

Costa Blanca – Altea Col

The crag is on the back side of the Alea Hills complex. It feels isolated but is easily accessible.

APPROACH

Travel from Calpe along the N332 towards Altea and take the turning to Altea Hills. Follow the road up hill to the Altea Hills hotel. Drive around the fountains and follow the "Avenue de Europa" rightwards through the complex. The road heads towards Calpe and then turns back. Follow this until you can take the "Ave Gran Bretange" on the right. Take the next left "Ave Gales" which leads up to a concrete building on a corner.

Park next to the concrete building or just past it – leave the track free for vehicles to pass. Then follow the track towards the first pylon. A well worn path begins in amongst the trees, follow this down the hillside to the crag.

ASPECT AND CLIMATE

Altea Col faces East and is in the sun until mid-afternoon. It catches the breeze and can be quite pleasant in summer. In contrast it may prove cold in winter.

The right-hand section is very steep and stays dry. The crag is quite quick to dry after rain.

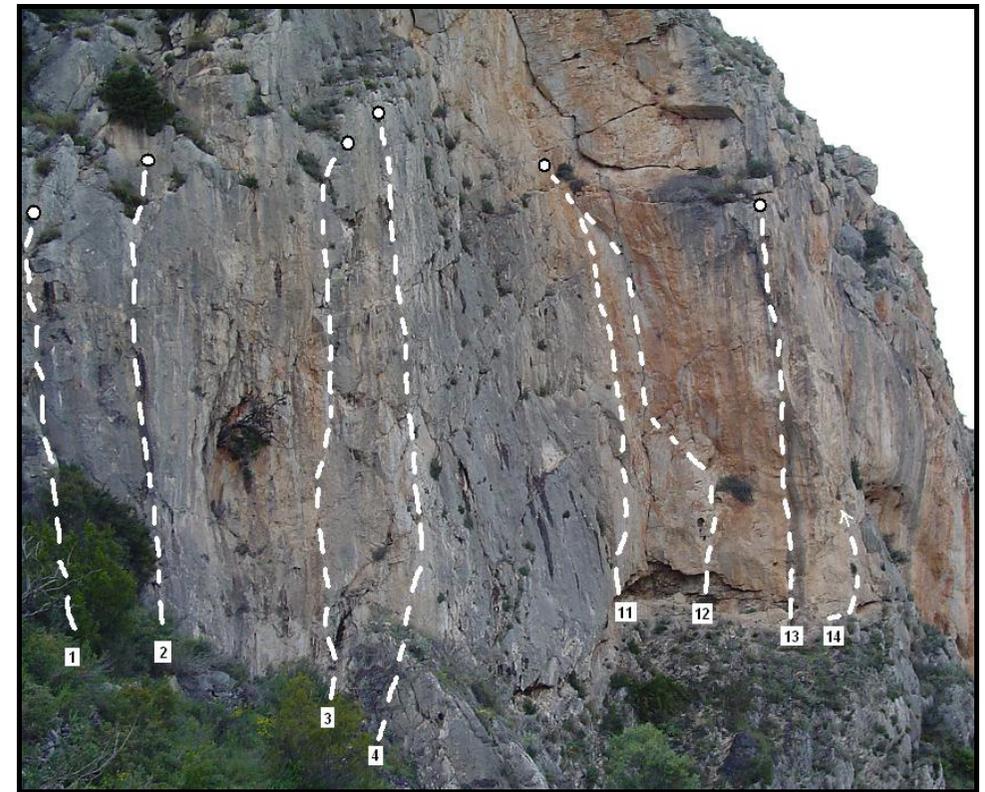
INFORMATION

Every effort has been made to make this topo as accurate as possible however the information provided is on an as-is basis. The publication of this topo does not imply any right of access to the area.

New information and updates to this guide are available at www.freewebs.com/costablancarock.

Altea Col – Left-hand Section

Routes are described from left to right. The first two are in a bay where the path first meets the cliff.



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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. ?
15m. Line up the left side of the cliff.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6a | <p>6. Leo
28m. The easiest route on the wall. A gentle start gets a bit more technical above.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6a+ |
| <p>2. ?
20m. A thin sparsely bolted line,
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6c+ | <p>7. ?
28m. The line of bolts to the right.</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> ? |
| <p>3. ?
20m. The right-hand wall of bay past tufas and holes. Very sharp fingery rock at the start.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6c+ | <p>8. Entre doe tierras
28m. A desperate start followed by much easier climbing above.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> 7a+ |
| <p>4. ?
30m. The left-hand edge of the wall. Good.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6b | <p>9. Walking on the Milkyway
28m. Another hard start followed by a pleasant 6a above.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6c |
| <p>5. Tschook du ?
30m. A tricky start and sustained wall above. Good climbing all the way.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6b+ | <p>10. Soft and Huggy
28m. Some sharp holds and well spaced bolts. Move right to the shared lower off.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg</p> |  <input type="checkbox"/> 6a+ |

11. Kuscheltiger



25m. Start as for Soft and Huggy and move right. The slab proves intricate and fingery.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg

12. Ja Mama



30m. Line up the big corner right of Kuscheltiger, starting midway between the corner and Salva Mea.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg

13. Salva Mea



25m. The tufa streaks up the large arête. Possibly 8a+.

