

Fernkloof New and Existing Easy Climbs and other Climbs Retrobolted

Mirror Mirror and Acromax Area

About 150m upstream from where the path meets the bottom of the kloof, there's an impressive pink and orange smooth wall with a small overhang on the true left-hand side of the kloof (facing downstream). This area continues upstream up to the big pool. Routes are listed from left to right when facing the wall.

True Left (facing Downstream)

Hiraeth 21/22 6c *** 9D

Strat on the far left of the Acromax wall. Climb up leftwards into the corner just right of the pool edge and right to a rest on a ledge. Continue up the break above on easier rock to chains.

B.B and F.A Derric Marshall Aug 2022

F2 CORNER 15 5b ** 6D

An old trad line taking the easy upstream-facing corner.

FA: Unknown

BEAUTIFUL LOSERS 17 5c ** 6D

This route climbs the face 2.5m to the right of F2 CORNER and just left of the arête.

FA: D. Margetts 1991. BB: N. Margetts, with permission.

Note: the original line went 1m to the left of this, up the left tending diagonal break (on natural gear and with one bolt, at a grade of 20).

THE ENERGY OF SLAVES 25 7a+ *** 7D

Newly Rertobolted, now a full sport climb. This climb starts on the steep face above a boulder which is ascended after the pool. Climb up the face (one bolt) to a ledge. Traverse left and up to a corner, then climb the corner to a roof. Pull through the overhang and climb the headwall to the top.

FA: M. Seegers & D. Margetts 1992 RB N Margetts and E Margetts Oct 2020

REFLECTED SINS 19 6a+ *** 10D

Boulder up to the ledge from the sand bank just below the wade pool. Pass a tree and climb up near the back of the recess. Climb up to the left, to the left arête and then up to the chains.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2006

BOMBAY CHICKEN 16 5b ** 7D

Climb as you would for REFLECTED SINS to the tree, and then up the recess for 2m. Step right onto the right well and climb up to the chains just above the overhang.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2008

EASY COME EASY GO 17 5b+ ** 7D

This line starts 6m downstream of BOMBAY CHICKEN with a strenuous first move up to a ledge involving an obvious side cling. Continue up to the ledge and branch up left up the front of the pillar.

FA: Evan Margetts October 2020

FORBIDDEN PILLAR 16 5b ** 7D

This line starts 6m downstream of BOMBAY CHICKEN at the same place as EASY COME EASY GO with a strenuous first move up to a ledge involving an obvious side cling. Continue up to the ledge and branch up right into a recess and up with a difficult move just before the chains.

FA: Neil Margetts October 2020

True Right (facing Downstream, right to left)

SLABMANIA

18/19 *** 8D

Start off rocks on 3m into the pool and up rightwards following the diagonal line to chains. These chains can be accessed via the gulley on the left if one wants to top rope only.

B.B and F.A Neil Margetts Aug 2022

MILLI VANILLI

15 ** 8D

Climb up over the bulge just right of WET WILLI.

FA. Nadine Van Heerden March 2022

WET WILLIE

13 ** 8D

Opposite and slightly upstream of F2 CORNER is a shallow recess with a series of cracks up it. Climb the recess to chains up right.

FA. Neil Margetts Oct 2020

Note: This route is so named because the tip of your rope tends to get wet in the stream when you pull it.

BIG BILLIE

14 ** 7D

Climb the line 3m left of WET WILLIE, easier than it looks.

FA. Neil Margetts March 2022

UTOPIAN BEACH HERMIT

19 6a+ ** 5D

The climb ascends the slab above the first pool, opposite the Mirror Mirror wall (true right). Traverse in to the right above the water - and up the seam via a mantelshelf move.

Note: the missing hangers have been replaced.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2006

Fabergé Wall

Before entering the main kloof the stream passes through a narrow gap with a steep bolted wall on the true left. Routes are listed from left to right when facing the wall.

GPS co-ordinates for the base of area is: S 25°48'10.5" E 27°18'43.7"

THE ARROGANT HARDMEN

12 3* 6D

Scramble 10m to the left up from TSSPMQ to a corner behind a tree. There is a big flake feature up on the left. Climb the corner up to the chains.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2011

THE TWO-LEGGED COACKROACH TRYING TO CROSS THE KITCHEN FLOOR WITHOUT GETTING STOMPED ON 18 6a ** 5D

Climb the recess or hand crack just to the left of TSSPMQ. This route requires some off-width crack climbing: not very familiar ground for regular sport climbers, but good to try if you're keen to experience something different.

FA: Darryl Margetts, Jun 2007

Variation: 21 6b+

Climb to the third bolt, then move left across the buttress to another bolt and up to the chains. This climb feels a bit unnatural or contrived but provides a reasonable grade warm-up for the hard climbs on the wall down to the right.

FA. Neil Margetts 2011

THE SILVER STUDDERED PHANTOM MOTORCYCLE QUEEN

15 5a+** 6D

Climb the open book around the corner and 10m upstream of the main overhanging wall.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2006

Variation: 17 5c

Climb the wall to the right only – without using the crack, corner or ledges on the left.

FA: Neil Margetts, Dec 2006

NIKOLAI II LAST EMPEROR OF RUSSIA

16 5a+ ** 6D

Start just right of TSSPMQ up onto a small ledge, then continue diagonally right over more ledges to make a crux move up onto a higher ledge using a layback edge. Continue up left to chains hidden just above a small overlap.

FA. Neil Margetts March 2022

RASPUTIN

18 6a+ *** 6D

Start down to the right just left of CROOK AND CRIME with a short strenuous move up onto a ledge, from there continue straight up the middle of the face above passing the bolts in the chest area.

FA. Neil Margetts March 2022

MR TOAD'S WILD RIDE

26 7b*** 7D

Recently Bolted with opening ascensionist permission. A steep natural crack line just left of FABERGÉ. The route climbs the crack directly above the boulder with a U-bolt in it.

FA: K. Smith 1988 (Trad)

BB. Evan Margetts Oct 2020