

# CLIMB ARGOLIS

by Jim Titt

Webpace and bolts supplied by



*Strong  
Safe  
Sustainable*

# CLIMB ARGOLIS

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IMPORTANT. Since August 2003 I have not been resident in Greece and the various contact addresses and telephone numbers which were previously published are no longer correct, this also applies to Inge Zaczek. New route information and questions can be sent to me at [jim.@bolt-products.com](mailto:jim.@bolt-products.com)

## FOREWORD.

Welcome to the third edition of Climb Argolis.

When I first started to write the first guide it contained around 40 routes and what started as a few routes for fun has as you will see, grown to a major climbing area with around 300 climbs so far. We thought at the time that Argolis had potential as an alternative „sun-rock“ destination and events since then have proved us right. The variety of venues, superb views, first class routes, quality bolting and massive potential has earned Argolis the reputation as the best climbing area on mainland Greece and the description „the future of climbing in Greece“.

The original print guide is now sold out so I have decided to make the information available as an online print-out.

Recent new activity has been in the Naplion area, unfortunately many of the new routes being above a popular tourist promenade with the obvious dangers to passers by and thus climbing has been banned in this area.

Our explorations of the area have revealed numerous crags with potential for tens of thousands of routes and therefore we had to have a development policy, this was to develop varied venues with a broad spectrum of grades to suit parties of mixed ability, and located to provide climbing whatever the weather or season., this is why some obvious crags have been ignored and some relatively minor ones developed. At the end of the guide is a list of all the worthwhile cliffs waiting to be developed.

The fact that the majority of the routes lie in the 5th,6th, and 7th grades is not a reflection of the potential for harder routes, rather an indication of my lamentable lack of ability.

The contribution to the hundreds of routes by my climbing partner Inge Zaczek has rather been ignored by the climbing press, over the years she has been a willing, determined and able helper. Together we have driven thousands of kilometers, cleaned routes, made paths, drilled, bolted, climbed and manufactured over 2500 bolts. Naturally we also climbed the routes, which, when you consider that she had never climbed before is quite an achievement (Take a trip up The Red Empire, this was bolted from below in a 9 hour marathon, the last 3 in the dark and was her first time on an aid route, complete with rucksack!).

Many thanks for help, encouragement and advice to my brother Scott, Aris Theodoropoulos and Korfes magazine, Hans Weninger and family, Joseph Gstoettenmayr and family, Karsten Oelze, Barbera Hertner and all the visitors who make the effort worthwhile.

Jim Titt

## WHERE?

Argolis is the administrative district covering most of the eastern finger of the Peloponnese, the hand-like area of southern Greece, capital city Argos. Some climbing areas lie outside of this district, so maybe the title of the guide should be amended to, ...."and surroundings".

## HOW?

Check out the cheap flights to Athens, book a hire car and Argolis is around 2 hours drive from the airport.

Alternatively take a ferry from Italy to Patras and drive 3 hrs .Travel to Porto Heli by ferry or bus from Athens is easy, but access to many of the cliffs is impossible without a car.

## WHEN?

Argolis is the only Greek climbing area to offer all year climbing but the months of February and March can be wet and are best avoided. The summer is naturally hot but there is good climbing to be had on the higher lying and shaded cliffs, Didyma being excellent at this time of year.

## WHAT?

Sun, sea and super routes as listed below. The rock is excellent grey limestone.

### ROUTE GRADE (Fr)      NUMBER

3	4
4a,b&c	39
5a,b&c	73
6a,6a+	52
6b,6b+	20
6c,6c+	19
7a,7a+	8
7b,7b+	5
7c,7c+	2
8a,8a+	1
Trad routes	27
Free Projects	6

## WHAT TO BRING.

60m rope, 12 quickdraws, chalk and rock boots in good condition (the rock here is sharp!).

A normal trad rack if you are into this and some cheap, robust leggings as the rock is really sharp! Suncream and a hat.

## WHERE TO STAY.

The best centre is Porto Heli with plenty of holiday apartments, restaurants, bars, and shops. For information search on the net under [greece.hotels.argolis](http://greece.hotels.argolis) where there is plenty of choice including apartments. Alternatively Ermioni has a more Greek feel to it and is also to be recommended.

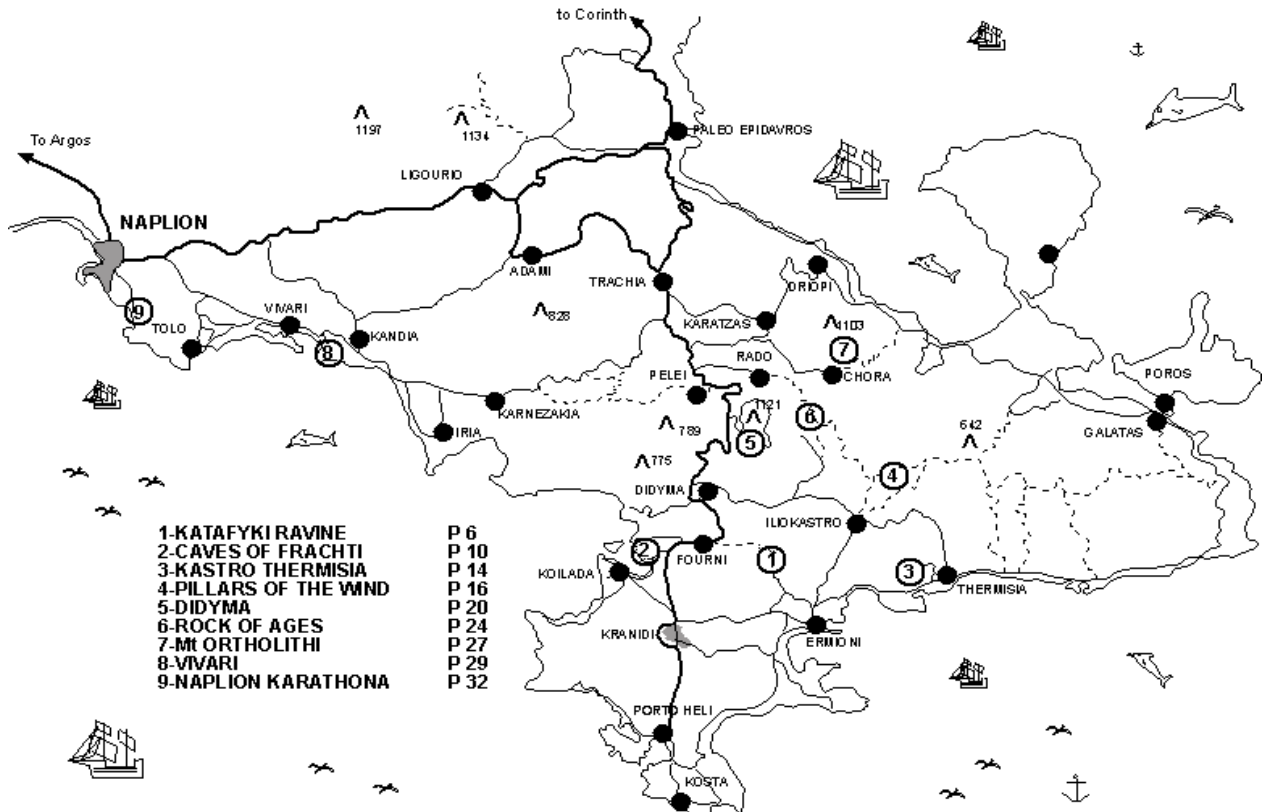
For camping there are sites at Kilada, Kosta, Kastro Thermisia, Vivari and many more in the Nafplion area. Wild camping is naturally illegal but as with many things in Greece the law is simply ignored. There are almost unlimited possibilities to pitch a tent in an idyllic situation. For those without a tent there are good bivouac sites in the caves of Frachtli, in the small chapel on Didyma (with lighting), and in the deserted monastery at Avgou (see the crag descriptions).

As I have not lived in the area since 2003 I cannot help with accommodation questions and suggest you search on the internet.

## GETTING ABOUT.

First you need a map, the one we have used in writing this guide is No 5, Peloponnese, ISBN No 960-8481-15-5 from Road Editions, 65 Ippokratous str.106 80 Athens. tel 01 3640 723. fax 01 3640 539. A map of the area is included in this guide.

You will need a car or a boat to visit the various crags, only Katafyki Ravine and the Naplion areas are reasonably accessible by public transport. If you are into sailing then a good option would be to charter a yacht, as some of the crags are near to, or on, the seaside and have good anchoring possibilities. Information is given in the crag description. Most of the crags are easy to find, and are on tarred roads, using the above map and following the access notes in the guide you will experience no difficulties except for Rock of Ages for which I provide an extra access map.



In this guide references to the main road mean the national road from Corinth to Kosta running through Paleio Epidavros and Porto Heli. The coast road to Naplion from Porto Heli turns off the national road at Neochori via Karnezeika, Kandia and Vivari to Naplion.

## WHAT IS IT CALLED?

An odd section you might think but you may find it useful to know that there is no direct translation of the Greek names, and there are normally about 5 ways to spell a place name, and they are all used! For example Naplion, Naplio, Nafplio, Nauplia or Navplia. When you come to a road sign be prepared to think phonetically and if it's in Greek then you're probably stuffed anyway!

## WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE?

Reputedly the best climate in Europe with over 3000 hrs of sun, hot like hell in the summer but good climbing conditions can be found all year round. Rain is a rarity apart from the months of February and March. Snow can lie on the higher areas in the winter, often the crag on Didyma can be very cold at this time of year so you will have to go to a lower altitude one.

## OUCH!

The only threatening animal life in the Argolis are snakes, scorpions, sea urchins and caterpillars. The snakes are common vipers, they are mainly nocturnal and only come out to sunbathe. If struck by one then go to hospital. Scorpions like cool camp places and hunt at night, they are rarely seen and are not fatal, but if you are stung then go to hospital as without treatment you will feel extremely ill for a few days. Sea urchins have spines which break off in the sole of the foot and normally become infected, get them removed and watch your step in future! Life threatening caterpillars? These are a variety which have a curious habit in the spring of joining up head to tail in a group and going for a walk, they are also responsible for the "spiders webs" in the pine trees. They are hairy and contact with these hairs can cause a strong allergic reaction particularly dangerous to asthmatics, if affected seek treatment and keep curious little children away from them.

## RESCUE AND MEDICAL TREATMENT.

There is no mountain rescue in the area, if you need assistance contact the police who will arrange the fire brigade and army if required.

There is a small hospital at Kranidi for minor treatment and a larger one in Argos for the big jobs. The hospital in Kranidi will refer you if necessary. Treatment is in principle free but you may have to pay for the bandages. Dentistry is private and available in most towns, cheap and surprisingly good. Almost any medicine and drug can be bought at pharmacies, normally without prescription and relatively cheap, the pharmacist can often help with diagnosis as well. If you want a specific medicine then it is helpful to know its generic name as the trade names are often different.

