

## **New Routes and description to re-bolted (ENP) routes on the Puig Campana.**

This magnificent mountain dominates most of the coast of the Costa Blanca with its twin peaks and distinctive notch. Seen from the village of Finestrat, which it snuggles up close to its base, it presents a magnificent challenge to both rock climbers and mountaineers. There are challenges here to suit every climber; be it the raw beginner or the experienced climber. Most of the rock climbs are of the adventure style needing climbers to place their own protection. There are however a few sport routes but of the higher grade. The rock is mainly excellent limestone but this is a mountain so one can expect to come across some loose rock in places. .

### **The routes.**

These are new descriptions to climbs on the Puig Campana that previously used ENP protection. These have been replaced with bolts. The actual ENP holes are still in place. One never knows it may become a system that is accepted in the future. Although it worked superb and was equally as safe as any good bolt or leader placed gear it wasn't accepted by the Local Federation unless manufactured by a recognized manufacturer.

Manufacturers who did examine it were very impressed but thought that there would not be enough profit in it for them to make.

Here also are two climbs not previously recorded in other Rockfax guides.

**Approach to the mountain.** From any of the coastal roads, A7 auto route or the N332, one makes for the village of Finestrat. (Garmin ref.N38 34.053 W0 12.744). Once in the centre of the village, on Avenida Benidorm and at the cross roads, take the road going up hill (not the one entering the village). Pass the Font del Moli, still heading up hill, past the viaduct with a bridge going over it (this is the start for the walk up the actual mountain and well marked). Continue along the road until at the top of the next hill and sharp bend. Park in this area. A large boulder marks the start of the approach walk to the south and west faces.

**West face routes approach.** (30mins+). Follow the path uphill. As the path levels out and goes through trees the paths separate here. For the south face routes take the narrower path on the right going uphill. For the west face route continue onwards following the path more direct path. Continue for 0,5 km until a path leads up hill towards the obvious west face. Walk steeply up hill to the base of the west face.

### **1. Dancing On Crystals. 315m. E4. 6a. (6c) \*\*\***

*F/A R Edwards / C Edwards 19/3/96*

A superb route with very contrasting styles of climbing. Chimneys, cracks, walls and slabs all of good quality. The route climbs the orange steep wall to the left of Pillar De Finestrat. This route requires a full set of nuts and cams. It also originally used the ENP system but these have now been replaced with bolt runner.

**Start** below and to the right of a large pinnacle high up in the middle of the grey slab (El Flecher - The Arrow). There is a small depression at the foot of the face, start just right of this.

**1. 45m. 5b.6a.** Climb the slab just right of the depression and ascend rightwards to a wide ledge below a clean grey slab. Climb this in the centre then the rough textured slab to belay below the red wall.

2. **30 m. 6a. 6c.** Climb the steep groove above the belay bolt. Climb the steep red wall (3 bolts) to a ledge (bolt) and ascend rightwards (bolt) to another ledge and belays bolts.
  3. **20m. 5c. 6a+.** Climb the steep groove on the right to a ledge and continue up the steep wall above (piton) to another ledge and bolt belays.
  4. **20 m. 3.** Scramble across the large ledge to the far wall and belay below a steep broken Corner.
  5. **25m. 4b. V.** Climb the corner to a crystal filled cave. Thread belays.
  6. **30m. 5b. 6a.** A superb pitch. Climb the steep wall on the left to reach a slab trending left. Climb this (3 bolts) to a bolt belay on Jardin Realet.
  7. **35m. 4a. IV-.** Climb the broken rock to the foot of the obvious groove above.
  8. **20m. 4b. V.** Climb the broken pillar on the left to a peg belay .
  9. **40m. 5c. 6b.** Climb right to the groove and up this (2 bolts) to the first fault line on the right. Follow the crack around the arete and up to a small ledge . Climb the steep crack to a cave . ( bolt belays).
  10. **25m. 5c. 6b.** Climb to the roof on right and pull over this into another small cave. . Move left, then up a groove to a good ledge, Difficult belays.
  11. **25m. 5b. 6a.** Climb the groove on the (L) and into a recess .Cracks lead to the top.
- Descent. Abseil .** Go left along the ridge to the abseils of Pepsi into the gully and then escape down the gully.

## 2. Pillar De Finestrat . 170m. E4. 5c. ( 6b+) see description – Rockfax guides.

## 3. New Generations. 175 m. E3 5c. E3. ( 6b+)\*\*\*

*F/A. R Edwards. C Edwards. March 1995.*

Another superb route on this wall. Originally used ENPs but these were replaced by bolts in 2009

**Start** just to the left of Espolon De Finestrat below a clean leftwards slanting slab with a small downwards pointing flake at the base.

