Rio Frondizzon

Frondizzon

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:53	**Update:** 2024-09-14 14:08:59	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:31
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Udine **Town:** Tolmezzo		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a2 II	**Total time:** 2h35
Approachtime: 5min	**Tourtime:** 2h30	**Returntime:** 0min
Altitude entry: 500m	**Altitude exit:** 380m	**Delta Altitude:** 120m
Canyon length: 2000m	**Highest rapell:** 35m	**Amount rapells:** 5
Transport: Car required	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** West	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.9 (15)	**Info:** ★ 3 (12)	**Belay:** ★ 2.9 (12)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 1x40m

Summary: (machine translated)
Initially long walking passage, therefore see tip / 2nd possibility; very nice cut middle part; at higher water levels (unstable weather) very dangerous / life-threatening!; very nice half-day tour; best sunlight from midday; water drainage in the upper part by "Enel", therefore usually little water in the canyon; several pitons for traverese rope construction available; it has often happened that unforeseen water has been drained into the canyon. The rappel passages are then really demanding!

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
approx. 5min+ 20min car transfer
From Tolmezzo drive north on the SS52b towards "Austria" --> shortly after Tolmezzo you will see the prison on the left and a Shell petrol station on the right --> from here you drive exactly 1.9km until you turn right at a house after a sharp bend and come to the Enel power station --> there is good parking behind the power station. Check the water level here --> to do this, walk about 50m from the gorge exit to the last step --> the water should flow calmly into the last pool here. It is best to choose the access on foot, if not take the second car in the direction of Tolmezzo --> it is recommended to bypass the town center on the main road --> at the next traffic junction take the exit Tolmezzo --> continue to the small traffic circle --> turn right here --> straight past the Lidl, until you reach the signs for Illegro (turn left) --> from here follow the road up to the village of Illegro --> after the village sign turn left towards the church (narrow lane)--> before the church take the turn-off.left "S. Florian" to the cemetery --> here you park the car (at approx. 580Hm)

Approach: (machine translated)
(on foot: 35-40min)
1st possibility:
From the cemetery, walk down the hiking trail to the stream in a few minutes --> entry at approx. 500Hm before the stone bridge right.
Tip/ 2nd option (approx. 35-40 min):
To save yourself the whole car transfer and river walk from the village of Illegro to the first abseiling point, you can follow the pipeline up steep steps through the tunnel right next to the exit at the Enel power station (no lamp required). After the tunnel, the route is flat until you reach the equalizing basin. Once you reach the basin, an iron footbridge leads over the concrete obstruction. Then logically bypass the basin on the left. !!! Before the next iron bridge/stream, look out for the canyoning markings on the tree to the left (blue dot on a white background). From here, follow the markings and visible path straight up steeply through the forest to the first ridge. At the ridge, do not continue uphill to the left, but follow the path right downhill. After a short time, keep left again up to a second forest ridge (you are too high at the ruin), before finally descending steeply to the stream. After a short stretch in the streambed, you are already at the first abseil point.
(Caution!!! The main path is not always easily visible due to fallen trees, but there are canyoning markings on trees at longer intervals up to the stream.

Tour: (machine translated)
The tour starts at the stone bridge at approx. 500m and leads through open terrain for approx. 20-25 minutes. In this part you pass the "Enel" water drainage after about 10 minutes (most of the water is diverted here. The wall can be downclimbed on the right side before you walk the rest of the way to the 1st rappel point; if you choose the access on foot, you reach the stream about 3 minutes before the first rappel. A traverese rope takes you safely to the exposed stand on the left side before you rappel 35m into the pool. This highest point is followed by a 10m rappel into the second beautiful pool. This is followed by a few small steps and pools in open terrain before it really cuts in for about 100m in the middle section. The incised part does not pose any technical problems. After an inflow from the left, you have a short stretch to the next 3 abseils, which are interrupted by short walking passages. At the end, the canyon narrows again. The last step is cleverly downclimbed due to the absence of a bolt, before you soon leave the canyon and reach the "Enel" power station (parking lot).

Return: (machine translated)
The exit of the canyon is directly at the Enel power station before the bridge right at approx. 380Hm.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.4306 13.0441
Parking at Entry 46.4315 13.0562
Parking at Exit 46.4320 13.0379
Canyon End 46.4311 13.0398

Reports:

2025-12-05 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Really nice this year because they let the water in from the power station. Some of the water levels are quite sporty and tend not to be for beginners. All stands tip top (machine translated)

2025-10-17 | Florian Heufler | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
During the ascent, the siren of the power plant suddenly sounded, after consulting with power plant employees who happened to be present, it turned out that the siren goes off every hour today due to a malfunction, Anchorages all ok, from the inflow onwards the amount of water increased considerably but everything was stress-free to walk on (machine translated)

2025-10-12 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon Petit gros débit. L'équipement permet d'éviter en partie le jet dans les cascades mais probablement pas avec beaucoup plus d'eau. Vu du pont d'arrivée c'est pas facile à jauger, l'idéal étant de remonter jusqu'au dernier ressaut. Magnifique et assez court avant de prendre la route (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21759/observations.html)

2025-09-28 | Patrick Summerer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 📈 Emergency exit
Since we already had a sporty water level at the 35m waterfall, it was already late afternoon and there would be about 1/3 more inflow from the inactive hydroelectric power station, we decided NOT to enter the lower part. We made an "emergency exit" after the scree break orographic left steeply through the forest up the 70 meters back to the access path on the ridge. Once back down, we took a closer look at the exit and climbed up the first pools to see the water level in detail. The canyon would probably have been doable with this water, but if in doubt, it would have been better to take the defensive option ;-) (machine translated)

2025-09-08 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon La première cascade donne tout de suite le ton, ça coule pas mal.La confluence avec l'affluent en RG double le débit. Peu de mouvements d'eau, on a pieds la plus par du temps.Splendide. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21759/observations.html)

2025-09-05 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon Bel encaissement avec bel obscuro. Bien équipé pour éviter au mieux l'actif. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21759/observations.html)

2025-08-25 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon Todo correcto.los 2 últimos rapeles con desviador.bonito descenso (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21759/observations.html)

2025-08-25 | Alfredo | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
All correct.the last 2 rappels with diverter.no need for frontal for the gorge section. (machine translated)

2025-08-15 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon Equipement parfait : broches et relais avec chaînes tout inox. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21759/observations.html)

2025-07-20 | Francesco Micaglio | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Sporting scope, weapons in order pro canyon Diving not feasible (machine translated)

2025-06-17 | Enya Schaefer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Really fun water level, definitely felt exciting at times. Lots of water coming in from the dam half way down. Anchors were all good.

2024-11-01 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Crazy | 👎 Not done
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Frondizzon La centrale del bacino di Tramba ha livello d'acqua a sfioro. La centrale ha la griglia della presa intasata viste le ultime forti precipitazioni di due settimane fa e quindi il bacino scarica tutta l'acqua nel rio Frondizzon.Per info aggiornate, chiamare il numero