Rio Negro

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:54	**Update:** 2025-12-17 19:19:18	**Print:** 2026-10-30 01:10:59
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Forni di Sotto		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v3 a5 IV	**Total time:** 3h45
Approachtime: 1h	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 15min
Altitude entry: 680m	**Altitude exit:** 560m	**Delta Altitude:** 120m
Canyon length: 2000m	**Highest rapell:** 18m	**Amount rapells:** 6
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** Northeast	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.3 (4)	**Info:** ★ 3 (1)	**Belay:** ★ 1.5 (2)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x20

Summary: (machine translated)
Beautiful aquatic lime canyon with very cold water from the impressive Engklamm and beautiful geological strata formations. Partly discontinuous with average protection. Longer swimming passages in cold water; warm neoprene is mandatory and gloves are an advantage. Ideal time to go in midsummer after long dry periods;
During the walk, the level of the Tagliamento River was 0.49 m at this reference level:
https://monitor.protezionecivile.fvg.it/#/stazione/20 (Station: Caprizzi).
Here the amount of water was not a problem. According to Canyoning Wiki, the Rio Negro has also been accessed at a level of 1.06m, although here really only experienced aquatic fans should enter.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Tolmezzo, take the SS52; at the large oval traffic circle near Tolmezzo, leave the traffic circle in the direction of Ampezzo (heading west - NOT in the direction of Arta Terme). From the exit of the traffic circle stay on the SS52 for 16 km. Immediately after the bridge over the Torrente Lumiei, turn left towards "Tramonti" - onto the SR552. Stay on this road for 7 km - first uphill via hairpin bends, then downhill again - before you come to an unmissable dam in the Tagliamento and the bridge over the Taglimento. Cross the Tagliamento and continue for about 600m until a forest road branches off to the right. Stay on the forest road for approx. 2.5km until you reach the no-entry sign. Park here.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot, follow the Tagliamento riverbed upstream for about 15 min. On the or. right side appears a clearly recognizable wooded island where the Rio Negro flows into the Tagliamento. At the exit of this island, right at the mouth of the Rio Negro, path 328 (red and white markings) begins. One follows the path uphill. During our walk (2019) you arrive after about 5 min at a hunter's hut or ruins, where many trees block the way due to wind breakage. Here it is best to keep to the right or go straight uphill directly at the hunter's hut. Then the markings of the path 328 appear again, which leads another 40 min uphill until you meet the Rio Negro. The entry is directly at the confluence of the Rio Naiarda with the Rio Negro.

Tour: (machine translated)
The Rio Negro is a beautiful, quite aquatic canyon with some smaller rappels, jumps and swimming passages. Unfortunately, it is always somewhat discontinuous with some walking and downclimbs. The stands are only single hooks or rappels from trees, some of which are a bit older. This means that you should take your emergency kit and rope remnants or slings with you, as the canyon is not often climbed.
The first half in particular is a rather average hiking and swim canyon with beautiful passages and crystal-clear pools as well as beautiful geological layer formations with a few smaller rappels. Here you would also always have options to get out of the canyon in an emergency.
However, the Rio Negro becomes really interesting from the gorge onwards, which begins with an 18m rappel from a tree on the right. If you already have problems with the water pressure in the first half or if members of the group are already feeling chilly, you should definitely leave the canyon at a suitable point before the gorge!

At a small jump, a little before the 18m rappel, the water pressure doubles and the water becomes ice cold, as an underground spring flows into this pool. Gloves and good neoprene are therefore important.

The 18m rappel leads directly into a turbulent pool with white water and return flow in the gorge, where you should try not to get into the return flow (correct rappel length! and use the diverter!).
Directly after the pool, the canyon narrows to about one meter and you can swim into a large cave-like pool. The gorge is really beautiful, as the characteristics of the canyon change within a very short time from an open gorge to a deep, dark and watery canyon.

After the gorge, there are some longer swims and downclimbs, which can be quite strenuous for inexperienced canyoneers due to the temperature of the Rio Negro.
After about 2.5 hours, the shallow streambed of the Rio Negro flows into the Tagliamento and you are back at the start of hiking trail 328.

Return: (machine translated)
Back downstream in the riverbed of the Tagliamento to the parking lot.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.3609 12.7253
Parking Entry and Exit 46.3633 12.7489
Canyon End 46.3656 12.7372
Waypoint 46.3691 12.7750
Alternative Canyon Start 46.3567 12.6898

Reports:

2025-07-20 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Driving ban is no longer in place. So you can drive on the slope again (possible with a VW bus). Some stands are likely to be replaced... mostly single pitons... At the 18m rappel there is a redirect that you should definitely take. (machine translated)

2024-08-16 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Although the access road has a no-driving sign, you can still drive all the way back. This is also recommended because it goes very far in. However, you should have a car with a high wheelbase because the tracks are very deep. The path at the beginning is difficult to see because there are still a lot of trees lying around. The tour itself starts off nicely and develops really beautifully. Especially when the underground spring comes in and cools the water down considerably. Geologically, the tour is also highly recommended. All in all, a beautiful tour that is highly recommended with clear water. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
Info: Teile der Canyonbeschreibung wurden automatisiert übernommen. Konkret die Felder Weblinks, Koordinaten, Rating, Ort von https://canyon.carto.net/cwiki/bin/view/Canyons/RioNegroCanyon.html

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2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://www.canyoning.or.at/index.php/liste-aller-canyons/480-rio-negro

First descent: 15.07.2010 by Pascal Van Duin, Luca e Mauri