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:** 2026-11-10 02:11:52
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: ☆ 3.2 (7)	**Info:** ★ 2 (5)	**Belay:** ★ 2.3 (6)

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:

2026-01-02 | System User | | | | High | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pedra Branca Première sortie canyoning de 2026 pour moi. Pedra Branca, avec un debit consequente. La cascade de 50 mètres de haut etait impressionnante, c`a poussé bien. Tout à fait faisable pour les confirmés. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22151/observations.html)

2025-12-29 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ | ★ ★ ★ | ★ | High | Completed
Rope on the high rappel was difficult to pull off. (machine translated)

2025-10-20 | System User | | | | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pedra Branca (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22151/observations.html)

2025-09-16 | System User | | | | Normal | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pedra Branca DC- Heureusement, il a plu plus fort il y a quelques jours et les bassins étaient tous propres. L'un des ancrages de la deuxième cascade (C50), qui est mal positionné, commence déjà à tourner. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22151/observations.html)

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 | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | ★ ★ ★ | ★ ★ ★ | 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 | ☆ ☆ ½ | | ★ ★ ★ | 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 | ☆ ☆ ☆ | | | |
Daten importiert von https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon/22151/Pedra-Branca.html