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HELMETS **ARE NOT** OPTIONAL!

EMERGENCY
CONTACTS

While many efforts have been made to clean all climbing lines, rock continues to fall from time to time. Please wear helmets at all times while climbing and standing at the base of the climbs. Always be alert and on a look out for falling rock.

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BRIEF HISTORY and DEVELOPMENT

While Ras Al Khaima is an established UAE climbing destination, this particular wadi has been developed only since 2015. After the beloved Hatta Crag and Wave Wall became inaccessible, a group of climbers sought new sport climbing destinations within UAE. They discovered the towering wadi, in the area by mere accident. Its discovery coincided with the untimely passing of David Bowie. In his honor they called it Stardust. There have been persistent efforts since, of setting new lines and creating more opportunities for great climbing. The former UAE Bolting Fund and individual donations have generously supported the route setting efforts.

THE SETTING / LOCATION

Wadi Rahbeh [الرحبة], aka Stardust - after the goat farm, is approximately 30 m wide and 400 m long after the goat farm climbing area. Most families that leave at the entrance of the wadi are of the Rihab clan thus the local name for the wadi. There are rock walls on both sides with varied angles and breakages. The rock is limestone with varied levels of weathering. Occasional and unpredictable rock falls might occur so please be alert around the whole climbing area. Wearing helmets is imperative. There are opportunities for hiking into the widening and meandering canyon upstream. An hours walk or so towards the big wall in front of the wadi has a natural spring cherished by locals. The wadi is part of the Stardust hike listed in some UAE hiking guides. You could see a transmission tower on Jebel Jais (25.926836, 56.118219) from the climbing area floor. Also one can find a few shallow caves embedded into the canyon walls.

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APPROACH

1. Drive from anywhere in UAE or Oman and take E11 to small local turn at 25.930735, 56.057935 (after the sign for RAK Maritime City)
2. Follow the asphalt road forward.
3. Turn right when you reach the T-junction.
4. Follow the road and turn at second left. Go forward passing between two houses at the end of the paved road and go into the open wadi 25.927978, 56.066873
5. After 3 km you will reach a goat farm on your right. Proceed forward as you keep to the right side of the wadi.
6. Approx. 100 m after the goat-farm you will see Sector 1 on your right.
7. Park anywhere you feel comfortable (be aware of falling rocks)

WHAT IS SUITABLE FOR

- **Sport Climbing** (dominant set up of climbing)
- **Trad Climbing** (possible but not setup, the next wadi to the South, ***Gray Skull***, offers great many lines of various difficulties: (25.909868, 56.072456)
- **Vertical cave training and rope work** (Official outdoor training area for MECET caving club of Dubai)
- **Rappelling / Abseiling**
- **Hiking**
- **Camping** (best opportunities are in the both ends of the climbing area and a small section in the middle)

RESPECT THE SETTING

This is a very serene and tranquil place. We have discussed our presence with the goat farm owner. He has no objections of us being there provided we preserve the ambiance. The only exception is the presence of dogs. They must be kept away from the farm animals, on leash or better be left at home. We hope we keep the wadi clean and joyous.

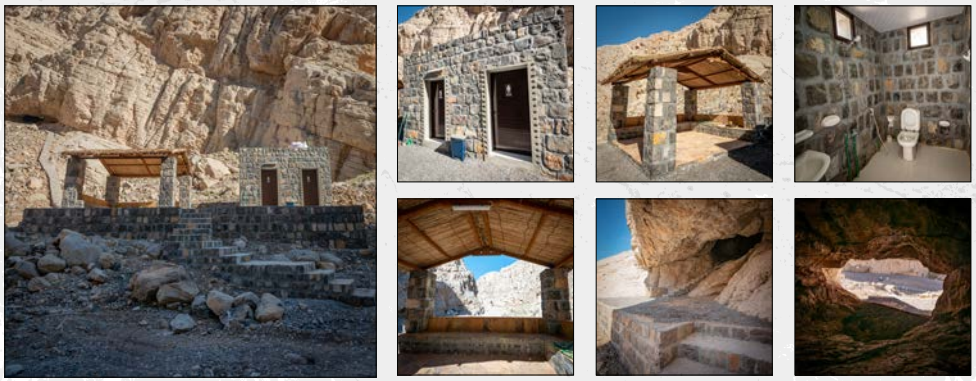
WEATHER AND THE ELEMENTS

Stardust is located in Ras Al Khaima approximately 0.5 km from the coast inland. As in all outdoor locations in UAE the optimum climbing season is from late September to mid-May. The comfortable camping season is October to March. Be aware that humidity is very unpredictable and might impact substantially the atmospheric experience.

The north wall (where all climbing routs are) goes in shade sometime at 10 – 11 AM or earlier in the winter. Some sectors and climbs orientation varies so there might be some differences of shady conditions from climb to climb before the whole wall is in shade. Although the rock dries up relatively fast, it might become more brittle after intense rain (those do come from time to time) so it is good practice to wait a day before climbing.

AMENITIES

At the end of 2018 Shaikh Saud (the ruler of Ras Al Khaima) decided to build facilities at the climbing area, upon the urging of the goat farm owner. In approximately one month, a group of stone masons and craftsmen built a state-of-the-art facility for the benefit of the wadi visitors. They feature western style toilets, water tank, showers, interior lighting controlled by motion detection and adjacent rest shed. There was a talk for installing a cell tower for better mobile phone coverage. Additionally, there are stairs leading up to a cavern above with installed artificial lighting inside and observation deck in front of it.



