



Rock Climbing Guide Costa Blanca Los Pinos

A free climbing guide provided by *RockTopos*

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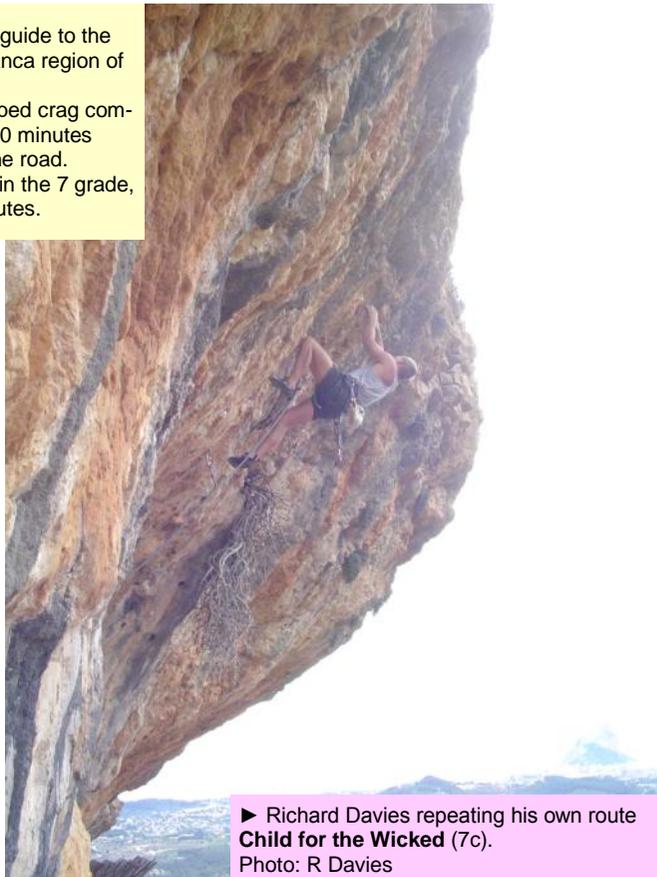
<http://www.freewebs.com/costablancarock/>

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This publication is a rock climbing guide to the Los Pinos sectors in the Costa Blanca region of Spain.

This newly discovered and developed crag comprises 32 routes and is less than 20 minutes from Calpe situated right next to the road.

The two areas offer hard climbing in the 7 grade, although there are a few easier routes.



► Richard Davies repeating his own route **Child for the Wicked (7c)**.

Photo: R Davies

INFORMATION

English

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Every effort has been made to make this publication as accurate as possible however the information provided is on an as-is basis. The descriptions of routes and the grades are recorded to assist the climber to attempt routes within their ability. Where the correct route name is not known a substitute is added in brackets ().

The publication of this topo does not imply any right of access or right to climb on this cliff.

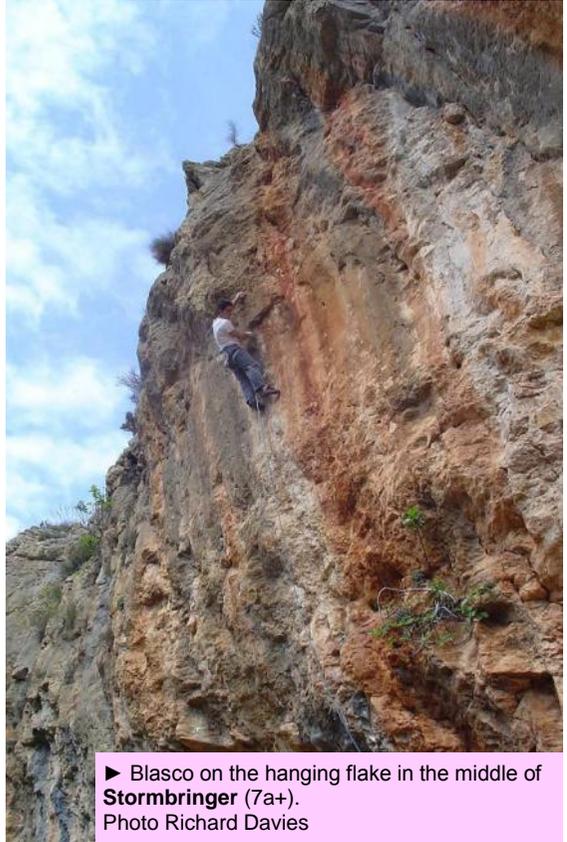
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If you have any comments, additional routes or corrections please e-mail these to rocktopos@hotmail.com



► Blasco on the hanging flake in the middle of **Stormbringer** (7a+).
Photo Richard Davies

LOCATION

SITUACIÓN

GENERAL APPROACH

Travel north from Calpe along the N332 towards Benisa, or from the south pass through Benisa to take the turning to Jalón/Xalo. Immediately take the road on the left, sign posted to the village of Pino's. After approximately 5 kilometres of twisty road you round a bend where the find Sector Pinturas is immediately above you. Park on the bend or travel ½ km further along the road to reach Sector Casa.

