Ravine Pissa (supérieur)

Info: The quality of this description has not been checked yet or was rated bad.
If you know this canyon, please check this description and file a report with a rating for this description using *Reports -> +New Report.* Should you notice any error, please let us know or join the community in order to fix this description yourself.

Create: 2026-01-19 08:07:04	**Update:** 2026-01-19 08:10:25	**Print:** 2026-11-10 02:11:52
Country: France **Region:** Réunion (La) / Reunion **Subregion:** La Réunion / Reunion **Town:** Cilaos		
Difficulty: difficult	**Grading:** v5 a1 IV	**Total time:**
Approachtime: 3h	**Tourtime:** 7h	**Returntime:**
Altitude entry: 2000m	**Altitude exit:** 1200m	**Delta Altitude:** 800m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 110m	**Amount rapells:**
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 0 ()	**Info:** ★ 0 ()	**Belay:** ★ 0 ()

Specialities:

Gear:
Ropes: 2x 70m

Summary: (machine translated)
There are three routes in the upper part of the large waterfall. Pissa Doux, Pissa Dure and Pissa Côté, the access to which is different.

Hydrology: (machine translated)
Hardly any climbing, low steepness and small catchment area.
A large part of the effort lies in the access with exposed passages on the "Vire à Poussins".

Most beautiful at the exit of the rainy season with some water.

Access: (machine translated)
From Cilaos in the direction of Ilet à Cordes. 150 m before the Bras Rouge bridge, you can clearly see the large Pissa waterfall and the rock slabs on the right.

Approach: (machine translated)
Same starting point as Bras Rouge Sup. Take the RD plates to get to the foot of the main cliff. Turn left to cross a mountain pass, the "Col des Fraisiers".
Descend again on the other side via the boulder field and cross a large ledge, "la vire à Poulet".
Continue in the direction of Bras Rouge Sup. At the height of a large boulder field (approx. 1500 m altitude), take a ledge to the right, the "Vire à Poussin". Partly exposed passage in the middle of the ledge. Fixed MCs are in place. Climb up a dry canyon to reach the first active canyon and cross it on a ledge. The path continues opposite, following the few tracks and markings. The path runs along the right side of the next canyon for quite a while before crossing it to continue along the right side of Pissa Doux, which we crossed at the beginning of the route. The path continues and the fourth canyon is Pissa Dure. The path climbs up the right side to reach R1, in a more open area where the canyon is less pronounced.

Tour: (machine translated)
There are three routes in the upper part of the large waterfall. Pissa Doux, Pissa Dure and Pissa Côté, the access to which is different.
The Doux and Dure routes are not the same length, Pissa Doux requires 45 minutes less walking time and there are only 9 small abseils to reach the confluence, compared to 22. In addition, the vegetation is more lush there and the current is weaker.

All routes connect two abseiling points before the large waterfall, which is crossed in three stages: 30 m, 35 m and 65 m pendulum abseils. You then have to rappel or downclimb the rock slabs, which is faster but quite dangerous when they are wet!

In any case, you should take a look at the Ric à Ric topographic view, which is more up-to-date than the LRSC topographic view.

Return:

Coordinates:
Canyon Start -21.1094 55.4670
Canyon End -21.1157 55.4570
Parking Entry and Exit -21.1157 55.4572

Reports:

2026-01-11 | System User | | | | Low | Completed
Automatisch importiert von Descente-Canyon.com für Canyon Pissa (supérieur) Fait par pissa dur, départ à 1900m sur le rappel sur bloc avec une broche couplée avec un pied de fleurs jaunes. Tous les relais sont de bonnes qualités, avec des cordes de couplage d'époque. Dans le dernier cassé, 2 nouveaux relais permettent de limiter les longueurs de cordes. Le relais de 65m est désormais constitué ainsi : 30m jusqu'à la vire herbeuse (zone de stockage confort) / 25m de main courante en rd / 30m jusqu'aux dalles où on finit à pied. Attention à ne pas engager la mc tant qu'il y a du monde au dessus, car il y a énormément de chûtes de pierres. Malgré qu'elle soit décalée de la ligne, ça reste chaud. (Quelle: https://www.descente-canyon.com/canyoning/canyon-debit/22608/observations.html)