Roches I

Rivière des Roches

Create: 2023-03-09 20:52:45	**Update:** 2024-02-19 13:32:48	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:14
Country: France **Region:** Réunion (La) / Reunion **Subregion:** La Réunion / Reunion **Town:** Bras-Panon		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v3 a4 III	**Total time:** 3h45
Approachtime: 30min	**Tourtime:** 3h	**Returntime:** 15min
Altitude entry: 100m	**Altitude exit:** 25m	**Delta Altitude:** 75m
Canyon length: 1150m	**Highest rapell:** 18m	**Amount rapells:** 1
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3 (4)	**Info:** ★ 3 (3)	**Belay:** ★ 3 (2)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x25m

Summary: (machine translated)
River that can largely be navigated by kayak. Partly cut into lava corridors with longer walks and swims, interspersed with steps that can be rappelled, sometimes slid or jumped.
Clarification: In a departure from the usual practice, the parts are organized using Roman numerals (I to V) and not in ascending order from top to bottom, but following Pascal Colas' structure in his book, from bottom to top. This means that the lowest ascent part has the number I, the highest the number V. In the following, we are dealing with part I, i.e. the 1st part from the bottom, which is also the 5th part from the top.
In some cases, sections II and I are not separated, e.g. in the writings and in Ricaric's book, where only the "Rivière des Roches" is mentioned. The entry here should still be above the "Bassin du Chien" and the "Bassin Longor".
The transparency of the descriptions also suffers from the fact that, for example, the entry points are indicated differently. Pascal Colas, for example, wants to enter part II via the orographic right-hand side stream Grand Bras, while others only start the descent at the outflow of the "Bassin la mer". In some descriptions, Part I overlaps with Part II when the entry into the last Part I is above the "Bassin Chien" and not at the "Bassin Longor", as described elsewhere.
In addition, the names of the individual lake-like pools are not uniform. For example, the large pond named "Bassin Longor" by Ricaric is called "Bassin Jeunesse" in the openstreetmap, while Pascal Colas refers to it as the "grand bassin après le bassin du Chien", i.e. the large basin after the Bassin du Chien. Other maps also use the term "Bassin Anaïs". However, there is agreement on the names "Bassin la Mer" and "Bassin la Paix".
In some cases - especially in Ricaric's work - distinctive places are given their own names; see "Tour" for more details.
The structure of Pascal Colas is used here with certain modifications. The descriptions (parts I and II) at descente-canyon.com also correspond to this.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
We leave the highway N2 between Bras-Panon and St. Benoit and drive to the Bassin la Paix in the Rivière des Roches (see map at photos). Here we park the car.

Approach: (machine translated)
We take the footpath on the orographic right bank of the river in a southerly direction. After about 20 minutes, we descend to the right to the Bassin du Chien, which we can see from a viewpoint.
Alternatively - and this is recommended - we continue along the path until another path branches off to the right. This also takes us to the river, but above the "Bassin du Chien".

Tour: (machine translated)
Two additional jumps await us here in an attractive setting. First the Cascade Cerise (5m) into the Bassin Chien, then the jump into the Bassin Jeunesse (2m). After swimming through the "Bassin Jeunesses", we come to the next waterfall, where the river squeezes through a rock bar. Here you should jump in such a way that you don't get caught in the backwash, and after a few swims you reach the next step (4m or go around to the left). At the opposite exit of the pool, there is an underground grotto on the right with a dangerous undercurrent if the water flow is sufficient. Then another jump (6m). After a few more swims, the "Cascade Pembroc" is downclimbed on the left. This is followed by 2 more jumps (2m and 4m), 2 slides and again longer swimming sections. Then the river becomes channel-like. Smaller rapids with whirlpools have to be overcome. There are various possible jumps from the edge of the channel. The swimming passages are now longer, the jumps no longer exceed 4m in height. Towards the exit of this passage, we first pass an interesting level on the left with individual measuring sticks, then swim under the bridge before reaching the final waterfall (18m).
Here you can get out on the right. This waterfall is usually taken in the Bassin la Paixaber, either by jumping or roping.
See photos and video

Return: (machine translated)
Either - as already mentioned - before the step into the Bassin La Paix turn right up to the parking lot or rappel or jump 18m into the Bassin La Paix, then left up the path over the steps, over the bridge and to the car.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start -21.0315 55.6707
Canyon End -21.0228 55.6695
Parking Entry and Exit -21.0232 55.6707
Alternative Canyon Start -21.0309 55.6713
Alternative Canyon End -21.0228 55.6701

Reports:

2025-11-23 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Roches I ... difficile pour une première fois d'établir le débit! Tout passe mais il y a clairement des vasques où on n'a pas du tout envie de jouer au con...Par contre, où est ce qu'il est indiqué que le chemin de remontée du bassin de la paix (magnifique!) est en friche? Ça se fait c'est une belle renfougne et c'est très moyennement sécu (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21452/observations.html)

2024-12-30 | Clarissa Linder | ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Walked the part described in the TopoRicaric. No ropes necessary, everything swimmable/jumpable/climbable. Fun river walk. (machine translated)

2024-11-11 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Roches I Saut ds bassin la paix fait en rive droite au plus "bas" (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21452/observations.html)

2023-11-26 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Roches I Équipement OK. Pensez à prendre de quoi installer des tyroliennes! (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21452/observations.html)

2023-11-20 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Roches I DcRasNous a on pue poser une tyrolienne de 80m dans le bassin de la paixMagnific (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/21452/observations.html)

2023-10-03 | Rok | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
A week later walked again and lo and behold, the water level has almost halved. Thus no backflows and everything relaxed. It can happen that quickly. (machine translated)

2023-09-25 | Rok | ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ High | 👍 Completed
So for Aquaticfans a great, but also very dangerous canyon or gorge hike. The returns must be accurately assessed or bypassed. We bypassed one spot (just before the end), because a wild current was already visible before the bridge. It is all jumpable. I jumped the last S18 as well. Who does not want that, is oro right at the top a perfect stand. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ |🕮 |⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://canyon.carto.net/cwiki/bin/view/Canyons/RochesICanyon.html

Parts:
Roches II, v3 a4 III, 35min+2h30+15min
Roches I, v3 a4 III, 30min+3h+15min