Gornera

Gorner Gorge

Create: 2024-06-05 23:17:38	**Update:** 2025-01-15 21:02:33	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:17
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Wallis / Canton du Valais **Subregion:** Bezirk Visp **Town:** Zermatt		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v4 a5 V	**Total time:**
Approachtime:	**Tourtime:**	**Returntime:**
Altitude entry: m	**Altitude exit:** m	**Delta Altitude:**
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: Cablecar	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.7 (3)	**Info:** ★ 2 (2)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (2)
Specialities:		
Gear:		

Summary: (machine translated)
Demanding winter gorge which should be enjoyed with appropriate caution.

The Gornera, which is fed by the highest peaks in Switzerland and the second largest glacier in the country, has carved deep into the green rocks above Zermatt and is divided into several parts (I to V, with an additional, less interesting O), none of which are easy to tackle. (machine translated)

Hydrology: (machine translated)
Canyons only recommended when out of service. Usually December-March.

Access: (machine translated)
From Täsch by train to Zermatt and by bus or on foot to the cable car "Zermatt Matterhorn Talstation". Take the cable car to Furi, then continue on foot.

Approach: (machine translated)
Part 1: at the bridge
Part 2: From Furi down over the bridge, turn right and follow the canyon briefly upwards, then enter near the reservoir house
Part 3: Orographically left on the hiking trail down. Leave the hiking trail in the direction of the gondola lift mast. From there, follow the cliff for another 50-100m until an obvious, gently sloping path leads south into the canyon. Start at the "via ferrata".

Tour: (machine translated)
Anchors are regularly damaged or cannot be found under the snow. A drill is strongly recommended.
Parts 1+2 or 2+3 make a nice day tour.

Part 1: only possible with little snow/fresh snow (avalanche danger) and not too cold temperatures. A side tributary can block the whole canyon with a wall of ice.
Part 2: More water contact than in part 1 but not very technical. Exit orographic left before the via ferrata or start of part 3.
Part 3: More rappels and downclimbs follow. Attention, there is a pool from which you may not be able to get out if the siphon is closed. Therefore, from the start of part 3, you must first climb via the via ferrata to this point and hang a rope (approx. 2x20m). Alternatively, one person can follow the group via the via ferrata and react from above if the siphon is closed. The pool is located after the cool rope pendulum in the via ferrata, with which you can get from the orographic right to the orographic left side of the canyon. If the siphon is closed, people have to rappel up the rope to the via ferrata and back down into the canyon after the siphon. This takes some time and warm clothing is essential.
Exit at the start of part 4 orographically to the right, climbing up the steep streambed as soon as possible. Crampons and ice axes/ice tools recommended.
Part 4: ? worse water quality possible from here onwards
Part 5: Poor water quality possible. Canyon should be checked before entering via the tourist gallery. Possible wooden blockages.

Return:

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 45.9941 7.7269
Parking at Entry 46.0687 7.7753
Alternative Canyon Start 45.9999 7.7333
Alternative Canyon Start 46.0033 7.7346
Alternative Canyon Start 46.0058 7.7363

Reports:

2025-01-11 | Alex Arnold | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Only part 3 made. (machine translated)

2023-12-02 | Bubtore | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Only did part 3, siphon was not necessary (5cm margin of air). Set a few new anchors, cold water, as expected. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
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