

Spain: Mallorca

Sport Climbing and Deep Water Soloing

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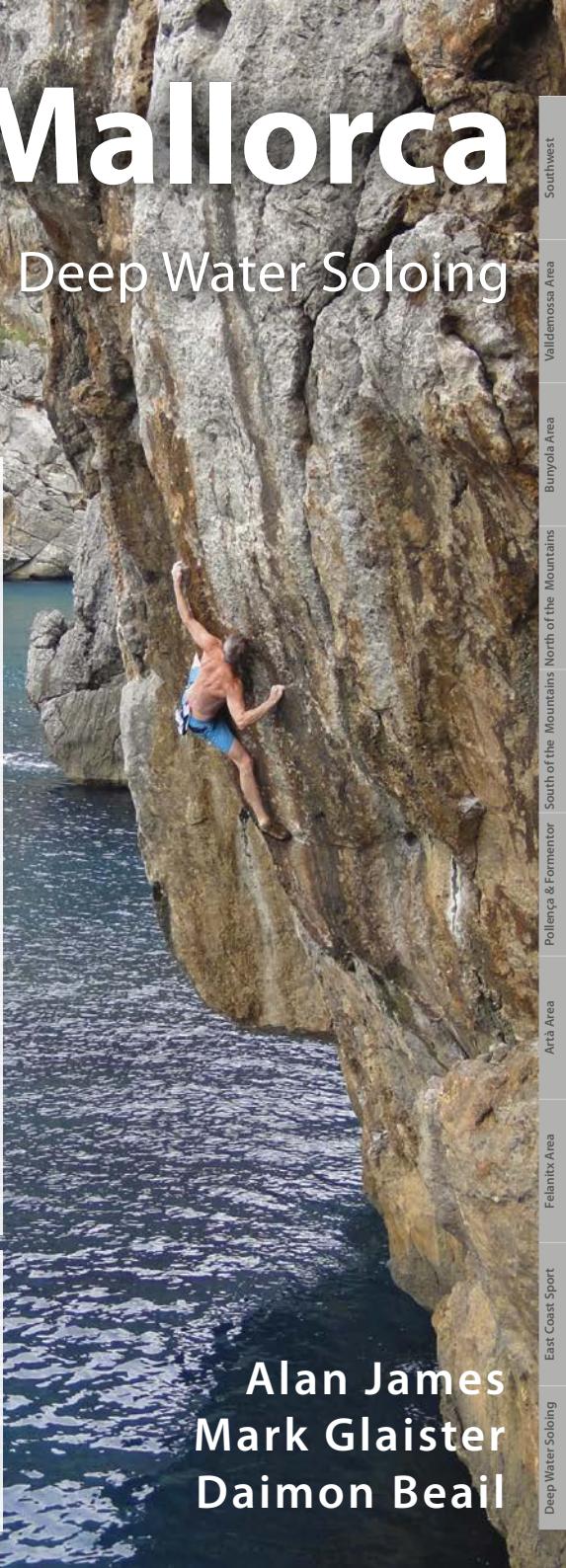
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Cover: Natalie Berry catching the late afternoon sun on the north-facing walls of S'estret. The route is *Octopussy* (7a) - *p.106*.

This page: Bernard Exley on *Wax* (7a+) - *p.365* - Sa Calobra. Photo: Adam Brown

This book belongs to:

Alan James
Mark Glaister
Daimon Beail



Southwest

Validmossa Area

Bunyola Area

South of the Mountains, North of the Mountains

Pollença & Formentor

Artà Area

Felanitx Area

East Coast Sport

Deep Water Soloing



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Paul Phillips tackling the brilliant and very sustained climbing on *Bombay Bicycle Club* (6c) - *p.105* - at S'estret. This route is one of many new additions to a set of walls on the shady north face which offer plenty for those operating in the 6th and 7th grades.

The stunningly beautiful Mediterranean island of Mallorca is one of Europe's great sport climbing and deep water soloing (DWS) destinations. Its magnificent mountains and coastal scenery are endowed with majestic locations in which many fantastic crags reside. Add to this a fine climate, a well-established tourist trade plus friendly locals and you have an ideal destination for the travelling climber. On a first visit to Mallorca most climbers will be astonished by the sheer quantity of rock on view - both in the mountains and on the coast - but the actual percentage of the crags developed is minuscule. Despite this there is still plenty to go at, though many of cliffs are not in the most obvious locations. The mountains have their fair share of fine crags but many of the other cliffs are located down on the rocky east coast, or out on the dramatic peninsular of Formentor.

Mallorca serves up plenty of climbing that will appeal to those operating at most grades, ranging from 3s and 4s to the current hardest at 9a+. Come and test yourself on some of Europe's steepest and best tufa systems in a shady north-facing cave; have an easy day ticking pleasant slabby routes on a perfect sheet of compact grey rock; or pump out above the blue waters on a DWS - all while soaking up some summer or winter sun.

Over the years Mallorcan sport climbing has developed at a steady pace, somewhat reminiscent of the laid back lifestyle to be found on the island. It is almost as if the amount of rock available has been so overwhelming that the local climbers were spoilt for choice. However, in the last few years however the pace has picked up and there is now an increasing number of active climbers discovering and developing some amazing crags. Major new venues like Cala Llamp and Commune de Caimari have been opened up, and some older areas like S'estret and Sa Mola de Felanitx have seen many excellent additions.

One of the great attractions of a climbing trip to Mallorca is the island's compact size and good network of roads, which allow all the crags to be visited from any of the host of accommodation possibilities. Mallorca's 'off-season' is the perfect time to plan a visit (unless DWSing). The island's mild climate, discounted accommodation and low-cost flights make it a prime choice for a winter sun sport climbing visit. What could be better than a morning spent relaxing on a sublime beach, or exploring an exquisite mountain village, followed by as much world-class climbing as the body and skin can take, and all rounded off by an evening in one of the quiet ports sipping a beer on a terrace as the sun goes down?

The Book

The possibilities for winter sport climbing on Mallorca first came to prominence in the late 1980s, whilst deep water soloing really took off in the late 1990s. The first Rockfax publication was in February 1995 and covered 12 sport crags across the island. This book is the eighth Rockfax publication and covers 34 sport crags and 16 DWS crags making 50 in total. The routes in this guide are presented in the familiar full-colour Rockfax style which offers the clearest method available for locating and choosing your routes for the day.

The information is as up-to-date as we can make it at the time of publication but new roads will be built, new routes will be climbed and new crags will be developed. If you find anything that is incorrect, out of date or confusing then please get in touch via the Rockfax web site - rockfax.com

Route Names

In order to create unique identities for the routes in our databases, App and printed books, it is essential that they have a route name. It hasn't always been possible to find local names for some routes and others are left without names by their developers. We have taken the liberty of giving names to all of the routes to aid in identification. In most cases, the 'invented' names are descriptive and inoffensive. If you know alternative names for these routes then please let us know via the Rockfax web site - rockfax.com.



The Creveta crags are a very popular option for anyone staying in the Port de Pollença area. Most of the routes are sustained wall climbs that pack in the technicalities on compact, off-vertical rock. In this shot a climber is midway up *Ca magre, puces* (6a+) - p.203 - on Creveta's Main Wall.

The Rockfax App brings together all the Rockfax climbing information with UKC Logbooks and presents it in a user-friendly package for use on all mobile devices.

The heart of the App is the Rockfax crag and route information covering individual crags, or bundles of crags, in 'areas' which correspond roughly to printed guidebooks. The main data is sold by subscription so that you can purchase access to all the Rockfax guidebook information for a period of time, from one month to yearly. Once you are subscribed, you will have access to every digital Rockfax guidebook for the period of your subscription. You can download the main data and store it on your device, so you don't need any signal to be able to read the descriptions and see the topos and maps.

There is also plenty of free data available without subscription, enabling you to get a really good impression of what the App is like without shelling out any money.

The Rockfax App itself is a free download and incredibly useful in its own right. It contains a detailed crag map linked to the UKClimbing crags database (currently with basic information and route lists for around 20,000 crags worldwide). The map also displays all the 4,000+ listings from the UKClimbing Directory of climbing walls, outdoor shops, climbing clubs, outdoor-specific accommodation and instructors and guides, amongst others.

To find the App, search for 'Rockfax App' in Google or on the appropriate store.

UKC Logbooks

An incredibly popular method of logging your climbing is to use the [UKClimbing.com](#) logbooks system. This database lists more than 494,000 routes and nearly 20,000 crags; so far, more than 40,800 users have recorded 6.8 million ascents! To set up your own logbook all you need to do is register at [UKClimbing.com](#) and click on the logbook tab. Once set up you will be able to record every ascent you make, when you did it, what style you climbed it in and who you did it with. Each entry has a place for your own notes. You can also add your vote to the grade/star system which is used by guidebook writers from many publishers to get opinions on grades and quality of routes. The logbook can be private, public or restricted to your own climbing partners only.

