

## **Espolon De Guadalest; 263m. 6/c ao 6a. (6a E4/5).**

First ascent. R Edwards. T Phillips. 15<sup>th</sup> June 2003

A truly magnificent rock climb which weaves its way up this very impressive buttress. The climbing is interesting and challenging through out the whole climb. Protection is good. Some bolts and pegs are used where protection and all the belays are bolted.

**Approach** as for Deidro Edwards along the track going south below Peña Roc. Below the next series of pillars a narrow path leads off up hill. Follow this until an obvious area of stone fall.

1. 15m. 1V. ( 4c. Very Severe). Climb up the series of short walls to reach a bolt belay at the base of a shallow groove. Belay bolts.
2. 30m. 6a+ AO. ( 5c. E3). Climb up to the first of two bolts and using these reach up into the groove proper. Continue to follow the groove until a move left, below a peg, can be made. Pull up onto a difficult mantelshelf then move right and up to continue in the same line to the top. ( Move left and up to the belay bolts).
- Walk 10m left to the base of the steep slab and belay bolt/Nuts.
3. 25m. 6b- ( 5c. E4). Climb diagonally up to the first bolt and continue in the same line (\$ bolts in all). At the last bolt make a bold move left into the crack system which leads to a small ledge and good thread/nuts. Belay.
4. 20m. V. (5a Hard very Severe). Climb the cracks and grooves above to reach a good ledge (the ledge of the wobbling flake) and bolt belay.
5. 30m. 6b/c. (6a ao) ( 6a E4). Traverse left to the first bolt and make thin move right(bolt) to reach a small ledge. Move right and down slightly around the arête, into a corner. Climb up to the peg above, move right(peg) then ascend left(bolt) and climb the bulge into a groove. Follow this to a bolt belay.
6. 18m. 1V. ( 4a Severe). Climb down diagonally right into the far corner and go down to the belay below (bolt).
7. 20m V. (5a. Hard very severe). Climb diagonally across the slab on the right (two bolts) to belay on the arête. (bolt/nuts).

8. 20m 6b (6a ao). (6a. E5). Climb diagonally up to reach a flake and stand on this to reach a bolt. Ascend leftwards with increasing difficulty to reach a small ledge on the arête and bolt/nut belays

9. 25m. V. ( 5a. HVS). Climb directly to the bulge above and surmount this into a groove. Up this and the rock above to a good ledge and bolt/nut belays.

10.25m. V. (5a HVS). Climb directly up the broad arête to a flake. Climb up this then left and up to reach a small ledge and bolt/nut belays.

11. 35m 6a ( 5b E1). Climb directly up the wall above to reach the left arête and zig zag through the overhangs ( Bolt) then climb the headwall to reach the top. Belay well back on a thread in the large blocks.

Descent. Walk back down the gully on the right or traverse above the rock faces on the left and descent to the path leading down through the narrow passage which leads to the track below *Penya Roc*.

## **A Vertical World. (El Mundo de Vertical) 205m. 6c/7a? or 6c ao.**

First ascent. R Edwards T Phillips. L. Fallon 27<sup>th</sup> September 2003

A superb climb with very contrasting pitches. Exposed and demanding. A classic alpine style route.

**Approach** as for *Deidro Edwards* along the track going south below *Penya Roc*. Below the next series of pillars a narrow path leads off up hill. Follow this until an obvious area of stone fall.

1. 15m. 1V. ( 4c. Very Severe). Climb up the series of short walls to reach a bolt belay at the base of a shallow groove. Belay bolts.

2. 30m. 6a+ AO. ( 5c. E3). Climb up to the first of two bolts and using these reach up into the groove proper. Continue to follow the groove until a move left, past a peg, can be made. Pull up onto a difficult mantelshelf then move

right and then continue right in the same line to the top. (Move left at the top and up to the belay bolts).

3.20m.2. Scramble up to the base of the wall and traverse right to a bolt belay below a steep crack.

4.25m 6c/7a? or 6b+ ao. Climb the wall to the first bolt and follow the pockets ( bolt) to the roof. Traverse left to gain a vertical crack which leads to a tree. Traverse left again across the slab (bolt) and then direct to a thread runner. Traverse left and down to a bolt belay in a wide bay.

