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Published 2006



RockTopos Climbing Guide Costa Blanca El Bovedón

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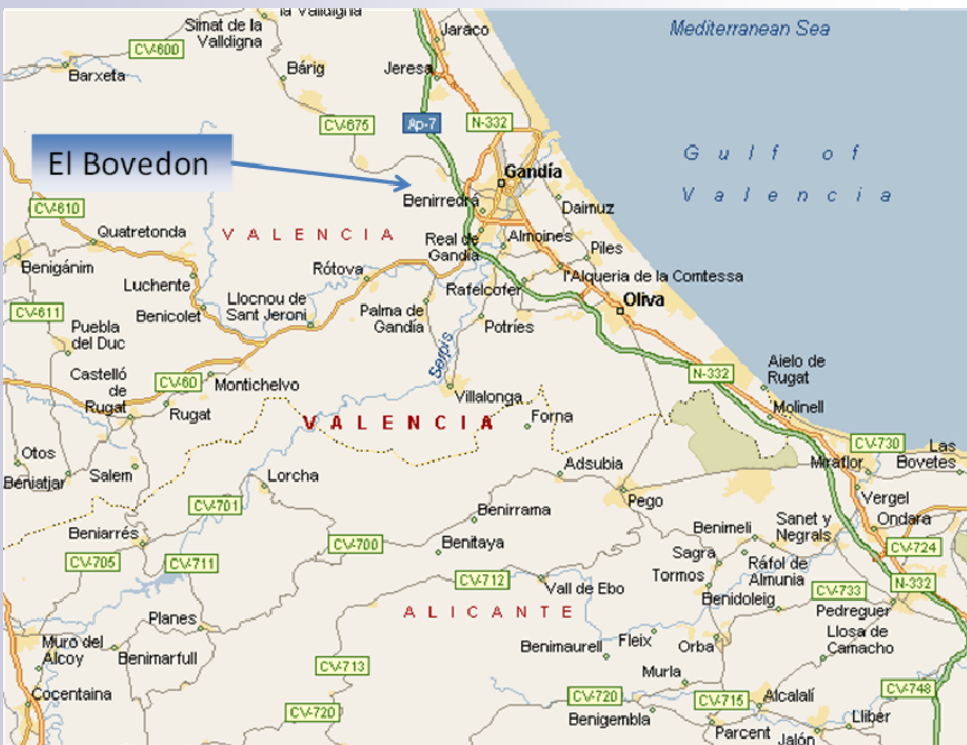
This publication is a rock climbing guide to El Bovedón, Gandia in the Costa Blanca region of Spain.

This crag provides some of the hardest climbing in the Costa Blanca and is situated just west of the town of Gandia. El Bovedón comprises an enormous cave bounded by two side walls. The cave can be split into two parts, the first being slightly lower down the hillside with soaring orange rock. Slightly above this is the main cave which recedes into the hillside and its black roof is littered with pockets and flakes. The cave provides some fabulous long routes mostly hanging from the roof.

GENERAL APPROACH

Travel to Gandia which is normally best accomplished using the A7 motorway. Leave this at junction 61—Oliva. Follow the N332 (slowly) through Bellreguard and take the N332 Gandia by-pass at the large roundabout just before Gandia. Continue along the road, through the tunnel and take the next exit signposted 'Barx'. Turn left up the valley and pass the Gandia crag which is on the right. At the next bend turn left—signed 'Bar Carril'. Drive down the road for close to 1km until where it narrows. Turn left and follow this which bends right. Continue until there are high stone walls on the left and find the left turn before the white wall. The road heads up the hillside and bends back and forwards and deteriorates. At the end, turn the car around carefully and park leaving space for others to do the same.

Walk along the path which trends upwards to the cliff and takes around 5 minutes.