The Rockfax App can be linked to your [UKClimbing.com](#) user account and logbook so that you can record your activity while at the crag and look at photos, comments and votes on the routes. To do this you will need a 3G/4G data connection. You can also look at the UKC logbooks to see if anyone has climbed your chosen route recently to check on conditions.



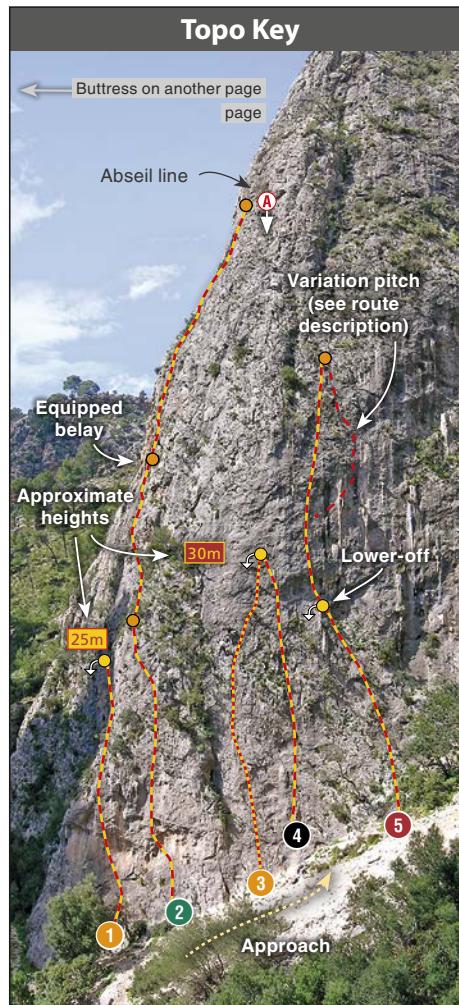
Route Symbols

- A good route which is well worth the effort.
- A very good route, one of the best on the crag.
- A brilliant route, one of the best on the island.
- Technical climbing requiring good balance and technique, or complex and tricky moves.
- Powerful climbing; roofs, steep rock, low lock-offs or long moves off small holds.
- Sustained climbing: either lots of hard moves or steep rock giving pumpy climbing.
- Fingery climbing with significant small holds on the hard sections.
- Fluttery climbing with big fall potential and scary run-outs.
- A long reach is helpful, or even essential, for one or more of the moves.
- Some loose rock may be encountered.
- Old bolts - do not climb. Routes without this symbol may have old bolts as well.
- A route which isn't fully bolted. A rack of gear consisting of wires and cams is needed.

Crag Symbols

- Angle of the approach walk to the crag with approximate time.
- Approximate time that the crag is in the direct sun (when it is shining).
- The buttress has some multi-pitch routes.
- The crag is exposed to bad weather and will catch the wind if it is blowing.
- The crag can offer shelter from cold winds and it may be a good suntrap in colder weather.
- The crag suffers from seepage. It may well be wet and unclimbable in winter and early spring.
- The crag is steep and may well offer some dry rock to climb when it is raining.
- Deserted** - Currently under-used and usually quiet. Fewer good routes or remote and smaller areas.
- Quiet** - Less popular sections on major crags, or good buttresses with awkward approaches.
- Busy** - Places you will seldom be alone, especially at weekends. Good routes and easy access.
- Crowded** - The most popular sections of the most popular crags which are always busy.

Topo Key

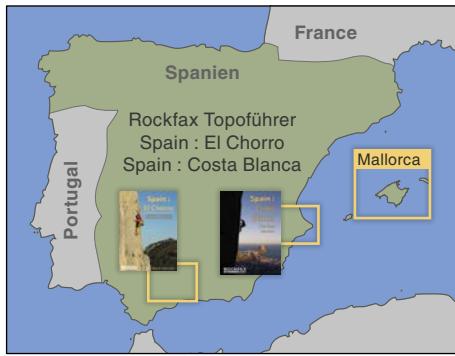


Map Key



Die wunderschöne Mittelmeerinsel Mallorca gehört zu Europas großartigen Sportkletterzielen. Mit ihren grandiosen Bergen und einer traumhaften Küstenlandschaft bietet die Insel eine majestätische Kulisse für die zahlreichen tollen Gebiete. Angenehmes Klima, ein gut entwickelter Tourismus und freundliche Menschen machen Mallorca zu einem idealen Ziel für Kletterreisen. Beim ersten Besuch fühlen sich die meisten Kletterer von der Menge an Fels förmlich überwältigt. Indes sollte man sich darüber im Klaren sein, dass sich Mallorcas Klettergebiete in stetiger Entwicklung befinden und die meisten der weniger gut zugänglichen Felsen noch nicht erschlossen sind. Trotzdem gibt es genug zu tun, viele Gebiete überraschen einen sogar dort, wo man sie nicht erwartet. Die Bergregionen verfügen über einige schöne Klettermassive. Viele Gebiete befinden sich auch am eindrucksvollen Cap de Formentor sowie an der felsigen Ostküste, an der in letzten Jahren auch einige spitzenmäßige Deep Water Soloing Gebiete entstanden sind.

Es gibt Routen in fast allen Schwierigkeitsgraden. So kann man sich an den steilen und überhängenden Sintersäulen der nordseitig ausgerichteten Höhlen austoben oder den perfekt-kompakten Plattenkalk in der Wintersonne genießen. Der Sommerhitze entkommt man beim spannenden Spiel des Deep Water Soloing über dem tiefblauen Mittelmeer.



Der Kletterführer

Dieses Buch enthält alle Informationen, die man benötigt, um die besten Felsen der Insel zu finden und einzuschätzen - auch wenn Englisch nicht Deine Muttersprache ist. Die Karten versetzen Dich in die Lage, zu den Felsen zu gelangen. Topos und Symbole veranschaulichen die Art von Routen in diesem Buch.

Ausrüstung

Die meisten Routen in diesem Kletterführer sind voll eingerichtete Sportkletterrouten, für die lediglich ein Satz Expressschlingen und ein Einfach-Seil benötigt wird. Ein 60-Meter-Seil ist angebracht, um sicher wieder auf den Boden abgelassen werden zu können. Wenn Du beabsichtigst, einige der Mehrseillängenrouten zu klettern, sind 9mm-Doppelseile mit 50 Metern Länge fürs Abseilen nötig. In diesem Buch sind einige "traditionell abzusichernde" Routen beschrieben, bei der eine kleine Auswahl an Klemmgeräten (Keile, Friends) benötigt wird; zum Beispiel die beliebte "Albahida" (Seite 129). Auf Seite 274 steht, welche Ausrüstung beim DWS sinnvoll ist.

Rockfax

Rockfax veröffentlicht seit 1990 Kletterführer, darunter 55 Bücher zu Gebieten in Europa. Dieses Buch ist auch auf der Rockfax App verfügbar - siehe Seite 8 für weitere Informationen über die App.



Symbole

- Lohnende Kletterei.
- Sehr lohnende Kletterei, eine der besten Routen an diesem Felsen.
- Super Kletterei, eine der besten Routen im Gebiet.
- Technisch anspruchsvolle Kletterei, die komplexe und trickreiche Züge beinhaltet.
- Anstrengende, kraftvolle Kletterei; Dächer, überhängender Fels oder maximalkräftige Züge.
- Durchweg anstrengende Kletterei; entweder mit vielen harten Zügen oder überhängender Fels, pumpig.
- Kleingriffige Kletterei.
- Potentiell weite Stürze bzw. weite Hakenabstände.
- Weite Züge, morpho.
- Eine Route, die nicht vollständig mit Bohrhaken ausgerüstet ist - Absicherung durch Klemmkeile und Friends notwendig.
- Möglicherweise loser Fels im Routenverlauf.

Felssymbole

- Steilheit des Zugangsweges mit ungefährer Zeitangabe.
- Ungefähr Zeit, zu der der Felsen in der Sonne liegt (wenn sie scheint!).
- Mehrere Seillängen.
- Überhängende Wände, regengeschützt.
- Nach Regen lange nass.
- Exponierter Fels, möglicherweise hoch in den Bergen; wenn der Wind bläst, könnte es hier kalt werden.
- Windgeschützter bzw. warmer Fels.
- Menschenleer - Zur Zeit wenig besucht und meistens ruhig. Langer Anmarsch und / oder weniger lohnende Routen.
- Ruhig - Weniger beliebte Sektoren an Hauptfelsen, oder gute Felsen mit langem Zugangsweg.
- Belebt - Plätze, an denen Du selten allein bist, besonders an Wochenenden. Lohnende Routen und leichter Zugang.
- Zum Brechen voll - Die beliebtesten Massive, an denen oft Hochbetrieb herrscht.

