Rötenbach (oberer)

Create: 2023-03-09 20:49:54	**Update:** 2023-10-14 09:16:06	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:30
Country: Österreich / Austria **Region:** Tirol **Subregion:** Bezirk Lienz **Town:** Leisach		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a3 V	**Total time:** 2h15
Approachtime: 30min	**Tourtime:** 1h30	**Returntime:** 15min
Altitude entry: 1150m	**Altitude exit:** 900m	**Delta Altitude:** 250m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 42m	**Amount rapells:** 9
Transport: Car optional	**Rock type:** limestone	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:** North	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 3.6 (8)	**Info:** ★ 2.3 (6)	**Belay:** ★ 2.1 (7)

Specialities:
suitable in rainy weather,

Gear:
Ropes: 2x50m
drill tool,

Summary: (machine translated)
Continuous beautiful and rewarding aquatic lime canyon with deep views into the valley; almost all rappels are in the watercourse; no emergency exit until the middle of the canyon; dangerous at high water levels (pay attention to meltwater); a lot of loose rock; several exposed belays; sufficiently equipped (mostly two pitons/ May 2020); some slippery spots; several downclimbs; most of the sun is in the afternoon.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From Lienz drive in the direction of Silian (on the B100). At road kilometer 113 you turn left and drive over a bridge. After the bridge turn left and after a few meters you will find a parking lot on the right (here you can either park a shuttle car or walk up). From the barrier at the parking lot, follow the asphalt mountain road for about 1.5 km (road closed from 01.11-30.04). Then turn right on the forest road until you reach a haipin bend with a hunting lodge. Here you park the second car.

Approach: (machine translated)
(on foot: 1.5h)
From the hunting lodge (Schwandhütte), follow the path to the right into the forest at the hairpin bends. A few meters uphill until you reach the saddle and at the saddle turn left uphill. After a few meters, the path is already clearly visible. Climb up the increasingly steep ridge that runs parallel to the canyon. After some time and a few meters in altitude in the sparse forest, there is a crossing over an exposed area, followed by a wide ditch. After the ditch, the path leads briefly uphill again to the next steep ditch with fixed ropes (old dilapidated Holzleiter are no longer usable). Once you have passed the second ditch, it is only a few meters through the mountain pine slope to the entry at 1150m below the mountain basin (mountain pines cut and rope safety devices renewed May 2020).

Tour: (machine translated)
Once in the rugged streambed, the first small steps (pools) immediately follow, which can be skillfully downclimbed and bypassed on the right. You will soon reach the first and highest 42m rappel (bolts on the left). After the highest rappel, the route continues without much distance. This is followed by several aquatic rappels up to a maximum of 25m in a slightly incised gorge environment. There are no deep pools, but the water pressure at some abseils should not be underestimated. To avoid a heavy shower, you can alternatively rappel to the left via two bolts outside the water at one of the last rappels, more precisely at the 25m rappel. The last two short abseils are already in the open gorge. Then downclimb/descend a short distance until you reach the large boulder field below the rock face at around 900m. The possible exit for the upper part or the entry for the lower part of the canyon is located here on the right. It is of course recommended to do the lower part at the same time (time required + approx. 2-2.5h with max. 35m).

Return: (machine translated)
If you don't want to walk the lower part of the canyon, you have the option of exiting the canyon at the boulder field on the right. First climb over the boulder field below the rock face to the left up to a fixed rope. After the rope traverse, continue over the steep ridge above the rock face to the Jägerstand and back to the Jadghütte (Schwandhütte).

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.7852 12.7302
Canyon End 46.7913 12.7273
Parking Entry and Exit 46.7897 12.7308

Reports:

2025-11-09 | Joey CIA | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
With access from the lower parking lot, good water level. Super slippery even often in the waterline. (machine translated)

2025-09-21 | Olaf | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
A nice, technical canyon with lots of descents. (machine translated)

2025-08-15 | Paul Niederwieser | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Low | 👍 Completed
Very beautiful canyon. It took us about 1 hour from the lower parking lot to the entry. Had to search longer for some anchors. Lots of wood in the canyon. Comparison picture of our water level at the exit. (machine translated)

2024-08-15 | Holzer Johannes | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
All good. Two anchors should be replaced. Otherwise everything tiptop (machine translated)

2023-07-01 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | ≋ Normal | 👍 Completed
Upper and lower part in perfect condition. Path to the upper part was apparently re-sarned with step bars and fixed ropes. Many thanks to the noble donor :-). Approach description I have adapted to the current conditions. (machine translated)

2023-04-08 | Thomas Fras | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | | 👎 Not done
so far everything ok (machine translated)

2023-04-08 | Thomas Fras | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | | 👎 Not done
so far everything ok (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://www.canyoning.or.at/index.php/liste-aller-canyons/495-roetenbach-oberer-teil

Parts:
Rötenbach (oberer), v4 a3 V, 30min+1h30+15min
Rötenbach (unterer), v4 a3 V, 15min+2h15+10min