Torrente Leale

Leale

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:53	**Update:** 2026-09-03 15:28:13	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:28
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Gemona		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a4 IV	**Total time:** 3h50
Approachtime: 45min	**Tourtime:** 3h	**Returntime:** 5min
Altitude entry: 310m	**Altitude exit:** 200m	**Delta Altitude:** 110m
Canyon length: 200m	**Highest rapell:** 22m	**Amount rapells:** 10
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** 19.60km²
Season: June - October	**Orientation:** East	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.5 (31)	**Info:** ★ 2.9 (24)	**Belay:** ★ 2.9 (29)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x30m

Summary: (machine translated)
Aquatic, cold, technically demanding canyon; safe rappels in the water and avoiding a strong water jet must definitely be mastered. The Leale is fed by an underground lake and several chambers, in years with long snowy winters an ascent is usually impossible as too much water enters the canyon from the reservoirs; large catchment area, very dangerous at higher water levels; recommendation-> small groups; possible emergency exit left before the 2nd narrow point at the Riu dal Boschet tributary, some beautiful washouts and narrow points; the water level can be easily estimated at the ford in front of the parking lot. The water should cover a maximum of 1/3 of the ford. In the reference picture, the canyon can be done by experienced canyoneers without any problems.
Another indicator of the water level is the dam wall. When the water comes out of the outlets, which are about 3m above the pool, it is definitely better not to enter.
Certainly one of the jewels in Friuli for aquatic fans.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Tolmezzo, take the S512 main road towards Cavazzo --> continue past the lake --> after the lake, turn right towards Alesso -->from Alesso, continue towards Avasinis --> after crossing Torrente Leale, turn right at the first opportunity --> the dirt road leads to the stream where you can check the water level. The water should not walk more than 1/3 of the width and not more than 2-3cm (in height) over the shoring(see photo for estimation, at this water level the canyon is aquatic but doable without problems) After the water level check you cross the creek --> at the exit of the gravel road you park the car at the edge of the forest. (N46.299787, E13.041642)

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot, follow the clearly visible trail to the dam. About 50 meters before the dam, cross the Leale stream, thereby moving to the right bank. Here you'll immediately see the clearly visible trail marks leading up the right bank toward the dam. Follow the trail until you reach the dam. Then follow the Leale stream upstream for 100 meters (about 5 minutes) until you reach the canyon exit. Walk another 100 meters into the canyon—or rather, into the streambed—until you see where the canyon narrows.
Here, a well-trodden path begins on the ortographic left bank, which initially leads steeply upward. Follow the path on the left bank that ascends the Leale for about 25 minutes, and you'll then arrive directly at the Leale's streambed.

Once in the streambed, continue upstream along the pools carved deep into the rock until, on the ortographic left bank, where the Riu dal Boschet flows into the Leale. Here, switch back to the ortographic right bank and continue upstream until you spot path marks leading uphill. Follow the steep, mostly slippery path—partly marked with blue-and-white markings—up the hill. Keep to the right as much as possible toward the Leale, as there are also paths branching off to the left here that do not lead to the entry. After about another 10–15 minutes, the path branches off to the right and descends to the streambed. If you follow the path, you'll also reach the streambed after about 50 meters, but there you'll have to rappel down from a tree (not recommended).