Farbig markierte Routennummern

Die Seillängen sind farblich nach Schwierigkeit geordnet:

- Grad V+ und darunter
- Grad VI- bis VII-
- Grad VII bis VIII
- Grad VIII+ und darüber

Topos



Karten



La hermosa isla mediterránea de Mallorca es una de las mejores destinaciones europeas para la escalada deportiva, con sus magníficas montañas y su bonita costa que ofrecen unos lugares impresionantes para sus múltiples paredes de escalada. Si a eso se le suma un clima estable, una buena oferta turística y habitantes amistosos, el resultado es una destinación perfecta para el escalador viajero. En las primeras visitas, el escalador se puede abrumar con la calidad y cantidad de roca que se encuentra, pero la verdad es que Mallorca, como lugar de escalada, aún está en su infancia, con la mayoría de sectores más inaccesibles aún por abrir. Aún así, hay mucha escalada para ofrecer, y la mayoría no está donde te lo esperas. Las montañas tienen varias paredes de calidad, pero muchos de los otros sectores están en la costa rocosa del este y en el impresionante cabo de Formentor. Recientemente la costa del Este se ha desarrollado como un lugar con excelentes posibilidades para practicar el psicobloc, con el campamento base en Manacor, concretamente en Cala Barques donde existen infinidad de vías de psicobloc hasta los 15 metros de altura.

La oferta de escala puede ser atractiva para la mayoría de escaladores, con grados que van del 4 al 8c+. Prueba tus capacidades en las chorreras más desplomadas de Europa en una de las sombrías cuevas, o pásate un día tranquilo haciendo vías de placa en roca perfecta mientras te calienta el sol de invierno; o escapar del calor con algunos 'solos' emocionantes sobre el mar azul profundo del Mediterráneo.

La guía

Esta guía de escalada contiene la información necesaria para localizar y evaluar las mejores escaladas en la isla aunque tu idioma no sea el inglés. Los mapas te van a ayudar a llegar a los sectores, y las reseñas y símbolos te van a mostrar que vías hay en el sector.

Material

La mayoría de las vías deportivas de esta guía están bien equipadas, por las cuales sólo se necesita un juego de cintas exprés y una cuerda larga. Recomendamos el uso de cuerdas de al menos 60 metros. Si quieres escalar vías de varios largos vas a necesitar cuerdas dobles de 9 milímetros y 50 metros para los rápeles. Albahida (página 129) es la única vía donde se necesita un juego de fisureros y friends, aunque hay otras cinco vías de escalada clásica descritas.

Rockfax

Rockfax ha estado produciendo guías de escalada desde 1990. Estas son 55 guías de escuelas europeas. Este libro también está disponible en la App Rockfax - ver página 8 para más información sobre la App.



Symbole

- Vía buena que merece ser escalada.
- Vía muy buena, una de las mejores del sector.
- Vía excelente, una de las mejores en la isla.
- Escalada técnica que requiere buen equilibrio y técnica, o pasos difíciles y delicados.
- Escalada de fuerza; techos, desplomes o pasos de presas pequeñas que alejan.
- Escalada de continuidad; muchos pasos duros o roca desplomada que hace la escalada agotadora.
- Escalada de regleta con presas pequeñas en los pasos difíciles.
- Escalada delicada con peligro de caída y seguros que alejan.
- Es necesario hacer pasos largos o que alejan en una o varias partes de la vía.
- Vía semi-equipada. Es necesario llevar un juego de fisureros y friends.
- Se puede encontrar roca descomposta en la vía.

Felssymbole

- Inclinación del sendero con el tiempo estimado de aproximación.
5 min
- Tiempo del día cuando le da el sol al sector (en días soleados).
Afternoon
- Algunas vías de varios largos.
- Se puede escalar en caso de lluvia.
Dry in the rain
- La roca puede tener filtraciones de agua después de períodos de lluvia.
Seepage
- Sector de escalada expuesto, puede hacer frío cuando sopla el viento. Posiblemente en media/alta montaña.
Windy
- Sector protegido del viento.
Sheltered
- Desierto - Sector en desuso y normalmente sin gente. La aproximación puede ser larga y/o con vías de poca calidad.
Desert
- Tranquilo - Partes más tranquilas de los sectores, o buenos sectores con aproximación larga.
Tranquil
- Concurrido - Sectores donde raramente vas a estar sólo, especialmente en los fines de semana. Vías buenas.
Concurred
- Multitud - Los sectores más populares que siempre están llenos de gente.
Crowd

Código de color de los grados

Todas las vías de escalada tienen un código de color que indica a qué banda de grado corresponden:

- 4c o menos
- 5a a 6a+
- 6b a 7a
- 7a+ o más

Croquis



Mapas



Alan James climbing one of Mallorca's best known routes *Blobland* (6c) - p.155 - at the seaside crag of Port de Sóller. Both the route and the venue have had a chequered history, with the climb suffering from bad bolts and the crag being closed due to building work above it - thankfully both are now in great shape.



Guidebook Footnote

The inclusion of a climbing area in this guidebook does not mean that you have a right of access or the right to climb upon it. The descriptions of routes within this guide are recorded for historical reasons only and no reliance should be placed on the accuracy of the description. The grades set in this guide are a fair assessment of the difficulty of the climbs. Climbers who attempt a route of a particular standard should use their own judgment as to whether they are proficient enough to tackle that route. This book is not a substitute for experience and proper judgment. The authors, publisher and distributors of this book do not recognise any liability for injury or damage caused to, or by, climbers, third parties, or property arising from such persons seeking reliance on this guidebook as an assurance for their own safety.

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Near Santanyi. Photo: Jess Garland

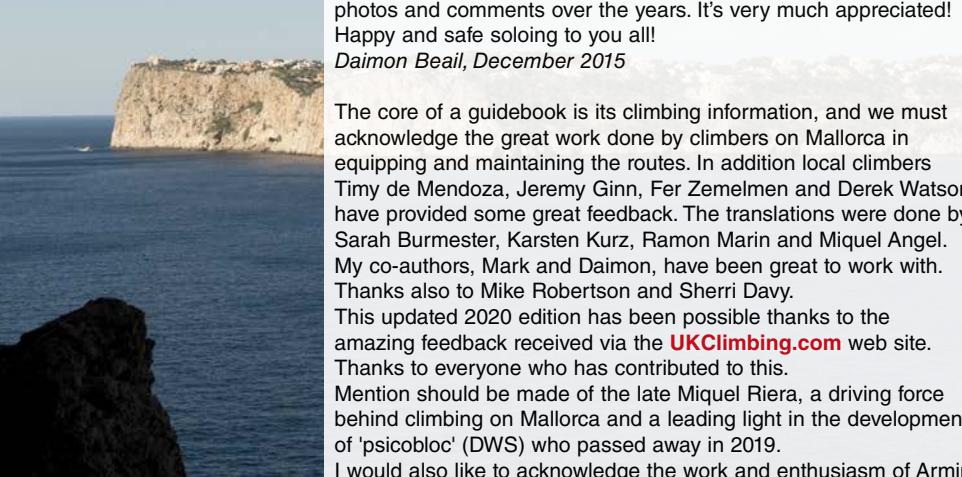


The increasing popularity of the island as a climbing destination meant that the previous edition sold out twice as quickly as predicted. The job has been made a very pleasant one as the number of new crags to climb on and document has increased rapidly, and I must above all thank the hard work that the developers have put in to open up the routes.

A massive thank you to all those that I have shared a rope with over the years on climbing trips and to those who have taken and been the subjects of the superb portfolio of shots that make such a huge contribution to the appeal of this guidebook.

It has as ever been a pleasure to work with Alan, Daimon and the Rockfax/UKC team on the production of this Guidebook.

Mark Glaister, December 2015

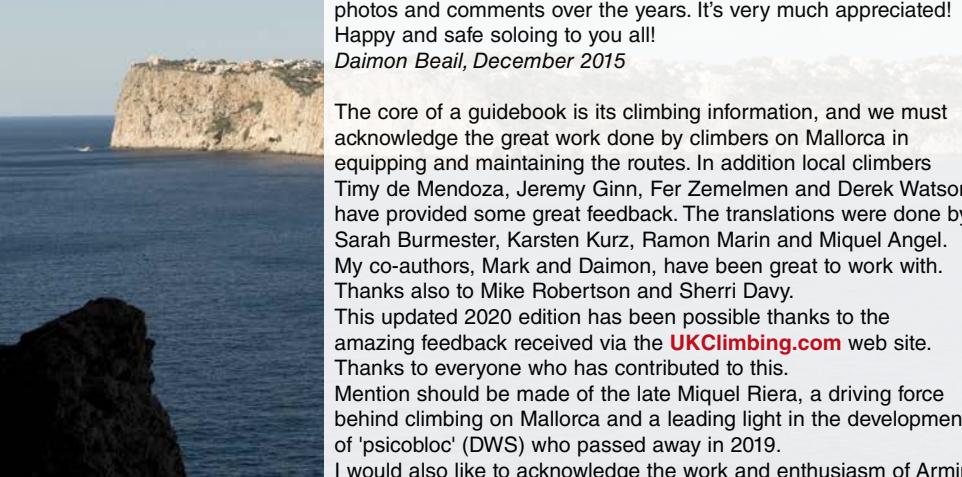


It's safe to say that the Mallorca DWS section of this guide is the most comprehensive guide currently available. With new and updated areas, new information, crag shots and action photos, there is now nothing stopping you from trying the wealth of deep water soloing found on the golden sea cliffs of Mallorca.

