

## **Sea cliffs Toix.**

These sea cliffs have now been developed as a superb adventure climbing area. The rock is mainly perfect and natural protection can be found in the most unlikely places. The rock architecture is awesome, overhanging most of the time but with some routes, particularly Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour, finding their way through with surprising ease. Saying that there are also some very hard routes here to satisfy the most demanding adventurer.

Some routes have the new ENP system in place. This system is rust proof and unlike the older bolted routes on the cliff will last longer. There are plans to either replace these with bolts or staples. Any route re-equipping will be notified on: [www.compasswest.co.uk](http://www.compasswest.co.uk) or Rock fax

**Entry to the climbs.** To do the whole **Journey to the Promised Land**, make the entry as for Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour. A shortened climb, for those who have already descended into the magic land (this is the large area under the ladders you land on after the abseil), one can abseil down the line of the last two pitches of R.M.M.Tour. For those who wish to enter **The Promised Land** area make two or three abseils down the line of that climb from bolts in the top of the cliff. These will be found at the end of the steep section of descent track, just as you reach the area of Prickly Pear cactus on your right. Descend down the right hand track to a cairn. Cairns mark the fixed abseil point. Make one 35m abseil to bolts. And then either one long 50m abseil to a small ledge at the side of a pillar. Or make a short abseil to another fixed belay (Of Rowland's Promised Land) and then another to the small ledge. You will most likely end up with part of your rope falling into the sea. This soon dries out before the second climbs.

Description of the whole traverse and routes leading of from it; See Ultimate description for only the traverse itself.

### **Route 1.**

**Via Edwards. 20m. 7a** ( fully bolted sport route). **Note.** The lower off has not been placed yet and the finished route will be longer and harder.  
F/A. M Edwards. October 2002.

Approach from the bottom of the ladders. Traverse left (looking in) and across a gully to the foot of a very impressive overhanging prow with stalagmites dropping from it. This is the route. Exciting and pumpy climbing.

### **Route 2.**

**Malice Aforethought 55m.** E3. 6b-6a. ( **E3. 5c - 5b**).  
F/a. R Edwards D Golding. 28th December 2000

An awesome route which gives some unique and spectacular climbing

Approach.

As for Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour to the bottom of the ladders.

From the bottom of the abseil walk up right to the base of an obvious awesome overhanging crack.

**1. 27m. 6b. (5c) This pitch only.** All gear in place although a few cams (1.5 to three) may be found useful. Climb the crack (two staples) to a good ledge in the roof. (belay possible to avoid rope drag). Climb out along the roof (two bolts) to the lip and swing out onto the steep wall on the right. Bridge out and climb the overhanging wall (two staples and a thread, trending right at the top and then left into the wide bay and good ledge. Staples.

**2. 28m. 6a. (5b).** Climb the right wall to a good ledge and thread. Move up right to gain the arete and climb out onto the steep arete. Climb this direct to the top. Belays (friends) well back on the right side of the boulder

### Route 3

**Lady in Space. 57m. E3. 6b-6b-. (E3. 5c-5c)**

F/A. R Edwards. M Edwards. R Mayfield. 13th Jan 2001

Another awesome climb starting up the first pitch of Malice Aforethought and taking the large roof of the cave direct.

Approach.

As for Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour to the bottom of the ladders.

From the bottom of the abseil walk up right to the base of an obvious awesomely overhanging crack.

**1. 27m. 6b. (5c) This pitch only. All gear in place although a few cams (1.5 to three) may be found useful.** Climb the crack (two staples) to a good ledge in the roof. (belay possible to avoid rope drag). Climb out along the roof (two bolts) to the lip and swing out onto the steep wall on the right. Bridge out and climb the overhanging wall (two staples and a thread, trending right at the top and then left into the wide bay and good ledge. Staples.

**2. 30m. 6a. (5c-).** Climb the wall on the right of the cave until it is possible to traverse left onto the opposite wall. Traverse this and make some hard moves up into the roof

(Threads). Continue to climb out to the very tip of the cave and then climb the short wall to the top

#### **Route 4.**

##### **Goliath. 45m. E7. 7a/b (6b/c E7)**

F/A. M Edwards. R Edwards. 24/11.00

An awesome route climbing directly through the large tufa just to the left of the descent ladders. Excellent varied climbing on equally excellent rock.

Start left of the ladders (facing in) and below an obvious large overhanging pinnacle/rib with a hole through its base.

