Rio Nuccí

Nuccí-express,Ciol del Nuccí

Create: 2023-07-17 16:04:17	**Update:** 2025-07-28 10:48:47	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:07
Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** ente di decentramento regionale di Pordenone **Town:** Claut		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a3 V	**Total time:** 12h15
Approachtime: 4h	**Tourtime:** 8h	**Returntime:** 15min
Altitude entry: 2000m	**Altitude exit:** 730m	**Delta Altitude:** 1270m
Canyon length: 3500m	**Highest rapell:** 67m	**Amount rapells:** 50
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:** dolomite	**Drainage area:** km²
Season: May - October	**Orientation:** Southeast	**Best Time:** 7-15 o'clock
Rating: ☆ 4.2 (4)	**Info:** ★ 2 (1)	**Belay:** ★ 2.3 (4)

Warnings:

Ticks

Tick rating 3/3 - use of long pants, high socks, long t-shirt, insect repellent and cautiously checking for ticks is recommended.

European sandviper / horned viper

Presence of venomous vipers - check the trail cautiously, use of a walking stick can be interesting in the high grass.

Specialities:

Gear:

Ropes: 2x70m + Notseil

Summary:

Canyon of major dimensions with no less 1200m of equipped waterway in a rarely visited part of the wild Dolomiti Friulane.

An intricate flow system with multiple tributaries gives life to Nucci in an impressive Dolomite gorge. Possibility to make the descent shorter via tributary Ciol Bevador: Nuccí-express. The short version is bolted for 60m ropes using the intermediate anchors, but 70m ropes speed up the descent.

Hydrology:

A trickle of water is possible at the start, after it filters away but comes back soon, with multiple tributaries and karstic layers bringing life (and depth) to Nucci. Snowremains are possible in the upper Nucci.

Access:

Claut - Val Settimana - park by Stalle Nuccí (second barn on the opposite side of main river), from 1st weekend of July there is a road fee 6 EUR/car, payable in cash or card. The road becomes more exposed to landslides after Nuccí, and has been closed several times after extreme weather events (info on FB/IG pages of the Dolomiti Friulane), if so: (e-)bike is a wonderful solution.

Approach:
Trail 385 is no longer maintained, but still marked red/white & smaller orange dots most of the time and becoming better as more canyoneers go. Update: blue markings and the occasional cairn have been added, up until the entrance for Nucci-express (count 2hrs). Use of gps & orientation skills recommended.

Cross the main river, walk past the Stalle Nuccí (stable), cross Río Nuccí immediately after, walk gently up river left, towards the gorge at first and take the steep trail diagonally up the woods and away from the canyon, sometimes disappearing in the high grass, sometimes involving minor scrambling1. At alt. 1200 there is an exposed traverse going left towards a small tributary canyon, hike up this little canyon for just a few meters and traverse/climb back in the woods.

Now, there are 3 options:
1. Continue to alt. 2000m for the full Nuccí. Offline gps will be useful, the trail is faint at least. Full canyon is described.
2. Enter tributary Ciol Bevador at alt. 1480m. (leave trail 385 around alt. 1540m.) for a longer 'Nuccí-express' (bolted, but not described)
3. Enter tributary Ciol Bevador alt. 1210m. (leave trail 385 around alt. 1300m., always following the blue markings) for a short version of 'Nuccí-express' (described).

Tour:
Nuccí-express - entrance alt. 1210m / shortest version with 500m. elevation loss via tributary Ciol Bevador

Leave trail 385 at alt. 1300m., traverse down to tributary Ciol Bevador (mostly dry) at entrance alt. 1210m. (blue markings lead the way)

1 natural anchor/tree with rope & quicklink, right bank, 35m
1 bolt, right bank, 10m
1 bolt with ring (+ old ones), right bank, 25m
1 bolt, right bank, 6m
1 bolt with ring (+ old ones), right bank, 30m

