



# SECRET FALLS

canyon v4a2II ★★

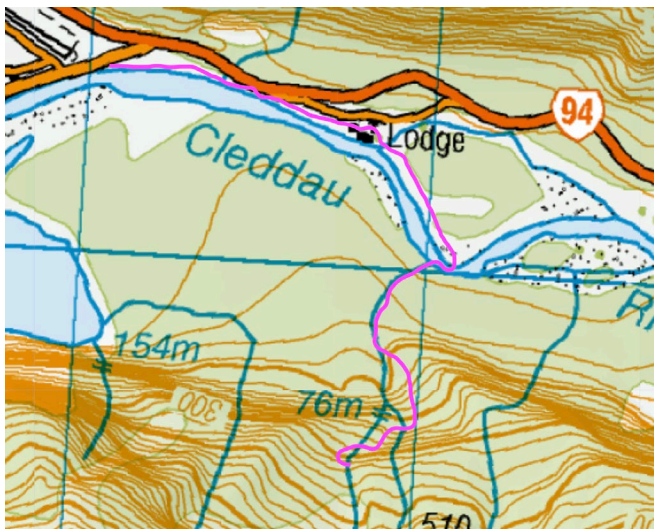
## Location

Milford Sound

## Character

Short, playful canyon with beautiful views down the fiord and up the Tutoko valley. Secret falls is awesome for a mellow sunny day.

## Map



## Approach by Car

Park at the free parking on the corner of Deep Water Basin road. In the summer this car park is often full so use other parking options in the village. **Please don't park at the lodge.**

## Approach on Foot

From the car park follow the path going up the Cleddau Valley to the lodge. Cross the Cleddau river at the lodge and follow the Secret Falls creek for approximately 10 minutes. When you find the track on the TR marked with an orange triangle. Follow the track past the first creek until you come out at a clearing where you can see the first slide. You could start the canyon here but for the view its worth scrambling up the slab on the TL to some fixed ropes to take you to the top of the 55m waterfall.

## Rock

Solid Granite

## Water

Low Flow. Secret Falls is warmer than most creeks around. Rises and drops very fast: usually in condition a within a few hours of the rain stopping.

## Anchors

All Double bolt anchors. Mostly one ring and one Maillon.

## Gear

2 x 60m, For groups bigger than 3 bring a third rope for the rebelay.

## Route Description

The 2 slides at the top of the canyon can be lapped if you wish or walked around. R2 goes through a few pools so stay on the rope until you are in the bigger pool at the bottom. You can slide the bottom of R3 with a reconnect at the bottom. The Ledge at the bottom of R4 isn't suitable for more than 4 people.

## Time

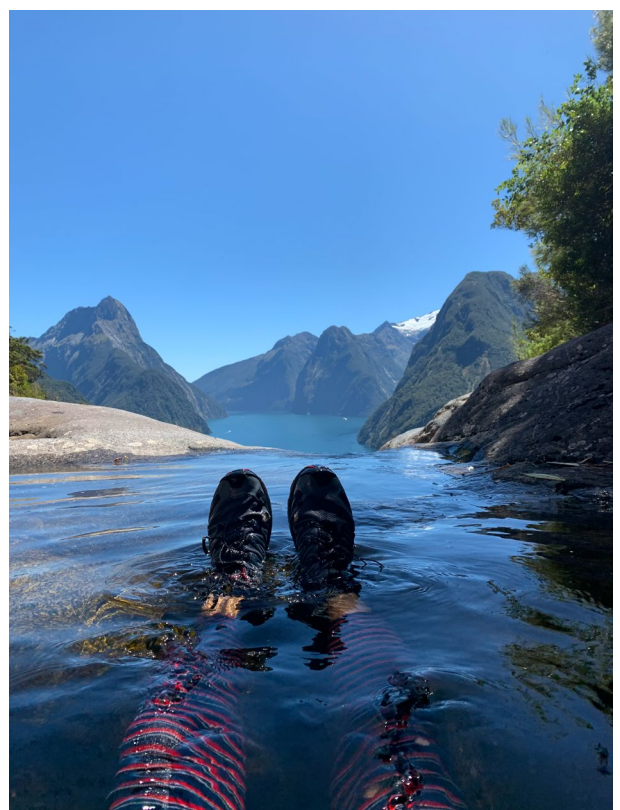
Vehicle park to start of canyon	45 min	
Canyon descent		3 hrs
Return to vehicle		20min
<b>Total</b>		<b>4.5 hrs</b>