1. **35m. 5c. 6b.** Climb the slab (3 bolt) until on a good ledge and a ring bolt. Climb the right wall just right of the tree to the belay bolt of Espolon De Finestrat.

2. **50m. 5c. 6b+.** Climb onto the steep slab on the left and follow this, (6 bolts), until it is possible to move right to a crack . Climb this and the easy ground above to a ledge and thread/bolt belays.

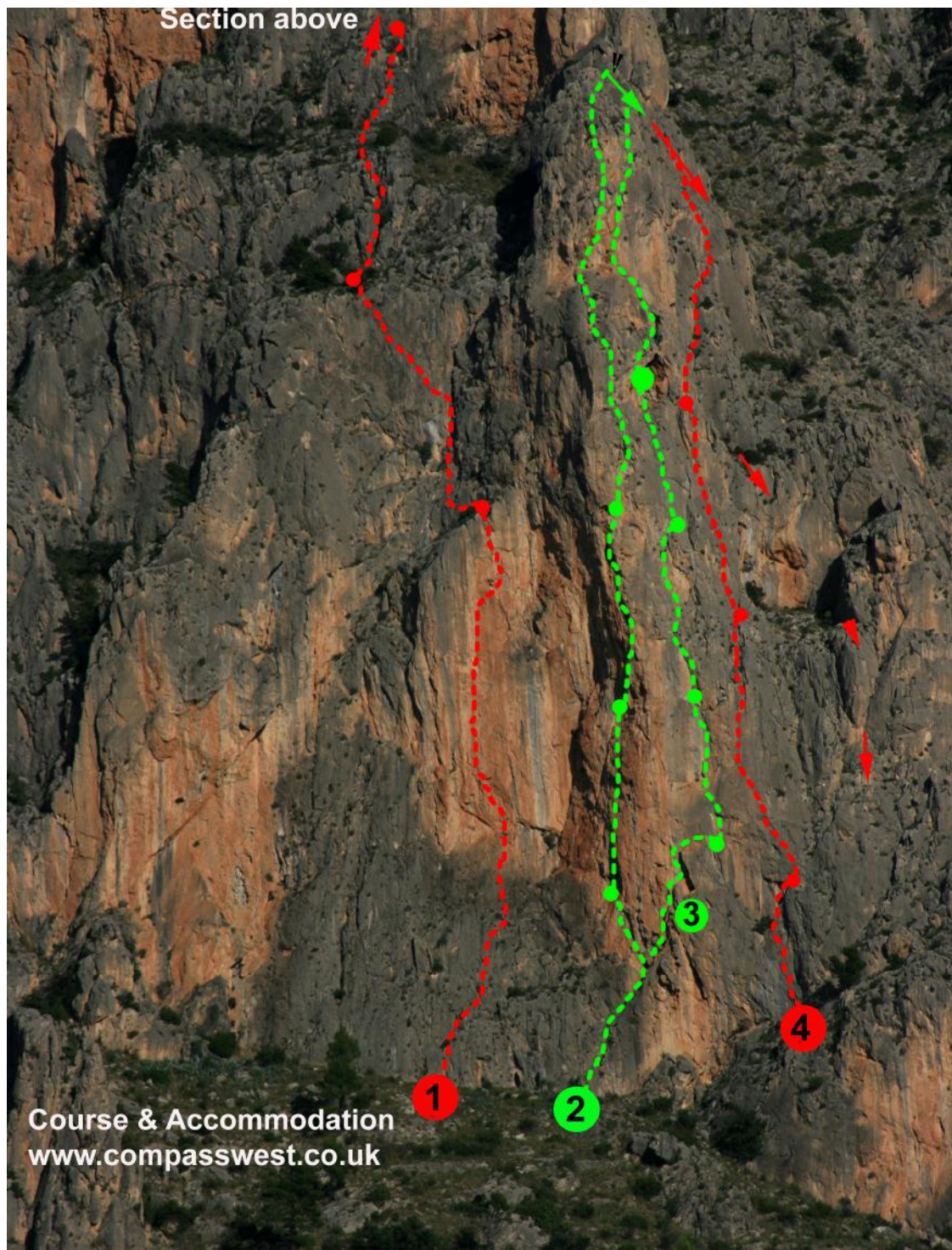
3. **40m. 5b. 6a.** Climb the broken red groove in the wall above and follow the natural line to a small ledge with thread belays.

4. **45m. 5b. 6a.** A superb pitch in a great position. Climb the slab on the right to a steep groove. At the top of the groove swing right onto the steep wall (thread). Climb this and the overhang above on incredible holds and continue straight up to the top. Ring Bolts.