Graded List

8c+	<input type="checkbox"/> La Negra <input type="checkbox"/> Mestizaje
8c	<input type="checkbox"/> Malsoñando
8b+	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b	<input type="checkbox"/> Transnohando <input type="checkbox"/> Troglobio
8a+	<input type="checkbox"/> Larga, Dura y Caliente <input type="checkbox"/> Carnicero de Castelnovo <input type="checkbox"/> Armando, Sique Desplomando
8a	<input type="checkbox"/> Lobos
7c+	<input type="checkbox"/> Abracadabra, Kaka de Kabra
7c	<input type="checkbox"/> Arcadia <input type="checkbox"/> Perpetulum Motion <input type="checkbox"/> La de Javi
7b+	<input type="checkbox"/> Tulipunk
7b	<input type="checkbox"/> Insommi <input type="checkbox"/> Benito Camela <input type="checkbox"/> Farrear y Corbardes <input type="checkbox"/> Ave Roma <input type="checkbox"/> Chocho Pocho <input type="checkbox"/> La Antorcha Humana
7a+	<input type="checkbox"/> Depil Man <input type="checkbox"/> Hernia Fiscal
7a	<input type="checkbox"/> Qu'est-ce Que Tu Fais <input type="checkbox"/> Rica Chona
6c+	<input type="checkbox"/> Tambors Llunyans
6c	<input type="checkbox"/> Escalibada <input type="checkbox"/> El Último Bollicao
6b+	<input type="checkbox"/> Gimnasi <input type="checkbox"/> Bovedona
6b	<input type="checkbox"/> Soliguer <input type="checkbox"/> Quin Tomas
6a+	<input type="checkbox"/> Escalada Lechunga <input type="checkbox"/> Quinto Pino
6a	<input type="checkbox"/> Diedriculo

ASPECT AND CLIMATE

The cliff faces south east and receives the sun for most of the day although the back and roof of the cave remain in the shade. The face closest to the approach is more exposed and will receive the breeze, but generally the cliff is quite sheltered from the wind.

The cave is enclosed by a stone wall and in the past this has been the home to the local goats. The floor of the cave is especially dirty so a rope bag is essential.

GEAR

All the routes are well protected by good bolts and finish at in-situ belays. On many of the harder routes the quickdraws are permanently in place.

**INFORMATION**

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Every effort has been made to make this publication as accurate as possible however the information provided is on an as-is basis. The descriptions of routes and the grades are recorded to assist the climber to attempt routes within their ability. Where the correct route name is not known a substitute is added in brackets ().

The publication of this topo does not imply any right of access or right to climb on this cliff.

The author does not recognise any liability for injury or damage caused to, or by, climbers, third parties or property arising from the use of the information provided in this publication.

New information and updates to this guide are available at

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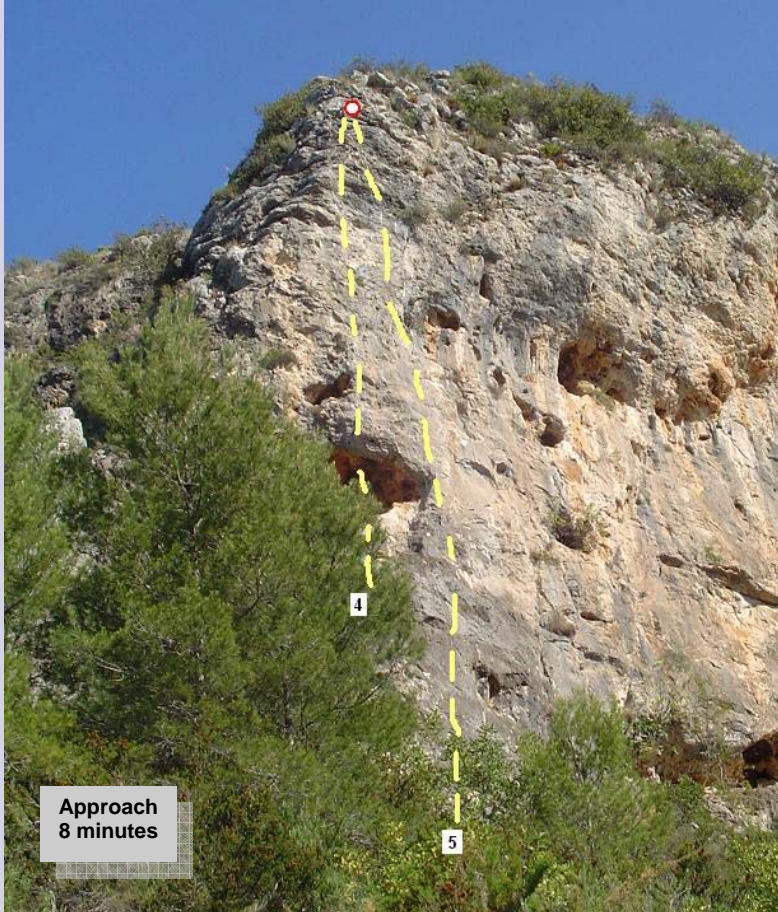
<http://www.freewebs.com/costablancarock/>