ASPECT AND CLIMATE

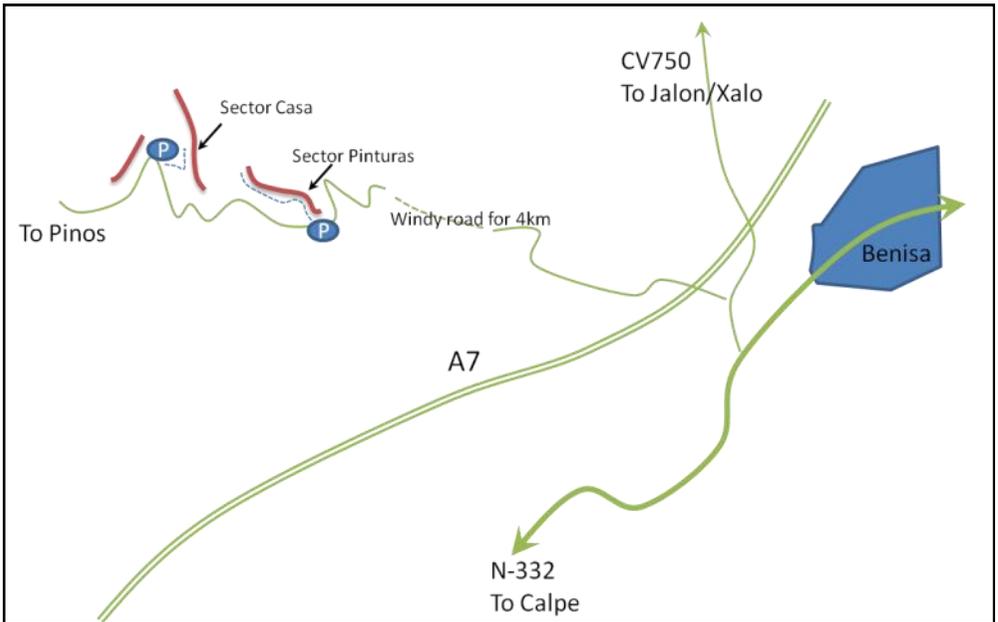
Pinos faces generally south west and both sectors are in the sun from mid-morning and onwards. They are not very exposed to either the wind or rain, but are open and high up to feel fresher than costal crags.

Sector Pinturas provides shelter from rain (at least for the climber), but after long spells of wet weather there can be some seepage on the roofs. Sector Casa however suffers very little from seepage and dries rapidly after any rain.

GEAR

All the routes are well protected by 10mm bolts and finish at good belays. A few of the routes require threading.





When to Climb

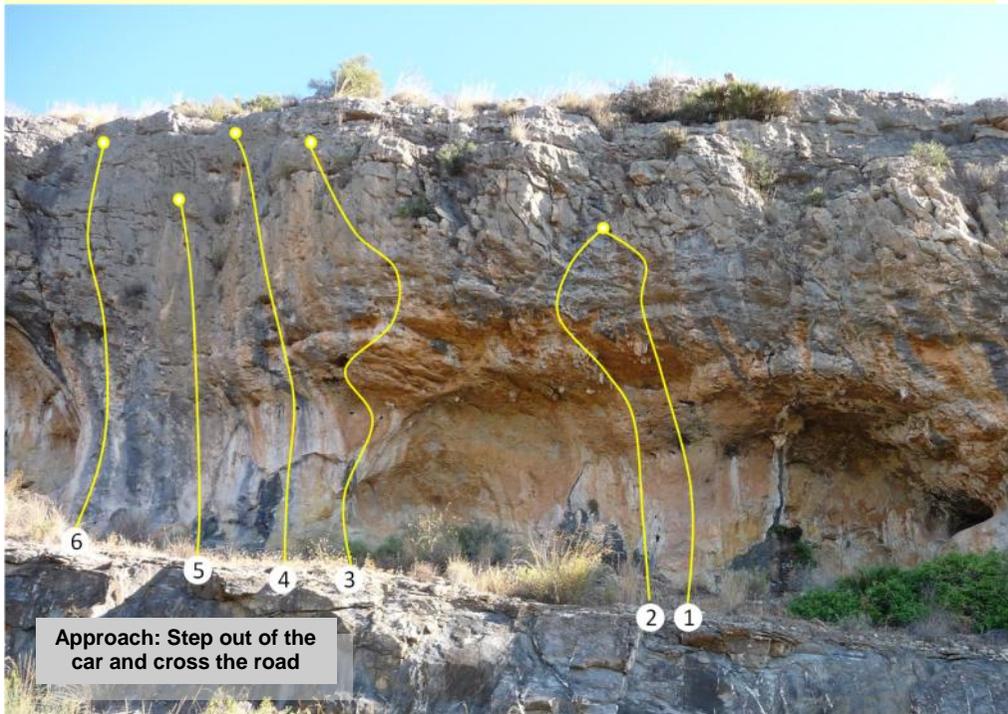
| | |
|---------------|---|
| Spring | Yes—choose the time of day depending on the sun |
| Summer | Yes—get there early and climb to 2pm |
| Autumn | Yes—same as Spring |
| Winter | Yes—if the weather is bad remember a pull-over |

