

# Pleasure Domes



## **Approach to Pleasure Domes , Haunted Walls and Ajuga Pilar ( Cynical Pinnacle).**

From the A7, either approaching from Calpe or Alicante, exit on junction 65 (**Benidorm**) and head toward **Alicante** on the **N332**. Take the first junction towards **Callosa de en Serria**. and **La Nucia**. (**CV70**). Travel along this road passing three roundabouts. *This third roundabout leads off left up to Finestrat*. Continue straight on passing further roundabouts. Take the third exit onto the CV70 towards Guadalest. Go straight on at every roundabout (5). From the last one, where the road sign says right to Polop/ Callosa, (*the road up left goes up the hill to Echoes*) travel approximately 5-6 km, passing some restaurants on the right, until the first road on the left; with a large house by the junction. *To reach Guadalest continue straight on*. Travel this minor road for 200m and take the first left. Continue along this, it eventually becomes a rough track which is easy to drive on, until it becomes steep. Stop well before this and park in one of the lay-bys marked with a cairn.

**Note** sometimes it is impossible to drive all the way up to the Col but one can never tell if the road has been repaired after storms, it may be best to leave ones car at the base of the hill, unless you have a 4x4.

A short walk from the lower car park, up hill, of about 15min reaches the col and the Pleasure Domes are immediately on your left.

**More climbing photos can be seen on Gallery at [www.compasswest.co.uk](http://www.compasswest.co.uk)**

## **Approach from Sella**

An approach from Sella can be made but again one never knows what state the track will be in. If repaired it is easy, if not, you would have difficulty. As you reach the refuge at the Sella climbing area, continue straight on and follow the rough track until it reaches the steep hilly section, about 4km from the refuge. If you are not attempting to drive up the hill then park here to reach the Domes. This walk is a little longer than the other approach, about 20 mins of easy up-hill walking.

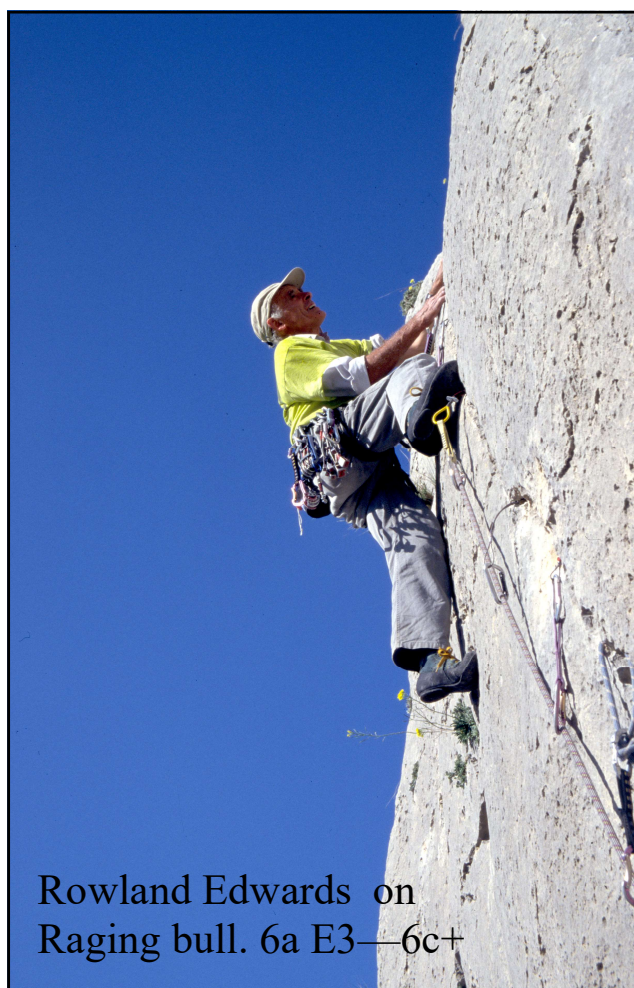
## **The Pleasure Domes.**

These are the crags immediately above the Col. The First obvious face with its superb cracks is The Temple of Doom (B on the Pleasure domes topo).