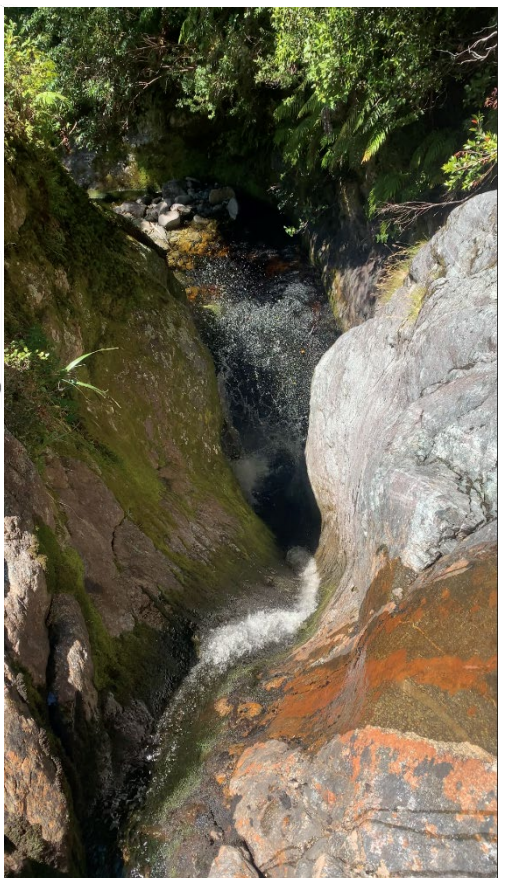
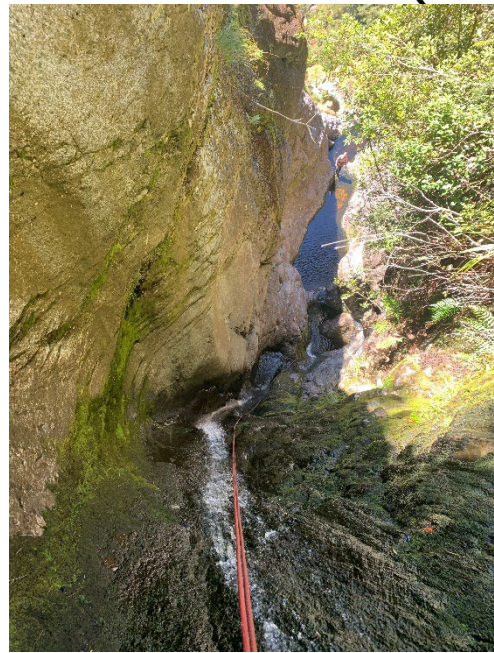
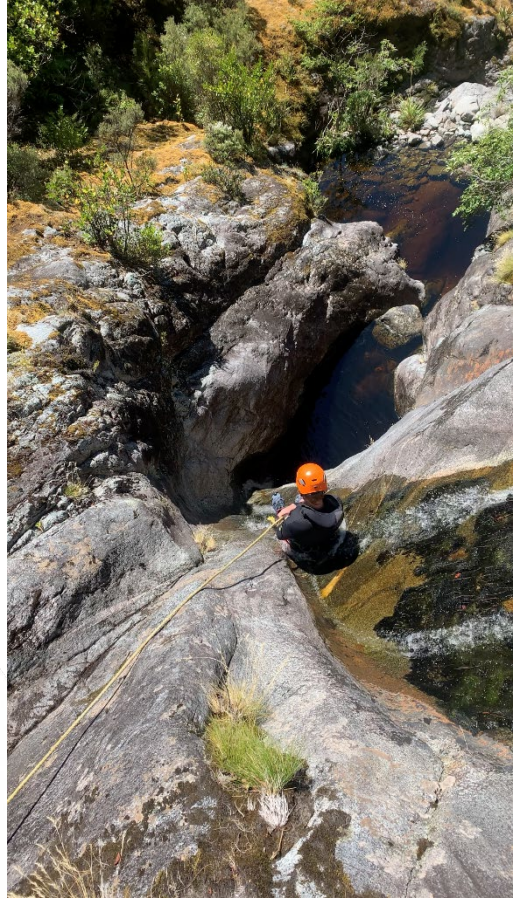
## Escapes

The upper section is very open. Below R2 the only escape is at the bottom of R3.

## Notes

First descent: Jona Schmutzer, Jacob Lovell, Jack Gibson, Will Hamilton, December 2022.





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Topo by Will Hamilton [www.kiwicanyons.org](http://www.kiwicanyons.org)