Venue and Aspect

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sun or Shade | Shade in the morning until around 2pm. Sun thereafter. |
| Wind | Not normally a problem. In the summer may get a little breeze. |
| Wet weather | In light rain both sectors can be climbed on. |
| Seepage | Very little seepage and the walls dry extremely quickly after rain. |

Sector Pinturas

The crag starts above the road and runs for approximately 1km up the hill side. It is up to 15 meters high with a half height roof varying in width up to 6 meters and running the entire length of the crag. Unfortunately much of the cliff has a band of poorer, crumbly rock at the base, preventing greater development. A sign - Pinturas Fiestras is clearly visible from the road. The 'Pinturas' are protected by the structure of bars under the largest part of the roof. From the parking spot the view back to Calpe is superb and well worth the trip alone.



From the parking walk below the roof to the section which is described from right to left. The first two routes take lines across the big roof just before reaching the more vertical wall.

- 1. Blob Face**..... **7c** ★
 12m. Climb to the wide roof. Straight across this with increasing difficulty on the hanging tufas.
 F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003
- 2. The Destroyer**..... **7c+** ★
 12m. Climb left of Blob Face and traverse the shelf until it is possible to pull right across the lip by a short but fierce crux section.
 F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003
- 3. Paella is Waiting**..... **7b+** ★
 12m. Climb to the hole in the roof. Pull right past this to an overhung shelf and make long fingery moves up to better holds up and slightly left. Step left to climb the much easier upper wall.

F.A. Richard Davies – December 2003

- 4. Paprika** **7b** ★★
15m. Undercut to an obvious round hole at the break in the roof. Pull steeply to better holds and climb the wall above to the belay. Low in the grade and much easier if you're tall.

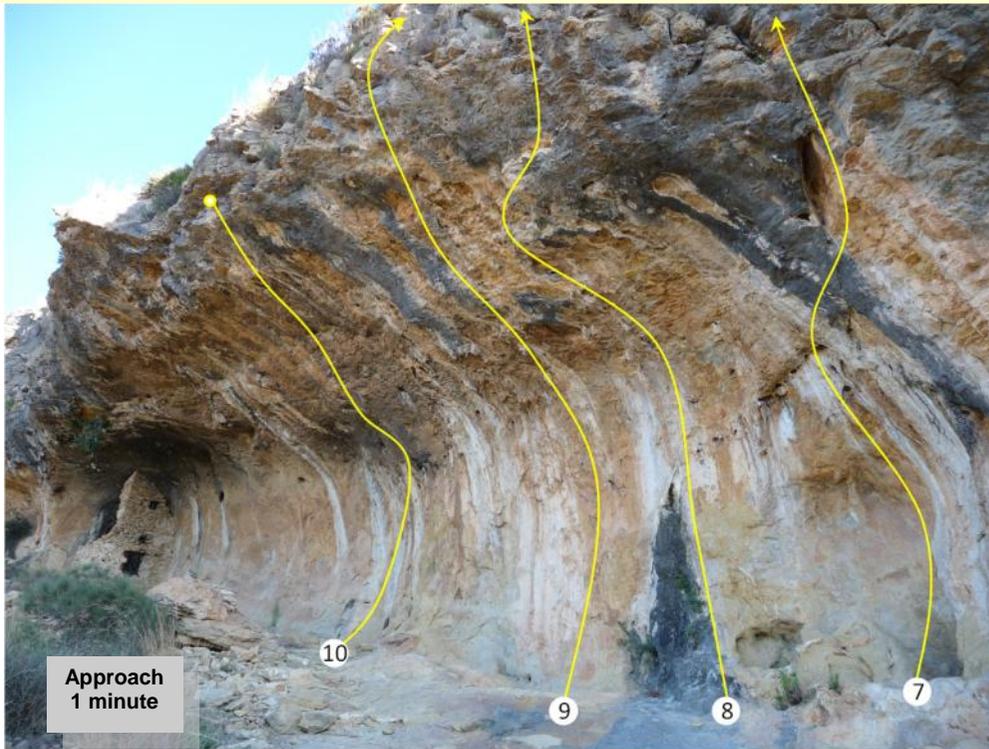
F.A. Richard Davies - April 2003

- 5. Original Route 1** **6c+** ★
10m. Steeply through the bulge using obvious but unhelpful pockets to the belay halfway up the upper wall.
F.A.

