

Rio Rondolon

Description

Rio Rondolon is a left tributary of Torrente Dogna below the north face of Cimone. It's an varied canyon with some narrow parts, little jumps and slides but also with a good deal of walking and downclimbing. The approach is long and partly trackless but not too difficult.

Zone

Friuli – Udine – Canal del Ferro

Details

Entrance: 850m

Exit: 550m

Difference in Height: 300m

Period

June – October

Time needed

Approach: 2-2.5h

Progression: 3-4h

Return: 30 min

Shuttle

No

Equipement

Sufficient, 10mm spits and slings. Not all waterfalls are bolted – some tricky downclimbs

Rope

2x20m

Possible Exits

None in the upper part, several in the lower part

Maps

Tabacco Map 018

Attraction

Local

Difficulty

V3 A3 III

Access

Leave the SS13 in Dogna and follow the road into Val Dogna. Follow the street until you cross Rio Mas. A little bit further uphill you reach a big parking place after a sharp bend in the road.

Approach

Follow the marked hiking path 640 down into the valley. After about 15min you will have to cross Torrente Dogna, the bridge that used to be there has been swept away. Go up steeply on the other side of the valley until you can see some ruins above you. Turn left in the last switchback before you reach the ruins (this used to be path 651). Follow the abandoned path until you reach the creekbed of Rio Rondolon (steep and slippery in the last part). Follow the creekbed until you see a big waterfall, here go up the eastern bank of the creek until you see an old path (probably also reachable by staying on the eastern bank after crossing Rio Rondolon). Follow this path into the valley. Soon you will walk above the narrow but tiny canyon of Rio Rondolon. Ascend through a nice wood while keeping the creek on your right. Before you reach a steep wall turn left until you stand before a dry creekbed. Here you can either climb up through the creekbed (slippery) or ascend very steeply to the right on a game trail. Go up until you reach a small saddle from where you can see into the valley of Rio Rondolon. Descend a steep scree slope, when the slope gets rocky cross to the left into another steep slope until you finally reach the creekbed.

Description of the canyon

200m of downclimbing between big blocks

C 8m 1 spit on the left, after that downclimb on the left side or 3m jump (rocks in the pool)

D 80m

C 13m 1 spit on the right

J 2m in shallow pool

J 5m or rappel from sling on stuck tree

C 8m 1 spit on the right

End of the first canyon part 300m of downclimbing – a 10m steep and crumbly cascade can be rappelled from a tree on the left

J 3m start of a narrow but tiny gorge

C 8m from tree on the left, downclimb also possible

D+small slides

C 9m tree with sling on the left

S 3m

C 14m tree with sling on the right

D+small slides until the end of the tiny canyon

300m of walking in an open area with a few tiny jumps

J 5m nice and repeatable

C 20m 1 spit in the middle of the creek

300m of walking and downclimbing, we reach the crossing of path 651

C 12m 1 spit on the left, maybe jumpable

C 10m tree on the left

D 4m downclimb on the right

J 2m

200m of walking and downclimbing until you reach Torrente Dogna

C = cascade

D = downclimb

J = jump

S = slide

Return

Go down the creekbed until you reach the destroyed bridge, then follow path 640 back to the car

Equipped by Canyoning Cult Slovenia (Urška Bricelj, David Sefaj, Roman Udir), Andi Aichholzer, Georg Buol on 12th July 2014