Google Mapping

Latitude: 25.926360

Longitude: 56.090104

WEATHER FORECAST [stardust relevent]

MOUNTAIN FORECAST Jabal Bil Ays

ACCUWEATHER Ras Al Khaima

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SECTORS

AFTER THE GOAT FARM

BEFORE THE GOAT FARM AND OPOSITE SIDE

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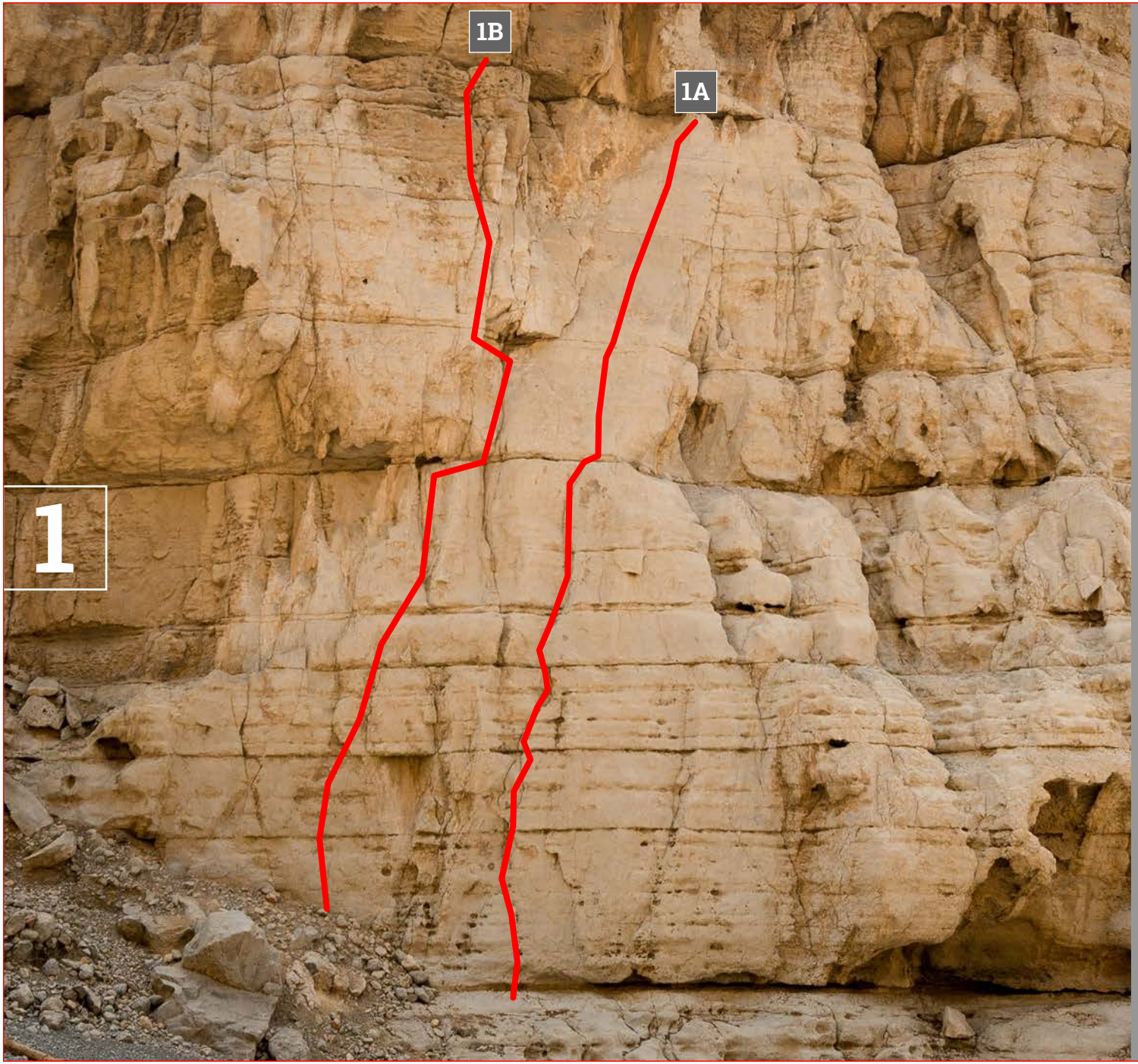