- 6. Original Route 2** **6b+** ★★
15m. A good line and easiest route here. Pull through the small overhang and continue up the slab.
F.A.

Sector Pinturas

A further 30m lead to the Pinturas protected by an enclosure. Just beyond this is a steeply leaning wall.



Approach
1 minute

10

9

8

7

7. Original Route 3

7a+



15m. Climb the steep flake line up the edge of the wall to finish at the belay of route 6.

F.A. Unknown.

The roof now gets bigger and steeper leading towards the "pinturas".

8. Jog Jog

7c+



10m. Climb to a tufa on the wall to the left. Somehow gain a large jug out in the roof, more right to good holds and a long reach to finish at the chain. Low in the grade.

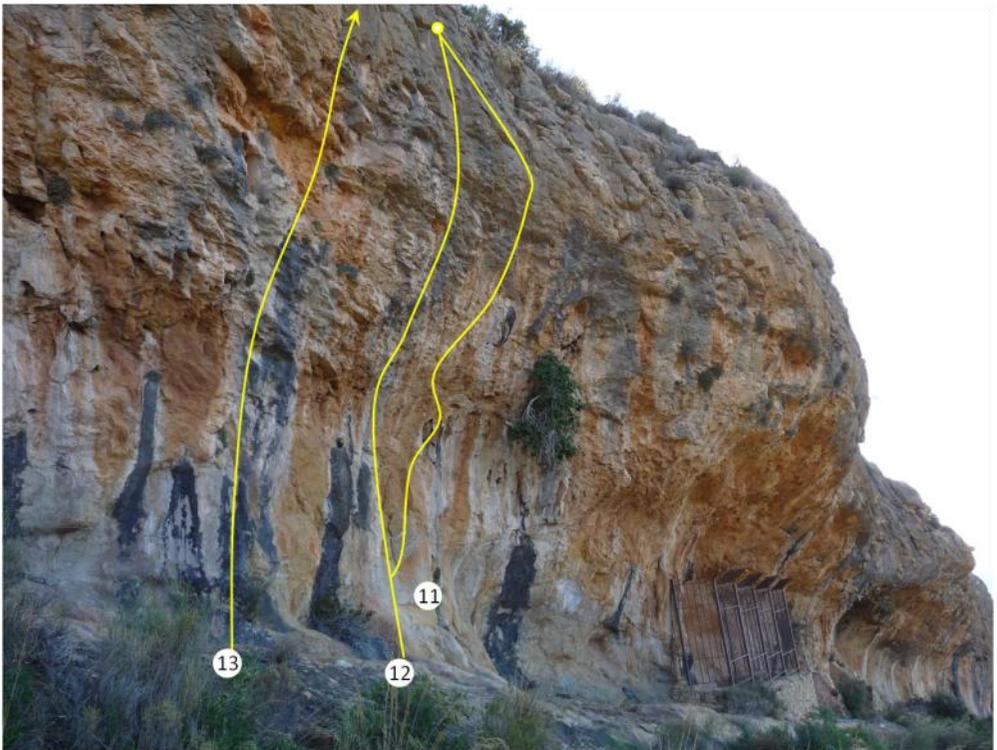
F.A. Richard Davies - April 2003

9. Project I

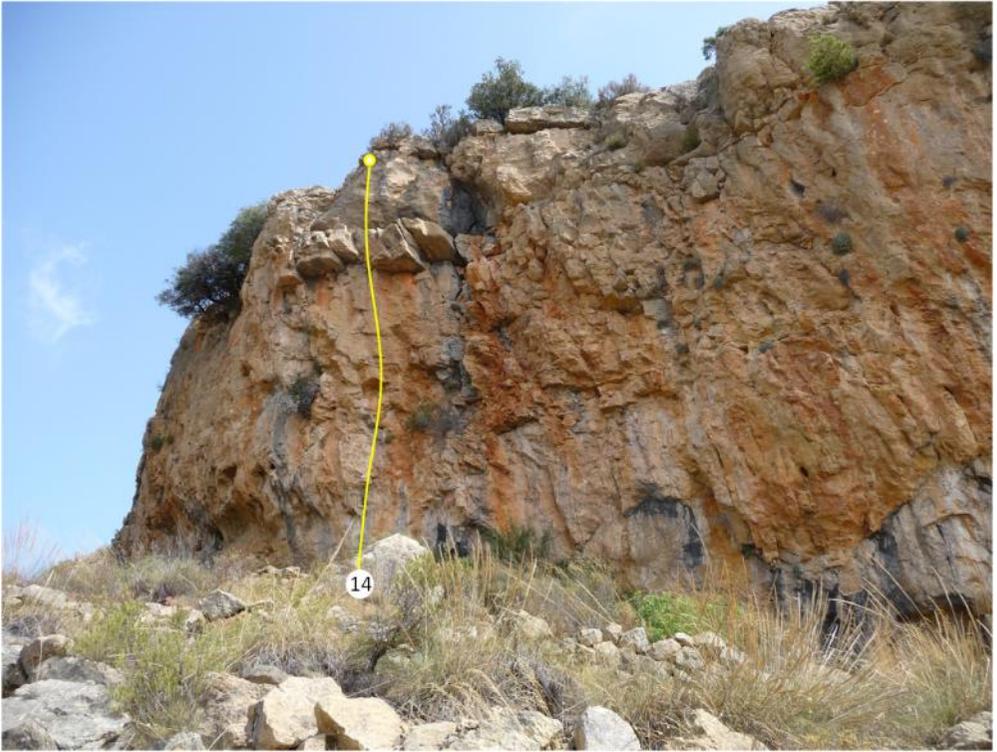
8b?

15m. Climb the roof to the left with two separate hard moves where there are no holds.

F.A.



- 10. Project II** **8a+?**
 18m. Climb the bigger roof to the left using a bolt on hold.
 F.A.
- 11. Child for the Wicked** **7c** ★★
 12m. A start by the flake and move right to a hole. Climb past the tufa to eventually gain better holds up and right. Move left to finish at the same belay as The Core.
 F.A. Richard Davies - December 2004
- 12. The Core** **7b+** ★★
 12m. From the start of the previous route climb straight up the wall.
