

## **Canyon 2**



Photo: Toine Houtenbos

## **Scope and Syllabus**

With the support of:



# NZOIA™ Canyon 2

## Scope

### Canyon 2 Profile

The NZOIA Canyon 2 is able to:

- Lead and manage clients during canyon trips in more difficult terrain e.g. above v3a3II\* at normal flows
- Apply effective safety management
- Instruct the canyon skills required for safe, well managed and positive learning experiences for clients
- Prepare and deliver teaching sessions
- Role model and promote accepted environmental practices
- Provide interpretive information about sites visited

### Scope

The holder of this qualification can organise, instruct and guide all aspects of canyoning, including leading trips in more difficult canyons e.g. above v3a3II\* at normal flows, and supervising canyon programmes.

\*The grading system referred to is the French grading system, and is the standard for grading in New Zealand. This is described in detail on the [Kiwi Canyons Grading Table](http://www.kiwicanyons.org) found at [www.kiwicanyons.org](http://www.kiwicanyons.org).

### Prerequisites

Be a current Full Member of NZOIA

Be 20 years old or over

Hold a current First Aid Certificate (minimum of 12 hours or 2 day course including some direct contact with course tutors)

Hold a current NZOIA Canyon 1 qualification. Refer to NZOIA's policy for exemptions

Have the following experience as evidence in a logbook:

**Total experience** – at least 120 days experience (a canyon day is considered to be at least 4 years) in canyons including:

**Personal experience** – at least 50 days personal experience in canyons including a minimum of 10 days above v3a3III

**Instructional experience** - at least 50 days experience instructing, leading or guiding groups in canyons, including a minimum of 10 days above v3a3II

The prerequisite experience requirements are minimums, extra days are recommended so that a broad range of experience is gained. Experience will include co-instructing/guiding or working as an assistant instructor/guide.

## **Registration and Revalidation**

Registration and revalidation with NZOIA provide proof of currency for NZOIA qualification holders.

# Syllabus

## **Assessment Notes**

The syllabus outlines what the content of the assessment will include and gives an idea of what assessment tasks the candidate will be asked to complete. All judgements on how the candidate meets the syllabus must be based on current good practice and industry standards.

Assessors use three types of direct evidence to judge a candidate's competency:

- Written questions/assignment
- Questioning and discussion
- Observation of practical tasks

## **Technical Competence**

### **1. Demonstrate canyoning history and ethics**

The candidate will have understanding and awareness of:

- 1.1** The origins of canyoning as a sport and current developments and trends
- 1.2** Locations of canyon areas both in New Zealand and globally
- 1.3** Any ethical issues for canyons visited

### **2. Demonstrate the care and correct use of canyon equipment and clothing**

The candidate will:

- 2.1** Use equipment that is in good condition, well maintained and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and current good practice
- 2.2** Describe the advantages and disadvantages of current equipment and clothing used for canyoning and reasons for choice e.g. wetsuits, shoes, helmets, harnesses, buoyancy aids, ropes, descenders, karabiners and other technical gear
- 2.3** Complete a pre-activity check of equipment, describe how to identify worn equipment and when to service or retire e.g. surface wear of ropes, tapes and harnesses, internal damage to ropes, wear and stress to metal of karabiners and descenders
- 2.4** Demonstrate how to pack personal and group equipment for a day trip
- 2.5** List the minimum requirements for a day trip including emergency equipment

### **3. Demonstrate safe and efficient rigging of canyons above a3v3II**

The candidate will:

- 3.1** Demonstrate safe, effective and efficient rigging in a canyon that is unfamiliar to the candidate
- 3.2** Demonstrate rigging using a variety of natural belays, multiple anchor points and is innovative with anchors in tricky situations
- 3.3** Demonstrate placing and using rock protection effectively e.g. wires, stoppers, hexes, bolts, chains
- 3.4** Demonstrate rigging to avoid or mitigate water hazards, specifically using guided abseils and ziplines
- 3.5** Describe how to place bolts effectively

### **4. Demonstrate safe and efficient canyon movement techniques**

The candidate will safely and efficiently negotiate water difficulties found in a4/a5 canyons and:

- 4.1** Recognise and describe hydraulic features and the risks associated with water in canyons
- 4.2** Demonstrate strong swimming skills in class 3 white water
- 4.3** Demonstrate sliding techniques
- 4.4** Demonstrate jumping techniques
- 4.5** Demonstrate safe river crossing techniques and describe the dangers and appropriate use of these techniques
- 4.6** Demonstrate a thorough and balanced assessment system for deciding on the appropriateness of bigger jumps and slides and an awareness of options

### **5. Demonstrate canyon rescue skills**

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 5.1** Being able to deal with emergencies that could occur on canyon trips, specifically rescues using; stretchers, mechanical advantage systems for raises and zipline systems
- 5.2** Mid-rope rescues on the same or separate ropes
- 5.3** Effective water rescues in strong flows and turbulence

## **The Environment**

### **6. Role model and promote accepted environmental practices**

The candidate will:

- 6.1** Demonstrate and/or describe the responsibilities to land owners and other users, including access protocols
- 6.2** Describe the impacts of visitation on a given canyon, including the impacts of rigging, both fixed and placed anchors

- 6.3** Demonstrate an understanding of, and respect for any cultural issues relevant to the canyon areas visited e.g. conservation protocols, areas which are Tapu
- 6.4** Role model and promote the principles of Leave No Trace including carrying out food scraps and whenever possible, human body wastes

## **7. Demonstrate and/or describe cultural and environmental knowledge and interpretation of the canyon environment visited**

The candidate will understand, and provide interpretive information about:

- 7.1** The natural and cultural history of the area
- 7.2** The geography and geology of the canyon environment and different types of canyons
- 7.3** Canyon flora and fauna

## **Group Management and Leadership**

### **8. Lead and manage a group during a canyon trip**

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 8.1** Effective briefing and debriefing
- 8.2** Effective management of a group during a canyon trip and approach including; organising group positioning, a suitable communication system and a system for accounting for everyone
- 8.3** A leadership style that is appropriate for the clients; their skill and experience level and their needs
- 8.4** Establishing rapport with clients and having an awareness of their emotional, cultural or other needs

### **9. Apply effective safety management**

The candidate will:

- 9.1** Demonstrate a constant risk management assessment of the group, including; environmental factors, weather, guides, self and procedural hazard identification
- 9.2** Demonstrate the ability to recognise and adapt at any time to varying situations
- 9.3** Have an extensive knowledge of the New Zealand Search and Rescue system, especially with respect to the local environment they are working in
- 9.4** Have a first aid kit and be able to deal with first aid situations as required
- 9.5** Describe procedures used in prioritising in an emergency including; assessment of the situation, effective call for outside assistance, safe management of a rescue team and group
- 9.6** Never compromise their personal safety or the safety of their clients
- 9.7** Demonstrate safe practices and good judgement and decision making within the scope of this qualification

## **Instruction**

### **10. Instruct the canyon skills required for safe, well managed and positive learning experiences for clients**

The candidate will provide clients with effective instruction in the following skills:

- 10.1** Fitting and checking of harnesses, helmets and buoyancy aids
- 10.2** Canyon movement and spotting
- 10.3** Swimming techniques in moving water
- 10.4** Jumping and sliding techniques for bigger or trickier jumps and slides
- 10.5** The use of belay and abseil devices and methods

The candidate will use:

- 10.6** A logical sequence of teaching progressions
- 10.7** Clear demonstrations and explanations

### **11. Prepare and deliver a teaching session**

The candidate will prepare and deliver teaching sessions on any topics or skills contained in the NZOIA Canyon 1 or 2 Scope and Syllabuses which may include; anchor building, basic rescue skills, abseil techniques, swimming, jumping and sliding skills, ethics and local issues

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 11.1** A range of teaching skills e.g. introduction, appropriate voice, language and body language, teaching/visual aids, demonstrations, use of teachable moments, evaluation of learning
- 11.2** A wide knowledge of the topic
- 11.3** Creating a positive learning environment which encourages enthusiasm, interest and learning