

# ERMIONIDA - ARGOLIS

Climbing Guidebook

2023 EDITION

**MOLYMPUS**

**A hands-on account**

General information, access guide, panoramas and topos



# CLIMBING IN ERMIONIDA ARGOLIS GREECE

An Olympus Mountaineering

**Climbing Guidebook**



CASTLE THERMISIA

# Geoffroi Villehardouin 8b? (project)

Climber: Klemen Becan



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## CLIMBING IN ERMIONIDA ARGOLIS 2023

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## WARNING ABOUT THIS GUIDEBOOK

Read before using this guidebook

### Warning

This guidebook is a compilation of unverified information gathered from many different climbers.

The author cannot ensure the accuracy of any of the information in this book, including topos and route descriptions, difficulty ratings, and protection ratings.

These may be incorrect or misleading, as ratings of climbing difficulty and risk are always subjective and depend on the physical characteristics (for example, height), experience, technical ability, confidence, and physical fitness of the climber who supplied the rating.

Additionally, climbers who achieve first ascents sometimes underrate the difficulty or risk of the climbing route.

Therefore, be warned that you must exercise your own judgment on where a climbing route goes, its difficulty, and your ability to safely protect yourself from the risks of rock climbing.

Examples of some of these risks are: falling due to technical difficulty or due to natural hazards such as holds breaking, falling rock, climbing equipment dropped by other climbers, adverse weather conditions, failure of your own equipment, and failure or absence of fixed protection.

## Here are some ways to use this guidebook more safely.

**1. Consultation:** You should always consult with other climbers about the difficulty and risks of a particular route before attempting it. Most local climbers are glad to provide advice on routes in their area; we suggest that you contact locals to confirm grades and safety of particular routes and to obtain first-hand information about the route of your choice.

**2. Instruction:** Most climbing areas have local climbing instructors and guides available. If you're new unfamiliar with climbing or unfamiliar with the area, we recommend that you hire an instructor or guide to learn safety techniques and to become familiar with the routes and hazards of the areas described in this book. Even if you are already proficient in climbing safety, occasionally hiring a guide is a sure way to raise your climbing standard and learn advanced techniques.

**3. Fixed Protection:** Some of the routes in this book may use fixed bolts and pitons that have

been pre-placed on the rock. Because of variances in the manner of placement, weathering, metal fatigue, the quality of the metal used, and many other factors, these fixed protection pieces should always be sceptically considered.

Never depend on a single piece of fixed protection for your safety, because you can never tell whether it will single-handedly hold your weight. In some cases, fixed protection may have been removed or is now missing.

However, climbers should avoid adding new pieces of fixed protection, unless they deem the pre-placed protection faulty and are looking to replace it. Existing protection can be tested by an experienced climber, to determine its strength. The ethics of climbing also strongly discourage adding bolts or drilled pitons to a pre-existing route, intending the route to be climbed as it was meant to be by the first ascent party.

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## Be aware of the following potential inaccuracies while using this guidebook:

### **1. Incorrect Descriptions of Routes:**

If you're not sure where exactly your route is going, exercise your own judgment as to whether you should continue or retreat.

Route descriptions and topos in this book could be inaccurate or misleading.

### **2. Incorrect Difficulty Rating:**

A route might be harder than the rating indicates. Do not be lulled into a false sense of security by the grade.

### **3. Incorrect Protection Rating:**

If you're climbing a route and you are unable to arrange adequate protection through the use of fixed pitons or bolts and by placing your own protection devices, do not assume that there is adequate protection available higher just because the route protection rating indicates so. Every route is potentially an X (a fall may be deadly), due to the inherent hazards of climbing—including, for example, failure or absence of fixed protection,

your gear, faulty protection placement, or improper use of climbing equipment.

### **4. Failure to Warn of a Particular Hazard:**

Although an effort has been made to warn of known hazards on particular routes, this guide is by no means comprehensive, when it comes to potential risks and hazards involved in climbing. Climb carefully, at your own risk, and always be watchful.

**There are no warranties, whether expressed or implied, that this guidebook is accurate or that the information in it is reliable.**

**There are no warranties of fitness for a particular purpose or that this guide is merchantable. Your use of this book indicates your assumption of the risk that it may contain errors and is an acknowledgment of your own sole responsibility for your climbing safety.**



CLIMBING GUIDEBOOK  
**INTRODUCTION**

View from Dardiza Crag

Once upon a time, back in the 2000's, a climbing revolution occurred in Ermionida, East Peloponnese. The British climber, **Jim Titt**, and the German **Inge Zaczek** went and equipped more than 200 routes on the area's excellent limestone rocks, with stainless steel bolts. They spent a lot of their time, money and effort for the development of sport climbing in the area and we are thankful for it. Since **2021**, the local climbing community **Climb Ermionida**, carried out maintenance works on the various crags and replaced several anchors, developed **three new crags**, many **new routes** and even new adventure **Multi-Pitch** routes by always using **UIAA certified gear**.



**CRAGS**

**10**

Sport Climbing crags suitable for all-year climbing.



**ROUTES**

**300+**

Sport Climbing routes of various grades.



**BEACHES**

**73**

Ermionida boasts an extensive coast line and offers many small coves with beaches.



**HOURS**

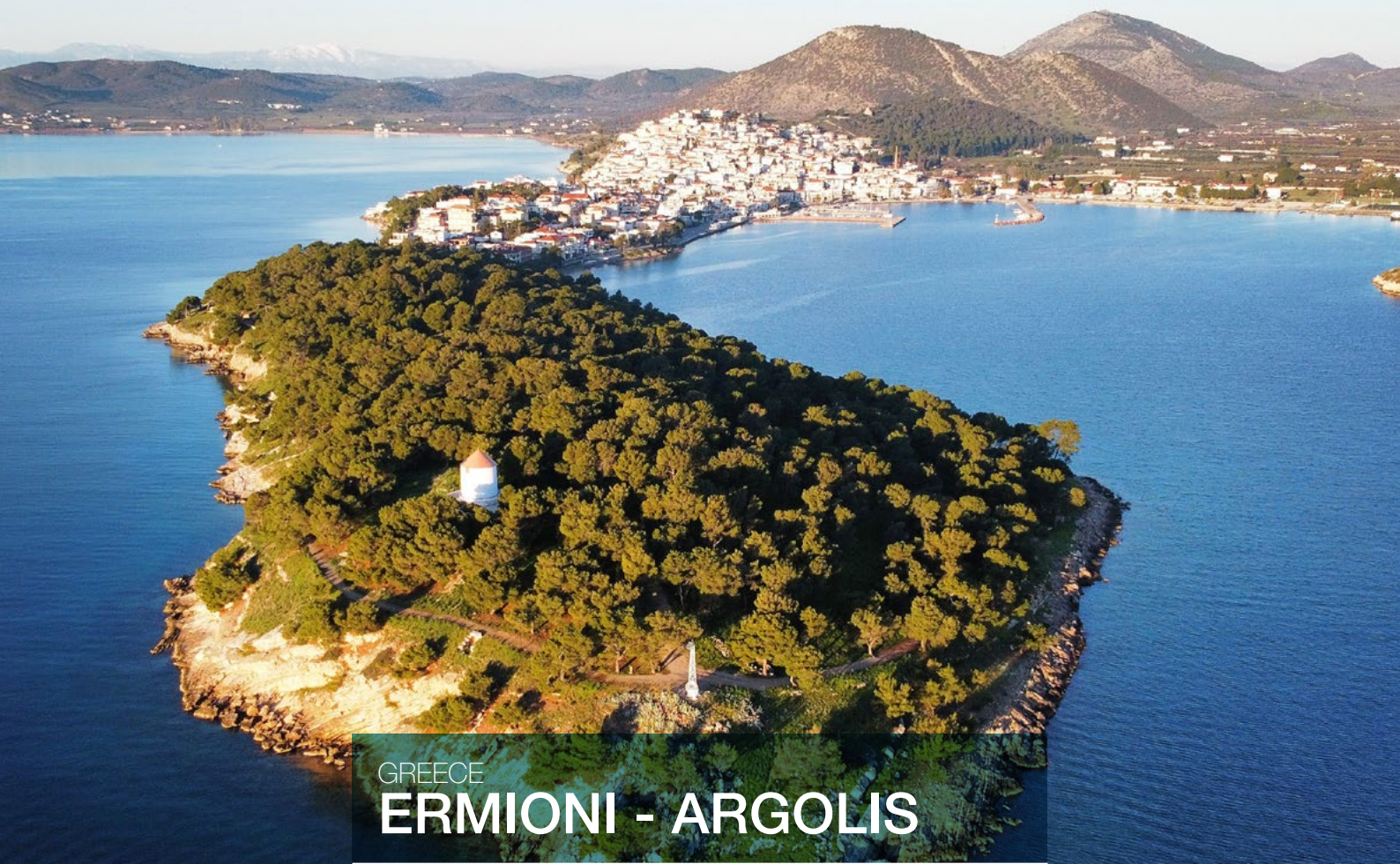
**3000+**

Ermionida, gets over 3,000 hours of sunshine per year.



- 1 KATAFYKI GORGE**  
70 routes | 5a - 7c+
- 2 PETROGERAKAS**  
8 routes | 5a - 6b+
- 3 PLEIADES**  
3 Multi-pitch routes | 5c - 6b+
- 4 DARDIZA**  
2 routes | 5a
- 5 CASTLE THERMISIA**  
34 routes | 5a - 8c+

- 6 CAVES OF FRAGTHI**  
14 routes | 4c - 7a+
- 7 SUNCASTLE**  
10 routes | 5a - 6b+
- 8 PILLARS OF THE WIND**  
52 routes | 3 - 8a
- 9 ROCK OF AGES**  
39 routes | 5a - 8a
- 10 DIDYMA**  
67 routes | 4b - 8a



GREECE  
**ERMIONI - ARGOLIS**

Areal view of Bisti - Ermioni

## About Ermionida

**Ermionida** is a municipality in the Argolis regional unit, Peloponnese, Greece. The seat of the municipality is the town of Kranidi.

**Ermioni** is a small fishing town in Ermionida (Argolis) on the east of Peloponnese. The traditional taverns, the cafés, the paved streets, the beautiful houses and the crystal clear beaches around this area are some of the reasons which make this town is an interesting summer destination of Peloponnese.

While travelling around the area, you will have the chance to admire olive and pine trees along with plenty of bays with turquoise waters but also plenty of climbing crags.

Rock climbing around Ermionida and generally the region of Argolis is all on excellent **solid grey limestone**.

The majority of the routes are single pitch sport climbing routes, though there are some trad climbing routes as well.

However, all of the climbing areas are only partially developed, which means there is a massive opportunity to establish new routes in the area.

The area of Argolis gets **over 3,000 hours of sunshine per year** and is a popular holiday destination.

This also means that it is possible to rock climb virtually throughout the whole year in the region, even in the hot summer months, as some crags such as **Didyma** are found on higher elevation - as high as 1,000 m.!



## History

Ermioni (Ancient Hermione) was originally founded by the mythical hero Ermionas and the ancient **Dryopian tribe**, and dedicated to the 'messenger' god, Hermes, and later, during the Mycenaean period, to Hermione, daughter of Helen and Menelaus, King of Sparta.

The area of Ermionis has been inhabited **since the Paleolithic period**, 40,000 years ago. Archaeological excavations at the Mesolithic Fragthi Cave unveiled the oldest complete human skeleton in Europe, dating back to 23,000 BC.

From **14th to 8th Century BC**, many settlements were established in the Southern Argolida region, as elsewhere in Greece. By 6th Century BC some of these villages had grown into real towns and large cities, such as **Hermione** (Ermioni), **Halieis** (Porto Heli), **Mases** (Kilada) and **Eileoi** (Iliokastro).

This laid the foundations for the archaic Hermionis Kingdom, ruled from the walled city of Hermione, located on the ancient Bisti peninsula. Hermione witnessed considerable prosperity during the

**Hellenistic and Republican Roman periods**, particularly after the Romans had taken control of the city, following the destruction of ancient Corinth in 146 BC.

When **Pausanias** visited Hermione, he described with admiration the lavish temples, sanctuaries, stadium, festivals, music contests and swimming races that brought so much glory to the ancient Kingdom of Hermionis and the surrounding area.

### Useful references:

**General Info:** Olympus Mountaineering  
Municipality of Ermionida

**Camping:** Hydra's Wave

**Stay:** Katafyki  
Lambayanna beach  
Dardiza beach



GREECE

ERMIONI - ARGOLIS

View from the top of MAIA route



70 routes ★★★★★

# KATAFYKI GORGE

**Crag Location:** 37.419650, 23.214109

**Best Season:** All year

# KATAFYKI GORGE

70 Routes ★★★★★ Katafyki, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.419650, 23.214109

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 1 minute

## General information

An impressive gorge with a main face **over 150 m.** high and an impressive rock expanse along the river bed. Further up on the northern side there is a large area of rock- still undeveloped.

The main wall has an impressive overhanging middle section traversed mid-height by a large horizontal roof with holes. At first sight this can be somewhat overwhelming but once you're on, it turns out to be more amenable than one would have expected.

A very short approach (crag is just 20 meters off the road) and good protection from the elements make this area worth a visit.

Climbing in Katafyki is pleasant throughout the year, as the main wall is shaded after mid-day. There are **70 routes** here, among which, there are 4 multi-pitch trad routes reaching up to 123m. and 3 multi-pitch sport routes up to 150 m. in length.

**Grades 5a to 7c+.**

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** North

**Best Season:** All year

**Sun:** From 09.00 to 11.00 (16.00 in summer)

**Walk in:** 1 minute

**Water:** None

**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** Around the chapel of Agios Nikolaos

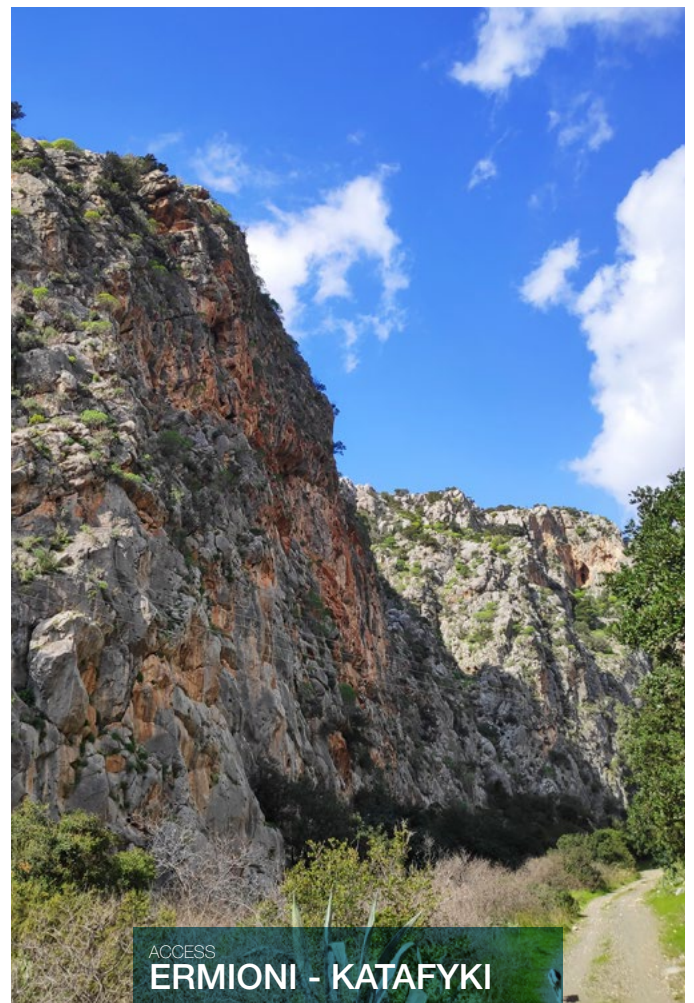
**Gear:** 80 m. rope, 18 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J.Titt, I. Zaczek, H. Weninger, J. Gstoettenmayr & family.



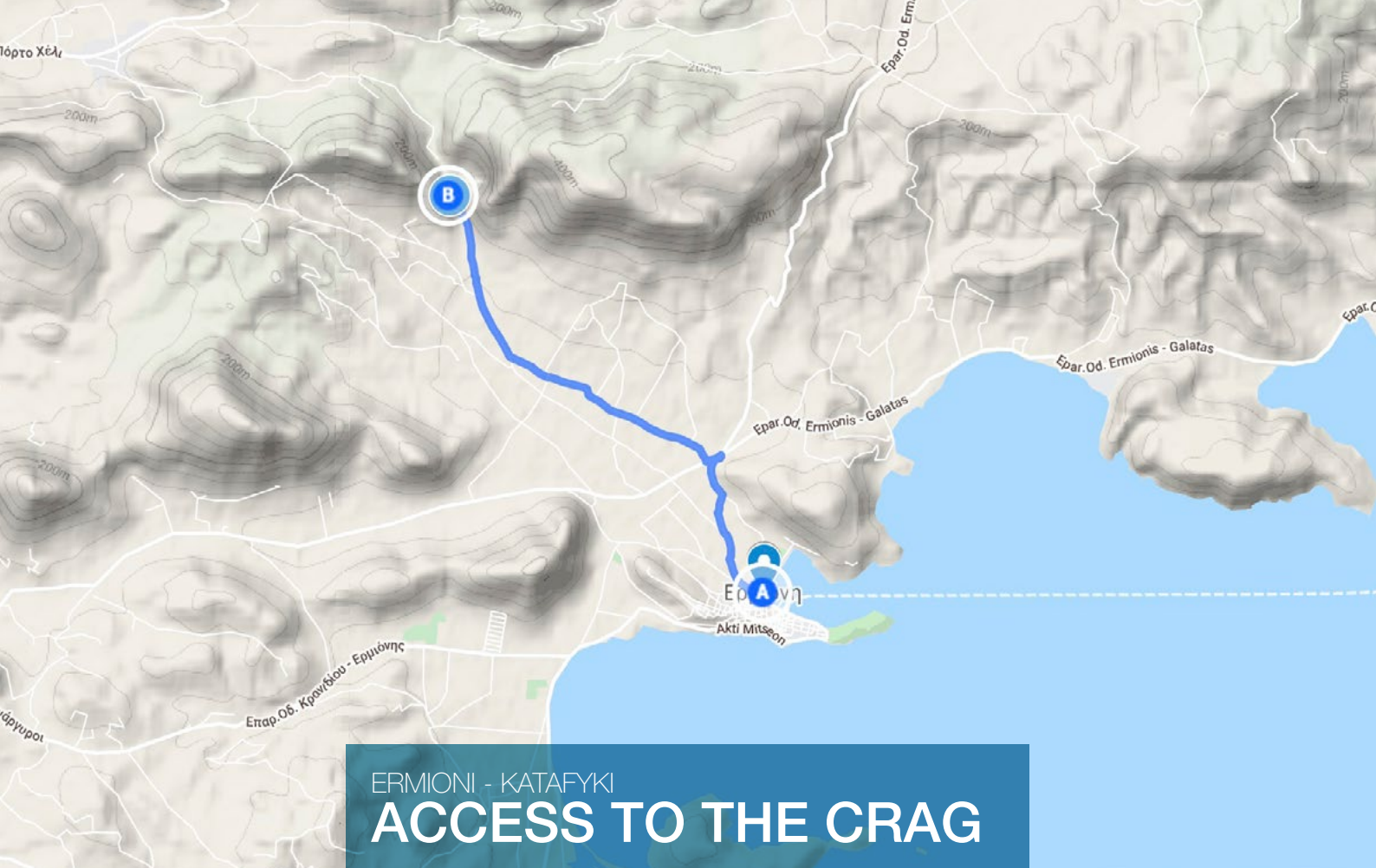
KATAFYKI GORGE  
**FORCE WAR 6a+**

Sector: Welcome



ACCESS  
**ERMIONI - KATAFYKI**

Access from Ermioni towards the gorge of Katafyki



## ERMIONI - ΚΑΤΑΦΥΚΙ ACCESS TO THE CRAG

Access from Ermioni towards the crag of ΚΑΤΑΦΥΚΙ

### Access

Approaching **Kranidi** from the north, you will come across an intersection. Follow the signs to **Ermioni** and drive along the long straight section until you reach an inconspicuous stone chapel on your left and a small sign towards **Katafyki Gorge** (oriented towards the opposite direction

so it's easy to miss!). Take a hard left and follow the tight tarmac road for **about 3 km. until you come to an agricultural dirt road** with a sign pointing to Katafyki to the west. Another 500 m. of well trodden dirt road among olive groves and you are at the crag.