If you have any comments, additional routes or corrections please e-mail these to

rocktopos@hotmail.com

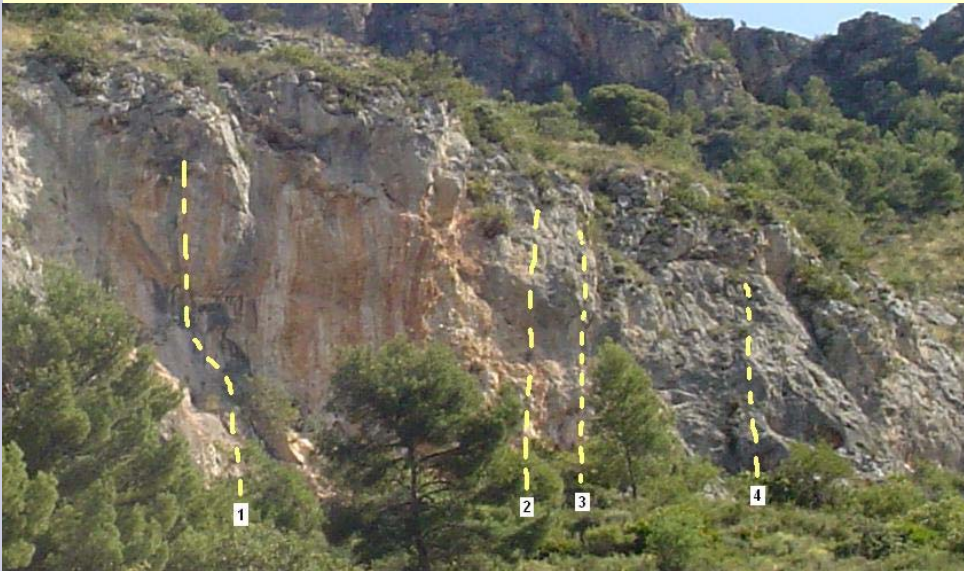
Sector Placas

Where the path arrives at the crag a wall or rock runs right towards the main cave. This wall is typically off vertical but with a bulging upper section. The routes are much easier than in the caves however the rock is sharper on the fingers.



Sector 4: Right Wall

The middle of the central bay at last is breached now by a few routes. For the first two of these routes take a path to a clearing below the middle wall. The third route is approached via a path on the right.

