Val Vielia I-III

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Country: Italia / Italy **Region:** Friuli Venezia Giulia **Subregion:** Pordenone **Town:** Tramonti di Sopra		
Difficulty: a little difficult	**Grading:** v4 a4 IV	**Total time:** 8h40
Approachtime: 2h30	**Tourtime:** 5h30	**Returntime:** 40min
Altitude entry: 1250m	**Altitude exit:** 660m	**Delta Altitude:** 590m
Canyon length: m	**Highest rapell:** 40m	**Amount rapells:** 23
Transport: on Foot	**Rock type:**	**Drainage area:** km²
Season:	**Orientation:**	**Best Time:**
Rating: ☆ 4.7 (8)	**Info:** ★ 3 (5)	**Belay:** ★ 2.4 (7)
Specialities:		
Gear: Ropes: 2x40m/ 1x30m		

Summary: (machine translated)
The water is quite cold even in high summer, but crystal clear.
No cell phone reception along the entire canyon - only at the parking lot

The Vielia I - IV is the longest and one of the most beautiful tours in Friuli. However, all 4 parts in one day can be done only in midsummer, when there is enough daylight. In addition, if you want to do all 4 parts in one day, you should really be physically top fit. The access alone to part 1 with 5.5 km horizontal as the crow flies and 800 Hm in high summer is quite demanding. In addition, the 4th part of all is the most demanding with a lot of water contact, long swims and canyoning technical challenges.

The good thing about the Vielia is that you can combine different parts or do not have to do all 4 parts at once, because between the parts you always come back to the path 377 and can descend again via it.

In sum, the Vielia is certainly one of the most beautiful canyons in Friuli, which makes every canyoning heart beat faster. Nevertheless, it should not be underestimated, because in the sections themselves (except for part 1) you will find very few escape possibilities and also in case of any accidents practically can not get out of the canyon.

Vielia I Characteristics:
Part 1 of the Vielia is the least frequented part of the Vielia, which is due to the nevertheless longer access. It is often described as not so rewarding, although this evaluation - if any - could only come about in comparison with the dreamlike parts II - IV.
The characteristics of the upper part is more open, but quite here also aquatic with very nice rappel passages and partly deep pools. In emergencies, one would escape from the canyon in several places at the part I of the Vielia or at least get to higher places.

Vielia III Olympic Pool:
It starts with a 25m rappel into an approximately 30m swim. When you get to the bottom you are in a dark swim section. The beginning feels almost a bit cave-like and the limestone is colonized year-round with dark red algae, making for a gorgeous play of colors. In the swim section, small springs come down from the left, forming a kind of rain curtain. At the exit of the swim section, ortographic left, there is a small stone depression with an anchor for a rope traverse. It is recommended to use this anchor, because this place is usually very slippery. The rope traverse is built for about 3m to the jumping-off point in the so-called "Olympic Pool". This place is an absolute natural spectacle. You come out of the dark corridor and towards the Olympic Pool the gorge opens up, allowing more sun to fall into the pool. Springs come in from the left, forming a curtain of rain, and with the right amount of sunlight, it feels like there are silver pieces pattering in the pool. The Olympic Pool is deep turquoise and with a spirited jump forward you dive into this natural spectacle after flying 6m. In high summer (July/August) you should be at this spot between 11:30 and 12:30 to find the most ideal light conditions.

Hydrology:

Access: (machine translated)
From the freeway exit Carnia/Tolmezzo follow the SS52 direction Forni di Sopra/Mauria Pass. After about 25 min and 23.3km turn left at km29 from the SS52 onto the SR552 towards Tramonti / Passo Rest. After 7km (about 10 min) on this road you enter the Tagliamento Valley. You continue on the SR552 over the Tagliamento bridge over the REST mountain pass for about 15km (25 min). Then you go over the bridge of the Vielia for about 1,5km until km "24 I ". Here you can park both on the left and on the right of the road and the marked path 377 starts directly from here. ATTENTION: If you decide to walk the Vielia IV you have to park the cars in a different way (transfer). See tour description Vielia IV.

