

Horseshoe Bend

Rock Climbing Guide

www.easterncaperockclimbing.co.za



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 or wine or whiskey, 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

Port Elizabeth	30 Coombs Gorge	37 EL urban crags & boulders	Toorberg	Swartberg
1 Lady's Slipper	Amatolas	38 Yellowsands & Inkwenkwezi	44 Graff-Reinet	49 Toverkop
2 Van Stadens	31 Fort Fordyce	39 Lalapanzi	45 Compassberg	50 Oudtshoorn
3 PE urban crags & boulders	32 Hogsback	40 Morgan Bay	Transkei	51 Gamkaskloof Bouldering
4 Sleepy Hollow	33 Stutterheim	41 Bola	46 Hole in the Wall	52 Swartberg Pass
5 Elands River	Langkloof	Winterberg	47 Hill of Execution	
6 Kirkwood	19 Nguniland	42 Mary & Martha	48 Port St Johns	
7 Cape St Francis	20 Kouga Wildernes	43 Hangklip		
Groot Winterhoek	21 Uniondale Pass			
8 Tygerhoek	Garden Route			
9 Naga's Kloof	22 Titzikama			
10 Eagle Gorge	23 Groot Rivier			
11 Momentum Gorge	24 Piesang Valley			
12 Pinnacle Gorge	East London			
13 Cockscomb	34 NSA			
14 Grootbos & Kleinbos	35 Windmill Hole			
15 Nivera	36 Buffalo River			
Baviaans				
16 Grips				
17 Kudu Kaya				
18 Waterkloof				
Grahamstown				
25 Alicedale				
26 Howison's Poort				
27 Moodie's				
28 Bouldering				
29 Thornkloof				

More route guides can be found on
www.easterncaperockclimbing.co.za

Note from the Scribe: It took consistent effort, time, work & organization to get this guide ready for your pleasure...for free! If you enjoy conspiracy theories, get your pens out and decipher. Please respect that all the information & photographs are strictly Copy Righted. 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.

As this is a web-based guide it can be considered a continual 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.

Directions: This crag is going to be hard to find & it is recommended that you go with someone who has been there before. Follow Stanford Road past Boysen's Park. Turn off L onto a dirt road opposite Chetty. Drive over the hill. After about 2km there is a quarried clearing to the R, take the track L, follow this till it goes down to a river crossing. Cross the river (dry, but rough **4X4**), up the hill for about 150m then turn L & bundu dash down a spur in the direction of the crag for about 80m. Park. Walk in the general direction of the crag, cross the river & find the path up to the crag.

Access: Apparently the land is owned by the Anglican Church & there are no known access issues.

General: The 19 short trad lines & 2 short sport lines on awesome featured white quartzite. There is limited potential for more routes.