## HUNGER!

A number of good supermarkets in Porto Heli sell almost everything including imported foods due to the large number of expatriates in the area, another one between Porto Heli and Kranidi even sells dried Korean seaweed! There is LIDL on the outskirts of Nafplion (about the first building on the right when you approach the city), bakers and butchers everywhere excellent veg. shop in the centre of Porto Heli. Restaurants everywhere of variable quality and price but note that fish is even more expensive than at home.

## THIRST!

Nothing to do with beer, water is the topic. From around the end of May to the end of September the temperatures are generally in the 30's and you will need to watch your fluids. There are two problems, firstly that failure to drink enough causes changes to the body as (roughly) the kidneys are not flushed out, to avoid this drink enough that your urine is clear at least once a day. The other problem is mineral deficiency which will affect your climbing ability, the main culprit is a lack of magnesium which normally manifests itself as aching muscles, often the lower legs first. The various brands of bottled water contain different levels of magnesium (Mg) so look for the ones with more. Usually the ones from the Loutraki area have the most. You will have to drink around 3 litres per day to cover your needs. Tip:-Good are the cheap, round insulated containers that the building workers use that are available in the hardware stores, buy some ice at a kiosk and carry your water in this.

## GEAR SHOPS.

There are no local gear shops so you will have to go to Athens if you forgot your boots, here are a couple of addresses, it's best to phone first to see if they have what you need (they can speak English). Don't forget that shops in Greece close in the afternoon!

Dimitriadis Action Sports, Dekeleias 23-25. 14343 Athens. Tel 210 2525064

Wild Sports. Hirakleos & Kaliros str 2. N. Kosmos. Tel 2109211990

Alpamayo. Harilou Trikoupi 6-10. Eboriko Kentrum. Atrium. Tel 2103627032

## GRADING.

In common with most sport climbing areas we use the French grades. These we subdivide in the lower grades as the 4th and 5th cover an enormous range.

Trad routes are graded using the UIAA scale.

A0 means you will have to pull on one or more bolts.

A1 means you will need foot loops / etriers.

As is modern practice I have given no "star" rating for routes, this is to protect certain routes from overuse and the resultant polish. Nearly all the routes here are three star anyway and the quality is for you to discover!

There is a grade conversion table at the end of the guide for those not familiar with French grades.

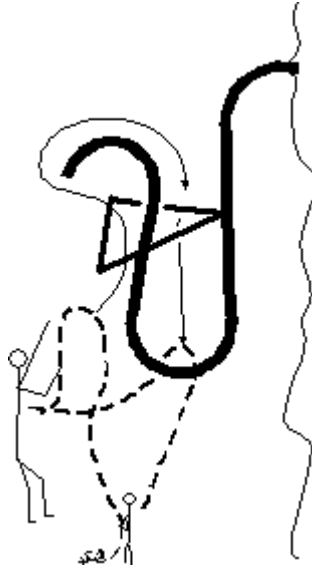
## NEW ROUTES / PROJECTS.

There is plenty of room for new routes (see the end of the guide). Please try to bolt sensibly, offenders will be named and shamed! Bolted projects may be reserved for 2 years, trad lines that have been cleaned for one year. Reserve with me!

Here in the Argolis we don't chip holds but the blunting of dangerously sharp holds is accepted.

## BOLTS.

All routes bolted by me are equipped with glued-in stainless bolts (test over 38kN) or stainless bolt-ins (28 kN). Lower-offs/belays are twin bolted. Trad routes have also twin bolt belays and abseil points. Some routes have as lower-offs 12mm dia stainless „monster hooks“ which are incredibly strong, safe, and mean you don't need to untie and thread through. How to use is shown below.



## BOULDERING.

Not really my thing but there are some huge boulders in the fields below Kastro Thermisia, with good potential also for mini routes, or at the Red Cliff above Vivari (Marathia) where the collapsed cave roof has left an amazing collection of boulders, some with horizontal tufa.

# KATAFYKI RAVINE

Easy access, parking by the cliff, over 100m high, super rock, quality routes, monster holds, slabs, overhangs, roofs, nice place and all year climbing. What more do you want?

A narrow ravine with a good dirt road running up to the water pumping station for Ermioni, (the bridge was built for a mining railway). A pleasant walk up the wooded valley brings you to a lot more rock.

Please note that two sectors on this cliff are reserved for trad routes, that is, apart from belay bolts, these sectors are bolt free. The sectors are a) from the start of the ravine until the corner left of Savage Man and b) the triangular butress opposite the chapel, that is between the routes Come On and Chapel Arete. Protection bolts placed in these sectors will be removed, there is enough room for bolt routes elsewhere. Regrettably Hans Weninger is not prepared to accept the wishes of other climbers and has bolted some routes at the start of the ravine left of The Answer. These routes are not included in this guide and the bolts will be removed at my convenience.

A good area for young children to play in the dry river bed.

The Choice.

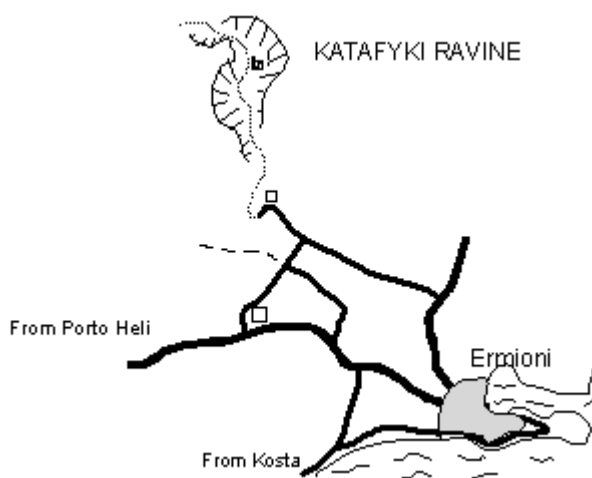
Trad Routes-19. Single Pitch Sport Routes –18. Multi Pitch Sport Routes-4.

Access.

From the main road below Kranidi take the road towards Ermioni. At the end of a long straight which is slowly being widened (obvious) turn left at a new building. Follow the tarred road to a T junction. Turn left here, drive to the end of the tarred section and then for 500m good dirt road to the ravine. OR drive into Ermioni, turn left and take the coast road to Thermisia. At the end of Ermioni take a left turn signposted Katafyki Ravine.

By Boat. Good harbour in Ermioni, the cliff is ca 3,5km walk or get a taxi.

Note. If you are coming from the Didyma area you can save a long drive by taking the small road left just before you come to the village of Fourni, follow this past a church to its end where there is a parking place. From here it is a pleasant 10 min stroll to the main cliff



Parking. Anywhere, don't block the road.

Walk-in. Ca 20 metres!

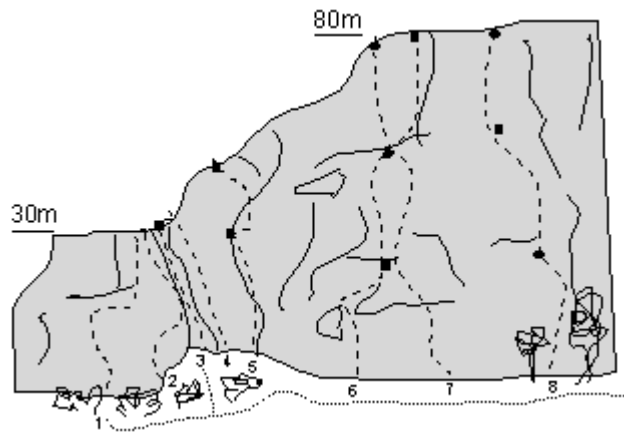
Altitude. 10m above sea level.

Season. All year. The main wall lies in the shade after midday, in the winter if the north wind is blowing it can be cold here and you are better off going to Kastro Thermisia.

Water. A tap at the pumping station by the chapel.

Camping. A reasonable spot under the bridge or better take the approach from Fourni where there are nicer sites.

## KATAFYKI MAIN WALL EAST



(Names are painted at the start of the climbs)

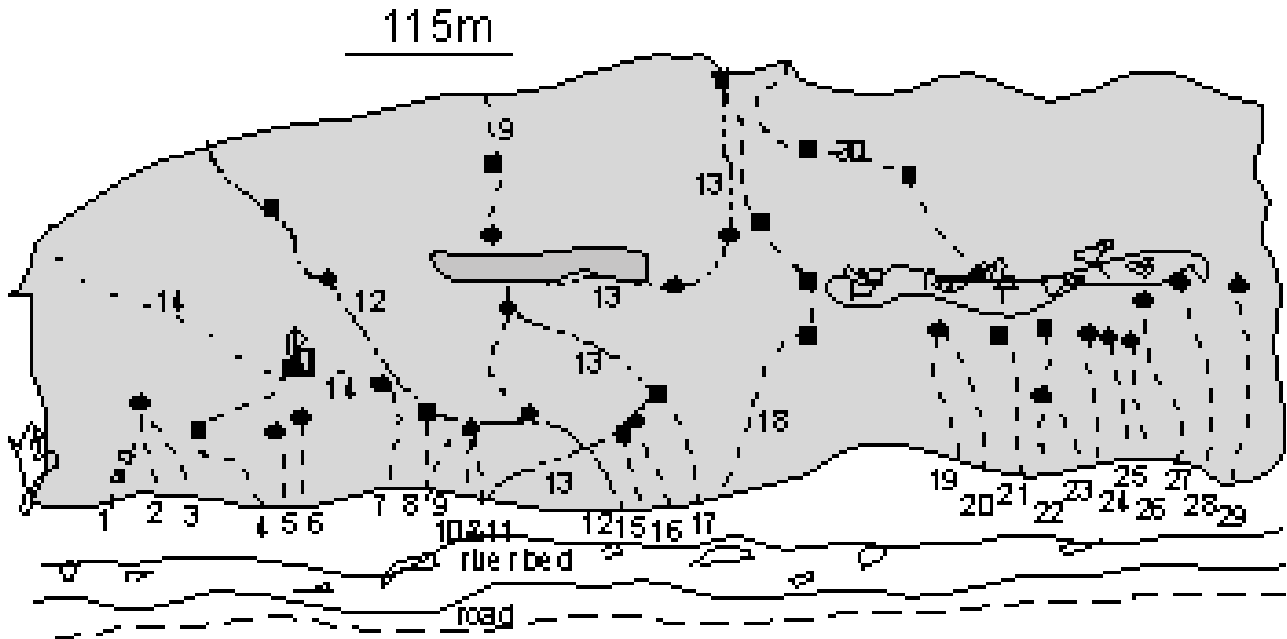
Route Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
1. Powerline 1 pitch 30m	Trad. VI Belay	S. Titt & J. Titt	
2. The Pillar of Pain 1pitch 30m	Trad V Belay		J. Titt& I. Zaczek
3. The Chimney 1 pitch 25m	Trad III Belay		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Right Side Up 1 pitch 25m	Trad IV Belay		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. The Groove 2 pitches 30m.30m.	Trad IV+ Belays		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Mr Clean 3 pitches ca 30m	Trad V+ Belays		J. Titt & I.Zaczek
7. Mrs Clean 3 pitches ca 30m	Trad VI Belays		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. The Answer 3 pitches ca 30m	Trad V Belays		J. Titt (solo)

**Descent:**

For the first 3 routes abseil off the belay. For route 4 abseil the route or scramble off left (facing cliff). For the other routes an abseil piste is arranged using Monster Hooks down the line of The Answer or scramble down left.



