Rio Fondaris

Create: 2026-03-09 12:32:59	**Update:** 2026-05-11 17:33:39	**Print:** 2026-10-30 12:10:43
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** ente di decentramento regionale di Udine **Town:** Moggio Udinese		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v3 a3 III	**Total time:** 2h45
Approachtime: 40min	**Tourtime:** 1h30	**Returntime:** 35min
Altitude entry: 910m	**Altitude exit:** 800m	**Delta Altitude:** 110m
Canyon length: 400m	**Highest rapell:** 30m	**Amount rapells:** 11
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.1 (19)	**Info:** ★ 2.8 (18)	**Belay:** ★ 2.2 (18)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x30m

Summary: (machine translated)
Wild but attractive and varied gorge in the upper reaches of the Rio Alba. Despite the remote location, relatively easy access and return via hunters paths.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Moggio Udinese up into the Aupa valley. Turn right to Pardis and follow the road further up the mountain. Turn right at a junction.
Parking lot in front of a barrier at about 1050m.

Approach: (machine translated)
Follow hiking trail 450 to the NE. This part of the climb was still officially closed in 2026, but can and is still used. The official route remains on the road for 60 meters and then leads down to the old path. Soon afterwards, at a crossroads, turn NE into the mostly dry streambed of the Rio Alba. Cross the stream and follow the path into the Rio Fondaris valley without gaining or losing much altitude. At a cairn or a little further on, branch off from the hiking trail on a hunters path marked with blue dots and cairns that leads into the valley of the Rio Fondaris. Follow this path and descend into the streambed just before the gorge begins (a path branches off to the left 50m before)

Tour: (machine translated)
The gorge cuts in quickly.
10m from anchor on the right (tree obstacle)
2.5m slide or rappel from jammed tree
12m from anchor on the right
Short downclimb
5m from anchor left
3m jump
30m from 2 anchors on the right
2m jump or rappel from anchor right
3m rappel from anchor left (possibly jumpable but tree in underwater)
10m rappel from anchor left, jumpable
Short downclimb, cross a wild hunters path secured with wire rope ladders
3m rappel from anchor right
5m rappel from anchor left, pool jumpable from the step below
20m rappel from anchors on the left, best to belay from above

Return: (machine translated)
Climb briefly through the chaos of boulders from the Rio Alba, then turn orographic right into the deciduous forest. In total you have to climb about 40-50m to reach a crossing path marked with blue dots and cairns. Follow this path to the SW. The beautiful path crosses a landslide zone (ignore the old belays and bypass above instead) and then crosses through steep forest interspersed with rocks in about 15 minutes to a crossroads. Here take the path marked with pink dots to the right. You soon reach an abandoned hut (Case Foramiz), here only a short ascent on the forest road to the lower parking lot.

You can also downclimb in the streambed of the Rio Alba, first between large boulders including a small cave and jump down to the mouth of the Rio Formia, then a long streambed hike until the Rio Alba cuts into a deep canyon again. Downclimb here and rappel once 8m (aquatic, anchor on the left side of the stream). Then just more hiking and a final 5m rappel over a dam. It takes about 60 minutes to reach the dam, then 15-20 minutes up to the Alba parking lot

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.4522 13.2259
Canyon End 46.4497 13.2231
Parking at Entry 46.4507 13.2165
Parking at Exit 46.4448 13.2143
Alternative Canyon End 46.4367 13.2170

Reports:

2026-09-12 | Martin Jasek | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
A fantastic canyon, the high water level made for a great experience. It was easy to avoid the strong currents at the waterfalls, and we even used the second anchor point at the final waterfall. We did the trip with a single car—the approach was hassle-free, though the return hike to the car was quite strenuous, even with blue-dot markers making navigation easier.

2026-09-12 | Martin Jasek | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
A fantastic canyon; the high water level made for a great experience. It was easy to avoid the strong currents at the waterfalls, and we even used the second anchor point at the final waterfall. We did the trip with a single car—the approach was hassle-free, though the return hike to the car was quite strenuous, even with blue-dot markers making navigation easier.

2026-08-09 | Maša | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
A beautiful, relatively short canyon. (machine translated)

2026-08-07 | Rok | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Everything’s fine. It’s unbelievable that you found this gem. Now all that’s left is to drill the anchor for the high rappel into the water, and it’ll be super. Of course, it works fine as is. The 13-meter jump is no problem. It has the potential to become a classic in Friuli. Thanks for this first ascent! (machine translated)

2026-07-16 | Thierry Zanella | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
A beautiful, continuous descent with plenty of amenities. A must-do!!! (machine translated)

2026-07-12 | Marosffy Dániel | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Thanks for the improvement, the canyon can be done safely now (assuming one is accustomed to single point anchors). Even the exit path is marked idiot-proof. Water level - surprising enough - the same as a month ago. Rather cold.

2026-07-06 | Vojta Heger | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
A beautiful, short canyon. All the anchor points are in good condition. Thanks for your work. (machine translated)

2026-07-04 | Michael Siter | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
Great new canyon—thanks for setting it up. Everything's tip-top! (machine translated)

2026-06-21 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Today we added the two missing rappelling points, where until now people had to downclimb or jump. We also drilled holes for rope traverses and Jewels anchors for dry rappellers at the last rappel point and the one higher up, in case there’s ever more water. Both the access and exit trails have been marked with blue dots. So now nothing should stand in the way of an enjoyable hike in Fondaris. (machine translated)

2026-05-31 | Georg Rudelstorfer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
Access as described very pleasant. Super nice tour, unfortunately a bit short. As previously described, a few more anchor points would not be bad, but it is absolutely doable. Unfortunately, we missed the recommended exit and got off halfway between the reservoir and the recommended exit on the marked path. Very exposed path with a 200 m ascent; not recommended. (machine translated)

2026-05-30 | Marosffy Dániel | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
A new gem in the vicinity, beautiful, with easy access, and even the way back was not that bad as feared, just had to cross Alba and go up straight to the path. However, some additional anchors would be nice, there are two obligatory jumps (small ones in shallow water) and some descents in the full flow.

2026-05-26 | Péter Bonczi | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Second time here. This is a good canyon with plenty of water. The colour of the water, depending on the light, is turquoise blue at one waterfall, deep green at the next, then clear. It's really nice. (machine translated)

2026-05-03 | Aleš | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
One of the most beautiful canyons with beautiful waterfalls and an easily accessible trail, we just missed the exit a little but still made it back exactly to the car in the lower parking lot.
https://youtu.be/w3OUYFATVpE?si=VA4dq_LwWV-3F8sj (machine translated)

First descent: 08.03.2026 by Horst Lambauer, Clarissa Lindner, David Sefaj, Georg Buol