**45m. 7a/7b (6b/c).** Start up the left side of the pinnacle and move out at the onto the arete. Follow the edge to below an overhanging groove (2 thread). Climb the groove direct to a crack (thread) and enter the chimney between the large tufa. Climb direct (2 threads) and exit onto the overhanging headwall. Climb strenuously directly up this (run-out ) to a good thread. Continue to a slabby ledge (thread) and climb the steep groove to finish.

#### **Route 5**

##### **Candalabra del Sol. E5. 8a+. 5b. (6b. 5b).**

A truly amazing climb through the roof of this very impressive cave.

As the route stands at the moment it is unclimbable due to the hangers having rotted off from the bolts. Once these have been replaced the info will be published on our web site and in UK Climbing forums.

Approach as for R.M.M.T. until the first last cave after the Abseil. Belay at the back of the cave on a good thread.

A rack will be needed for the final pitch and may be useful on the roof section; otherwise the first pitch is fully bolted.

1. 50m. 8a+ ( 6b). Climb the very steep bubbly right wall (looking in) of the cave until it is possible to move onto the very steep wall on the right. Climb this to reach the roof and crack which leads out of the cave, Jam and bridge out across the roof (using the stalagmites) until it is possible to belay on a small ledge above the roof section.
2. 20m. 5b. Climb directly up to the top of the crag.

F/A. M Edwards. R Edwards February 1988.

## **Route 6.**

### **The Flame. 70m. E4 7b. (5c).**

A superb pitch up a wonderful tufa. Take some a small rack to reach the first bolt and for the second pitch.

Start on the left side of the cave (looking in) below the very steep left wall.

1. 35m. 7b. (5c). Climb the steep slab and make for the wide depression on the left. Climb out of this on the left and make for the hanging tufa. Climb up to this and make a bold move onto it. Climb the tufa into the cave on the left and belay.

2. 35m. 6a. (5b). Climb out of the cave and then the steep wall to reach the top.

F/A. R Edwards. M Edwards January 1988.

## **Route 7.**

### **Raptured Dreams. 40m. E3. 7a (5c).**

Start. Traverse out of the Candalabra cave to a wide ledge below a steep wall. The route climbs this.

A mainly bolted route but a small rack will be needed for the top crack.

1. 45, 7a. (5c). Climb the steep slab to the slightly overhanging wall which is climbed direct to the base of a crack in the headwall. Climb this (gear needed) to the top.

F/A. R Edwards. M Edwards. Feb, 1988.

## **Route 8.**

### **Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour. 120m. Very severe. 3/3/1V-/1V/V.**

**Diff/V/Diff/4b/4b/4c-5a** (although some say it's harder depending on how bold they climb) (not including walks and scrambles)

The whole of the route was climbed solo by R Edwards in 1986 after the discovery of the ladders.

From the bottom of the ladders.

Walk to left (looking in) to the rock step separating the two caves.

**1. 25m. 3. (diff.)** Traverse left to the arete and then left again, descending into the Candelabra Del Sol cave.

40m Walk/scramble left along ledges to the edge of the left wall and step round left onto a good ledge Belays.

**2. 10m. 3. (V. Diff).** Climb the wide crack on the left to a ledge.

**15m.** descend the ledge left into a hollow just before the edge of the buttress

**3. 20m. 1V-. (4b).** Traverse left (Old peg) to the arete and climb round this into a large scoop (One poor bolt) and pull up over the overlap into an even larger scoop. Belay on poor bolts or two Enp's (Rock 3).

**4. 25m. 1V. (4b).** Make an ascending traverse right across the right wall of the scoop to the right arete (1 poor bolt) and climb this, trending right at the top, to reach a good ledge with 2 enps (rock 3) (or continue to traverse right into the next cave with 1 poor bolt and gear)

**5.40m. V. (4c/5a).** Climb right and up into the next cave. Climb left onto the arete (one poor bolt) and go direct to a good ledge. Move right and climb the obvious groove, moving right at its top, to reach the top of the cliff.

## **Route 9.**

**Dimage. 50m 6a. 7b+ 0r 6a+ - A1 E4 ( 5b. 6b+ or 5c- A1. E4 ).**

F/A. R Edwards M Edwards M Jones. 23rd April 2000.

Good climbing in an excellent position. The rock is perfect throughout.

Start from the last belay of the traverse of Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour.

**1. 25m. 6a. (5b).** Climb left onto a shattered pillar then slightly up and round left onto the steep wall. Climb this, run-out at the top, to reach a small ledge and bolt belays.

