



# KLONDYKE

## Canyon *v3a3II* ★★

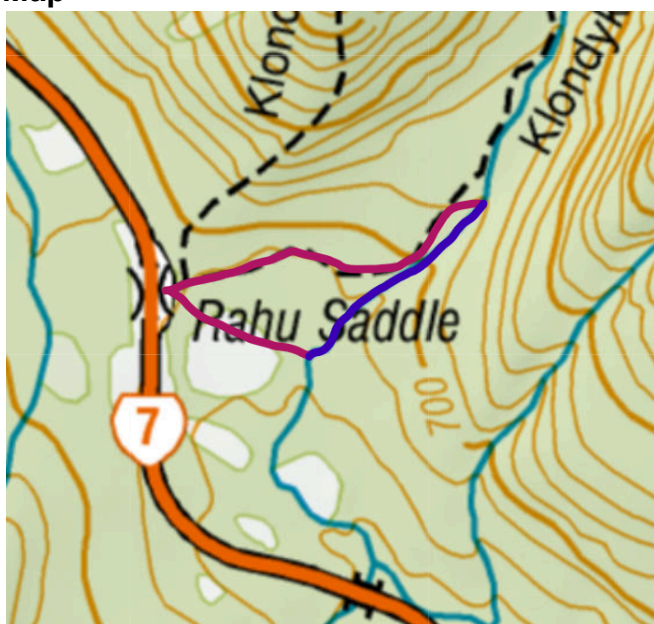
### Location

Victoria Forest Park

### Character

A playful canyon in a shallow mossy gorge, with a couple of fun abseils and lots of small jumps into big pools.

### Map



Approach and return in purple, canyon in dark blue.

### Approach by Car

Park at the top of Rahu Saddle, 10 minutes west of Springs Junction. There is parking directly off SH7, on a small side road marked with a DoC sign for the Klondyke valley tracks.

### Approach on Foot

Follow the Klondyke Valley track for about 20 minutes until you reach ~720 m elevation. Then head to the right until you hit the river. It should be easy to get to the water, if it's steep then continue further uphill. The turnoff to leave the track is after a small, muddy stream, pictured below.

The return after the canyon is not on a track and not easy to know where to go - a GPS is very useful here.

### Rock

Granite

### Water

Low flow. Some big pools & compulsory swims, but straightforward in normal flows.

### Catchment

4.2 km<sup>2</sup>

### Anchors

All main pitches have double bolted anchors. The 4 m jump has a single bolt on the TR to check the pool depth.

### Gear

At least one 40m rope.

### Route Description

As soon as the canyon starts you are treated to a beautiful low angle stream in a gentle granite slot. There are several straightforward abseils, jumps, downclimbs and swims but nothing too sequency or difficult. The slot occasionally relents, with 3 short walking sections which offer opportunities to escape, but the next features are just around the corner.

Try to minimise climbing around the canyon walls since it will damage the moss. Particularly at the DC 2m before R2, it might be tempting to traverse around but the downclimb by the water is easier than it looks and avoids the moss.

The anchor for R1 is easiest to get onto by climbing to a ledge to the TL of it. The pulldown on R2 (the 'Check Twice' pitch) has some friction - be sure the rope isn't twisted or hooked on anything. Although this is an easy canyon, you'll need the judgement for this (or at least the ability to ascend and get it unstuck).

After finishing, endure a short but brutal bushbash back to the car. If your choice of route is good this will only take 20 minutes, but if you get lost it will take longer. It's best to aim for the open boggy area.

### Time

Vehicle park to start of canyon	20min
Canyon descent	1h30min
Return to vehicle	30min
<b>Total</b>	<b>2h20min</b>

### Flash Flood Danger

Low, it shouldn't take long to reach an escape.

## Escapes

Likely escapes noted on the topo diagram.

## Notes

The canyon is covered in beautiful moss and is free of didymo/slime. Please do your bit to keep it pristine for everyone.

First descent: Christian Miller, Amy Burney, Ben Fletcher, Conor Handley. November 2025.



The turnoff from the track is after this stream.