It is always a great pleasure working with my co-authors, Alan James and Mark Glaister; their help and guidance over the years have been incredibly valuable. Thank you also to Stephen Horne for technical support and assistance. A big thank you to one of Mallorca's great pioneers Toni Lamprecht for his help reshaping the Tarantino wall topo and information. Last but not least, Emma Harrington for her incredibly valuable support, assistance, enthusiasm and her pure passion for climbing.

Additional thanks must be given to those past contributors who have influenced and helped develop this latest edition. Ged Desforges, Alex Armitage, Mike Robertson, Ethen Pringle, Paul Philips, Matt and Ben Heason, Chris Sharma, Sam Whittaker, James Cole, Bernard Exley, Heidi Spets, Miquel Riera, Adam Brown, Tom Le Fanu and all those who have sent in information, photos and comments over the years. It's very much appreciated! Happy and safe soloing to you all!

Daimon Beail, December 2015



The core of a guidebook is its climbing information, and we must acknowledge the great work done by climbers on Mallorca in equipping and maintaining the routes. In addition local climbers Timy de Mendoza, Jeremy Ginn, Fer Zemelman and Derek Watson have provided some great feedback. The translations were done by Sarah Burmester, Karsten Kurz, Ramon Marin and Miquel Angel. My co-authors, Mark and Daimon, have been great to work with. Thanks also to Mike Robertson and Sherri Davy.

This updated 2020 edition has been possible thanks to the amazing feedback received via the UKClimbing.com web site. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this.

Mention should be made of the late Miquel Riera, a driving force behind climbing on Mallorca and a leading light in the development of 'psicobloc' (DWS) who passed away in 2019.

I would also like to acknowledge the work and enthusiasm of Armin Helbach. We only met briefly at Sa Mola de Felanitx but you made a deep impression and long may your contribution to climbing on Mallorca live on.

Alan James, March 2020

Natalie Berry climbing *El Naturista* (6c) - p.53 - in Sector Oasis at Cala Llampa.

ROCÒDROM ES CAU

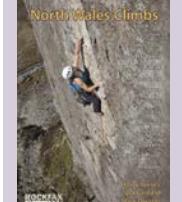


Sala de Bulder

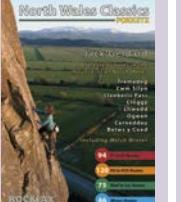
C/Jaume Ferran 72 Palma
www.rocodromescau.com
rocodromescau@gmail.com

Telf: 871531093

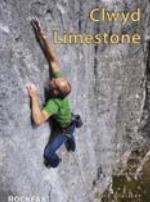




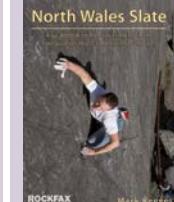
North Wales Climbs
November 2013
R B F+



North Wales Classics
April 2010
R B F+

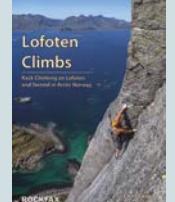


Clwyd Limestone
December 2015
R B F+



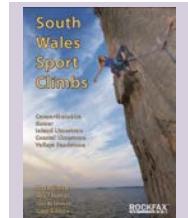
North Wales Slate
September 2018
R B F+

- Print version available
- App version available
- App maps geo-located
- App has extra content

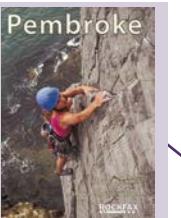


Lofoten Climbs
May 2017
R

App-only guides
Rjukan 2016
Nissedal 2016

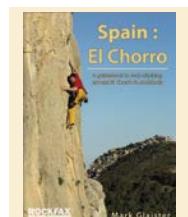


South Wales Sport Climbs
November 2016
R B



Pembroke
August 2009
R B F+

App-only guides
Pembroke 2018
North Wales Winter 2016



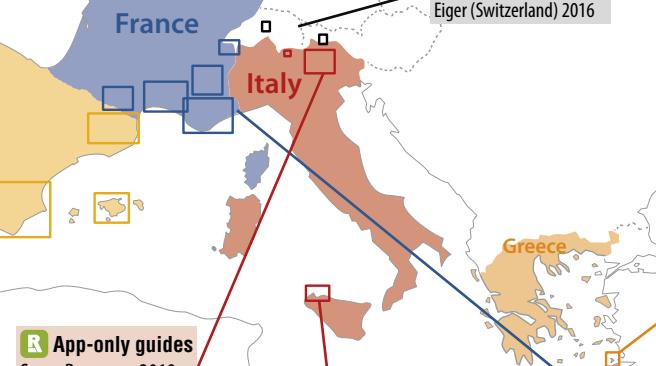
El Chorro
December 2018
R B



App-only guides
Catalunya 2016
Madrid Area 2017
Zaragoza 2016
Tenerife 2020



App-only guides
Otzal (Austria) 2017
Eiger (Switzerland) 2016



App-only guides
Sasso Remenno 2019



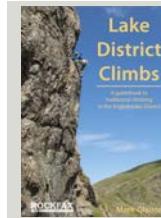
The Dolomites
November 2019
R



San Vito Lo Capo
November 2020
R B

Rockfax produce print and app guides to areas all over Europe
rockfax.com

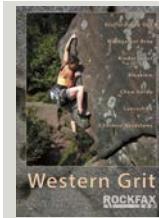
**31 titles in print
18 less than 6 years old**



Lake District Climbs
November 2019
R B



Northern England
February 2008
R B



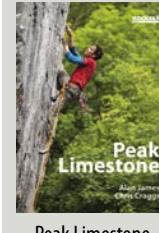
Western Grit
April 2009
R B



Northern Limestone
January 2015
R B



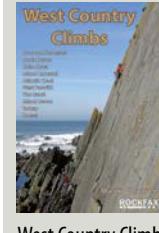
Eastern Grit
April 2015
R B



Peak Limestone
May 2020
R B F+



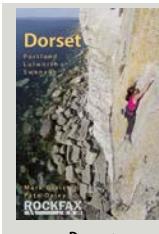
Peak Bouldering
May 2014
R B



West Country Climbs
July 2010
R



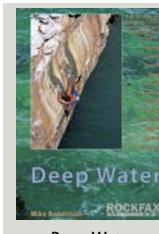
Southern Sandstone Climbs
September 2017
R B



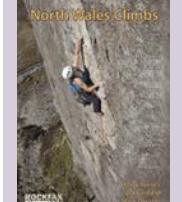
Dorset
February 2012
R



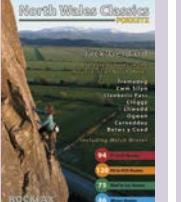
Dorset Bouldering
May 2014
R B F+



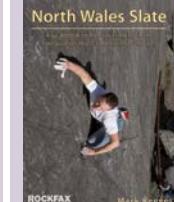
Deep Water
June 2007
R



France : Ariège
December 2012
R



France : Languedoc-Roussillon
November 2011
R



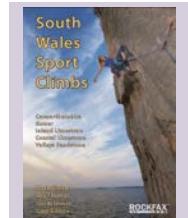
France : Haute Provence
December 2009
R



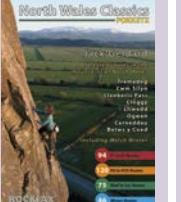
France : Côte d'Azur
February 2017
R B



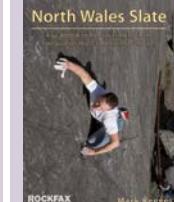
France : Chamonix
October 2016
R B



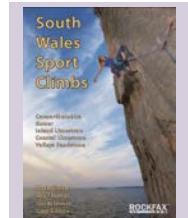
Spain : Costa Blanca
February 2013
R B F+



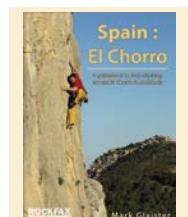
Spain : Mallorca
April 2020
R B



France : Haute Provence
December 2009
R



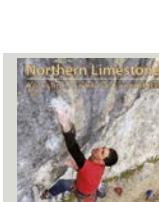
Spain : El Chorro
December 2018
R B



The Dolomites
November 2019
R



San Vito Lo Capo
November 2020
R B



Spain : Mallorca
April 2020
R B



France : Chamonix
October 2016
R B

Mallorca Logistics

James Mabon on the tufa covered wall of Sector Chorreras at Alaró. This is one of Mallorca's most famous venues with climbers coming from all over the world to sample stunning lines such as the one pictured here *To pa ti* (7a+) - p.174. The adjoining wall to the right has also been recently developed and now possesses many high-grade routes all around 30 to 50m long. Photo: Russell Mabon



When to Go

The best time to visit Mallorca for sport climbing is in the spring, when the temperatures are usually pleasant and it is likely to be dry. Winter can be cold but with some luck the weather may be good and many people have had great holidays over Christmas and the New Year. If it does rain, then there are steep crags that stay dry but these tend to only offer harder routes. When it is raining in the mountains it is often still possible to find dry rock on the east coast crags - Artà Area, Felanitx, Cala Magraner and Tijuana - which have routes across the grade range. Autumn is the stormy season and, though the temperature will be fine, problems can arise with dripping tufas on certain crags, although there is still likely to be plenty to do and week-long washouts are very rare. It is worth bearing in mind that Mallorca has a number of north-facing crags which can be good options during hot spells although most only have routes in the higher grades. In the summer it is simply too hot and expensive for most climbers to justify a visit, although for those out on holiday the crags of Gorg Blau and Ermita de Betlem offer high and shady options. For those looking to undertake DWSing then summer and autumn are the best months. Autumn water temperatures are still pleasant and a combined trip for both sport climbing and DWSing would be best taken at this time.