1A **Because We Are Young**
28m / 11 bolts **6a+**

1B **Youthful Indiscretion**
29m / 13 bolts **6a+**

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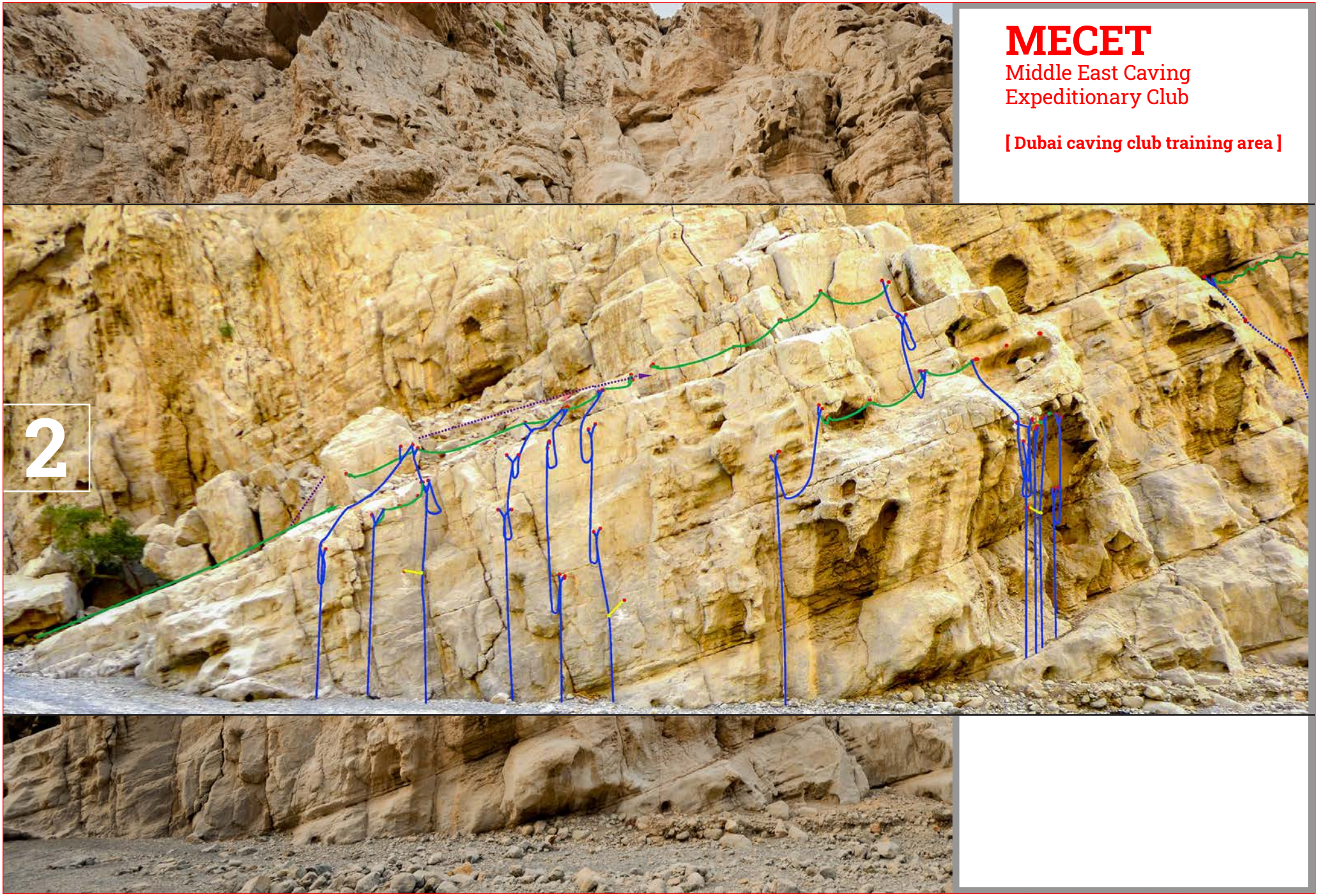
MECET

Middle East Caving
Expeditionary Club

[Dubai caving club training area]



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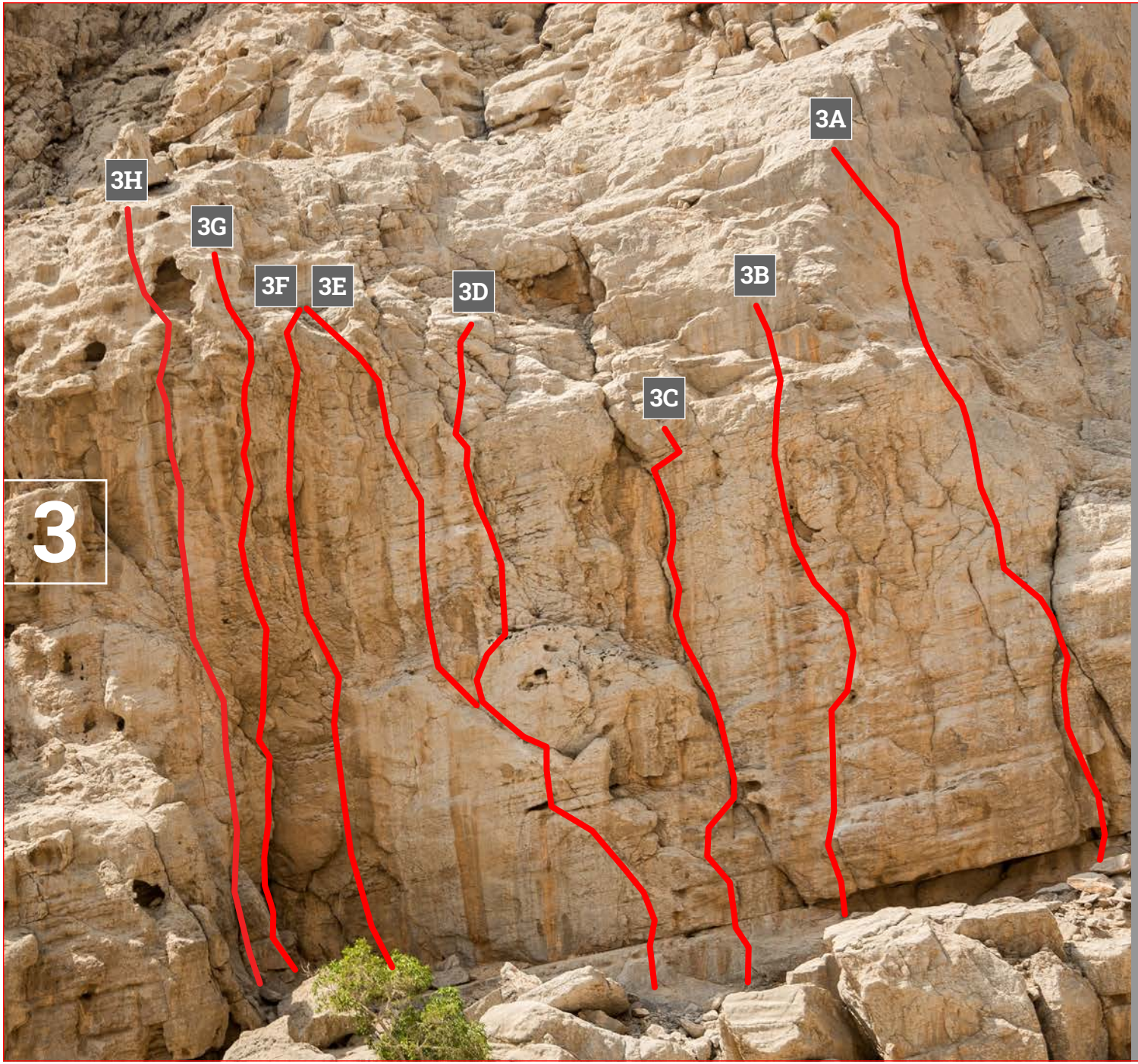

