Valmala

Comba di Valmala,Gole del Mala

Create: 2025-10-26 09:46:59	**Update:** 2026-07-10 09:08:26	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:03
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Piemonte **Subregion:** Vercelli **Town:** Scopa		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v2 a3 II	**Total time:** 1h30
Approachtime: 20min	**Tourtime:** 1h	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 700m	**Altitude exit:** 620m	**Delta Altitude:** 80m
Canyon length: 1500m	**Highest rapell:** 12m	**Amount rapells:** 3
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** granite	**Drainage area:** 10.00km²
Season: May - September	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3 (7)	**Info:** ★ 2.2 (5)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (4)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 1x30 m

Summary:
Some beautiful pools, little jumps, and a narrow section.

Hydrology:

Access:
From the Valsesia provincial road, once you reach the center of Scopa, take a narrow road on the left, leading to the village church. Follow the signs for "Riversolul", which is in the same area, and park in the lot closest to the river.

Approach:
From here, you'll see an iron bridge over the Sesia River — cross it and follow the steep mule track up to the Madonna della Neve chapel. From there, take the path to the left, entering the beech forest just above, and follow the signs for Valmala di sotto–sopra (trail 222/22), there are also some blue points. The path climbs to the left and reaches a plateau; from here, descend on the opposite side to the right until you find the bridge over the stream. (Approx. 20 minutes.)

Tour:
The route begins with a short walk, passing by some beautiful pools where small jumps are possible (about 15 minutes).
At a left-hand bend, you'll come to a narrow section with a slide (toboggan) that can be done with relaxed legs — the pool below is very small. Alternatively, if there's too much water, descend (C5) on the left side. Continue onward: a few jumps follow in a canyon-like environment, leading to an extremely narrow part of the gorge where you can touch both walls. Here, you downclimb under the water flow on slippery rocks, reaching a beautiful pool inside a cave.

You've now reached the final section, where the gorge narrows even more. Depending on water levels, this part can be either a long swim or a walk through shallow water. Several bends lead to the final descent (C12), which opens out where the Valmala gorge flows into the Sesia River.

Return:
Swim across the Sesia river (strong current) and follow the wide beach upstream to the iron bridge (about 10 minutes).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 45.7947 8.1236
Canyon End 45.7970 8.1216

Reports:

2026-06-26 | Matteo Delfitto | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
I checked the streams again... there's not much water this year, and the level is already low in June... but it's still crystal clear. Some of the pools are really beautiful... the perfect place to cool off on days like these. (machine translated)

2026-05-17 | Andrea Serra | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Continued from comba ruschera to the sesia, crossing the river in this season is more difficult. Weapons ok (machine translated)

2025-08-25 | Enrico Rispoli | |🕮 |⚓ | Low | Completed
It is not so easy to find the trail in the woods.... From the houses just above the church on the left head into the woods; there is a sign with ind. Valmala above/below, still heading left up into the woods to a level bump; from there go down the other side to the creek. Nice river trek with final plunge.... If you dive you don't need a rope (machine translated)

2025-08-24 | Alfredcanyon | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | Low | Completed
Not a real "canyon" but knowing that, i enjoyed the wild scenary and the narrow final part... By the way great final jump... Could be 10-12 m? And also some whitewater swimming in the Sesia river

2025-07-09 | Matteo Delfitto | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Simple canyon interesting especially for the beauty of the final fording which is a unique passage in Valsesia, the only technical difficulty is depending on the season the ford of the Sesia at the end. (machine translated)

2024-06-02 | Andrea Serra | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ | High | Completed
With high flow you need to be able to swim well to ford the Sesia (machine translated)

2023-07-29 | Andrea Serra | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Despite not being a real canyoneering route, I enjoyed it; aesthetically pleasing end canyon, there is only one real rappel (which you can actually plunge, 10/12 m or so) (machine translated)

2021-07-24 | Matteo Delfitto | ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ | Low | Completed
It was my first canyon on my own.... Despite the simplicity it remains an enjoyable route in a beautiful fortified setting (machine translated)

Parts:
Ruschera, v2 a2 II, 45min+1h30+20min
Valmala, v2 a3 II, 20min+1h+10min