KATAFYKI GORGE

## Sticky Fingers ext. 7b

Climber: Kostas Grafanakis



PANORAMA  
**KATAFYKI SECTOR WELCOME**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Ade	6b+	24 m.	
02.	Jassu	5c	24 m.	
03.	Namaste	6a	24 m.	
04.	Hola	5c+	22 m.	
05.	Bonjour	6a	22 m.	
06.	Welcome	5c	24 m.	
07.	Bienvenuto	6a	24 m.	
08.	Hei	6a+	22 m.	
09.	Olala	6b	22 m.	
10.	God Dag	6a+	20 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
11.	Gruezi	5c	18 m.	
12.	Tach	5a	16 m.	
13.	Answer (Trad)	V	22 m.	
14.	The Question	5c	28 m.	
15.	MT Direct	5c+	30 m.	
16.	Sabbatical	6b	30 m.	
17.	Savage Girl	7a	25 m.	
18.	Savage Man	6b+	25 m.	
19.	Side Step	7a	27 m.	
20.	Force War	6a+	25 m.	



PANORAMA

## KATAFYKI SECTOR HEROES

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Heroes	L1/L2 6a	60 m.	
02.	Rotzfatz	6a+	28 m.	
03.	Rockstar	6a	28 m.	
04.	Villains	5b	22 m.	
05.	At the edge	L1 6b+/L2 5c	24 m.	
06.	Saints	5c	25 m.	
07.	Last Hero	L16b/L2 6a	25 m.	
08.	Brake	6a	35 m.	

### The Cave of Katafyki

The famous **Cave of Katafyki**, is mythologically noted as the entrance to **Hades**, from where **Hercules** unleashed his terrible Cerberus and the god **Pluto** led the daughter of the goddess **Demeter**, **Persephone**, to the underworld.

In the **Middle Ages** it was believed that the cave was a gate to Hell from which emerged all kinds of demons and fairies, haunts that made life difficult for passers-by.



PANORAMA

## KATAFYKI SECTORS RED EMPIRE & HANDBITTER

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Fighting Jim	6b	14 m.	
02.	The Red Empire	6a+	18 m.	
03.	Heaven	5c	22 m.	
04.	Sinner's	5a	22 m.	
05.	Prayer	5a	18 m.	
06.	Zorro	5b+	35 m.	
07.	Yassas	6b	22 m.	
08.	Mercy	5c	22 m.	
09.	Lucky	6a+	22 m.	
10.	Gate of Hades	6c	30 m.	
11.	Golden Brown	5b+	22 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
12.	Fairytale	7a+	22 m.	
13.	Handbitter	5c	22 m.	
14.	Brown Sugar	5c	32 m.	
15.	Hole in the Wall	5b	22 m.	
16.	Hole in the Wall ext.	7a	34 m.	
17.	Rolling Stone	6a	22 m.	
18.	Sticky Fingers	5b	24 m.	
19.	Sticky Fingers ext.	7b	34 m.	
20.	Ruby Tuesday	5c	24 m.	
21.	Ruby Tuesday ext.	7b	40 m.	





PANORAMA  
**KATAFYKI SECTOR HOLIDAY**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	He Ha	6a+	22 m.	
02.	Gstotti was here	6a+	22 m.	
03.	Loch im Bauch	6a+	24 m.	
04.	Holiday	6b	24 m.	
05.	Tamara	5a	14 m.	
06.	Kryptikos	6c	10 m.	
07.	Verena	5a	14 m.	
08.	via SCKC	6a	26 m.	
09.	Mythos	5b+	18 m.	
10.	Amstel	5c	18 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
11.	5I	5a	19 m.	
12.	Nine Dragons	5b+	28 m.	
13.	Come On	5c+	22 m.	





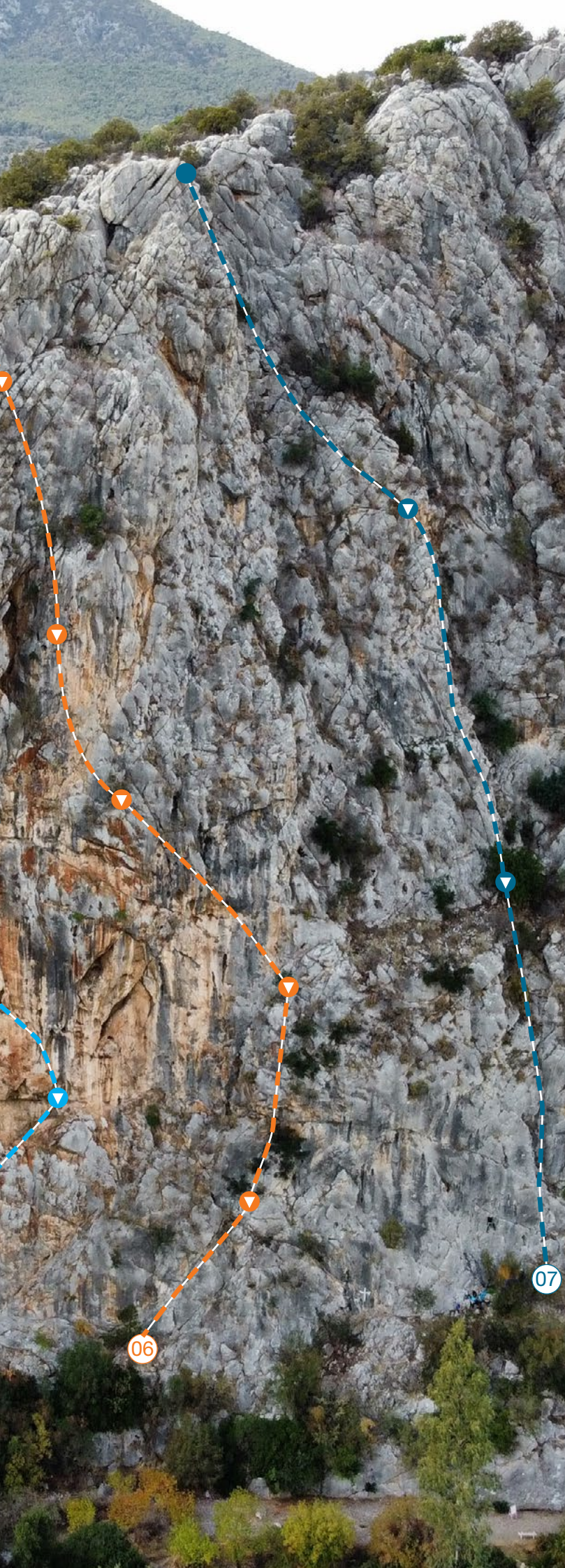
01

02

03

04

05



## 01. ANSWER

Pitches: 3      Grade: V  
Length: 90 m.      Style: Trad

L1 V    L2 IV+    L3 V-

## 02. HEROES

Pitches: 2      Grade: 6a+  
Length: 60 m.      Style: Sport

L1 6a+    L2 6a

## 03. THE RED EMPIRE

Pitches: 5      Grade: 7c+  
Length: 125 m.      Style: Sport

L1 6a+    L2 6c    L3 7c+  
L4 5b    L5 5b

## 04. ZORRO

Pitches: 6      Grade: 6b  
Length: 150 m.      Style: Sport

L1 5b    L2 6b    L3 5c  
L4 6a    L5 5a    L6 4c

## 05. SUE'S PARTY

Pitches: 3      Grade: IV+  
Length: 145 m.      Style: Trad

L1 IV    L2 IV+    L3 IV+  
L4 IV

## 06. SUNDAY OUTING

Pitches: 6      Grade: V+  
Length: 125 m.      Style: Trad

L1 IV    L2 V-    L3 V+  
L4 V+    L5 V    L6 V-

## 07. PROJECT

Pitches: 3      Grade: VI  
Meters: T.B.D.      Style: Trad

L1 VI    L2 ?    L3 ?



8 Routes ★☆☆☆☆

# PETROGERAKAS

**Crag Location:** 37.421957, 23.219936

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

# PETROGERAKAS

8 Routes ★★☆☆☆ Katafyki, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.421957, 23.219936

**Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring | **Walk in:** 35 minutes

## General information

A new sport climbing crag was developed near **Ermioni** and specifically near the already well established climbing crag **Katafyki**.

The crag was developed and **equipped in early spring 2022** by **Vertical Art Greece** with main equipper **K. Grafanakis** and with a kind contribution of the local climbing community, **Climb Ermionida**.

The rock consists of grey-brown and red lime-

stone of very good quality but due to the fact the crag is newly developed, the rock on some routes might be a bit sharp. In total there are **8 routes** for all types of climbing, but was mainly developed for climbers taking their first steps on the vertical walls.

Best seasons to visit the **Petrogerakas Crag** is from late **Autumn** till late **Spring**.

**Grades 5a to 6b+.**

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South / South West

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - late spring

**Sun:** From 13.00 up to sunset

**Walk in:** 35 minutes (steep hike)

**Water:** None

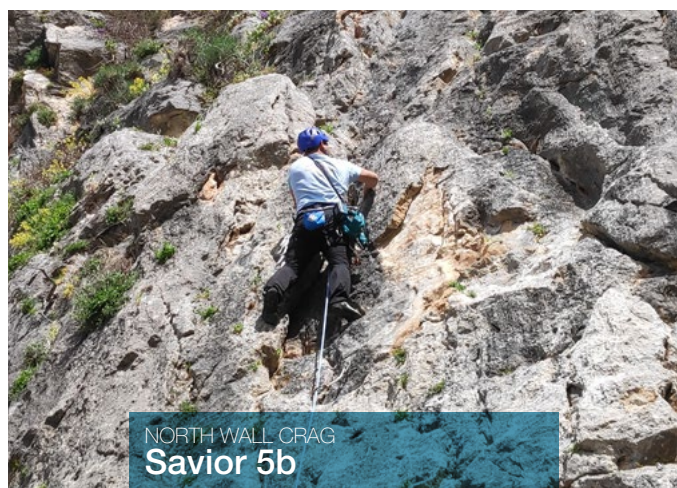
**Family Friendly:** No

**Pet Friendly:** No

**Camping:** Katafyki Gorge

**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** K. Grafanakis



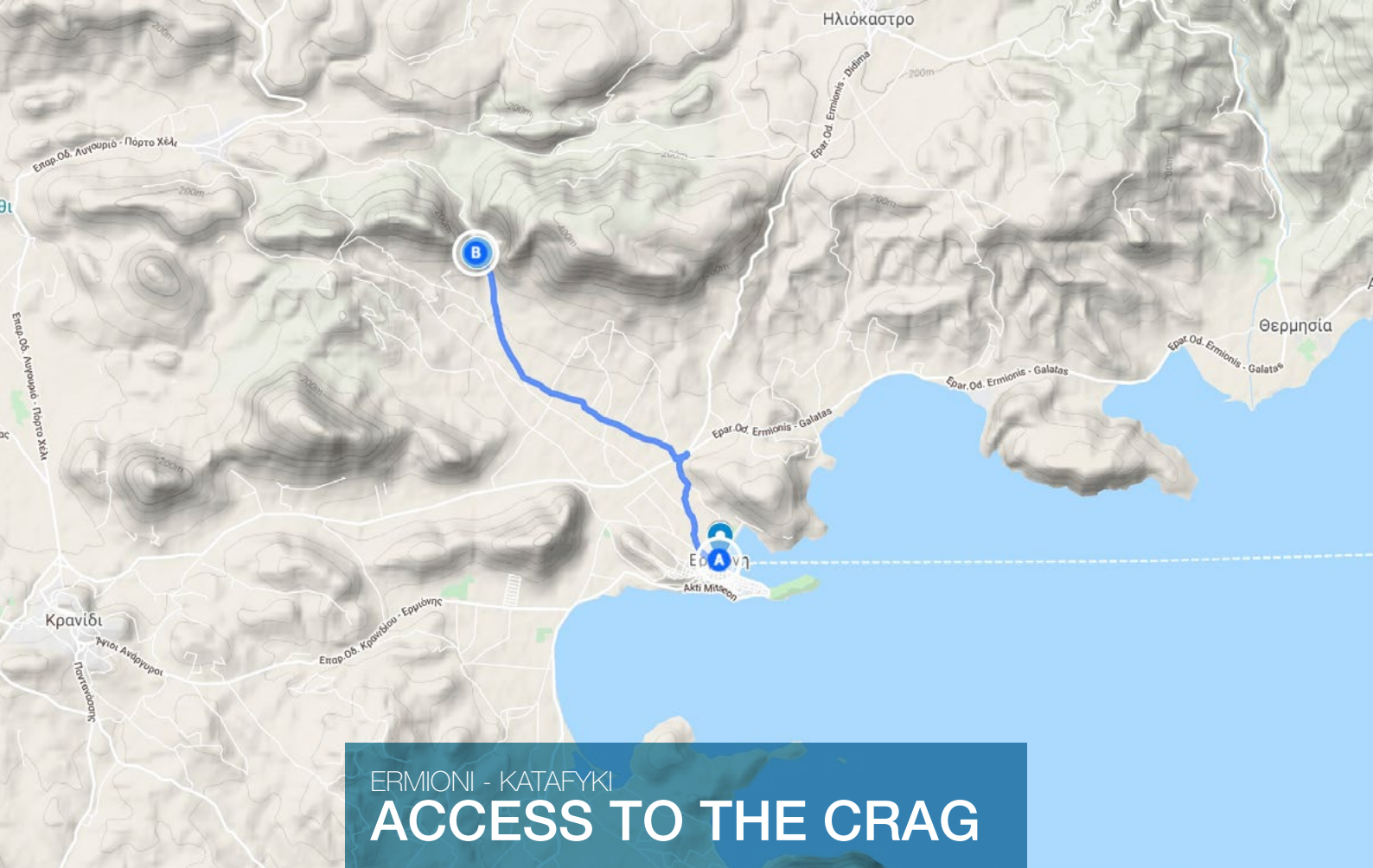
NORTH WALL CRAG  
**Savior 5b**

Climber: D. Nakos



ROCK QUALITY  
**NORTH WALL CRAG**

Rock consists of grey-brown and red limestone

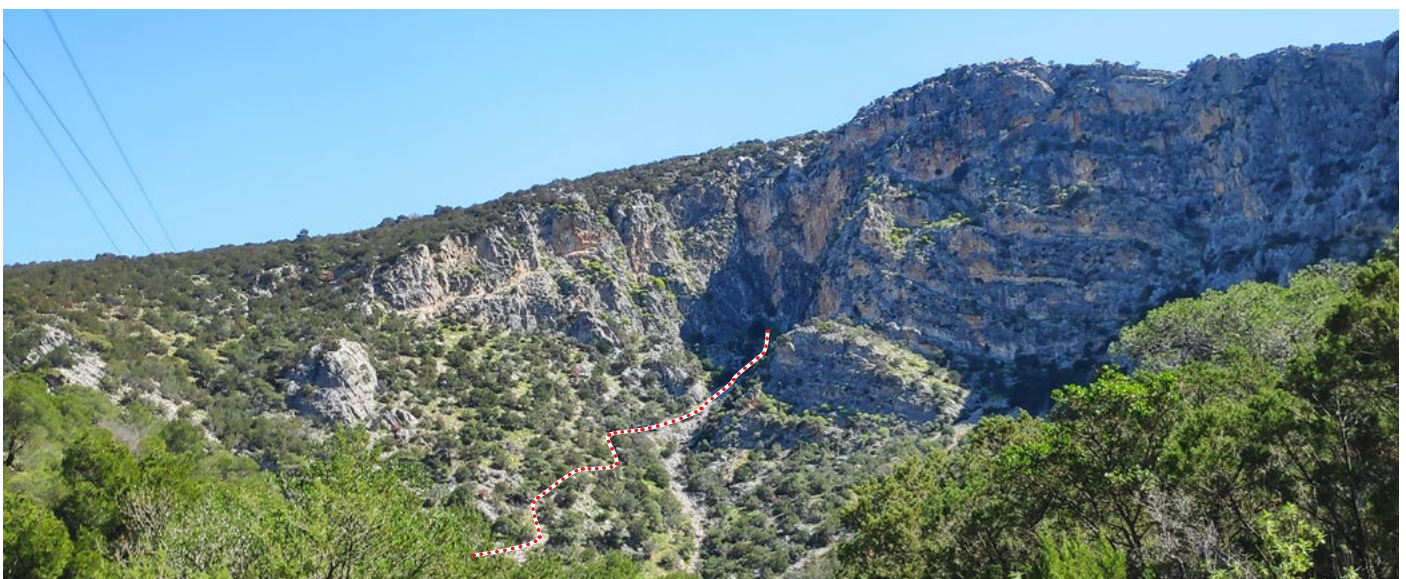


ERMIONI - ΚΑΤΑΦΥΚΙ  
**ACCESS TO THE CRAG**  
 Access from Ermioni towards Petrogerakas crag

### Access

Approaching **Kranidi** from the north, you will come across an intersection. Follow the signs to **Ermioni** and drive along the long straight section until you reach an inconspicuous stone chapel on your left and a small sign towards **Katafyki Gorge** (oriented towards the opposite direction so it's easy to miss!). Take a hard left and follow

the tight tarmac road for **about 3 km. until you come to dirt road** with a sign pointing to Katafyki to the west. From **Katafyki** parking spot, follow the trail that leads to **Petrogerakas crag**. Once on the trail, follow the **red** signs. **Attention:** the trail is very steep, though the approach hike is not very difficult.





PETROGERAKAS CRAG  
**YALAYALA 6b+**

Climber: K. Grafanakis



PANORAMA  
PETROGERAKAS CRAG

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Mud Bath	5a	20 m.	
02.	Ylagiali	6a	24 m.	
03.	Yalayala	6b+	25 m.	
04.	Pollar Star	6b	24 m.	
05.	BBQ	6a+	19 m.	
06.	Savior	5b	20 m.	
07.	Alzheimer	5c	22 m.	
08.	Goats' Path	6a+	30 m.	

## Good to know

**Petrogerakas crag** is located on the top of the wall northern of the main crag of **Katapyki**.

In order to reach the crag you have to **hike for about 30-40 minutes on a steep terrain** and therefore is advised to use **walking sticks** for the uphill, but mainly for the return and descent from the crag.





K. Grafanakis on  
**Ylagiali 6a**



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Alzheimer 5c**



K. Grafanakis on  
**Yalayala 6b+**



3 Routes ★★★★★

# PLEIADES

**Crag Location:** 37.42021, 23.2179

**Best Season:** All year

# PLEIADES

3 Routes



Katafyki, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.42021, 23.2179

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 15 minutes

## General information

A new Multi-Pitch climbing crag was developed near **Ermioni** and specifically near the already well established climbing crag **Katafyki**.

The crag was developed and **equipped in 2022** by **Vertical Art Greece** with main equipper **K. Grafanakis** and with a kind contribution of the local climbing community, **Climb Ermionida**.

**Pleiades crag**, is located on the west wall in the ravine of Katafyki, and specifically, between

the **Katafyki Main Crag** and the **Petrogerakas Crag**.

