Johannesbach

Create: 2023-03-09 20:55:50	**Update:** 2026-08-13 21:00:58	**Print:** 2026-10-30 02:10:18
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Tirol **Subregion:** Bezirk Schwaz **Town:** Hinterriss		
Difficulty: very difficult	**Grading:** v5 a6 II	**Total time:** 3h5
Approachtime: 25min	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 10min
Altitude entry: 1000m	**Altitude exit:** 880m	**Delta Altitude:** 120m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 20m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.5 (2)	**Info:** ★ 3 (1)	**Belay:** ★ 1 (1)

Specialities:

Gear:

Summary: (machine translated)
Very aquatic tour with only low abseiling points. Demanding in terms of water technology

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
In Vorderriss, turn off toward the Rissbach Valley and drive to the toll booth. Park on the right next to the hotel that closed in 2018.

Approach: (machine translated)
Cross the meadow and the Rissbach stream and follow a hiking trail to a forest road. Soon leave the forest road to the right and hike along a good path above the gorge into the valley floor. When you reach a mostly dry stream (Luchsegggraben), follow it. At the edge of the gorge, descend to the right over scree to the streambed.

Tour: (machine translated)
Generally, there is a very high water volume (~1 m³/sec) and a strong current. Navigate blind bends using a rope; anchors for such maneuvers are only partially available, so you'll need to secure yourself to driftwood or your own body.
After a few rock channels, you'll come to a pile of fallen trees with anchors on the right—rappel 2 m into the pool, then pass through several more rock channels until you reach a particularly narrow passage; climb around it on the left, possibly using a hand rope around a small, spindly tree. Immediately afterward, rappel 3 m from a rock niche on the right. After more rock channels and a tree hanging lengthwise across the streambed, you'll reach the highest rappel point. Rappel 2 m from the anchor on the left behind the edge to find a new anchor there. From here, rappel 10 meters using a drift anchor across the receding pool.
The next passage looks very impressive from above. Rappel 15 meters from the anchor on the left into the large pool; watch out for driftwood in the whitewater. Climb out of the basin over slippery rock and, along the right edge, follow first a thin wire rope and then a static rope to the belay station on the right edge of the gorge, then rappel 6 meters. From here on, it's all walking terrain to the wide gravel bed.

Return: (machine translated)
Cross the gravel bed and cross the Rissbach at a suitable point. Then follow the road back to the car.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 47.4562 11.4931
Parking Entry and Exit 47.4674 11.4854
Canyon End 47.4602 11.4967

Reports:

2026-07-11 | Flo | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
A very impressive tour. We ran it when the water level was relatively low, yet it was still extremely aquatic and very challenging. Recommended only for experienced canyoneers who are comfortable in whitewater. The tour description is largely accurate. Immediately after the entry, there are two sections with tree snags and very dangerous undertows pulling you under the trees, but they’re manageable with ropes. There are almost no anchors along the entire tour, but there’s actually always enough wood to set up a rope (watch out for rope snags). At two of the only three existing anchors, we replaced the eyelets and removed dangerously frayed ropes. The anchors themselves still seem to be in good condition. The descent back into the large pool after the slightly higher rappel was fine; it worked even without a drift anchor. The final section is very impressive; fortunately, the large waterfall can be bypassed slightly to the right (not visible from above the belay station). For this section, it’s advisable to bring a rope long enough (40 m) to allow sufficient leeway for appropriate rope techniques or setting up a rope traverse. The rope traverse just before the exit can no longer be trusted; additional belaying is required here. Overall, it’s truly challenging but doable when the water level is low after a prolonged dry spell. Just 10 cm more water, and some sections would likely be very difficult to navigate. (machine translated)

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