

# POMPIE'S PILLAR



**LEGAL NOTE:** All climbing is very dangerous & always at your own risk. Nobody is forcing you to climb. You choose to climb, so choose to go home before the risks become too high. Remember even small injuries can take 6 weeks to heal. No responsibility for inaccurate or incomplete information will be accepted by the scribe or Mountain Club of South Africa. The landowners accept no liability at all. Climbers take full responsibility for themselves at all times. Fixed protection will become unreliable, loose rock is common, solid rock becomes loose & RD writers make up most of the information, with a beer, at the computer. This RD is only a guide & is no substitute for experience, training, common sense & a touch of caution. So you are on your own...take care!

## EASTERN CAPE CLIMBING VENUES

<b>Port Elizabeth</b>	30 Coombs Gorge	37 EL urban crags & boulders	<b>Toorberg</b>	<b>Swartberg</b>
1 Lady's Slipper	<b>Amatolas</b>	38 Yellowsands & Inkwenkwezi	44 Graff-Reinet	49 Towerkop
2 Van Stadens	31 Fort Fordyce	39 Lalapanzi	45 Compassberg	50 Oudtshoorn
3 PE urban crags & boulders	32 Hogsback	40 Morgan Bay	<b>Transkei</b>	51 Gamkaskloof Bouldering
4 Sleepy Hollow	33 Stutterheim	41 Bola	46 Hole in the Wall	
5 Elands River	<b>Langkloof</b>	<b>Winterberg</b>	47 Hill of Execution	
6 Kirkwood	19 Nguniland	42 Mary & Martha	48 Port St Johns	
7 Cape St Francis	20 Kouga Wildernes	43 Hangklip		
<b>Groot Winterhoek</b>	21 Uniondale Pass			
8 Tygerhoek	<b>Garden Route</b>			
9 Naga's Kloof	22 Titzikama			
10 Eagle Gorge	23 Groot Rivier			
11 Momentum Gorge	24 Plett Crags			
12 Pinnacle Gorge	<b>East London</b>			
13 Cockscomb	34 NSA			
14 Grootbos & Kleinbos	35 Windmill Hole			
15 Nivera	36 Buffalo River			
<b>Baviaans</b>				
16 Grips				
17 Kudu Kaya				
18 Waterkloof				
<b>Grahamstown</b>				
25 Alicedale				
26 Howieson's Poort				
27 Moodies				
28 Bouldering				
29 Thornkloof				

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**DIRECTIONS:** From Oxford Street circle take Settlers Way toward the airport. Turn right after the last factory on the RH side, to gain the road running parallel to Settlers Way. Past the Fire Station. Turn right into Pompié's Pillar Road. At the point where Pompié's Road meets River View Road, park. Walk through the open plot to the sewage line. You can't miss the pillar. There is other rock in the area.