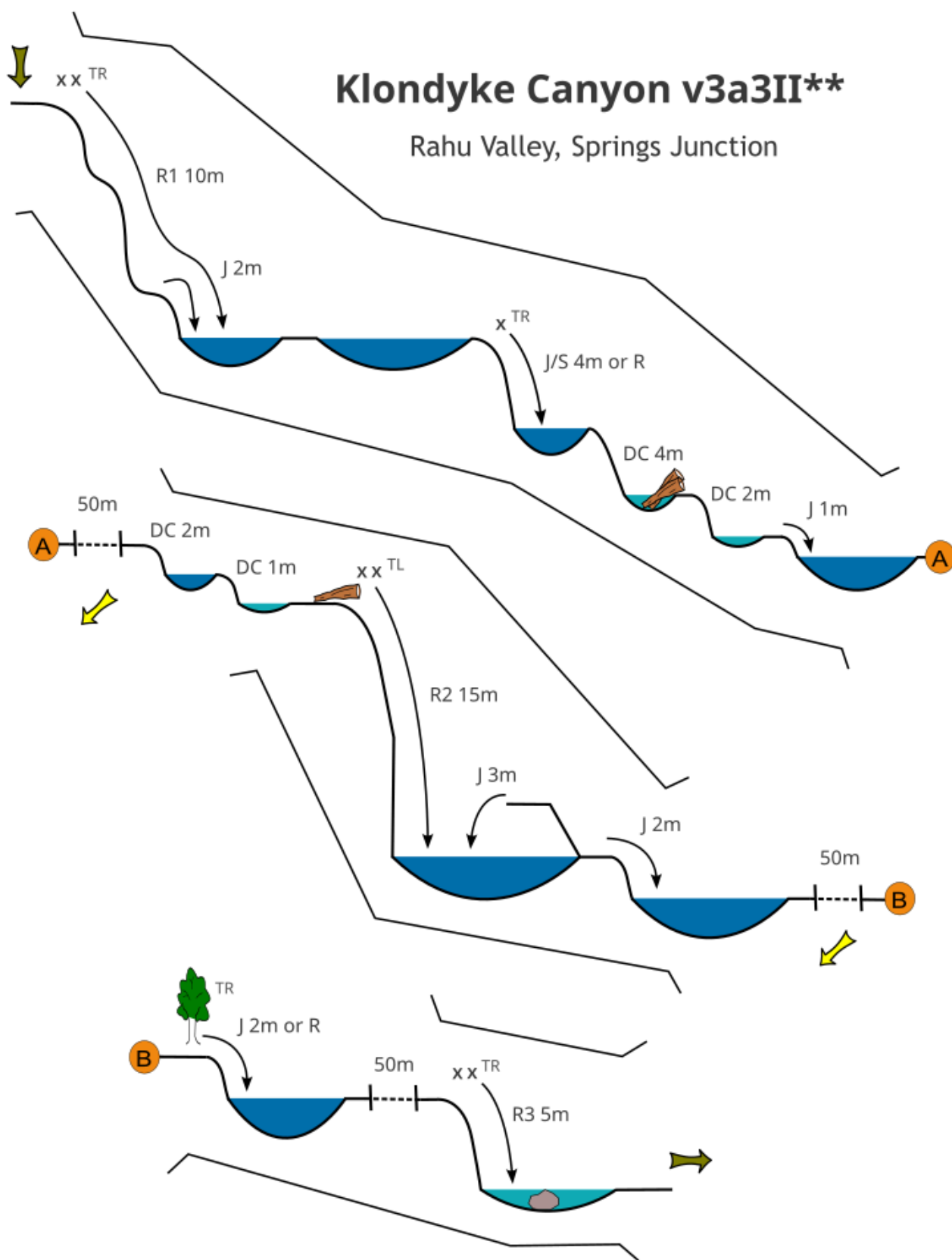
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*Topo by Christian, Ben, Amy  
& Conor*

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# Klondyke Canyon v3a3II\*\*