Approaches continued

### To Reach the Coliseum.

From the Col you now have to pick your way across the hillside along faintly defined goat and boar tracks. Which traverses the hillside, it is quite prickly so long trousers are advised. First descend down the track a short way until a small earth quarry on the left. Go up the right side of this to follow the faint tracks. You will see the whole of Pleasure Domes high up on your left. Continue until the last main feature will be the amphitheatre of **The Coliseum** .

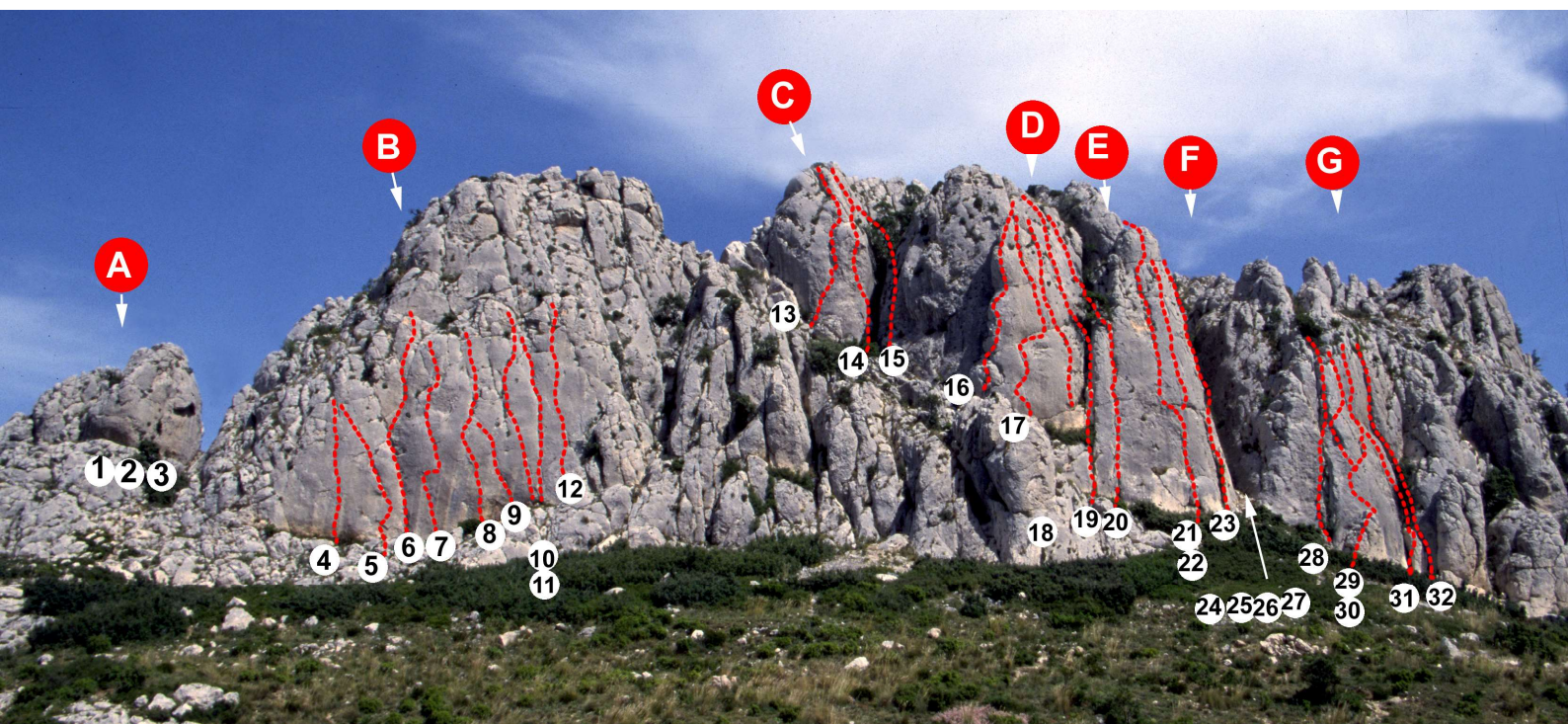


Rowland Edwards on  
Raging bull. 6a E3—6c+



Mark Edwards on New Star  
25m. 7b. (E7 6b).