# KATAFYKI MAIN WALL



The Question		5b		J.Gstoettenmayr
Maria's Traum		5c		J.Gstoettenmayr
Sabbatical		6b		J.Gstoettenmayr
Savage Girl		6c+		J.Gstoettenmayr
1. Savage Man		6c	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Sidestep		6c	8	S. Gstoettenmayr
3. Force War		6a+	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Heroes	P.1 .30m P.2.30m	6a & 6a	9&9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Villians		5b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. At The Edge 2 Pitches		6b+ & 5c	?	J. Gstoettenmayr
7. Saints		4c	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. Fighting Jim		6b	?	J. Gstoettenmayr & J. Titt
9. The Red Empire 5 pitches 125m.		7c+	52	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
	P.1 35m	6a+	10	
	P.2 25m	6c+	14	
	P.3 20m	7c+(or A1)	15	
	P.4 20m	5b	7	
	P.5 20m	5b	6	

First free ascent of the roof on P. 3 by Karsten Oelze

10. Prayer		5a	10	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Sinners		5a	10	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. Sue's Party 4 pitches 110m		IV (Trad)		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
	P.1 25m			
	P.2 25m			
	P.3 25m			
	P.4 35m			

13. Zorro	6 pitches 150m	6b(5c+ obl)	J. Titt & J.Gstoettenmayr
	P.1 35m	5b+	
	P.2 30m	6b (5cAo)	(no bolt count but 12 will do)
	P.3 20m	5c	
	P.4 20m	5c+	
	P.5 25m	5a	
	P.6 15m	4b	

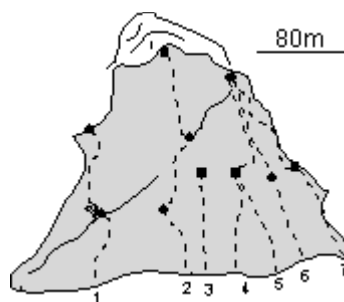
The top two pitches only have a few protection bolts as they are relatively easy, a couple of slings and a few larger nuts may be desirable. Belays in place.

14. Red Rooster	5 pitches 123m	V (Trad)	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
15. Golden Brown		6a	8?
16. Handbiter		6a+	8?
17. Hole In The Wall		6a	8?
Rolling Stone		6a	7
Sticky Fingers		6a	7
Ruby Tuesday		5c+	7
18. Sunday Outing	5 pitches 125m	Trad V- Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
19. Gstotti Was Here		6a	?
20. Loch Im Bauch		6a+	?
21. Holiday		6b	?
22. Tamara		4b/c	?
23. Verena		4b	?
24. Kryptikos		6c	?
25. Via SCKC		6a	?
26. Mythos		5b	?
27. Amstel		5c	?
28. Nine Dragons		5b	?
29. Come On		5c+	?
30. The Dragons Tail		Trad V Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

#### DESCENT

From Main Wall East and Main Wall the route The Answer is arranged as an abseil piste using Monster Hooks so no more threading the rope! Or walk off to the east.

## KATAFYKI CHAPEL BUTTRESS



Opposite the small chapel, approach towards the right hand side.

1. After Paradise	2 pitches	Trad VI+	Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Freestyler	3 pitches of 25m	Trad V	Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Yellow Corner		Trad VII	Belay	J. Titt
5. Babylon	2 pitches	Trad V-	Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Chapel Wall	2 pitches	Trad VI	Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. Chapel Arete	2 pitches 24m & 35m	Trad IV+	Belays	J. Titt & S. Titt

#### Descent.

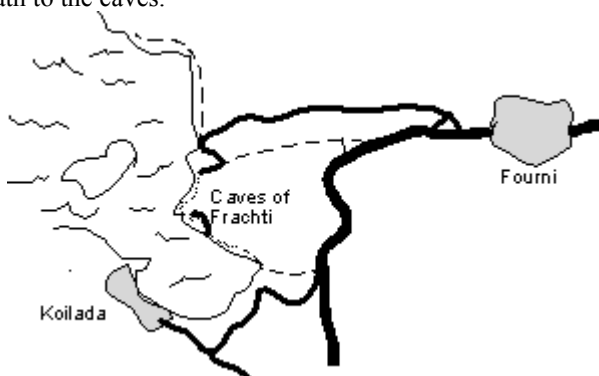
From Chapel Buttress abseil down Freestyler (3x25m). The walk-off is hideous.

## CAVES OF FRACHTI

An enormous series of caverns just above the sea, with large openings allowing enough light to climb by. At night the area is illuminated giving a superb climbing experience. Apart from being worth a visit in their own right some of the climbing here is outstanding and naturally, when it is raining, this is the place to be with some entertaining and bizarre climbing in the 20m deep crevasses under the floor. The potential for enormous roof climbs is obvious but hardly tapped. Karsten Oelze has shown the way with his recent efforts, but there is plenty more to do. Outside the cave on the cliffs above the beach are 8 routes which we have cleaned and partly drilled but not yet bolted. With a few nuts or a top rope they give some good sport in the lower grades. The highpoint of a visit here are the routes in sector Last Exit, grade 6 climbing at its best,

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes-13. Top Rope Routes- 15. Free Projects-5.

Access. Coming from Porto Heli on the main Corinth road take a left turn at the first petrol station in the village of Fourni, go along this for 3,6km to the sea. Left, then right, takes you around the chapel to another beach. Park here, and walk along the marked coast-path to the caves.



By boat: Good safe anchorage directly outside the caves or elsewhere in the bay of Koilada, where there is also a harbour. Good fun for children but beware of the holes!

Walk-in. ca 7min

Altitude. 30m above sea level.

Season. All year round, though often a bit hot in the summer.

Water. None locally, at the petrol station in Fourni.

Camping. At the beach by the small chapel as you come to the beach, or in the caves themselves.

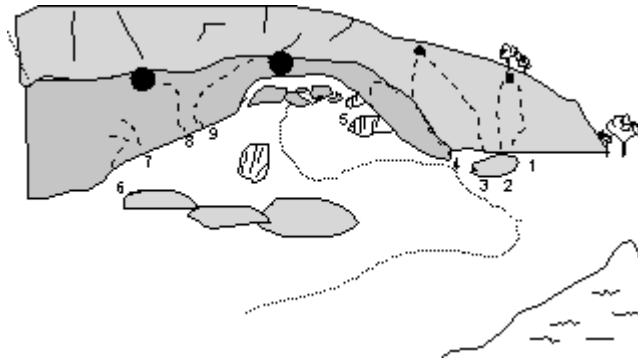
### Sector Beach (no topo)

Straight up behind the beach on the left side on the obvious climbable piece of rock are some pleasant shorter routes.

Some of these routes have now been bolted

Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
8 routes	3-5	Toprope	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

## First Cavern



### Sector Beginners (right hand side of the entrance)

1. This Is For Kids	6c	5	Barbera Hertner
2. Play With Us	7b	5	Karsten Oelze
3. Game Boy	7c	6?	Karsten Oelze
4. Boys Don't Cry (free project)	8a?	?	(Karsten Oelze)

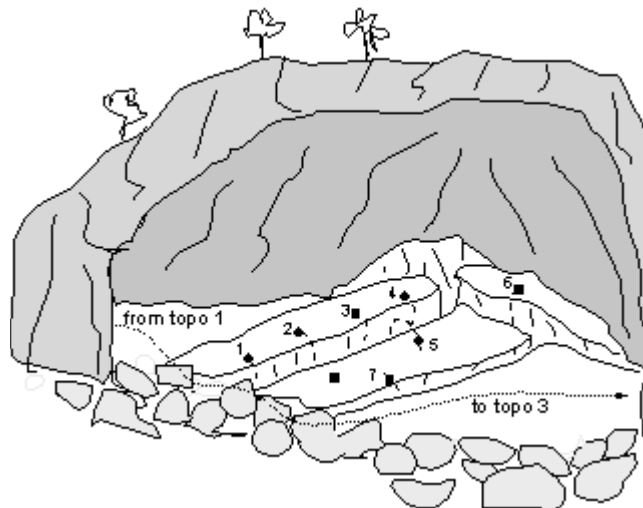
### 1st Cave, R.H. side

5. Stone Express (free project)	?	10?	(J. Titt)
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### 1st Cave, L.H. side

6. Rage Against Gravity (free project)	?	3	(J. Titt)
7. Cathedral of Power (free project)	?	3	(J. Titt)
8. Wild Monkeys	7b+/7c	?	Karsten Oelze
9. Caveman (free project)	8a/b?	14?	(Karsten Oelze)

## Second Cavern



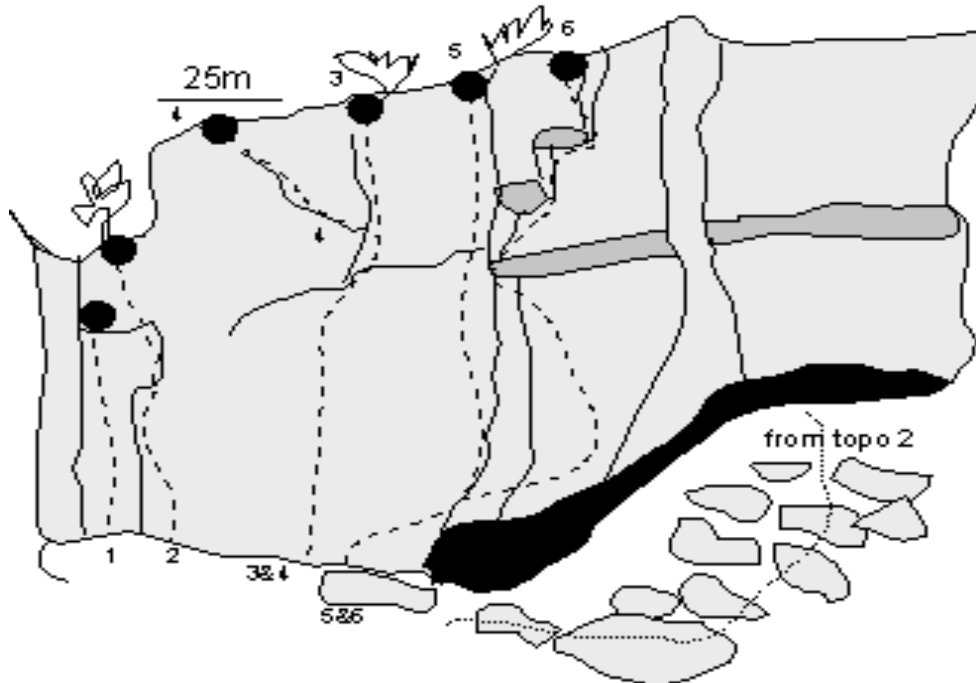
These routes are in the floor of the cave and the anchors are set up for top-roping. Can be a bit dusty but something for a wet day and bizarre! Most are ca. 20m.