As of **Summer 2023**, there are three fully bolted Multi-Pitch routes, **MAIA** (5c, 178 m.), **TAYGETE** (6b+, 205 m.) and **ALCYONE** (6a, 100m)

Both routes end at the top of the cliff with some stunning views toward **Ermioni** and the gulf of **Hydra** island.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** West

**Best Season:** All year

**Sun:** From 13.00 up to sunset (summer)

**Walk in:** 15 minutes

**Water:** None

**Family Friendly:** No

**Pet Friendly:** No

**Camping:** Katafyki Gorge

**Gear:** 2 x 60 m. rope, 18 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** Vertical Art Greece



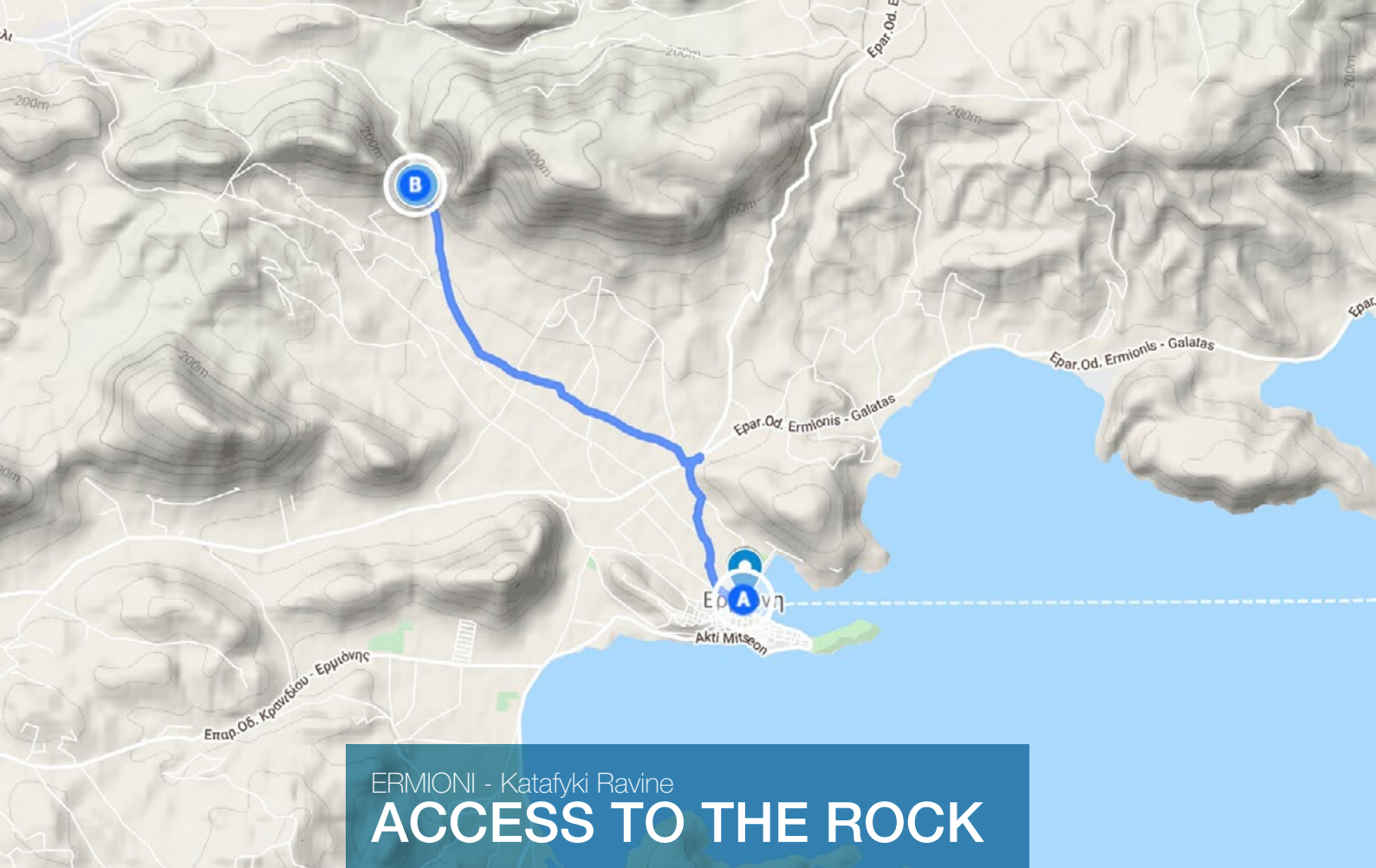
PLEIADES CRAG  
**TAYGETE 6b+**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



PLEIADES CRAG  
**MAIA - First Pitch**

Climber: K. Grafanakis



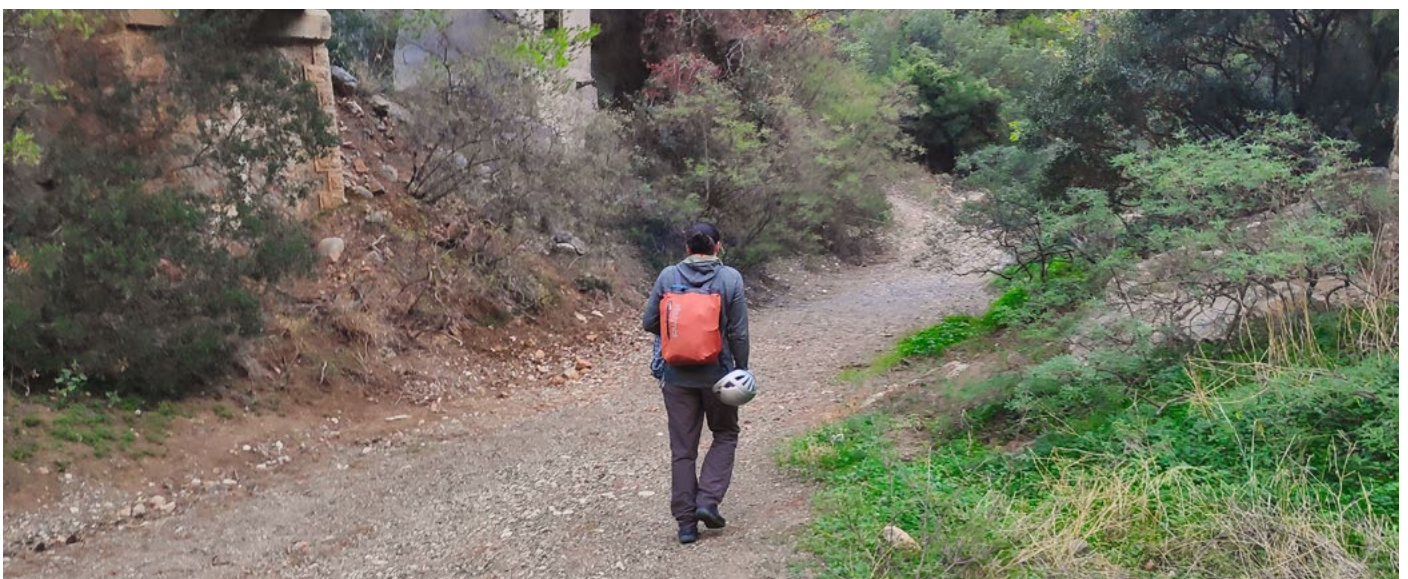
## ERMIONI - Katafyki Ravine ACCESS TO THE ROCK

Access from Ermioni towards Katafyki

### Access

Approaching **Kranidi** from the north, you will come across an intersection. Follow the signs to Ermioni and drive along the long straight section until you reach an inconspicuous stone chapel on your left and a small sign towards **Katafyki Gorge** (oriented towards the opposite direction

so it's easy to miss!). Take a hard left and follow the tight tarmac road for about 3 km. Park the car at the **St. Nicholas chapel** and follow the trail that goes under the bridge. From that point, you will have a clear view of the ridge and you have to follow the cairn (pile of stones).





PLEIADES CRAG  
**TAYGETE 6b+**

Climber: C. Rigas



R5

R4

R3

R2

R1

R0

# MAIA

5c | 178 m.



Katafyki - Ermioni

---

**1st Ascent:** 01/05/2022

**1st Ascensionists:** K. Grafanakis & Olympus Mountaineering

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## Route description

### **Pitch 1 (5c - 35 m.)**

The first pitch, and specifically the first **10 meters of the route**, are perhaps the **most demanding of the entire 178 m. of the climb**.

The route starts with a slight negative slab, but there are good holds and plenty of options for the feet. In addition, this first part, and generally the entire route is well equipped and very friendly to all type of climbers.

After the 4th bolt, you have to do a small **traverse towards the left**, so make sure to place an **alpine quickdraw** there (4th bolt), so you will minimise the rope drag while you will be climbing higher up.

Upon the traverse, the climb becomes easier (about 5b) and as soon you reach the ledge, you will easily spot the anchors.

**ATTENTION:** On the first ascent, about 2 meters left from the belay station, we spotted a hole with a Viber Berus snake in it. So, should you want to climb in the summer time, and on R1, pay a bit extra attention.

### **Pitch 2 (5b - 25 m.)**

The second pitch starts right above the **R1** and moves with a small traverse to the left until you come on the slab. Like on Pitch 1, also for **Pitch 2 the crux (5b) is at the beginning**, thus you have to pay a bit attention while traversing.

As soon we reach the slab, the climb again is easier (around 5a) and we have to follow the ridge till the obvious ledge where another anchor point is placed.

The belay station is very comfortable and from that point and on you start to enjoy the stunning views bellow at the ravine of Katafyki.

### **Pitch 3 (5b - 30 m.)**

The third pitch is continues in the same style as the last part of Pitch 2, which basically consists of following the ridge by climbing from a boulder to boulder with some small ledges till we find a slab with a bit negative start.

Before you enter the slab, there is a bolt that will make you feel safe and although it might seem a bit difficult to climb on top of the slab, there are enough holds for the hands. Upon that, we end up in another ledge, where **R3** is located.

The view from **R3** is really wonderful with a clear view of both **Katafyki crag** and **Petrogerakas crag**.

The maximum difficulty of this pitch is around **5b**.

### **Pitch 4 (5b+ - 48 m.)**

The fourth pitch is again a very nice pitch where the difficulty is again at the beginning. In the first few meters, we have to climb in a dihedral and at some point we have to do a small traverse (2-3 steps) to the left in order to enter and continue our climb on the slab. Upon that, we continue to climb right on the ridge and this makes the climb to feel very special.

This is the lengthiest pitch and like the previous pitches is well equipped. Due to the fact this pitch is about **48 meters long**, make sure to **add some alpine quickdraws** in order to minimise the rope drag.

### **Pitch 5 (5a - 40 m.)**

The fifth and final pitch of this great route, although is the easiest pitch, is perhaps the nicest too with a lovely "surprise" at the end. I won't describe much of this pitch, in order to not spoil the nice finishing of the Ridge

Though, what I can certainly attest, is that the **view from R5 is simply majestic**. Stunning views towards **Ermioni, Hydra, Dokos, Dardiza, Spetses** and of course a great "bird's eye" view towards the **Katafyki Climbing Crag**.



R6

R5

R4

R3

R2

R1

R0



# TAYGETE

6b+ | 205 m. ★★★★★☆

Katafyki - Ermioni

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**1st Ascent:** 30/10/2022

**1st Ascensionists:** C. Rigas & Olympus Mountaineering

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## Route description

### Pitch 1 (5c - 40 m.)

The first pitch, starts slightly to the left from the main ridge of **Pleiades** crag and the start is easy.

The route starts with a positive slab, and right after we enter to the zone of some overhangs, where there are good holds and plenty of options for the feet. On the **5th bolt**, where the **crux of the first pitch is located**, you have to climb an overhang and upon that, the climb becomes easier (about 5b) and as soon you reach the ledge, you will easily spot the anchors.

### Pitch 2 (5c+ - 25 m.)

The second pitch starts right above the **R1** and moves with a small traverse to the right with small hold but enough options for the correct foot placement. The **crux (5c+) of Pitch 2 is located on the 4th bolt** and you have to make sure you clip in before you climb that part.

As soon you climb the crux, there is a positive slab with tiny holds, but the climb on that part is a bit easier (around 5b).

The belay station is very comfortable and from that point and on you start to enjoy the stunning views bellow at the ravine of **Katafyki** but also the rest of **Taygete** route.

### Pitch 3 (5a - 30 m.)

The third pitch starts with a slight **exposure** and a great view to the south but also the north side of **Katafyki Ravine**. Although this pitch is not difficult (5a), there are a bit less bolts placed, thus one should climb this pitch carefully.

As soon you climb the ridge, you have to move towards the left, where you will locate R3 and the traverse pitch starts.

The view from **R3** is really wonderful with a clear view of both **Katafyki crag** and **Petrogerakas crag**.

### Pitch 4 Traverse (5a - 40 m.)

The fourth pitch is perhaps the less pleasant of all pitches, due to the fact most of this **40 meters pitch** is a traverse on a ledge that moves across the crag. This pitch is not difficult and there is a small part of scrambling of a maximum difficult around 4c/5a but most of the pitch is simple hike.

### Pitch 5 (6a+ - 40 m.)

The fifth pitch starts right above the R4 and is the **nicest pitch of Taygete route**, and perhaps one of the nicest and most complete pitches I have every climbed. This is a 40 meters length continuous **6a+** pitch where you will come across different kind of climbing styles, from slab to crag and also a small overhang. The **crux of this pitch is located about 8 meters above the R4** and you need to climb along a crack where besides the bolts, you can certainly place other protection gear if you want.

Arriving at **R5**, you have splendid view towards the last pitch. Belay location is **less comfortable** compared to the other ones.

### Pitch 6 (6b+ - 40 m.)

The sixth and final pitch, technically is the most demanding pitch, with a maximum difficulty of **6b/+**. Though, the **crux** of this pitch and of the entire route consists of some moves that require good coordination and balance. Besides the crux, the rest of the pitch is much easier of a maximum difficulty of around **5c**.

As soon we reach the R6, we come across stunning views towards **Ermioni, Hydra, Dokos, Dardiza, Spetses** and of course a great "bird's eye" view towards the **Katafyki Climbing Crag**.



R4

R3

R2

R1

R0

# ALCYONE

6a | 100 m.



Katafyki - Ermioni

**1st Ascent:** 29/05/2023

**1st Ascensionists:** K. Grafanakis & Olympus Mountaineering

## Route description

### **Pitch 1 (6a - 30 m.)**

The initial pitch of **Alcyone**, situated a few meters to the right (south) of the main ridge of the **Pleiades crag**, proves to be the most challenging segment of the route.

The ascent commences with a positive slab, followed by the need to surmount overhangs. These overhangs offer moderate holds, requiring careful foot and body placement. The first pitch of **Alcyone extends approximately 30 meters**, presenting a continuous climb featuring a mix of slab and overhang sections.

Climbers are encouraged to follow the natural line of the rock, seeking the most intuitive path. Upon reaching the prominent ledge, the next step involves a traverse towards the left, where the anchors and R1 come into view.

The belay station situated on this **ledge offers both comfort and a delightful vantage point**, overlooking the **Katafyki** and **Petrogerakas** crags.

This pitch, in parts might contain some loose rocks, so be delicate while climbing.

### **Pitch 2 (5c - 25 m.)**

Commencing just above **R1**, the second pitch demands a dynamic move to position your body correctly and securely clip in the **second bolt**. Once you conquer the initial section, a ledge greets you. From this ledge, a slight movement to the right leads to the **crux of the pitch**, rated at 5c. Be aware that this particular passage may induce a sense of discomfort due to the slight exposure and average rock quality. However, once you successfully navigate this challenging section, the remainder of the pitch becomes considerably easier. After reaching the ledge, a straightforward walk of approximately **8 meters** brings you to the belay station.

Rest assured, the belay station provides exceptional comfort, and from this vantage point, you gain clear visibility of the upcoming sections: **pitch 3 and pitch 4**.

### **Pitch 3 (5b - 20 m.)**

To embark on the **third pitch**, you begin slightly to the right from the anchors, aiming for the prominent **dihedral**. While this section does not pose significant difficulty, ample holds and foothold placements are available. It is important to approach this segment with the mindset of climbing a dihedral, utilizing the natural features to your advantage.

After securing the **fifth bolt**, veer towards the right to ascend to the ridge's pinnacle. Although a slight sense of exposure may be felt, the subsequent moves unfold gracefully on remarkably solid rock.

While this pitch is the shortest among the four, it rewards climbers with delightful movements that perfectly align with its grade (5b).

Resting at **R3** provides a truly splendid view, encompassing a wonderful panorama. Moreover, this belay station offers both serenity and comfort, allowing climbers to savor the surroundings while regrouping for the continuation of the ascent.

### **Pitch 4 (5c - 25 m.)**

As we embark on the **fourth and final pitch of Alcyone**, we once again encounter a captivating start on a rock of remarkable quality. The challenge on this pitch emerges right from the outset, persisting until the fifth bolt.

Within the initial **10 meters**, climbers must maintain a continuous and sustained ascent, facing a difficulty level of **around 5c, perhaps even approaching 6a**. Once the **crux of this pitch** is overcome, the climb gradually becomes easier, with a maximum difficulty of approximately 5a.

It is noteworthy that the **last anchor is not equipped with bolts but instead relies on a large tree**. Therefore, it is **crucial to carry slings with you**, ensuring the establishment of a secure anchor point.

Upon reaching **R4**, our journey to conquer **Alcyone**, one of the seven sisters, draws to a close.



2 routes ★☆☆☆☆

# DARDIZA

**Crag Location:** 37.410556, 23.279167

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

# DARDIZA

2 Routes



Dardiza, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.410556, 23.279167

**Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring | **Walk in:** 2 minutes

## General information

This is a tiny crag bolted by **Hans** and **Jeannette Weninger** and could also be considered a good location for bouldering.

On the south face of the rock, there are two routes (George and Filia). The rest of the rock remains unexploited for the time being.

While the south-east face of this tiny crag offers solid rock quality, its south-west face has some loose rocks.