Approach: (machine translated)
(Vielia III 1h - 1:15; Vielia II 1:30 - 1:45; Vielia I 2:30 - 3h)

The access to Vielia is easy to find, as you always stay on path 377, which leads through Val Vielia. At the beginning of the trail you have to climb a few meters before you reach the Val Vielia after about 20-25 minutes. From there, the path leads relatively gently uphill through beech forests.
After about 40-45 minutes, you come close to the streambed of the Vielia for the first time. This is the entry point to part IV (approx. 660m)

Stay on the path for another 20 - 30 minutes, ascending slightly, until you reach the entry to Part III. Here you will see footprints leading downhill through the forest to Vielia (approx. 800m).

To get to the entry to part II of the Vielia, stay on trail 377 for another 30 minutes, which now also has some slight ascents. Every now and then you can see into the gorge of part II. The entry to part II is located at 930 m above sea level at old ruins of a house.

This is now followed by the most strenuous part of the access to Vielia - Part I. Here you have to climb quite a few meters in altitude and should be in good physical condition if you want to go up to Part I. You continue for about an hour, sometimes steeply uphill, before you gain an unmistakable view of a gravelly high plateau at 1250m and find yourself right next to the Vielia. This is the entry point to Part I.

Tour: (machine translated)
(Vielia III: 1:15; Vielia II: 1:30; Vielia I: 2:30-3h)

Vielia I:
Part I begins with a small jump and a 5m rappel. This is followed by a few smaller abseils before you reach the first and only narrow section of Part I. A 16m rappel leads to a narrow corridor, which you leave by climbing onto a clamping block. This is followed by the highest rappel of the entire Vielia tour - a 40m rappel over 2 diagonal passages, interrupted by a small flat section in between.
This is followed by 4 rappels up to 20m high, until you reach a 7m-high section that you can either dry rappel or, for very experienced jumpers, jump. Here, however, you have to hit a very small spot (approx. 1.5m x 1.5m) when jumping so that you don't hit the rocks that come into the pool from the left and right under water.
This is followed by 190m M+E until you reach a point where you have to cross the slippery streambed very carefully and downclimb slightly before reaching the abseiling point on the right. This point can either be rappelled dry for 20m or you can rope down approx. 14m and jump the remaining 6m into the deep pool. After another 10m abseil into a deep pool, you come to the highest abseil cascade of the Vielia tour: approx. 60m, which is divided into a 25m section and a 35m section.
After this point, you have completed Part I of the Vielia and it is 15-20 minutes M+E until you reach Part II. Here it pays to exit the stream on the ortographic right and follow the path to the entry of Vielia 2.

Vielia II:
At Vielia II, aquatics and jumping fans get their money's worth. With a total of 8 jumps in part II, this is certainly the highlight for anyone who likes to jump. After the first 5 jumps and a section of approx. 120 m M+E+swim, you come to the so-called "Hypnotic Pool".
The Hypnotic Pool is a relatively dark-looking spot that jump fanatics can jump (approx. 15 m), but which can also be rappelled. The Hypnotic Pool is also the start of the narrow section of the 2nd part, where a beautiful rock gate follows after a small abseil and a jump. It is important to use the stance ortographic right (C5 right) at the rock gate and not to rappel into the crack. You cannot get through the waterfall in the crevice, as it is extremely concentrated at the rock gate. After the rock gate, the gorge opens up again a little and you are faced with the highest rappel in the 2nd part. After the small final jump into the long pool, the next 20-minute M+E immediately follows, which then leads to Part III. Up to the hypnotic pool, you have the option of getting out of the canyon in an emergency.

Vielia III:
Part III of Vielia starts at around 800m and has 2 jumps in open terrain at first. Then you come to the first abseil point, which marks the "point of no return" for the whole of Part III. In other words, from here on you have no escape route for the rest of Part III.
At the same time, you have to be careful on this first rappel, especially at higher water levels, as a siphon can form here. The rappel tempts you to follow the course of the water to the ortographic left. This leads into a pool that can only be exited through a 1m hole. This is a superiore photo opportunity at low water, but quite dangerous at higher water levels. In order to avoid this point, you should keep to the ortographic right, which can sometimes be unpleasant for inexperienced rappelers because you have to rappel against the slope of the wall and the natural course of the rope. However, this is no problem for experienced canyoneers.
After 2 more 6m jumps into crystal-clear, turquoise pools, you come to one of the most beautiful canyoning passages in Friuli - the passage to and the jump into the Olympic Pool (see special features)
After the Olympic Pool, there is a large cold inlet ortographic right into the canyon. The water is more than doubled here and when you jump into the pool you notice that the water is several degrees cooler compared to the Olympic Pool.
This is followed by a small abseil and a jump before you reach the exit of Part III after a small swimming passage and come out directly at the access point to Part IV.
Vielia Part III is certainly one of the most beautiful canyoning passages there is. At the same time, only experienced canyoneers should enter this part, as it is quite dangerous, especially at higher water levels.