### 2nd Cave.

1. Imagination	6a	Toprope	S. Titt
2. Rice Krispies	5c	Toprope	T. Dunsby
3. Thunder And Lightning	5c	Toprope	J. Titt & I. Zaczek (The grade for this is for omitting the first 3m or so from the bottom, this is about 6b depending on dampness).
4. Barbarians	6a	Toprope	J. Titt
5. Throwaway	6a+	Toprope	T. Dunsby
6. Fat Boy Slim	4b	Toprope	J. Titt
7. Back And Foot	4b	Toprope	J. Titt

# Third Cavern

Some tremendous climbing in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade with Mission Impossible possibly being on the upper limit of the 6's. The floodlighting at the top provides enough light to climb at night and this is a fantastic experience.



1. Red Road	5b	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek (reportedly not as loose as it was!)
2. Stone Temple Pilots	7a+	9	Aris Thoedoropoulos
3. Christmas Day At The Workhouse	6a	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Magic Way finish	6a+	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Wild Frontier	6b	13	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Mission Impossible	6c	16	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

For this route start tied to both ends of the (60m) rope, use one strand in the first 4 bolts, on reaching the start of the slab untie from this, and climb the rest using the other strand. This is to reduce the rope drag, recovering the quickdraws is no problem.

Opposite Mission Impossible are two routes, the right hand one being:-

7. Once We Were Trees	6c+	8	J. Titt
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A fine test piece, the lower section of this being an exercise in climbing friable rock, the finger and hand jams in soft rubble being particularly interesting, the route then traverses right to climb the horribly hard overhanging crack.

The left hand route starts up the obvious crack and continues up the slab above slightly leftwards.

8. Gandalf (with 6 aid points)	4b	9?	S. Titt
(free)	6b		J. Titt

# KASTRO THERMISIA

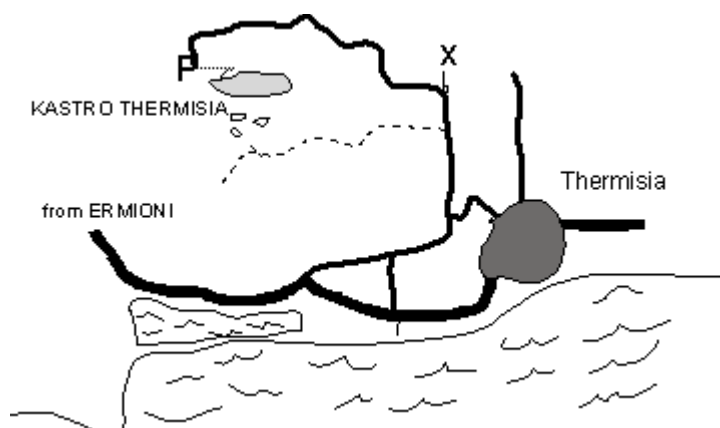
An imposing cliff overlooking the coast and the village of Thermisia. Close inspection reveals an even more daunting prospect than a first view would suggest. Big, red, bulging and holdless seems to sum it up. If you can overcome the initial roofs then there are plenty of routes to be done here in the upper grades. Fortunately there are easier possibilities on the upper tier and there you will find the described routes.

This is actually a great place to visit with a super view over the coast, a ruined castle to explore and a real classic climb, New Order which takes you up an unfeasibly overhanging wall at only 6a. The cliff is floodlit during the summer months and this would give a superb photo opportunity!

Note:- The grades in the old guide were somewhat stiff, and hopefully are now more realistic, but the routes are often hard to start!

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes to 28m-8. Toprope-15

Access. Drive from Ermioni along the coast road towards the village of Thermisia. As you approach the village turn left just before some signs to Hydras Wave Camping. Follow the tarred road to the end.



Parking At the end of the road is a car park.

Walk-in. Take the path marked with faint yellow arrows up to the gap in the castle walls allowing access to the coastward side of the cliff. The path leads from the car park along the base of the cliff on the non-seaward side and then zigzags up to the obvious gap. Through this to gain the seawards side. The routes are here, 5 min.

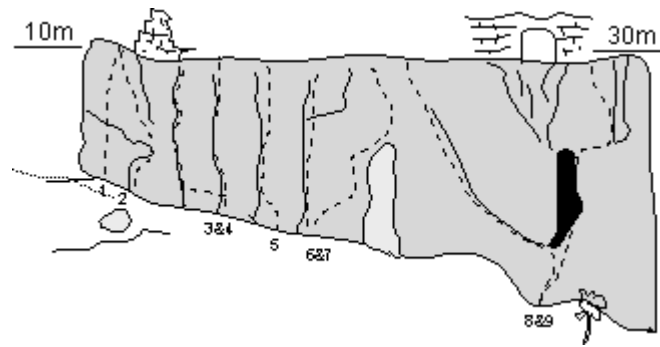
Altitude. 400m above sea level.

Season. Not suitable in the summer as south facing; otherwise all year.

Water. None.

Camping. At the car park or at Hydras Wave on the coast.

# KASTRO THERMISIA VENETIAN WALL

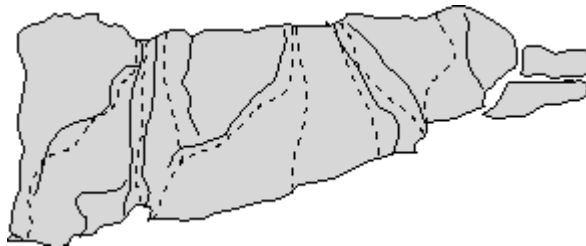


(Route names are written at the start of the climbs.)

Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
1. Venetian Wall	5b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Shadow Corner	5c	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. The Leading Edge	6b+	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
(Direct start )	6c+		Karsten Oelze
4. In The Red Corner	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. The Cutting Edge	7a	8	Karsten Oelze
6. Bombastic	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. Pinnacle Crack	6a	6?	J. Titt
8. Scythe (drilled project, not yet bolted)			(J. Titt)
9. New Order	6a	10?	J. Titt
10. Captain Fantastics Insane Outing. (project, still to be bolted)			

## Play Wall

This is the short wall facing Venetian Wall. The routes here have been cleaned and drilled but not yet bolted but give some good top-rope fun. There are also some lines on the other side which are a bit steeper and harder.



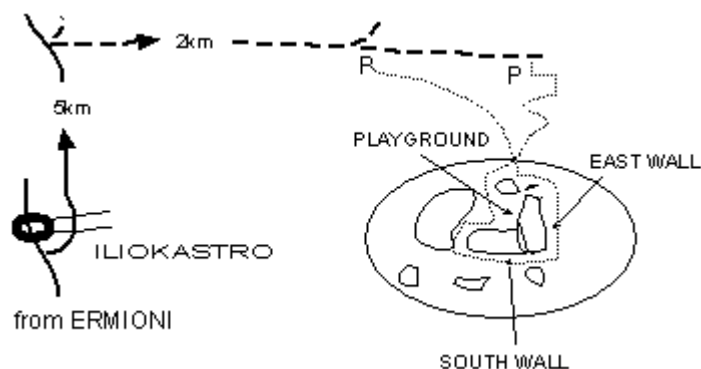
# PILLARS OF THE WIND

This is a limestone inclusion in an area of volcanic activity and is like a miniature mountain peak with lots of shattered pinnacles. From above it doesn't seem to offer much but the good climbing is on the east and south sides. Some of the rock at the top can be loose but otherwise is excellent. Try to take care if you stray off route. A crag with a friendlier ambience than most, and wonderful views, a deservedly popular venue for family groups as it is very child-friendly with a special top-rope area for the kids.

The Choice. Top Rope Routes-24. Single Pitch Bolt Routes to 30m-31. Trad-1. Project-1.

Access. From the coast road Ermioni-Thermisia about 2 km after Ermioni ( this is just past the turning to Katafyki Ravine) take the left fork to Iliokastro. At Iliokastro take the first right (signed to Thermisia in Greek). At the next junction go straight on then follow the tarred road for 5km to a saddle (the tar stops 100m further) where you turn right up a rough dirt road, which after 2km, brings you to a parking place above the cliff.

By Boat. NO!



Walk-in. Follow a small path through the bushes to the cliff, 5mins.

Altitude. 650m above sea level.

Season. Good spring, summer and autumn crag but can be cold in the winter. Always a shaded side available.

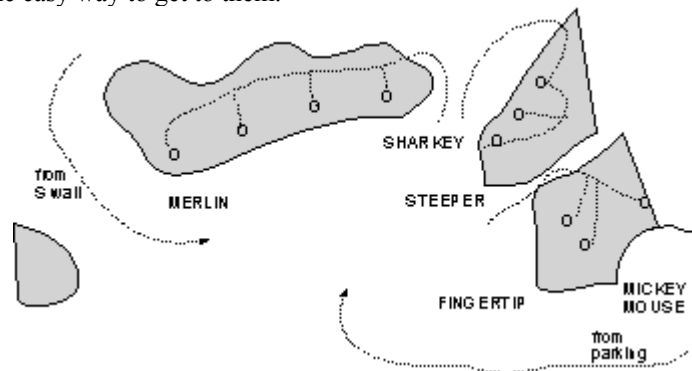
Water. None locally but see the route to Rock Of Ages for a good nearby spring.

Camping. Anywhere! It can be incredibly windy at the car parking but down at the cliff it is sheltered.



# THE PLAYGROUND

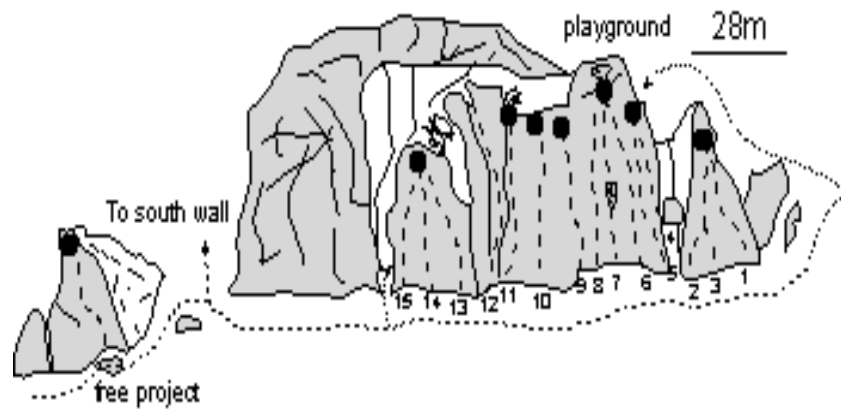
This is a very pleasant picnick spot with some shade from the sun and loads of short (up to 10m) routes primarily intended for kids. They are provided with bolt belays and chains to reduce chafe where needed, these are shown on the sketch below along with the easy way to get to them.



