Choltalbach (Inferiore)

Risletenschlucht,Grueblital

Create: 2023-03-09 20:50:18	**Update:** 2023-10-14 09:16:08	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:18
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Nidwalden **Subregion:** Emmetten **Town:** Emmetten		
Difficulty: very difficult	**Grading:** v6 a5 IV	**Total time:** 4h25
Approachtime: 5min	**Tourtime:** 4h	**Returntime:** 20min
Altitude entry: 715m	**Altitude exit:** 435m	**Delta Altitude:** 280m
Canyon length: 1300m	**Highest rapell:** 22m	**Amount rapells:** 20
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** 21.00km²
Season: September - September	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.4 (4)	**Info:** ★ 2.5 (2)	**Belay:** ★ 1.7 (3)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x 25m
drill tool,

Summary: (machine translated)
Watery rappel canyon that ends with a slide into Lake Lucerne. View-rich access from below.
Can be climbed only after long periods of drought (no precipitation for about 4 weeks).

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
We leave the A2 (Lucerne-Gotthard) at Lake Lucerne via exit 35 - Beckenried. We drive down to the lake and there we take the Rütenenstraße, which leads along the lake in eastern direction. Before the Ounkt, where it is no longer allowed to continue by car, we find parking spaces on the left hand side, where we can park our (possibly lower) car (P2).\n\nIf we have a second car available, we drive up to Emmeten and park the car there either after the Choltalbach bridge on the left at the chapel on P1a (only limited space) or in the village on the parking lot of the Niederbauen(rappel)bahn P1b.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the parking lot at the lake in Rütenenstraße (without implementation - advantage of checking the water level in passing) up the footpath on the orographic. left slope. First on stairs, then horizontally towards the canyon and ann on the edge of the canyon up to the plateau. Arrived at the farmhouses we look for an access to the streambed (from orographic left).\n\nIf we have made a conversion, we climb into the stream at the road bridge.

Tour: (machine translated)
About 20 rappel, but also slide and jump possibilities. Exit possibilities only in the first third.

In the C20 there is an intermediate pool which should be avoided urgently at higher water levels. Alternatively rappel RG in the dry.

Exit possibilities only in the upper part quite steep in the forest, in the lower area no exit possibilities.

Return: (machine translated)
After the slide into the lake, turn right and follow the Rütenen road to the car.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.9611 8.5272
Canyon End 46.9686 8.5256
Alternative Canyon Start 46.9586 8.5259
Parking at Entry 46.9596 8.5274
Parking at Entry 46.9558 8.5187
Parking at Exit 46.9634 8.5106

Reports:

2025-08-10 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Crazy | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Choltalbach Hier, lors de la descente du canyon de Rotalbar, nous avons constaté un très gros éboulement en plein milieu du parcours. L'ancien passage nécessitant une escalade sur la gauche n'existe plus : il est désormais possible de passer directement à gauche, sans grimper. La zone reste très instable pour le moment. Nous avons donc emprunté la rive gauche et réalisé une petite désescalade vers un point placé à distance des débris afin d'éviter qu'il ne soit endommagé trop vite.Tous les autres points sont en bon état. Nous avons ajouté un maillon rapide à l'emplacement d'une ancienne corde coincée (corde retirée) afin que le maillon travaille correctement.Le débit était élevé hier, et nous signalons deux zones de vigilance : 1. Juste avant la partie finale : dernier échappatoire sur la gauche dans la marche, un passage piégeux avec de l'eau qui s'infiltre sous un rocher, créant un mini-siphon. Mieux vaut rester sur la rive autant que possible. 2. Les troncs sont toujours présents, mais ne gênent pas outre mesure.Malgré ces changements, le canyon reste superbe et praticable.Les photos de l'éboulement seront ajoutées en complément de ce message. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22943/observations.html)

2025-08-10 | Romain Butty | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ ★ |⚓ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Yesterday, during the descent of the Rotalbar canyon, we encountered a major rockfall in the middle section. The former route that required a climb on the left no longer exists: it is now possible to pass directly on the left without climbing. The area is still very unstable at the moment. We therefore took the left bank and made a short downclimb to an anchor located at a safe distance from the debris to prevent it from being damaged too quickly. All other anchors are in good condition. We added a quick link at the spot where there was an old stuck rope (rope removed) so that the quick link now works properly. The water flow was high yesterday, and we'd like to highlight two caution points: 1. just before the final section: last escape route on the left during the approach walk, there is a tricky spot where water runs under a rock, creating a small siphon. It's best to stay on the bank as much as possible. 2 The logs are still there, but they don't pose much of an issue. Despite these changes, the canyon remains beautiful and fully enjoyable. Photos of the rockfall will be added to this report. (machine translated)

2025-08-10 | Romain Butty | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 | 👍 Completed
...

2024-10-31 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Choltalbach Anchorages ok. Too many logs in the river (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22943/observations.html)

2024-09-06 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Choltalbach DC+. (Sûrement gros débit mais vu que le débit du canyon ne peut pas apparemment "pas être aussi bas") . Equipement ok. 4h à 4 nanas en y allant tranquille. Pour éviter la grotte prendre bien à gauche dans le rappel (relai RD) (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22943/observations.html)

2024-08-31 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | |
Automatisch importiert von Schlucht.ch für Canyon Choltalbach, Wasserstand: "Hoch" Verankerungen: "Verbesserungswürdig" Dachs im oberen Drittel. Im Wasser griffig zu gehen, ausserhalb rutschig. Wasserstand war sportlich. Ein Seilgeländer ersetzt. Sprünge weitgehend machbar, müssen aber zwingend ausgetaucht werden. An einigen Stellen instabiles Holz. Alles in allem lohnende Tour (Quelle: https://schlucht.ch/schluchten-der-schweiz-liste/1053-choltalbach)

2024-08-31 | Peisen | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ |🕮 |⚓ ★ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Badger in the upper third. Easy to walk in the water, slippery outside. Water level was sporty. One rope traverse replaced. Jumps largely feasible, but must be dipped. Unstable wood in some places. Parking recommended at the top in the village, rather difficult directly at the entry. Please be considerate of the local fishermen. (machine translated)

2024-08-10 | System User | |🕮 |⚓ | 〰 High | 👍 Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Choltalbach prévoir entre 5 et 7h de descente (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22943/observations.html)

2023-06-22 | Nico Schneider | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |🕮 ★ ★ |⚓ ★ ★ | 〰 Normal | 👍 Completed
The water level was ideal. Should not have much more, however, as the stream has very challenging rappels in

Parts:
Choltalbach (Inferiore), v6 a5 IV, 5min+4h+20min
Choltalbach (superiore), v4 a5 III, 5min+3h+5min