Mallorca Averages	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature (maximum)	10	15	17	19	22	26	29	29	27	23	18	15
Temperature (minimum)	6	6	8	10	18	17	19	20	18	14	10	8
Hours of sunshine	5	6	7	8	10	11	12	11	8	6	6	4
Sea Temperature	14	13	14	15	17	19	24	25	24	21	18	15
Rainfall in mm / month	40	32	35	30	7	10	5	6	61	73	60	50
Wet days (>0.1mm) / month	8	6	8	5	5	3	1	3	6	9	8	9

Getting There by Air

Mallorca's international airport is on the outskirts of the city of Palma and is on the destination list of many airlines. This means bargain flights at off-peak times, and reasonable value ones at popular times, with the added advantage of being able to book outward and return flights separately. Mallorca is also an extremely popular package holiday destination and there is a plethora of charter flights leaving from most major European airports throughout the year. Type 'flights to Palma' into Google for plenty of options.

Getting There Without Flying

It is possible to get to the island without flying although it is time consuming. There are ferries from Valencia, Dénia (on the Costa Blanca) and Barcelona to Palma, and from Barcelona to Port d'Alcúdia. The high speed AVE railway serves Valencia and Barcelona.

Travel Insurance

It is strongly advised that travel, medical and rescue insurance is taken out before undertaking a trip. If you are in any doubt, just ask someone who has had cause to use it! BMC Travel Insurance (see advert inside back cover) - thebmc.com

the **C**limbing Shop

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- *Rental Crash Pads*
- *All the information - climb to climb*
- *NEW Climbing routes*

Check out our section "Climbing Routes" and have all the information about: new routes, topos, photos, etc

I Enjoy Mallorca Climb!



Horario 10:00 h. 13:30 h. / 17:00 h. 20:30 h.
Sábado 10:00 h. 13:30 h. / 17:00 h. 20:00 h.

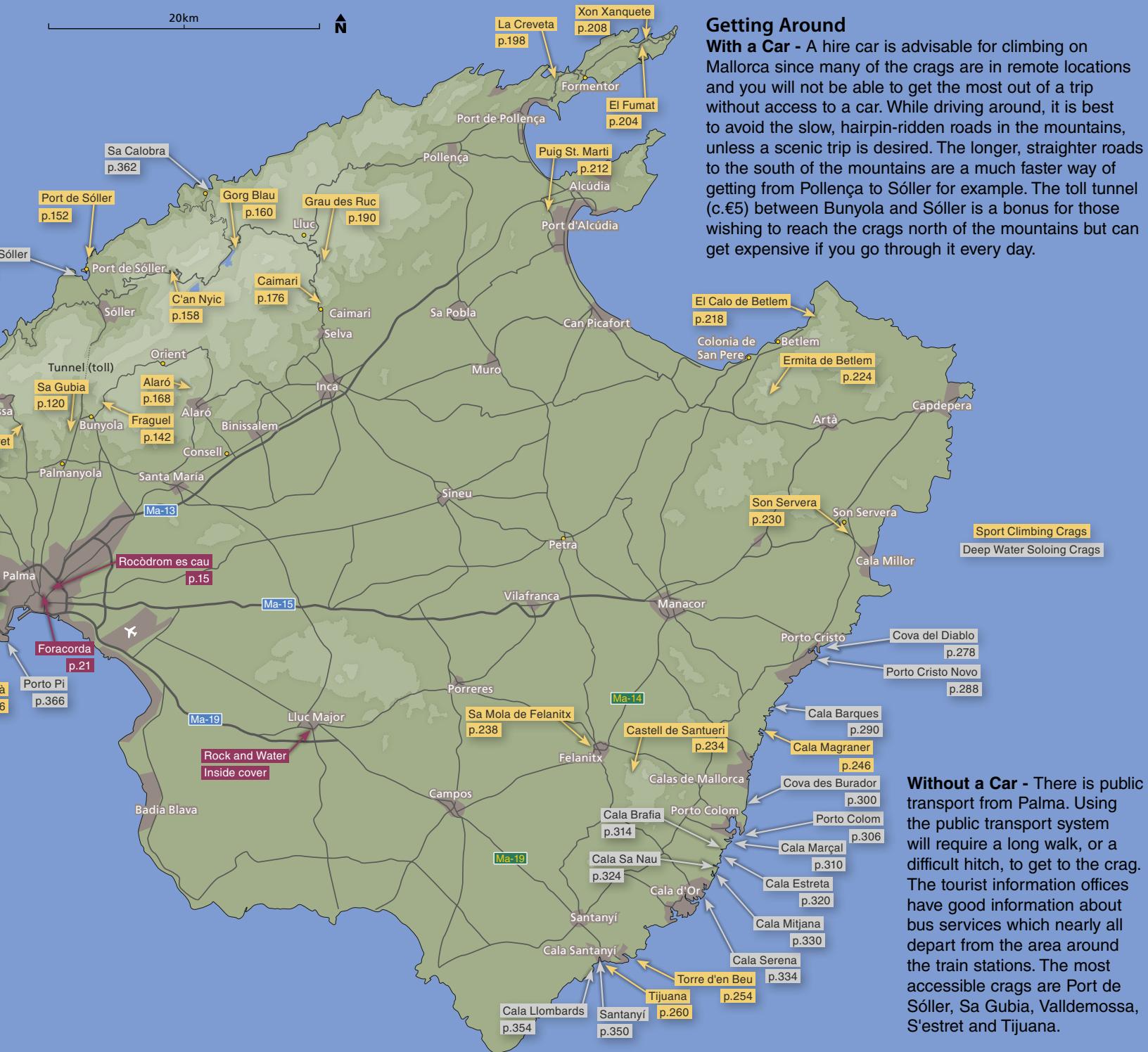
C/. Arxiduc Lluís Salvador, 28 - Telf.: +34 971 463 004



Where to Stay

The most popular option for accommodation in Mallorca is to take advantage of the villas and apartments designed for the busy summer tourist trade. Climbers tend to head for Port de Pollença and the east coast, but there is plenty available all across the island and being more centrally placed will cut down travel time to the crags. Package holidays can offer very good value but care must be taken since accommodation is often allocated on arrival, and you may end up a long distance away from the main climbing spots.

Hiring a villa is an attractive option, especially for those in a large group (6 to 10). There are also plenty of apartments available not linked to package holidays and these represent good value for couples and small groups. The best place to find companies who offer accommodation is to type 'Mallorca accommodation' or 'Majorca accommodation' into Google.



Getting Around

With a Car - A hire car is advisable for climbing on Mallorca since many of the crags are in remote locations and you will not be able to get the most out of a trip without access to a car. While driving around, it is best to avoid the slow, hairpin-ritten roads in the mountains, unless a scenic trip is desired. The longer, straighter roads to the south of the mountains are a much faster way of getting from Pollença to Sóller for example. The toll tunnel (c.€5) between Bunyola and Sóller is a bonus for those wishing to reach the crags north of the mountains but can get expensive if you go through it every day.

Without a Car - There is public transport from Palma. Using the public transport system will require a long walk, or a difficult hitch, to get to the crag. The tourist information offices have good information about bus services which nearly all depart from the area around the train stations. The most accessible crags are Port de Sóller, Sa Gubia, Valldemossa, S'estret and Tiuana.

Natalie Berry shaking out on
American (7b) - p.51 - Cala Llamp.



Tourist Information Offices

Andratx (port) . . . +34 971 617 300
Valldemossa . . . +34 971 612 019
Sóller (port). . . . +34 971 633 042
Palma (airport) . . +34 971 789 556
Port de Pollença . +34 971 865 467
Santanyí. +34 971 657 463

Climbing Shops

There are several climbing shops that sell climbing gear on the island plus a couple of Decathlons on the outskirts of Palma. You can also get your climbing shoes resoled.

Foracorda Page 21
C/. Arxiduc Lluís Salvador, 28
and C/. Miquel Maruès, 20
both shops in Palma
Web: foracorda.com
Tel: +34 971 463 004



Shops and Tourist Information **Mallorca Logistics**

Shops

There are large supermarkets in most of the major towns and hyper-markets in Palma. Opening times for the majority of shops in Mallorca are from 10am to 1:30pm and 4pm to 8pm. Most supermarkets stay open during the whole day and open a lot earlier. Most shops will be shut on national holidays and many, but not all, will be shut on Sundays.

