

Giétre

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Create: 2023-10-11 21:41:45 **Update:** 2024-11-04 21:01:59 **Print:** 2026-02-11 05:02:12

Country: Schweiz / Switzerland **Region:** Kanton Wallis / Canton du Valais **Subregion:** Bezirk Entremont

Town: Mauvoisin

Difficulty: difficult	Grading: v5 a5 V	Total time: 12h30
Approach time: 4h	Tour time: 7h	Return time: 1h30
Altitude entry: 2750m	Altitude exit: 2000m	Delta Altitude: 750m
Canyon length: m	Highest rappel: 90m	Amount rappels: 50
Transport: on Foot	Rock type:	Drainage area: km ²
Season: October - October	Orientation: West	Best Time:
Rating: ★ 5 (1)	Info: ★ 0 ()	Belay: ★ 2 (1)

Specialities:

Gear:

Ropes: 1x 85m, 2x60m

Summary:

(machine translated)

One of the most extreme and beautiful canyons in the Alps. From the foot of the Giétre glacier to the Mauvoisin reservoir. Very narrow parts in the upper parts. It is difficult to find the right conditions for an ascent. The canyon is long, very technical and only accessible at low temperatures at the exit of October. Ice is to be expected in the upper parts. Temperatures must therefore not be too low, as the amount of ice will then be too great.

Hydrology:

Access:

(machine translated)

Unfortunately, the road to the dam is most likely closed during the time when it is possible to walk up (winter closure). If not, you can park near the dam. Otherwise there is a parking possibility at Bonatchiesse at an altitude of approx. 1580m (registered coordinate). It is then advisable to use e-bikes or normal bicycles to get to the dam wall 5.3km/420m.

Approach:

(machine translated)

Follow the road through the tunnel up to the dam wall. Cross the dam wall and pass through the tunnel on the north side. After a short time you will reach a ladder where the ascent begins. Follow the path until you come to a technical building with a ladder and some kind of measuring apparatus at an altitude of approx. 2340 m above sea level. Turn left (NW) here. The rest of the trail is not marked on the Swisstopo, but on OSM maps. However, it is relatively obvious and partly secured with steel chains. At an altitude of approx. 2720m, the path branches off to the entry.

Tour:

(machine translated)

The water from the glacier is extremely cold and ice must always be expected. Also with icefall on the high rappel. After the first part, there is a heavily cut passage that offers no escape route for some time. An ascent should therefore only be made by very experienced teams who can move quickly in these conditions. Depending on the amount of ice, it may be necessary to set a large number of additional anchors or to set appropriate belays in the ice. The lower half of the canyon is gripped. It is therefore essential to obtain information from the operator or to wait until the canyon is closed in mid-October before attempting the route.

Rope requirements: The highest waterfall has a height of approx. 90m and 4 stands (approx. 20m, approx. 25m, approx. 50m, approx. 15m (please adjust if exact values are known)). The lower two stands may not be usable depending on the water level and icing. An 85m rope is required to rope through from the second stand. If the water level is low and there is little ice, a 60m rope is sufficient.

Return: (machine translated)

The canyon exits directly onto the hiking trail, which leads you back to the dam wall. From there, take the road back to the car.

Coordinates:

Canyon Start [46.0015 7.3671](#)

Canyon End [45.9966 7.3540](#)

Parking Entry and Exit [46.0210 7.3291](#)

Parking Entry and Exit [46.0025 7.3418](#)

Reports:

2022-10-22 | Hendrik | ★★★★★ | 📄 | ⚓ ★★ | ⚡ Normal | 🎉 Completed

The original description is based on this walk-through. The anchorage evaluation refers to the condition after the walk-through. (machine translated)