### Pleasure Domes

Approach from the car parking as for Haunted walls.

The crag is very obvious from here. Cracks, slabs, walls and ridges fill the whole of the ski-line.

The rock is superb and the routes are far longer and even better than they look from the car park.

Care should be taken on top of some of the climbs as the summit rock can be loose in places.

The buttress on the far left is **(A) First Dome**. This is the small dome on the extreme left. **(B) Temple of Doom**. This is the next wall to the right which is very obvious due to the outstanding crack lines that slope right to left across its face. The next buttress right, and up the gully, is **(C) Deep chimney Dome**. To the right of this is **(D) Bulging Wall** an obvious bulging wall with its disjointed crack lines and to the right of this is **(E) The Steeple**, an obvious deep gully goes up its right side, this is **(F) The Canyon**. To the right of this is **(G) Pulpit Dome**.

**First Dome.** This is the small dome on the extreme left and is reached by a short walk.

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**1. But it's all over now! 15m. V+ (5a HVS).**

Climb the crack up the overhanging arete to a large flake. Easier ground is climbed to the top of the dome. Escape down the right looking out.

FA Mark Edwards & Harry mason

## **2. First Dome crack. 15m. V. (4c VS).**

This climbs the obvious central crack line to the top of the dome. Descend via next route or down as for previous route.

F.A M Edwards & R Edwards

## **3. First Dome Roof. 15m. 6a (E1 5a/b).**

This takes the good-looking wall and roof just right of FDC...

Climb the wall on small side pulls to make a difficult move to reach the roof (bold-no gear). Good gear in the roof, and pull over it to climb delicately up the slab above to a spike lower off.

FA Mark Edwards & Harry Mason

## **The Treasury**

The obvious rock face seen from the parking area which is seamed with slanting cracks and steep walls.

Approach

Walk up the path towards the left side of the wall and follow the faint track to below the main face.

## **4. The Moment 20m. 7b. (E7. 6b).**

This takes the front face of the first smooth and pocketed wall, and left of the obvious groove/crack line. Start off a small narrow rock step and below a small hanging flake feature at 4m.

**1. 7b. (E7. 6b). 20m.** Climb bold and direct to the thin hanging flake. Arrange gear (cam & thin rope thread). Pull up direct to another thin thread (not in-situ), also small poor wire above in seam. Make bold and technical moves up to the wider crack (gear) and follow to a thread placement (not in-situ). Climb out away right to reach the lower-off bolt.

FA. M Edwards (not-seconded) June 2002

## **5. Angel City. 24m. 6a+ ( 5c E3).**

Start beside a thin flake boulder on the right of the wall.

**1. 6a+ ( 5c E3). 24m** Climb on to the boulder then direct and make bold move right into the slanting crack. Follow this until move left onto the wall which ends at the lower off of The Moment.

F/a. R Edwards 12<sup>th</sup> June 2003.

## **6 The Concrete Willies. 25m. 6b. (E2 5b).**

A beautiful climb, following one of the most natural features of the crag.

Start below the obvious groove/crack line that divides the left side of the crag.

**1. 6b. (E2 5b). 25m.** Awkward moves gain the groove crack, thin protection. Follow the crack to a rest ledge. Continue up the steeper groove line above right, on spaced holds but good protection, to finish up the wider crack above. Climb this to a big ledge. Bolt belay. Abseil/lower or scramble off to the left (looking in).

FA. Mark Edwards, Jenny Sutton & Rowland Edwards.

### **7. Stolen Blue 20m. 7c. (E7 6b/c).**

A stunning climb. Bold and committing climbing, with a powerful crux move. Start just right of the groove of Concrete Willies, and below a series of shallow pockets leading to the start of a thin crack line on the right, and ascending diagonally left.