**2. 25m 6b+ or A0 6a. (5c or a0 5b).** Climb right to the base of an overhanging wall. Climb this strenuously (three Super ENP's) onto a good ledge (belay possible). Climb the short wall above and then the shallow groove on the left.

## **Route 10.**

**Kubla khan. 90m. (Not including approach). 6a/7b oa 6b+/6b. E5. (5b/6a oa 5c /5c).**  
F/A. Rowland Edwards Michael Hesslinger 28th December 1999.

### Three Super- ENP's.

This is quite an incredible and superb route taking the overhanging crack line right of Rowland's journey to Xanadu.

This route overhangs through out its whole length although the climbing is sustained it is not technically difficult until the top head wall of the cave which can in fact be aided, lowering the grade considerably, even so one has to climb at 6b/c at a minimum.

Start by first following Rowland's Journey to Xanadu until the eight pitch.

**1. 30m. 6a. (5b).** Climb the crack to the first cave (belay possible) and then continue to climb the crack into the next large cave.

**2. 40m. 7b. (oa 6b). (6b/c oa 5c).** Climb the wall on the left and bridge the across the roof crack. Continue to follow this, passing a number of insitu thread runners, until you reach the end of the crack, and the lip of the overhang, where it becomes a steep wall. Climb out onto the overhanging wall (one Super-enp) and climb this (two Super-enp) to a small ledge and belays ( thread up on right and one Super-enp).

**3. 20m. 6b. (5c).** Climb the steep overhanging corner on the right and then the slab above to the top.

### **Route 11**

**Rowland's Journey to Xanadu 145 m (from the belay of pitch 4 of R.M.M.T). E4/5. 6a+ oa 6a). 4a/V/V./6a+/6c/6a. (1V/4c/5a/5a/5b/6a/5b.**  
Six ENPs ( Cassin 5 or Rock 3 nuts )

One of the best routes in the area. This route has everything. Beautiful and dramatic rock scenery, perfect rock and climbing positions un-surpassed in the area. This route is very committing.

Start by following Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour to the large scoop belay (at the end of the traversing). 3 pitches of 3/3/4. to the large scoop belays.

**5. 20m. 1V. (4a).** From the belay traverse left around a pillar and cross over onto the far slab. Climb this up to the next bay higher up...

**6. 25m. Abseil.** Enter the narrow cave and abseil from the thread until you are in the bay just above the sea.

**7. 30m. V. (4c/5a).** Climb round the left edge onto the sea face and traverse left to a narrow cleft. This can be passed in two ways. If the sea is calm make a low delicate

traverse or if the sea is rough take a slightly high one, either way you end up on the far side of the cleft below a very steep and overhanging crack line.

**8. 20m. V. (5a).** Climb the steep crack to the **FIRST** cave and good stance.

**9. 25m. 6a+. (5b).** Six ENPs (Cassin 5 or Rock 3) Traverse out onto the left wall to an ENP. Climb direct (ENP) to a small slab and follow the crack left to a ledge. Climb the steep wall above (one ENP) to reach a good ledge (the eagles nest) and belays (three ENPs)

**10. 20m. 6c. (6a).** What a pitch - this is flying!. Climb up and then right into the bay and then right again until you step onto the top of a stalactite . Above is a thin and overhanging crack. Climb up (ENP) to the crack and follow this into a cave and thread belays.

**11. 30m. 6a (5b).** Climb up into the roof of the cave and move up and left onto the wall above. Climb this to a thread and then over the roofs on the left. Thread belays.

F/A. Rowland Edwards. Mark Edwards. Michael Esslinger. 11/12/99

**Variation to pitch 8 & 9.** *(Not as good as the original)*

**15 m. grade 3.** Continue the traverse until below a crack on the left. Belay.

**40m. 6a+. (5c).** (4 ENP's). Climb the crack and then ascend rightwards and up a short steep wall to reach a small ledge. Climb the wall above (one ENP) to the next ledge and belay on three ENP's.

## **Route 12.**

**Rowland's Promised Land. 145m. (not including the approach) E 4.**

**6a+.(5b-c). 3/1V/V/1V/1V+/6a+/6a/6a. (V.Diff/4c/4c/4b/4b+/5b-c/5b/5b.**

F/A. R Edwards. M Edwards R T Phillips. 17th October 2000

Allow 5-6 hours for the whole trip.

Three super ENPs. (RP.5 nuts)(These have been replaced with normal bolts)

A magnificent expedition passing through some of the most impressive rock scenery in Spain. The traverse is also the entry for a number of other routes which climb these spectacular walls. The rock is mostly perfect but take care as there could still be loose holds around.

