Gerra

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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.

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Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Tessin / Cantone Ticino **Subregion:** Bezirk Locarno **Town:** Gambarogno

Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a2 III	**Total time:** 4h10
Approachtime: 25min	**Tourtime:** 3h	**Returntime:** 45min
Altitude entry: 870m	**Altitude exit:** 450m	**Delta Altitude:** 420m
Canyon length: 1700m	**Highest rapell:** 60m	**Amount rapells:** 14
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** gneiss	**Drainage area:** 1.90km²
Season: January - December	**Orientation:** Northwest	**Best Time:** 10-16 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 0 ()	**Info:** ★ 0 ()	**Belay:** ★ 0 ()

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x 70m

Summary:
A very vertical stream, ideal during rainy periods. With a good flow, the two large waterfalls of 50 and 60 meters will provide a good dose of adrenaline.

Hydrology:
Flow assessment: directly at the valley parking area.

Access:
Downstream: reach the small village of Gerra (Gambarogno) and park at the beach parking area, right next to the stream (46°07'21.4"N 8°47'01.3"E), at a cost of 1 CHF per hour.

Upstream: return to Via Cantonale, turn left crossing the bridge, then turn right onto the road that climbs up to Monti di Gerra. At Monti di Gerra there is a large parking area on the hairpin bend just before the barrier (46°07'06.9"N 8°48'03.2"E).

Approach:
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With shuttle: from the upper parking area, follow the flat path leading towards the alpine pasture, gain altitude with a couple of switchbacks, and exit the pasture in the direction of Monti di Sant'Abbondio. Ignore a couple of tributaries until you reach the main branch of the Gerra stream (46°06'37.9"N 8°47'58.7"E). About 25 minutes for 100 m of elevation gain.

Without shuttle: from the lower parking area, first follow the paved road towards Monti di Gerra. At Cheventino, you can then take the trail to cut a few switchbacks. Once at Monti di Gerra, follow the same directions as for the shuttle approach. About 1h 30min for 630 m of elevation gain.

Tour:
01- C17 (nat dx)
02- C20 (1 dx)
03- C15 (1 dx)
04- C15 (nat dx)
05- C15 (1 dx)
06- C50 (2 sx)
07- C10 (nat central)
08- C8 (2 sx)
09- C60 (2 sx)
010- C25 (1 sx)
011- C30 (nat sx)
012- C10 (1 dx)
013- C15 (1 sx)
014- C10 (nat central)

Return:
After the last vertical drop, there is a long stretch of walking along the streambed, about 800 m, until reaching a flood-control wall. Here you can enter the tunnel on the right and quickly return to the village and the cars. About 45 minutes for 250 m of elevation loss.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.1107 8.7994
Parking at Entry 46.1185 8.8009
Parking at Exit 46.1226 8.7838
Canyon End 46.1155 8.7915

Reports:

First descent: 01.01.2022 by apertura Gruppo Speleologico CAI Varese