3A **Noctiluca Scintillans**
32m / 14 bolts **6b+**

3B **Elle a Deux Trous**
28m / 10 bolts **6c+**

3C **The Right Choice**
20m / 9 bolts **6b+**

3D **Relentless Life**
20m / 11 bolts **6b+**

3E **Deviation d'un trou à l'autre**
22m / 10 bolts **6c**

3F **Ground Control**
22m / 11 bolts **7b**

3G **Sky Control**
26m / 11 bolts **7b+**

3H **Hang On to Yourself**
27m / 13 bolts **7a+**

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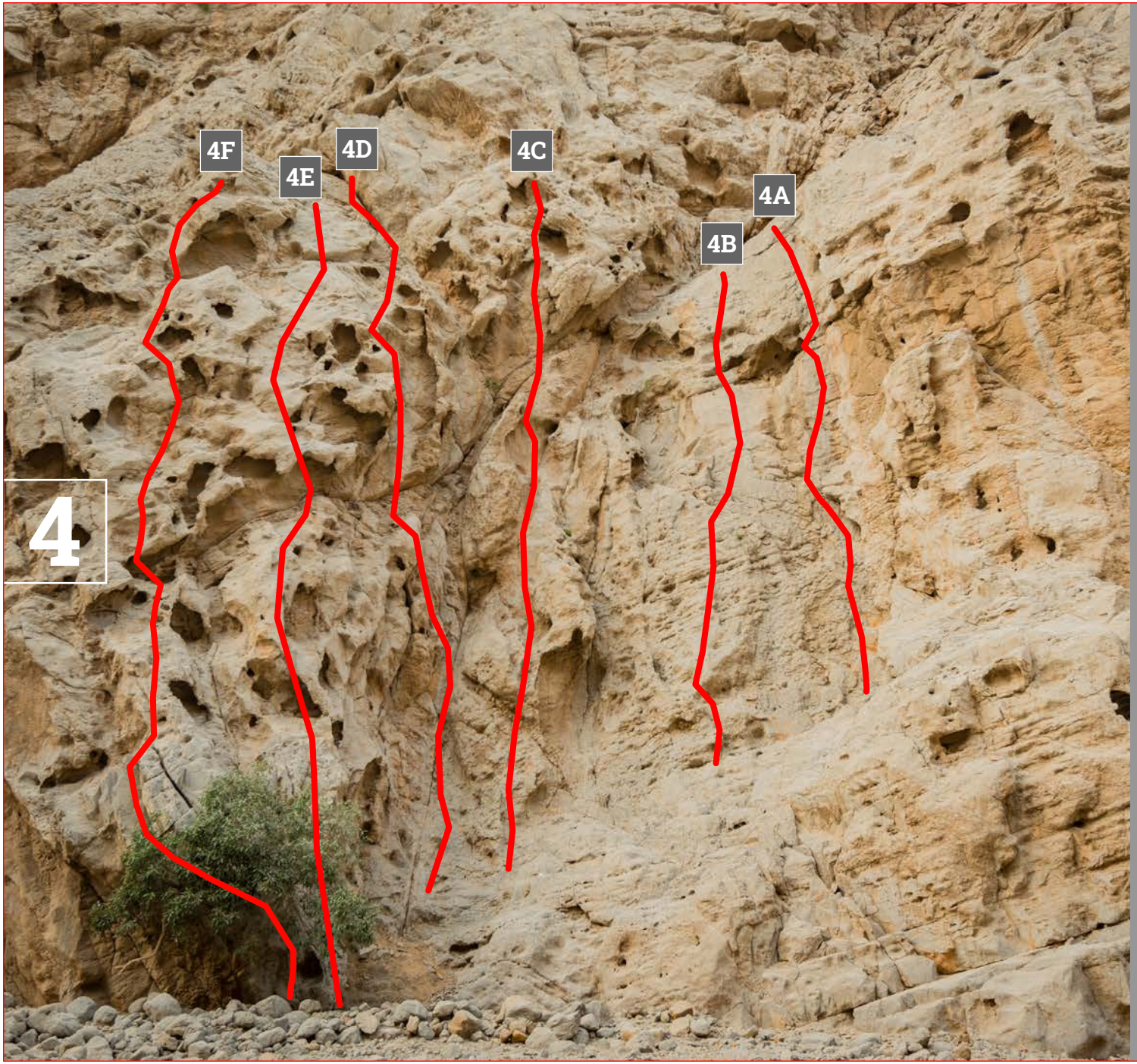

4A	**The Unforgiven**	
	20m / 11 bolts	6a
4B	**A Happy Land**	
	20m / 11 bolts	5b+
4C	**Cielo**	
	22m / 12 bolts	6a+
4D	**It's No Game**	
	30m / 11 bolts	5c+
4E	**Hug Me**	
	22m / 12 bolts	5c
4F	**Kiss Me**	
	29m / 12 bolts	5c