1. **7c. (E7 6b/c). 20m.** Climb boldly up the wall via a series of finger pockets to a deeper pocket, crucial cam placement. Make a move. up and right (crux) to reach the start of a thin crack leading up the wall. Hard climbing up the crack with small cams and wires leads to an easing of the angle. Finish up the wall on the right to a bolt lower off.

FA. Mark Edwards (un-seconded)

### **8. New Star 25m. 7b. (E7 6b).**

A brilliant and sustained climb, with powerful and technical climbing.

Start below the left slanting thin crack line right of “Stolen Blue”, and from the sloping ramp.

1. **7b. (E7 6b). 20m.** Place a crucial wire protection placement in a pocket. Launch up and left onto the wall to clip the protection peg (bold). Move up and left to the start of a thin crack, small wire and micro-cams. Follow the crack until it is possible to reach the slanting crack on the right. Finish more easily up this to the lower-off bolt.

FA. Mark Edwards, Rowland Edwards & Bill Birch

### **9. Temple of the Moon. 25m. 7a. (E6 6b).**

Another classic line of the crag, with reasonably good protection where it matters.

Start further up the ramp and below a thread (in situ.)

1. **7a. (E6 6b). 20m** Climb the lower wall via a line of pockets to the thread. Make a move up and right to a large deep pocket (very large cam protection). Move back left to follow the thin pocketed crack line slanting to the left. Good protection follows, and the difficulty of the climbing also eases. Climb to the bolt lower off.

FA. Mark Edwards & Rowland Edwards

### **10. Raging Bull. 25m. 6c+. ( 6a E3).**

Start as for Lost in Spain.

1. **25m.6c+. (6a).** Climb the crack until a move left into the thin crack which is followed to good ledge. Either climb right to the lower off of Lost in Spain or go left up the steep wall/slab to the lower off Temple Moon.

F.A. R Edwards May 2003

### **11. Lost in Spain. \*\*\* 25M. 6a E1. (5b E1).**

This is the obvious leftwards sloping crack on the right side of the wall.

Super crack climbing with good protection.

1. **25m. 6a+. (5b UK. E2).** Enter the crack from the left and then follow it to the top. Ascend left to reach the lower off.

FA. R Edwards. 16/2/002

## **12. Currency of Stones. 20m.. 7b/c (E6 6b).**

The next route is a vertical crack line. Thin technical climbing with a high peg above the crux moves.

Start on the highest part of the ramp, and below a smooth steep slab/wall, and just right of the vertical crack line.

**1. 7b/c (E6 6b). 20m.** Climb the first part easily to a thin crack. Arrange protection, and move up into the crux of the climb. Using both thin seams, climb the steeping slab to make hard moves to reach the protection peg. Continue up the steeper wall above to the lower off.

FA. Mark Edwards & Harry Mason.

### **Deep Chimney Dome**

This is the dome up the next gully right which can be identified by the deep shady chimney on its right side.

Approach from the right.

## **13. My King Dome. 25m. 6b. (E3 5c).**

Start on the left side of the dome (looking at that the rock face) and below a rightward slanting shallow and steep groove.

**1.6b/5c. (E3 5c). 18m.** Move up into the groove line, and follow its continuation to where it steps. Make a hard move to reach good holds and an easing of the difficulties. Continue up the arete above to a lower off just below the summit.

FA M Edwards, H Mason, B Birch. R Edwards

## **14. Source of Vitality. 23m. 7a (E5 6a).**

A route of character, quality of climbing and excellent rock.

Start inside the deep chimney. Bridge up the outside edge to the protection peg.

Make one move up and swing left around the arete and onto the front face.

Climb the centre of the face passing a thread (in situ.). And continue direct (bold) to the overhang. Surmount the overhang, and continue up the arete above to the bolt lower off (shared with My King Dome).

FA. Mark Edwards, Rowland Edwards

## **15. Deep Chimney 25m. V. (VS 4c).**

A hidden classic, with surprisingly good climbing.

Enter the chimney, and climb this past a tree. Move up and into the groove/crack line on the left wall of the chimney (crux). Follow the groove to easier ground, and move onto the left arete/ or climb direct to the bolt lower off.

