

Location

A tributary of the Orari River, north of Geraldine.

Character

Extremely short but deep canyon. Ideal for experienced leaders to introduce canyoning to beginners.

Map

BY19 Arundel

Approach by Car

4WD and/or high clearance is recommended. There are a few fords and a little mud on the road.

From Geraldine, drive north on SH79 for about 4km, then turn left and follow Tripp Settlement Rd for 10km until you reach Orari Gorge Station. Carefully follow the sign posted public access through a gate on the right. Leave gates as you find them and respect the private property either side of the road.

Continue up the road, ignoring any turn offs and keeping close to the river. You enter the lower Orari Gorge, but as the valley opens up, you will be able to see the Orari/Andrews confluence, 7.5km from the Station access gate. Park in the paddock close to the footbridge crossing Andrews Stream.

Approach on Foot

Cross the bridge, then turn left through the Pine trees for 20m to a fallen tree that points down a spur toward the stream. Rappel following the log to a pine tree overhanging the stream.

Rock

Greywacke

Water

Moderate flow at normal summer water levels.

Catchment

 40 km^2

Anchors

Plentiful solid bolts.

Gear

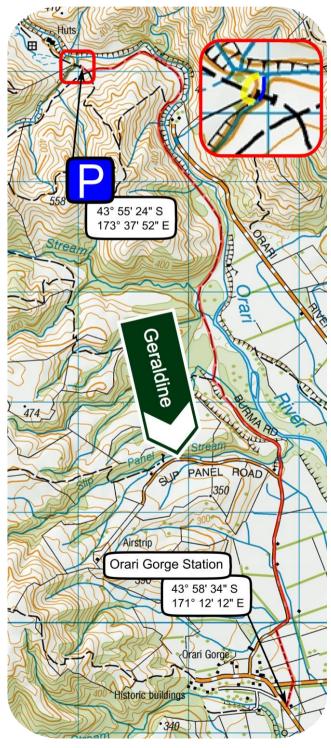
2x15m ropes, which do not need to be taken through the canyon. Rescue throw-bag.

Route Description

There are multitudes of ways to enjoy this canyon. At the first pool, there can be a hydraulic/undercut on the TL. In normal flow, it is easily avoided by jumping or rappelling.

Approach the second drop with care, as it could flush you over the fall. There can be a hydraulic on the TR, but it is easily avoided with a jump to the center of the pool.

A series of bolts allow escape/access to/from the top of the last drop. With care and scouting the pool depth, many different jumps can be made from various ledges into that final pool.



Time

Car park to start of canyon 1min
Canyon descent 15min
Return to Vehicle 4min
Total 20min

Flash Flood Danger

Moderate. Very large drainage and steep walls, but extremely short canyon.

Escapes

The first jump can be up-climbed if necessary.

Didymo

This canyon is known to have Didymo. CHECK, CLEAN, DRY after ALL canyoning trips, but especially streams known to contain this pest.

Notes

The road access is a legal public road, however beyond the road is private farmland. Leave gates as you found them, do not bring dogs and do not bother any stock.

This canyon is used commercially by the Peel Forest Outdoor Center.