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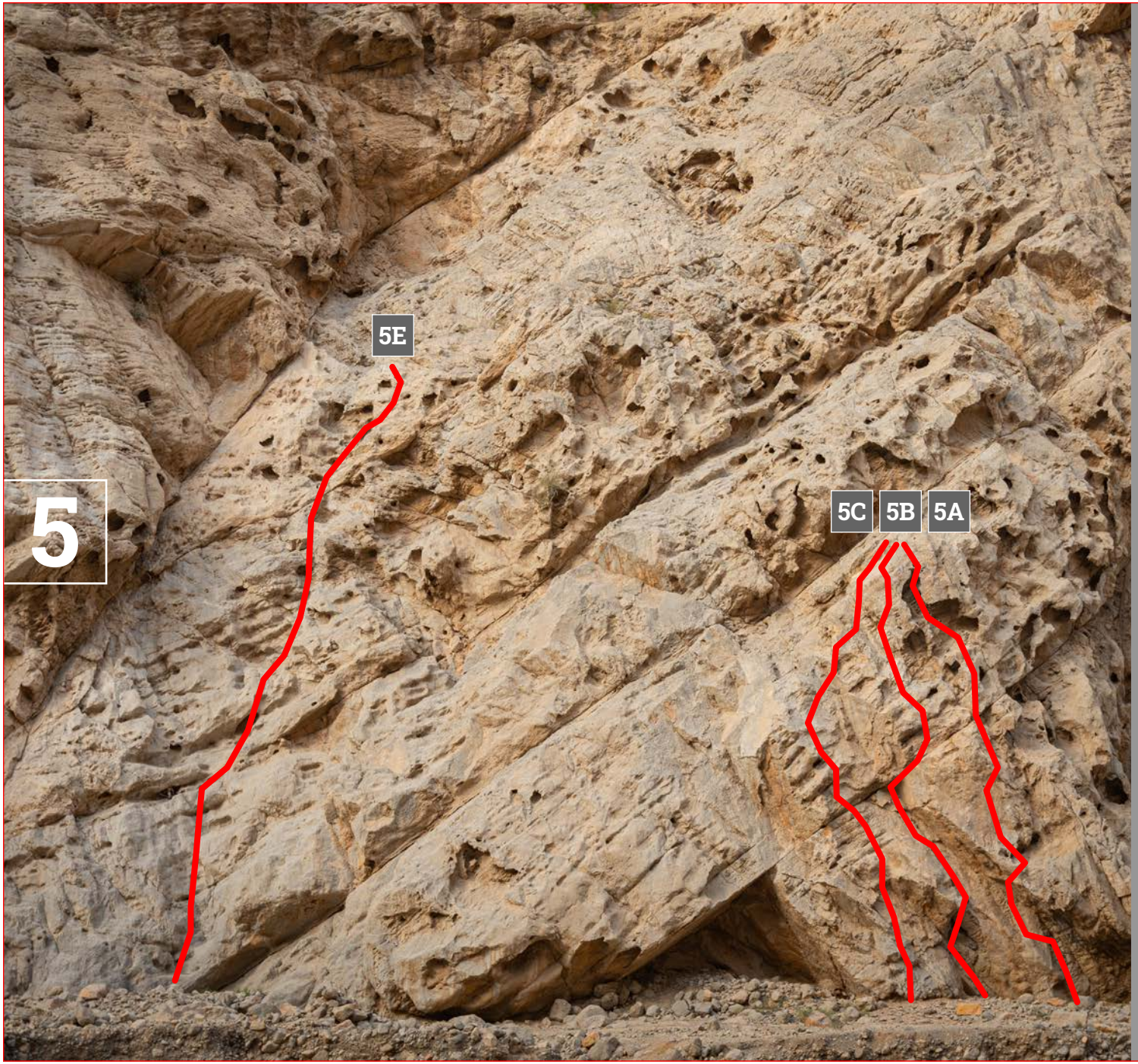

5A	**Briliant Adventure**	
	20m / 10 bolts	**6a+**
5B	**StarChuvak**	
	20m / 10 bolts	**6b**
5C	**Dodo**	
	20m / 10 bolts	**5c**
5E	**Fantastic Voyage**	
	33m / 10 bolts	**5b**

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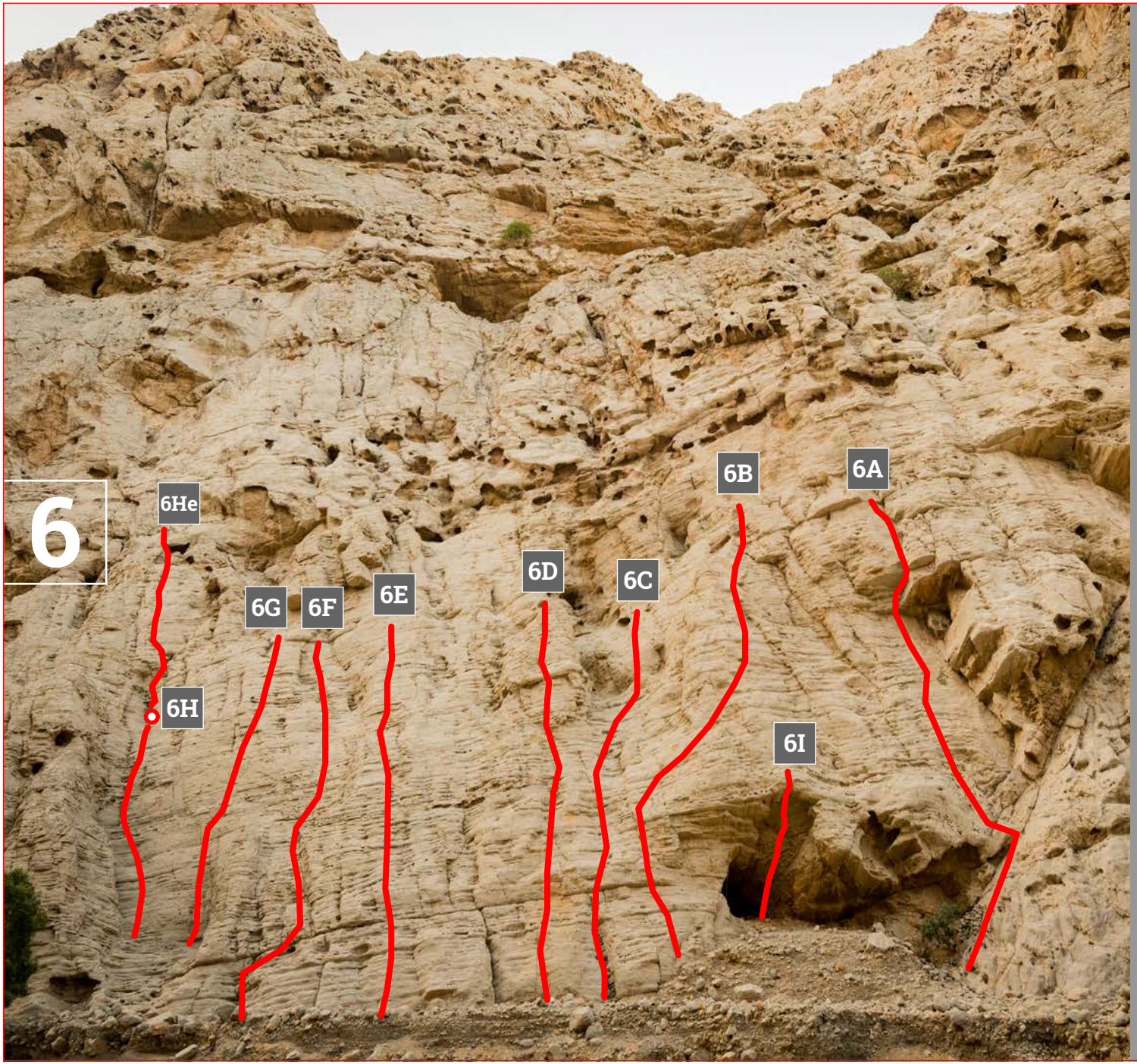