**Dardiza crag** is recommended mainly for long-term visitors in the area who have already explored the other crags.

The access is short and easy and the views from the crag are simply stunning.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/East

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

**Sun:** 09.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 2 minutes

**Water:** None

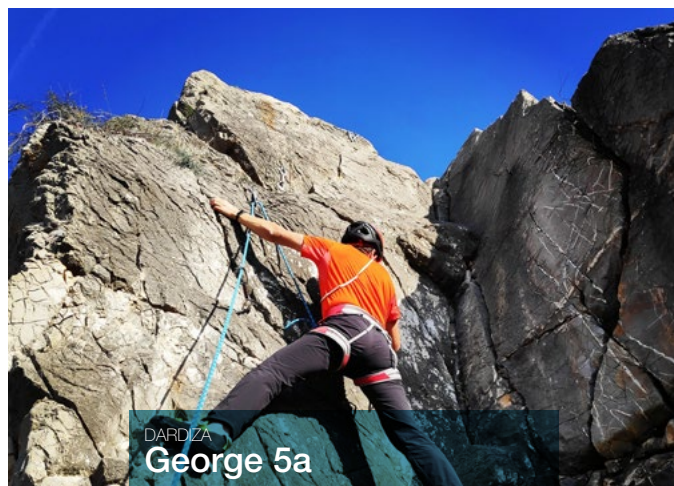
**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** Dardiza or Thermisia beach

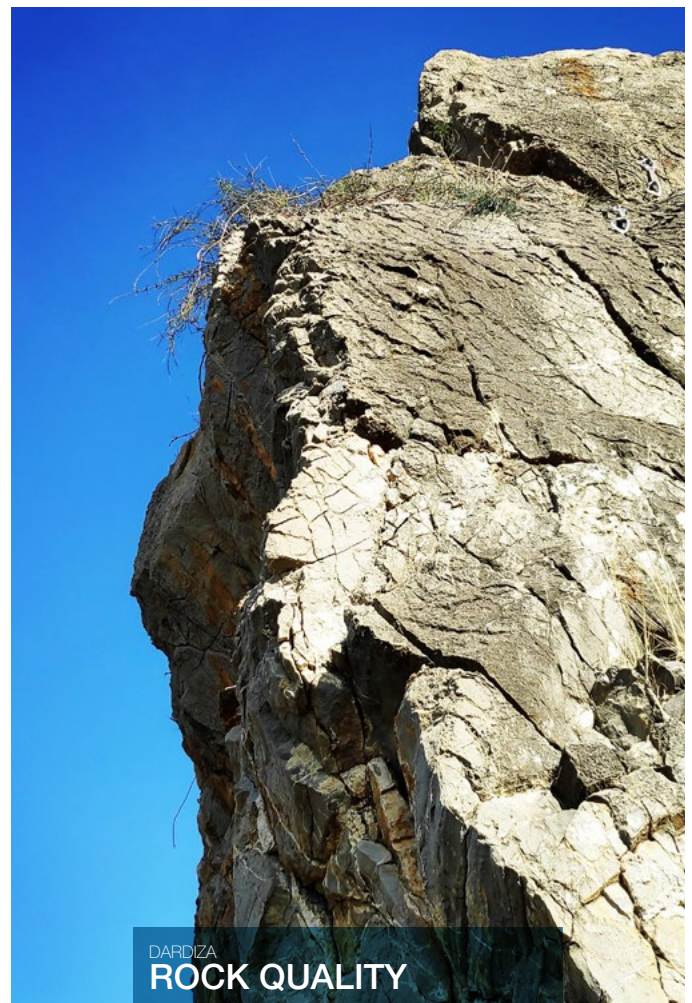
**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 4 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** H. Weninger, J. Weninger



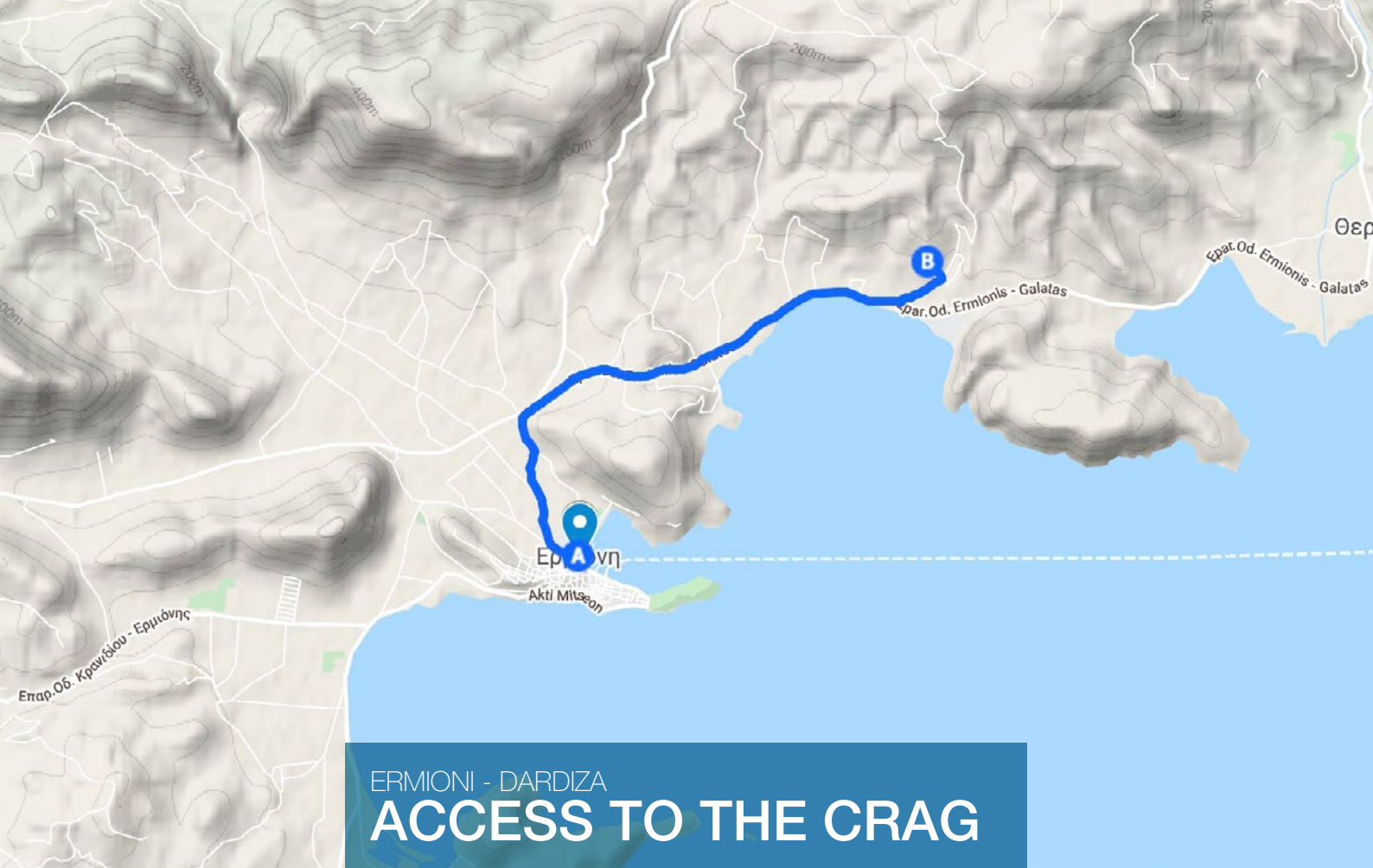
DARDIZA  
**George 5a**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



DARDIZA  
**ROCK QUALITY**

View of George 5a



ERMIONI - DARDIZA

## ACCESS TO THE CRAG

Access from Ermioni towards the crag of Dardiza

### Access

Driving, from Ermioni towards Galatas along the coastal road, you will come across **Dardiza** beach in **5 km**.

The cliff is not particularly visible from the road and lies to the north, just above the last houses on the hill.

You can park at the end of the paved road near a large white water tank.

Alternatively, if you wish to keep your approach to a minimum, follow the dirt road up to the following coordinates: **37.410542, 23.278764**





DARDIZA  
**George 5a**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



PANORAMA  
**DARDIZA ROUTES**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	George	5a	10 m.	
02.	Filia	5a	10 m.	

### Good to know

This climbing crag is very small and actually it could be ideal for some bouldering instead of sport climbing.

Nevertheless, if you really wish to enjoy some easy sport climbing routes or perhaps some short trad climbing, **Dardiza crag** offers easy access and magnificent view towards the islands of **Hydra** and **Dokos**.





Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Filia 5a**



C. Toutoutzis on,  
**George 5a**



DARDIZA  
**View from the Crag**



36 routes ★★★★★

# CASTLE THERMISIA

**Crag Location:** 37.421025, 23.303320

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

# CASTLE THERMISIA

36 Routes ★★★★★ Thermisia, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.421025, 23.303320

**Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring | **Walk in:** 10 minutes

## General information

The **Castle of Thermisia** appears in the written sources, as Trémis, for the first time in 1347, in the will of Gautier II de Brienne, Count of Lecce, *de jure* Duke of Athens, and *de facto* Lord of Argos and Nauplia. Surprisingly the castle is not referenced in an otherwise comprehensive list of frankish castles in Greece dating from 1377.

It perks atop an imposing cliff overlooking the coast and the village of **Thermisia**.

Close inspection of the rock reveals an even more daunting prospect than a first glance might suggest. Big, red, bulging and holdless seems to sum it up.

This is actually a great place to visit with a super view over the coast, a ruined castle to explore and a real classic line, **New Order**, which takes you up an unfeasibly overhanging wall at only 6a+. The cliff is floodlit during the summer months and this would give a superb photo opportunity!

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/West

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

**Sun:** From 10.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 7-15 minutes (depending the sector)

**Water:** None

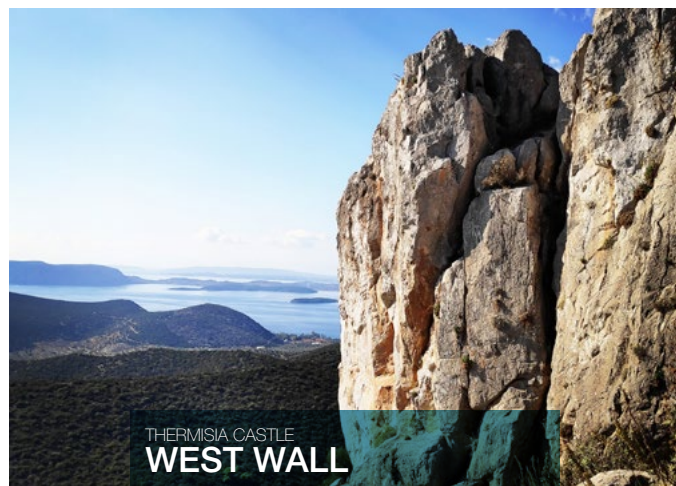
**Family Friendly:** No

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** At the parking area

**Gear:** 70 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J. Titt, I. Zaczek, Vertical Art Greece, C. Vrohidis, C. Tsoutsias, Climb Ermionida



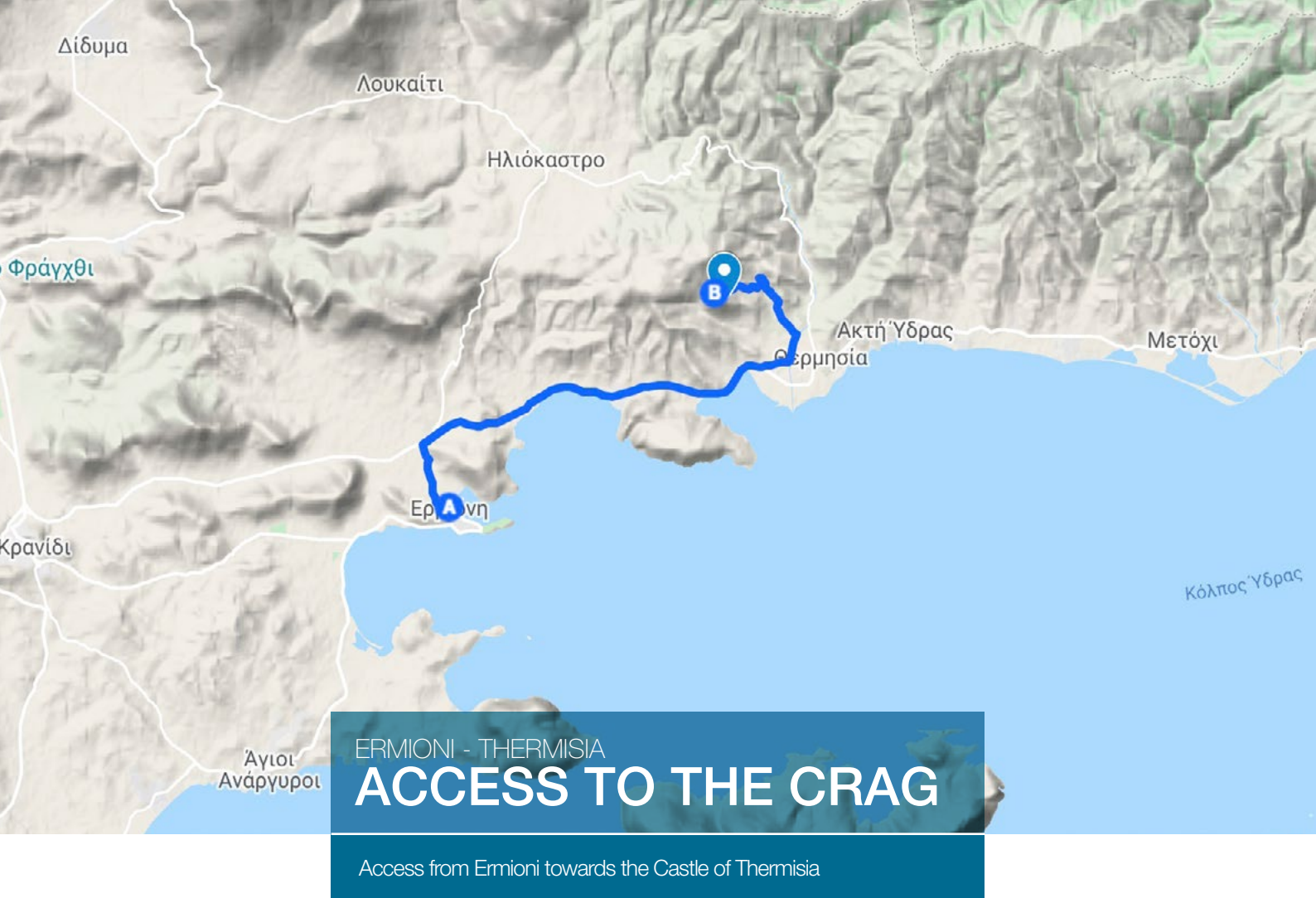
THERMISIA CASTLE  
**WEST WALL**

Access from Ermioni towards the Castle of Thermisia



THERMISIA CASTLE  
**VENETIAN WALL**

View towards the island of Hydra and Dokos island



## Access

Driving from **Ermioni towards Galatas** along the coastal road, you will come across the village of Thermisia. The cliff lies above you.

Take a turn left as you approach the village, right before a sign to your right towards Hydra's Wave Camping.

Follow the tarmac road to the castle's outskirts.





THERMISIA CASTLE

# The Leading Edge 6c

Climber: Christos Rigas



LEON'S WALL

ORIAS' WALL

VENETIAN WALL

SECTOR  
**LEON'S WALL**

**Routes:** 14  
**Grades:** 5b up to 8c+  
**Walk in:** 5 minutes

SECTOR  
**ORIAS' WALL**

**Routes:** 4  
**Grades:** 5c up to 6c  
**Walk in:** 12 minutes

SECTOR  
**VENETIAN WALL**

**Routes:** 11  
**Grades:** 5a up to 7a  
**Walk in:** 10 minutes

BYZANTINE WALL



SECTOR

## **BYZANTINE WALL**

**Routes:** 7

**Grades:** 6a up to 7c

**Walk in:** 15 minutes



PANORAMA  
**LEON'S WALL SECTOR**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Orias' Ridge	7a	28 m.	
02.	Cactus Bite	7b	28 m.	
03.	Geoffroi Villehardouin	8b?	30 m.	
04.	Count Mosertados	8a?	26 m.	
05.	Careless Corsair	8c+?	25 m.	
06.	De La Roche	8c+?	22 m.	
07.	Natural Mystic	6c	25 m.	
08.	Crack Master	6c	25 m.	
09.	Shark Attack	7b	25 m.	
10.	Ride the Wave	6a	20 m.	
11.	Seagull Whisper	6a	20 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
12.	Captain Hook	6b	25 m.	
13.	Sea View	5c	22 m.	
14.	Fortress	5b	15 m.	

### Good to know

**Routes 7 - 14** are located towards the east side of **Leon's Wall**.

As soon you reach **Leon's Wall**, follow the crag and you will identify the routes which are spreaded in the entire sector.





THERMISIA CASTLE

# Careless Corsair 8c+ (project)

Climber: Constantinos Vrohidis



PANORAMA  
**VENETIAN WALL SECTOR**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Venetian Wall	6a+	16 m.	
02.	Shadow Corner	6a	16 m.	
03.	The Leading Edge	6c	14 m.	
04.	The Leading Edge (direct)	7a	14 m.	
05.	In the Red Corner	6a	18 m.	
06.	The Cutting Edge	7a	24 m.	
07.	Bombastic	6a+	25 m.	
08.	Pinnacle Crack	5a	15 m.	
09.	Murder Move	7a	15 m.	
10.	New Order	6a+	16 m.	
11.	Corner	6a	24 m.	

## Highlights

The **Leading Edge** is a highly recommended route that offers great climbing in two variations.

The **direct** (7a) and the **indirect** (6c) both provide great moves along the edge of the wall that leads directly up to the castle.

This route also, offers a great frame for spectacular photos to share with your friends.



Benny on  
**Seagull Whisper 6a**



Kostas Tsoukleidis on  
**In The Red Corner 6a**



THERMISIA CASTLE  
**View from the Crag**



PANORAMA  
**ORIAS WALL SECTOR**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Power of Rock	6c	18 m.	
02.	Free Fall	6a+	18 m.	
03.	Orias Sacrifice	6b	18 m.	
04.	Lizard the Wizard	5c	18 m.	

**Good to know**

**Orias' Wall** is the second sector established at Castle Thermisia crag and the first sector after Jim Titt era.

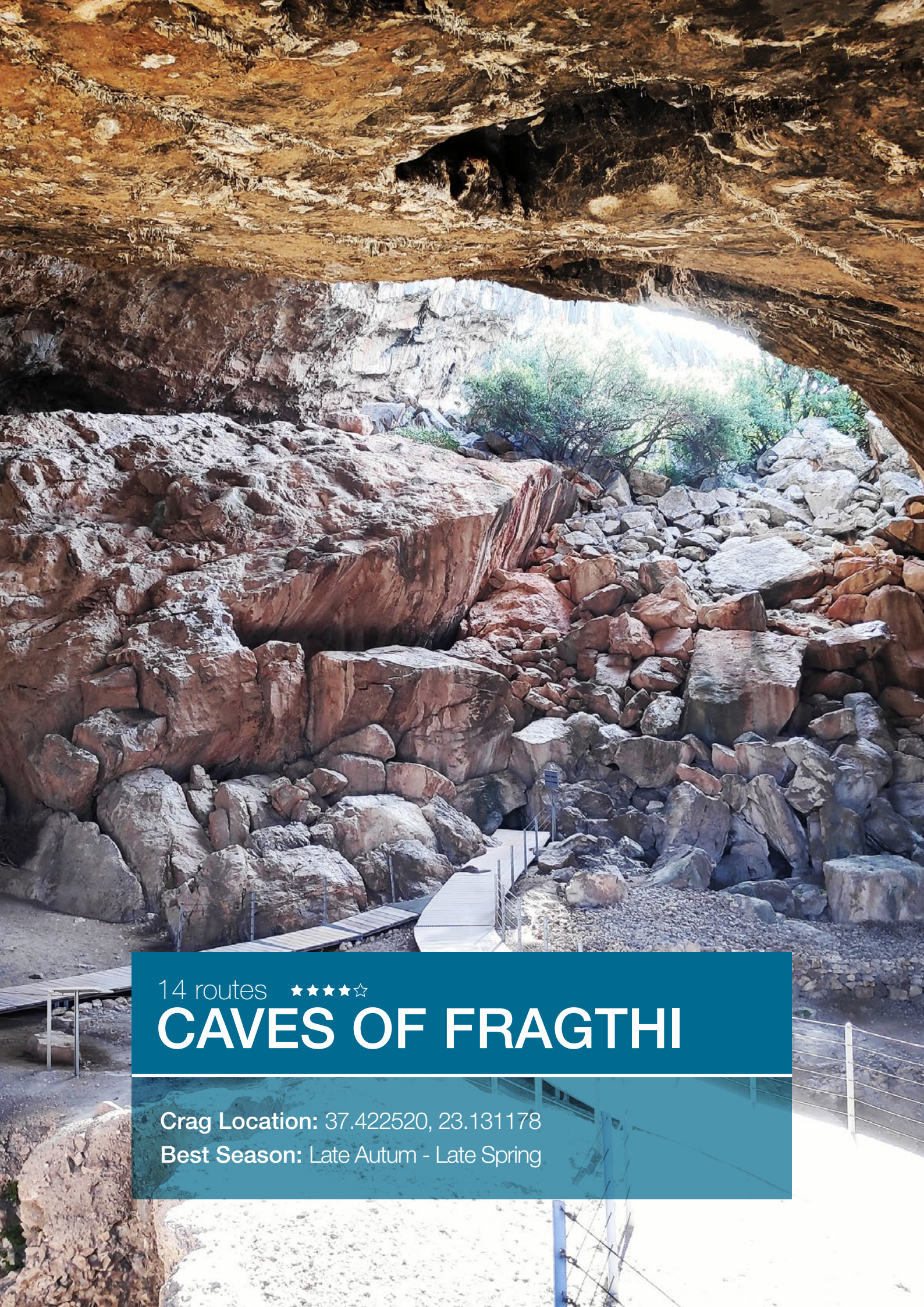
Although there are only **4 routes** on this sector, all of them are top notch with great view. In addition, all routes in this sector are **equipped** in modern sport climbing style, thus, with minimum runouts.