(Route names written at the start of the routes)

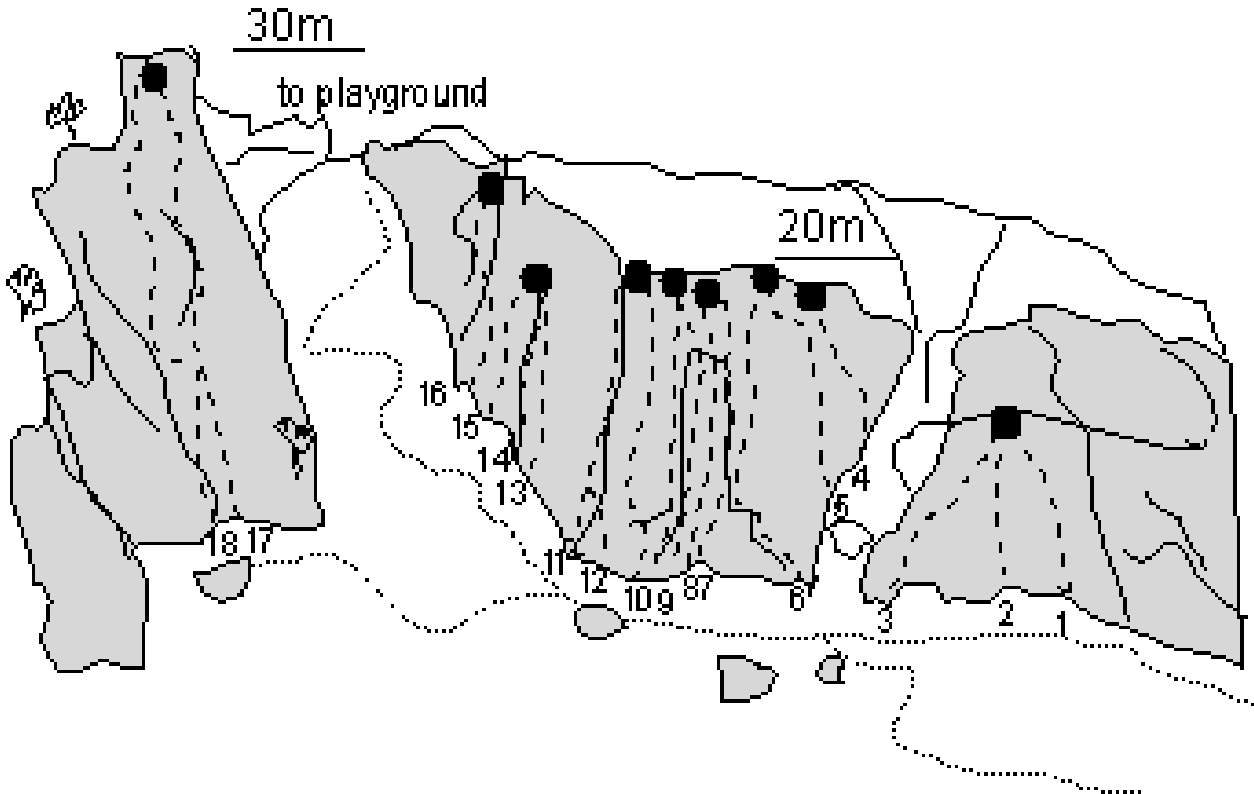
Name	Grade	
Merlin	5b	
Asterix	4c	
Tombstone	4b	
Menhir	6c	
Obelix	6a	
Wizard	5c	
Flakey	5b	All 1st ascents by J. Titt & I. Zaczek. Some of the lower grades may not be very accurate as I soloed these and am a bit taller than the average child!
Sharkey	5a+	
Minnie	4b	
Goofy	4a	
The Slab	5c	
Snoopy	3	
Crackerjack	4b	
Sesame St	5b	
Steep	6a	
Steeper	5c+	
Speedy	3	
Donald Duck	3	
Kiddies Korner	4a	
Fingernail	6a	
Fingertip	6a+	
Pullover	5c+	
Holly Tree Corner	5b	
Mickey Mouse	5c	

EAST FACE



1. Independence Day		5b	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. The Fabulous Thunderbirds	5c	8		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. (Direct Start)	6b	9		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Another Day	5b+	9		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Left Overs	4b	9		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Drilled project, <b>do not climb this as a very large loose block will kill you!</b>				
7. Do It On Sunday	6b	11		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. Zoom	6b	12		J. Titt & S. Titt
9. Joyride	6a	6		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. Wait I Must Piss		5b+	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Wednesday Afternoon	5a	6		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. Swanage Days	Trad V			J. Titt & I. Zaczek
13. Singleton	5b	5		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
14. Guy Fawkes	5c	6		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
15. Fire Starter	5b	6		J. Titt & I. Zaczek

# SOUTH WALL



1. Waltzing Matilda	6b	5?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Dancing With Snakes	5b	5?	S. Titt
3. Toto	4c	5?	T. Dunsby
4. Deviant	6a+	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Supercrack	5c+	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Warm Up	5b	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. Einfach	4a	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. Cold Hand	5b	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
9. The Wall	6a+	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. Fingerpull	6a	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Sunshine Arete	4c	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. (direct start)	5c		J. Titt & I. Zaczek
13. Wildwechsel	4c	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
14. Kindermund	3	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
15. Kliener Bär	4b	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
16. Grosser Bär	5b	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
17. Holzfaller Suppe	6a+	11	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
18. Pete's Route	5c	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
(The name Hühner Suppe is wrongly written under this route)			
Left of this is			
Staffelauf	6a		H. Weninger

Below and opposite the South Wall area is a shattered cliff and on the other side of this (down to the left) is an overhanging wall with;

Riders On The Storm (Free Project)      7c/8a?      (Karsten Oelze)

# DIDYMA

This is one of the top sports cliff in Greece. Excellent access, superb rock, magnificent views, great routes and a perfect climate for climbing on the hot summer afternoons make this the most popular cliff by far. The cliff lies at the summit of the mountain of the same name and owing to its altitude (1100m) is around 10°C cooler than on the coast, and in the summer months is shaded after midday. Added to the cooling sea breeze this means that it is always agreeably cool, so much so that I have seen Greek climbers in jackets when on the coast it has been over 40°C!

The rock here is not as sharp as many areas allowing one to push the technical side, which is fortunate as the climbing is on steep or lightly overhanging walls and requires good technique, no tufa hauling here.

The cliff is divided into 2 sectors, Winter and Summer with sector Winter being less shaded, which is why there are no routes as yet on it! It is however higher and offers potential for harder routes than on Summer. (We have started drilling some lines in the centre of the cliff, on the obvious buttress, and these will be finished sometime. There are working bolts along the top of the cliff.

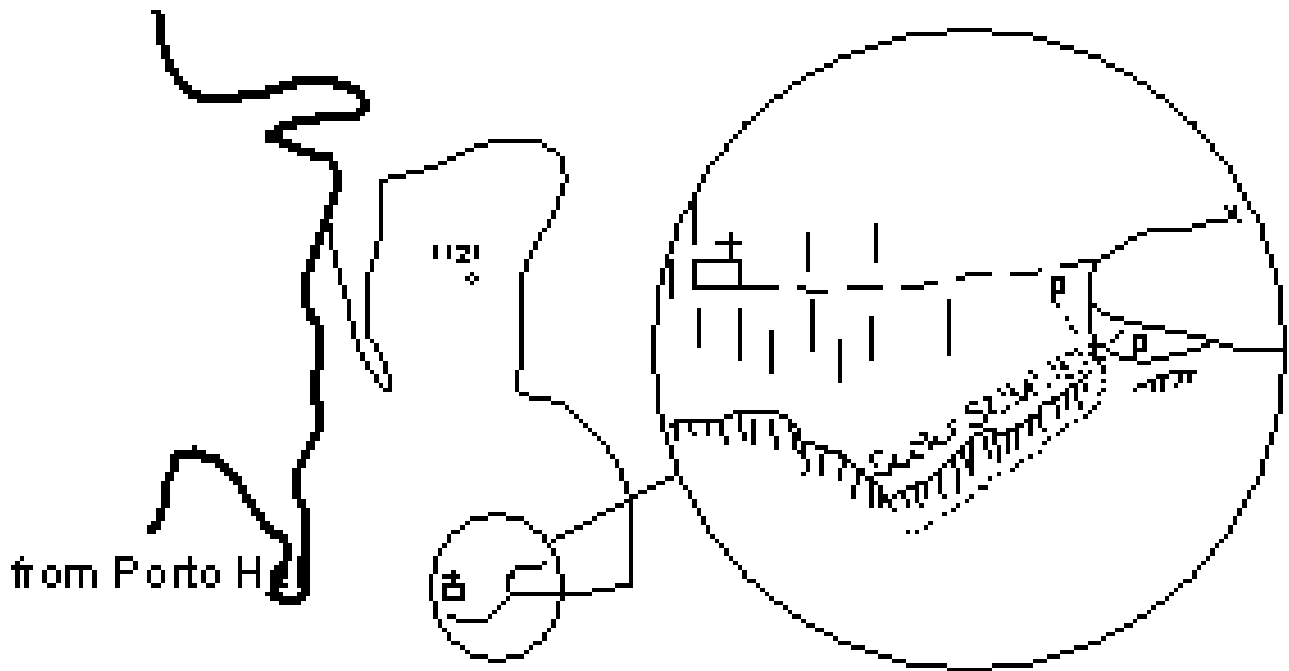
)

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes up to 30m. 65. Projects.2

Access. At the summit of the pass over Didyma take the narrow tarred road to the summit. (Didyma is the mountain with a super collection of telecoms masts on its summit.)

By Boat. Don't make me laugh!

to Corinth



Parking. At the last sharp right hand bend, before the masts. The cliff lies below you.

Walk-in. Marked path. 1 min.

Altitude. 1100m

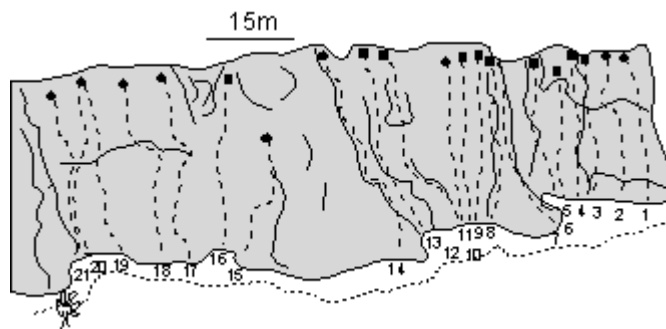
Season. Spring, Summer and Autumn. Can be snow covered in winter but on a sunny day is O.K.

Water. None at the cliff. Good water at the petrol station on the way from Didymon village. Spring as you descend the other side of the pass on the main road, on the left.

Camping. Level areas near the antennae. You can bivouac in the back room of the small chapel which also has a power socket and lighting.

The route numbers and topo's start nearest the parking.