 F.A. Richard Davies - December 2004
- 13. The Reaper** **7c+** ★
 12m. 2m to the left – a hard start leads to a very hard move to gain reasonable holds. More hard climbing eases only when the belay is reached.
 F.A. Richard Davies - December 2004



After a long gap of approximately 300m.

- 14. Unknown 1** **6c+**
12m. Climb the wall to pass between very loose looking blocks in the roof. 4 bolts.
F.A.



After 20m near the end of the cliff.

- 15. Unknown 2** **6c+**
8m. A steep start and wall above to gain a flake in the wall. 3 bolts to the belay.
F.A.

Sector Casa — Far Right

This sector is located on the next sharp bend of the road after the 21 km sign continuing towards Pinos. Parking is possible for 1 car on the corner or slightly further along the road next to the steep drop. The rock is much better quality than the previous sector and also the routes are a little longer. The right side becomes alarmingly steep towards the top. The sector stays in the shade until around mid-day and is quite sheltered from the wind and light rain showers.

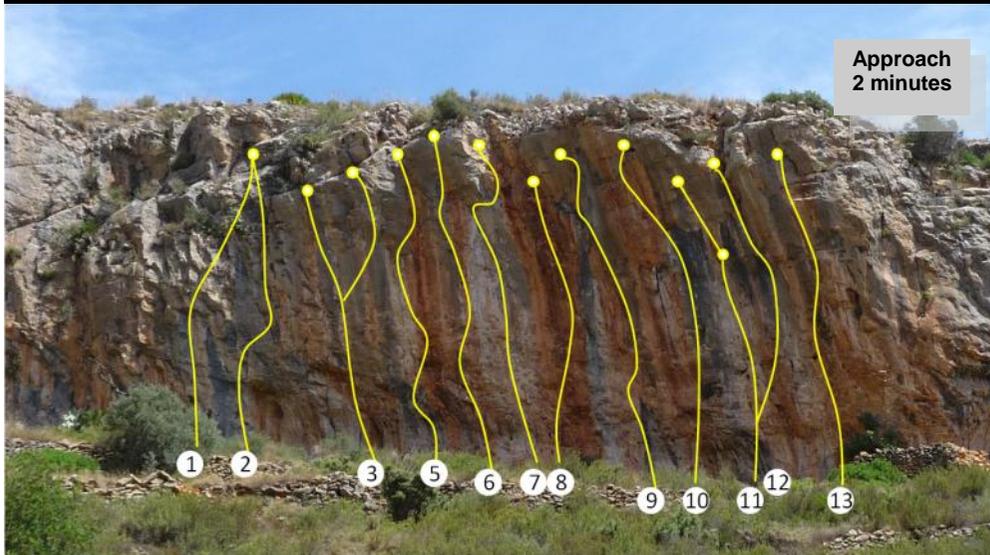


1. Gothika **6c+** ★
 15m. Start inside the stone wall, pull off the ground to better holds. Move left and up (hard) to gain the much easier upper wall.
 F.A. Richard Davies – December 2003

