

Red Hut Canyon v4a2III**

Hopkins River Valley,
Major River crossings, 4wd or MTB access

Notes:

First Descent by Alain Rohr, Annette Phillips, Jethro Robinson circa 10 Feb 2014.

Information here is collated by Dan Clearwater from comments and notes from the first descent team on the KiwiCanyons.org Facebook page and private emails.

Access to Red Hut

From SH8, about 13km South of Twizel, follow signs to Lake Ohau ski Field by Lake Ohau Road. Continue on Lake Ohau Rd, on legal public access all the way to the road end. There are some farm gates to go through with marked DOC signs. Either park at the signposted 2WD carpark, or continue onwards up valley to monument hut. Beyond monument hut, ford the Hopkins River to reach [Red Hut](#). (DOC, 12 bunks, heating, mattresses) The Hopkins is a *major* river, which has consumed more than one 4WD vehicle during an attempted crossing.

Access from Red Hut to canyon: 1h30

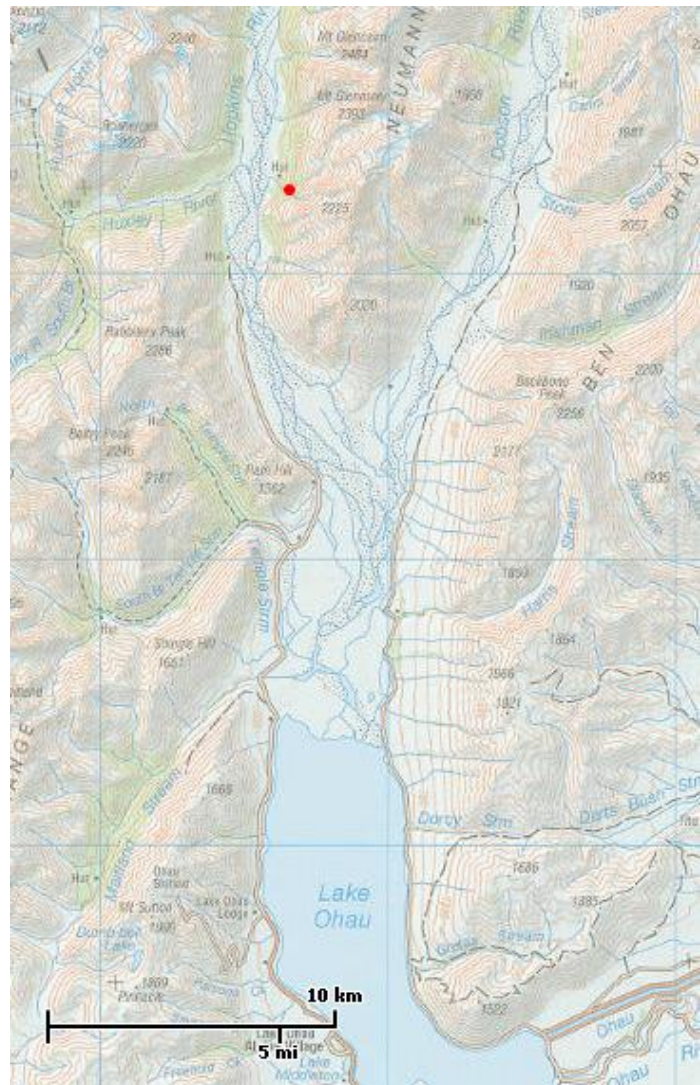
From Red Hut, climb the TL of the Canyon for 1h30 to approx the 900m contour.

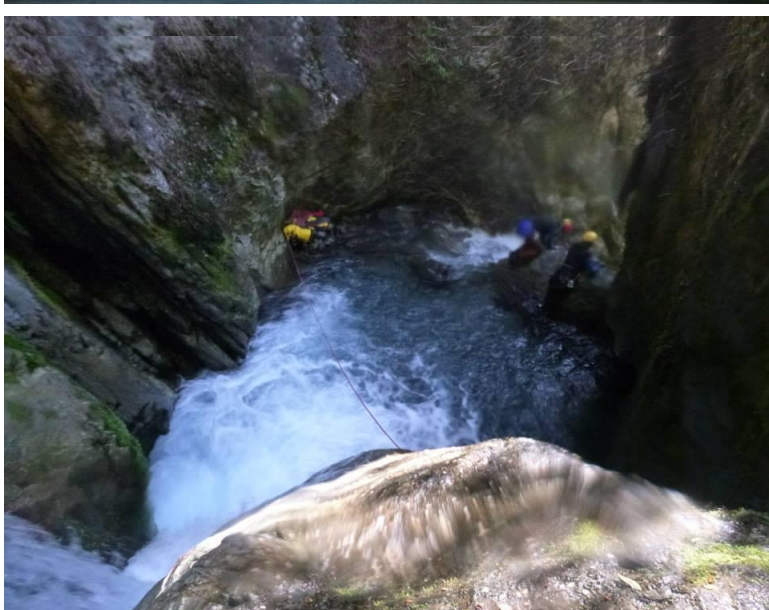
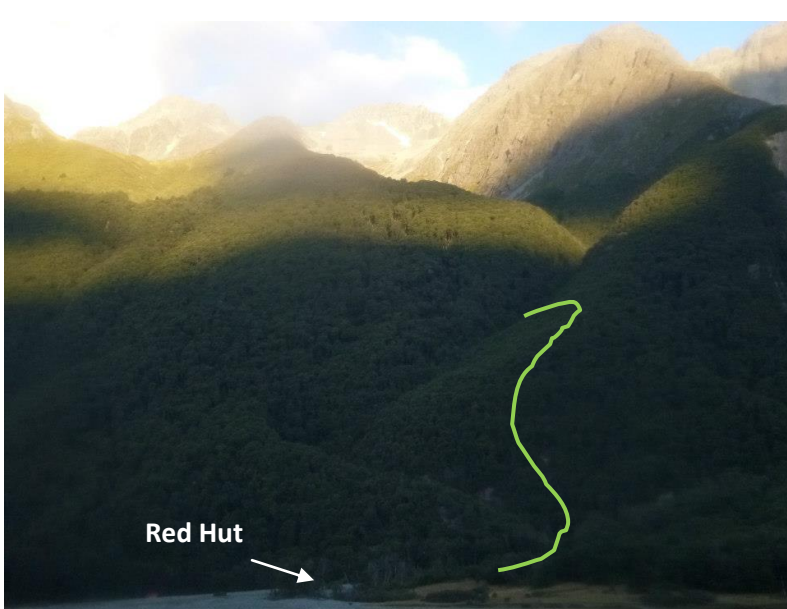
Canyon Descent: 6h30

Jethro Robinson says;

"Some long sections of commitment (3-4hours), mid water volume canyon (similar to Wilson Ck), most abseils committing to the water with vertical up to 40m and a bit techy (similar Phoebe Ck)..

Looking at [\[the map\]](#) we started about the 900m mark at the top of a 40m abseil. There's more canyon above but more open. The best part of 'jolie encasement' [Narrow canyon section] is between 800 and 700m. Lots of abseils in the 10 to 20m range, straight down the flow....no escaping:)"





Red Hut Canyon v4a2III**

Photos by Annette Phillips

