

Pedra Branca

Canyon de Pedra Branca,Fajã da Parreira,Ribeira da Pedra Branca

Create: 2023-11-20 21:30:13	Update: 2024-11-26 23:10:19	Print: 2026-02-11 02:02:24
Country: Portugal Region: Região Autónoma da Madeira / Madeira Subregion: Ilha da Madeira Town: Seixal		
Difficulty: not as difficult	Grading: v3 a2 III	Total time: 1h55
Approachtime: 20min	Tourtime: 1h30	Returntime: 5min
Altitude entry: 190m	Altitude exit: 10m	Delta Altitude: 180m
Canyon length: 350m	Highest rapell: 50m	Amount rapells: 10
Transport: Car optional	Rock type:	Drainage area: km²
Season: January - December	Orientation: North	Best Time: 8-14 o'clock
Rating: ★ 3.4 (6)	Info: ★ 1.7 (4)	Belay: ★ 2.4 (5)
Specialities:		
Gear: Ropes: 1x20, 1x50, 1x60		
Summary: (machine translated) Rappel canyon with a very short access and equally short return route, there is hardly any walking in the canyon, but almost only rappels. No jumps or slides. In the middle section, a narrow passage that is unusual for Madeira.		
Hydrology:		
Access: (machine translated) From Sao Vicente: Drive in the direction of Porto Moniz. Approx. 500 m after the Seixal tunnel, turn left steeply uphill and park at the top next to the picnic table. From Porto Moniz: Drive in the direction of Sao Vicente. Drive through the Faja Contreiras tunnel, then through another short tunnel, 100 meters after that turn steeply right at the top, park at the top next to the picnic table. There is the (less sensible) option of parking a second car at the end of the canyon (exit parking lot), turn off onto the old ER 101 between the short tunnel and the Faja Contreiras tunnel. Sometimes this road is closed. There is often some debris on it, which indicates the risk of falling rocks. After a good 100 meters you reach the final waterfall. Shortly afterwards, you can park your car on the left. When the waves are high, water sometimes splashes over the wall.		
Approach: (machine translated) From the parking entry, follow the path on the right that leads towards the mountain and after a few meters crosses a small bridge and then a streambed that is almost always dry. The trail then climbs up the slope parallel to a wall for a few minutes. Depending on the state of maintenance, which varies greatly from year to year, a machete is helpful. Currently (November 2024), the path is very passable, even if it is narrow and exposed in places in the upper section. Finally, the path turns off into the forest and shortly afterwards you reach a large tree with a large blue (also November 2024) sling attached to its roots. (Total approx. 10 minutes) From here, you can rope a good 25 meters into the canyon. The access is marked with a red dashed line on the map provided here.		
Tour: (machine translated) 10 abseiling points. The first rappel is the highest waterfall of the tour at approx. 50 meters. After several small drops, the canyon exits with an approx. 30 meter high waterfall, where a rappel guide to the lakeside boundary wall of the road is possible (two glued anchors).		
Return: (machine translated) If a car is parked at the exit, the way back is to climb out of the basin. If there is only one car on the tour, turn right along the old ER 101 to the main road. Then turn left through the short tunnel, another 100 meters along the road and then the most strenuous part of the tour follows with the ascent to the car. Fortunately, this is very short. (Total return journey approx. 10 minutes)		

Coordinates:

Canyon Start [32.8260 -17.1253](#)

Canyon End [32.8271 -17.1241](#)

Parking at Entry [32.8257 -17.1207](#)

Parking at Exit [32.8272 -17.1242](#)

Reports:

2024-11-26 | Casa Vento Madeira | ★★★★★ | 📖★ | ⚓★★ | 🌊 High | 🟢 Completed

After a few days of rain, this was a sporty but manageable water level. The high waves, which can be observed beautifully at the level of the final waterfall, were also impressive. (machine translated)

2024-11-07 | Airmax | ★★★★★ | 📖★★★★ | ⚓★★★★ | 🌊 Low | 🟢 Completed

Everything ok. Nice short stream. The 50er and the cable car at the end make the creek worthwhile. (machine translated)

2024-10-22 | Anja | ★★★★★ | 📖★ | ⚓★ | 🌊 Low | 🟢 Completed

Nice, short abseiling tour with exit in the sea. Everything was okay. (machine translated)

2024-10-03 | Bina | ★★★★★ | 📖 | ⚓★★★★ | 🌊 Low | 🟢 Completed

In contrast to 2022, the access is in good condition. Beautiful short gorge for a later tourist program. (machine translated)

2024-02-26 | Christian Balla | ★★★★★ | 📖★ | ⚓★★ | 🌊 Normal | 🟢 Completed

Beautiful canyon. Well equipped. Access tricky in sections. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ★★★★★ | 📖 | ⚓ | |

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