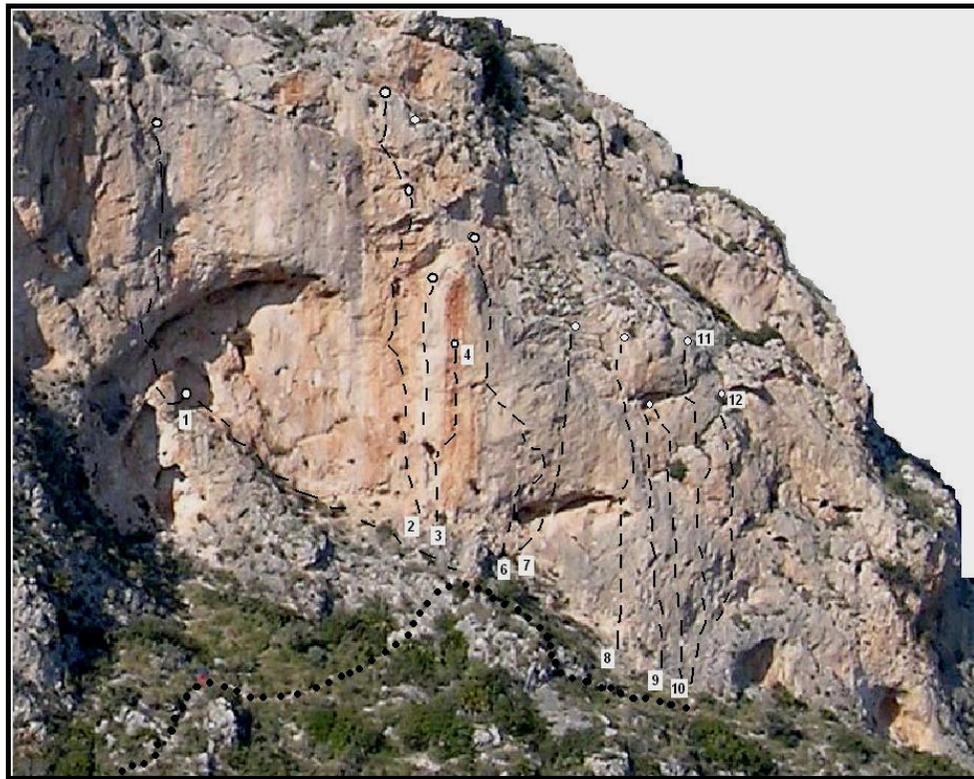
14. Suse 4711



30m. Around the corner from the start of Salva mea.
F.A. Jens Muenchberg

Altea Col – Right-hand Section

Follow the path down the hillside, along the foot of the crag until a platform can be reached under Baby Born. Routes are described from left to right. The names of some of the routes are written at their base.



The first route takes a line up the highest part of the cliff left of the large roof.

1. Dark Reign



25m. Scramble up to a belay in a small cave below the left hand side of the big central roof. Move left around the cave edge and climb the bugling wall (crux) to good holds. Continue up the wall to a good rest and finish up the hanging groove with difficulty to a belay. Lower off.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2001



2. Elliea



35m. 4 star route when done in one pitch but drag can be a problem at the top. Scramble leftwards up the slab and climb the wall on pockets to good holds. Continue up and leftwards until a long reach allows a good flake to be gained. Move rightwards through the bulge on poor holds and pull over to a belay point (25m). Follow the crack leftwards until a pull right through the bulge is possible to gain the belay (35m). It is possible to reach the top of the easy slab using a 60m but keep hold of the rope otherwise you will be hanging in space a long way above the ground.
F.A. Richard Davies - May 2002

3. El Paso Blanco



20m. Start as for Baby Born to the pod. Exit from the left and climb the steep blank white wall above. Make a hard move to gain a one finger pocket and then attack the wall above slightly to the left which eases quickly.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2002

4. Baby Born



15m. Start below the right most side of the big roof at the orange streak. Climb up to a diagonal pod and exit right. Continue up the wall above to a chain belay. Lower off.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2001

5. Baby Obsession Link



25m. Start as for Bay Born until established on the wall. Boldly cross the scoop to join Pure Obsession at the rest and finish up this.
F.A. Richard Davies, George Heydon - May 2002

6. Pure Obsession



25m. Start to the right and ascend a short groove, pull right to a hole and up to better holds. Pull steeply up and leftwards to a good rest. Continue up the steep wall which soon eases to a ring bolt belay. Lower off.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2001

7. Slabazonic



25m. Very well bolted steep, sharp and fingery wall.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2002

8. Crimpo Fantasia



25m. Start down the slope and climb the slab to below the roof. Step right through this and ascend the wall on tiny holds. Finish up the steep rib to bold belay.
F.A. Richard Davies, George Heydon - May 2002

9. Snake Country



20m. Climb the wall on mostly excellent holds to a bulge. Pullover this and go easily up the slab to a flake and final wall.
F.A. Richard Davies - December 2002

10. Snake in the Sack



20m. Start below the corner crack partway up the wall. Climb past this, up the easy slab to a final steep wall. Bolt belay.
F.A. Richard Davies - December 2002

11. Monsters Inc.



25m. Slab to the right leads to a steep fingery wall. Up this (crux) to a good hold in a scoop and pull up onto the slab. Pull through the bulge on to a ledge and up the wall above (large thread on left). Straight up to the belay.
F.A. Richard Davies - December 2002

12. Adder Basher



18m. Climb the slab rightwards and then up the wall to the hole. Follow the flake steeply up the wall.
F.A. Richard Davies - August 2003