Salines

Les Salines,Riera de Las-Illas,Salt de l'Àliga,Còrrec de les Salines,Barranc de les Salines

Info: The quality of this description has not been checked yet or was rated bad.
If you know this canyon, please check this description and file a report with a rating for this description using *Reports -> +New Report.* Should you notice any error, please let us know or join the community in order to fix this description yourself.

Create: 2023-11-20 21:13:59	**Update:** 2025-10-23 13:21:59	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:39

Country: España / Spain **Region:** Cataluña / Catalunya **Subregion:** Alt Empordà / Upper Empordà **Town:** Massanet de Cabrenys

Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v3 a2 II	**Total time:** 3h30
Approachtime: 1h15	**Tourtime:** 1h30	**Returntime:** 45min
Altitude entry: 870m	**Altitude exit:** 830m	**Delta Altitude:** 40m
Canyon length: 200m	**Highest rapell:** 30m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 2.1 (1)	**Info:** ★ 0 ()	**Belay:** ★ 0 ()

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x30m

Summary: (machine translated)
The canyon is accessible all year round and is quite open.

Hydrology: (machine translated)
Very open descent, alternative routes along the entire route.
The canyon is accessible all year round, but preferably in spring or after heavy rainfall.

Access: (machine translated)
- From France, in Maureillas, follow the D13 twelve kilometers to Las-Illas and park at the Hostal dels Trabucayres.

- From Spain, after La Jonquera, follow the GI-503 to Maçanet de Cabrenys.
At the entrance to Maçanet, at the level of the service area, follow the small road on the right above the large hunting lodge, which passes the soccer stadium and the municipal swimming pool.
Drive past the rock of the white seal and straight up to the settlement with the stone houses, just after the signs pointing to the salt pans twelve kilometers away in a hairpin bend on the left.
Cross the first cattle underpass and follow the road, which turns into a fully passable path, until you reach the forester's lodge.
After a quarter of an hour, you will reach the forester's lodge. When you are in front of the refuge, follow the path further uphill to a crossroads, turn right at the signs and look for a place that does not obstruct the passage.

Approach: (machine translated)
- From France, walk past the Hostal dels Trabucayres and take the path that runs behind the building.
Go through the wooden gate and then take the path up to the mountain pass of Lli.
Once at the mountain pass, go through the gate next to the memorial plaque.
Follow the path and take the uphill path towards the Les Salines mountain hut.
Cross a first cattle bridge at the Col de la Gàbia mountain pass, where the ruins of Castell de Cabrera are located below, and follow the concrete path.
Continue to the second cattle bridge after a left-hand bend and then follow the path to the wooden sign on the right that leads directly down to the starting point.
The wooden sign is located two hundred meters from the second bridge.
There is a large red dot on a tree that has been marked by hunters and serves as a landmark to get to the river.

From Spain, walk down the path to the signs on the left and follow the path to the beginning of the canyon.

Tour: (machine translated)
The watercourse is located in Spain.
No pause between the waterfalls, everything flows seamlessly into one another.
Beautiful view of the Spanish Albères Nature Park from the Salt del Gripau.

Rn°1: T4/C4 RD
D4
C15 divided = Rn°2: R10 RG + Rn°3: R5 RG
D1 (ropes/Abalakov rappel)
Rn°4: C5 RD
Rn°5: C4 ANRG (small and narrow) "shuntable RG"
T5 (slide only in water)
Rn°6 Salt del Gripau: C12 RD/RG
Rn°7: C13 RD (fixed equipment "large flow" to cross the chain anchorage)
Rn°8: MC C24 RG (ramp)
C32 divided = Rn°9: R22 RD + Rn°10: MC R10 RG + passage under boulders.

- If you are traveling via Spain, you can drive directly to the starting point of the canyon "Ravin des Salines".
- Avoid going there during the big game hunting season. All information can be found on the hunting association's website (fdc66.fr).
- This canyon is not affected by the prefectural decree on canyoning in the Pyrénées-Orientales, as this descent is located in Spain and is therefore accessible all year round.
- The site is ideal for training/introducing groups to rope techniques in peace and quiet, as it is very wild and far from crowded canyons.
- The belay on the right bank of the hanging pool is not difficult to reach, but be careful in strong currents, this pool expels water, secure yourself well on the small fixed handrail with the rope used for the ascent to the chain belay, guided abseil for groups almost mandatory.
- It is possible to avoid splitting the C30 as there is a detour point below the intermediate belay, which can also be used to relieve yourself and leave your rucksack there if you use the split belay, making everything more comfortable.
- As for the return route, the passage remains open to all hikers from France.
The owners have given their consent to the passage. It is a large private property that extends to the French access path to the Col de Lli below the ruins of the Mas dels Quintassos.

INFO: Note that on the south side of this massif there is another, lesser-known canyon, which was also developed and equipped by Kevin Trujillo Marcos and Fabien Bernard in 2022: the canyon of Frausa.
It consists of two parts with an intermediate stage. If you want to do the entire route, you will need a shuttle bus to facilitate access and return to the pick-up point of your vehicles.
The parking lot (Tramo 1) is located one kilometer from the Barranc des Salines at a place called "La Forestal", i.e. at the exit of the track towards the mines, if you drive to the end behind the refuge on a dirt track (4x4/SUV required).
Set off on foot along the only recognizable path that passes under the Roc de France antenna, cross a tributary that is almost dry most of the time and the starting point is at the next watercourse under "El Comptador".