**Descent.** 50m. abseil directly down the south side of the tower to a large ledge, threads and steel ring. Make a short 20m abseil to another larger ledge. Walk across to the opposite wall and another rope thread and steel ring. 20m abseil directly down the groove to ring bolts and small ledge. 50m abseil directly to the walk off ledge.

## 4. Espolon Finestrat. 150m. 5a.

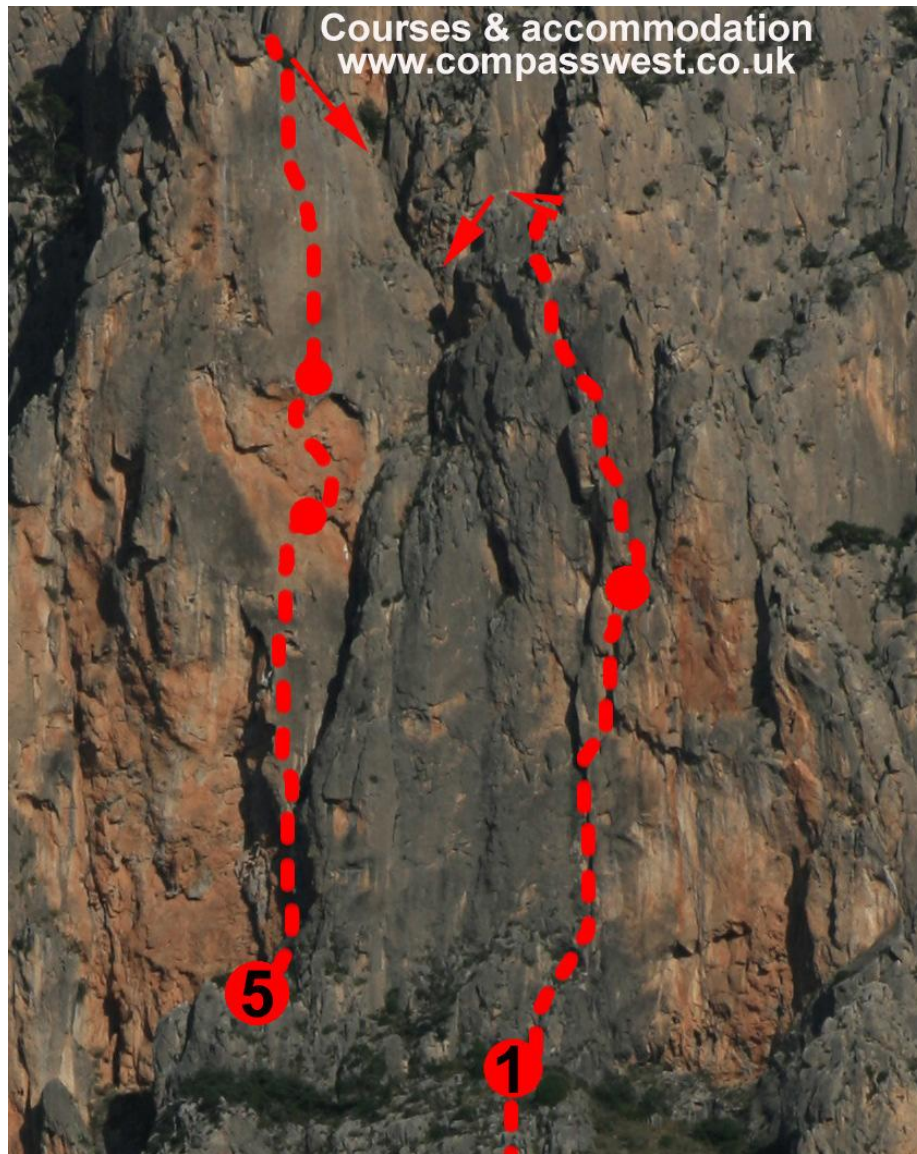
## 5. Corazon en la Roca. 85m. 7a+. Sport route. See description - Rockfax guides



### Aguja Encantada

1. Dancing On Crystals. 315m. E4. 6a. (6c) \*\*\*
2. Pillar De Finestrat . 170m. E4. 5c. ( 6b+)
3. New Generations. 175 m. E3 5c. E3. ( 6b+)\*\*
4. Espolon Finestrat. 150m. 5a.