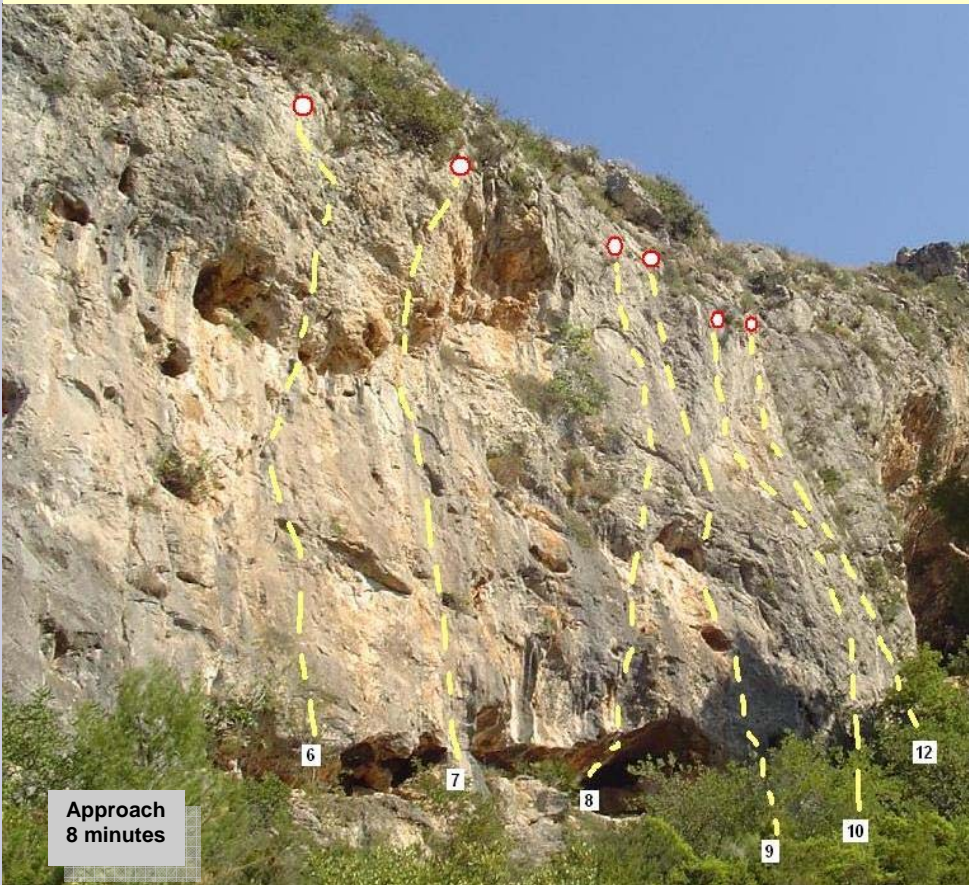


- 1. **La de Javi** **7c** ★
25m. Climb easily up the wall to below the steepest part of the bulge. Go straight up the middle.
F.A.
- 2. **Route 1** **6b** ★
20m. Start 15m to the right and climb the left side of the wall through a bulge.
F.A.
- 3. **Route 2** **6b** ★
20m. The parallel line 2m to the right.
F.A.
- 4. **Route 3** **V**
14m. An easy line up the slab 8m to the right.
F.A.

- 1. **Na Lua** **5+**
18m. A poor route up the left edge of the wall.
F.A.
- 2. **Diedriculo** **6a**
10m. The left of two short routes finishing at a belay in the cave.
F.A.
- 3. **6b** ★
10m. The righthand line.
F.A.
- 4. **El Último Bollicao** **6c** ★★
20m. Cimb up the wall into the cave. Pull direct through the roof and continue up the right side of the rib.
F.A.
- 5. **Soliguer** **6b** ★★
20m. Pleasant climbing up the wall, passing the edge of the cave and finishing at a belay on the rib.
F.A.