Approach as for Rowland's Magical Mystery Tour to the Abseil.

An alternative start to reach the last three difficult pitches and also to reach the Amphitheatre is by too long abseils directly down the wall. The abseil points can be reached easily from the descent path. On the descent path you will start to descend a steep path on the edge of the cliff, and just as you reach the start of the broken steep crag on the left. Look for a large cairn on the edge of the cliff, below which you will see two staples. Using a long sling to join these abseil directly down the wall, passing a ledge, onto a lower one with two bolts. Using these abseil directly down again, free in places, until you reach a ledge below a pillar and just above the sea. Belay. This is pitch 9 of the traverse.

This description is taken from the ledge at the start of Xanadu and Kubla Kahn. The belay at the end of pitch 7.

**1. 18m. 3 (Very Difficult).** Cross the gully onto ledges and follow these until a buttress is reached and thread high up..

There are two ways of reaching Promised Land from here.

(A) Good climbing in an exciting position and the original climb.

**1a. 20m. 1V. (4c).** Descend leftwards onto the ledges which cross the wall below a slab. Follow these until you reach a corner. Belay here on nuts or make a move lower to an excellent thread but hanging belay.

**2a. 20m. V. (4c).** Continue to traverse left along thin flakes and small foot holds until you reach a good stance below a steep pillar. *This stance can also be reached by two abseils from above .*

*An easier alternative but with less interesting climbing (a safe option).*

*( 1B.) 50m 4b Severe. Step down and round the corner then up onto the slab going the full length of the wall.*

*(2B). 10m. 1V. (4b). Step down left and descend to the ledge and hanging belay below.*

**3.20m. 1V+. (4b+).** Climb left into the next groove and climb the left side of the pillar until a good ledge and thread belay.

**4. 30m. 6a+. (5b/c).** Climb direct to the top of the pillar and then immediately move right for a few moves. Ascend rightwards to the first of three bolts. Continue ascending right to the next bolt then direct to the last one. From here ascend leftwards crossing to an insitu thread and then to the hanging belay on staples.

**5. 25m. 6a. (5b).** Traverse left for a few moves and then ascent leftwards to a pocket. Continue direct to a good ledge at the base of the head wall. Nut belays.



**6. 45m. 6a. (5b).** Move right to below two small pockets in the wall above. Climb the wall using these then direct to the small overhanging buttress on the right. Move right at its base and climb the front of this to a ledge. Climb the slabs above and the short wall to reach the top.

### **Route 13.**

**Rowland's Ultimate Journey The final part of this expedition.195m.  
E2.1V/1V/V/1V/6a/6a. (E2.4b/4b.4c/4b/6a/6a).**

This starts from the hanging belay of pitch 2-3 (depending on which traverse one does) of Rowland's Promised Land.

**1. 25m. 1V. (4b).** Climb left and cross the wide gully onto the opposite slab. Continue left to a good sloping ledges and peg/Cams belay.

**2. 45m. 1V. (4b).** Go left to a pillar and climb down its far side onto a traverse line going left. Follow this to a thread runner, (alternative pitch possible here) continue to follow the crack in the wall to reach a good ledge below steep rock. (some old pegs)

**3.** (10m to abseil point threaded runner). Climb left to the thread and abseil 20m diagonally left to a small ledge And good peg /nut belays.

#### ***Alternative pitches to 2 & 3.***

***4a. 15m Make a 15m abseil to a good thread belay just above the sea.***

***5a. 25m. V. (4c) Traverse left to the corner and a bolt. Lower off this to reach the next traverse line going left into a good crack.***

***6a. 20. 1V. (4b). Climb the crack and then traverse left to a small ledge and belays. Peg/nuts. You are now back on route.***

#### **After the 20m. abseil.**

**4. 20m. 1V. (4a).** Move left to the sloping ramp which leads to a good ledge and belays.

**5. 35m. 6a. (5b).** Climb directly to the crack above and climb the wall just on its left, moving right at the top, onto a good ledge. Climb direct to another ledge and then climb steeply up the wall above. Traverse left into the far corner crack and follow this to a good hanging belay. (Bolts).

**6. 45m. 6a. (5b).** Climb the steep crack on the left and follow the steep wide groove and then the slab above to reach the top of the route. Bolt belays.

**Note.** Pitches 18 /19 can be reached from this point by making two abseils to reach the peg belay.

First complete ascent of Rowland's Ultimate Journey. Rowland Edwards. Pieter Minnaar. Bas Van Roon. 17<sup>th</sup> May 2003.