Valbona

Torrente Valbona

Create: 2023-03-09 20:52:15	**Update:** 2026-05-09 22:37:09	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:12
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Veneto **Subregion:** Belluno **Town:** Ospitale di Cadore		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a4 IV	**Total time:** 4h50
Approachtime: 1h25	**Tourtime:** 3h20	**Returntime:** 5min
Altitude entry: 840m	**Altitude exit:** 500m	**Delta Altitude:** 340m
Canyon length: 1000m	**Highest rapell:** 50m	**Amount rapells:** 6
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** Southeast	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.4 (3)	**Info:** ★ 2.5 (2)	**Belay:** ★ 1.3 (3)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x60

Summary: (machine translated)
Strong watercourse, many jumps (up to 10m), smaller slides, gorge interrupted in the middle by 20min walk in open boulder terrain. High water flow at the last waterfall, but you can bypass it on the right.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
Via the SS51 to Ospitale di Cadore. Behind the coffee bar is the lower parking lot directly on the river.

Approach: (machine translated)
Directly at the lower parking lot a path climbs steeply up to a village with a church. After the church, at the exit of the canyon, turn sharp right up the forest road (always keeping left) until you reach a no-driving sign (approx. 5km). Park the 2nd car here and follow the path down into the streambed. With a 2nd car, the access time is reduced to 10 min.

Tour: (machine translated)
The tour starts with an 8m jump and becomes increasingly narrower and more incised. Strong water flow. Accurate jumps required!
Hooks often consist of only one 8mm anchor. In the middle part follows a 20 min. walking passages in open terrain until the canyon cuts in again. The high waterfall at the exit can be avoided or rappel 10m into the pool to find an anchor at the edge on the left, which is not visible from above. Caution: when the water is strong, there is a danger of being washed over the edge. From here it goes down a good 35m!

Return: (machine translated)
After the last waterfall exit left over a stone wall

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.3355 12.3080
Parking at Entry 46.3365 12.3126
Canyon End 46.3298 12.3223
Parking at Exit 46.3294 12.3237
Waypoint 46.3315 12.3241
Alternative Canyon Start 46.3394 12.2944

Reports:

2026-08-29 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
All positions are fine. All jumps are doable. (machine translated)

2026-05-09 | MirkoT | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
Descended the upper part of Valbona entering at elevation 1100. At elevation 1060 water appears and after 25 minutes of river trekking the rock jumps begin with a rappel down the left bank to cross a chaos of boulders. Another 20 minutes of unclimbing into unmelted pools and the gorge closes and verticalizes. Nine obstacles and between 8-meter dives, rappels on single weapons, natural weapons and railings (ENEL hold) is a good start before descending the classic part of Valbona. Between the end of the upper part and the beginning of the better-known part is a river trek of about ten minutes. Photo 2: puddle for higher dip Photo 3: rappel with old piton Photo 4: confluence with the Rio Nero (machine translated)

2025-09-14 | MirkoT | |🕮 |⚓ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
Very slippery despite the sustained flow rate throughout. IMPORTANT WARNING: 3-4 meters downstream from the split of the last rappel last week (around Sept. 5, 2025) a considerable portion of the wall collapsed (basically the two blades that used to cause strong chafing) and so you evaluate whether to tie up to the diverter and split. We preferred to install a yellow cord+maillon on the right bank (even further to the right of the existing penultimate belay). With this new belay you do not have major chafing and end up in a crack, but then you have to cross the puddle with the final waterfall. Photo 1: rappel to be repositioned Photo 2: high drop towards the end Photo 3: landslide slab just below the split belay Photo 4: rappel line on right bank to avoid fractionation on left bank (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
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