 in addition to spits on a somewhat treacherous downclimb. Presence of one dead animal halfway Vinadia.

2026-07-10 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) 2 encaissements jolis dans l'affluent. Très discontinu jusqu'à au barrage. Ensuite couloir de Chiantone vraiment majeur. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2025-08-25 | Tóth Attila | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |📖 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
There is a lot of water up to the dam. About A4. From the dam there is not much. Very spectacular canyon with many walking sections. Go carefully because we also experienced 3 large collapses in the canyon. Right behind us. We were lucky. The descent stand after the via ferrata has to be reached on a very slippery wall. There is a short rope inside, be sure to put a Poignet on it for climbing. The stand is set up in a way that you avoid a lot of water. Up to the dam it is expeditionary, after that it is a regular two-point set up. We did not check the grid at the end of the tunnel.

2025-08-18 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) Equipement : parfait. Broches et relais avec chaînes inox. Mais quelques relais d’accès difficile. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2024-08-30 | Andreas Bramböck | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |📖 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
With the current water level, the tour was perfect. We were briefly undecided, as no water chutes at the exit. However, this only seeps away at the very end, making it a wonderful walk. Stands are good. From the dam onwards (lower part) the stands are great (machine translated)

2024-08-24 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) Alvaro Canyon (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2024-08-24 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) Tutto ok e molti tuffi fattibili, compreso il 10 subito dopo la presa d'acqua.Colore dell'acqua molto più bello rispetto a quella del Chiantone.Tre scariche di sassi nel corridoio finale e quindi ritengo giusto avvisare di cercare di stare vicino alle pareti/cengie ai lati.Belle sensazioni la calata nel vuoto da 26 con una pozza stupenda...chissà se qualcuno l'ha tuffata. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2024-07-21 | System User | |📖 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Vinadia (par Picchionis) All ok. The waterlevel (gros débit) is only for the first four rappels. The rest is débit correct. After the the dam it's petit filet d'eau. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22023/observations.html)

2024-07-21 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |📖 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Water level control for the upper part (first 4 rappels) is very important. You could also do the tour via the Vinadia, thus eliminating the 2 "tricky" passages and you get to it below the 4th rappel. You could also get off here in an emergency. 2nd rappel is currently jumpable (which makes it easier). 3rd rappel, it looks wild, but you rappel onto a rock, from where you can rush to the spout to abseil the last 3m. We started our tour at 10am and had great sunshine. (machine translated)