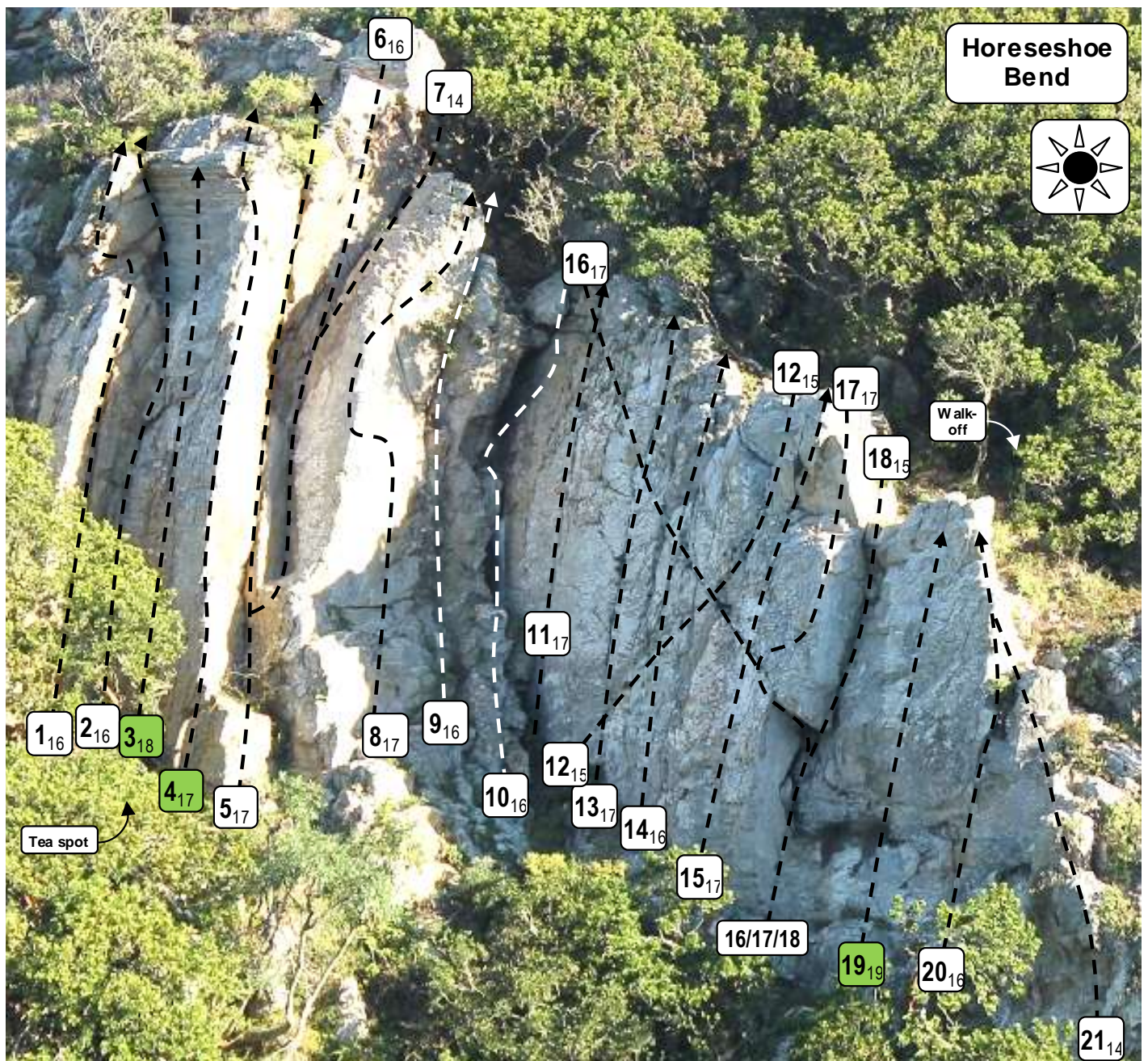


Hazards:

- 1. Crime could be an issue, but never has been in the past. Larger groups & Glock 19 are recommended.
- 2. The track in preferably requires a 4X4 that you don't mind scratching it but a normal 2x4 bakkie will get there easily.

History: Horseshoe Bend was discovered Rob Mac Geoghegan during childhood exploration days. Rob revisited the crag from 2011 onwards & opened some of the prominent lines. Big thanks to Rob Mac Geoghegan for the development that he has done at Horseshoe Bend.

This guide is dedicated to Rob Mac Geoghegan as a token of thanks for dedication to training climbers in Port Elizabeth over the last 40 years. Through various politicking & bullshit, Rob's life commitment to search-&rescue has never been recognized. Salute, big up & hats off to you Rob Mac Geoghegan!





- 1. Malicious Vendetta – 16** Ross Minaar & Rob Mac Geoghegan 2012 (T)
Thin crack just R of arête.
- 2. Contempt of Reasonable Procedure - 16** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Clayton Staples 2012 (T)
R facing open book.
- **3. Substantively Unfair – 18 ★** Terence Trevaskis & Craig Bester 17.04.2016 (4B&C)
- **4. An Opportunity to Settle Old Scores – 17 ★** Derek Marshall & Craig Bester 17.04.2016 (4B&C)
Prominent, thinly protected arête.
- 5. Personal Agendas - 17** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Ross Minaar 2012 (T)
LH fist crack into off width cubbyhole.
- 6. Over Reaction - 16** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Ross Minaar 2012 (T)
Same start as *Personal Agendas*, but move R into L facing open book. Then break out directly.
- 7. Limited Perspective – 16** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Derek Caird 2012 (T)
Same start as *Personal Agendas* & move R into L facing open book, but then follow the easy ramp to the top.
- 8. Injury to One in the Land of the Blind – 17** Derek Marshall & Craig Bester 17.04.2016 (T)
Up steps swing out onto the arête, then up on easy ground to the top.
9. Be Lifted Up - 16 Rob Mac Geoghegan & Ross Minaar 2011 (T)
Easy break into fist crack.
- 10. Injustice for All - 16** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (T)
Up steps into chimney, break out on R trending crack.
- 11. Callus Conclusions - 17 ★** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (T)
Superb crack just R of steps.
- 12. Snakes in the Grass – 15** Ross Minaar, Clayton Staples & Rob Mac Geoghegan 2012 (T)
Slightly R trending wide crack.
- 13. Nothing was Real – 17 ★** Derek Marshall & Craig Bester 17.04.2016 (T)
Prominent crack in the system.
- 14. Back Stabbers - 16** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Clayton Staples 2012 (T)
Up distinct easy crack system.
- 15. Un-Presidential Bias – 17 ★** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (T)
Indistinct line just L of arête.
- 16. Let's Rethink This – 17** Derek Marshall & Terence Trevaskis 17.04.2016 (T)
Startup open book, break out of the roof to L & into diagonal crack system that runs all the way L.
- 17. Legal Bullying - 17** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (T)
Standback and make others do the setup before starting up open book, break out of the roof to L, then move R & up the arête.
- 18. Seventy Two Thousand Rand – 15 ★★** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Clayton Staples 2011 (T)
Up prominent R facing open (club cheque) book.
- **19. Heavy Handed Decisions – 19 ★** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (3B&C)
- 20. Innocent Blood – 16** Derek Marshall & Rob Mac Geoghegan 17.04.2016 (T)
Up easy arête to R of *Heavy Handed Decisions*.
- 21. Breaking New Ground – 14** Rob Mac Geoghegan & Clayton Staples 2012 (T)
Vertically up easy arm of arête.

On top there is an excellent walk-off that is central to all exits, fondly referred to as the Magical Nuclear Enema, that exits bottom right of the picture.