6A	**Velvet Goldmine**	
	33m / 13 bolts	6b
6B	**Dancing Dust**	
	30m / 13 bolts	5b+
6C	**Volare**	
	25m / 11 bolts	5b+
6D	**Rising Potential**	
	30m / 11 bolts	5a
6E	**Absolute Beginners**	
	26m / 14 bolts?	4b
6F	**Follow the Rhythm**	
	24m / 10 bolts	4c
6G	**It All Comes Down**	
	25m / 11 bolts	5c+
6H	**Tango Lessons**	
	25m / 8 bolts	4c
6He	**Tango Lessons (p2)**	
	28m / 11 bolts	5a+
6I	**Prettiest Star Alexandra**	
	12m / 7 bolts	7a/+

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7A **Let's Dance**
(beginning of multi-pitch)
29 m / 11 bolts **5b+**

7B **Veni Vidi Vici**
20 m / 8 bolts **6b**

7C **Never Let Me Down**
(beginning of multi-pitch)
29 m / 11 bolts **6a**

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7A **Life on Mars** 5a+
30 m / 10 bolts
7B **Project**

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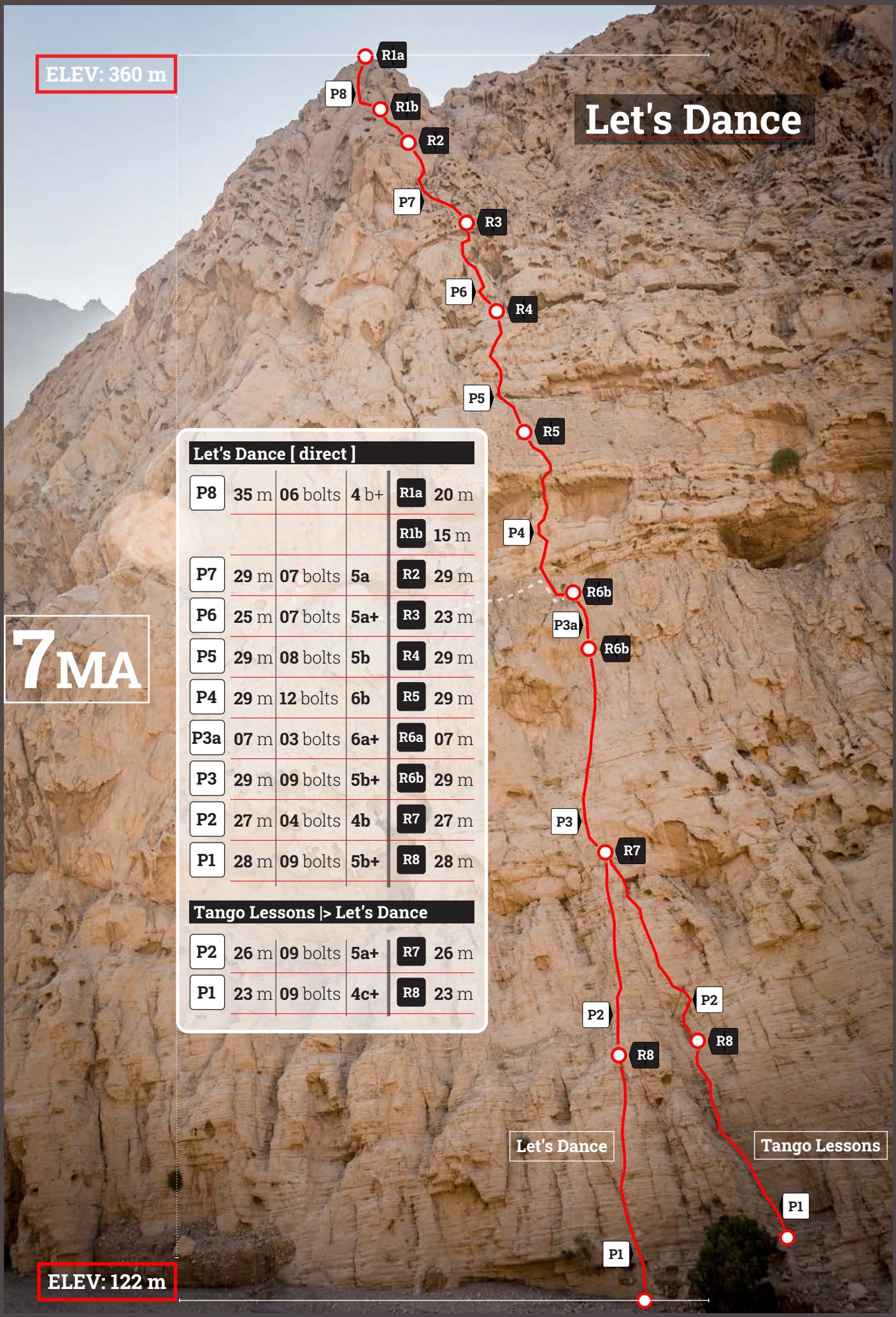

