Arzino (superiore)

Cascate e pozze turchesi del Torrente Arzino,Arzino -1,Arzino sup

Create: 2023-07-01 16:56:45	**Update:** 2026-08-17 01:47:11	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:39
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** ente di decentramento regionale di Udine **Town:** Preone		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v3 a4 II	**Total time:** 3h
Approachtime: 5min	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 25min
Altitude entry: 715m	**Altitude exit:** 655m	**Delta Altitude:** 60m
Canyon length: 250m	**Highest rapell:** 20m	**Amount rapells:** 14
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** dolomite	**Drainage area:** km²
Season: May - October	**Orientation:** Northeast	**Best Time:** 11-14 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 4.2 (14)	**Info:** ★ 2.6 (11)	**Belay:** ★ 2.1 (13)
Specialities:		

Gear:
Ropes: 2x20m

Summary:
'Arzino sup' touristically known as 'Cascate e pozze turchesi del Torrente Arzino' is a compact and rather aquatic canyoning tour in a remote Dolomite valley of glacier origin. Start is an almost horizontal geyser, followed by a Niagara-pool and a slightly more carved out gorge, never more than 10m deep. Most can be jumped, bypassed or abseiled in the flow. Linking the upper & lower Arzino is the ultimate challenge in the valley for experienced teams, whereas the upper Arzino is more friendly. Non-canyoneers can follow from the trail. Morning to mid-day.

Hydrology:
Partially karstic, additionally some tributaries.

Access:
Drive all the way up the Arzino valley, before the last hairpin turns take the left-hand secondary road that takes us higher into the Arzino valley than Arzino 0 starting point (there is one touristic sign for each of the canyons). Follow this little road which is quite narrow with lots of short turns, up until the P on the left hand side, marked again by a touristic sign.

Approach:
From the car park walk down to the waterfalls. Start of the obstacles is near the picnic bench and a broken down viewing platform. Left of this viewing platform we can use the tree for abseiling into the first obstacle and find two first bolts on the left, as an intermediate anchor, from which an ideal access is given to the geyser.

Tour:
01 - natural anchor on the tourist trail, left bank, 10m from a tree to a ledge (2p. max)

02 - 7m abseil, left bank, from two bolts on the ledge (exposed, 2p. max) into a waterjet-geyser (impressive when source is overflowing)
If water is flowing on all sides of this obstacle, the canyon is in high flow/overflowing.

(01 & 02 are avoidable, but recommended to test the strength of the waterflow). Can also be jumped on the right.

03 - 8m abseil, from a natural anchor, right bank, 8m, into a Niagara-pool, can be partially avoided by abseiling left bank from a natural anchor. Or jumped from the right to the right of the pool (watch out, tree in the bottom centre)

04 - 6m left bank, before the bridge, bolt. Can be jumped into a more shallow pool.

05 - 5m right bank, directly under the bridge, bolt. Rocks below, no jump.

06 - 7m right bank, into a turbulent pool, bolt left & right. Jump left or right.

07 - 9m left bank, into a pool with water movement, bolt w.ring. Jump to the right.

Hanging pool with tourist viewpoint on the right (possible escape)

08 - 16m abseil, right bank, from a bolt w.ring

09 - 20m abseil, right bank, from 2 bolts
(In 2026 there was a tree + undercurrent further down the pool, attention with high water)

10 - downclimb the sloping right bank, 5m

11 - MC with 1 intermediate bolt w.carabiner to a ledge w. 2 bolts, left bank, to avoid the strong flow + water movement in pool below. Can also be abseiled + jumped straight into the pool from the first bolt on the left.

12 - 5m abseil, left bank, 2 bolts. Recommended when the canyon is in high flow.
Possible games in the pool with water movement.

13 - abseil from a bolt + ring, left bank, 15m across 2 small pools.

Exit of the canyon, right bank.

Return:
Exit at beach, right bank, hike up to the little bridge and take the trail up, 25' to the car. Or continue to Arzino inf. along the trail (few km).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.3421 12.8914
Parking Entry and Exit 46.3409 12.8879
Canyon End 46.3434 12.8935

Reports:

2026-09-06 | TuL | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | | 👍 Completed
Completed the full descent under optimal flow conditions, with the San Francesco gauge reading 57 cm. Both sections were stunning; the water was cold (10°C at the start and 12°C at the exit). All anchors were in good condition. For those wishing to do the full run, we recommend walking the trail connecting the two sections in 45', instead of shuttling the cars from the top moving one to the start of the lower section and the other to the exit, which takes roughly the same amount of time.

2026-09-02 | Peisen | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Some of the anchors aren't easy to find right away. (machine translated)

2026-08-27 | Péter Bonczi | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Everything's fine. The water and the pools are a beautiful color. (machine translated)

2026-08-17 | Ivan I. | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Weapons: OK; skirt is short but cute (machine translated)

2026-08-16 | Georg Rudelstorfer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Conditions are currently good. The upper section is almost a bit short compared to the lower section. There are longer walking passages between the upper and lower sections along a beautiful hiking trail, so it can be easily combined with the lower section. The water is wonderfully cold. (machine translated)

2026-08-13 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Everything's great—it's really fun right now (machine translated)

2026-08-12 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
Super combo. All anchors ok cfr. the description. After the sup we went straight to the inf (some 30' hike). Lots of bathers and tourists this time of year.

2026-07-24 | Samuel Lobodáš | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Absolutely wonderful canyon, we loved it there! To enjoy as much as we did just be aware of the extremely cold water into which you are jumping, sliding or rappeling all the time. Therefore I recommend to take on every piece of neoprene clothing you own with you. There is no big problem with the anchoring, sometimes it was a bit harder to find them, but nothing terrible since their positioning is matching with the description in the database. This is a must go for everyone on canyoning trip in Friuli!!!

2026-05-25 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Watery, beautiful canyon with crystal-clear turquoise pools. Many places are jumpable. Can be easily connected with the inferior part due to the orographic hiking trail on the right. (machine translated)

2026-05-22 | Saša | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Nice and interesting aquatic canyon. All anchors OK.

2026-04-30 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
A bit early in the year, but given the fact it had only rained little in April (1cm of snow), the water flow is already at summer level. However, as a measure of precaution, a personal floating device was still useful. Thankful for the feedback of Jason, the aquatic scale was raised, i doubled the first anchor, doubled the big waterfall, added another anchor for the final handline, and doubled its exit (4 bolts for the handline in total). All the anchors are away from the tourist trail. No slings or ropes on the trees.

2025-07-20 | Jason Walker | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ | 〰 Low | 👍 Completed
V3, probably. A3 - very very stiff. More aquatic than most around Friuli. At the flow we had it'd be A4 at least, and if it was higher it'd push into A5... The bolting is sufficient. Singles the whole way down though, not ideal. The canyon itself is actually super nice, and much more interesting than we were expecting. It was certainly very very cold water. Perhaps the coldest in the region at this time of year. Certainly worth a look. If this is A3, the bottom section must be super rowdy!

2025-05-12 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ | 〰 Crazy | 👎 Not done
A bit too much water, but then again, it had rained heavily for days. Water colour and the pools looked really good. Plenty of light penetrating the forest this time of year.

Parts:
Arzino (superiore), v3 a4 II, 5min+2h30+25min
Arzino (inferiore), v3 a5 II, 0min+2h30+30min

First descent: 30.07.2021 by Jeroen Kirchner