Traverse right into the main gorge
2 bolts one with ring, left bank, 25m
1 bolt with ring (mid-belay station), right bank, 15m
1 bolt, left bank, 6m or slide
2 bolts, left bank, 12m (top of the 67m waterfall = possible with 70m ropes)
1 chain, room for two persons, left bank, 55m, optional but recommended.
OR: 'emergency bolt', right bank, far, on a boulder on the ledge, at around -25m from the top of the C67
Downclimb several steps
1 bolt + ring, left bank, 10m
1 bolt + ring, left bank, 12m
2 bolts one with ring, left bank, 20m
1 bolt + ring, left bank, 12m
1 bolt + ring, right bank, 15m
2 bolts one with ring + natural anchor, left bank, 25m
2 bolts one with ring, left bank, 15m
1 bolt, right bank, 12m
1 natural anchor/trees, right bank, 25m
1 bolt, right bank, 12m
1 bolt left bank, or natural anchor right bank, 15m
1 bolt, left bank, 6m
1 bolt, right bank, 17m (2 lines at different locations)
2 bolts one with ring, in the middle, 15m
2 bolts, right bank, 20m (Arrival of another tributary to Nucci)
1 natural anchor, in the middle, 12m
1 natural anchor, right bank, 12m
1 bolt, left bank, 15m

Nucci integrale entrance alt. 2000m.
Downclimb to alt. 1900m.
1 bolt, with easily recognisable orange rope as quicklink, in the middle, 45m
1 bolt (cert.), left bank, 60m
1 bolt, with orange rope, left bank, 22m
Downclimb 15m
1 bolt + ring, right bank, 10m
1 natural anchor, in the middle, 15m
1 bolt + ring, right bank, 22m
Snowremains, but canyon dry
Downclimb 5m
1 bolt + ring, in the middle, 55m
Large snowremains
1 bolt, right bank, 30m
1 bolt + ring, in the middle/below a platform, 30m
Horizontal avalanche alley below the remarkable Pale de Candele, walk
1 natural anchor, left bank, 45m
Tributary right bank + source
1 bolt + ring, right bank, 45m

Return:
Follow Nuccí to the main river, or find the trail of the approach on your left, and back to the car, crossing the main river once again.

Coordinates:
Parking Entry and Exit 46.3082 12.5252
Canyon Start 46.3255 12.5201
Alternative Canyon Start 46.3186 12.5226
Alternative Canyon Start 46.3166 12.5204

Reports:

2025-09-13 | Bas | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | | ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Beautiful and very continuous descent. Rappels are not super technical (estimated flow 60-100 L/s). The 70 m waterfall (partly free hanging) is magical. Best to use the intermediate relay (quite far left, just before descent really gets vertical, ok for 2 people). 4:15 hours to get down with 2 people without rushing. Approach 'path' markings are sufficient, but the route is adventurous and quite exposed in places. Think approach of Clusa but steeper and even more overgrown. Large sections of grass without a clear path (follow markers). Took us 2 hours. Exit is not to far last descent on the left. Faint path visible. During the approach, you will get very wet from the morning dew and you will collect at least 50 microscopically small ticks ;) Be sure to thoroughly check afterwards. We missed the snake. Has super potential to become a regional classic, but only if the approach path improves due to increased traffic. Shout out to everyone to do this canyon and thanks to Jeroen for the work he put in to enable this descent.

2025-07-27 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | ★ ★ | ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Removed much of the remaining wood on the approach, checked markings & state of the anchors (feedback is more blue markings would be welcome), added 1 anchor in Ciol Bevador and one for a handline (to install) in Nuccí (requested by last team). All anchors are in perfect condition. Again viper at same location as always, that's 3 times in a row. Time 3+6 hours to complete Nuccí-express in an easy going team or <6hrs solo or fast team.

2024-04-30 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | | ★ ★ | High | Completed
Done Nucci-express. Impressive to see it finally with high flow. Added chain for intermediate belay in the big waterfall. Team members enjoyed the approach and ambiance in the gorge.

2023-09-23 | Jeroen Kirchner | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | | ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Rio Nuccí (ultra express) was back at early summer flow after yesterday's rain. To our content also some sun in the canyon. All anchors ok. Added some quicklinks. One idea for next time to make the 63m shorter. Some markings on the approach disappearing. Recorded a track for the approach.

First descent: 09.07.2023 by Jeroen Kirchner, Gerhard Berger, Hendrik Noot, Nuno Costa