2. Life, the Universe and AI **7b+** ★
 15m. Start inside the stone wall as for Gothika, pull to the good holds, move right and pull direct through a roof. Continue up steep rock to the belay.
 F.A. Richard Davies – March 2005



Sector Casa—Right side



Approach
2 minutes

- 1. Jingo** **7a+**
 15m. Start right of the old tree. Climb past the hole and to a good hold below the overhang. Pull up and then move rightwards to finish up Bubble Trouble.
 F.A. Richard Davies – April 2004
- 2. Bubble Trouble**..... **7b** ★
 15m. Start left of the roof. Climb to a flat hold, make hard moves up and right to reach a thin flake. The upper section is much easier, but beware loose rock. Low in the grade.
 F.A. Richard Davies – April 2004
- 3. Storm in a Tea Cup** **7a** ★★
 15m. Climb to a small roof, pull over this and climb the shallow groove. Step right and pull up pockets in the steep bulge.
 F.A. Richard Davies – 18th August 2006
- 4. 2004**..... **7b+** ★★
 15m. A right-hand finish to Storm in a Tea Cup. Starting as for Storm in a Tea Cup at the shallow groove move up left to reach a bolt. Make hard moves rightwards to gain the steep hanging crack.
 F.A. Richard Davies – January 2004
- 5. Stormbringer** **7a+** ★★
 15m. Very hard boulder problem start through the bulge leads to technical climbing to gain a flake high in the wall. Continue up the sustained crack line.
 F.A. Richard Davies - September 2003

- 6. Artisan**

18m. Good jugs lead through the steep bulge. Pull onto a small ledge below the superb wall and take a weakness up this to gain more good jugs. Pull over the bulge to gain an excelent flake and stretch for the belay above.

F.A. Richard Davies—24th August 2008

7a ★★ ★
- 7. Eso Picante**

18m. Start below the hanging corner/flake and climb to this. Pull steeply right under the roof and up to the belay.

F.A. Richard Davies—August 2003

6c+ ★★
- 8. Tirade**.....

18m. Climb pockets to reach a poor rest below the bulge. Small holds lead to steep unrelenting climbing to the belay.

F.A. Richard Davies – August 2004

7c+ ★★
- 9. Batacazo**.....

18m. The central line links a series of pockets and cracks to a belay just below the top. Excellent and sustained climbing, low in the grade.

F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003

7c ★★ ★
- 10. Final Destination**.....

18m. The obvious line to the right finishing at a big hole high in the upper bulge.

F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003

7c ★★
- 11. Summer Rain**.....

15m. Climb the bottom bulge to reach a vague crack. Finish at the low belay. The unclimbed as yet continuation gains the pockets in the upper wall—8a+?.

6c+
- 12. ?**.....

17m. Climb past the first two bolts on Summer Rain and step right to below the crack line. There are two excellent holds at the foot of the crack but gaining these is hard. Pull into the crack which has somehow suddenly turned into a roof and hopefully reach the jug a few feet up.

Project
- 13. Poc Lizard**

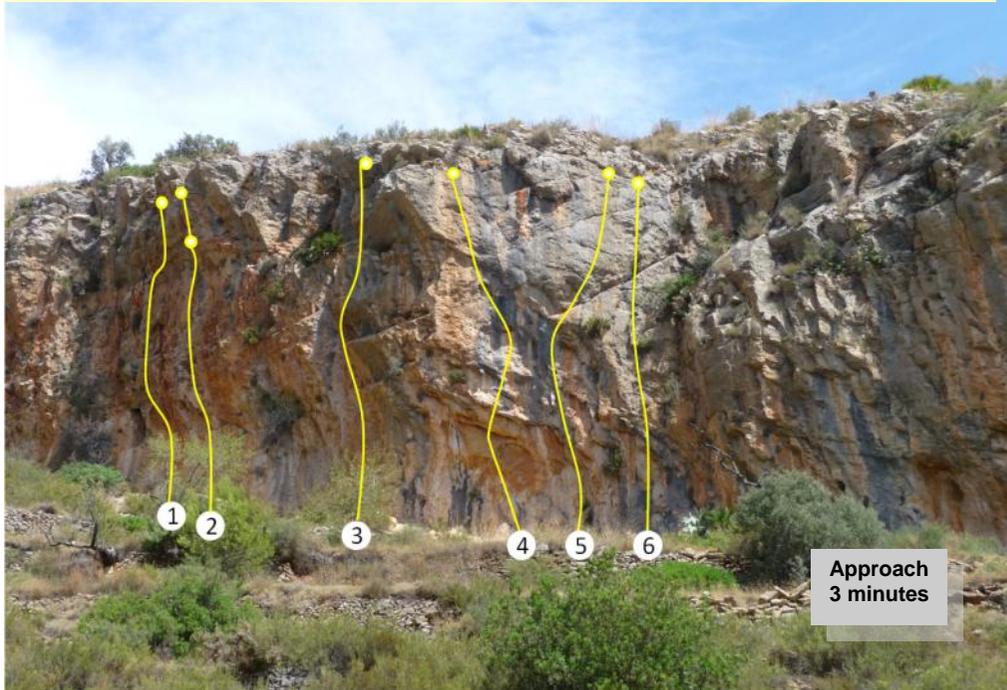
18m. Start off the wall and climb pockets to a short corner, pull up and stretch to reach the pocketed crack line in the steep wall. Pull onto the ledge above.