FA. Mark Edwards & Harry Mason

### **Bulging Wall.**

This is the dome just right of the gully of Deep Chimney Dome with a steep bulging arête on its left side. This is:-

**16. The Shadow. \*\*\* 25m. 6a+. (5c E2).**

A superb climb with a very strenuous start. The rest of the route is less strenuous and in a fine position

Start on the extreme left side of the dome below the rounded arete.

**1. 25 m.6a+. (E2 5c).** Start from the left side of the bulge using the downward pointing flake, to a ledge above. Climb the arete above moving right at the top to reach a lower off bolt..

F/A. R Edwards B Birch. M Edwards. 23/3/002

**17.Cracks of Joy.\*\*\*25m. 6a. E2. (5b E2).**

Start below the steep faint crack in the lower bulging wall just right of the arete of The Shadow.

Excellent crack climbing.

**1. 25m. 6a. ( 5b. UK).** Climb up and then left to climb the steep bulge. Follow the crack and climb right along the slab to the next crack. Climb this to a lower off at the top.

F/A. R Edwards B Birch 20/3/002.

**18. Hit man. 40m. 6a+. V. (5c. 4c. E2/3).**

Start at the right side of the dome below a groove/crack.

48m. 6a+ (5c). Climb the groove/crack to the first ledge( belay possible).

Move left to the base of the steep wall and climb this to the overlap. Move left into the steep crack and follow this to a lower off just below the top of the dome. 25m.

F/A. R Edwards June 2003.

**19.TODO Orenada 48m. 1V. 1V. ( 4b. 4b Hs).**

**1. 22m. 1V. ( 4b).** Climb the groove/crack to a ledge and continue up the next one to a good ledge on the left.

**2. 26m. 1V. (4b).** Climb the wall just right of the belay to gain a thin flake. Follow this and the slab above to the top of the crag and lower off.

F/A. R Edwards. June. 2003.

**The Steeple Dome.**

The Dome is the obvious tower shaped dome on the right.

From the car park area walk diagonally up the hill to the base of the crag. 5 mins.

**20. Lightening Crack.\*\*\* .50m. V. V-. (E1. 5b. 4c).**

Superb crack climbing with excellent protection which climbs the obvious jagged crack on the left of the dome..

**1. V. (5b. E1).** Climb the crack direct to a lower off/ belay.

**2. V- (4c VS).** Climb the gully for a short way and then onto the slab on the left. Follow the crack to the top and then go left to reach the lower off.

F/A. R Edwards 2/2/2002

**21. Revelacion 30m. 6a. (5b. E1).**

Start in the centre of the wall below a crack in a large boulder.

**1. 30m. 6a. (5b. E1).** Climb the crack and then the steep pocketed wall to a horizontal fault. Move slightly left and climb the steep shallow groove to a ledge. Climb the left side of the head wall.

F/A. R Edwards 4/2/002.

**22. Centre Piece. 28m. 6b+ E4. (6a. E4. Uk.)**

Superb climbing sustained at a high level.

Start as for Revelation in the centre of the large boulder.

**1.30m. 6b+. (6a. UK.)** Climb the crack onto the ledge. Climb the pocketed wall to the horizontal fault.

Move right and climb the centre of the wall making some difficult and technical moves at the top to reach a ledge. Climb the headwall above to reach a bolt. (25m abseil)

F/A R Edwards. 5/6/002.

**23. Saber Bailador (Sabre Dancer)\*\* 30m. V. (5a. Hard very severe ).**

Start just left of the gully entrance below a wide crack..

**1.30m. V. (5b)** Climb the flake on the left and enter the crack. At the top move right and then follow cracks in the arête, Follow these to a sloping ledge and climb the headwall .

F/A. R Edwards 4/2/002.

**The Canyon.**

**24. Zig-zag. 25m. V. (5a. Hard very severe).**

Start in the gully below a large boulder.

**1. 30m. V. ( 5a).** Climb the steep slab and move left onto the arête. Follow the cracks in this until it is possible to move right into a recess. Climb the wall to a lower off on the right.