Guides

If you are after a guide for all types of climbing then here are several options.

Rocòdrom es cau Page 15

C/. Pare Francesc Molina, 29
in Palma

Web: rocodromescau.com

Tel: +34 648 704 117



Email: roccodromescau@gmail.com

Rock and Water *Inside front cover*
Web: rockandwatermallorca.com

Web: rockandwaterma

Email: info@rockandwatermallorca.com

Mallorca Climbing

The massive walls of Sa Gubia are where the first major sport climbing routes on Mallorca were established and the cliff continues to provide some of the island's biggest challenges. In this photo a climber makes her way up one of the best 6s around - *Algo salvaje* (6b) - p.123 - at the Paret dels Coloms.

Access

Access is an extremely sensitive issue on Mallorca. The steep tufas of Ca'n Torrat, the boulders at Boquer and the brilliant Sa Jonquera have all been lost because of a variety of problems. Sometimes it is because of uncooperative land owners, but frequently it is caused by a lack of respect by climbers for local water supplies and their impact on paths. There are other crags contained within this guidebook that could so easily go the same way if climbers are not careful with parking, litter, noise, fires and following approach paths to the crags. Please use all the described approaches and avoid antagonising local residents and landowners.

Guidebooks and Websites

This Rockfax covers a vast amount of the sport climbing and DWS available on Mallorca but it by no means includes all the crags and routes on offer. There are a number of sources where further information can be gained and those looking for routes in the higher grades will find a number of additional crags by checking out the sources of information highlighted below.

The book **Mallorca Escalada deportiva** by Miquel Riera (Desnivel 2008) has details of a few harder crags not in this book.

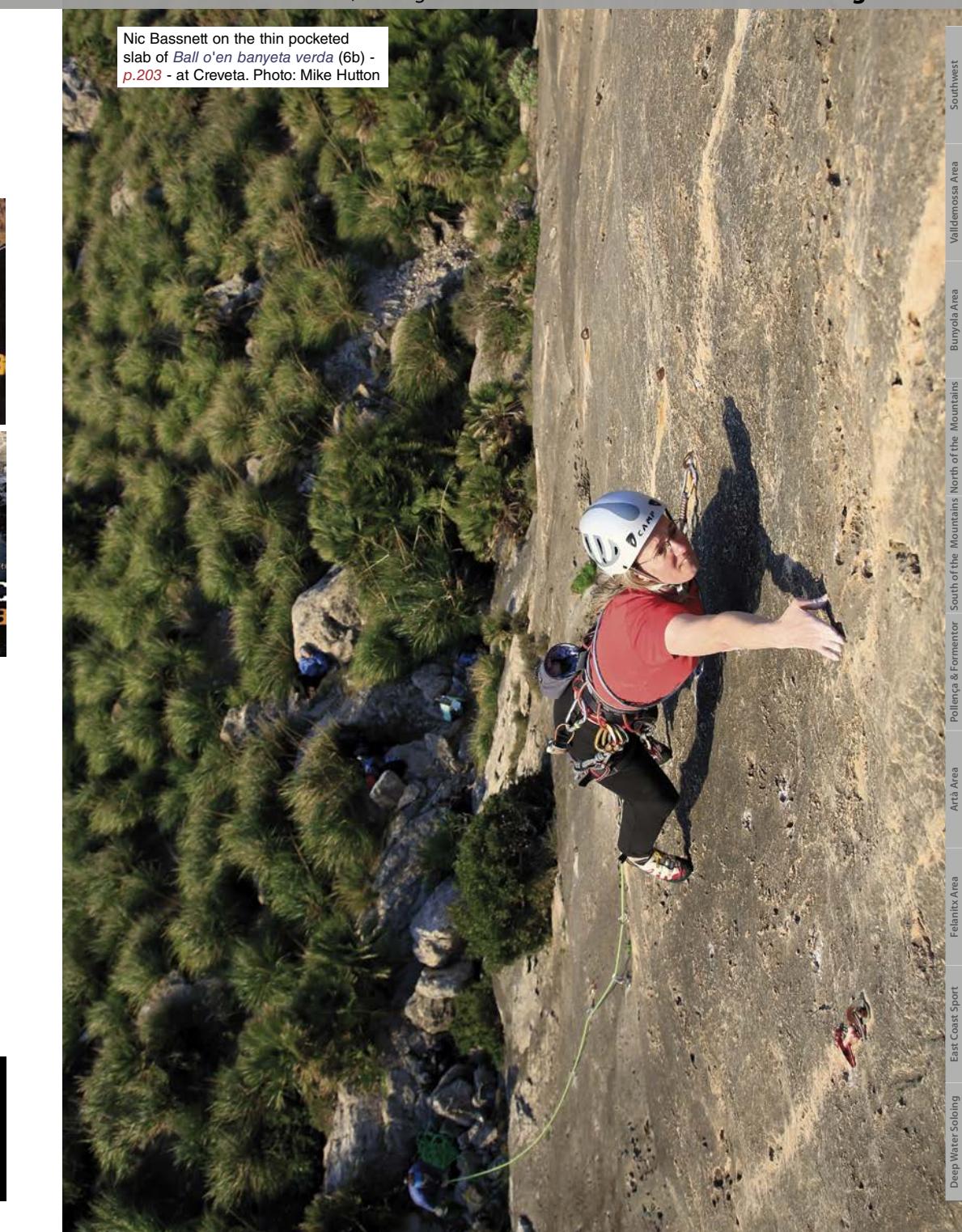
Psicobloc Mallorca also by Miquel Riera (Desnivel 2007) covers deep water soloing.

A route database can be accessed at foracorda.com/beta/nuevas_rutas_escalada. This site has some information on new developments on the island along with topos of traditional and sport venues.

Those looking for adventurous, mainly multi-pitch, trad lines ('Escalada clásica') will also discover a small number of documented routes.



Nic Bassnett on the thin pocketed slab of *Ball o'en banyeta verda* (6b) - p.203 - at Creveta. Photo: Mike Hutton



Bolts

Many thousands of bolts protect the sport climbs of Mallorca and a good proportion have been in place for a considerable time and are starting to show their age, particularly those on the coastal crags. Many bolts and hangers exhibit surface rust but the vast majority are still serviceable. Some are now in a poor state and a personal decision should be taken as to the safety of the bolts and hangers before embarking on a route. In this guidebook we have given little guidance on the state of the bolts as rebolting is ongoing and each climber's perception of what is acceptable will vary with experience and their own assessment of the integrity of bolts and hangers.

Bolt Funding

The work of bolting and re-bolting is done by local climbers mostly self-funding their activities. There is no central bolt fund but climbers can make a donation via UKBoltFund.org which will be channelled through Rockfax and passed on directly to the local climbers in the shape of bolts and resin. A proportion from the sales of this guidebook will also be used to help fund local bolting efforts.



Gear

For climbing the sport routes in this book you will need around 12 to 18 quickdraws and a single rope (see below). Of the few routes in this book that require gear, only one is likely to be on the tick list of most climbers - *Albahida* at Sa Gubia (see page 129). If you wish to do this route then consider taking a small rack including several slings. There is a good deal of traditional climbing on the island but it is not described in this book.

Ropes - A 60m or 70m single rope is advised for tackling most routes in this book. You will be able to get up, and more importantly down, many routes on a 50m rope, but it is much safer to use a longer rope. If you intend to climb any multi-pitch routes - sport or trad - then you will probably need to take an extra rope for the abseil descents.

Other Gear - Beyond these essentials you may find tape useful for bandaging your fingers if the prickly rock starts to take its toll. For multi-pitch routes a small sack with a water bladder, a long-sleeve shirt and a sun hat are good ideas.

For DWS gear - see page 274.

Grades

The routes on Mallorca are graded using the usual sport grade. Mallorcan grades have had a bit of a reputation over the years for being extremely hard, especially in the range from 5a to around 7a. Through successive Rockfax guidebooks we have tried to rationalise these middle grades, bringing them into line with other areas, but there may still be the odd surprise out there. Additionally, routes on the newly developed crags may not have been properly assessed yet.

For DWS grades see page 274.

Colour Coding

The routes are colour-coded corresponding to a grade band:

Green Spots *Beginners* - everything at grade 4c and under.

Orange Spots *Experienced* - 5a to 6a+ inclusive. General ticking routes.

Red Spots *Advanced* - 6b to 7a inclusive. The next level routes to push yourself on.

Black Spots *Expert* - 7a+ to 7c+. Hard routes for dedicated and full-time climbers.

White Spots *Elite* - 8a and above. The hardest routes for the World's best climbers.

