Rötenbach (unterer)

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:53	**Update:** 2024-08-12 15:54:12	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:40
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Tirol **Subregion:** Bezirk Lienz **Town:** Leisach		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a3 V	**Total time:** 2h40
Approachtime: 15min	**Tourtime:** 2h15	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 900m	**Altitude exit:** 720m	**Delta Altitude:** 180m
Canyon length: 850m	**Highest rapell:** 35m	**Amount rapells:** 12
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** 3.20km²
Season: May - October	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.7 (8)	**Info:** ★ 2.1 (8)	**Belay:** ★ 2.1 (9)

Specialities:
suitable in rainy weather,

Gear:
Ropes: 2x40m
drill tool,

Summary: (machine translated)
Very beautiful and rewarding aquatic lime canyon; almost all rappels are in the watercourse; no emergency exit; very dangerous at high water levels; a lot of loose rock; several exposed/exposed belays; some slippery spots; several downclimbs in the lower part; cold water (melt water); most sun is in the afternoon; upper part also very rewarding but adventurous access.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Lienz drive in the direction of Silian (on the B100). At road kilometer 113 you turn left and drive over a bridge. After the bridge turn left and after a few meters you will find a parking lot on the right (here you can either park a shuttle car or walk up). From the barrier at the parking lot, follow the asphalt mountain road for about 1.5 km (road closed from 01.11-30.04). Then turn right on the forest road until you reach a haipin bend with a hunting lodge. Here you park the second car.

Approach: (machine translated)
(1h on foot)
From the parking lot at the hunting lodge (Schwandhütte) a path goes right into the forest. After a short time you will come across a hunter's stand that stands in front of a steep rock face. Here you can see the upper part of the canyon. From the hunter's stand, an unmarked path goes down the steep ridge of the forest on the right. At a suitable point below the rock wall, a traverese rope becomes visible, over which one reaches the boulder field and the stream (entry) at 900Hm (possibly rappel over boulder field).

Tour: (machine translated)
The lower part of the Rötenbach is a beautiful aquatic rappel canyon in limestone. Before the tour, however, the water level at the exit (red rock) should be checked, because some places can be very dangerous at high water levels. After a short stretch in rock-strewn streambed and small downclimb comes the 1st rappel point. Due to the large mountain basin, considerable amounts of melt and rain water often come down the mountain, therefore the belaying points / pitons have been placed very exposed (some boron hooks for rope traverses are available). With a deep view down into the valley, from the 1st step onwards the route descends continuously over several aquatic rappels into the canyon, which becomes increasingly incised. After some heavy showers and nice washouts, the canyon becomes more open. From here, some steps, some of them slippery, must be skillfully downclimbed before reaching the exit at about 720Hm.

Return: (machine translated)
Once in the shallow streambed, follow the streambed (right) to the asphalt road and back to the parking lot.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.7913 12.7272
Canyon End 46.7934 12.7285
Parking Entry and Exit 46.7953 12.7339

Reports:

2026-09-05 | Kren.Sebastian | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Reconnaissance by the Styrian Mountain Rescue Canyoning Rescue Team. Anchor points could be improved. Beautiful canyon (explored both the upper and lower sections). (machine translated)

2026-06-23 | Rozemarijn Snijders | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Nice canyon worthwhile doing. Abseiled into the canyon via the forest due to the steep terrain. Otherwise everything good.

2025-11-09 | Joey CIA | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Attached to the upper part, some more beautiful rappels, even better equipped. Look carefully and you will find the mostly newer but partly exposed belays. Partly blocked but not really disturbing. Cool tour for a Sunday in November (machine translated)

2025-09-21 | Olaf | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
A nice, technical canyon with lots of descents. (machine translated)

2025-08-15 | Paul Niederwieser | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | Low | Completed
Had to look for some hooks. Comparison picture of the water level at the exit. (machine translated)

2024-08-15 | Holzer Johannes | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
All good (machine translated)

2024-08-11 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Tedious, steep access - canyon but worthwhile. A lot of pushing, be careful when pulling off the ropes! (machine translated)

2023-04-08 | Tom (Thomas Fras) | |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ | | Not done
Info so far ok (machine translated)

2023-04-08 | Tom (Thomas Fras) | |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | | Not done
Info so far ok (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://www.canyoning.or.at/index.php/liste-aller-canyons/163-roetenbach

Parts:
Rötenbach (oberer), v4 a3 V, 30min+1h30+15min
Rötenbach (unterer), v4 a3 V, 15min+2h15+10min