

Location

Tributary of Wakamarina River, near Canvastown, Marlborough.

Character

Varied and scenic waterway with a handful of nice features, separated by plenty of walking.

Map

Topo50 BQ27 Rai Valley



Approach by Car

From Canvastown follow the Wakamarina Road to its end at Butcher's Flat. Park here, or if you have a high clearance 4WD continue along 4WD track to its end just before Doom Creek.

Approach on Foot

From Butcher's Flat (or 4WD parking spot) follow signs to Devil's Creek Hut either via foot or MTB. Ditch MTB at hut. Follow the Stone Huts Track (if you find yourself faced with a steep unstable slip, backtrack and look for the marked detour on the uphill side of the track) until you reach Devils Creek. Put in here.

Rock

Greywacke

Water

Cold. Low to low-medium volume as main tributary comes in.

Catchment

6.8 km2

Anchors

Plenty of tree anchors (with other natural anchors also available). Slings and 10mm stainless steel rings left in-situ March 2019.

Gear

60m rope recommended (the 25m pitch is a best guess)

Route Description

R1 may be jumpable. There are some small contrived/technical jumps and slides at J 1m! R2 is spectacular and atmospheric, a narrow slot abseil. The anchor is quite far out of the watercourse. The 4m S is lots of fun, with a kicker that lands you in the pool. Recommend setting a rope down the logs as you'll want to lap this a few times! The final narrows section is short but beautiful. Immediately downstream of the get out is a fun 4m slide above 'Waka Falls'. Follow short track back up to hut. Trip can be combined with Goldilocks Creek (topo and description to come) for a full day.

Time

Butcher's Flat to start of canyon
OR
Near Doom Creek to start of canyon
Canyon descent
Return to vehicle (Doom Ck)
Total

1hr45min
1hr30min
1h30min
1hr
4hr (approx)

Flash Flood Danger

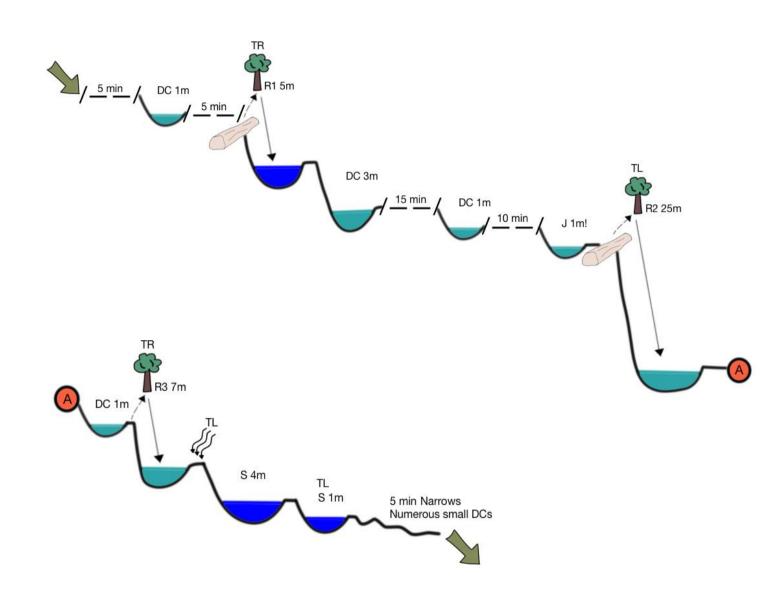
High danger, but easy to escape canyon most places.

Escapes

Numerous options throughout canyon – not drawn on topo.

Notes

First known descent: Dave Ryan, Brad Waldon Gibbons – April 2017



DEVILS CREEK



DEVILS CREEK

Canyon v3a2II 🜣

Topo by Dave Ryan www.kiwicanyons.org Page 3