5. V+. 35m. Climb the overhanging wall which leads into a wide water worn channel. This leads to a bolts belay.

6. 20m. V. Climb directly to the base of the overhanging corners above which are followed to a small ledge and bolt/cam belay.

7.40m. 6a+/6b? Continue up the deep chimneys and cracks, passing two bolts, until the angle eases where a bolts on the right , below an overhang can be clipped. Swing right and climb the steep crack to a good ledge and bolt belay.

8.20m V. Climb directly up the slab then traverse right onto a small ledge. Go direct and climb the steep pillar to another small ledge and good thread runner in the slab above. Nut/thread belay (hanging).

9. 35m 6b+. From the belay ascend right to a bolt,climb direct to reach another just on your left. Climb to the roof ,traverse left and surmount this to reach a good belay ledge and bolt/nut belay.

10. 20m V. Climb the slab just left of the belay and then the roof above , on its left edge. Climb the slab above to the top. Bolt belay.

## **Dreamworks. 216m. E4/5. New route right of Casiopia.**

V/7a.or 6a+ and AO/ 6a/6c+/6a/V/V/6a+/V+.

(4c/6a or 5c and AO/5b/5c/ 5b/4c/4c/5c/4c).

Approach as for Espolon Gaudalest and Vertical Worlds. Once on the path continue along the base of the steep overhanging walls until a fence is reached by a buttress leaning up against the main wall. Go Over the fence and continue up the slope until below broken rock and steep groove above. This is also the starting place for Casiopea.

1. 25m. V. (4c) Climb the broken pillar rightwards, making for a small overhang. Go over this onto a slab and move right to a small ledge and bolt / nut belays.

2. 25m. 7a. or 6a+ and AO. (6a or 5c and AO). Climb the slanting groove to until the steep bulging wall. Climb this (3 bolts and one peg). Above the steep bulge traverse right onto a small ledge and bolt belays. This is also the belay of **Apocalypse**.

3. 20m. 6a. (5b). Climb the overhanging groove on the right, making a strenuous pull over the final roof (bolt) to reach a good ledge and bolt belays.

4. 18m. 6c+ (5c) (mainly bolt protected). Climb up to the overhang above (bolt) and move right onto the wall above. Climb this bolt protected, until a sloping ledge is reached and a hanging bolt belay. (continuing will create a lot of rope drag).

5. 30m. 6a. (5b). Climb right and up left to a bolt. Move up and ascend right (bolt) to an small overlap. Pull over this and ascend left to belay in the wide crack (bolts).

6. 35m. V. (4c) Climb the crack and enter the wide chimney where a short scramble leads to a bolt belay.

7. 18m. V. (4c). Climb the steep wall on the right to a thread. Go directly into the large cave / chimney and belay at the back (threads).

8. 25m. 6a+ (5c). *A spectacular pitch* Climb the chimney to the roof and traverse out to the lip (three bolts). At the lip move out onto the right wall and climb this (peg) to a good ledge and bolt belays.

9. 20m. V+ (4c). Climb the continuation cracks to the top of the wall. Belay on the large tree at the top.

F/A R Edwards M Edwards January 17<sup>th</sup> 2004.

## **Apocalypse. E3. 6c (5c).**

Approach as for Dreamworks until the fence.

A very steep and bold route. There is still a slight amount of loose rock present on this route but not worryingly so. Well protected and steep enough to allow for air time.

Start by the fence at the base of a broken buttress below the impressive overhanging orange wall.

1. 35m 6c. (5c). Climb the broken rock and make for a steep broken wall to the left of the obvious slanting crack ( this can also be climbed but is still loose in places). Climb direct to a traverse line going right . Follow this and then direct to a thread runner. Move right and climb onto a slab in a nich. (bolt). Move right (bolt) then up and right again(peg). Climb the overhanging cracks which lead to a perfect groove ( bolt). Climb this and move left at the thread runner to the bolt belays of -----.

F/A. R Edwards G Davies 18<sup>th</sup> December 2003.