First ascent. R Edwards

**25.On the Edge. 25m. 6a+ E2. (5b+ E2 ).**

Start from below or on top of the boulder. The lower start is harder.

**1. 25m 6a+ (5b+ UK.)** From the boulder step left onto the steep wall and climb the wall left of the edge of the buttress to a lower off.

F/A. R Edwards 5/6/002.

This is the deep gully to the right of Steeple Dome

**26. Bombero. 25m. V-. ( 4c. VS).**

Start from on top of the boulder below the groove.

**1.25m. V-. (4c)** Climb the groove direct to the top. Bolt lower off.

F/a. K Martin. R Edwards 3/3/002.

**27. El Infeurno. 25m. V. ( 5a HVS).**

Start some distance up the gully beyond the boulder. The first moves are V (5a) after this it is only 1V.



1.25m. Climb the shallow scoop on the left ( thread runner) and then climb directly up the slab on superb large holds to reach the lower off on the left.

F/A. K Martin. R Edwards. 3/3/002

### **Pulpit Dome**

#### **28. The flying Firemen. 25m V-. (4c. VS).**

Start at the base of the wall juts right of The Canyon. and just left of a wide vertical crack.

**1. 25m. V-. (4c).** Climb the slab to the left of the crack which is entered just above the tree. Follow the crack to the top of the wall Thread belays

F/A K Martin 3/3/002.

#### **29. Pulp Friction. 25m. V. ( 4c).**

Start to the right of The canyon ,below a large boulder.

**1. 25m V.(4c).** Climb onto the boulder then up boldly onto the slab on the left. Climb the groove on the right of the prow then move right and up to the lower off.

F/A. R Edwards. E Edwards 3/3/2002

#### **30. Choir boys. 25m. V. (4c).**

Start as for Choir Boys.

**1. 25m V. ( 4c).** Follow Pulp Fiction, onto the slab, and move RIGHT at the overhang onto a ledge . Climb the thin crack above to reach the lower off.

F/A. R Edwards. D Peaton . March 2002.

#### **31. Cruz. 25m. V. (4c).**

Start in the below the boulder at the base of the chimney on the right.

**1. 25m. V. (4c).** Either climb the wide crack on the left of the boulder or up the wider gully on the right. From the top of the boulder move onto the slab and shallow ramp on the left. Follow this until the thin crack of Choir Boys, which is followed to the top and lower off.

F/A R Edwards D Peaton. March 2002.

#### **32. 22<sup>nd</sup> Calle. 25m. V+ (5b).**

Start as for Cruz to the top of the boulder.

**1. 25m V+. (5b).** From the top of the boulder climb the crack above and follow this to the

wider one in the head wall. Climb this to the lower off on the left.

F/A. R Edwards. January 2002.

## Aguja del Espiritu Dome

*Notes This is the buttress to the far south.*

A very beautiful wall to climb on. Far more impressive once you are climbing on it. The rock is superb and the climbing is excellent

Approach.

Continue traversing along the path and make for the largest wall, well over to the right. Below this are two detached pinnacles lying to the left of the main face.

### **33. Flying Buttress. 90m. V. (VS. 4c).**

The easiest of the routes on this wall so far. Good climbing with a spectacular finish.

Start below the right hand side of the lower pinnacle.

**1. 35m. 1V. (4b).** Climb the crack and then the left edge of the pinnacle to its top. Traverse right and down and climb the next one to belay in the col below the main face.

**2. 40m. V. (4c).** Climb the sloping cracks, keeping just right of the edge of the face, making for a shallow depression at the top. Move into this and climb up to the overlap. Pull over this onto a good ledge and bolt belay (abseil possible. 50m.).

**3. 15m 1V- (4a).** Climb the ridge to the top of the face.

Descent. Abseil back down the route. Or walk off back down north of the summit.

F A. R Edwards 20/2/2002

### **34. Ocean of Light. 40m. 6b. (E3 5c).**

What a route!!

Superb climbing on immaculate rock. A pure classic.

Start. From directly below the foot of the pinnacle scramble up ledges into the gully on the right to below the obvious steep groove.

