

# HAUNTED WALLS

#### How to get there.

This journey can be made by a normal car. Approaching from either north or south and travelling along the A7. Turn off at junction 65 and head south to Alicante along the N332. Turn off at the first junction, making for La Nucia on the CV70. You will pass around a number of roundabouts (Rotundo) At number Rotundo number 5 make for Guadalest. You will again pass around five more roundabout (keep going straight on). The last roundabout has a paved track leading off left, this leads to Echo Valley. Continue to follow the CV70 for approximately 7km. There is a surfaced road leading off at an

angle on the left with a large house on the right. Follow this road to the first junction on the left and a narrow surfaced road. Follow this for approx 2 km, it eventually becomes a rough track. When it becomes stepper there are parking places on the left and right. It may be advisable to park here and make the short walk up the hill to the Col. Once you reach the col the crags immediately on your left are THE PLEASURE DOMES. There is a faint goat track well below these. Traverse this for approximately 1 km and up to a col. Descend the opposite side to another col. Immediately on your left you will see the very impressive wall of Haunted wall.

If you continue on to the next col and gully you come to the entrance for Aquja Pilar and Cynical Pinnacle.

### Approach from Sella.

From junction just before the refugio continue directly up the valley. The track eventually becomes quite steep and can be impassable for cars. At the top of the steep hill you eventually come to the col with the crags of **The Pleasure Domes** on your right. Now follow the same route as above. **HAUNTED WALL. Route 1.** 

#### Route 1. <u>The Spectre</u>. 65.m. 4c/5b. E1. (V+/6a).

This route can be used as an easier start for the upper pitched of Tranquility. Not a very good route in its present state but should become a lot cleaner as ascents removes more of the loose rock.

**Start** on the left side of the wall opposite the large off width chimney crack. The route starts up the wall on the left below a wide 'V' groove.

**1. 20m. 4c.VS. (5+).** Climb the steep wall and then move right and up to belay on threads below the steep groove.

**2. 45m. 5b.E1. (6a).** Climb the steep groove (some loose rock) to the top of a pinnacle. Bolt Belays. Either abseil back down the same line or continue to follow Crack of Tranquility.

First ascent. R Edwards. M Edwards. March 1997

# Route 2. <u>Cracks of Tranquility</u>. \*\*\* 174 m. 5b/5b/4a/5c/3/5a. E3/4. (6a+/6a+/5/6b/3/V+)

What a route . One of the best crack climbs in the Costa's and a real classic. Start below the next steep crack on the right.

**1). 27m. 5b. (6a+).** Climb the slightly overhanging crack to bolt belays on the right.

2). 27m. 5b. (6a+). Climb the overhanging crack on the left and then traverse right to pass a tree. Move back left to climb the crack then finish up a short wall on the left to a ledge and belay bolts.

**3). 20m. 4c. (5).** Traverse left to a large block and then up to a thread on a slab. Move left and climb the small pillar to a good ledge and Bolt belays. (Top of Spectre).

**4). 45m. 5c** (**6b**). This is what you have come for!!!. Climb onto the opposite wall to below the crack in the centre of the wall. Follow the faint crack which gradually gets wider to full hand width. At the roof pull directly over it to reach a good ledge and bolt belays.

5).15m. 3. Diff. (3). Scramble over the pinnacle to the base of the next arete.

6). 40m. 5a. (V). Climb the centre of the arete to the top of the crag. Poor protection.

.First ascent R Edwards. Mark Bonesteel. Esabel Carcera. 15<sup>th</sup>. Feb, 1997.

**2a Variation finish. 40m. 4c (1V+).** Climb the steep flake crack on the left and then the slabs above to reach the top of the crags. First ascent M Edwards R Edwards 10 April 2009

## Route 3. The Exorcist. 185m. \*\* 5b/5c.6a+/diff/4c/5a (6a/6a+/6c+/2/V/6a/V+).

A very strong natural line on good rock. Interesting and varied climbing.

This takes the obvious second crack line from the right which has a distinctive overhang about one third up.

Start just to its left below a steep wall.

**1.25m. 5b. (6a).** Climb across ledges below and on the left of the crack to reach a bolt.. Move up right into a groove (slightly suspect rock) at the top of this groove move right again, bolt, and into the main groove. Follow this to belay bolts below the overhang.

**2. 35m. 5c.** (**6a+**). Large friends or hexes useful. Climb to the roof then traverse the roof on the left to the vertical crack. Follow this to a ledge and bolt belays

**3.** 25m. 6a. or 5c AO. (6c or 6a+ AO). Climb the crack on the right of the belay to the roof above. Climb the bulging roof above on its right side and a thin crack free at (6b or 5c AO). Continue up after the difficult mantelshelf to reach a bolt belay below some trees.

Scramble through the trees and then over a small pinnacle on the right and into a small forest. Cross this and a wide gully to the foot of a superb arete. Bolt belays at it base.

**4.20m. 4c.** (V). Climb the arete to the first staple and then traverse left (staple) to a ledge and bolt belays.

**5. 25m. 5c. (6a+).** Climb the shallow corner to the small roof and move left over this. Continue up the steep crack to a good ledge and bolt belay.

6. 30m. 5a. (V+). Climb the wall above and continue directly up to the trees at the top of the crag.

First ascent. January . 1996. R Edwards. M Edwards .

# Route 4. The Phantom. 206m. 5c/6a/5b/diff/5c/4c. (6a+/6b/6a-/2/6a+/V) E3

Take the extreme right hand vertical crack.

What a route! Superb climbing which leads to a superb arête finish at the top of the crag (**The Phantom Arete**). Excellent rock in a great position.

Start just left of the natural line of the crack and below a short steep whitish wall.

**1a). 28m. 5c. (6a+).** Climb the loose, but easy, rocks to the foot of the white wall and to the first bolt. Climb the wall by a faint crack (bolt) to good hold which end on a steep slab. Go up this then traverse right into the big crack. Climb the crack passing a number of good thread placements to a good ledge and bolt belays.

**1b). 28m. 5c.** (**6a+**)An alternative start is to climb the steep wider overhanging crack on the right. This leads to the same crack. Some loose rock.

**2). 30m.6a. (6b). Run-out pitch**. Continue climbing the crack and move onto the left wall at the roof. Climb direct and up to an insitu thread. Continue to follow the crack to a good ledge and bolt belays.

**3). 38m. 5b.** (**6a-**). Climb the steep wall left of the belay and traverse back right into the crack. Follow this to the second of two tree covered ledges.

**4). 25m.** Scrambling through the trees to reach a bay on the far right and a fine arête with bolt belays at its base.

**5.) Phantom Arete. 50m. 5c. (6a+)**. This is what you have come for. Climb the blunt arête above the belay and follow the natural line of the arete using natural gear to the first stapple . Continue to climb the arete (several stapples). You are making for the shallow groove on the left side of the arete. The final section of the route is again protected by natural gear. Belay on two bolts on a good ledge on the left..

6). 35m. 4c+. (5). Climb the wall just right of the belay and then up ledges to the summit of the mountain.

First ascent. 5<sup>th.</sup> June. 1996. R Edwards. Mark Edwards.