Sport Grade	British Trad Grade (for well-protected routes)		UIAA	USA
1	Mod Moderate		I	5.1
2		Diff Difficult	II	5.2
2+		VDiff Very Difficult	III-	5.3
3a		HVD Hard Very Difficult	III	5.4
3b	Sev Severe		III+	5.5
3c		HS Hard Severe	IV-	5.6
4a		VS Very Severe 4c	IV+	5.7
4b	E1 5a		V-	5.8
4c	E2 5b		V	5.9
5a		HVS Hard Very Severe 5b	VI-	5.10a
5b			VI	5.10b
5c			VI+	5.10c
6a	E3 5c		VII-	5.10d
6a+			VII	5.11a
6b	E4 6a		VIII+	5.11b
6b+			VIII	5.11c
6c	E5 6a		VIII+	5.11d
6c+			IX-	5.12a
7a			IX	5.12b
7a+	E6 6b		IX+	5.12c
7b			X	5.12d
7b+	E7 6c		X-	5.13a
7c			X	5.13b
7c+	E8 7a		X	5.13c
8a			X+	5.13d
8a+	E9 7a		XI-	5.14a
8b			XI	5.14b
8b+	E10 7b		XI	5.14c
8c			XI+	5.14d
8c+	E11 7a		XI+	5.15a
9a				
9a+				

**Route Lengths and Lowering Off**

The photo-topos have approximate heights indicated next to some lower-offs. These are guideline heights only and it is important to remember that crag bases are not always level and people stand in different places when belaying. Also, many climbers don't even know exactly how long their rope is, having chopped worn sections off the ends in the past. The golden rule is always be on your guard on longer pitches and **ALWAYS** tie a knot in the end of the rope to prevent dropping a climber when lowering them.

Mark Glaister on *Via Morito* (6c) - p.180
- at Comuna de Caimari. The route is one of many excellent grade 6s and 7s to be found at this extensive venue that is only a few metres up the road from the older venue of the Muro de Caimari.

This list contains the most popular sport routes and deep water solos in this guidebook in a very rough order of difficulty.

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7a+

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Jungle hop		145 Fraguel
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Octopussy		cover 106 S'estret
To pa ti.		60 Puig de Garrafa
Vall-de-mega		110 Valldemossa
Si lo sé no vengo		123 Sa Gubia

6c+

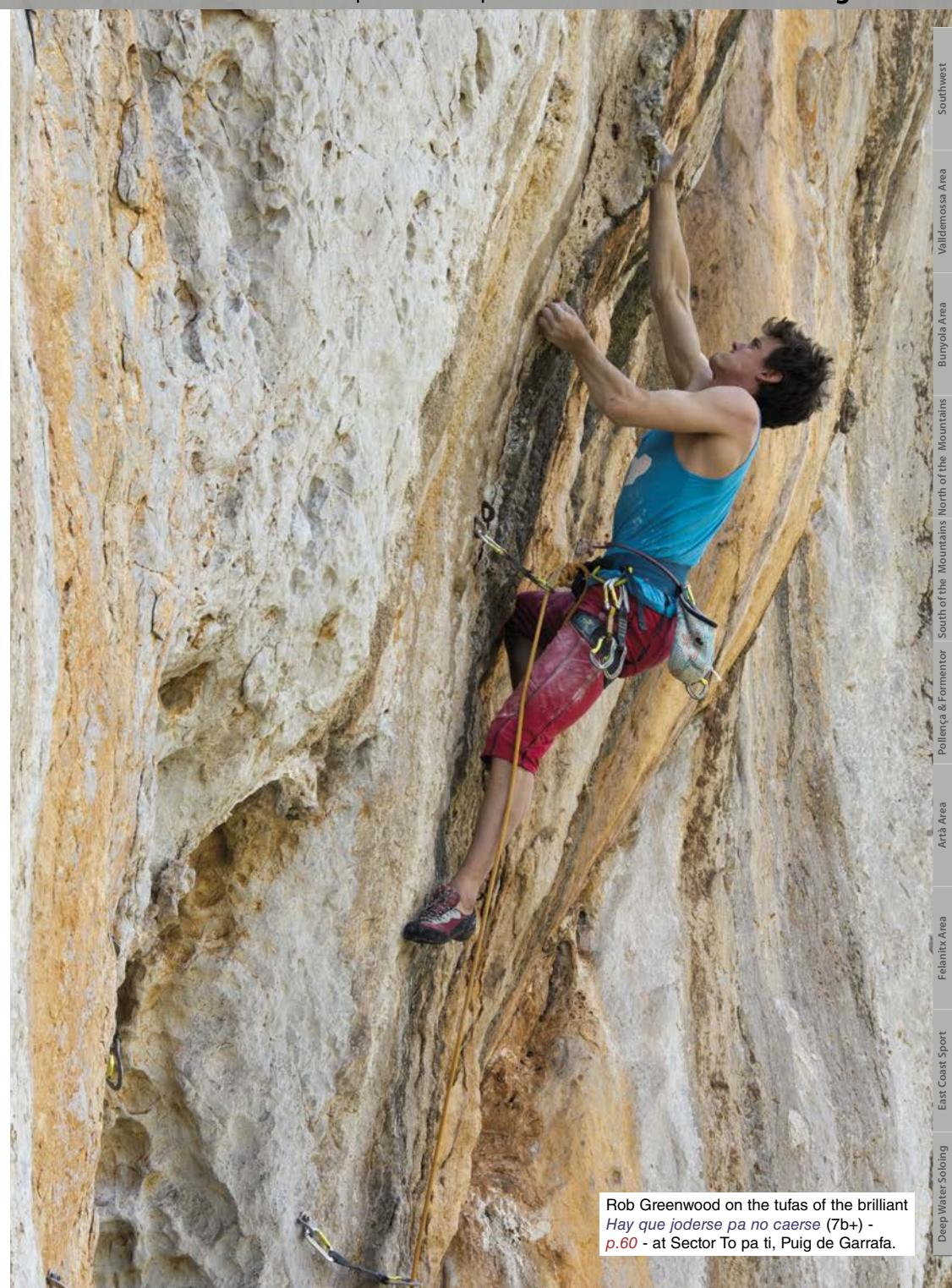
Ja som five		157 Port de Sóller
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6c

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Via morito	31	180 Caimari
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6b+

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Rob Greenwood on the tufas of the brilliant *Hay que joderse pa no caerse* (7b+) - p.60 - at Sector To pa ti, Puig de Garrafa.

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Destination Planner

DWS Destination Planner on page 276

Routes

up to 4c

6b to 7a

7a+ to 7c

8a and up

Approach

Sun

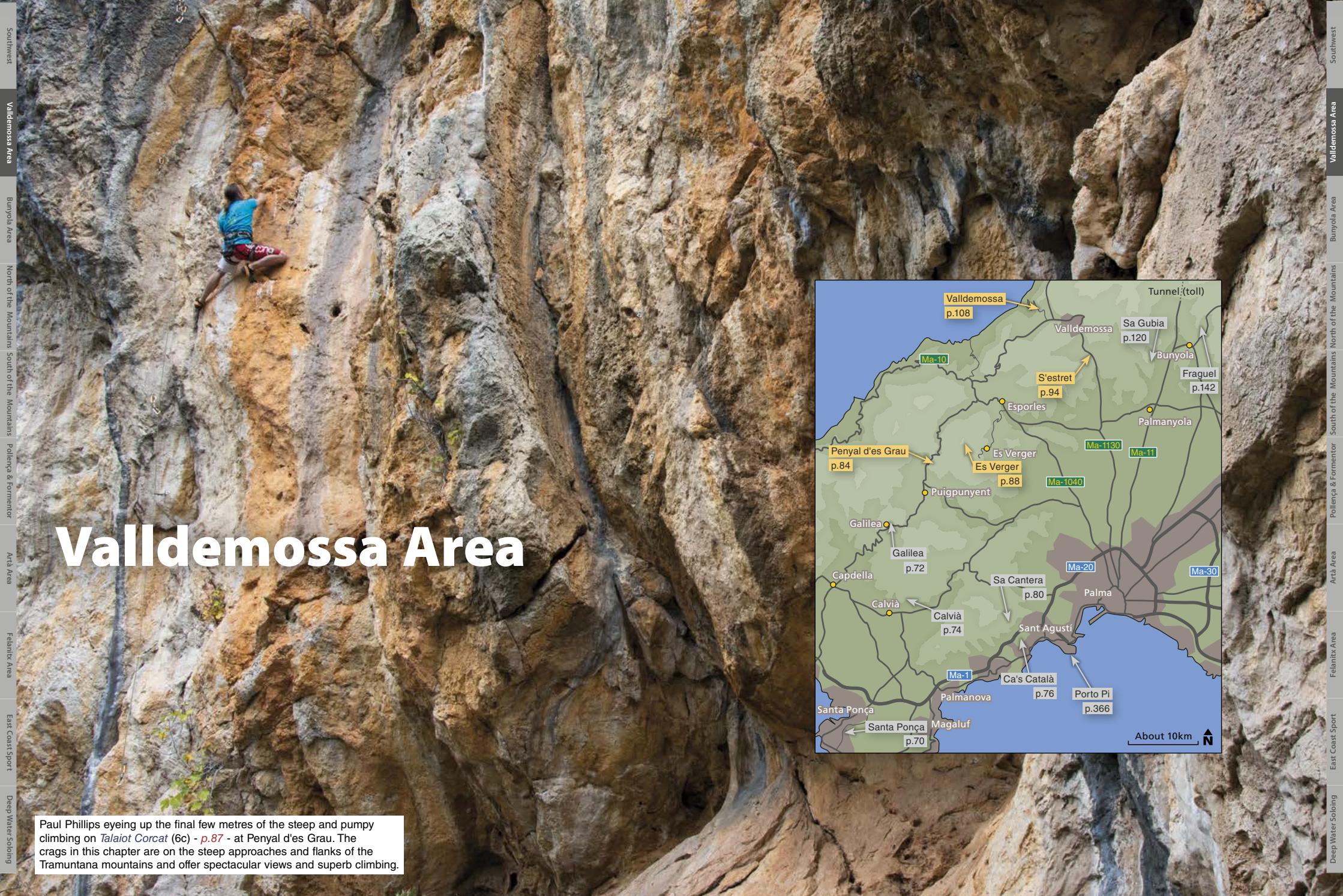
Shelt-

Murchison

- Seepag

Summary

Page



Paul Phillips eyeing up the final few metres of the steep and pumpy climbing on *Talaiot Corcat* (6c) - p.87 - at Penyal d'es Grau. The crags in this chapter are on the steep approaches and flanks of the Tramuntana mountains and offer spectacular views and superb climbing.