PANORAMA  
**BYZANTINE WALL SECTOR**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Titoularios	7a	16 m.	
02.	Kavouras	6c+	22 m.	
03.	Gender Bender	7c+?	18 m.	
04.	A Bolt Too Far	7a	20 m.	
05.	Careless Corsair	5c+	12 m.	
06.	Careless Corsair ext.	7c	32 m.	
07.	Leviathan	6b+	16 m.	





14 routes ★★★★★☆

# CAVES OF FRAGTHI

**Crag Location:** 37.422520, 23.131178

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

# CAVES OF FRAGTHI

14 Routes ★★★★★ Koilada, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.422520, 23.131178

**Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring | **Walk in:** 20 minutes

## General information

An enormous series of caverns just above the sea, with large gaping openings allowing enough light to climb by. At night the area, as a renowned archaeological site, is well-lit, giving a superb climbing experience. Apart from being worth a visit in its own right, some of the climbing here is outstanding.

Of course, on rainy days, this is the place to be, with some entertaining and unique climbing into the 20 m. deep escarpments down to the very own bowels of the cavern.

The potential for enormous roof climbs is obvious but hardly tapped. **Karsten Oelze** has shown the way with his recent efforts, but there is plenty more to do. Outside the cave, on the cliffs above the beach, there are 5 routes which offer some good sport climbing in the lower grades.

The highlight of a visit to the **Caves of Fragthi** is, without a doubt, the climbing experience in the third cavern.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/East

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

**Sun:** Beach sector from 15.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 20 minutes

**Water:** None

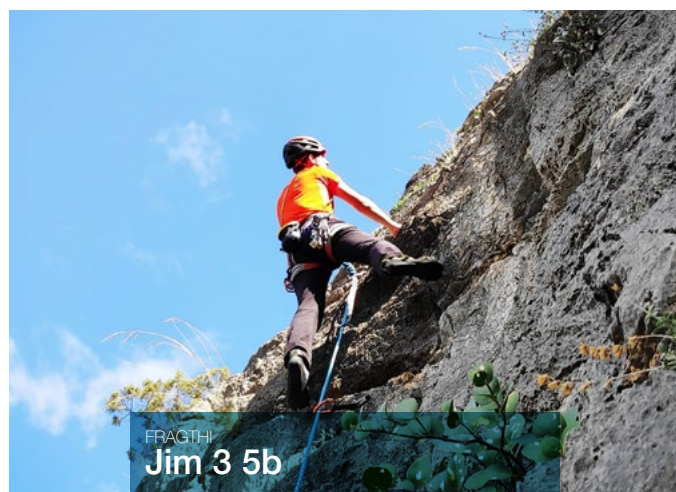
**Family Friendly:** No

**Pet Friendly:** No

**Camping:** Lambayanna beach

**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J. Titt, K. Oelze



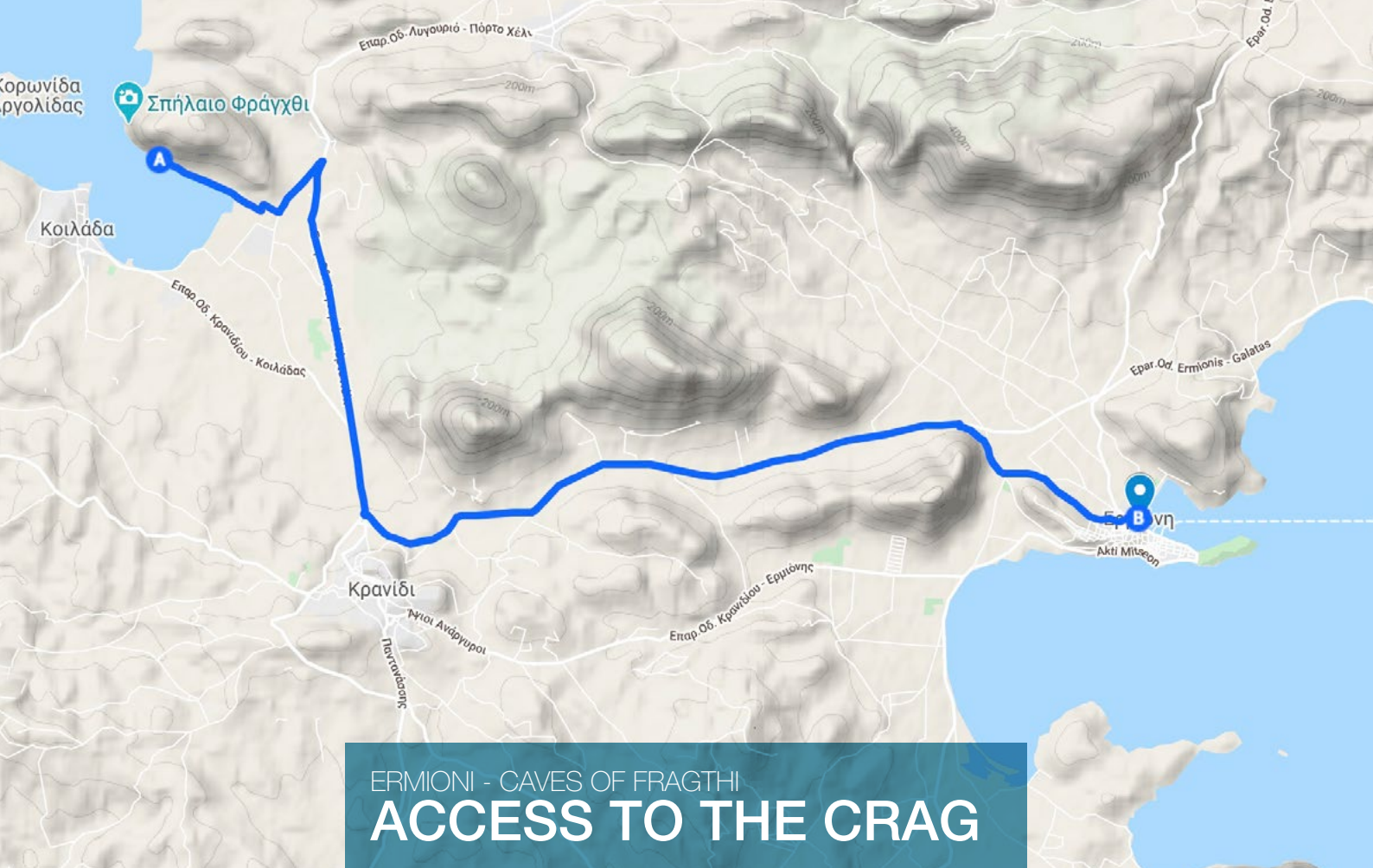
FRAGTHI  
Jim 3 5b

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



FRAGTHI  
ROCK QUALITY

View of Red Road 5c



ERMIONI - CAVES OF FRAGTHI  
**ACCESS TO THE CRAG**  
 Access from Ermioni towards the crag of FRAGTHI

Access

Coming from **Ermioni towards Fourni**, take a left turn after the first petrol station in the village of Fourni, and follow the road for 3,6 km. to the sea. Left, then right, takes you around the chapel to the **beach of Lambayanna**.

Park here, and walk along the marked coast-path to the caves.

This beach is hardly frequented therefore one could eventually stay overnight. However, it is important to have food and water supplies, because there are no such options in the nearby area.

After parking the car, follow the trail from the beach to in the caves of Fragthi.







FRAGTHI - THIRD CAVERN  
**Wild Frontier 6b**

Climber: Alexis Grapsas | Photo: Andreas Markou



PANORAMA  
FRAGTHI SECTOR BEACH

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Jim 1	4c	16 m.	
02.	Jim 2	5a	16 m.	
03.	Jim 3	5b	16 m.	
04.	Hot	5b+	15 m.	
05.	Hotter	5c	15 m.	

### Good to know

This sector is ideal during cold winter afternoons for some easy training.

In addition, the **Fragthi Beach Sector**, is also suitable for some trad climbing with stunning views towards **Mt. Parnon** and **Leonidio**.

Reaching the crag requires some easy scrambling, but might be a bit difficult for kids.



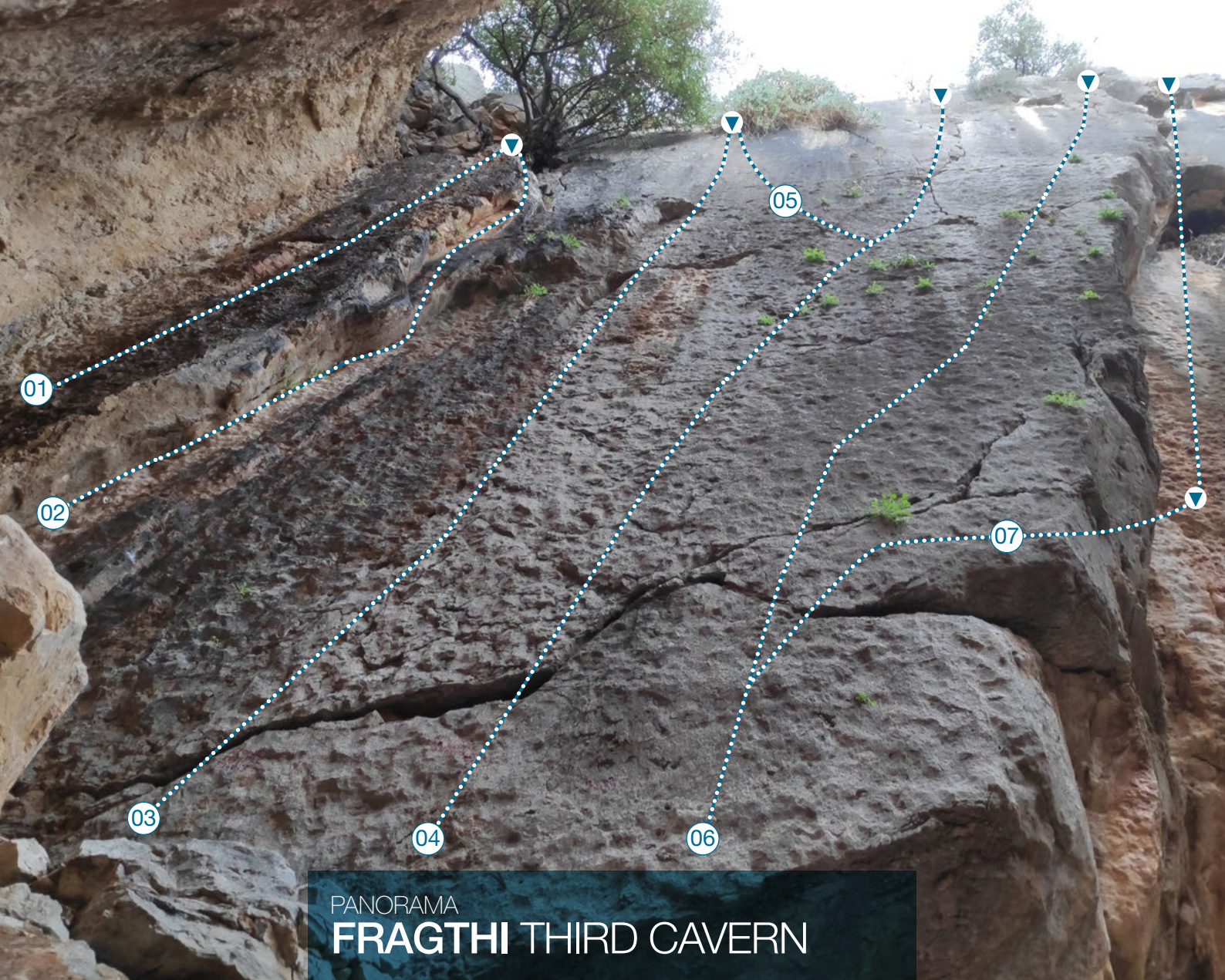
Nadine Strobl on  
**Jim 2 5a**



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Jim 3 5b**



Caves of FRAGTHI  
**View from the Crag**



PANORAMA  
FRAGTHI THIRD CAVERN

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Red Road	5c+	12 m.	
02.	Special	6a+	14 m.	
03.	Stone Temple Pilots	7a+	22 m.	
04.	Christmas day at Workhouse	6a+	22 m.	
05.	Magic Way	6a+	20 m.	
06.	Wild Frontier	6b	22 m.	
07.	Mission Impossible	6b+	24 m.	
08.	Once We Were Trees	6c+	28 m.	
09.	Gandalf	6b	28 m.	

### Good to know

For **Mission Impossible**, start tied to both ends of the (60 m.) rope, and use one strand in the **first 4 bolts**.

Upon reaching the start of the slab, untie from this- and climb the rest using the other strand.

This is to reduce the rope drag, so recovering the quickdraws is no problem.

*tip by Jim Titt*



D. Nakos on  
**Red Road 5c+**



A. Grapas on  
**Wild Frontier 6b**



FRAGTHI THIRD CAVERN  
**View from the Crag**



10 Routes ★★☆☆☆

# SUNCASTLE CRAG

**Crag Location:** 37.416520, 23.250795

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring

# SUNCASTLE CRAG

10 Routes ★★☆☆☆ Ermionida, Argolis

**Crag location:** 37.416520, 23.250795

**Season:** Late Autumn - Late Spring | **Walk in:** 3 minutes

## General information

A new sport climbing crag was developed and established in close proximity to **Iliokastro** village, approximately **5 km away from Ermioni**.

The crag was developed and equipped by the **Climb Ermionida** during the winter/spring season of 2023.

The rock formation is primarily composed of high-quality grey limestone and good quality red limestone, although some routes may have sharp

rock formations due to the crag's recent development.

The crag offers **10 routes suitable for climbers of all skill levels**, with grades ranging from **5a to 6b+**.

The optimal time to visit the **SunCastle Crag** is during **late autumn through late spring**, with easy access requiring only a brief hike.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South / South West

**Best Season:** Late Autumn - late spring

**Sun:** From 10.00 up to sunset

**Walk in:** 3 minutes

**Water:** None

**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** Katafyki

**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 10 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** Climb Ermionida



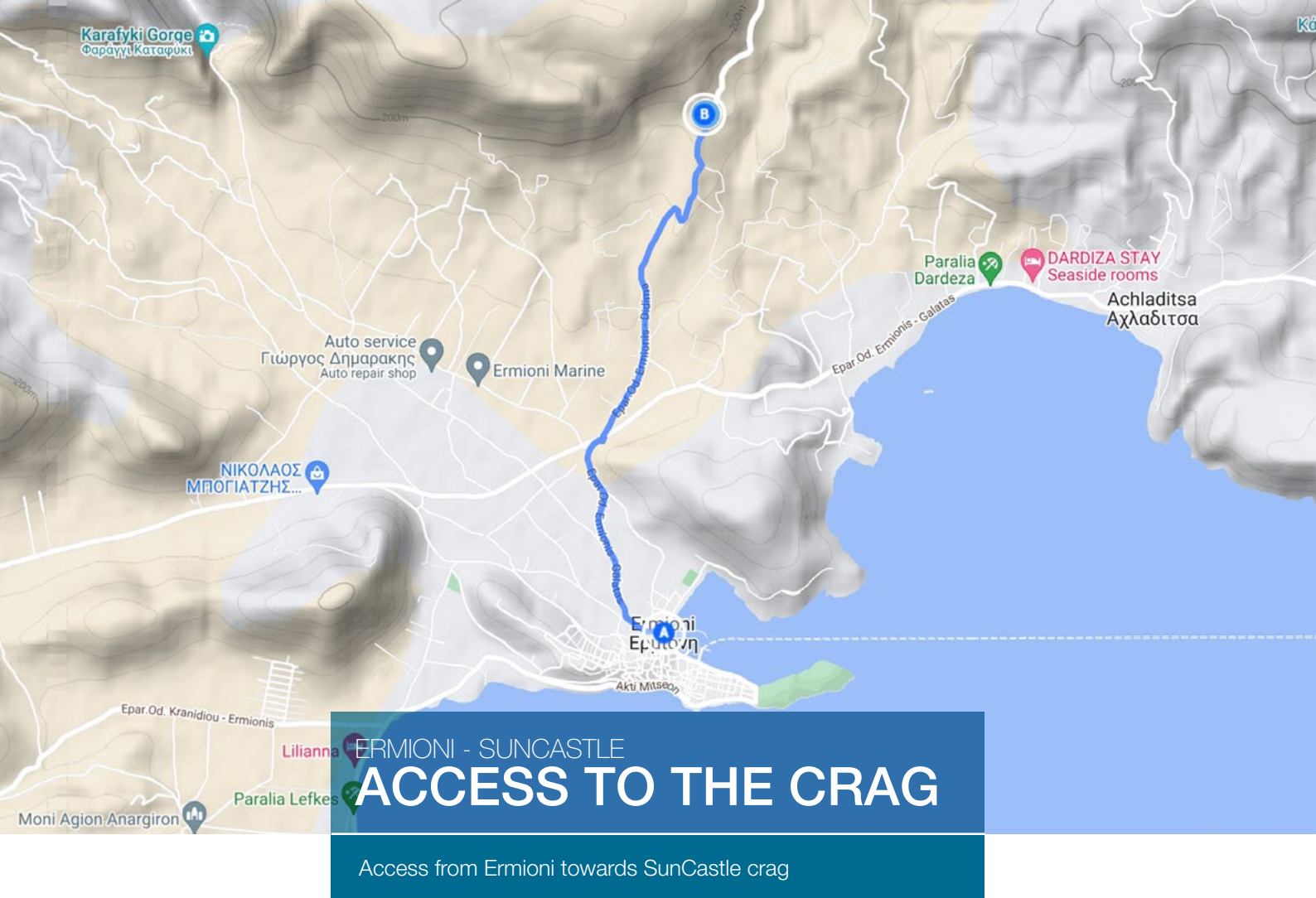
SunCastle CRAG  
**Knights Honor 6b**

Climber: Daria



ROCK QUALITY  
**SUNCASTLE CRAG**

Rock consists of grey and red limestone



## Access

Proceed westward on Eparchiaki Ermionis Kranidiou towards **Epar.Od. Ermionis - Galatas** for a distance of 120 meters.

Then, make a right turn onto Epar.Od. Ermionis - Galatas and continue for **1.4 kilometers**.

At the **roundabout**, take the **second exit** and continue on Epar.Od. Ermionis - Didyma.

Your destination will be located on the right-hand side. From there only **3 minutes of easy hike** is needed in order to reach **SunCastle** crag.







SUNCASTLE CRAG

# KNIGHT'S HONOUR 6b

Climber: Benny



PANORAMA  
**SUNCASTLE CRAG**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Rampart	6a+	8 m.	
02.	Joust	5a	10 m.	
03.	Chivalry's Climb	6b	10 m.	
04.	Silver Knight	5b	10 m.	
05.	The Hilt	5c	12 m.	
06.	Dragon's Spine	5c	12 m.	
07.	Knight's Honour	6b	12 m.	
08.	Jester	6b+	12 m.	
09.	Princess Anna	6a+	10 m.	
10.	Dragon's Tale	6a	16 m.	

Dragon's Tale is best to abseil to minimize rope friction on the rock.





Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Dragon's Spine 5c**



Daria on  
**Knight's Honour 6b**



Andrea on  
**Knight's Honour 6b**



52 routes ★★☆☆☆

# PILLARS OF THE WIND

**Crag Location:** 37.477762, 23.286695

**Best Season:** All year

# PILLARS OF THE WIND

52 Routes ★★☆☆☆ Iliokastro, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.477762, 23.286695

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 10 minutes

## General information

**Pillars of the Wind**, is a limestone inclusion in an area of volcanic activity and is like a miniature mountain peak with lots of shattered pinnacles.

From above, it doesn't seem to offer much but quality climbing happens on the east and south sides. Some of the rock at the top can be loose but otherwise is excellent.

