

easterncaperockclimbing.co.za

Stutterheim

Rock Climbing Guide





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 any other body. 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 anyway. 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

Port Elizabeth

- 1 Lady's Slipper
- 2 Van Stadens
- 3 PE urban crags & boulders
- 4 Sleepy Hollow
- 5 Elands River
- 6 Kirkwood
- 7 Cape St Francis

Groot Winterhoek

- 8 Tygerhoek
- 9 Naga's Kloof
- 10 Eagle Gorge
- 11 Momentum Gorge
- 12 Pinnacle Gorge
- 13 Cockscomb
- 14 Grootbos & Kleinbos
- 15 Nivera

Baviaans

- 16 Grips
- 17 Kudu Kaya
- 18 Waterkloof

Grahamstown

- 25 Alicedale
- 26 Howieson's Poort
- 27 Moodies
- 28 Bouldering
- 29 Thornkloof

30 Coombs Gorge

Amatolas

- 31 Fort Fordyce
- 32 Hogsback
- 33 Stutterheim
- 19 Nguniland
- 20 Kouga Wildernes
- 21 Uniondale Pass

Garden Route

- 22 Titzikama
- 23 Groot Rivier
- 24 Plett Crags

East London

- 34 NSA
- 35 Windmill Hole
- 36 Buffalo River

37 EL urban crags & boulders

- 38 Yellowsands & Inkwenkwezi
- 39 Lalapanzi
- 40 Morgan Bay
- 41 Bola
- 42 Mary & Martha
- 43 Hangklip

Winterberg

Toorberg

- 44 Graff-Reinet
- 45 Compassberg

Transkei

- 46 Hole in the Wall
- 47 Hill of Execution
- 48 Port St Johns

Swartberg

- 49 Towerkop
- 50 Oudtshoorn
- 51 Gamkaskloof Bouldering



NOTE FROM THE SCRIBE: It took consistent effort, time, work & organization to get this guide ready for your pleasure...for free! Thus please respect that all the information & photographs are strictly **Copy Righted**. Nobody "has" a lawyer, normally a lawyer has us...by the short & curlies. But I do know this lawyer, he's a bit of a dick, but apparently he normally wins. Friends, let's not get to see how much of a dick he really is. You are more than welcome to print out, e-mail or link to a web page this guide in its unchanged format, with logos & all information intact.

This guide is an attempt to consolidate & make route info available to everyone. As this is a web based guide it can be considered a work in progress. It is easy to change. So please send missing details, corrections, additions & adjustments to info@easterncaperockclimbing.co.za. All information will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to the following people & resources which were used for various details:

1. Rob Scott who put in all the effort to find the boulders, cut & make the paths, bolted most of the routes & set up the most awesome campsite...for our climbing convenience.
2. Martin Renz for filling in the information gaps.



DIRECTIONS: Use Google on your smart phone to find The Shire, which is outside Stutterheim. Then use the map to locate the crags & boulders.

ACCESS: Is restricted please contact Rob Scott to make arrangements to access forestry land.

HISTORY: In about 2007 the Scott (Rob, Dave, Cath & Andrew) family from The Shire started getting into climbing. The boulders were discovered & Rooikrantz Crag was explored. Rob bought a drill & applied for local tourism funding. The sport routes at Rooikrantz Crag followed.



POTENTIAL: There are lots of routes that still remain to be opened. Rooikrantz' cracked nature, lend itself to trad although the main climbing area, Xymalos Walla, is a sport sector. Feel free to bolt, but try to find stuff that cannot be safely led on natural gear. Please use stainless steel bolts & hangers. There is fair potential for opening boulder problems all over the place.

WHERE TO STAY: *The Shire*, this is Rob Scott's place. Rob is passionate about the climbing & can assist with directions to the crags & boulders. He may even show the path. The camping & cottages are awesome. Check out <http://www.shire.co.za/> & <https://www.facebook.com/shire.ecolodge> .

STUFF TO DO:

- Robs Scott's indigenous plant & bulb nursery is super worthwhile. Beg him for a guided tour! Rob is a super interesting guide.
- Stephen Townley Bassett has a Bushman rock art gallery in Cathcart, the next town. This is very interesting. Stephen paints using natural tools & materials, just as the Bushmen did. Yes, real blood & fat in the paint!

BEST SEASON: Stutt forest will be super humid & hot in summer. Rain, heat, mist & moisture are a real issue in summer. Winter is the recommended season.