**Upper section of Dancing on Crystals**

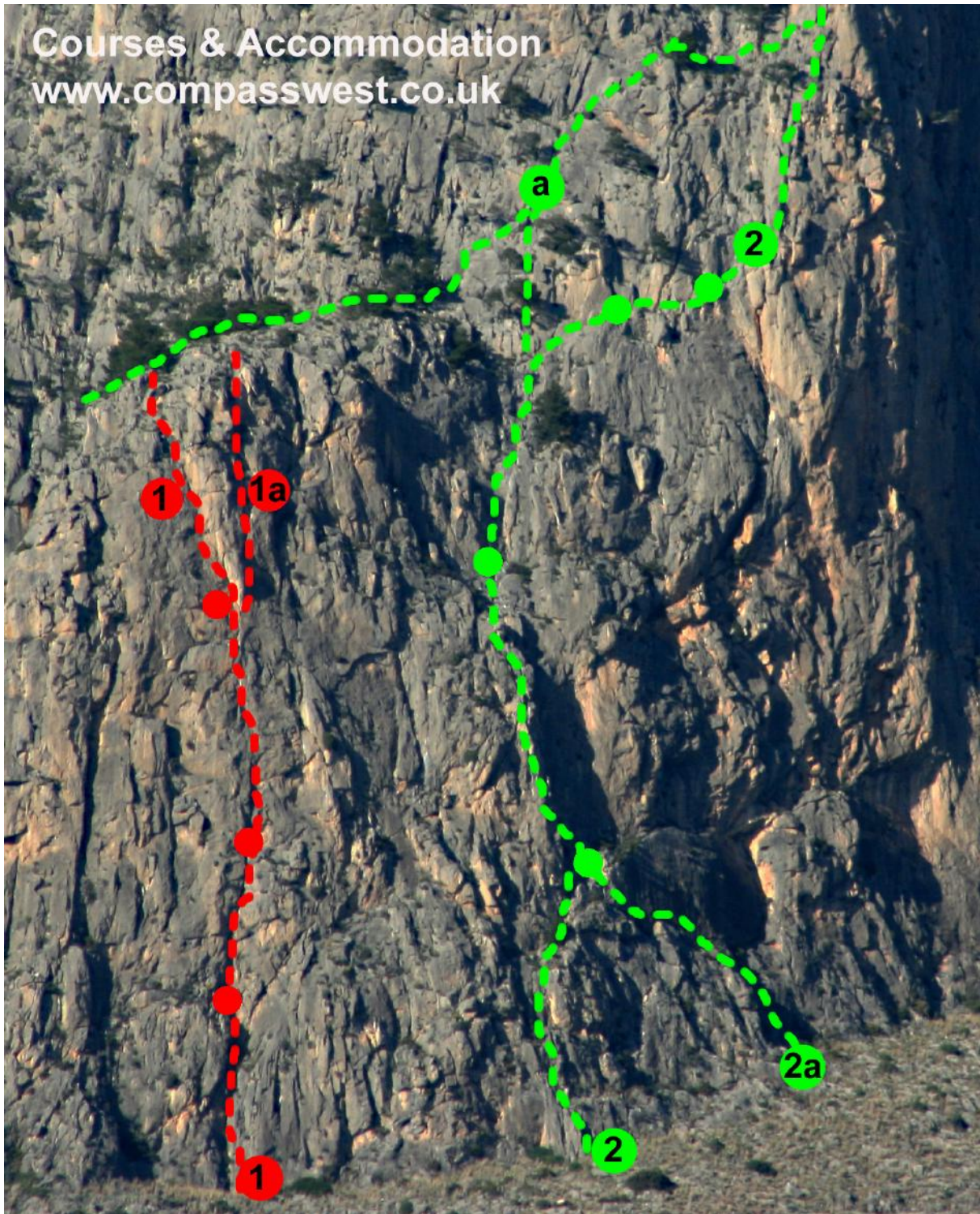
**5** Corazon en la Roca. 85m. 7a+.

**1.** Dancing On Crystals. Upper pitches. 315m. E4. 6a. (6c) \*\*\*

### **South Face Routes.**

**Approach.** (45 mins+). As for the above routes until the junction where the paths separate. Follow the well trodden path right, up hill, and scramble up the rock band onto the broad ridge. Easily follow this to reach the scree slopes. Wind your way up this, making sure you don't climb too high, and then cut across the hillside leftwards to reach the base of the south face and below Espolon Central Direct area. This is where the start for Saturday Special begins. To reach the new routes below the upper walls of the south face follow the path right uphill, making for the upper south face a further 10 minutes.





**Epsolon Central Direct area.**

- 1. Saturday Special.** 120m HVS. 5b (6a+). 1a Variation finish. 4c
- 2. Epsolon Central Direct.** The original Direct . 2a. Alternative scramble start
- a.** A connection pitch which joins the normal Epsolon Central route.

## **1. Saturday Special. 120m HVS. 5b (6a+)**

*F/a R Edwards and A Lloret. 26.2.94.*

Excellent climbing following a natural crack and groove line.

This route was unfortunately omitted from the original Costa Blanca Guides.

It was later claimed by others and a name painted at its base, now faded somewhat.