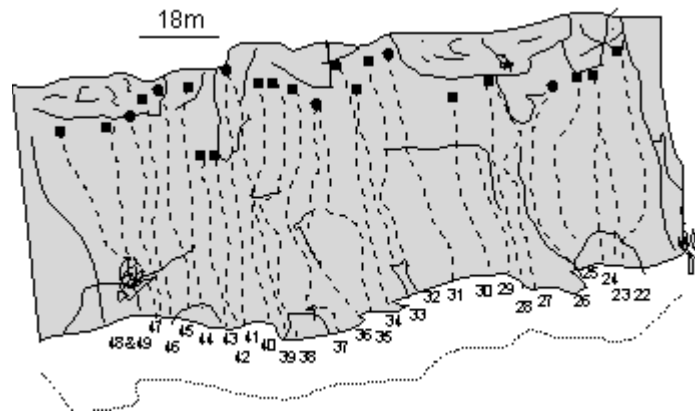
Topo 1



(Route names are written on the rock at the start of the route.)

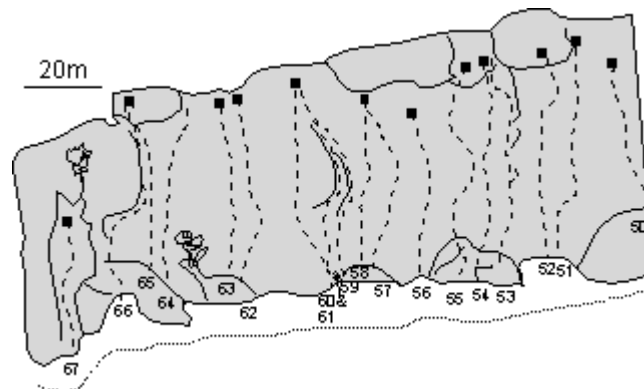
Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
1. Little Crack	6a+	4	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Hole	6b	4	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. Jump	6a	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Little Chimney	4b	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Little Wall	6a	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Huggy Bear	5c	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. First Arete	4b	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. First Corner	4c	10.....	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
9. Here Comes The Weekend	4c	9....These routes are	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. A Good Crack	5a	8....extra bolted for	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Direct	5a	7....kids/beginners.	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. A Funny Turn	5a	7 .....	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
13. Teen Dream	5b	7 .....	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
14. Ginger	4a	10 .....	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
15. Bad Beer	5b	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
16. Drilling In The Rain	5b	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
17. Trouble	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
18. Fear Of Goats	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
19. Teamwork	6 a+	9	J. Titt & J. Gstoettenmayr
20. J & J	6a+	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
21. Powerline	6a	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

## Topo 2



22. Inge's Fingers	5b+	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
23. Cave	6b	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
24. Wave	7c	8	Karsten Oelze
25. Funhouse	7a	7	James Mittins
26. Funtime	5a	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
27. Prankster	6b	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
28. FREE PROJECT	ca 8a	8	bolted by J. Titt & I. Zaczek
29. Great White Way	6a	5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
30. Massive Attack	6c+	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
31. Ektonisi	7b+	8	Thomas Michalaedes
32. Black Diamond	7c	9	Karsten Oelze
33. Free Project			
34. Crystal Voyager	7a+	8?	Karsten Oelze
35. The Hots	6c+	8?	S. Titt
36. Lightning	5c+	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
37. Thunder Wall	5c	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
38. Cool Move	6a	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
39. Nice Surprise	5c	6	Hans Weninger
40. Smile	5a	10	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
41. Thursdays Child	4c	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
42. Little Lizard	6b	5	Martin Falk
43. Sweet Sixty	6b	8	Hans Weninger
44. Children Of Mycenae	6c	8?	Ruth Dawson
45. Perfect Acoustics	7b+	8?	Carl Dawson
46. James Jaunt	6b	7	James Mittins
47. Wonderhold	5c	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
48. Girls Do It Differently	5b	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
49. Slant Eyes	5a	6	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

# Topo 3



50. Buckshot (free project, to the penultimate bolt is ca 8a)			bolted by J. Titt
51. Summer Madness	6c+	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
52. Spring Thing	7a	10?	Karsten Oelze
53. Burn	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
54. Jills Route	5c	10	Jill Giles
55. Sam's Route	5b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
56. Diversion	6a+	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
57. Sidewalk	6b+	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
58. Black Attack	6c+	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
59. Big Girls	6a	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
60. Elevation	5b	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
61. Sun Parade	6a	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
62. Tuesday Afternoon	5c+	8	J. Titt.
63. Scorpion	5c	8	J. Titt
Quicky	6a		H. Weninger
64. Fallen Angel	6b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
65. Pain Is Love	6b+	10	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
66. England	6a	10	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
67. Popeye	6c	6	J. Titt

# ROCK OF AGES

A nice little cliff in a pleasant setting this is a small ravine with, by our standards, lush vegetation, trees and some good, if rather different, climbing.

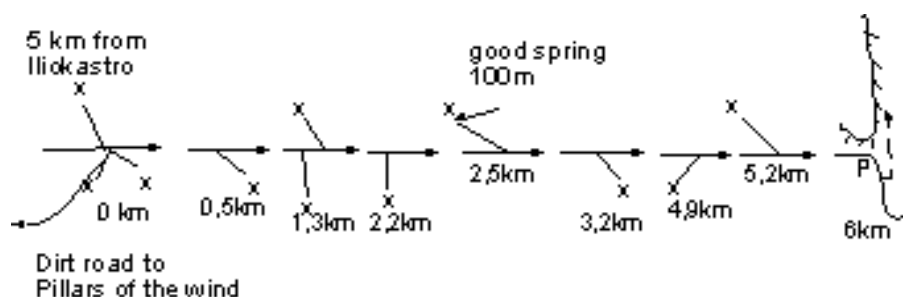
One of the few cliffs in the Argolis that offers easy tufa climbs with the continuously overhanging Mr Cool at 5c being one the highlights, albeit a rather strenuous one! Other highly enjoyable if rather unusual routes include Dance With Monsters and the weird Pull Of The Sun which climbs up inside the cleft splitting the cliff, a real expedition.

The first sector, The Seven Dwarves has seven mini routes which are normally shaded, sector Fairy Tale has some medium length routes which tend to require more arm strength than is usual in Argolis. The main wall offers routes up to 30m with room for another 4 or 5. In the surrounding valleys are plenty of cliffs offering the chance to put up about a thousand new 4's & 5's. An excellent cliff for children to play at the base in the shade of the trees, but only a few routes for them to toprope

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes up to 30m long. -27

Access. Follow the route as for Pillars Of The Wind, but when you arrive at the turn off the tarred road 5km from Iliokastro ignore this, set your odometer to 0 and follow the road book below through the maze of dirt roads.

By Boat. No.



Parking. At the right hand bend at the bottom of the ravine, or a bit further on at the next left.

Walk-in. Ca 3 min following the water pipe and path.

Altitude. 500m above sea level.

Season. All year but in the winter there can be a cold wind here. In summer there is always some shade but the main wall is in the sun after about 12 o'clock.

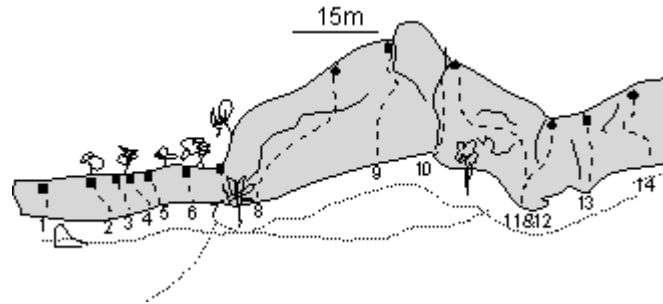
Water. There is a spring higher up the ravine that the goats use but it's best to pick up water on the drive in at the spring shown.

Camping. A great spot in the trees at the foot of sector Seven Dwarves, otherwise anywhere in the hundreds of square km of mountain.



# Sector SEVEN DWARVES

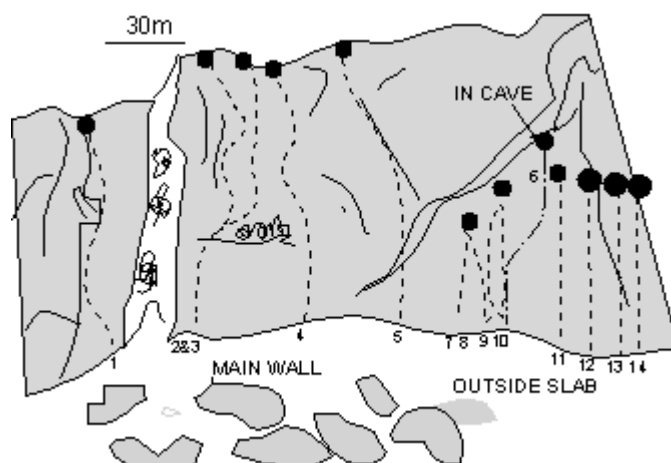
No bolt count for these but they are only short, so 6 would probably be max.



(The names are painted at the start of the routes.)

Name	Grade	1st Ascent
Sector Seven Dwarves.		
1. Happy	4b	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Grumpy	4c	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. Bashful	6c	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Sneezzy	6b+	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Dopy	7a	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Dozy	6b	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. Doc	6c	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
Sector Fairy Tale.		
8. Snow White	5c+	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
9. Black Witch	6b	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. Hobbit	4a	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Dance With Monsters	6a+	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. Fairy Tale	5a	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
13. Heave Ho	5b	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
14. Grab	6b	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

# Sector MAIN WALL



## Main Wall

1. Pam's Arete	4b	8	Pam Jolliffe
2. Mr Cool	5c	?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. Dreamtime	5b	?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. The Rising	5b	?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Gammel Hans	6c+	11	H. Weninger

Also on this wall are

Eos 6a+

Hydra 5c

Furioso 6b

Stoned 6a+

All from H. Weninger. No topo.

## In the Cave.

6. Pull Of The Sun	6a+	?	J. Titt & Pete Sedgwick
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## Outside Slab.

7. Hail	4c	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
8. Snowtime	4c	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
9. Simple Start	4b	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. Easy Mover	5b	8	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Teamwork	5b	9	H. Weninger
12. 150%	5b	?	H. Weninger
13. Roof	6a	?	H. Weninger
14. Fridge	5b	?	H. Weninger

and

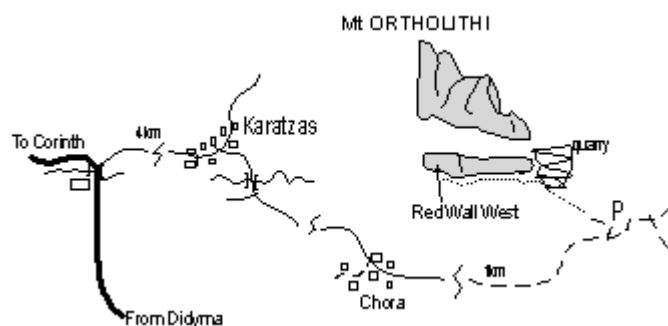
Superfine 6a from H. Weninger. Location unknown.

