

Rio Bianco

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Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Santa Catharina

Difficulty: not as difficult

Grading: v3 a3 IV

Total time: 6h30

Approachtime: 1h10

Tourtime: 5h

Returntime: 20min

Altitude entry: 1324m

Altitude exit: 710m

Delta Altitude: 614m

Canyon length: m

Highest rapell: 28m

Amount rapells:

Transport:

Rock type:

drainage area: km²

Season:

Orientation:

Best Time:

Rating: ★ 2.1 (1)

Info: ★ 0 ()

Belay: ★ 0 ()

Specialities:

Gear:

Summary: (machine translated)

Long, very remote canyon somewhere between hiking day and canyoning tour

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)

Parking exit: Motorway E55 to Pontebba exit, here change to SS13 and head towards Tarvisio. After a few km turn left to Santa Catharina. Park at a small rest area directly on the Rio Bianco. Entering parking area: Return to the SS13 and drive via Tarvisio and Arnoldstein to Austria. Here take the federal road 111 to Hermagor and follow the signs Garnitzenklamm to the parking lot Garnitzenklamm. Just before the parking lot, follow a narrow asphalt road to the left until you reach the parking lot at Eggeralm. Alternatively, you can also drive via Pontebba and the Nassfeld to Hermagor - less km but no time saving.

Approach: (machine translated)

From the parking lot 200m along the road, then turn right onto a sand road that you follow slightly uphill to the Kersnitzensattel. From here descend to Stallensattel (1496m) where you change to the marked Kärntner Grenzweg, which leads downhill to the Rio Bianco valley. You cross some gravel gullies (partly wire rope safety devices) until the valley becomes wider. Good descent to the Rio Bianco in the area of the second streambed crossed: first easily through the scree bed until you are in front of a small waterfall, bypass it on the left on Gamssteig and downclimb into the streambed. In the Rio Bianco descend a few more 100m until you reach the wooden beams of an old hermitage. Here is the entry.

Tour: (machine translated)

Oberste Klause 1324m - Hauptklause 1099m\nOpen canyon with some nice possible jumps, the highlight is the 'Wendlingbad', a deep pool in the white rock with metal plaque. Some 100m after that the only established rappel point of this part: below a clamping block it goes from a sling 8m into a short gorge. Afterwards about 1000m hiking in a wide gravel bed.\n\nMain hut 1099m - end of the wall 946m\nThe canyoning part of the tour. Short narrow gorges alternate with wider parts - it is almost impossible to leave the canyon.\n* 15m over 2 pools rappel from anchor with sling left\n* 6m rappel from anchor left\n* 10m rappel from anchor left\n* 4m left over clamping block downclimb, side stream from right\n* from here great rock folds\n* 8m rappel from tree\n* 28m rappel from 2 anchors + sling from block in middle of river\n* downclimb\n* 14m rappel from anchors with slings left\n* 4m rappel from jammed tree\n* 20m rappel from 2 anchors + sling left, this belaystation is inconveniently placed and it is questionable if it survives many floods.\n* 15m downclimb right\n\nclimb end of gorge 946m - last gorge 710m\n300m of block climbing until the canyon narrows again somewhat and eats through black shale. Here a 10m rappel from clamping block + sling left. Then downclimb and slide until the canyon becomes wider and flatter. From here long hiking distance (>2 km) in the wide gravel bed until you are in front of the last gorge: rappel 20m from tree right and downclimb 15m keeping right. The rest of the gorge is scenic but easy to walk.

Return: (machine translated)

Continue descending through the streambed. You pass a huge boulder dam and 10min later the abandoned Santa Catharina train station. From here it is only a few meters to the parking lot.

Coordinates:





Canyon Start [46.5627 13.3484](#)

Parking at Exit [46.5030 13.3963](#)

Parking at Entry [46.5869 13.3741](#)

Canyon End [46.5186 13.3921](#)

Reports:

2023-03-09 | System User |   |  |  | |

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First descent: 29.08.2014 by