Be extra careful if you happen to stray off route. A crag with a friendlier ambience than most, and

wonderful views, a deservedly popular venue for family groups as it is very child-friendly with a special top-rope area for the kids.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/West

**Best Season:** All year

**Sun:** From 12.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 10 minutes

**Water:** Yes

**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** At the parking area

**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J. Titt, I. Zaczek, H. Weninger



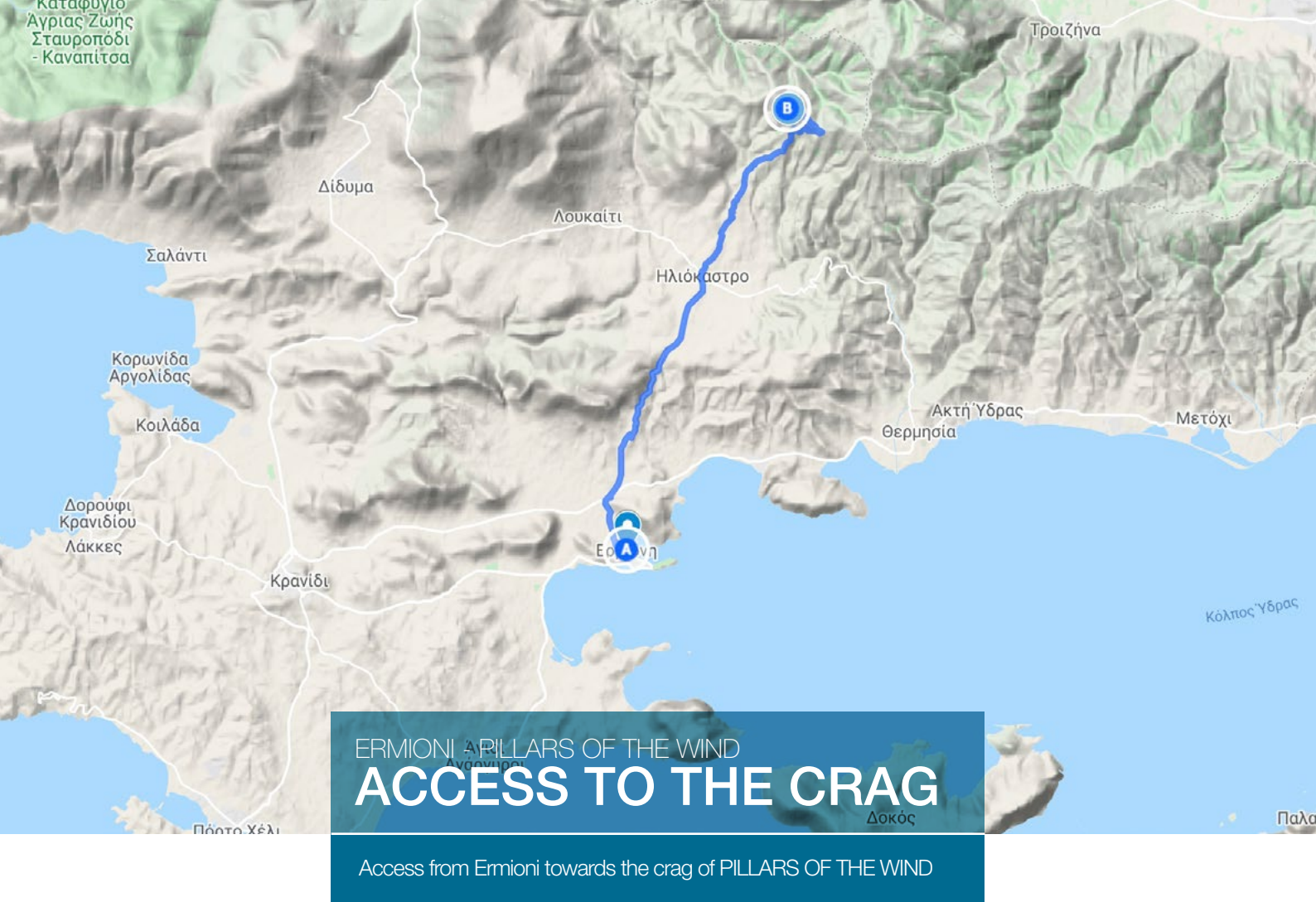
PILLARS OF THE WIND  
**Independence Day**

Climber: C. Rigas



PILLARS OF THE WIND  
**ROCK QUALITY**

View towards Dardiza



## Access

From Iliokastro, head north and take a right turn just before the village, towards Thermisia. (In Greek it starts with a theta). After 200 m. the road goes sharp right on a bend. Go straight and you will see the crag on your distant left. Keep going for about 6 km. The road alternates between tarmac and dirt. At some point, it will seem like

you left the crag behind, but keep going up towards the windmills. At the col take a left u-turn towards the crag.

Move up a bit more through the windmills and you will eventually be able to park just below, with the crag below, to your left. Walk down the ridge to the crag.





PILLARS OF THE WIND

# Fabulous Thunderbirds

Climber: C. Rigas



PANORAMA

## PILLARS OF THE WIND EAST FACE

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Fire Starter	5b+	15 m.	
02.	Guy Fawkes	5c+	15 m.	
03.	Singleton	5c+	15 m.	
04.	Wednesday Afternoon	5b+	20 m.	
05.	Wait I Must Piss	5c	29 m.	
06.	Joyride	6a	28 m.	
07.	Zoom	6b	28 m.	
08.	Do It On Sunday	6b+	29 m.	
09.	Left Overs	5a	29 m.	
10.	Another Day	5c	29 m.	



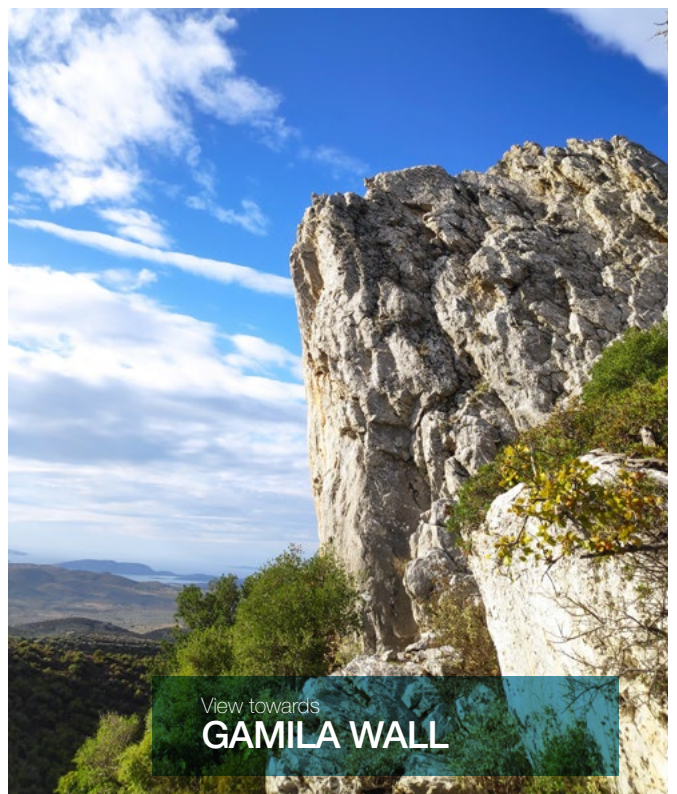
View towards  
**PLAYGROUND**





PANORAMA  
**PILLARS OF THE WIND EAST FACE**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Fabulous Thunderbirds	5c	18 m.	
02.	FB Direct	6b	18 m.	
03.	Independence Day	5b+	18 m.	



View towards  
**GAMILA WALL**



PANORAMA

## PILLARS OF THE WIND GAMILA WALL

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
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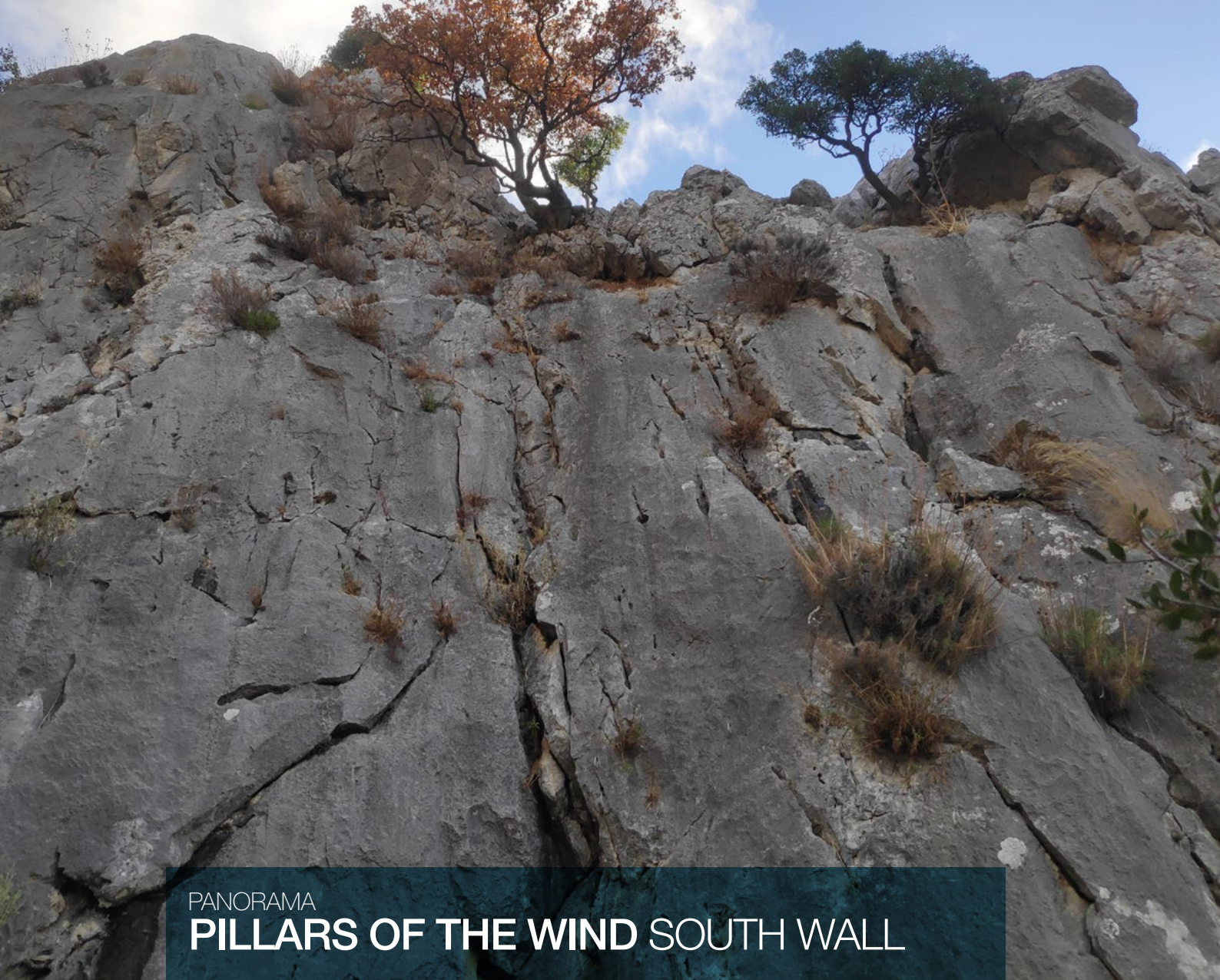
01. Riders On The Storm 8a 30 m.

### Good to know

To the south wall area lies a broken cliff, and on the opposite side (towards the lower left) is an overhanging wall called the **Gamila Wall**. The wall features **Riders On The Storm**, a free project developed by **Karsten Oelze**.

With its steep angle, the Gamila Wall provides an excellent opportunity for advanced climbing routes.

If you are interested in developing new routes on this wall and wish to include them in our guide, **please don't hesitate to contact us**.



PANORAMA

## PILLARS OF THE WIND SOUTH WALL

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Waltzing Matilda	6b	12 m.	
02.	Dancing With Snakes	5c	13 m.	
03.	Toto	5a	14 m.	
04.	Deviant	6a+	18 m.	
05.	Supercrack	6a	19 m.	
06.	Warm Up	5b	18 m.	
07.	Einfach	4b	20 m.	
08.	Cold Hand	5b	20 m.	
09.	The Wall	6a+	20 m.	
10.	Fingerpull	6a+	20 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
11.	Sunshine Arete	4c	18 m.	
12.	Sunshine Arete Direct	5c	18 m.	
13.	Wildwechsel	5a	15 m.	
14.	Kindermund	3	15 m.	
15.	Kliener Bär	4b	15 m.	
16.	Grosser Bär	5b	18 m.	
17.	Holzfaller Suppe	6a+	24 m.	
18.	Pete's Route	5c	26 m.	



PANORAMA

## PILLARS OF THE WIND PLAYGROUND

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Merlin	5b	10 m.	
02.	Asterix	4c	10 m.	
03.	Tombstone	4c	14 m.	
04.	Menhir	6c	18 m.	
05.	Obelix	6a	18 m.	
06.	Wizard	5c	18 m.	
07.	Flankey	5b	18 m.	
08.	Sharkey	5a+	18 m.	
09.	Minnie	4b	20 m.	
10.	Goofy	4a	20 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
11.	The Slab	5c	18 m.	
12.	Snoopy	3	16 m.	
13.	Crackerjack	4b	22 m.	
14.	Sesame St	5b	20 m.	
15.	Steep	6a	20 m.	
16.	Steeper	6a	20 m.	
17.	Fingernail	6a	18 m.	
18.	Fingertip	6a+	18 m.	
19.	Pullover	5c+	14 m.	
20.	Holly Tree Corner	5b	16 m.	



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Showtime**



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Simple Start**



PILLARS OF THE WIND  
**View from the Crag**



39 routes ★★☆☆☆

# ROCK OF AGES

**Crag Location:** 37.499417, 23.237611

**Best Season:** All year

# ROCK OF AGES

39 Routes

★★★★☆

Rado, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.499417, 23.237611

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 10 minutes

## General information

**Rock of Ages**, is a nice little cliff in an idyllic setting and highly recommended for those who are not only interested in pushing up their grades but also in their surroundings. A small ravine with lush vegetation, good rock and varied climbing offer a very pleasant day out.

**Rock of Ages** was mainly developed and bolted by the legendary climber and route setter **Jim Titt** and **I. Zaczek**. All routes are rather demanding and almost on all routes come with runouts.

Thus, the **Rock of Ages** is mainly for experienced climbers that feel comfortable with onsighting **6a+/6b**.

The highlights of **Rock of Ages** include the spectacular and photogenic overhanging **Mr Cool at 5c+** and the weird **Pull of the Sun at 6b**, which climbs up inside the cleft splitting the cliff face.

Plenty of potential on this undeveloped rock make it well worth a visit.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/West

**Best Season:** All year

**Sun:** From 12.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 10 minutes

**Water:** Yes

**Family Friendly:** No

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** At the parking lot

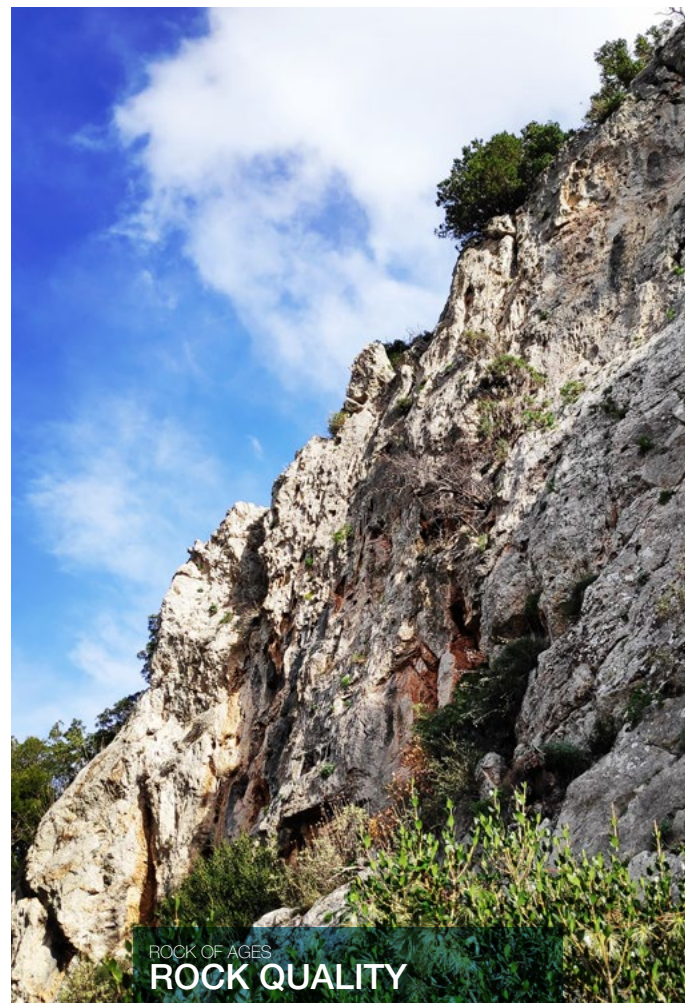
**Gear:** 70 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J. Titt, I. Zaczek, H. Weninger



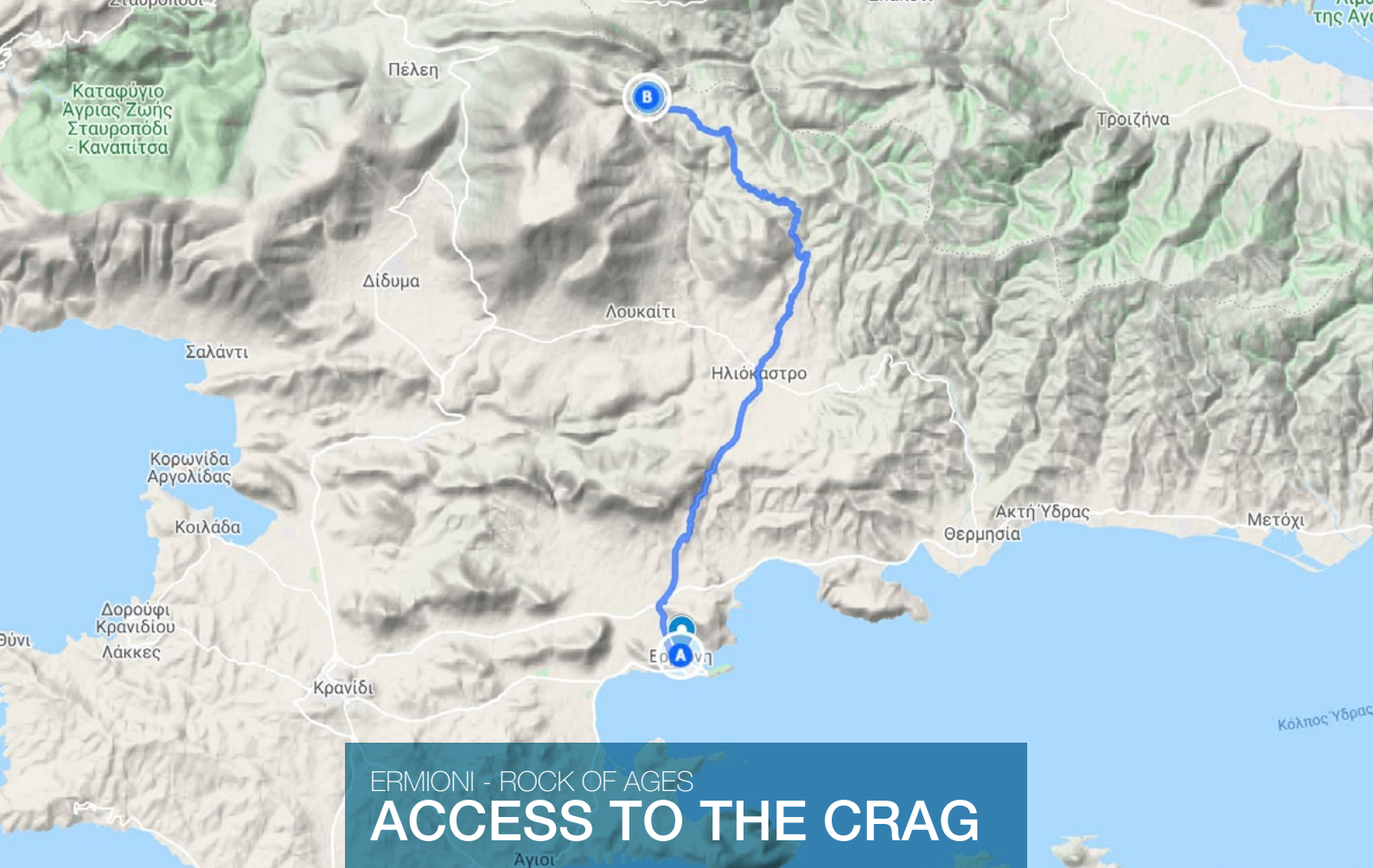
ROCK OF AGES  
**Showtime**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



ROCK OF AGES  
**ROCK QUALITY**

View of Mr. Cool 5c+



## ERMIONI - ROCK OF AGES ACCESS TO THE CRAG

Access from Ermioni towards the crag of ROCK OF AGES

### Access

Approaching from **Ermioni**, turn right on the saddle before **Didyma** (Sign: Iliokastro). After 4,4 km, shortly before reaching a small church on the right side, turn left. Continue on this tarmac road for 2,8 km. Then go right on a small tarmac road for 1,9 km (the last 100 m. are on gravel). Turn left on concrete terrain and follow the road downwards.

