Kreuzgraben

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:54	**Update:** 2025-09-02 14:58:03	**Print:** 2026-11-10 06:11:02
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Kärnten **Subregion:** Bezirk Hermagor **Town:** Möderndorf		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a3 IV	**Total time:** 4h50
Approachtime: 40min	**Tourtime:** 3h30	**Returntime:** 40min
Altitude entry: 1390m	**Altitude exit:** 1100m	**Delta Altitude:** 290m
Canyon length: 1000m	**Highest rapell:** 45m	**Amount rapells:** 18
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.4 (3)	**Info:** ★ 2 (1)	**Belay:** ★ 1 (1)

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x50m

Summary: (machine translated)
Beautiful, incised lime canyon with lots of wood (beautiful passages predominate); catchment area 2.5Km²; can change greatly after flooding; be sure to take emergency equipment; two pitons on the higher steps, otherwise single pitons; (Inox 10mm); Emergency exit possible only at the beginning and towards the end of the tour; in part narrowly cut; two inlets; canyon flows into the Garnitzenklamm, but the lower part is completely overgrown and was absolutely not worthwhile during the first ascent in 2018; steep exit over boulder field and forest; exposure north.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Salzburg Süd via the A10 (Tauernautobahn) in the direction of Italy. Either exit at Feistritz and take the main road towards Hermagor or via Villach and the Gailtal main road to Hermagor. Immediately after Hermagor through Kühwegboden to Möderndorf. From the Klammwirt (Garnitzenklamm), follow the mountain road to the first large parking lot for hikers (Eggeralm) (approx. 20 min. from Hermagor). Tip: With two cars....see exit/return route.

Approach: (machine translated)
From the Eggeralm parking lot, climb over the wooden fence next to the forest. Then walk across the meadow up to the fort road (Kranischer Höhenweg 403). Follow the forest road (right) slightly uphill. After a while, the forest road crosses a small stream (Rinserl). Next to it is a green forest road gate). After the iron gate, it is approx. 200m to a prominent left-hand bend (at a forest clearing). Leave the forest path here and head towards the small visible wooden hut. The descent is steep and pathless, straight over the forest ridge to the flat streambed with an old wooden hut at 1390m.

Tour: (machine translated)
In our opinion, the Kreuzgraben is one of the most beautiful limestone canyoning tours in Carinthia, if it weren't for the many wooden obstructions. The tour starts at the old crumbling wooden hut at 1390m. If you already have the feeling that the stream is carrying too much water here, you should not go any further as the amount of water increases due to inflows and it can become dangerous at the narrow sections. At the beginning of the tour, you descend and downclimb in open terrain. This is followed by a short walking passage followed by another descent in the water. After a small abseil from single bolts and a tree, there are two approaches (left/right) into the stream. After approx. 150m walking passages before the gorge at the latest, the amount of water should be correctly assessed (an exit is still possible before the gorge). It gets really beautiful from the narrow section onwards. This is followed by several short abseiling sections, most of which are in the water flow. The only annoying thing are the logs / obstructions that you come across again and again along the rest of the route. Despite the small catchment area of approx. 2.5 km², the obstructions pose a great danger if the water suddenly rises. At the exit of the first gorge, there is an invisible abseiling point ("Z-passage"). Here you first rappel to the right of the jam for approx. 15m. The next bolt is high up on the right-hand side, in the hollow. (Caution! The rope can very easily get caught in the crevice during rope retrival). This is followed by a short, more open downclimb and walking passages. Halfway down the canyon you come to the highest abseil point, approx. 45m. The rappel can also be divided into 30m and 10m (Caution! The intermediate section is located far to the right outside the water flow after a slippery ledge). After a short distance and a 5m step comes the second highest (approx. 30m) and most aquatic rappel. After the following 25m and 15m rappel, the canyon opens up briefly. This is followed by a short downclimb over boulder terrain (first boulder field). Then come the last two abseils where it gets narrower again. Once you have conquered the last steps, after approx. 50m of walking terrain you come to a second boulder field at approx. 1100m. Here you exit the canyon on the right (blue/yellow arrow on the rock).

For those who want to tackle the lower part: 4 equipped abseiling points, a 6m slide and 1000 trees

Return: (machine translated)
The blue/yellow arrow on the rock marks the exit, which first leads over the steep boulder field. After a few meters in altitude, turn left onto the forest ridge (yellow markers). In the forest, follow the small stream on the orographic left until you reach a visible forest road with a hunter's stand. First option: Climb up the forest road (left) to the asphalt road and follow this for approx. 15-20 minutes to the Eggeralm parking lot. To save yourself the 15-20 minute return journey on the upper part of the asphalt road, a second car can be parked in front of the forest road at the turnout (large beech tree with yellow cross). Second option: Continue up through the forest to the right towards the second hunter's stand visible on the rock face. Below the rock face, first cross to the left and then continue uphill to a forest road. Once you reach the forest road, climb up a small open ridge to the left for the last time to hairpin bend 14 (1365m). After approx. 200m of asphalt road, you are back at the starting point (Eggeralm parking lot).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.5797 13.3591
Parking Entry and Exit 46.5869 13.3741
Canyon End 46.5887 13.3628

Reports:

2025-09-20 | Olaf | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
A nice canyon with four long descents. Some of the descents have to be made of wood. Many anchors heavily rusted. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ | |
Info: Teile der Canyonbeschreibung wurden automatisiert übernommen. Konkret die Felder Weblinks, Koordinaten, Rating, Ort, Länge des Canyon, Einfachseil Mindestens von https://canyon.carto.net/cwiki/bin/view/Canyons/KreuzgrabenCanyon.html und https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon/23802

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://www.canyoning.or.at/index.php/liste-aller-canyons/409-kreuzgraben

First descent: 23.10.2016 by David Sefaj, Georg Buol, Grega Maffi, Matic Udir, Robert Žerovec, Tom Prettner, Hannes Holzer