

Chärstelenbach

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: 2023-07-26 19:06:52	Update: 2024-11-04 20:05:58	Print: 2024-12-22 03:12:35
Country: Schweiz / Switzerland Region: Kanton Uri Subregion: Silenen Town: Bristen		
Difficulty: difficult	Grading: v5 a5 V	Total time: 9h45
Approachtime: 4h	Tourtime: 5h	Returntime: 45min
Altitude entry: 1900m	Altitude exit: 1490m	Delta Altitude: 410m
Canyon length: 2200m	Highest rapell: 35m	Amount rapells: 16
Transport: on Foot	Rock type: limestone	drainage area: 23.00km ²
Season: October - November	Orientation: East	Best Time: 8-14 o clock
Rating: ★ 5 (1)	Info: ★ 1 (1)	Belay: ★ 2 (1)

Specialities:

Glacier in drainage area,

Gear:

Ropes: 2x40m

Headlamp, drill tool,

Summary: (machine translated)

Glacier canyon, very long, very dark, very dangerous.

Hydrology:

Grosser Gletscher im Einzugsgebiet. Ende Oktober ist um 13:00 noch nicht viel von der Schmelze zu bemerken, um 15:00 aber dann schon fast das doppelte.

Access: (machine translated)

Take the highway from Lucerne in the direction of Gotthard and exit at Amsteg. Cross the village and turn left up the small road through the Maderanertal valley to the village of Bristen. Cross the village and park in the cable car parking lots.

An Alpine cab shuttle is available to shorten the journey from Bristen to Guferen (approx. 2 hours) (road closed to traffic). The price is CHF 100 and the Alpentaxi can only take 6 people!

Approach: (machine translated)

Walk up the valley towards the village of Guferen, cross the bed of the Chärstelenbach stream and follow the path on the right bank of the Chärstelenbach stream towards the village of Blindensee. Cross the stream there to switch to the left bank and follow the path towards Hüfihütte. At an altitude of around 2,200 m, you reach the glacier by descending through a couloir and then over limestone slabs to reach the left bank of the glacier at an altitude of around 2,020 m. Follow the left edge of the glacier to about 1985 meters. Go into the hole on the left bank of the glacier to reach the watercourse and the start of the canyon.

Allow 1 hour for the approach to cross the glacier and walk along the limestone slabs on the right bank, then rappel down one of the 80 meters as you dispense with the upper part below the glacier!!!!

Tour: (machine translated)

First indentation under the glacier with about 14 waterfalls. After leaving the first indentation, you reach the Hufisee on the left, follow it on the left and reach the second incised part with about 6 to 7 obstacles (alt. 1670m)

Commitment

A big commitment! No way out except after the first notch at the level of the Hufisee. 1st committed part because under the glacier with the potential risk of the canyon being blocked by ice and 2nd committed part because of a considerable amount of water!

Period/water character

Autumn canyon to be done when temperatures drop in altitude but before the first snow to facilitate the long approach and reduce the risk of avalanches and glacier crossings.

Notes

An 80m rope is essential to get to the start of the canyon if you don't want to attempt the upper part below the glacier, and a 60m rope will allow you to gain enough distance to recover the ropes in the canyon.

The uphill part has been opened up using caving techniques (fixed ropes) so that you can turn back. Be careful and vigilant when you set off! Icefalls could block this part of the canyon!

Return: (machine translated)

At the exit of the second inlet in the Griesboden district, walk along the watercourse and reach the Riedbödmer district. Walk along the left bank and after about 10 minutes you will reach the approach path and follow it to Guferen and/or Bristen.