F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003

7b ★★

Sector Casa—Espresso Area

10 metres to the left is a smooth wall undercut at the bottom facing back towards the main wall. The rock is smoother and less abrasive.



1. Tasha Basher

15m. The leaning corner and wall to final bulge.
F.A. Richard Davies – December 2004



6b+



2. Penny Pinching

12m. Pass a small roof and gain a shallow groove which leads to the belay below the steep bulge.
3m. Continue through the bulge to the higher belay for a bigger tick at 7a+.
F.A. Richard Davies – December 2004



6b+



3. Algo Mas?.....

15m. The shallow groove is deceptively steeper than initial appearances suggest. Go over the steps to a final short wall.
F.A. Richard Davies – August 2004



6b+



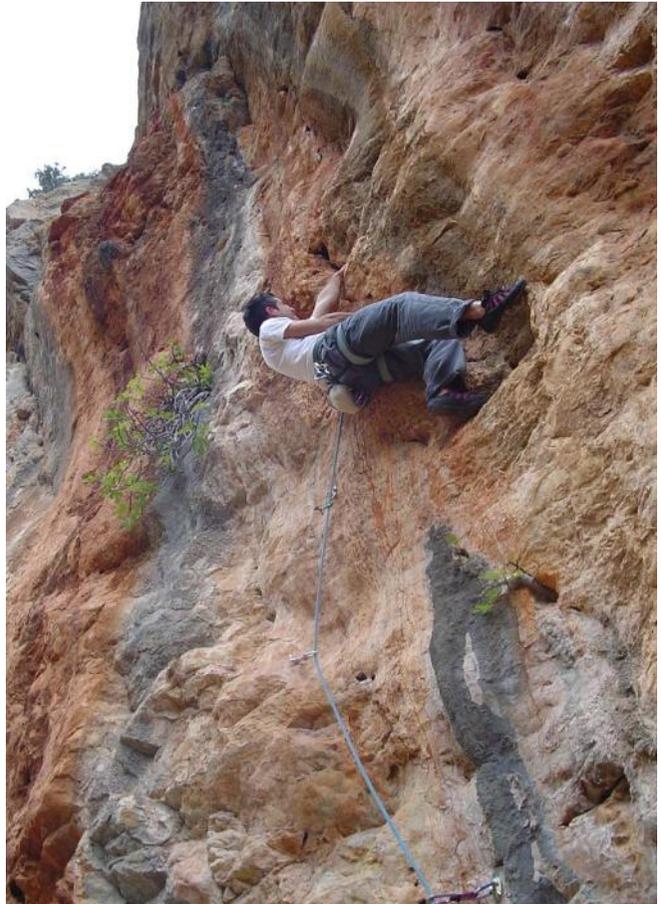
4. Espresso.....

18m. Start in the middle of the wall below a flake and pull steeply up until established in the groove in the middle of the wall. Exit this and climb pockets to the belay.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003