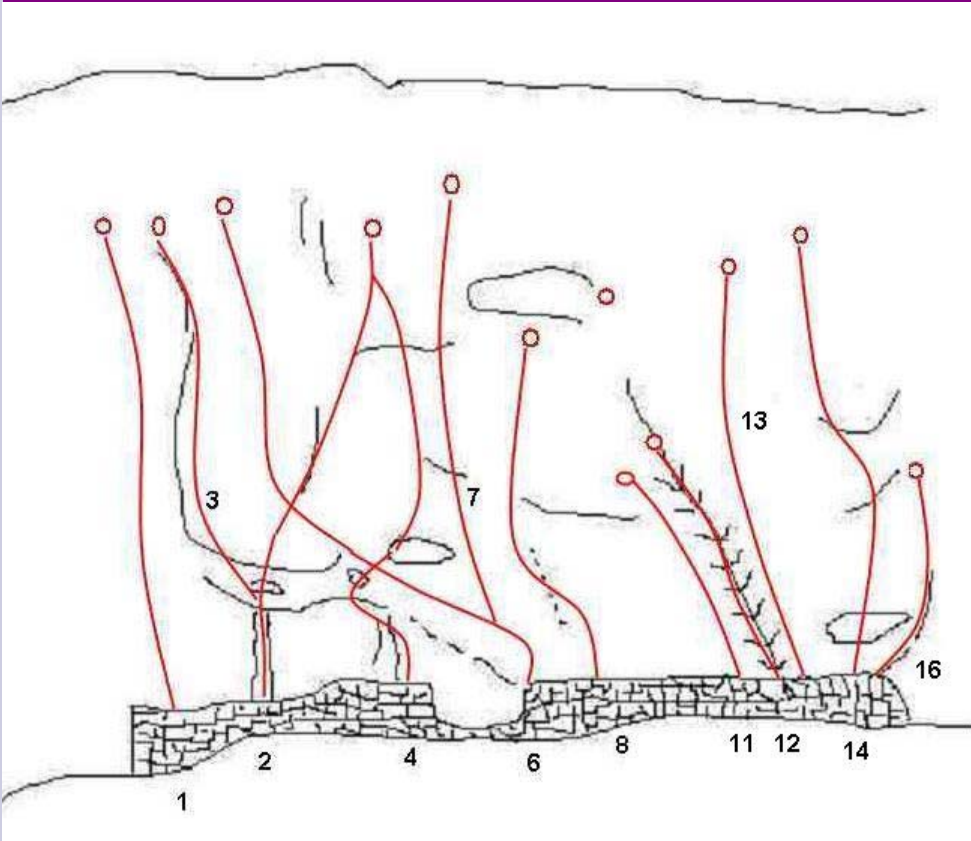
Sector Placas

The middle of the central bay at last is breached now by a few routes. For the first two of these routes take a path to a clearing below the middle wall. The third route is approached via a path on the right.



- 17. Tulipunk** **7b+** ★★
 25m. Start below a bulge at head height. Climb the wall above on poor pockets and thin slots to pull rightwards onto the slab. Continue up easier ground to a bulge. Pull through this either on the left or right and reach a good rest below the upper roof. This turns out to be much easier.
 F.A.
- 18. Rica Chona** **7a** ★
 25m. Start just left of the wall and climb to a flake. Pull straight up and go right through the bulge. Continue to a difficult move just before the belay.
 F.A.
- 19. Bovedona**..... **6b+** ★★★
 30m. Climb the wall to below the bulge. Follow the obvious line leading leftwards across the lip of the cave in a very exposed position. A steep route on excellent jugs.
 F.A.
- 20. Quin Tomas** **6b** ★★
 25m. Start as the last route, but step right through the bulge and continue up the groove above.
 F.A.
- 21. Hernia Fiscal**..... **7a+** ★
 25m. Climb the pocketed wall to a small triangular overhang. Passing this provides the meat of the route after which the climbing is easier.
 F.A.
- 22. Tambors Llunyans** **6c+** ★
 25m. Start a couple of metres to the right and climb a direct line up the wall and then easier slab above.
 F.A.
- 23. Escalada Lechunga** **6a+** ★
 25m. Start just left of a tree close to the wall and take a direct line.
 F.A.
- 24. Quinto Pino**..... **6a+** ★
 25m. Start right of the trees and climb again direct up the wall.
 F.A.

Sector Cueva - Upper Section



- 14. **La Antorcha Humana** **7b** ★
 25m. Up the short wall and climb to the hole. A hard crux slap move gains very good holds and the traverse line of Bovedona. Move left and climb the crack to a belay. The bolts are old and the route would benefit from new ones.
 F.A.
- 15. **7a+** ★
 15m. Start in the same place and pull up to the hole. Move right along it and continue straight above to reach a small cave. Belay on the right. It is possible to continue direct up the upper wall to a higher belay.
 F.A.
- 16. **Chocho Pocho** **7b** ★
 15m. Layback the black flake to reach the belay on the previous route. Rarely climbed.
 F.A.

- 6. **(Broccoli)** **7a+** ★★
 20m. Step over the roof and climb the sharp 'broccoli' wall to the bulge. Climb this steeply to a belay on the left.
 F.A.
- 7. **Insomni** **7b** ★
 20m. At the pillar splitting the low roof climb the wall to the friable bulge. Take this direct.
 F.A.
- 8. **Qu'est-ce Que Tu Fais** **7a** ★★
 25m. Pull out of the cave (hard) to gain a tufa. Climb the pocketed wall trending rightwards to an easier finish
 F.A.
- 9. **Route 9** **7a+** ★★
 25m. Take the right side of the cave to get established on the wall (crux). Continue passing a small roof and on up the pleasant slab above.
 F.A.
- 10. **Route 10** **6c** ★
 25m. Start in the bushes and climb a steeply to gain the wall. Go up and then left to below the smooth headwall which is climbed on it's left side on perfect rock.
 F.A.
- 11. **Escalibada** **6c** ★
 25m. The alternative finish to the previous route straight up the centre of the smooth headwall.
 F.A.
- 12. **Route 12** **6c** ★
 25m. Start slightly higher up the main path and climb the grey wall to below a groove in the headwall. Climb this.
 F.A.
- 13. **Route 13** **6b+** ★
 20m. Just before the lower cave climb the bulging wall to gain slabbier rock above.
 F.A.