**1. 40m. 6a+. (E3. 5c).**

Climb the steep broken corner up to the block on the edge of the wall above.

Move left into a crack and follow this to a thread runner. Move right onto the steep slab and climb this (thread in situ) to a thin crack going up the head wall.

Climb this to reach to top.

Descent. Abseil from the bolt.

F/A R Edwards M Browam. 14/2/2002

### **35. Mananita. 28m. V (5a. HVS).**

Star as for Ocean of Light.

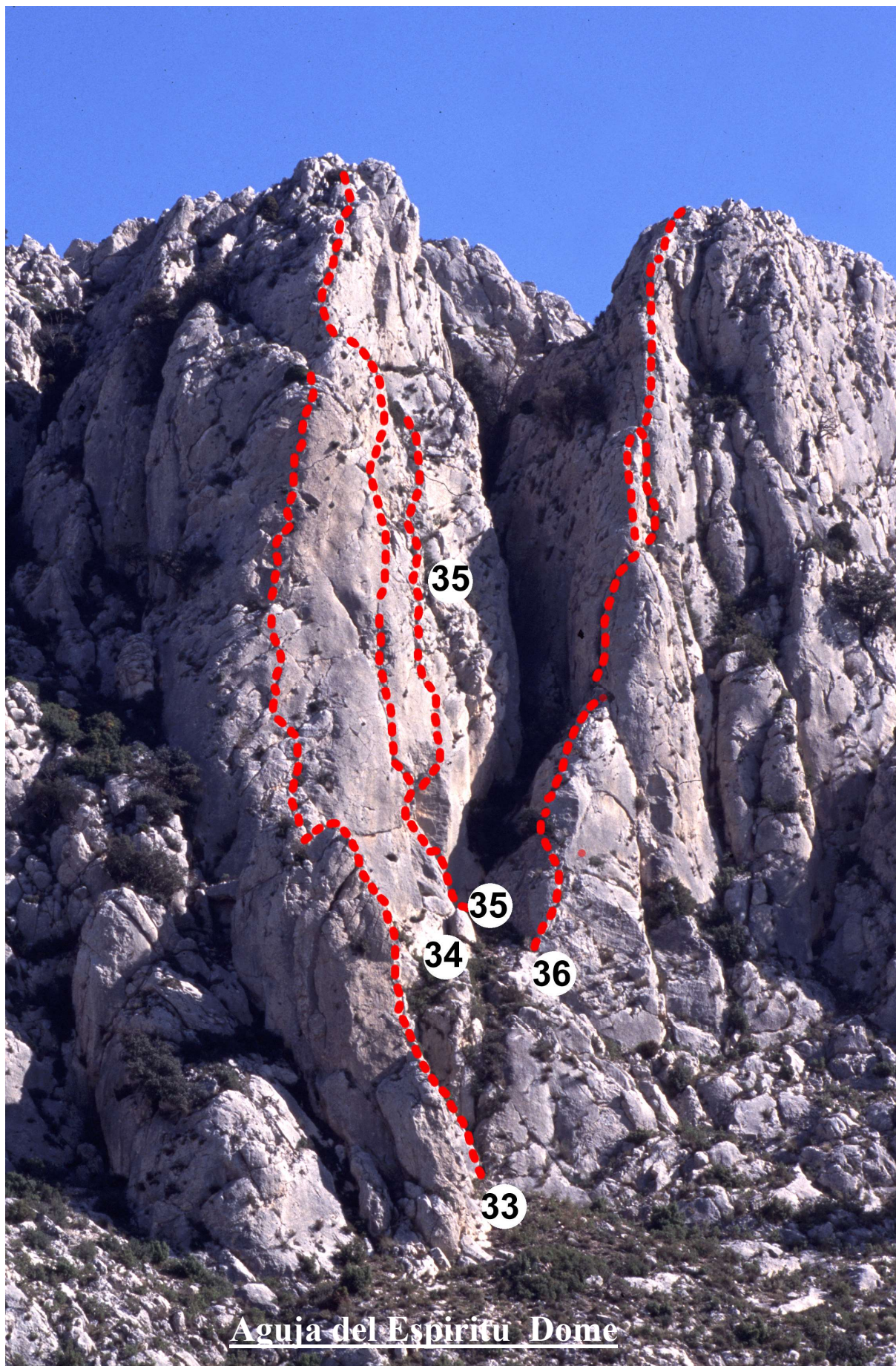
**1. 28m. V. (5a)** Climb into the groove on the left and go up to the overhang.