Coordinates:

Canyon Start [46.8079 8.8240](#)

Canyon End [46.7982 8.8024](#)

Waypoint [46.8081 8.8229](#)

Parking Entry and Exit [46.7664 8.7107](#)

Waypoint [46.7804 8.7756](#)

Reports:

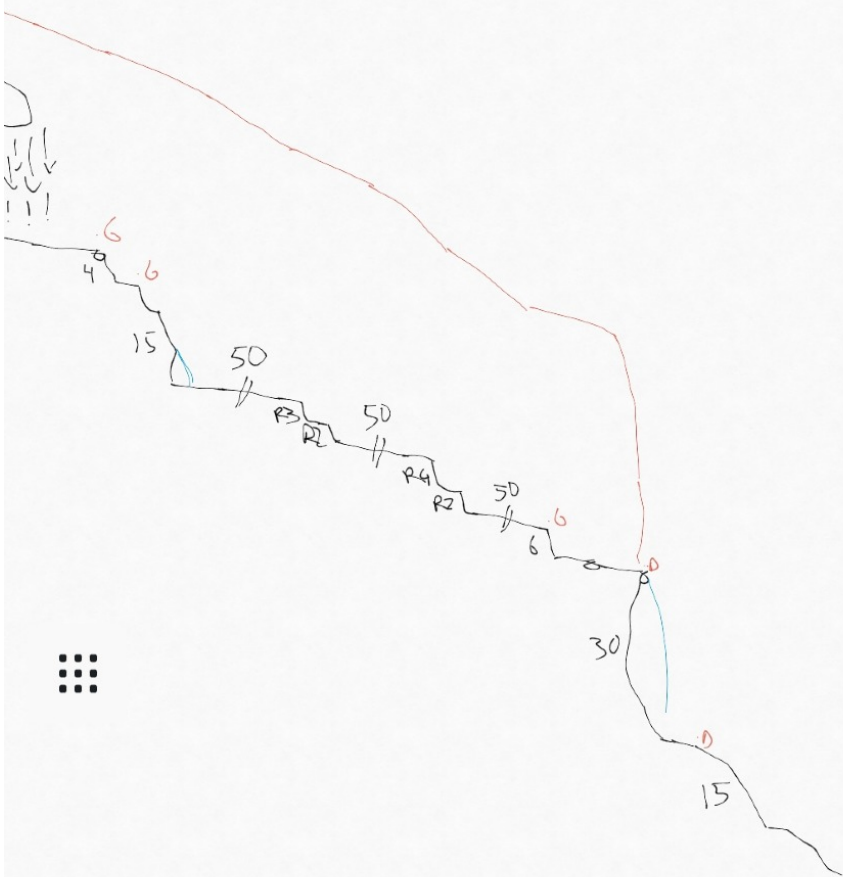
2024-11-01 | Nico Schneider | ★★☆☆☆ | 📖 ★ | 🪚 ★ | 🌊 High | 🍏 Completed

Upper part: You can easily get through under the avalanche snow. Watch out for falling rocks from the side. Access via the rocks orographically to the right. If you take the access described in the book, you still need anchors to get into the canyon. All anchors in the canyon have been renewed. The water level is manageable without problems if you start early. Lower part: About 4 times the amount of water. We drilled a new anchor on the third rappel so that the lower parts can be climbed even when there is a lot of water. The rock is also slippery. (machine translated)