One of the best smaller crags in the area, which although not extensive, has something to keep most looking for some quality 6s and lower end 7s happy for a few hours. The cliff is located in a remote wooded section of the mountains but is only a matter of seconds from the parking.

Approach

Also see map p.83

Take the road from Palma to the town of Esporles.

Continue through the town to a turn on the left towards Puigpunyent.

Follow this narrow road up for around 6km and over the col 'Es Grau - 468m'.

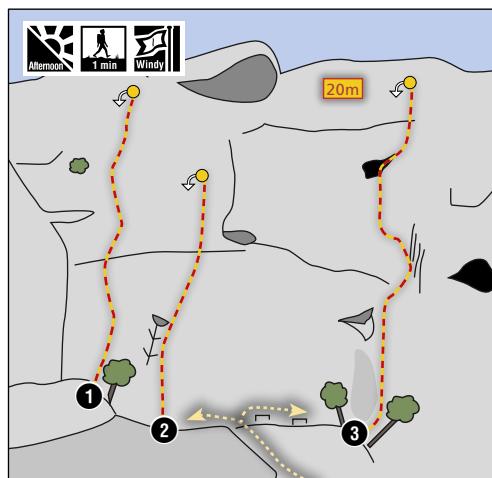
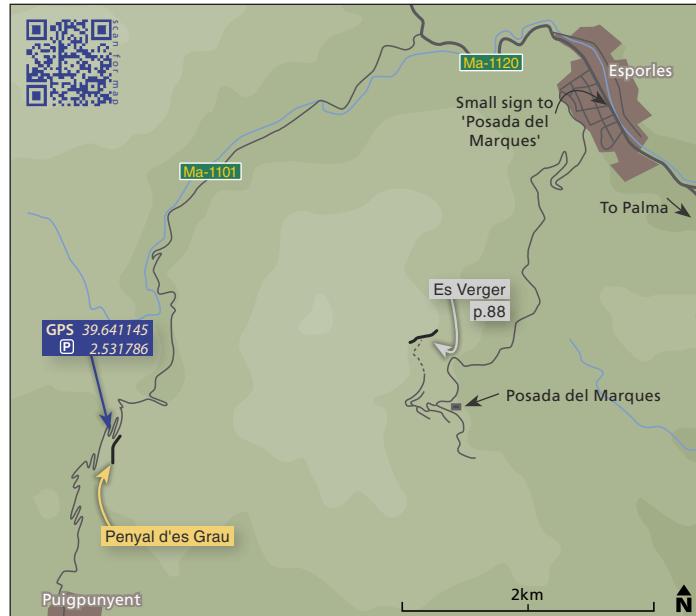
Drop down and park anywhere you can on the first hairpin after the col.

There is limited space on the bend with a few more places possible further down. The first buttress is almost directly above the bend with the main area being further along.

Conditions

The main crag faces west and although fully in the sun in the afternoon, has

a number of trees at its base that will give some shade. The crag is up in the mountains so will catch any westerly winds and is exposed to poor weather. Seepage could be a problem following prolonged rainfall.



Above Road

The wall almost directly above the bend in the road has three long routes.

Approach - Scramble up to a ledge under the face.

1 Voltor Negra 7a+

Good moves and plenty of them. Low in the grade.

2 Aguila Bonelli 7b

A shorter route that has a bouldery section.

3 Misteri 7a+

An excellent pitch that starts up the fat slippery tufa. Above a sustained wall on varied holds gains a shakeout and final overhang.





Southwest

Valldemossa Area

Bunyola Area

North of the Mountains South of the Mountains

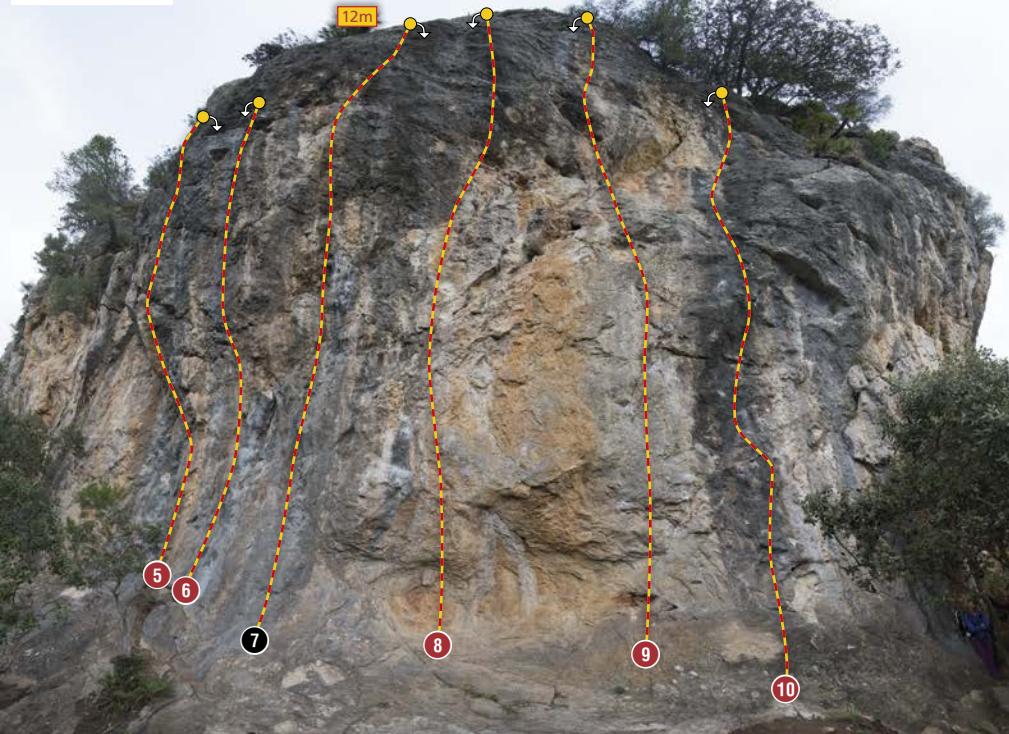
Pollensa & Formentor

Artà Area

Felanitx Area

East Coast Sport

Deep Water Soloing



Main Wall

The main section consists of a wall of bulging orange and grey rock giving a series of good short routes that pack a lot in for their length.

Approach (map p.84) - Follow the path from the routes above the road bend along to the wall which quickly appears above you on the left.

- ① **Mariol.Io** 6a
A nice little wall of flowstone that gradually increases in difficulty as height is gained.
- ② **Intricate** 6a
More intricate than it looks, especially near the top.
- ③ **Txorrack** 5c
Climb the wall on positive holds. Steeper than it appears.
Photo p.85.
- ④ **Cafetut** 6a+
Thin moves crossing a crack.
- ⑤ **Aquiles** 6b
The steep hanging corner/groove.
- ⑥ **Arran** 6c
Climb just right of the leaning arete on some sharp holds.

- ⑦ **Saltimbanquis** 7b
A hard line up the centre with a thin pull at the top.

- ⑧ **Fatima** 7a
An unbalanced line that features a slopey start and a thin finish.

- ⑨ **O.A.T.** 6b+
Start up a thin vertical wall to a rest and then continue up steeper ground on better holds.

- ⑩ **Tall en Verduc** 6c
An intense sequence off the deck to easier but still interesting ground above.

The next lines are just to the right, past a couple of trees.

- ⑪ **Es Grau** 6b+
Head up the leaning wall via holes and a fin of rock until a depressingly hard move allows access to the lower-off. Pumpy.

- ⑫ **Black Block** 7a
The long wall to the left of tufa.

- ⑬ **Talaiot Corcat** 6c
A challenging pitch that takes very steep rock just to the right of the tufa. Only really uses the tufa for feet. *Photo p.82.*

- ⑭ **Steep Corner** 6c
Climb the corner via a steep entry.