Sector Cueva - Lower

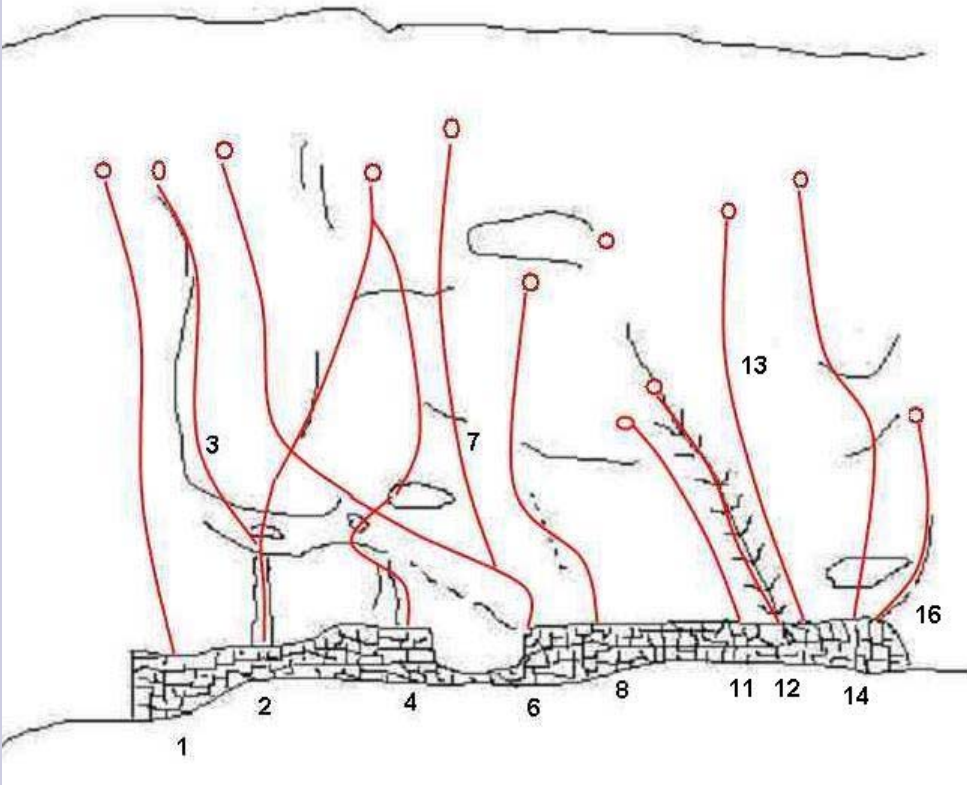
The lower cave has a thin groove running up the edge of the left wall. To the right there is a lower roof hiding behind a tree.



- | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|-----|
| 3. Carnicero de Castelnovo | <input type="text"/> | 8a+ | ★★ |
| 30m. Follow Arcadia to the top of the tufa's then continue left below the roof line until it's possible to pull directly up the wall.
F.A. | | | |
| 4. Abracadabra, Kaka de Kabra | <input type="text"/> | 7c+ | ★★★ |
| 30m. Start to the right and climb tufas to the roof. Move left until it's possible to gain a hole out to the right. Swing right from this to reach another larger hole. Pull back left and then right until gaining the final part of the flake on Arcadia. Finish at Arcadia's belay.
F.A. | | | |
| 5. Gimnasi | <input type="text"/> | 6b+ | ★ |
| 12m. Start in the back of the cave and climb the tufas to below the roof. Move left into Abracadabra. Lower off from the in-situ gear.
F.A. | | | |
| 6. Armando, Sique Desplomando | <input type="text"/> | 8a+ | ★★ |
| 30m. Start as for Gimnasi to the roof and continue left to join Arcadia. Continue leftwards following the obvious line in the roof until it's possible to pull straight up to the belay.
F.A. | | | |
| 7. Malsoñando | <input type="text"/> | 8c | ★★★ |
| 30m. Starting as for Armando, take a direct line through the roof to a belay right of the one for Arcadia.
F.A. | | | |
| 8. La Negra | <input type="text"/> | 8c+/9a | ★★★ |
| 20m. Climb to an obvious pocketed line through the steepest part of the roof.
F.A. | | | |
| 9. Mestizaje | <input type="text"/> | 8c+ | ★★★ |
| 30m. A link up of La Negra and finishing up Malsoñando.
F.A. Pedro Pons, February 2001 | | | |
| 10. | <input type="text"/> | ? | ★ |
| 15m. Start left of the corner and climb indifferent pockets across the roof to a belay on the lip.
F.A. | | | |
| 11. Troglobio | <input type="text"/> | 8b | ★★ |
| 15m. The pocketed line running parallel with the obvious corner, finishing half way across the roof.
F.A. | | | |
| 12. Benito Camela | <input type="text"/> | 7b | ★ |
| 15m. The corner line – rarely climbed?
F.A. | | | |
| 13. Matrix | <input type="text"/> | Project | ★ |
| 15m. A line of bolts 1 metre to the right up the very improbable roof. The line eases in it's upper section.
F.A. | | | |

Sector Cueva - Upper

The main cave is enclosed by the stone wall. It faces east and receives only the early morning sun and most the the roof remains in the shade all through the day. The cave is well sheltered from the wind and rain and will remain dry in even torential rain. It is characterized by smooth pockets ranging from one finger to your entire body. Much of the gear is in-situ on the harder lines so typically you only need a couple of quickdraws. The cave contains the most concentrated hard routes in the Costa Blanca region.



- 1. 8b? ★★★
18m. Start just inside the stone wall at the thread. Climb leftwards up the wall to join and finish up Armando.
F.A.
- 2. Arcadia 7c ★★★
30m. Take the twin tufas to a ok rest just inside the stone wall. Make hard moves through the roof to eventually gain better holds and a semi-rest. Pull out onto a flake and follow this to a final hard move to reach better holds. Pull out over the final roof to the belay. An awsome route.
F.A.

- 1. 7a ★
12m. Climb into the thin groove and follow this to the top.
F.A.
- 2. ?
12m. Starting as for the last route climb up the wall right of the groove to the same belay.
F.A.
- 3. Lobos 8a ★★
18m. Take the leaning wall to the right up a series of tufas to swing right into the roof on good holds. Pull up this on useless pockets to the belay. A very hard and short crux.
F.A.
- 4. Ave Roma 7b ★
15m. Start behind the tree and pull up loose rock to reach the roof. Cross this via the large hole and swing left and up to a belay in the cave above.
F.A.
- 5. Ave Eva 7b ★
15m. As for the last route until established over the roof. Follow a series of pockets leading rightwards into the same cave.
F.A.
- 6. Depil Man 7a+ ★
15m. Start under the right edge of the roof. Climb this using pockets and tufas to reach the ledge.
F.A.
- 7. Transnohando 8b ★★★
30m. Start under the small roof to the right. Climb this and continue up the soaring wall above, moving right and then left.
F.A.
- 8. Farrear y Corbardes 7b ★★★
30m. Start up the block on the right and traverse left along the lip of the roof. To a shallow groove. Once here climb the bulge to a good rest before tacking the steep wall above aiming for a diagonal crack. Follow this onto the edge of the wall to reach the belay.
F.A.
- 9. Perpetúan Mobile 7c ★★★
30m. Climb the bulges and pull up the the left-facing flake. At the top pull left to reach holds below the roof. Avoid this by stretching right to a crack and finish more easily to the belay.
F.A.
- 10. Larga, Dura y Caliente 8a+/8b ★★★
30m. Start slightly to the right and climb the wall which steepens all the way to the top. Finish at the belay of Perpetúan Mobile.
F.A.