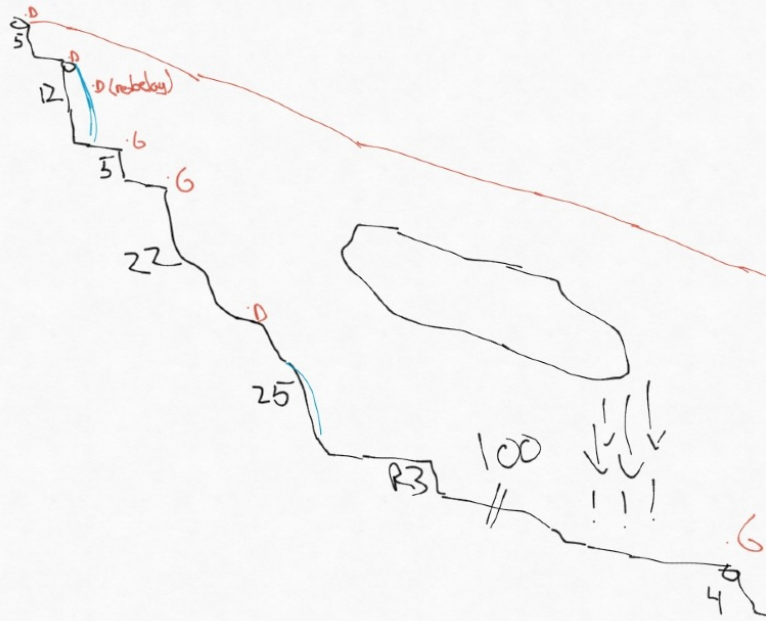
2023-09-28 | Daniel Sturm | 📖 | 🪚 | |

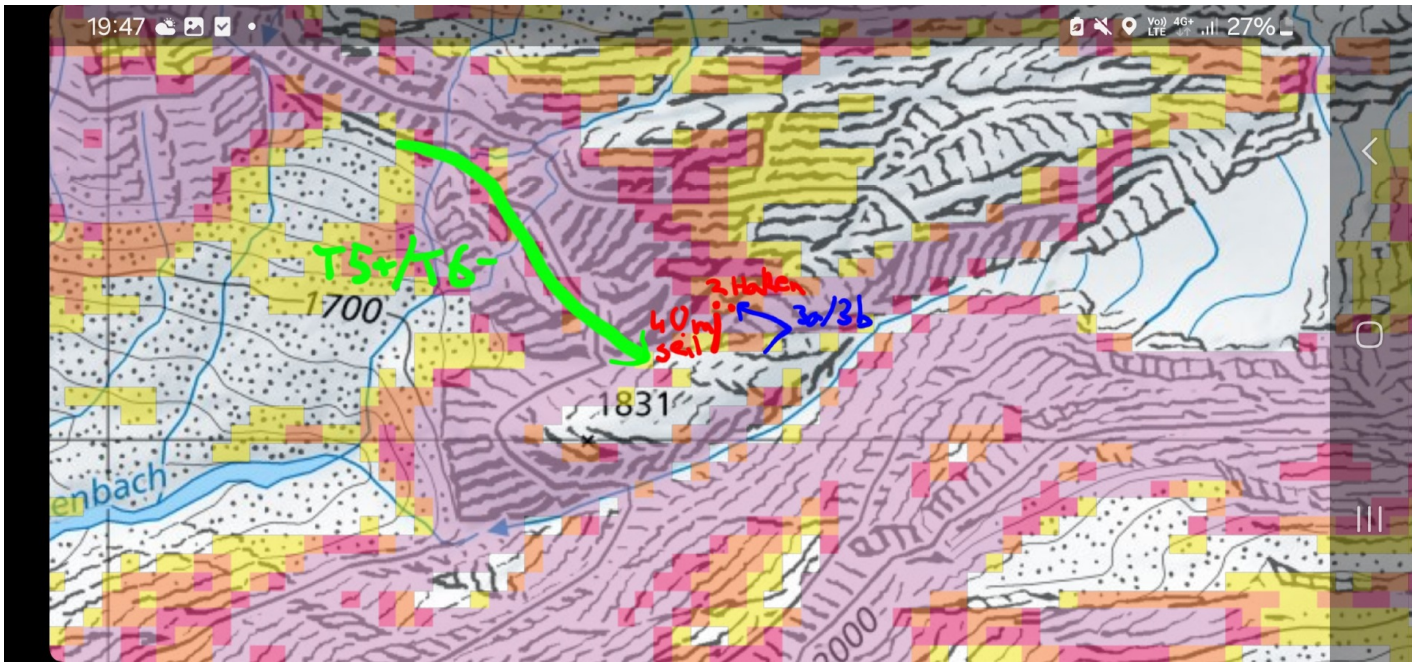
Basic data taken with kind permission by Matthias Holzinger from "Swiss Alps Canyoning VOL. 2.0" (machine translated)

First descent: 14.11.2018 by



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