El Rio

Info: The quality of this description has not been checked yet or was rated bad.
If you know this canyon, please check this description and file a report with a rating for this description using *Reports -> +New Report.* Should you notice any error, please let us know or join the community in order to fix this description yourself.

Create: 2025-12-17 22:55:37	**Update:** 2025-12-17 23:00:00	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:03
Country: España / Spain **Region:** Canarias / Canary Islands **Subregion:** Santa Cruz de Tenerife **Town:** El Rio		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a2 IV	**Total time:** 6h30
Approachtime: 1h	**Tourtime:** 5h	**Returntime:** 30min
Altitude entry: 1430m	**Altitude exit:** 610m	**Delta Altitude:** 820m
Canyon length: 7000m	**Highest rapell:** 50m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season: November - February	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3 (1)	**Info:** ★ 1 (1)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (1)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x60, 1x40

Summary:
Deep, wild, long continuation of the Rio superiore, at first quite alpine (max. 45-50m) with ever more vegetation, but also sections with compact rock, pools, and with a lot of luck (happens every few years) running water to the end near the el Rio dam.

Hydrology:

Access:

Approach:

Tour:

Return:

Coordinates:
Canyon End 28.1573 -16.5381
Parking at Exit 28.1566 -16.5331
Parking at Entry 28.1810 -16.5503
Parking lot Alternative access 28.1926 -16.5680

Reports:

2025-12-15 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Snowmelt on Guajara & Teide saw moderate waterflow down to El Rio dam. This also means the pools have temporary underwater vegetation, as well as enormous rockfall. Impressive place... unfortunately rather laborous from its middle section. And a hike up for 1/2 of the 800m if you don't have a 4x4. Can be made shorter by doing the upper half or longer in combi with the sup. Anchors mostly doubled and in good condition, but also some clearly impacted by water & rockfall. One or two extra anchors would be good to have, also in the last part (guided abseils could use fixed ropes) to avoid some of the pools. Replaced a few recent steel for stainless.