**Start** well to the left of the start of Espolon Central Direct, below the first obvious crack and groove line. A bolt has appeared at the top of this route and other may also have been placed on route.

**1. 25m 4b.** (1V). Climb the right edge of the large groove to a ledge.

**2. 25m. 5a /5b.** (V+). Climb the small overhang into the crack and follow this to a ledge.

**3. 30m. 5b.** (6a). Climb the continuation crack to a ledge below the top wall.

**4. 40m. 4c.** (V+). Continue to follow the cracks on the right to the top.

**or. 40m. 5b.** (6a+). Climb the wall behind the belay then follow the slabs below the overhangs to the top.

**Descend** left to join the last abseil of the descent of Espolon Central & Via Julia

**2. Espolon Central Direct.** This is the original direct start to Espolon Central Direct which joins the normal route exactly at the base of the upper arête (Espolon).

**2a.** This is a scramble approach to the first belay

**a. Espolon Central. (the normal route).** Using this short connecting pitch misses out some good climbing. It does however make the climb a little shorter.

## **3. Nueva Edicion 240m 6a. E3/4. (6c)\*\*\***

*F/A. R Edwards and Carl Edwards. 19/2/95*

Another superb route with exposed climbing and on perfect rock. Carry a full rack  
**Start** left of the start of Edge of Time. Edge of Time starts at the top of the ramp with a small cairn on its left. Nueva Edicion starts directly below the overhangs above and marked by a small cairn, below a thin crack which ends in a groove system to the right of the overhangs

**1. 50m. 5c.** (6b+). Follow the thin cracks (2pitons) which lead to a shallow groove right of the roof. Up these to belay on blocks.

**2. 25m. 5c.** (6b). Follow the ledges and directly above, on the steep wall, is a large pocket. Climb up to this and continue to a large depression on right. Follow the thin crack above to belay in another large depression.

**3. 35m. 6a.** (6c). Climb the steep wall on the left and above the cave (2 bolts) and continue direct to the belays of (Via Julia).

**4. 45m. 5b.** (6a). Climb the groove on the left (old Peg) then ascend right and up to a pine tree. Make a rising traverse rightwards across the wall on incredible holds to belay in a small niche (Edge Of Time belay)

**5. 25m. 5b.** (6a). Climb to a thread (insitu) and continue up a shallow depression (bolt). Move up and right, then direct to a large flake and crack. Belay here or in the groove on the left.

**6. 35m. 6a (6c-7a).** Climb past the thread in the middle of the wall then straight up (3 bolts) Just above the last bolt follow the crack on the right to reach a ledge and belays of Edge Of Time.

**7. 25 m. 4c. IV.** Climb the steep slabs to the ledges on the left. Belays of (Via Julia).

**Descents.** If there is **no wind** one can descend down using the belays of Edge Of Time. If a wind is blowing this can cause problems and it is safer to descend the abseils of Via Julia./ Espolon Central

**Descent of Edge of time.** Abseil from the bolts 20m right to the last belay. Make a 50m abseil directly down the overhanging wall to a square ledge and bolts. Make a further 50m. Abseil to the first belay ledges of Via Julia. A scramble right leads to the short climb down to the scree.

**Espolon Central descent.** From the bolt belays abseil 45m directly down to the large ledge below. Walk 10-12m left to another cable abseil. Make another 40m abseil to another large ledge. Walk 10-12m left to another cable. Abseil 25m. into the gully.

#### **4. Edge of Time. 225m. E3/4. 6a. (6c)**

#### **5. Via Sin Salida. 210m. E1 5b ( 6a) \*\*\***

*First ascent. R Edwards and Alberta Lloret. 1993*

A route which was unfortunately omitted from the origin Costa Blanca guides in the past. A fine climb which end with the final upper pitches of Via Julia.

**Start** left of Via Julia at the top a ramp going left (small cairn).\also shared with Edge of Time,

**1. 45m. 5a. (V+).** Climb the faint grooves and cracks in the wall above . Follow the groove trending right to a larger groove which leads to the belay ledge of via Julia.

**2. 45m. 5a. (V+).** Ascend the wall right to the first shallow groove. Up this then left to another groove. Follow the crack to a large flake and block belays.

**3. 20m. 4c. (V-).** Climb the wall above the short wall (old peg) to a good ledge and abseil bolts.

**4. 25m. 5b. (6a),** Ascend the steep wall until it is possible to climb rightwards to a depression in the overhanging wall on the left. Climb this (peg) to a small ledge and crack belays.

