Rio Favarinis

Description

The Rio Favarinis is the only river of the south slope of Mount Amariana with a consistent flow of water, which runs through a beautiful gorge before its confluence with the River Fella. The gorge is cut in rocks of the Triassic period, called the Dolomia Principale, that form the base of Mount Amariana.

On the inner walls of the gorge it is easy to find fossils of the bivalve megalodon that have a characteristic heart-shaped cross-section. The steep slopes that flank the canyon are covered with thick pine forests of black pine (*Pinus negra*).

It is an easy route suitable for beginners. Particularly noteworthy is the beautiful emerald green colour of the clear water in the pools.

Zone

Friuli Venezia Giulia - Amaro (UD)

Elevation and lenght

Entrance 520 m
Exit 270 m
Height difference 250 m
Length 500 m
Highest pitch 50 m

Advised decent period

From May to October

Exposure

South

Timings

Approach 40 mins
Descent 2h 30 mins
Return 5 mins

Shuttle

No

Anchors

Excellent

Advised ropes

2 of 50 m + emergency rope

Gear

Full wetsuit

Escapes

On the left bank there are likely to be some possible exits (to be checked); before the last pitch there is a clear track allowing you to by-pass it.

Map

Carta Tabacco 1:25000 foglio n° 013 - Alpi Carniche, Val Tagliamento.

Interest

Local

Difficulty

V4 a2 III

Coordinates (WGS84) for upstream (mountain) parking and access point of the path

46° 23' 8.16"N 13° 7' 15.24"E

Coordinates (WGS84) where you leave the path CAI n° 415

46° 23' 17.52"N 13° 7' 3.36"E

Coordinates (WGS84) of the riverbed access point (start of canyon)

46° 23' 13.92"N 13° 6' 45.36"E

Approach to the valley (lower car park)

Take the motorway exit "Carnia-Tolmezzo" and follow the signs towards Tarvisio. Continue for approximately 4 km and, immediately before passing under the motorway viaduct, you take a small road on the left that quickly leads to the bridge over Rio Favarinis, after which there is an open space for parking.

Approach to the canyon (walking)

Take the path CAI n° 415 and follow it up until you find some ruins of a building on the left (about 30 mins). Continue on the main path for a few tens of meters until a trail branches off to the left (marked with white and red paint on trees). Follow this trail until you reach a slope leading towards the canyon, where the last part is a steep descent through the trees to reach the riverbed.

Description and technical notes

01a - P 12 R + DEV R

01b - P 10 L

02 - T 2 or J 4 (by-passable R)

03a - MC + P 26 R

03b - P 26 L

Progression of about 150 m with some small downclimbs

04 - P 8 L (by-passable L)

Progression of about 150 m with some small downclimbs

05a - P 12 R + DEV R

05b - P 12 L

06 - P3L

07a - MC + P 20 R

07b - P 5 R + P 15 L + DEV L

08 - J 2 (by-passable R)

09 - MC + P 50 R

At the base of the last pitch there are 2 anchor points that can be used for a Tyrolienne (in which case 2 × 60 m ropes are required).

Exit

At the end of the canyon, the riverbed opens out and the bridge becomes visible. After several metres walking, a path on the left can be followed up to the car park.

Notes

The first descent was made in August 1996 by M. Biondi, C. Stavagna, S. De Rossi and F. Cernigoi.