**ACCESS:** Unrestricted. Don't walk through any private gardens.

**WALK IN:** 1 minute. 80m. Quite steep.

**TIME & WEATHER:** Very sunny in summer. Wimps should try winter.

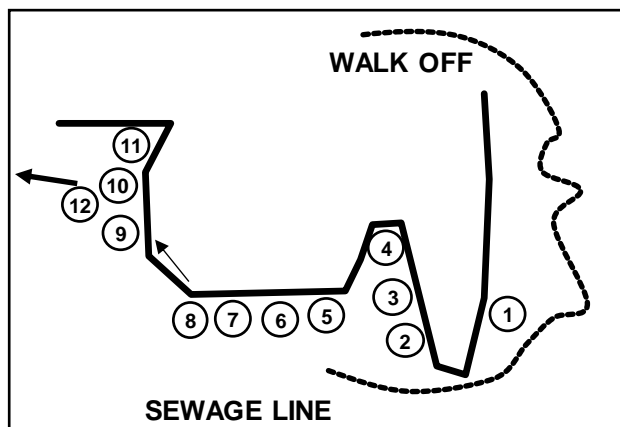
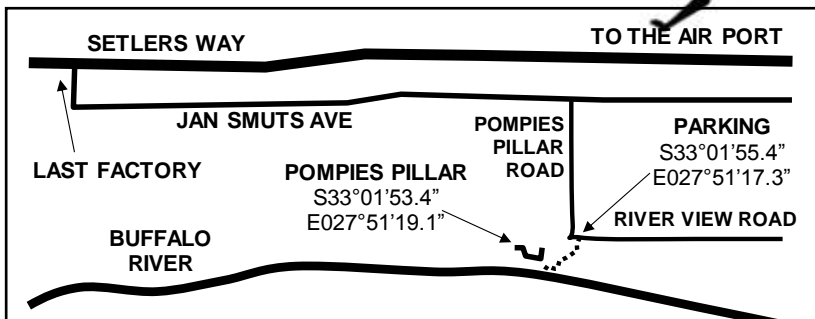
**ROCK TYPE:** Clean hard dolerite set in thick bush.

**POTENTIAL:** Not much left near Pompié's Pillar.

But further down river there is a fair amount of rock visible. Allen Luck has opened 6 lines there. Including on the prominent free stander. All of these were opened in secret behind his mate's backs...nice chap! One really crap line was opened about 300m down stream & below the sewage line, by Derek Marshall & Garvin Jacobs in 2000.

**HISTORY:** Situated on the Buffalo River this is one of the first crags to be climbed in East London. Neil Briers mentions taking school pupils top roping here, but never bothered to lead any of the lines. Some of the trad routes may have been lead before, but as usual they were not recorded. The bolted route was bolted with a generator and extension cords. Look out for East London's only Bushman painting.....REALLY!

**HAZARDS:** Beware of criminals! Carry a machete at all times...you may need it. Seriously! The sewage line is not always the sweetest thing.



**1. Facing The Fallacy – 14**

Start up the RH side of the nose, moving up & L to the top.

**2. Aim & Ablution – 17 ★**

Start up the LH side of the nose, moving up & L to the top.

**3. Iron Hand – 18 ★**

Crack system on the RH wall of the groove

**4. Judge Dread – 17**

Groove to the R of the overhang.

**5. Philippians 4:13 – 22 ★**

It's a bit contrived. Do not to step out R.

**6. That Damn Dog – 17**

Crack system into an off width, just L of the overhang

**7. Hall of Fame – 16**

Crack system 1.5m L of the overhang.

**8. Gain & Gifting – 19 ★**

Same start as *Hall of Fame*. Traverse round the corner to the L into a finger crack. Up this onto a ledge. Then up the finger crack to the R.

Derek Marshall & Heidi Smelders 14/01/2006 (T)

Derek Marshall & Craig Bester 14/01/2006 (T)

Derek Marshall & Colin Hall Sept 1999 (T)

Derek Marshall & Colin Hall Sept 1999 (T)

Derek Marshall & Garvin Jacobs Dec 1999 (6B&C)

Derek Marshall & Gavin Hall Sept 1999 (T)

Derek Marshall & Gavin Hall Sept 1999 (T)

Derek Marshall & William Lesley 14/01/2006 (T)

**9. Fame & Smashing – 16**

Smith 14/01/2006 (T)

Up steps below curving hand crack. Move L up ledges to the top.

Derek Marshall & Ray

**10. Rompie Pompie – 16**

14/01/2006 (T)

Up steps below large overhanging boulder. Move L into gully. Top out up the RH side of the gully.

Allen & Mark Luck

**11. Pumping the Pomp – 18**

14/01/2006 (T)

Off width open book into gully. Under a block, rail R & up.

Allen Luck & Ray Smith

**12. Jo! Jo! My Bitch! – 13**

L facing open book hand crack about 10m down river.

Craig Bester & William Lesley 14/01/2006 (T)

