Ödkarbach

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Create: 2025-07-15 20:31:05	**Update:** 2025-07-20 20:09:34	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:22
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Tirol **Subregion:** Bezirk Schwaz **Town:** Vomp		
Difficulty: not as difficult	**Grading:** v3 a2 V	**Total time:** 13h
Approachtime: 6h	**Tourtime:** 4h	**Returntime:** 3h
Altitude entry: 1370m	**Altitude exit:** 1050m	**Delta Altitude:** 320m
Canyon length: 1200m	**Highest rapell:** 45m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** 2.90km²
Season: June - September	**Orientation:** South	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.3 (2)	**Info:** ★ 2.5 (2)	**Belay:** ★ 2 (2)
Specialities:		
Gear:		

Summary: (machine translated)
Beautiful, but very remote and alpine Karwendel canyon in Vomper Loch with extremely long and strenuous access through mountain pine fields. No GSM reception in the entire Vomper Loch. The Ödkarlbach is best combined with the Spritzkarbach on a 2-day trip to Vomper Loch, as the access is correspondingly long and strenuous.

Hydrology: (machine translated)
Water level rises extremely quickly in heavy rain about 30 minutes later, but drops again relatively quickly after the exit. Only enter in stable weather conditions!

Access: (machine translated)
Drive via Terfens towards Umlberg, park at the exit of the road at the free gravel parking place for the Ganalm.

Approach: (machine translated)
There are several ways to get to the Vomper Loch (the one described here, via the Knappensteig, via the Katzenleiter). The quickest of these is by bike via the Ganalm, as you save about an hour's walk downhill on the way back. Due to the length and remoteness of the route, it is advisable to bivouac at the Hüttl in der Au.

From the Umlberg parking lot, cycle or e-bike past the Ganalm to the start of the Kristlalpl path (e-bike: 30 min). Park the bikes there. You should be sure-footed for the Kristlalpl path, which leads down to Vomper Loch. From there, climb up the opposite slope and head west at the junction with the hiking trail through Vomper Loch (yellow signs). You cross two ditches before you reach the exit of the Ödkarlbach and see the final cascades (1.5h since leaving the bikes). From there, follow the path into the valley for about 15 minutes until you reach the steep, pathless ridge. The ascent through mountain pine fields is arduous up to about 1570m, where you will repeatedly find cut-off mountain pines. Once at the top, you unfortunately have to descend another 200 meters through even more difficult and very dense mountain pine terrain. About halfway up to the streambed, you will find historic, heavy pitons on which you can rappel down a steep chute. From there, follow a dry ditch and rappel from the mountain pines into the streambed at an altitude of approx. 1370m (3h from the Ödkarlbach exit).

Long pants and DEET insect repellent are recommended due to the extreme plague of ticks in the entire Vomper Loch.

Tour: (machine translated)
Around 25 abseils into crystal-clear pools in a wild, sometimes very incised environment are a reward for the exertions of access. There are also smaller slides and jumps, but there is definitely no risk of injury, because without a satellite phone you cannot hope for external help within the next few hours. Highlights include a 45m rappel and beautiful narrow sections in white limestone. The final combination of waterfalls is also very attractive. Most of the abseils now have 10mm anchors (easy), but there are still some perfect 8mm stands to be found.

Return: (machine translated)
If you bivouac, continue into the valley to the Hüttl in der Au (35 min). Otherwise, you can either walk back along the hiking trail or hike through the Vomper Bach stream to the Kristlalplsteig bridge (45 min). From there take the path back up to the bikes (~1h)

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 47.3582 11.5626
Canyon End 47.3500 11.5633
Overnight stay 47.3537 11.5516
Parking Entry and Exit 47.3389 11.6369

Reports:

2025-10-15 | Manuel Reindl | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | Normal | 👍 Completed
Entered above the "normal" entry - as described in the "Tyrolean Canyoning Guide". All necessary places above the normal entry equipped with new anchors. New anchors already in place at the bottom. Beautiful canyon in wild surroundings! (machine translated)

2025-07-13 | Patrick Summerer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | High | 👍 Completed
We placed about 15 new 10mm anchors, after many steps (some of which are dangerous to downclimb) had not yet been set up at all. (machine translated)