

Port St Johns | Mount Thesiger



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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.

History: The recorded routes are from the 1980 Mountain Club of South Africa Journal article written by Carless Freer. This guide is a paraphrase of this journal article. The article mentions Roy Gooden opening a route on a small crag called *Eagles Nest*.

Please let me know if you have climbed here or can provide any pictures or information.

Access: No restrictions.

General: There are only 3 recorded trad routes, but plenty of potential remains for new routes. Rock is Dolorite.

The following routes are on the *The Pulpit Buttress*, 90m R of *Eagles Nest*.

Heaven Can Wait – 20

Charl Brümmer & Carless Freer 1980 (T)

Walk up from the road to the RHS of the crag. Traverse low to the L below the rock bands, past a big white overhangs.

P1 – 14 Climb an easy break to a ledge.

P2 – 17 Follow one of the breaks to a dassie ledge. Good climbing.

P3 – Traverse R on the dassie ledge until the face starts to open up & a corner topped by overhangs appears.

P4 – 20 A0 Start off the dassie ledge with some entertainment, climb the overhangs with one point of aid. Up an odd water chute crack, with rounded holds & step into a corner (a 9-hex should still be in the corner). Up to the roof & rail L. Up to a stance on a big block.

P5 – 14

P6 – 16

Tyre – 20

Charl Brümmer & Carless Freer 1980 (T)

Walk up from the road to the RHS of the crag. Scramble up below some obvious white overhangs at the base & then traverse L.

P1 – 17 Up a prominent break through the overhangs. The start has some peculiar moves. Climb straight up past a large ledge to the dassie ledge, which can be clearly seen from the road.

P2 Traverse R almost to the RH edge of the crag to twin cracks.

P3 – 20 Start up the LH of the twin cracks, then step R into the RH crack.

P4 Up easy break to the top.

The following route is on Mount Thesiger, directly behind the petrol station near the pont/bridge.

Charl Brümmer & Carless Freer 1980 (T)



Babylon – 20

Walk up to the base of the crag. Facing the crag at the center, look R & you will see a grass ramp that comes at least halfway down the crag. Aim for the base of this. Start is at the base of this.

P1 – 16 Follow a break to the R that brings you to a ledge.

P2 Climb up on excellent rock (good climbing) to a definite ledge to avoid the hanging gardens. This is about 8m from the mail crack that leads to the grass ramp.

P3 - 13 Traverse L to the base of the crack.

P4 – 20 – 36m Up the off-width crack that becomes a flared chimney,

P5 – 14 Easy climbing to the grass ramp.

Scramble up the grass ramp to the top.