Climb the crack on the

right and continue up the wall above to a ledge and bolt belay/abseil.

F/A. R Edwards. T Van Aerts. D. Woeroun. 23/5/002





Aguja del Espiritu Dome

**2. 35m 1V. ( 4b).** Climb either the wall or crack behind the belay to the foot of the arete. Climb across the right wall and then up a crack to a ledge. Climb the arete to a good ledge and belays. Thread to abseil from.

**3. 15m 3 ( Very Difficult. )** Climb the artet to the top. Walk off and back down to the thread . 50m. abseil ends in the gully.

FA. R Edwards D Peaton. April 2002.

### **The Coliseum (area name.)**

Approach. From the car park follow the path horizontally south (as for Haunted walls etc.) until you reach a large boulder on the path. Just a few metres beyond this is a large amphitheatre (the Colliseum.) The obvious wide vertical crack is taken by Predator.

### **37. Towering inferno. 30m. 7a. ( 6a+ E4).**

A sustained climb and quite bold in some places.

Start just left of the vegetated gully on the left of the steep crack of Predator.

1. 30. 7a. (6a+). Climb the slab to a flake on the edge of the tower. Climb directly up to two bolts close together. Climb the wall to the break above and move left along a crack which leads to a steep wall and bolt. Go up this to the lower off.

F/A. R Edwards June 2002.

### **38. Predator. 30m. 6b. (5c. E3)**

A sustained perfect crack climb with some exciting moments. Well protected by natural threads, which should be in place.

1. 30m 6b. (5c). Climb the crack direct to the bulge and continue to follow the wide crack to a lower off.

FA. R Edwards. K Martin. 16/6/002.

### **39. Predator Left Hand. \*\* 30m 6b (5c E3).**

1. 30m 6b. (5c). Climb the crack until level with the overhang on the left.

Move left to reach a crack going over the roof and using this surmount the roof onto the wall above which ends at a lower off.

F/a. R Edwards June 2003.

### **40. Telegraph Road 25m. 6b. (5c E3).**

Excellent crack climbing.

Start to the right of the deep crack of Predator below a slab with a flake on its right side.

1.25m 6b. (5c). Climb up to the flake and into the thin crack above which is followed to the top and a lower off.

F/A. R Edwards April 2003.



**40. Telegraph Road 25m. 6b. (5c E3).**

Excellent crack climbing.

Start to the right of the deep crack of Predator below a slab with a flake on its right side.

1.25m 6b. (5c). Climb up to the flake and into the thin crack above which is followed to the top and a lower off.

F/A. R Edwards April 2003.

**41. Phantom Crack. 25m. 7a. (6a+ E5/6).**

Start as for Telegraph Road to the first horizontal break and continue up the right hand crack to the top of the wall. Move left at the top to reach the lower of of Predator.

F/A. R Edwards. April 2003.

**42. Sea of Dreams. 40m. 6c. (6a. E4/5)**

A superb climb which is sustained at a high level of technical difficulty. Certainly one of the best climbs here.

Start just to the right of the middle of the wall below a line of faint cracks sweeping up leftwards in an arc to reach the hanging deidral at the top.

**1. 40m. 6c. (6a).** Climb the steep slab to reach a good pocket just below the small bush crowing out of the wall. Now follow the faint disjointed crack system to a bolt in the steep bulge. Climb past this on the left and continue to follow the faint disjointed cracks which eventually end in a spectacular traverse left on small pockets. Ascend direct and then left beneath the steep headwall (bolt) to a thread. Move up into the deidro which is climbed to its top and finish up the wall direct to reach a bolt belay and lower off.

F/A R Edwards. K Martin. 17/6/002.

