Delgado (Partie C)

Ribeira de João Delgado (C),Delgado inferior

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: 2024-02-25 20:01:04	**Update:** 2025-09-22 19:41:21	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:27
Country: Portugal **Region:** Madeira **Subregion:** **Town:** Porto Moniz		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a4 IV	**Total time:** 5h15
Approachtime: 1h15	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 1h30
Altitude entry: 200m	**Altitude exit:** 1m	**Delta Altitude:** 199m
Canyon length: 750m	**Highest rapell:** 90m	**Amount rapells:** 8
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4 (1)	**Info:** ★ 0 ()	**Belay:** ★ 2 (1)

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.
In the area of at least one cascade, the rock is unstable and collapsed.
The canyon is very unstable, at least in parts. There is a current risk of rockfall, missing or damaged anchor points and a changed topology.

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2 x 40m, 2 x 50 m

Summary: (machine translated)
Watery rappel canyon that exits directly onto the Atlantic Ocean

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Sao Vicente, take the VE2 in the direction of Seical / Porto Moniz. After the Joao Delgado tunnel, park at the Veu de Noiva viewpoint.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the viewpoint, follow the old coastal road back towards Sao Vicente. Shortly before the old tunnel, which is now buried, a steep path goes up on the right-hand side. At the beginning, this is easily recognizable and obvious from the old steps. After a short time, the quality of the old path deteriorates noticeably. The condition becomes worse and worse and more dangerous. If you have a queasy feeling, it is better to turn back immediately.

The path is very overgrown in places. Progress is therefore very difficult and slow. After about 200 meters in altitude, the worst is over and the path is in better condition again.

Tour: (machine translated)
Beautiful canyon. Anchor points all in good condition, some with high-quality titanium glued anchors.
Approx. 20 to 30 meters below the anchor point of the C90, orographic to the right, there is a rock window of the tunnel of the old coastal road ER 101. The canyon can be exited here at high tide or if the waves are too strong. However, there is NO longer a safe way back via the ER101 due to numerous landslides. Large parts of the old road no longer exist!
The intermediate stand in the final waterfall is exposed and, depending on the wind, is more or less exposed to the spray. There is only room for two people here. This should be taken into account when planning the rope.

Return: (machine translated)
The C90 exits directly below the cliffs on the Atlantic Ocean. The way back along the cliffs is only possible at low tide. It leads orographic right over round stones including small climbing sections. At the trickiest passage, you can climb a rock ledge and rappel from an anchor at the top to escape the waves. The anchor is currently (October 2024) heavily rusted, but will be replaced soon. After a good 30 minutes, the coast becomes flatter and the road can be glimpsed. Shortly afterwards, you can cross under the road in a concrete channel (Corrego da Furna waterfall) and then exit to it. The parking exit is opposite. Without a second car, follow the coastal road through a long tunnel to the parking entry (another 30 min).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 32.8135 -17.0899
Canyon End 32.8156 -17.0900
Parking at Entry 32.8164 -17.0965
Parking at Exit 32.8149 -17.0795
Waypoint 32.8149 -17.0917
Alternative Canyon End 32.8151 -17.0898

Reports:

2026-08-08 | System User | | | | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Delgado (Partie C) J’ai réinstallé les pitons de retour en ascente sur la rive gauche de la dernière cascade. Rendez-vous au bout de l’ancienne route : vous y trouverez les deux pitons de départ. Descendez en rappel jusqu’au bord ; sous le gros bloc, vous trouverez le piton suivant, à quelques mètres plus bas, légèrement en dehors de la ligne (en direction de la cascade) un autre. Puis, environ 10 mètres plus bas encore en dehors de la ligne vers la cascade, deux autres. Il vous faudra deux cordes de 40 mètres. Assurez-vous qu’elles mesurent bien au moins 40 mètres, sinon la corde inférieure sera trop courte. Une fois la corde inférieure installée dans le deux dernier pitons, remontez la corde supérieure et effectuez le canyon. Mais attention, l’approche demande une bonne force mentale et pourrait déjà être impraticable dès demain. En hiver, un énorme glissement de terrain a détruit un tronçon de 10 mètres du sentier. Le canyon en lui-même est magnifique, mais honnêtement un peu court par rapport à l’effort que cela demande. Le dernier rappel, avec vue sur l’océan et en direction de Seixal, est incroyable. Après cette descente et la récupération de la corde, faites face à la paroi rocheuse et grimpez la colline herbeuse à votre droite pour retrouver la corde. Il ne reste alors plus qu’environ 60 mètres à ascendre. Cette sortie est possible même à marée haute et par grosses vagues, car vous ne vous approchez pas suffisamment de l’océan pour rencontrer des problèmes. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21916/observations.html)

2024-02-25 | Christian Balla | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | | ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Beautiful canyon. Anchor points mostly in good condition, some high-quality titanium glued anchors. Access is extremely precarious. If you have a queasy feeling, you should turn back immediately - it gets worse and worse ..... Due to the waves, we decided to break off at the C90 and use the emergency exit at the rock window of the tunnel of the old shore road. The old shore road no longer exists in large parts. There can be no question of a safe way back here. It is therefore essential to walk in such a way that you can get out at low tide and low waves at the bottom of the Atlantic and return there safely. (machine translated)

Parts:
Delgado (Partie A), v4 a1 V, 1h+2h15+2h15
Delgado (Partie B), v4 a3 ?, 2h15+7h15+25min
Delgado (Partie C), v5 a4 IV, 1h15+2h30+1h30

First descent: 01.09.1995 by António Ferro, Gonçalo Gonçalves, João Nunes