Quinta Grande

Ribeira da Quinta Grande

Create: 2024-06-05 22:57:11	**Update:** 2025-01-12 17:59:34	**Print:** 2026-10-30 01:10:35
Country: Portugal **Region:** Madeira **Subregion:** **Town:** Quinta Grande		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a2 III	**Total time:** 2h20
Approachtime: 5min	**Tourtime:** 2h	**Returntime:** 15min
Altitude entry: 285m	**Altitude exit:** 10m	**Delta Altitude:** 275m
Canyon length: 216m	**Highest rapell:** 126m	**Amount rapells:** 7
Transport: Cablecar	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season: October - March	**Orientation:** Southwest	**Best Time:** 13-16 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 4 (3)	**Info:** ★ 2.7 (3)	**Belay:** ★ 2.3 (3)

Warnings:
Observe tides / swell
Canyon is located on the coast. A safe way back is only possible at low tide and when the waves are low.

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x80, 1x60

Summary: (machine translated)
Impressive rappel canyon that exits into the Atlantic. Water only after rainfall or in winter.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
Leave the Via Rapida (VR 1 / ER 101) at exit 3, Quinta Grande. Then head towards the coast and Faja dos Padres. After a good 200 meters, take a sharp left and follow the road to the exit. You can park here. Theoretically, it is also possible to walk around the gardens and re-park, but we strongly advise against parking a second car at the cable car, as spaces are limited and are intended for day visitors to the gardens. In addition, the way back to the car is short and downhill.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot, follow the stone steps down to the levada. The streambed is almost always dry for the first few meters. The abseiling fun begins at the entry with a C20, two anchors on the left.
Here you can judge the amount of water falling from the levada into the canyon.

Note: The old entry into the canyon via a wooden beam staircase no longer exists!

Tour: (machine translated)
After the dry entry abseil of 20 meters, you have to work your way down through some vegetation, depending on the season (garden shears can be helpful). This is followed by a challenging 2 x 2 meter downclimb when the water level is high. A few more meters and then you are at a breathtaking vertical that drops a good 250 meters to the Atlantic. What follows:
C 10, anchor on the outside of a boulder (be sure to stay on the rope until the next anchor!)
C 35, anchor on the outside of the boulder (stay on the rope until the next anchor!)
C 35, anchor left, quality doubtful
C 75, two anchors from December 2024, 12 mm, approx. 10 meters below the large tree on the right (crossing the waterline is sporty when the water level is high)
OR
C80, two anchors just below the tree (crossing the waterline is sporty at high water levels)
Now you can relax for a moment and admire the remains of a tanker truck.
The route continues:
C 8, two anchors on the left
C 60, chain anchor at the front left of the large boulder
C 35, two anchors on protruding rock outcrop (ATTENTION: when the water level is high, this anchor point is fully in the water jet)
The high verticals are now behind you and you can already feel the salt of the sea.
Another C 15 over two steps, an anchor on the right and, depending on the tide, you are in the water.

Return: (machine translated)
It goes over the pebble beach to the right (be careful, at high tide and high waves the passage becomes impassable, there may then be a path above the last step). After two narrow passages, the beach widens and the second part of the truck lies in front of you.
fallen from above. You reach the small harbor, a restaurant and finally back to the cable car.
The cable car operates from 10.00 to 19.00 in summer and from 10.00 to 18.00 in winter (no guarantee).
The single trip to the top costs (as of December 2024) 8 euros per person and must be paid on arrival at the top.
Now follow the road for a good 800 meters and then follow the first junction to the right. After another 650 meters you are back at the parking entry.
Resourceful canyonists look for a shortcut through the plantations.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 32.6549 -17.0183
Parking at Entry 32.6549 -17.0179
Parking at Exit 32.6570 -17.0215
Canyon End 32.6539 -17.0196

Reports:

2026-05-20 | Andreas Gremmel | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
The supposedly unstable anchor in the pool of the first high rappel is fine - but the connecting rope should be replaced. Extreme risk of falling rocks on the high rappel - the walls are very loose! The swell and water level were completely ok for us shortly before low tide - could do with a lot more. (machine translated)

2026-01-04 | Patrick Summerer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
We climbed up exactly at high tide, but the way back was no problem as the swell was moderately high and the tide was not so strong due to the full moon. We didn't use 2 intermediate stands as we had a 130m rope with us. Spectacular ambience! The Fajã dos Padres beach bar is a great place to reward yourself with a beer (machine translated)

2024-12-18 | Christian Balla | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
A fantastic rappel canyon! The following points should be taken into account: Cable car operating times, tide/flood/wave height, drill Sensible, the water is in a smaller chute in places Video of the tour: https://youtu.be/Sfe6oNiN290?si=JDy_KcLTRfTxAhKO (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://ropewiki.com/Quinta_Grande