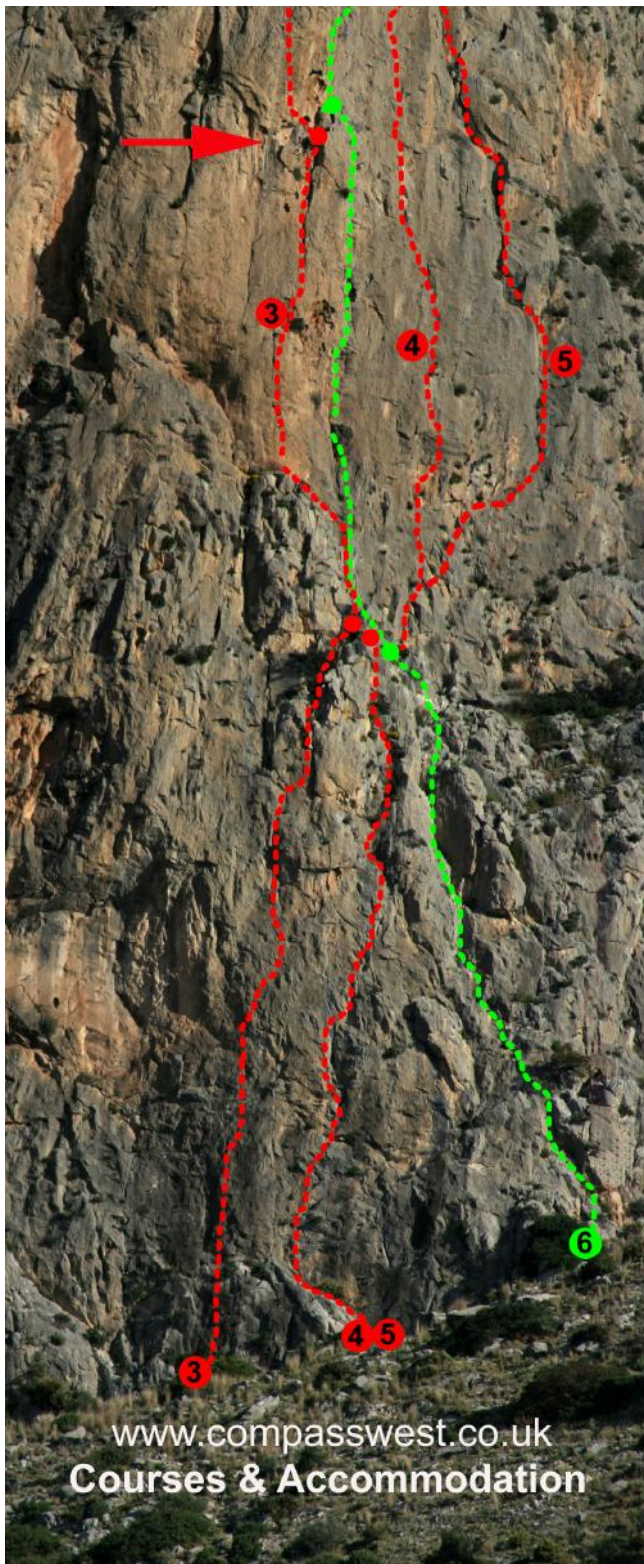
**5. 25m 4c. (V-).** Ascend leftwards to reach a crack which is followed to the base of the large dihedral of Via Julia.

**6 & 7. 50m 5a. (V).** Climb the dihedral to the top. (can be split at 20m).

**Descend by Espolon Central descent.** From the bolt belays abseil 45m directly down to the large ledge below. Walk 10-12m left to another cable abseil. Make another 40m abseil to another large ledge. Walk 10-12m left to another cable. Abseil 25m. into the gully. Walk down this and then a short scramble to reach the broad ledge below the face.

#### **6. Via Julia. 155m Hard Very Severe. 5b. (6a).**





Lower section

- 3.** Nueva Edicion 240m 6a. E3/4. ( 6c)\*\*\*
- 4.** Edge of Time. 225m. E3/4. 6a. (6c)
- 5.** Via Sin Salida. 210m. E1 5b ( 6a) \*\*\*
- 6.** Via Julia. 155m Hard Very Severe. 5b. (6a).



Upper section

6a- Variation pitch.



## Routes on the upper section of the south face

### **7. Witches of Voodoo. 195m. E2. 6a. (6b). \*\*\***

*First ascent. R Edwards. M. Edwards 24th may 2010*

Another great route on this section of the south face. The rock is immaculate and the climbing is both technical and sustained.

A full rack of gear will be needed. Extra small wires needed on pitch one.

**Start** at the base of the wall between the start of Diedro Magicos and Diada below an obvious groove.

**1. 40m 6a . ( 6b+)** Climb the groove to its top. Just before a ledge make a move right onto the wall. Climb the cracks, passing over two small overlaps. At the top move delicately right to the hanging belay, bolts.

