Ferro

Valle del Ferro,Vallon de Ferro,Val del Ferro

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:54	**Update:** 2026-08-06 23:13:12	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:51
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Lombardia **Subregion:** Sondrio **Town:** San Martino		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a4 III	**Total time:** 3h
Approachtime: 35min	**Tourtime:** 2h15	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 1300m	**Altitude exit:** 1100m	**Delta Altitude:** 200m
Canyon length: 250m	**Highest rapell:** 45m	**Amount rapells:** 8
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** 8.00km²
Season:	**Orientation:** Southeast	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.6 (8)	**Info:** ★ 2 (5)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (5)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x60m (2x50m)

Summary: (machine translated)
Open granite gorge; two narrow sections; rappels in the watercourse; good belay stations (INOX); very beautiful mountain scenery; large watershed (often not accessible until fall!); Climbing routes on both sides of the last waterfall; clear water; the second narrow section can be bypassed on the right; south/east-facing;

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Domaso, take the SS38 to the town of Ardenno. In Ardenno, take the SP9 mountain road up to Val Masino. Just before the village of San Martino (923 m), there is a large paid parking lot on the left as you head into the valley (2026, approx. €1.50/hour; EasyPark accepted). From there, proceed either on foot or by shuttle bus (round trip €4 per person) to the exit. The Via Val di Mello is closed to through traffic during peak season.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the turnaround parking lot in front of the Ferro, you can already see the last few cascades. From here, follow the cobblestone road back a short distance to the small bridge that crosses the Ferro (check the water level: if the water is walking across the entire width at the bridge/steps, there's usually too much water for the second narrow section of the canyon! You may need to go around it on the right or skip this section altogether!). From the bridge, follow Trail 455.3 up through the forest on the orographically right side of the stream (signposted "Cascata Ferro"). There are several entry points: at approx. 1,270 hm and even higher up (1,400 and 1,600 hm?—please verify!)

Tour: (machine translated)
The very open, south-facing granite gorge impresses with its beautiful mountain backdrop and higher, smooth-worn rappelling spots in crystal-clear mountain water. Because of its large, high-altitude watershed, the Ferro is often only navigable in the fall. There are two key sections/narrows in the canyon that can become unpleasant or dangerous when the water level is high. The first narrows is short but features a cascade with deep pools in the middle that can create a strong current. At the second narrow section, the water level absolutely must be right; otherwise, things can quickly get dicey. If you're not 100% sure, it's better to climb up to the right to a tree (with a sling). From there, you can then rappel outside the water flow to another tree. From the second tree, rappel down a sloping rock slab to the final belay station (see topographic view). Once you reach the final, approximately 45-meter rappel, you'll often be watched by climbers.

Return: (machine translated)
After the last rappel of about 45 meters, you leave the stream on the right at an elevation of about 1,100 meters. From here, follow the familiar hiking trail, which soon leads down to the shuttle bus parking lot.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.2561 9.6340
Canyon End 46.2514 9.6381
Parking Entry and Exit 46.2397 9.6278
Parking Entry and Exit 46.2410 9.6326
Alternative Canyon Start 46.2540 9.6359
Waterlevel Checkpoint 46.2497 9.6399

Reports:

2026-10-07 | Alfredcanyon | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Beautiful granite slabs, cold but sunny

2026-08-09 | Roe_Noerd | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Beautiful and open, bathed in sunlight. The rocks are barely slippery and offer good traction. It’s a shame that all the pools are filled with large boulders, so there’s no diving or sliding. Access is from the large parking lot in the main town. (machine translated)

2026-07-29 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Two glued anchors throughout—all in good condition. We hiked the canyon starting from the alternative entry. Access on foot from the paid parking lot. View of the water level from the small bridge at the entry and the last waterfall. (machine translated)

2026-07-28 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro DC-Pas de difficulté. Grands rappels en plans inclinés avec paysage grandiose et très ouvert. Pas d'encaissement. Attention en cas de débit plus fort, car plus technique dans certains passages. Accès : Val di Melo interdit aux voitures sans pass véhicule journalier à 12€ (40 voitures par jour)Parking village 10€ /jour ou 1,50€/hPAS DE SERVICE DE NAVETTES.... Approche à pied du parking entrée Sna Martino à l'aval rivière Ferro : 30 minApproche : suivre une piste Dré dans l'pentu qui devient un GR jusqu'à ce qu'il se rapproche de manière évidente de la rivière (30/40min de marche. Côte alt. 1300m) et rejoindre la rivière au dessus du premier rappel. Descente 2h/2h30Retour 10min (+20min village San Martino)Très joli cadre et paysage qui ressemble très fortement à la Corse. Attention aux frottements.Bien prévoir des cordes de 60, voire 90m pour éviter de rabouter.Légèrement sur-côté, mais à faire (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2025-10-28 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2025-10-27 | Lieke Smulders | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
nice canyon with beautiful view of the valley! Anchoring is ok, we places a new hook half way an rappel (river right) , the previous hooks can not be used due to water damage. Very cold water at this time of the year

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2025-09-21 | Günther Schwarzmann | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Only the lower part was accessible because all the parking spaces in Val di Mello were occupied. Perfect water level. The intermediate belay (30m) at the 4th abseil point is damaged and therefore cannot be used. Caution: ropes get tangled very easily. Take a reserve of rope with you. (machine translated)

2025-09-07 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Crazy | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2025-08-19 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Crazy | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro Trop d'eau, débit estimé 600l/s. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2024-09-01 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro Properly equipped canyon. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2024-08-30 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Ferro Dc-. Bien équipé, peu d’eau. Tranquillou, canyon assez court avec une belle vue. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/2979/observations.html)

2024-08-29 | Pepijn Hoeksema | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Beautiful canyon, well equipped, currently low water flow.

2024-08-29 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed

First descent: 26.07.1997 by P. Van Duin e C. Gianatti