Let's Dance [direct]

P8	35 m	06 bolts	4 b+	R1a	20 m
				R1b	15 m
P7	29 m	07 bolts	5a	R2	29 m
P6	25 m	07 bolts	5a+	R3	23 m
P5	29 m	08 bolts	5b	R4	29 m
P4	29 m	12 bolts	6b	R5	29 m
P3a	07 m	03 bolts	6a+	R6a	07 m
P3	29 m	09 bolts	5b+	R6b	29 m
P2	27 m	04 bolts	4b	R7	27 m
P1	28 m	09 bolts	5b+	R8	28 m

Tango Lessons |> Let's Dance

P2	26 m	09 bolts	5a+	R7	26 m
P1	23 m	09 bolts	4c+	R8	23 m

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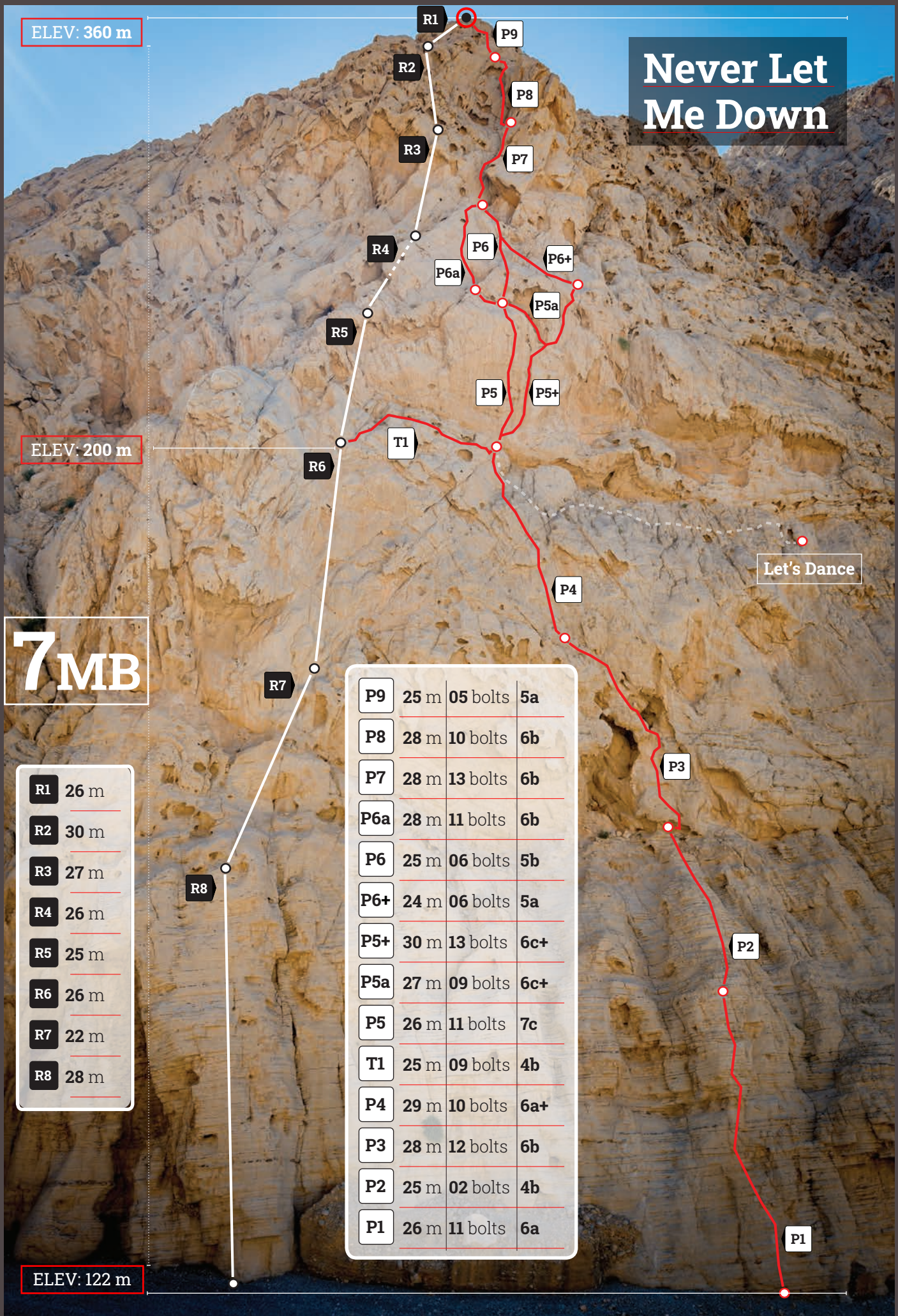
Top Elev: 367 m