# ORTHOLITHI

This is the mountain lying to the north of Mt Didyma whose craggy South face you can see when driving up to the summit of Didyma. Many impressive faces and corners with room for many hundreds of new routes on some of the best rock in the area. The development here has been limited because it is hot in summer and cold in winter, but it has superb conditions in spring and summer. The long wall you walk below to the existing routes should give about 50 top class long sport routes alone. If you continue along the dirt road down into the valley there is another area with much more rock and being low lying more likely to allow all year climbing. The existing routes are mostly superb but you need trad gear here except for Scott's Bad Day Out which is fully bolted. Some amazing solution holes at the tops of the routes and bizarre stuck on holds on some routes. Nothing for kids here and they will probably whine about the walk-in.

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes to 50m-1.  
Single and Multi Pitch Trad to 900m-7.

Access. From Porto Heli drive on the national road towards Corinth over the pass of Didyma, 8km further there is a sharp L at a marble works. Turn right here to Karatzas (4km). In the village take the 2nd R at a taverna with new stone walls and follow this road past a football pitch and over the river to a T junction. Turn L here and continue to Chora. Here the tar road ends and you take the left hand dirt road for ca. 1km to a left branch up to a quarry (obvious).



Parking. At the start of the road to the quarry (sadly undriveable).

Walk-in. Ca 10 min.

Altitude .800-1100m above sea level.

Season. Spring & Autumn otherwise may be too hot or cold.

Water. None

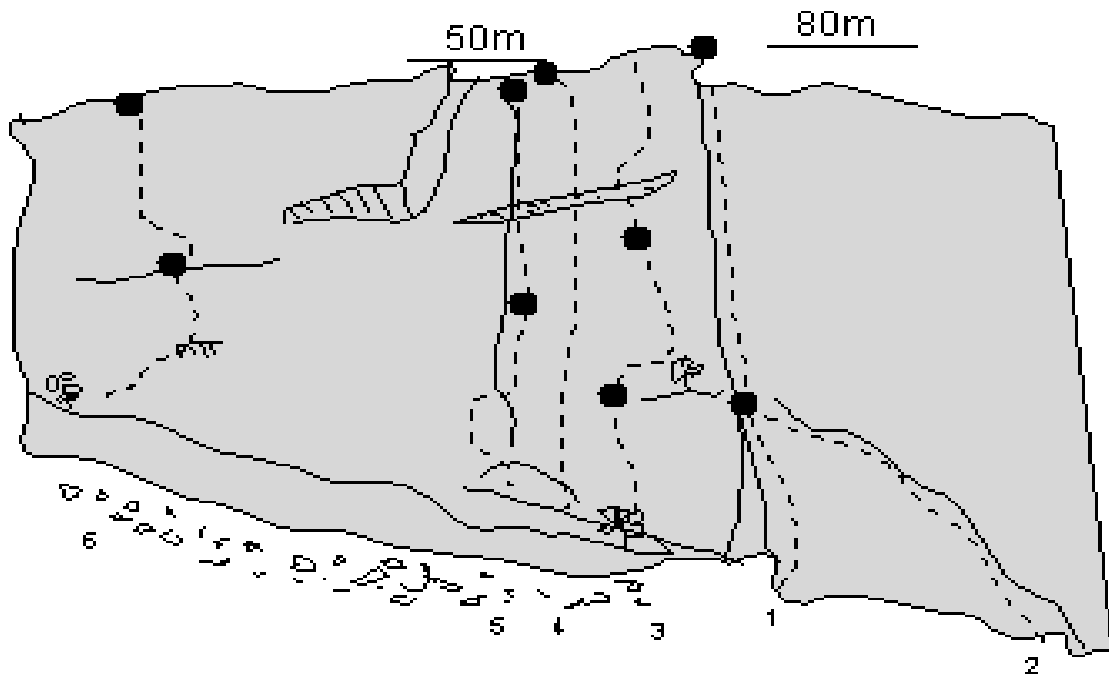
Camping. At the quarry if you can carry your gear up, otherwise pick your own spot.

At the start of the red wall as you leave the quarry are two routes from Joseph Gstoettenmayr

Fantasia 6b+ and Via Chora 6a

No topo for here but they will be obvious, though which is which?

## Sector RED WALL WEST: THE SLABS



(Names NOT written at the start)

From the quarry walk about 200m along under the red wall until you come to a corner splitting the cliff, with a more slabby area to the left. This corner is climbed by Alptraum and the other routes are located left relative from this. Aproximatly 40m left of the corner of Alptraum is a slab with some brown „glued on“ holds and an obvious rock scar above a damaged tree, this is the start of Dance With Me. The next two routes start in a scoop a little to the left, Scott's Bad Day Out taking the line of bolts and Black Line the water runnel/crack on the left. Little Brown Jugs is at the end of the cliff up a slab with a small overhang to start, and is covered with amazing brown holds.

1. Alptraum.2 pitches.80m.	V+.	-	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. Early Days, Easy Ways.	VI-	-	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. Dance With Me. 20m,25m,20m.	V+	Belays	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Scott's Bad Day Out. 50m.	6b	14?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Black Line.50m.	V+	Belays+5	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. Little Brown Jugs.22m,22m.	V(IVAo)	Belays+1	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

Descent.Abseil down Black Line. There are twin bolts at half height to allow descent with a single rope. There are some working bolts above this route to allow a short abseil to the top belay on this route.OR walk off to the W and descend with care. Little Brown Jugs-abseil the route.

And for something different!

The Long Run.900m.

V- or III.

J. Titt & H. Weninger

Climbs the long south eastern ridge starting above the eastern end of the red cliff. Walk up through to the top of the quarry to get to the start, take some long slings and wires 3-8.

100m of I- II. 220m of II-III. 400m of I. 60m of III. 20m of V-. 55m of III. 20m of III+/IV. 50m scramble.The V pitch can be avoided on the right.

Descend by walking to the west and then down the central cwm until it is possible to traverse east between the upper and lower cliffs. Great views of the cliffs waiting for some routes.

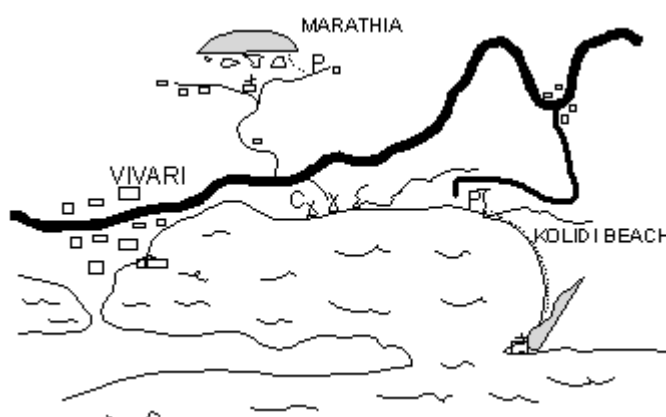
# VIVARI-KOLIDI BEACH

A venue specifically developed to satisfy the demands of swimming and climbing fans and very successfully combining the two. Good cliffs directly over a beach are fairly uncommon in Greece but Kolidi Beach offers fine climbing, first class bathing with good access, a nice nearby campsite and tavernas in the near. One of the plus points here is that due to the orientation of the cliff most of the routes lie in the shade even though the belayer can stay in the sun. Not yet fully developed the cliff offers some exceptional routes with enough to keep a party busy all day. The project here has been „looked“ at and is probably in the 9th grade, if climbed this would be the hardest route in Greece. Great for kids!

The Choice. Single pitch bolt routes to 30m-12, Trad-1, Projects-2.

Access. Take the coast road to Nafplion. After leaving the village of Kandia the road follows the coast and then climbs up to a small ruined hamlet. Turn L here (signpost) and drive down to the beach. Note:- In the spring there can be water in the marsh behind the beach at the cliff, so take some mosquitos repellent if there is no wind to keep them away.

By boat. Excellent harbour, it is better to anchor near the village and go to the cliff by dinghy as it is very deep in the E part of the bay.



Parking. At the eastern end from the beach.

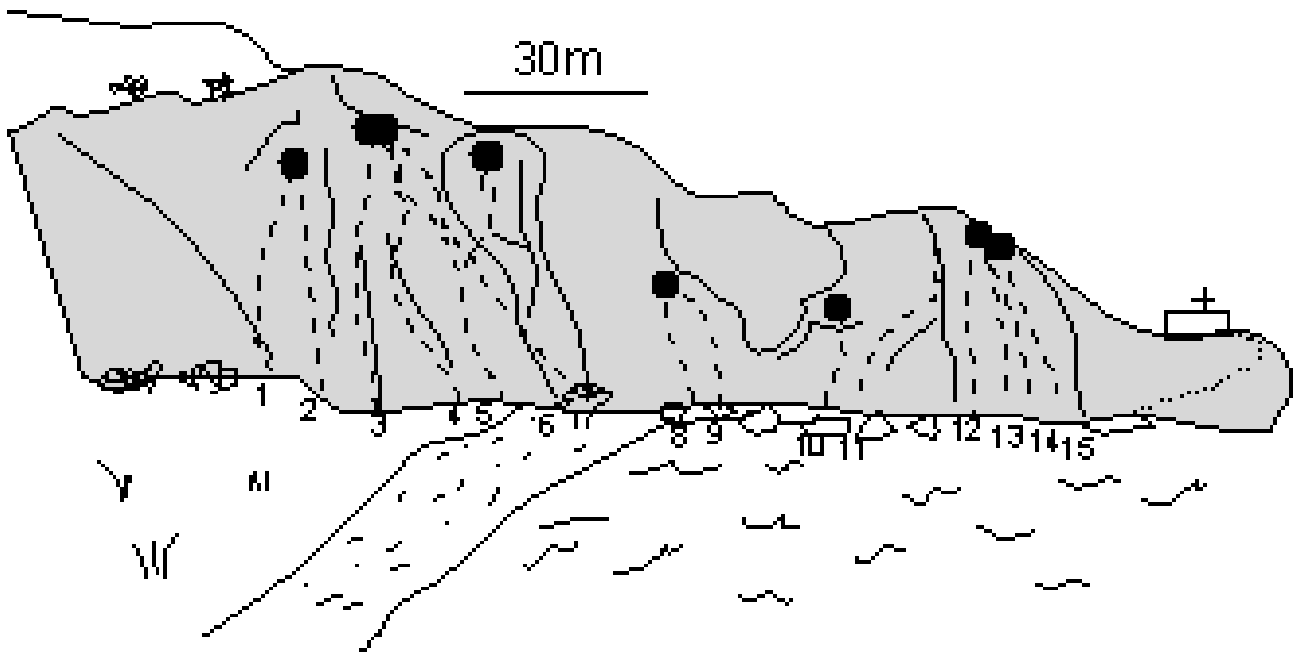
Walk-in. Walk along the beach to the cliff, 5 min.

Altitude. 0m

Season. All Year.

Water. In the village.

Camping. A nice campsite halfway along the beach if it's open or on the beach.



Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
1. Dizzy	6a+	10?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
2. The Philosophers Stone (Free Project)	9?	8?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
3. Stone Raider	7a	12?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
4. Powerful Stuff	6c+	13	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
5. Invincible	6a+	13	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
6. The Fly	6b	12	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
7. Beach Pillar	6a	10?	M. Falk
8. Excavation	4b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
9. Excitation	4b	9	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
10. The Goats Gonads	5c+	7	J. Titt & P. Sedgwick
11. The Ramp		Trad 1V	J. Titt & P. Sedgwick

#### Sector Wet Foot

Wade through the water to this sector and use the first bolt on the route as a belay.

12. Vision	5b	(drilled but not yet bolted, climbed trad)	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
13. Nomad	5a	6?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
14. Suzie Q	4c+	6?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
15. Nan Madol	4b	6?	J. Titt & I. Zaczek

(this sector was developed with help from the crew SY Nomad)

# VIVARI- MARATHEA

This is the prominent red cliff overlooking the beach and village of Vivari. Many climbers have expressed interest in this cliff but have been repulsed by the shocking vegetation on the approach. We have found a better approach path and cut our way through, and now access is good. This is an amazing place consisting of an old cave system which has collapsed leaving giant blocks piled on each other, many with fine tufa on the most unlikely faces. On these blocks there is potential for some good routes up to 20m long and some great bouldering. The main face is covered with tufa curtains, some a bit rotten so use long bolts. We have only done 2 routes so far as this is the ultimate sun trap, the few parties to have made it to the cliff have been defeated by the heat.

Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes-2

Access. On the coast road continue past Kolidi Beach to the next R turn up a steep concrete road to a small chapel, turn R here on a gravel track for ca.150m.

Parking. Limited space on the left or earlier at the chapel. Do not block access to the villa at the end.

Walk-in. Take a small path up left to a pylon and some ruins, continue up and through the bushes on the path to the cliff.

Altitude. 100m above sea level.

Season. Winter or when the sun is not shining!

Water. Water and power at the chapel.

Camping. As Kolidi.

## ROUTE LIST

There are only 2 routes here at the moment on the right hand end of the cliff.

The R. hand one is Diavlos 6c? from Aris Theodoropoulos

The L. hand one is Lets Go Bolting 6c. from J. L. Titt.

# NAPLION- KARATHONA BAY

Included by kind permission from Aris Theodoropoulos.

Karathona bay lies just south of the city of Nafplion and offers some good climbing in a large bay with an extensive beach. The crags lie a few hundred metres back from the beach so the large number of bathers won't disturb you. I have not climbed all the routes so cannot vouch for the bolting but it is generally good. The network of roads and half constructed buildings are the relic of an E.U.funded beach complex which was never completed. Good for kids.

The Choice. Single Pitch Sport Routes-22.

Access.As you come into the centre of Nafplion there is a road to the left signposted „Palamidi“ at a very confusing road junction, this is the road up to the large Venetian castle. Take this and drive up the hill, ignore the turning right to the castle and continue over the top to the bay.

The first sector is on the first road R. it is about 200m to the obvious cliff but is hardly worth the effort. The second sector (Katakrimeni) is at the small chapel about 2/3 around the bay up a small dirt road. By Boat. Excellent anchorages at both ends of the bay.

Parking. Obvious.

Walk-in. 2 min.

Altitude. 20m above sea level.

Season. All year as sector Katakrimeni has some shade.

Water. None.

Camping. At the beach or organised sites around Tolo on the coast.

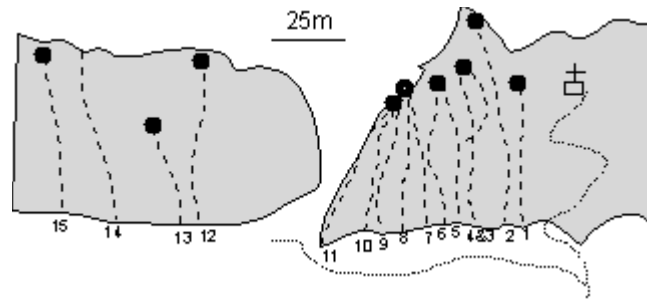
## SECTOR WEST from R to L.

Route Name	Grade	Bolt Count	1st Ascent
Alkimini	5c	Toprope	
Antonis	6a	9	A. Antopoulos
Amfitrion (35m)	5c	12	Aris Theodoropoulos, Filipo Athanasiou & Dimitri Mauropolou

(I only climbed the first 25m of this and lowered off as the rest is uninteresting.)



## Sector KATAKRIMENI from R to L.



Names painted at start.

1. Tirintha	5b+		
2. Agamenmon	6a+		
New Route	7b?		
3. Oktana	6b		
4. Antigoni	6a		
5. Kichli	5b		
6. Elpinor	5c		
7. Ramon	5b		
8. Ismini	5a+		
9. Iokasti	4b		
10. Easy Corner	4c	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
11. Halcyon Days	5a	7	J. Titt & I. Zaczek
12. Gallida	7c?		
13. Shismi	5c		A. Antonopoulos
14. Tasos	5c+		
15. Hercules	6a+		

No bolt count for this cliff but the routes are not too long. All first ascents apart from those given are by Aris Theodoropoulos, Taso Petrochilo, Dimitri Stathakou, Danai Argiropoulo and Angelos Papadimitropoulou.

## NAPLION-NERAKI BAY

An excellent cliff but a real sun trap about 10 minutes walk along the coast towards Naplion with about 30 routes. The latest information I have from a local Greek climber is that climbing is banned in this area. If this changes the routes and topo's will appear here.

## NAPLION-ACRONFLIA (ARVANITIA BEACH)

A climbing area in the city of Naplion near the lido. The routes (ca 30) are directly above the tourist promenade and climbing here has also been banned.

# VIRGIN ROCK

Over the years I have covered nearly every inch of the area and located an almost endless supply of new cliffs so if you are interested in putting up new routes here is an overview of what is available and how to get there. The heights given and the estimated number of possible routes is very approximate, especially the latter!

The potential at the cliffs in the guide is mentioned or is obvious so these are not included.

A few tips on new routing, for the often prickly vegetation around the cliffs it is useful to carry long handled pruning shears and on the cliff a folding saw, available at any local hardware shop. The rock at the top is often very sharp so protect your rope or use a long sling as back up over the edge. Do not use the cheap steel bolts available in Greece as they break at less than 9kN, please use stainless bolts.

## DIDYMA-THE BIG HOLE.

You will have noticed this doline as you pass the village of Didyma, while it and its small brother are interesting touristically, the rock is horrifying.

## PELEI.

Two more dolines (collapsed caves) above the village of Pelei on the other side of the Didyma pass, access at the top of the pass along a dirt road opposite the road up Didyma which leads to some power pylons and a path down between them. Some good potential especially for some roof climbs in the more westerly one. One trad route in the other, left of the „magic tree“ (you'll know it when you see it).

## AVGOU-MONASTARY AGHIOS DIMITRIOUS.

A monster! A worthwhile trip on a rest day anyway to this monastery tucked up in the huge cliffs in a wild and deserted valley. Room for hundreds of routes of all kinds on 200m high cliffs and climable all year. Access: At the foot of Mt Didyma on the N side is a small road to the semi-deserted hamlet of Pelei, follow this road on for ca 7km to a parking place (signed to the monastery). It is normally possible to continue down under the monastery, across the river and left down the valley to rejoin the coastal road.

## DRIOPI.

We couldn't find a better name so this is the nearest village. The new but not completed road between Paleo Epidavros and Galatas (Poros) on the north coast of the peninsula has opened up an area of cliffs about 7km long overlooking the sea. Pretty well everything here from short roadside crags to higher butresses up to 100+m. Should be o.k. in the summer as N.E. facing and room for 500? Routes.

## NEA EPIDAVROS.

The gorge whose end you see from the main road coming from Corinth, worth exploring and some good routes to be done but it's the local tip and waste water soakaway so a bit smelly.

## ARACHNEO.

Very possibly the finest cliff in the Peloponese this lies high up on Mt Arachneo overlooking the town of Ligourio. From the main road it doesn't look much but it's far away, when you get to it you will find its huge, ca. 150m high with tufa routes, slabs, roofs and caves and there are kilometers of it, a bonus is that the rock here is also excellent. Access: This is why its not developed, there is a road all the way under the cliff so a short walk, but the road is a disaster and you need something better than a hire car (I made it in a rough old VW Golf). From Paleo Epidavros take the small road through E. Epidavros and Aghios Andreas. At the T junction take the left turn towards Ligourio, after 1,5km there is a chapel on the left side and a track opposite leading up to some houses and the cliff above. There is a good campsite at the small chapel on the left part of the cliff. SW-S facing but 1000m in altitude so is cold in the winter, spring and autumn are the best times here.

## NEOCHORI.

This red band of rock is obvious from the Didyma pass going northwards lying conveniently above the coast road to Nafplion. Easy access and mostly good rock but mostly harder routes and S facing so its going to be hot. Maybe 100 routes.

## PARALIA IRIA.

Two cliffs here, one at the end of the beach to the E with room for maybe 20 routes ca. 20m but not really very interesting and another much better one directly by the coast road. This is another doline and offers scope for about 40 routes in a sheltered position, and should be an all-year crag with medium to hard routes around 15m long. To access the first, from the coast road take the turning to Paralia Iria and drive to the beach, then L to the end and you see the cliff.

For the doline stay on the coast road for about 1 km until you see what looks like a new quarry but is a water tank. (Look for the pipes.) Drive up to the tank and then walk NE for 2mins to the cliff.

### KANDIA-AGHIOS ANDONIS.

If you doubt my assertion that tens of thousands of routes are possible in this area then take a look at this lot! Turning off the coast road at Kandia you will see a line of reasonable cliffs on the left, ignore these and drive on through the village and cross the river bed. On the right you will see a large butress with a cave through it. Take the next right and drive up this valley, about 4 to 5km of cliffs both sides of the road, overhanging walls with holes, slabs, roofs and anything else you want. Ca. 80m high and always half in the shade. I have done one route here! Potential for plenty of routes!

Then drive back down to where you turned right and continue along the road up to the other valley, "more rock than in England" was one comment. Around 130m high and plenty of it, with 80 and 100 m crags littered all around, its hard to know where to start. I did start up the middle of the main crag to the right of the central corner but the attempt was abandoned after 60m due to an argument over topless sunbathers. Bolt belays in place.

### ASINI.

The sugar loaf mountain you can see to the N.W. from Vivari and area. Some good lines on the N side so should be cool and easy access. Ca 80m routes. On the Vivari- Nafplion road drive through Lefkakia, and then, ½km after the road joins the one from Tolo there is a small road L to the mountain.

### ROMVI ISLAND.

Normally called Tolo Island this lies across a small strait from the town Tolo. A good cliff above the beach facing the town and another in a bay on the S side. Access: By one of the many tripper boats.

Before we leave Argolis a note. From some locations near Ligurio tantalising glimpses of a superb crag are caught, this lies ca 4km S of Ligurio at a location marked M. Aghios Merkaonou on the map. Close-up inspection reveals that the impressive thing is that the crag is still standing, we crept away in silence.

Have a nice trip!

Jim Titt