**2. 30m. 5a. (5+).** Traverse left along the fault line to the far groove and overhang. Pull over this and continue to follow the crack until a step right ends at a bolt belay , shared with the Wizard.

**3. 35m. 5b. (6a)** Climb direct to the groove above and a bolt (the bolt on the slab on the left is used on The Wizard). Climb the steep groove and move right (peg) to the edge. Now climb slabs, grooves and short walls (one further bolt high up) to finally reach a bolt belay on the left.

**4. 45m. 5c ( 6b)** Climb directly into the groove above and follow this ( two bolts) to its top. Now climb the steep wall to reach a bolt belay (shared with The wizard)

**5. 45m 5b. (6a).** Climb onto the flake and up to the roofs. Pull over these and climb the groove on the right . Now climb cracks to the top of the route. *The first abseil slings can be used for descent or continue a further 12m to reach abseil chains.*

Descend directly down to the large ledge below where further abseil points can be reached on the far left. A further three abseils reaches the base of the wall.

### **8. Spellbound 165m. 6c/7a/6a/6c/6b+/5+.\*\*\***

*First .Ascent Mark Edwards & Rowland Edwards 18/June/2010*

A six pitch route up immaculate rock and stunning climbing. This climb is mainly a sport climb. Only the last pitch needs some gear (small rack).

The climb starts up the clean grey pillar of smooth unbroken rock just left of Diedro Magicos.

Start below the obvious bolt line just left of the start to Diedro Magicos.

**1. 40m. 6c.** Follow the bolts up an intricate line with route finding left and right of the bolts. A final sequence of moves gains a hanging bolt belay. Ring bolts/lower-offs. (Shared with Witches of Voodoo)

**2. The crux pitch. 15m. 7a.** Follow the bolts above the belay, making some hard thin moves right and over a small bulge that leads to a hanging belay. Ring bolts/lower-offs. (Shared with Witches of Voodoo)

**3. The easy pitch. 25m. 6a.** A rising groove/ramp to the right is followed. Peg and bolts, to make a crux move back left to reach a good belay stance. Ring bolts/lower-offs.

**4. Brilliant climbing. 35m. 6c.** Move up the groove to a short crack. Make a hard and blind move left to enter the left hanging groove. Follow this fine bolt protected groove, moving left into a second groove that leads to a good stance. Ring bolts/lower-offs.

**5. Perfect rock, awesome climbing. 30m. 6b+.** Move right to climb the groove (also Diedro Magicos) for 8m. Move right at a peg and into a second groove. Follow bolts in the groove with technical climbing to reach a wall. Climb the wall moving right at the end to move up to the hanging belay. Ring bolts/lower-offs.

**6. A trad pitch. 20m. 5+.** Follow the crack on the right and continue up and to the left above a peg/abseil point. Climb a steep groove through some vegetation to reach the top of the pillar. Abseil point (shared with Diedro Magicos). Abseil down as for Diedro Magicos.

## **9. Deidro Magicos. 155m, Hard Very Severe. 5b. (6a).**

For route description see Rockfax guides.

## **10. The Wizard.( El Hechicero ) 200m. E2. 5c. (6b).**

First ascents. Pitches. 1 & 2. R Edwards. C Edwards. November 1993.

Pitches. 3 to 6. R Edwards. M Edwards. 22-5-2009

A superb route , Fine position with excellent rock. This climb uses mainly nuts and friends although blank sections have bolts. The penultimate pitch is mainly bolted.

Start at the base of Deidro Magicos, at the base of the groove.

**1. 20m. 5b. (6a).** Climbing the groove until level with the bolt on the right. Traverse to this and ascend rightwards following pockets and shallow groove (four bolts) to the hanging belay of 'Asensina a tu Vecina'. Bolts and gear belay.

**2. 35m. 5a. (V+).** Climb the grooves on the left to a bolt. Continue up this line until the second belay of Deidro Magicus. Bolt belays

**3. 15m. 4c. (V-).** Traverse left across the steep wall (bolt) to reach a small ledge with bolt belays.

**4. 40m. 5a. (V+).** Climb the wall immediately above the belay . follow the crack to the foot of a slab on the left (bolt) Up this and climb the crack on the right then the overlap above (bolt). Continue in the same line ( bolt) directly to the base of a steep crack. Up this to reach a ledge and bolt belays.

**5. 40m. 5c. (6b).** A mainly bolted pitch. Carry some wires for the exit and to back up the belays bolt. From the first bolt climb left on to the steep slabs and follow these, excellent climbing and sustained at a high level. After the last bolt wires are needed to protect the top section. A good ledge and one bolt + nuts or large sling for belay.

