# Cheii Gorges

Cheile Cheii

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|---|---|---|
| **Create:** 2025-04-30 12:35:30 | **Update:** 2025-06-18 21:42:38 | **Print:** 2026-10-30 01:10:46 |
| **Country:** România / Romania **Region:** Sud-Vest / Southwest **Subregion:** Southwest **Town:** Cheia | | |
| **Difficulty:** not as difficult | **Grading:** v2 a3 II | **Total time:** 4h10 |
| **Approachtime:** 10min | **Tourtime:** 3h30 | **Returntime:** 30min |
| **Altitude entry:** 900m | **Altitude exit:** 720m | **Delta Altitude:** 180m |
| **Canyon length:** 800m | **Highest rapell:** 15m | **Amount rapells:** 15 |
| **Transport:** Car required (high wheelbase) | **Rock type:** | **Drainage area:** km² |
| **Season:** | **Orientation:** | **Best Time:** |
| **Rating:** ☆ 3 (2) | **Info:** ★ 2 (1) | **Belay:** ★ 1.5 (2) |

**Specialities:**

**Gear:**
Ropes: 1x30m

**Summary:**
Cheii Valley located in the Căpățânii Mountains, part of Buila-Vânturarița National Park, features one of Romania's most impressive canyons. It boasts colossal stone blocks and dynamic jet waterfalls. The canyon requires low commitment, with all abseils (except the last) being avoidable or downclimbable. The final surprise is a narrow, captivating aquatic segment.

**Hydrology:**
The water level you see at the bottom is not what you get during the rappels. Once the rappels are finished, a major resurgence doubles the water flow. You do still need to traverse a final narrow section with this higher water.

**Access:**
Gravel road to the lower parking. 9.5 km drive (30 minutes) on a worse gravel road to the upper parking - easier with an SUV.

**Approach:**
10 minute downhill walk on a steep hiking path.

**Tour:**

**Return:**
30 minutes hiking in or next to the river bed. Escape on river left to the bridge and lower parking.

**Coordinates:**
Parking at Exit 45.2652 24.1381
Parking at Entry 45.2719 24.1236
Canyon Start 45.2686 24.1261
Canyon End 45.2658 24.1320

**Reports:**

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2026-08-20 | Marosffy Dániel | ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
I would rather call it a canyon initiation, so short and so easy (there's a marked route in the canyon that people seem to take without any gear). But quite an amount of water despite of the summer heat.

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2025-06-14 | Cathy O'Dowd | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Easy access and exit. Pretty canyon, making your way down a limestone chaos in a deep gorge. All but the final rappel was be climbed round. Water doubles near the end due to a re-surgence, followed by a flat but narrow slot. Anchors in good condition, many require handline approaches.