



Witlof ("With Love") Creek

V4A3III ★★



Location

Greenstone Valley

Character

This is the highlight of the Greenstone valley. Definitely worth the effort!

Map

CB-09 Hollyford



Approach by Car

Leave your car at the Greenstone car park (this should normally be accessible for all vehicles).
-44.934046, 168.345030 (WGS 84).

Approach on Foot

From the Greenstone hut follow the Greenstone track upstream until you reach the canyon (2 hr 45 min). You can walk into the canyon to admire the final waterfall and to assess conditions. Exit canyon -44.940015 168.178325 (WGS 84).

Alternatively you can stay at the Rats Nest Hut or Steele Creek Lodge which are much closer to the canyon.

Walk up through the forest on TR (very steep) for 35 min until you can walk into the canyon around the 840m contour. You enter the canyon just above or just below a fun T3.

Rock

Good quality sandstone.

Water

Cosiderable flow during dry conditons. Some abseils are in, or close to, the main flow. Not to be underestimated with higher flows.

Catchment

6.5 km²

Gear

2 x 30 meter ropes.

Anchors

Exploratory rigging!

Most descents are equipped with (single) 10 mm stainless steel bolts and Tebylon hangers.

Route Description

The first few rappels are easy and a good warming up before you reach "the cave". The cavers in your team will get excited here while you are wondering when you last charged your headtorch. The cave section is very short however and the rappel avoids the main flow.

The drops and the walls on the sides get higher and it all starts to feel a bit more serious. The bolt linking r14 and r15 might be a bit difficult to find (TR), to prevent it getting thrashed in the winter flows. If you miss it your 30 m ropes won't be long enough so take care!

A mandatory handline on a fallen tree (hopefully still there when you make your descent) will give access to the anchor for the last drop. The descent might look a bit "swirly" from the top but there is no real danger with a moderate flow.

Time

Greenstone hut to start of canyon	2 hr 45 min
Canyon descent	2 hr 30 min
Return to Greenstone hut	2 hr 15 min
Total	7 hr 30 min

Flash Flood Danger

It is advised to avoid this descent during or just after heavy rain unless you really know what you are doing in high flow canyons.

Escapes

There might be some escapes in the upper section. Once you commit to the final section there is no way back.