Keep driving for another 800 m. towards a wide rock formation. Just before you reach it turn right and follow the road as it coils up to the saddle.

Turn left and follow this road for **about 750 m.** until you see the small ravine on the left. Park a few meters after the valley.







ROCK OF AGES

# Simple Start 5b+

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



PANORAMA  
**ROCK OF AGES MAIN WALL**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Pams Arete	5a	25 m.	
02.	Mr. Cool	5c+	29 m.	
03.	Dreamtime	5c+	28 m.	
04.	Dreamtime DT	6a	27 m.	
05.	Woody	6a	29 m.	
06.	The Rising	6a	28 m.	
07.	Eos	6a+	28 m.	
08.	Hydra	6a	29 m.	
09.	Furioso	6b	29 m.	
10.	Stoned	6b	29 m.	
11.	Gammel Hans	6c+	29 m.	

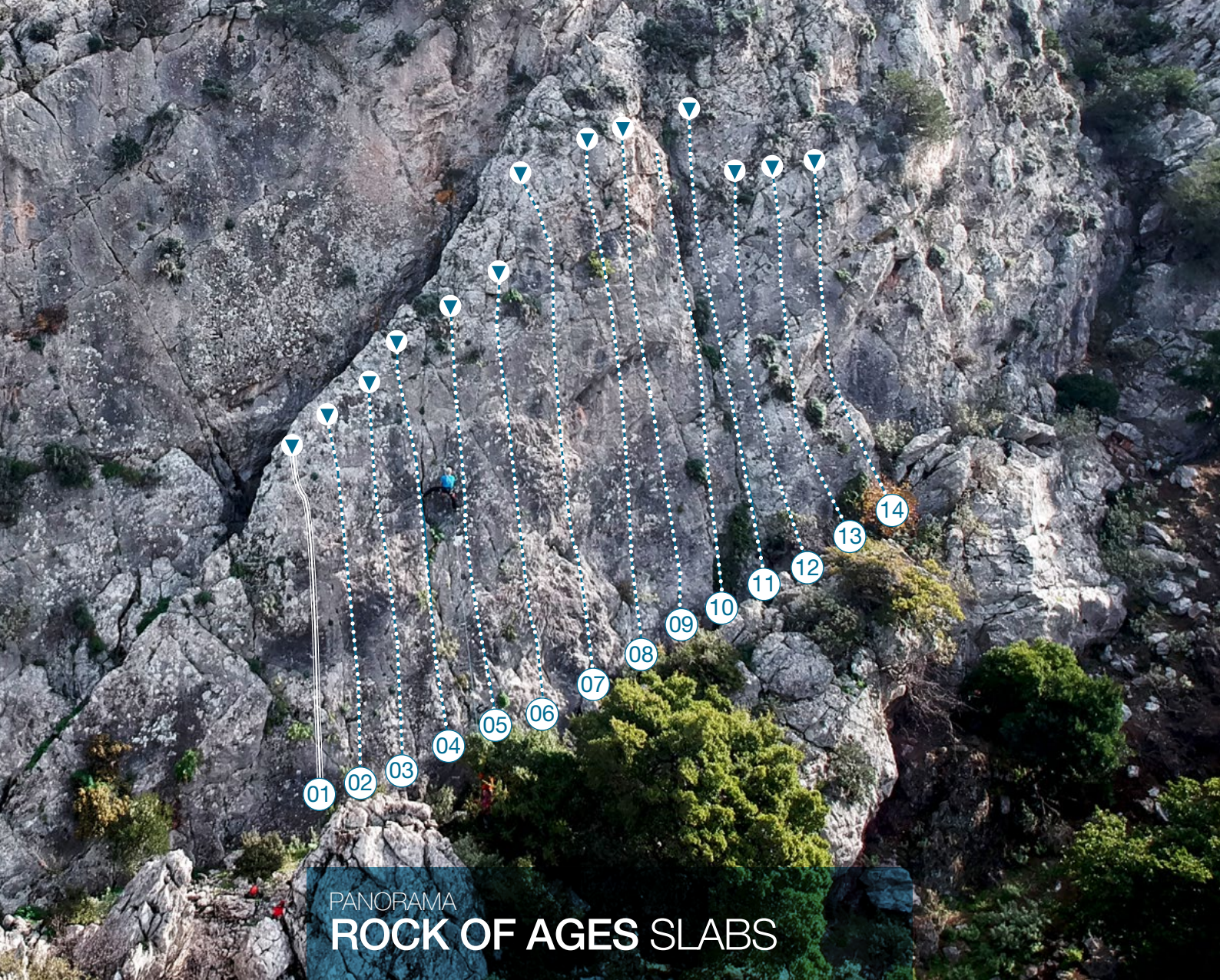
## Highlights

One of the few cliffs in Argolis that offers easy tufa climbs with the continuously overhanging **Mr Cool** at 5c+ being one the highlights, albeit a rather strenuous one!

Other highly enjoyable, if rather unusual, routes include **Dance With Monsters** and the weird **Pull Of The Sun**, which climbs up inside the cleft splitting the cliff—a real adventure.

All routes offer minimum bolting, so be ready for some run outs.

*tip by Jim Titt*



PANORAMA  
**ROCK OF AGES SLABS**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Pull of the Sun	6b	15 m.	
02.	Maxx	5c	17 m.	
03.	Hail	5b+	18 m.	
04.	Showtime	5b+	17 m.	
05.	Quetschi	6a+	19 m.	
06.	Simple Start	5b+	18 m.	
07.	Easy mover	5b+	22 m.	
08.	Superfine	6a	22 m.	
09.	Teamwork	5c	22 m.	
10.	Quergang	6a+	22 m.	

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
11.	150%	5c	24 m.	
12.	Hope	6a+	24 m.	
13.	Roof	6a+	22 m.	
14.	Fridge	5b+	22 m.	

### Good to know

**Pull of the Sun** (6a+) starts inside the slab. So you will first need to abseil down behind the slab in order to climb this wicked route.

From the dark depths of the slab to the Sun!



PANORAMA

## ROCK OF AGES 7 DWARFS & FAIRY TALE

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Happy	5a	8 m.	
02.	Grampy	5b	8 m.	
03.	Bashful	6c	8 m.	
04.	Sneezy	6b+	8 m.	
05.	Dopy	7a	8 m.	
06.	Dozy	6b	8 m.	
07.	Doc	7a	8 m.	

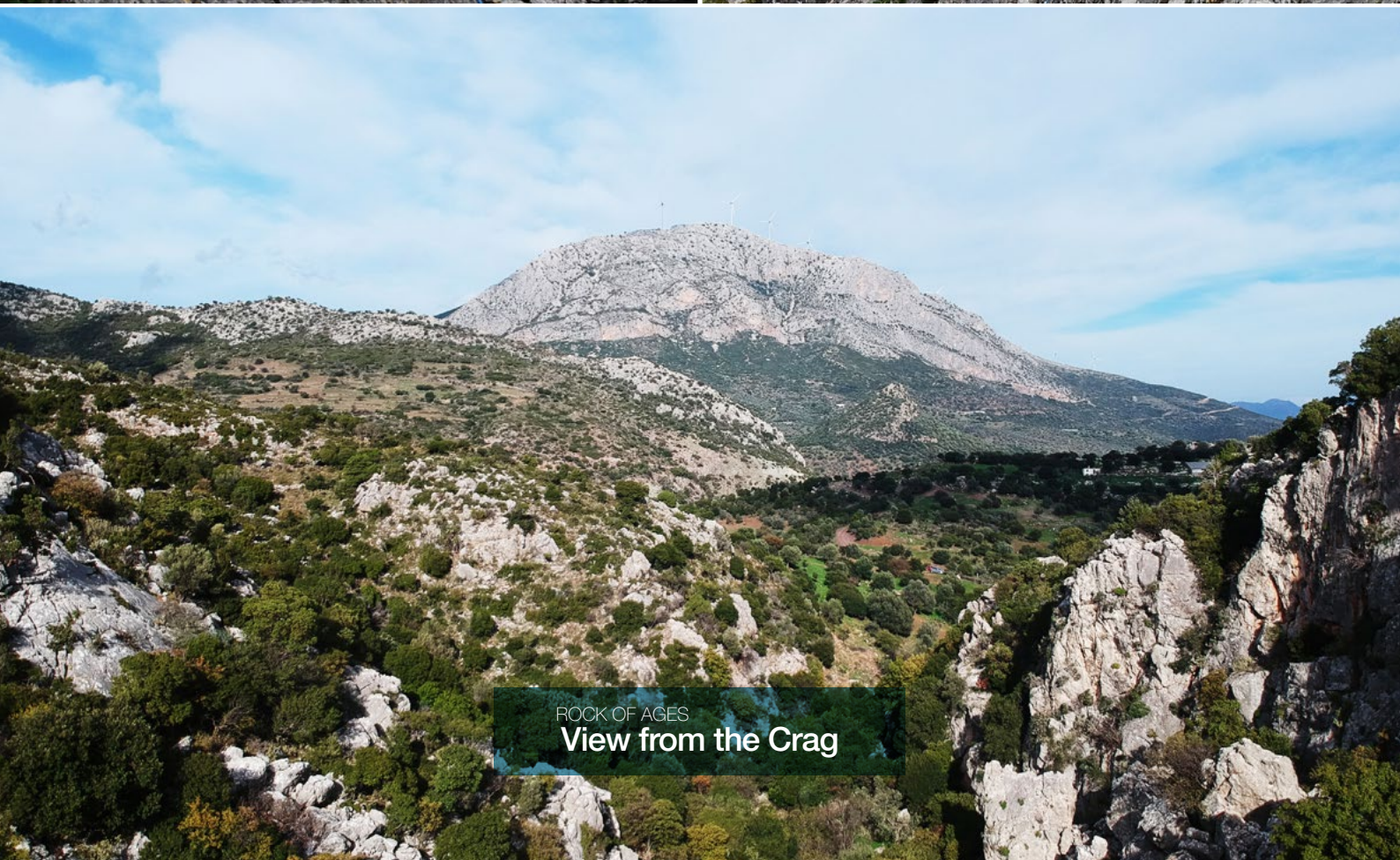
#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Snow White	5a	10 m.	
02.	Black Witch	5b	15 m.	
03.	Hobbit	6c	12 m.	
04.	Dance w. Monsters	6b+	12 m.	
05.	Heave	7a	14 m.	
06.	Fairy Tale	6b	15 m.	
07.	Grab	7a	14 m.	



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Showtime**



Olympus Mountaineering on  
**Simple Start**



ROCK OF AGES  
**View from the Crag**



67 routes ★★★★★☆

# DIDYMA

**Crag Location:** 37.475354, 23.212150

**Best Season:** All year

# DIDYMA

67 Routes ★★★★★☆ Mt. Didimo, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.475354, 23.2121502

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 5 minutes

## General information

Oros Didimon, or “**Didyma**”, is a major crag of Argolis. Excellent access, superb rock, good orientation and magnificent views add up to one of the best sport climbing venues in Greece.

Climbs for every level of ability and perfect access to the top for setting up top ropes. There is also a more technical climbing area, on steep gray walls.

Crag development so far has focused on the first 250 m. of the cliff (sector “summertime”),

producing around **70 routes in the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades** with potential for several more in the higher grades.

A good family cliff with some beginner routes with some extra bolts on specific routes.

**Didyma crag** is certainly one of the best crags in the Ermionida region.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South - South/West

**Best Season:** All year

**Sun:** From 08.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 5 minutes

**Water:** Yes

**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** At the parking lot

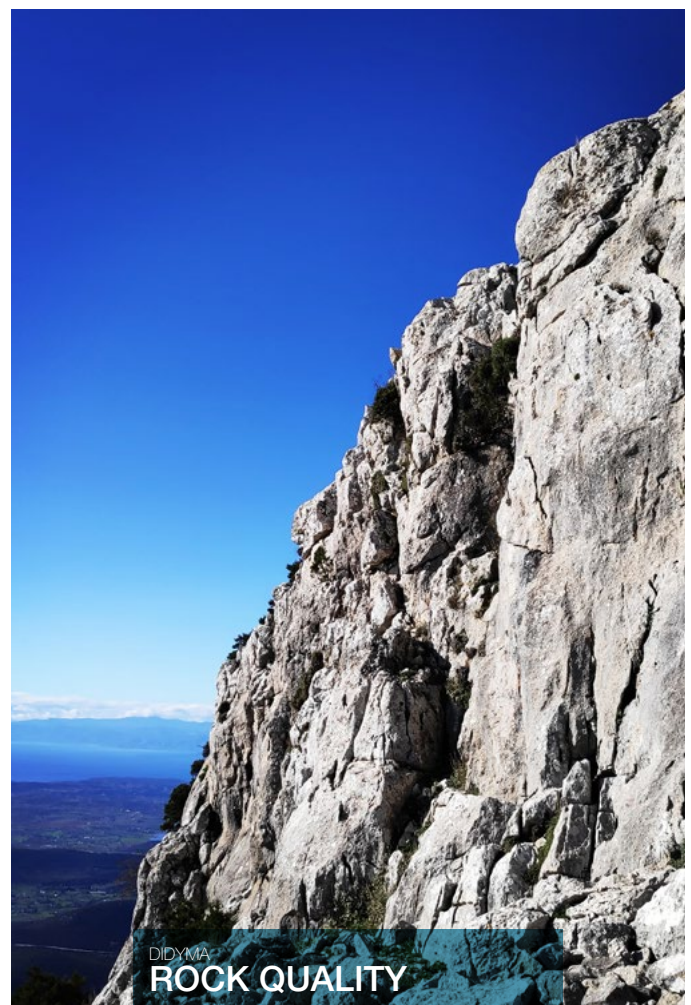
**Gear:** 60 m. rope, 14 quickdraws

**Equipped by:** J. Titt, I. Zaczek, K. Oelze, H. Weninger



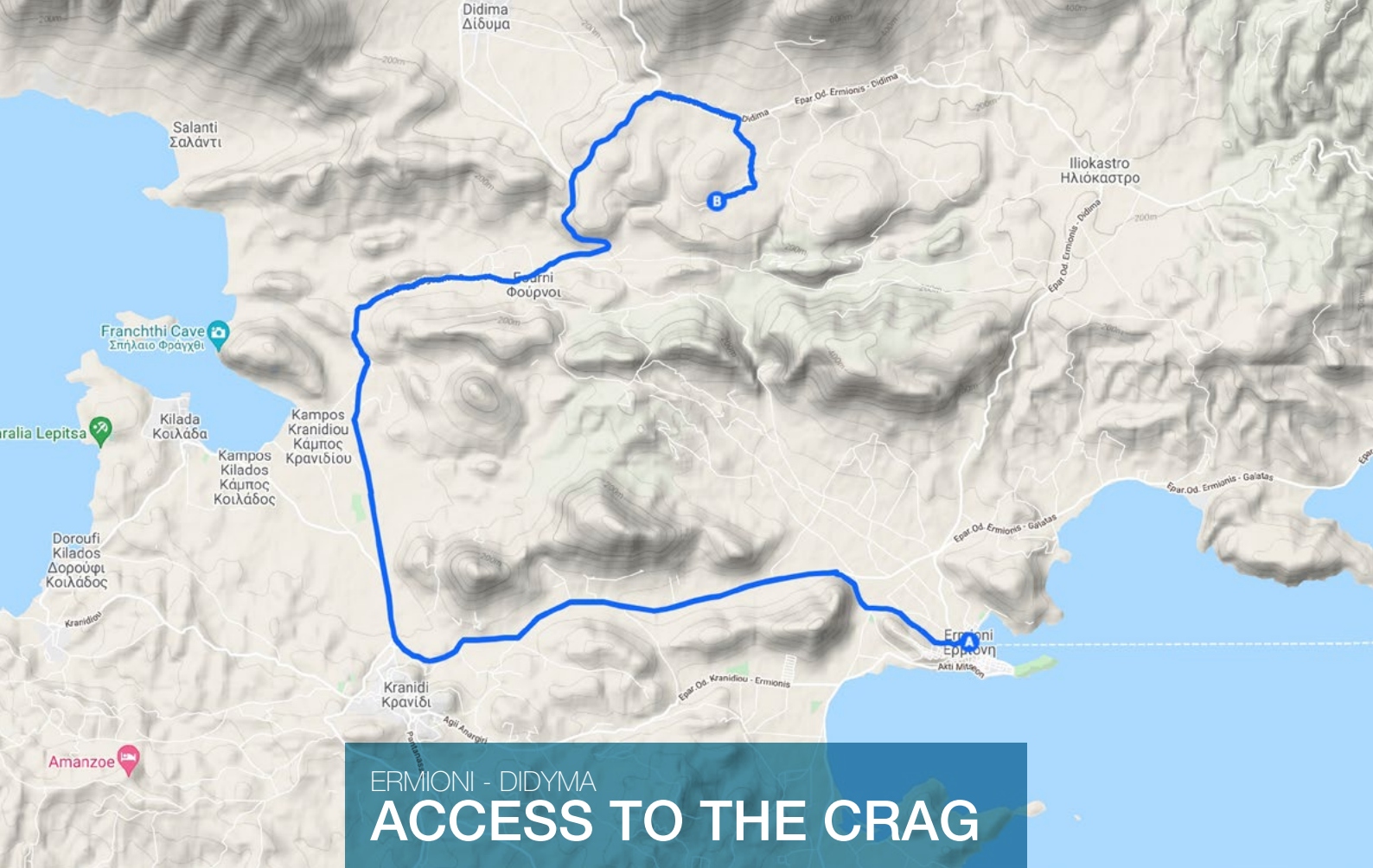
DIDYMA  
**Fear of goats**

Climber: Giannis Lianos



DIDYMA  
**ROCK QUALITY**

View towards the village of Didyma



## ERMIONI - DIDYMA ACCESS TO THE CRAG

Access from Ermioni towards the crag of DIDYMA

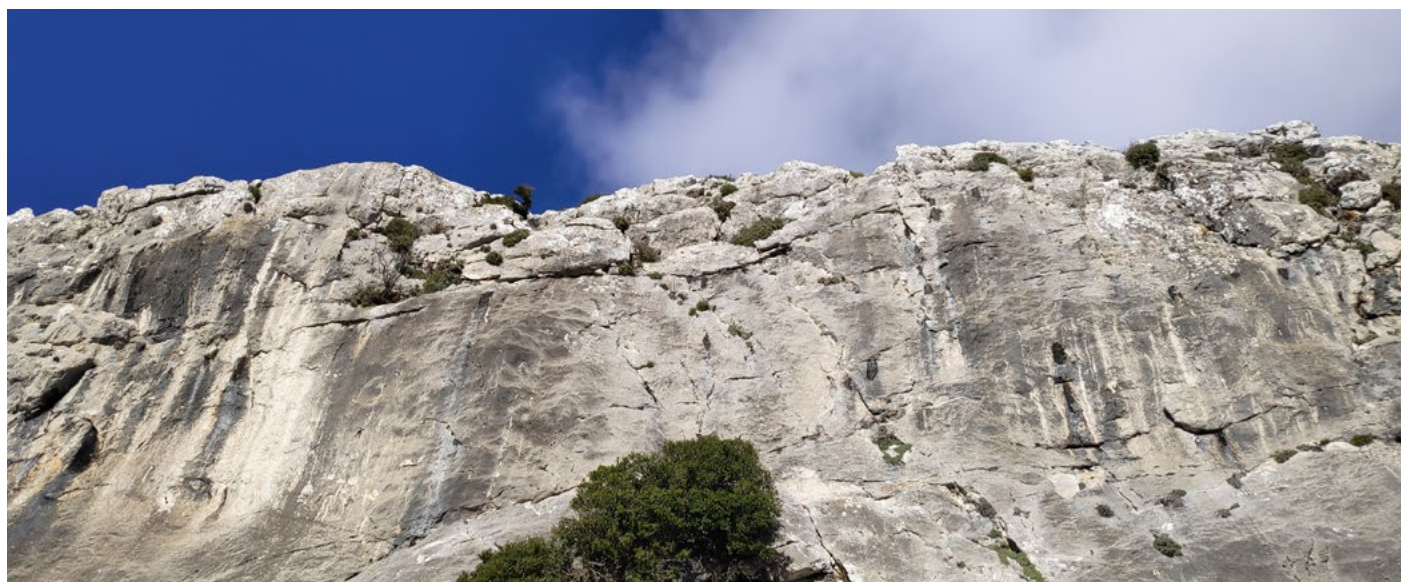
### Access

Driving from Ermioni, after about 20 km. (37.500984, 23.190837), turn right on the saddle on the highest passage that leads to Mt. Didimo.