**6. 45m 5b. (6a).** Climb onto the flake and up to the roofs. Pull over these and climb the groove on the right . Now climb cracks to the top of the route. *The first abseil slings can be used for descent or continue a further 12m to reach abseil chains*

Descent. Make a 45m. abseil directly down to the big ledge. On the extreme left end are abseil bolts. Make three 45m. abseils down the face to reach the base of the wall, down the line of 'Rompededos'.



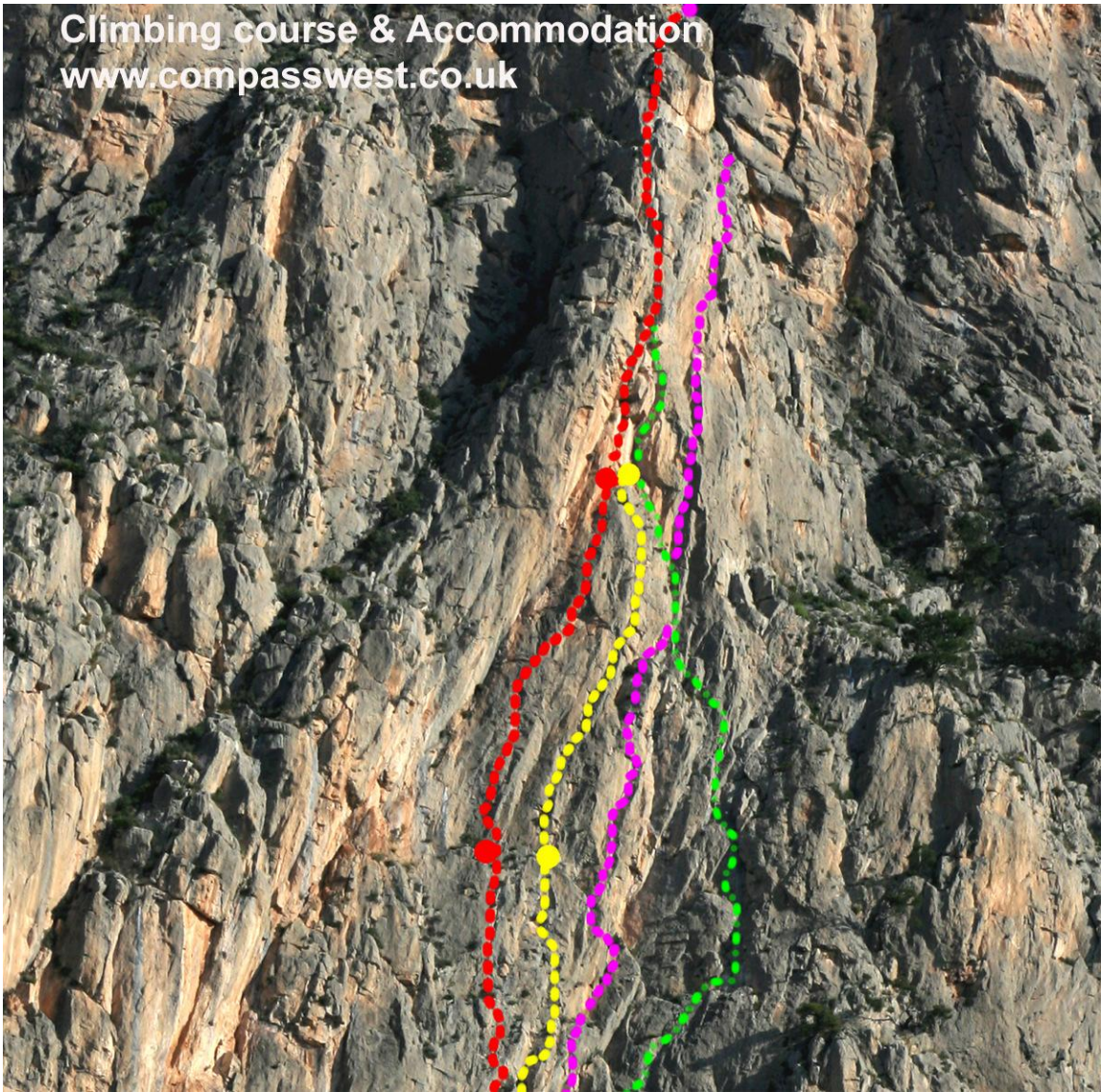


**Bottom section.**

- 7.** Witches of Voodoo. 195m. E2. 6a. (6b). \*\*\*
- 8.** Spellbound 165m. 6c/7a/6a/6c/6b+/5+.\*\*\*
- 9.** Deidro Magicos. 155m, Hard Very Severe. 5b. (6a).
- 10.** The Wizard.( El Hechicero ) 200m. E2. 5c. (6b).



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**Top Section**