Notes

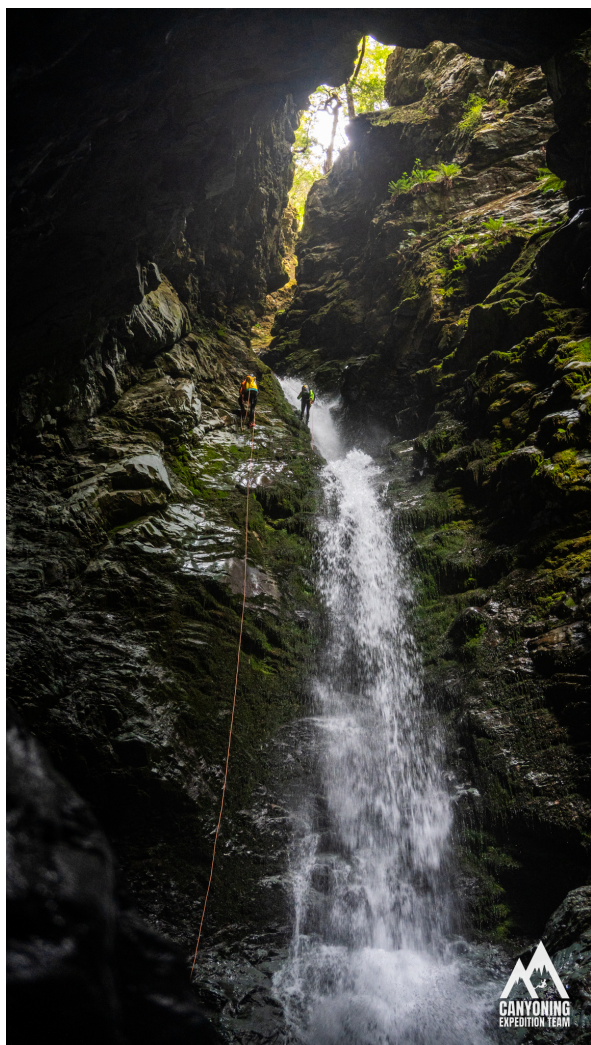
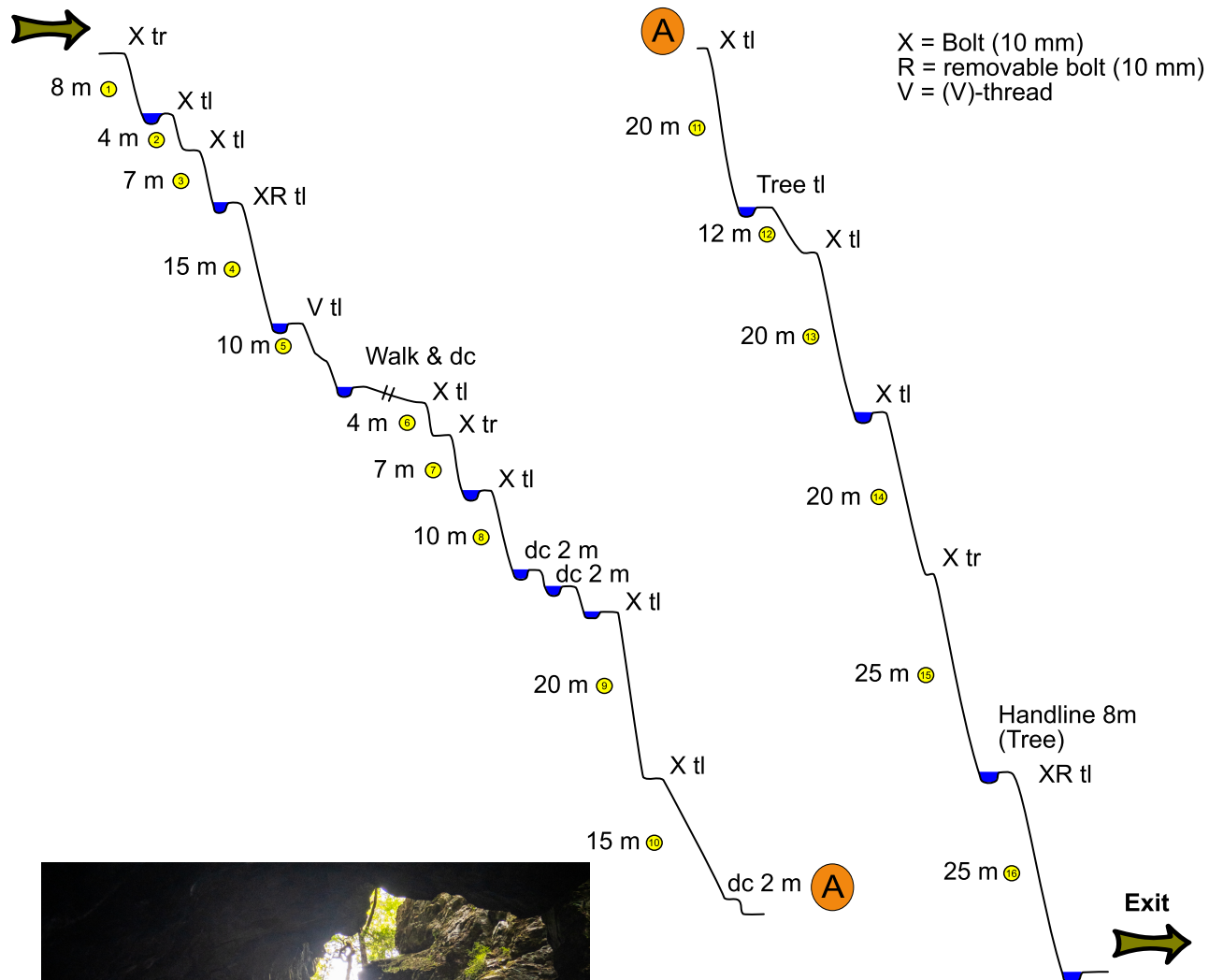
First descent: 17-03-2026

Dutch Canyon Expedition 2026:

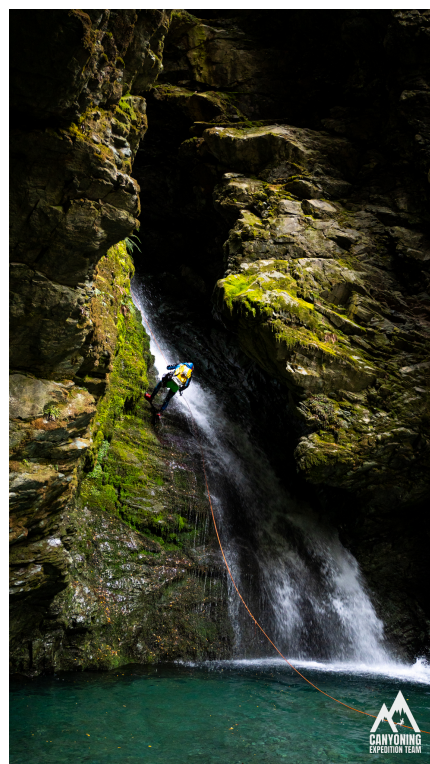
Lisa Ahsmann
Erik Birkhoff (topo)
Max Bogaerts
Erwan Coq
Pepijn Hoeksema (pictures)
Kevin Leys
Stijn van de Ven

The best canyon in the valley! The final section is a succession of exciting drops with a new surprise lurking behind every corner!

Entrance



r 14 and 15



r 16





CANYONING EXPEDITION TEAM