Rahu Valley, Springs Junction

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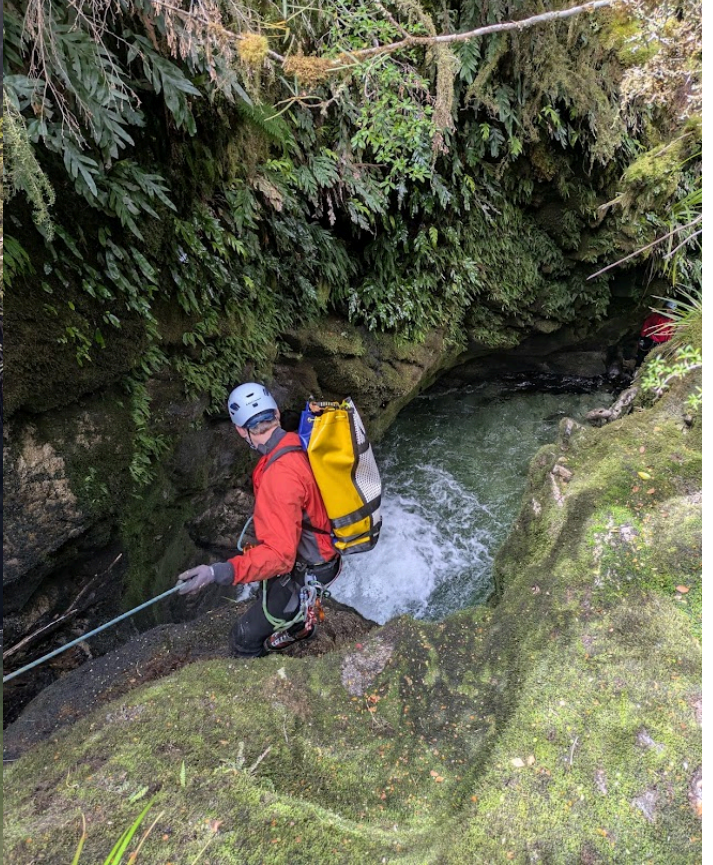
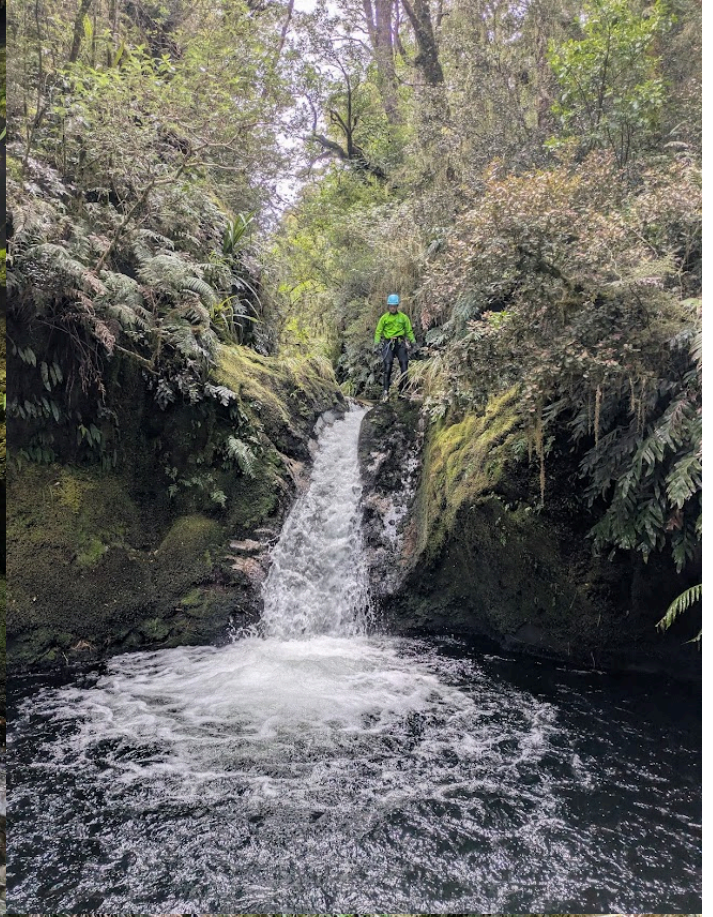
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