Tour: (machine translated)
Once you reach the streambed, you will immediately see a dark turquoise pool that has been drilled into the rock. This is the first 3m jump where you come into contact with the fresh water of the Leale. Be careful if you are not jumping but downclimbing. There is a siphon above the jump from which you definitely cannot get out and which is only visible from above if you look closely. If you jump into the Leale, you don't need to worry about the siphon because the pool is exactly the exit from the siphon.
Another 1m step follows, which can be jumped very carefully with an ass bomb - because of stones in pools, as well as another jump into the pool. You come to the first rappel (SOS10) located ortographic left at the top.
This is the first challenge, as you are forced to enter the often very strong water jet at the bottom, which flows into a turbulent pool. Caution: there are also stones in the pool. The best thing to do here is to try to rope in behind the water jet and then go around the water jet to the left or right.
The SOS10 abseil point can be seen from the entry. If you already have the feeling at the entry that there is a lot of water in the canyon, it is recommended that at least one person waits at the entry to set up a rope for an emergency ascent in an emergency.
This is followed by a nice swimming passage that leads to a rappel or 8m jump. And then the upper part - which is absolutely worthwhile - is over. You follow the Leale again for 200m and pass the mouth of the Rio dal Boschet.
If you have already had problems with the water in the upper part, or if a group member has been overwhelmed, you should leave the canyon here on the ortographic left, where you came to the streambed before! The lower part has rappels that must be done in the water, is heavily incised and has no emergency exits or areas where you can get to safety from the water.
The lower part begins with a 6m rappel and after a short climbing and swimming passage, the canyon narrows. You come to the 18m abseil, which must be done in the water. The rappel cannot be seen from the belay. After a small swimming section, you come to a small step (SOS 6), which can also be downclimbed. This is followed by one of the most spectacular sections in the Leale. The abseil point SOS5 is located ortographic left, very exposed and can only be reached by climbing on slippery rock. There are some glued anchors that you should definitely use and which serve to set up a rope traverse. Once you have reached the rappel, you continue with what is probably the most spectacular rappel. The water rushes through a very narrow channel and you have to manage to get out ortographic left of the step with a little rappel skill in order to continue rappelling from the step. You can use some stones as handholds to get out. This section is challenging because if you lose your balance here, you will end up directly in the concentrated water jet, which you don't want to get into!
After a small swimming area, you come to a rock ramp where, with a little searching, you will find the 2 glued anchors for setting up the rope traverse. After setting up the rope traverse to the 6m downclimb (SOS4), you come to a narrow water channel, which you have to downclimb by spreading out. After a small swimming section, you come to the abseiling point (SOS3), which can be completed dry. If there is not too much water here, you can also go directly to the edge where the water rushes down from here and jump into the pool.
The next abseil point is on the right, very high up. A glued anchor helps with the ascent.
You come to the last abseil point, which is located by a large clamping block. If there is little water in the canyon, you can go to the chain anchor (ortographic left), which is located directly at the clamping block. Caution: here you are bound to come into the powerful water jet!
If there is more water, you should go under the clamping block and use the chain anchor with the SOS1 badge. This is a bit exposed, but you can get into the water jet further down and can avoid it by spreading out. Once you are in the pool, the last swim section follows through a wonderful dark narrow section.
Once you are out of the swimming section, the canyon opens up and you are exactly at the point where you went steeply upwards on the ortographic left during access. As with the access, follow the Leale for about 5 minutes until you reach the dam wall again, which can also be jumped with a courageous leap.

Return: (machine translated)
Just follow the path to the parking lot as you did for access.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.2962 13.0241
Parking Entry and Exit 46.2997 13.0420
Canyon End 46.3006 13.0350

Reports:

2026-10-19 | Yorick van Noord | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
A beautiful canyon if you enjoy aquatic activities. In our opinion, the short section above the streambed crossing isn't worth the extra access, since it only has one short rappel and one higher jump/rappel. Everything is in great condition. (machine translated)

2026-10-11 | Georg Rudelstorfer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Water level is very low at Leale, and it's a bit slippery. A pleasant walk with no difficulties at all, featuring beautiful turquoise water. (machine translated)

2026-09-27 | Vojta Heger | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Water level is below normal. Passage was without any problems. The ford is dry. All moorings are in good condition. (machine translated)

2026-09-03 | Peisen | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
The water level was pleasant; the ford was dry. It was slippery in some places. All the anchors were in great shape. The access was marked in a few places with blue dots on a white background. (machine translated)

2026-08-16 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Leale DC, canyon le plus aquatique du secteur, suréquipé, tres belle descente (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/23460/observations.html)

2026-08-14 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Leale DC (sans doute bas pour ce canyon). Pas d'eau au niveau du gué. On la trouve plus haut avant de commencer a monter plus raide. Bien beau. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/23460/observations.html)

2026-08-13 | Ivan I. | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Everything's fine—what a beautiful canyon! (machine translated)

2026-08-10 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Leale Beau canyon, fait à deux en partie sous la pluie.Gros débit selon les critères DC mais débit correct pour ce canyon qui est équipé pour.Marche d'approche sand navette un peu exposée par endroits. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/23460/observations.html)

2026-08-10 | Rick Paapy | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
I've never seen Leale so dry □□□ It's the perfect spot to check out Leale if you don't like water. We had a great time! Nice, cold water; all the anchor points are in good shape. You can do all the jumps. (machine translated)

2026-08-04 | Rok | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Everything's great. All the jumps can be done with caution. For Leale, a little less water... (machine translated)

2026-08-01 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
All sections are fine; there's very little water right now compared to the Leale's normal water level. It's also quite slippery at the moment. Otherwise, it's a nice way to cool off. (machine translated)

2026-07-31 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Leale Portata ok dentro la forra, cmq poca. Torrente che da A4 diventa a2, volendo a2.5????. Armi perfetti. Usciti dal secondo inforramento sparisce sotto la ghiaia e riappare dal tubo della briglia finale, cmq tuffabile' (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/23460/observations.html)

2026-07-29 | Aleš | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Visiting this challenging and beautiful canyon was a real pleasure. Despite the drought, there is still plenty of water; all the anchors are in good condition, and the jumps are doable. A wonderful day! (machine translated)

2026-07-25 | Samuel Lobodáš | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Everything all right, anchoring is good and visible, path to the entry point is easy to find, no bigger problems. We had very low water, which was perfectly fitting for our group consisting of 4 beginners and 4 experienced guys

First descent: 16.07.2010 by P. Pedrini, A. De Rovere & R. Del Fabbro