Follow the bumpy tarmac road that will lead you towards the peak of **Mt. Didimo**.

At point **37.476086, 23.212998** right before the antennas, you can park your car safely.

By now, you should be able to see the rock cairns and a goat trail that will lead you to the crag. The views while approaching the crag are stunning.







DIDYMA

## Prankster (6b)

Climber: Andreas Mpregkoula



PANORAMA  
**DIDYMA MAIN WALL**

#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Huggy Bear	6a	14 m.	
02.	Little Wall	6b	14 m.	
03.	Little Chimney	4b	14 m.	
04.	Jump	6a	14 m.	
05.	Hole	6b	14 m.	
06.	Little Crack	6a+	14 m.	

### Good to know

These are the first routes of **Didyma crag**, that are of medium grade.

These first routes are rather short and the climbing style resembles more to bouldering than anything else.

The rest of the crag offers longer routes, up to **20 meters** high and of higher grades up to **8a**.



#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Ginger	4b	15 m.	
02.	Teen Dream	5c	15 m.	
03.	A Funny Turn	5c	15 m.	
04.	Direct	6a	15 m.	
05.	A Good Crack	5a	15 m.	
06.	Here Comes The Weekend	5a	15 m.	
07.	First Corner	4c	15 m.	
08.	First Arete	4c	15 m.	

## Good to know

The routes **First Arete**, **First Corner**, **Here Comes the Weekend** and **A Good Crack** are all using extra bolts suitable for beginners and/or kids.

**ATTENTION** on the loose rock in the middle of the route **Here Comes the Weekend**. It is a very dangerous large block, so if you climb this route, do not use it.

ROUTES  
**DIDYMA MAIN WALL**

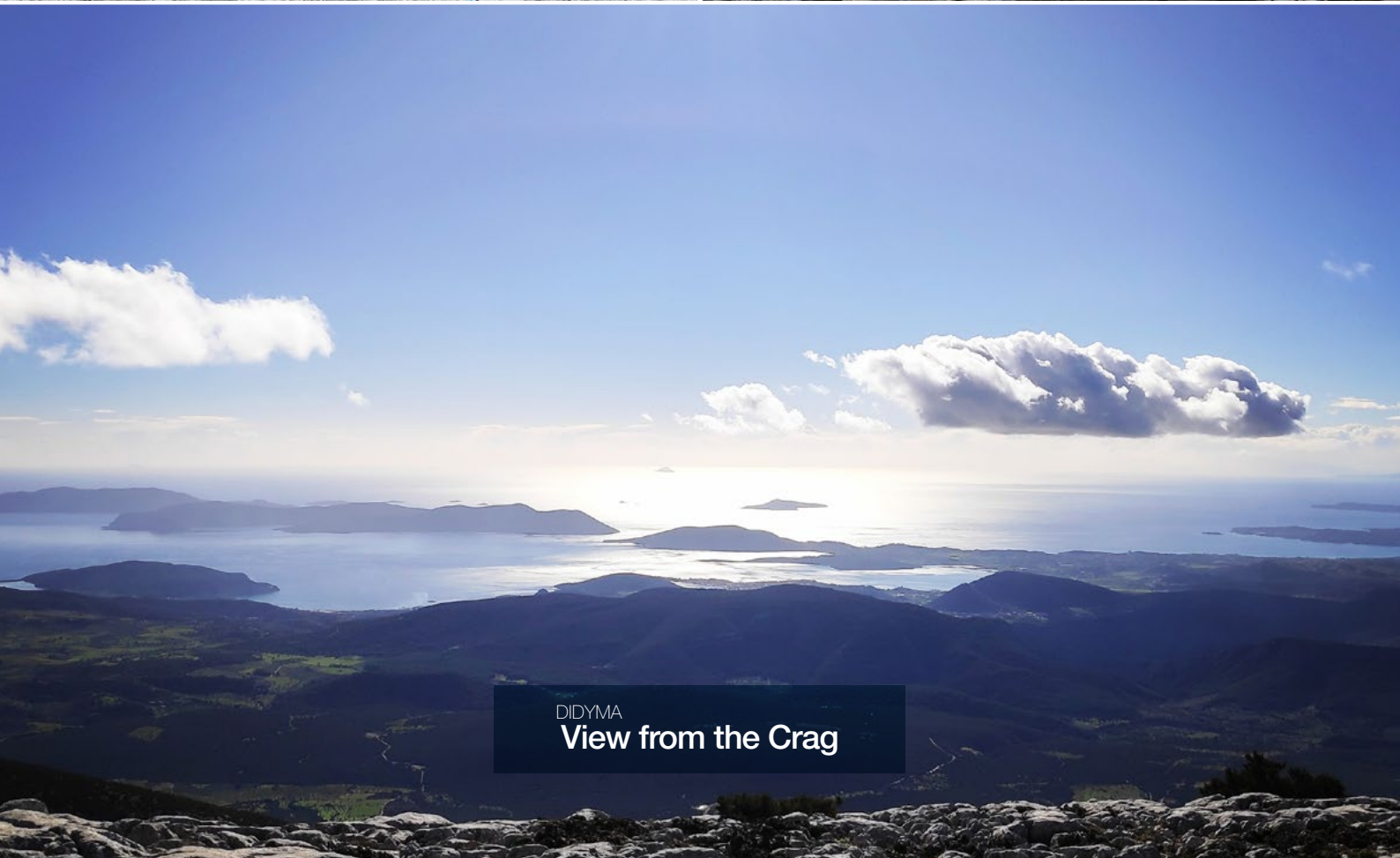
#	Name	Grade	M.	✓	#	Name	Grade	M.	✓
01.	Bad Beer	5b	15 m.		31.	James Jaunt	6b	18 m.	
02.	Drilling In The Rain	5c	15 m.		32.	Wonderhold	5c	18 m.	
03.	Trouble	6a	15 m.		33.	Girls Do It Differently	5b	18 m.	
04.	Fear Of Goats	6a	15 m.		34.	Slant Eyes	5a	18 m.	
05.	Teamwork	6a+	15 m.		35.	Buckshot	8a	20 m.	
06.	J&J	6a+	15 m.		36.	Summer Madness	6c+	20 m.	
07.	Powerline	6b	15 m.		37.	Spring Thing	7a	20 m.	
08.	Inge's Fingers	5b+	18 m.		38.	Burn	6a	20 m.	
09.	Cave	6b	18 m.		39.	Jills Route	5c+	20 m.	
10.	Wave	7c	18 m.		40.	Sam's Route	5b	20 m.	
11.	Funhouse	7a	18 m.		41.	Diversion	6a+	10 m.	
12.	Funtime	5a	18 m.		42.	Sidewalk	6c	10 m.	
13.	Prankster	6b	18 m.		43.	Black Attack	6c+	14 m.	
14.	Free Project	8a	18 m.		44.	Big Girls	6a	18 m.	
15.	Great White Way	6a	18 m.		45.	Elevation	5c	18 m.	
16.	Massive Attack	6c+	18 m.		46.	Sun Parade	6a	18 m.	
17.	Ektonisi	7b+	18 m.		47.	Tuesday Afternoon	5c+	18 m.	
18.	Black Diamond	7c	18 m.		48.	Scorpion	5c	18 m.	
19.	Crystal Voyager	7b	18 m.		49.	Quicky	6a	20 m.	
20.	The Hots	6c+	18 m.		50.	Fallen Angel	6b	20 m.	
21.	Lightning	5c+	18 m.		51.	Pain Is Love	6b+	16 m.	
22.	Thunder Wall	5c	18 m.		52.	England	6a	16 m.	
23.	Cool Move	6a	18 m.		53.	Popeye	6c	14 m.	
24.	Nice Surprise	5c	18 m.						
25.	Smile	5a	18 m.						
26.	Thursdays Child	5a	18 m.						
27.	Little Lizard	6b	18 m.						
28.	Sweet Sixty	6b	18 m.						
29.	Children Of Mycenae	6c	18 m.						
30.	Perfect Acoustics	7c	18 m.						



Giannis Lianon on  
**Powerline**



P. Paraskevopoulos on  
**First Corner**



DIDYMA  
**View from the Crag**



25 routes ★★★★★☆

# BOULDERING

**Crag Location:** 37.417739, 23.305997

**Best Season:** Autumn - Spring

# BOULDERING

25 Routes ★★★★★☆ Thermisia, Ermionida

**Crag location:** 37.417739, 23.305997

**Season:** All year | **Walk in:** 5 minutes

## General information

Few hundred meters below the remarkable **Castle Thermisia crag**, there is a field full of olive groves and some magnificent boulders.

There are about **10 major boulders** and several smaller that offer plenty of bouldering opportunities.

The access to the bouldering field is rather easy and the **walk-in is less than 5 minutes**.

In addition, this bouldering field is right in the middle of the various crags of the area, so you can give it a shot and try some problems or simply take a break from climbing and take a moment to relax, while moving from one crag to another.

The area is **family and pet friendly**, offers great views towards **Hydra** and **Dokos** islands.

## In a Nutshell

**Exposure:** South

**Best Season:** Autumn - Spring

**Sun:** From 10.00 to sunset

**Walk in:** 2 minutes

**Water:** No

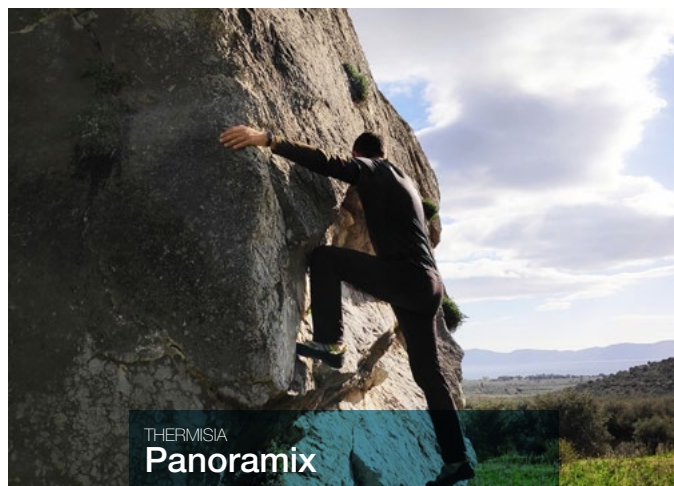
**Family Friendly:** Yes

**Pet Friendly:** Yes

**Camping:** At the beach of Thermisia

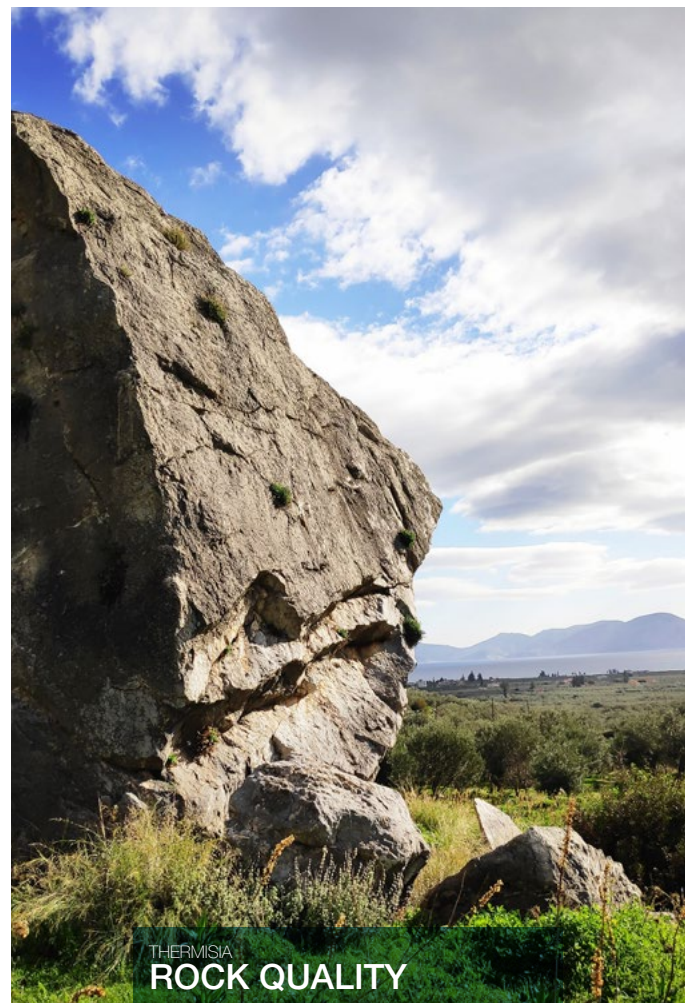
**Gear:** Bouldering mat

**Equipped by:** Unknown



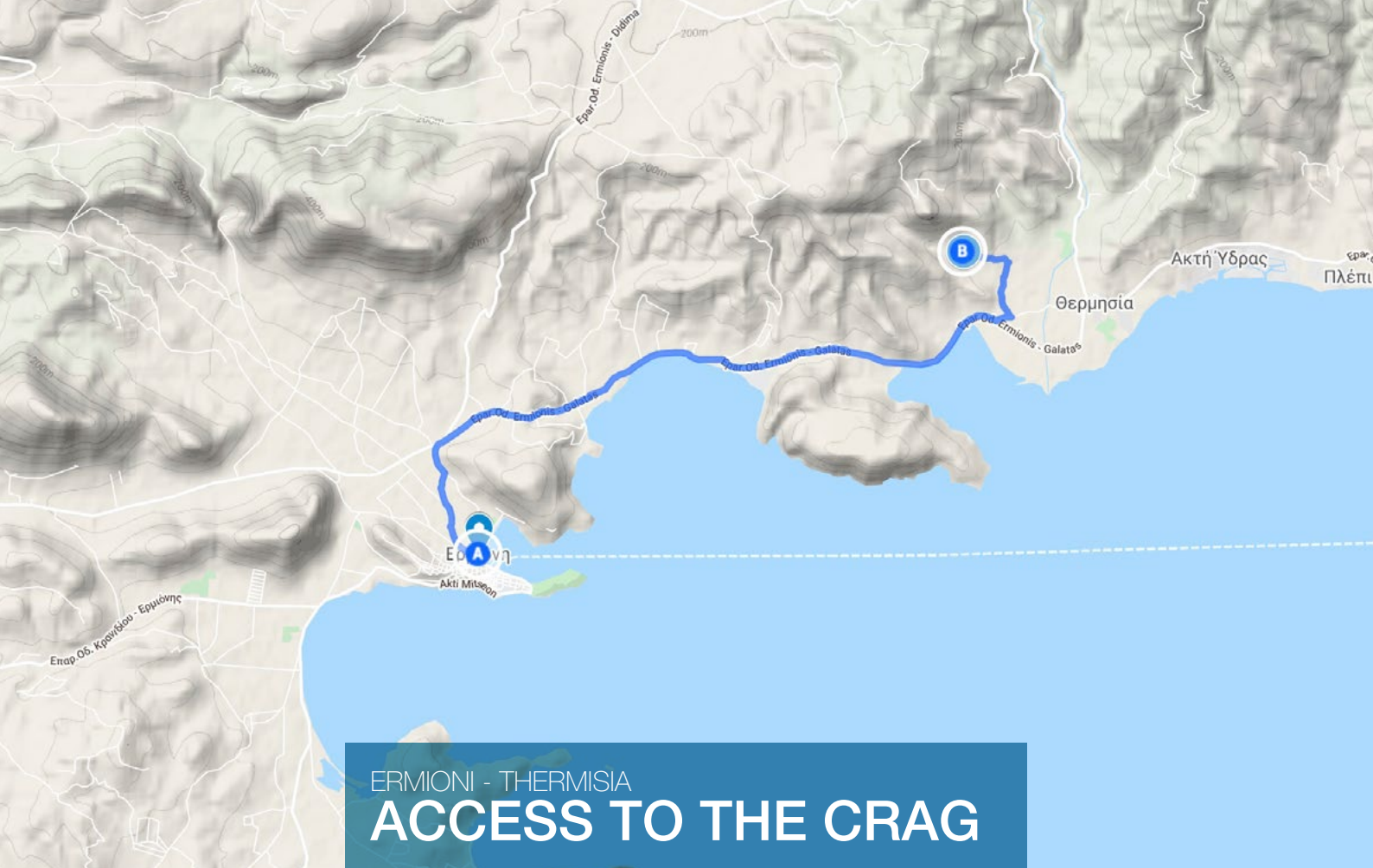
THERMISIA  
**Panoramix**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



THERMISIA  
**ROCK QUALITY**

View towards Dokos island



## ERMIONI - THERMISIA ACCESS TO THE CRAG

Access from Ermioni towards THERMISIA

### Access

Driving from **Ermioni towards Galatas** along the coastal road, you will be able to identify the remarkable rock of **Castle Thermisia** (alt. Lizard Rock).

Right before Thermisia, at point **37.410227, 23.311890** turn left and on the first side road

turn again left. Follow the paved road until you see a small chapel. At that point (37.416066, 23.313374) turn left again and drive up to the tarmac road.

You can park your car here: **37.417428, 23.307794**







THERMISIA  
**Panoramix**

Climber: Olympus Mountaineering



Thermisia Bouldering  
**DEVELOPMENT**

Bouldering area needs further development

## Development

This **Bouldering area** needs further development and we address an open invitation to all interested parties to join us in order to explore all major boulders, to identify all possible routes and to grade them.

Is bouldering one of your favourite climbing disciplines and you wish to participate in the further development of this bouldering area? Feel free to get in contact with us via the following email address: **[olympusmountaineering@gmail.com](mailto:olympusmountaineering@gmail.com)**





Thermisia  
**Bouldering**



Thermisia  
**Bouldering**



THERMISIA  
**View from the field**



An Olympus Mountaineering

# Climbing Guidebook