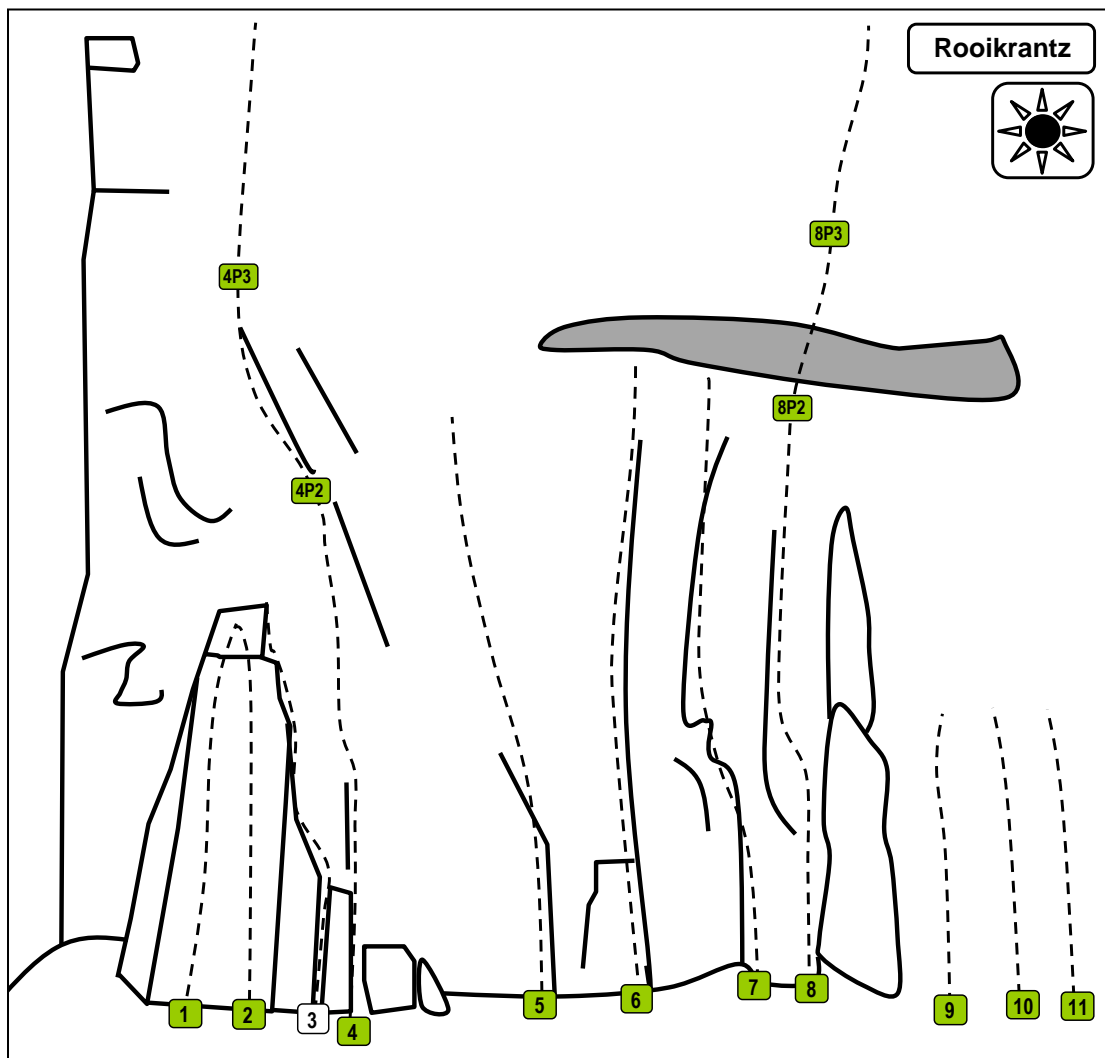
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: The area where the cliffs are completely unspoiled.

1. Please pick up any litter found & bring it out. Please be the one who makes a difference.
2. Taking a dump: Make sure you are well away from paths, rock faces & streams. Please cover your turd & paper up well. Put a large rock over your business so wild animals don't dig it up.
3. The veg on the routes will grow back.... So pull it out or leave it in....it makes no difference.



HAZARDS, SAFETY, WARNINGS & EMERGENCIES:

1. Always use a helmet....even on the sport routes. There are lots of loose rocks. Yes...it can happen to you.
2. Fire: 045 962 1055. Keep fires small & very controlled. Cape Pine have fire watch towers & they may investigate if they see your fire. Timber has a value. A forest is worth more than your house.
3. Mountain Rescue: Phone Rob direct 082 990 7626 or 10177 or 10111. State that you need mountain rescue.
4. No real snake hazard.
5. Take a head torch up. Often have to walk down at night.
6. Watch out for bush pigs in the forest. These are really dangerous especially if you stumble on them while they are in a hide.



Rooikrantz



The routes & sectors are recorded L to R.

Xymalos Wall

A beautiful 90m wall emerging above the indigenous Lemonwood forest. Mostly sport routes.

- **1. Buff Chick – 19** Nick Jones 2008 (9B&C)
- **2. Parrot Fashion - 19** Andrew Scott 2008 (9B&C)
- 3. Bloodflower – 19** Derek Marshall & Gareth Brown 14/06/2014 (T)
Up the off-width groove & into an off-width open book. To above the chains of *Buff Chick*.
- **4. Feeding Flames – 23 ★★**
P1 - 22 (12B&C) Rob Scott 2008
P2 - 24 (11B&C) Rob Scott 2008
P3 - 25 (11B&C) Aurélien Hees & Tara O'Neill 14/06/2014 (T)
- **5. Morpic Resonance – 22 ★★★** Andrew Scott 2008 (12B&C)
- **6. Last Man Standing – 22 ★★** Rob Scott 2008 (10B&C)
- **7. Hobo Hands – 23 ★★** Rob Scott 2008 (10B&C)
- **8. Dancing badger – 24 ★★** Andrew & Rob Scott 2008
P1 – 23 (9B&C)
P2 - 20 (7B&C)
P3 – 25 (16B&C)
- **9. Patric - 14** Dave Scott 2008 (4B&C)
- **10. Inca – 17** Rob Scott 2008 (4B&C)
- **11. End of the Line - 18** Dave Scott 2008 (4B&C)

This route is about 150m R of Xymalos Wall.

- **12. Vaya a la Mierda un Loro – 21** Manuel Hajar & Magnus Wagener 14/06/2014 (9B&C)
Looks fairly kak.

Swinging Trees Sector

This is about 300m R of *Xymalos Wall*. It's a bit overhanging.

- **13. Swinging in the Trees – 22 ★** Andrew Scott 2008 (5B&C)
- **14. Open Project** Bolted by Andrew Scott 2008 (5B&C)

About 20m from the RH end of the crag there was one trad route climbed.

- 15. The Cry of Silence – 20 ★★** Derek Marshall & Tara O'Neill 16/06/2014 (T)
Up the perfect fist crack, through a small cubbyhole roof. Up into quite thick veg to a belay ledge.