- The parking lot (Tramo 2) is more at the beginning of the slope above Maçanet de Cabrenys (see IGN).
Park on the widening on the right-hand side of "Pla de Rossa" or continue directly on the left-hand slope, where you can see a blue dot on a small concrete block at the edge of the main slope.
You will definitely need an off-road vehicle/SUV for this short part.
Continue towards "Roca Negra" to the ruins of Mas d'en Serra and park at the first Y-shaped intersection without obstructing others.
Do not confuse this with the very first junction after the descent.
Access is easy, just follow the right arm of the first Y-shaped crossroads to the second Y-shaped crossroads two hundred meters further up.
At the second fork, continue uphill, keeping to the right (never go downhill, the way back is on the downhill path on the left).
You will then reach the Mas d'en Serra, where you must cross the steps of the ruin by following the red dots about fifty meters uphill above the Mas until you reach the first blue dots.
This path leads along the canyon through the oak forest to the starting point, several dashes and blue dots are

Return: (machine translated)
- From France, leave the right bank after the boulder field and the large fallen tree and follow the stream to the fence (border marker).
Along the path you change banks several times. The path leads directly to a small, collapsed wooden footbridge over the stream, which you cross to reach a damaged path above the watercourse.
You then pass a small mountain pass with an antenna that leads down to the ruins of the Mas dels Quintassos and follow the path to Las-Illas.

From Spain, you hike along the right bank and climb up almost the entire canyon until you reach the elongated tree at the exit.
You will come directly to part of the access path and the vehicles are not far away.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 42.4151 2.7621
Canyon End 42.4144 2.7642
Parking Entry and Exit 42.4236 2.7843
Waypoint 42.4142 2.7603
Waypoint 42.4153 2.7816
Waypoint 42.4139 2.7681

Reports:

2026-02-24 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines C'est top ce que vous faites, puis à chaque canyon c'est vraiment quali..

 (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-24 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Merci et si besoin n'hésitez pas à m'appeler (voir bas de topographie pour toute info en direct).Débit du jour dans l'Alt Empordà, très bon partout ça coule très bien. Il suffit d'une seule bonne pluie pour tout alimenter et que ce soit parfait. Correction de la topo à venir pour la présentation des autres ouvertures. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-19 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Toujours dans l'Alt Empordà aujourd'hui mais dans l'Estret de Boadella cette fois-ci (toujours pas Salines...). On a fait le rééquipement intégrale tout inox 316L et sécurisé le canyon. Au top, c'est terminé en un jour. 5 rappels, max 25m.C6 + MC C20 + C22 + C8 + C25. Zéro échappatoire, très encaissé et esthétique. Tronçonnage nettoyage. Une perle qui se jette dans le lac de Darnius comme le canyon de Rinadal dans l'autre versant. Profitez-en ! Vue sur le lac de Darnius dans la belle approche avec des parfums de printemps. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-19 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Toujours dans l'Alt Empordà aujourd'hui mais dans l'Estret de Darnius cette fois-ci (toujours pas Salines...). On a fait le rééquipement intégrale tout inox 316L et sécurisé le canyon. Au top, c'est terminé en un jour. 5 rappels, max 25m.C6 + MC C20 + C22 + C8 + C25. Zéro échappatoire, très encaissé et esthétique. Tronçonnage nettoyage. Une perle qui se jette dans le lac de Darnius comme le canyon de Rinadal dans l'autre versant. Profitez-en ! Vue sur le lac de Darnius dans la belle approche avec des parfums de printemps. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-17 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Nous sommes dans l'Alt Empordà en ce moment. Gros boulot avec mon ami André dans une de mes ouvertures préféré du coin, le Clot del Ballo (débit correct). Il se trouve à côté de la Frausa. Topo à venir mais équipement terminé dans la nuit, tronçonnage ok sauf à la dernière cascade, on a pas eu le temps car la nuit nous a rattrapé. Canyon parcourable malgré la toute dernière MC C8 qui est encore encombrée d'un arbre en plein milieu. Tout le reste est dégagé notamment la MC C40 bien verticale. Il reste tout de même deux sessions de nettoyage encore mais vous pouvez vous y rendre tranquillement maintenant. Voir carte IGN soit on vous explique tout pour approche/descente/retour. Prévoir une navette n'est pas si mal.-Salines débit correct. -Riera de Frausa débit correct +. -Rinadal débit correct +. Estret de Boadella débit correct. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-17 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Nous sommes dans l'Alt Empordà en ce moment. Gros boulot avec mon ami André dans une de mes ouvertures préféré du coin, le Clot del Ballo (débit correct). Il se trouve à côté de la Frausa. Topo à venir mais équipement terminé dans la nuit, tronçonnage ok sauf à la dernière cascade, on a pas eu le temps car la nuit nous a rattrapé. Canyon parcourable malgré la toute dernière MC C8 qui est encore encombrée d'un arbre en plein milieu. Tout le reste est dégagé notamment la MC C40 bien verticale. Il reste tout de même deux sessions de nettoyage encore mais vous pouvez vous y rendre tranquillement maintenant. Voir carte IGN soit on vous explique tout pour approche/descente/retour. Prévoir une navette n'est pas si mal.-Salines débit correct. -Riera de Frausa débit correct +. -Rinadal débit correct +. Estret de Darnius débit correct. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/24175/observations.html)

2026-02-17 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Salines Nous sommes dans l'Alt Empordà en ce moment. Gros boulot avec mon ami André dans une de mes ouvertures préféré du coin, le Clot del Ballo (débit correct). Il se trouve à côté de la Frausa. Topo à venir mais équipement terminé dans la nuit, tronçonnage ok sauf