Giona

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: 2023-12-22 09:59:55	**Update:** 2025-09-01 07:24:22	**Print:** 2026-10-31 01:10:22
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Lombardia **Subregion:** Varese **Town:** Gambarogno		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a4 III	**Total time:** 5h5
Approachtime: 15min	**Tourtime:** 4h	**Returntime:** 50min
Altitude entry: 835m	**Altitude exit:** 635m	**Delta Altitude:** 200m
Canyon length: 2000m	**Highest rapell:** 20m	**Amount rapells:** 5
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** gneiss	**Drainage area:** 15.00km²
Season: July - October	**Orientation:** Southwest	**Best Time:** 10-16 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 0 ()	**Info:** ★ 0 ()	**Belay:** ★ 0 ()

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x 30m

Summary:
A canyon characterized by a high flow and a semi-horizontal course, with just a few vertical drops set in an extremely wild environment full of life. Mosses and ferns cover the canyon walls, while a great variety of insects animates its waters. A large toad watches the rare passersby from a log wedged between the canyon walls.

Hydrology:
Flow assessment: from the Bolletta bridge just before the entrance, or in the village of Maccagno (indicative).

Access:
Downstream: from Maccagno, follow the signs for Indemini and the state border along the SP5 road. Once in the village of Biegno, take the first small road on the left as you enter the village to reach the church. In front of the church there are a few parking spaces (46°04'59.4"N 8°48'54.6"E).

Upstream: from Biegno, return to the SP5 and continue towards Indemini. Just after the customs and before the village, a road descends to the right (A strada da G'esa). Follow this road; after a couple of switchbacks you will reach a small bridge with some parking spaces (46°05'39.9"N 8°49'38"E). Beyond this point, the road becomes unpaved and offers few parking options.

Approach:
With shuttle: from the upper parking area, continue along the dirt road descending into the valley. Ignore the first dirt road on the right and continue straight. Pay attention to the next trail on the right, sometimes barely visible but marked in white/red. This trail continues descending into the valley, reaching the Bolletta huts. After the alpine pasture, a bridge allows you to cross the Giona River. On the opposite bank, entry is possible just upstream of the bridge (46°05'46.2"N 8°50'09.5"E). About 15 minutes for 120 m of elevation loss.

Without shuttle: from Biegno, follow the entire paved road to Indemini (about 1h), or (recommended) park directly in Indemini and exit the stream at Ronco. This way, you skip the final part of the canyon but no shuttle is needed.

Tour:
01- C20 (1 dx)
02- C12 (MC 1sx + 1 sx)
03- C8 (nat central)
Exit Frèssan
04- C20 (2 sx)
Exit Ronco/Valecc
05- C7 (1 sx)

Return:
After the confluence with Valle del Ri (right side), continue along another section that is partially enclosed but free of difficulties. When the riverbed opens up, you will reach the ruins of the historic Pont de Là (46°05'01.8"N 8°49'27.5"E), which recently collapsed. Climb up the right bank (grade II) to reach the now-abandoned trail leading up to Indemini. About 50 minutes for 300 m of elevation gain.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.0971 8.8371
Canyon End 46.0838 8.8243
Alternative Canyon End 46.0912 8.8295
Parking at Entry 46.0944 8.8271
Parking at Exit 46.0831 8.8150

Reports:

Parts:
Pittorina, v4 a3 III, 20min+5h+30min
Giona, v4 a4 III, 15min+4h+50min