Return: (machine translated)
Directly when you come out of the swimming passage of Vielia III, you can climb up to the right again to hiking trail 377 (approx. 10m). Then simply go back the way you came up before.
Attention: If you want to add Vielia IV, you must be aware that the canyoning challenges are more demanding than those of parts I-III. In addition, you will be in Vielia IV for at least 3.5 hours with lots of water contact and sometimes longer walking and swimming sections, with no meaningful exit option if you are too exhausted.
If you want to do Part IV but don't want to risk your strength, you can do Vielia IV the following day and leave some of your canyoning equipment at the exit of Part III. This way you don't have to carry the canyoning equipment down and back up the next day.

Coordinates:
Canyon Start 46.3313 12.7423
Alternative Canyon Start 46.3357 12.7613
Canyon End 46.3360 12.7759

Reports:

2025-09-21 | Ivan | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Made Vielia 1,2,3. Approach time ca.2h30m. The bridge marked some time before is still broken but we pass without major problems. Weapons all perfect and water less cold than expected. Vielia 1 in my opinion is not worth the approach as compared to part 2 and 3 it is less apagating. Part 2 and 3 simply stunning,fantastic pools and various dives with some toboga. A spectacle in a phenomenal environment. Not having done 4,we also had to do ca.1h return. (machine translated)

2025-08-19 | Manni | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
At the bridge at the access, a field has broken through between two steel girders. You can bypass this section via a rock ledge. (machine translated)

2025-08-16 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Are all parts committed. I can't quite understand the previous post. There are around 10 jumps in part 1 alone. You just have to know where ◫ Apart from that, everything is fantastic. Part 1 is just really slippery at the moment, 2 and 3 are getting better. (machine translated)

2025-07-20 | Jason Walker | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Today we did all the parts consecutively. Part one, was not really worthwhile. 3 stars at best. It has some unpleasant abseils, and maybe a jump or two. Part 4 is much better, and you want to allow time if you think it'll be a stretch for your group. Parts two and three, these are the best parts of the day. Part two just jumping nearly constantly, and part three also has some nice jumps, but less consistent. Part 4. Supposedly the money section, was not really outstanding compared to parts 2-3. In higher flows, it would certainly be quite demanding at this, with some tight sections and awkward abseils. The toboggan was super good. There were a few jumps that were nice. Seems like the kinda section you fire up when you're looking for some challenge in high water.

2025-07-19 | Bina | ☆ ☆ ☆ ½ | 🕮 | ⚓ ★ | Normal | Completed
Parts 1-4 done. 1st part extremely slippery. 1 stand could still be re-drilled... 2+3 beautiful. (machine translated)

2024-08-27 | Jason Walker | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ | Low | Completed
Sections II and III. Absolutely fantastic. Super clear water, stacks of awesome jumps, and the bottom of the III section is reason enough to walk in! II had plenty of jumps, and was only another 10-15 minutes walk up from the start of III. All the anchors were fine. We walked in from the north, rather than the classic way. It was about 1:15 in to the bottom of section III.

2024-08-15 | Horst Lambauer | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 ★ ★ ★ | ⚓ ★ ★ ★ | Normal | Completed
Have renovated missing anchors today. The canyon was really nice but slippery at the moment. (machine translated)

2023-03-09 | System User | ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ | 🕮 | ⚓ | |
Daten importiert von https://www.canyoning.or.at/index.php/liste-aller-canyons/314-torrente-viellia

Parts:
Val Vielia I-III, v4 a4 IV, 2h30+5h30+40min
Val Vielia IV, v3 a5 V, 45min+3h30+5min