7a



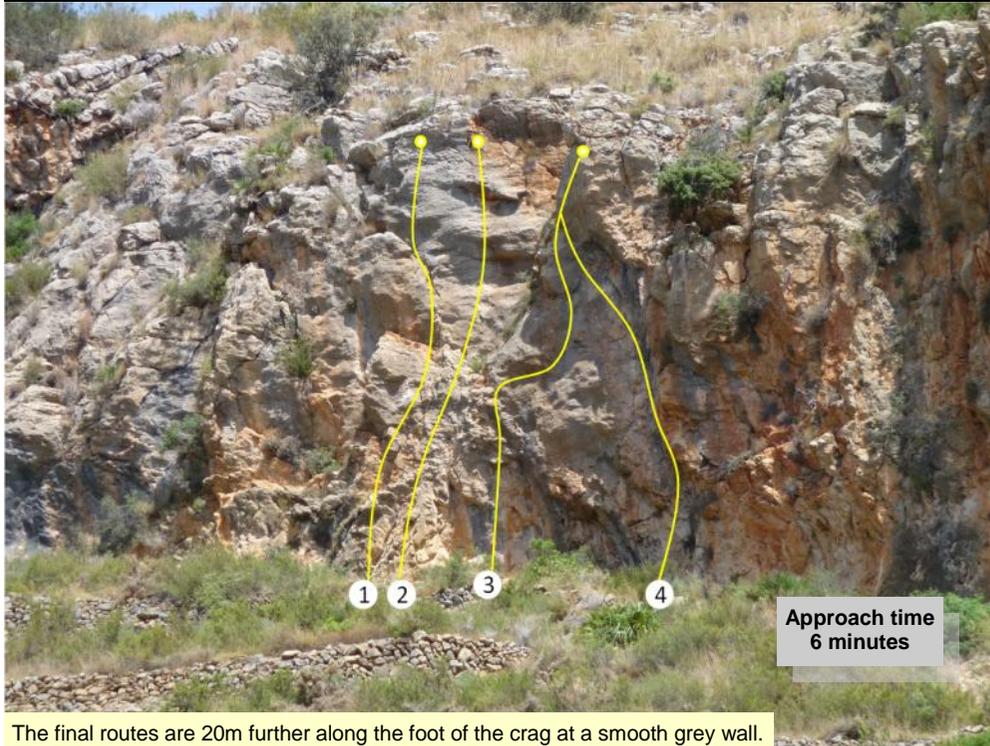


► Blasco starting up the steep pockets of **Batacazo (7c)**.
Photo: R Davies

- 5. Algoda** **6c+** ★
 18m. Climb the corner/flake line to the bulge. Move right and climb with difficulty up perfect rock to the belay.
 F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003

- 6. Trap Line** **6c** ★★
 18m. Climb through the bulges on good holds and continue up a groove. The upper wall is easier.
 F.A. Richard Davies - 24th August 2008

Sector Casa—Mediator Wall



- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------|---|
| □ 1. Jungle Fury | <input type="text"/> | 4+ | ★ |
| 12m. Start up the shallow groove and move up to a flake. Pull up and layback the bigger flake to a final thin pull. | | | |
| F.A. Richard Davies, Natasha Davies – 24th August 2008 | | | |
| □ 2. Lets Get Started | <input type="text"/> | 6b+ | ★ |
| 12m. Start up the shallow groove to the right. Continue up the stepped grey wall with a long reach to pass the small roof or move right around this (6a+) for an easier tick. | | | |
| F.A. Richard Davies – August 2004 | | | |
| □ 3. The Mediator | <input type="text"/> | 7a | ★ |
| 12m. Start up a short groove. Move right (hard) past the second bolt to eventually gain the easier upper wall. | | | |
| F.A. Richard Davies – August 2004 | | | |
| □ 4. Diamond Cutter | <input type="text"/> | 6c | ★ |
| 12m. Start up a short groove. Balance left past the second bolt to eventually gain the easier upper wall. | | | |
| F.A. Richard Davies – 24th August 2008 | | | |

| Grade | Route Name |
|-------|---|
| 7c+ | <input type="checkbox"/> The Destroyer <input type="checkbox"/> Jog Jog <input type="checkbox"/> The Reaper <input type="checkbox"/> Tirade |
| 7c | <input type="checkbox"/> Blob Face <input type="checkbox"/> Final Destination <input type="checkbox"/> Child for the Wicked <input type="checkbox"/> Batacazo |
| 7b+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Life, the Universe and AI <input type="checkbox"/> The Core <input type="checkbox"/> Paella is Waiting <input type="checkbox"/> 2004 |
| 7b | <input type="checkbox"/> Poc Lizard <input type="checkbox"/> Paprika <input type="checkbox"/> Bubble Trouble |
| 7a+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Jingo <input type="checkbox"/> Penny Pinching direct finish <input type="checkbox"/> Stormbringer |
| 7a | <input type="checkbox"/> Artisan <input type="checkbox"/> Original route 3 <input type="checkbox"/> The Mediator <input type="checkbox"/> Espresso |
| 6c+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothika <input type="checkbox"/> Original route 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Rain <input type="checkbox"/> Eso Picante <input type="checkbox"/> Algoda |
| 6c | <input type="checkbox"/> Trap Line |
| 6b+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Original route 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Penny Pinching <input type="checkbox"/> Lets Get Started (direct) <input type="checkbox"/> Algo mas? <input type="checkbox"/> Tasha Basher |
| 6a+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Lets Get Started (easy way) |

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