R1	26 m	
R2	30 m	
R3	27 m	
R4	26 m	
R5	25 m	
R6	26 m	
R7	22 m	
R8	28 m	

P9	25 m	05 bolts	5a
P8	28 m	10 bolts	6b
P7	28 m	13 bolts	6b
P6a	28 m	11 bolts	6b
P6	25 m	06 bolts	5b
P6+	24 m	06 bolts	5a
P5+	30 m	13 bolts	6c+
P5a	27 m	09 bolts	6c+
P5	26 m	11 bolts	7c
T1	25 m	09 bolts	4b
P4	29 m	10 bolts	6a+
P3	28 m	12 bolts	6b
P2	25 m	02 bolts	4b
P1	26 m	11 bolts	6a

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8A **Little Wonder**
35m / 16 bolts **6a+**

8B **Someone Up There Likes Me**
34m / 13 bolts **6a**

8C **Magic Dance**
20m / 10 bolts **6c+**

8Dr **Thunderbolt (right finish)**
28m / 14 bolts **6b+**

8Dl **Thunderbolt (left finish)**
28m / 14 bolts **6c**

8E **The Man Who Sold the Bolts**
25m / 11 bolts **6b+**

8F **One Bolted Over the Cuckoo's Nest**
31m / 13 bolts **6a+**

8G **Under the God**
30m / 16 bolts **6c**

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9A Cactus
(beginning of multi-pitch - use long slings/draws to reduce friction)
35m / 13 bolts **6a**

9B Candidate
29m / 11 bolts **5c+**

9C Everybody Loves Sunshine
(beginning of multi-pitch)
28m / 13 bolts **6a+**

9D Everything's Alright
26m / 10 bolts **5c+**

9E Get Real
28m / 8 bolts **4c**

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R1	26 m		
R2	27 m		
R3	28 m		

9M

P1	35 m	13 bolts	6a
P1*	28 m	13 bolts	6a+
P1#	28 m	08 bolts	4c
P2	26 m	08 bolts	5a+
P2*	25 m	09 bolts	5b
P3*	24 m	04 bolts	5a
P3a	38 m	16 bolts	6b
P3b	36 m	14 bolts	6a+
P3c	34 m	14 bolts	6c
T1	20 m	06 bolts	4a

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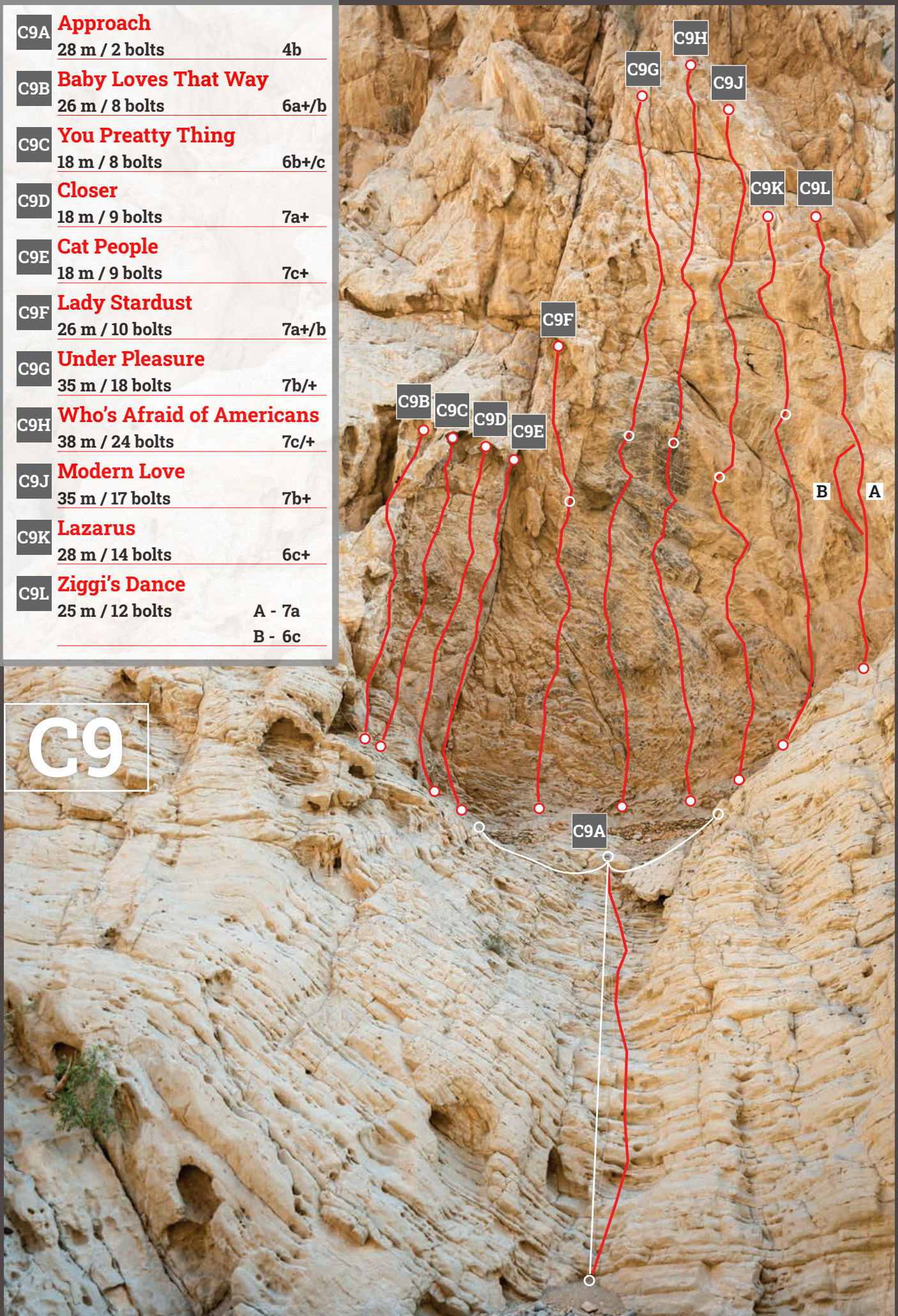

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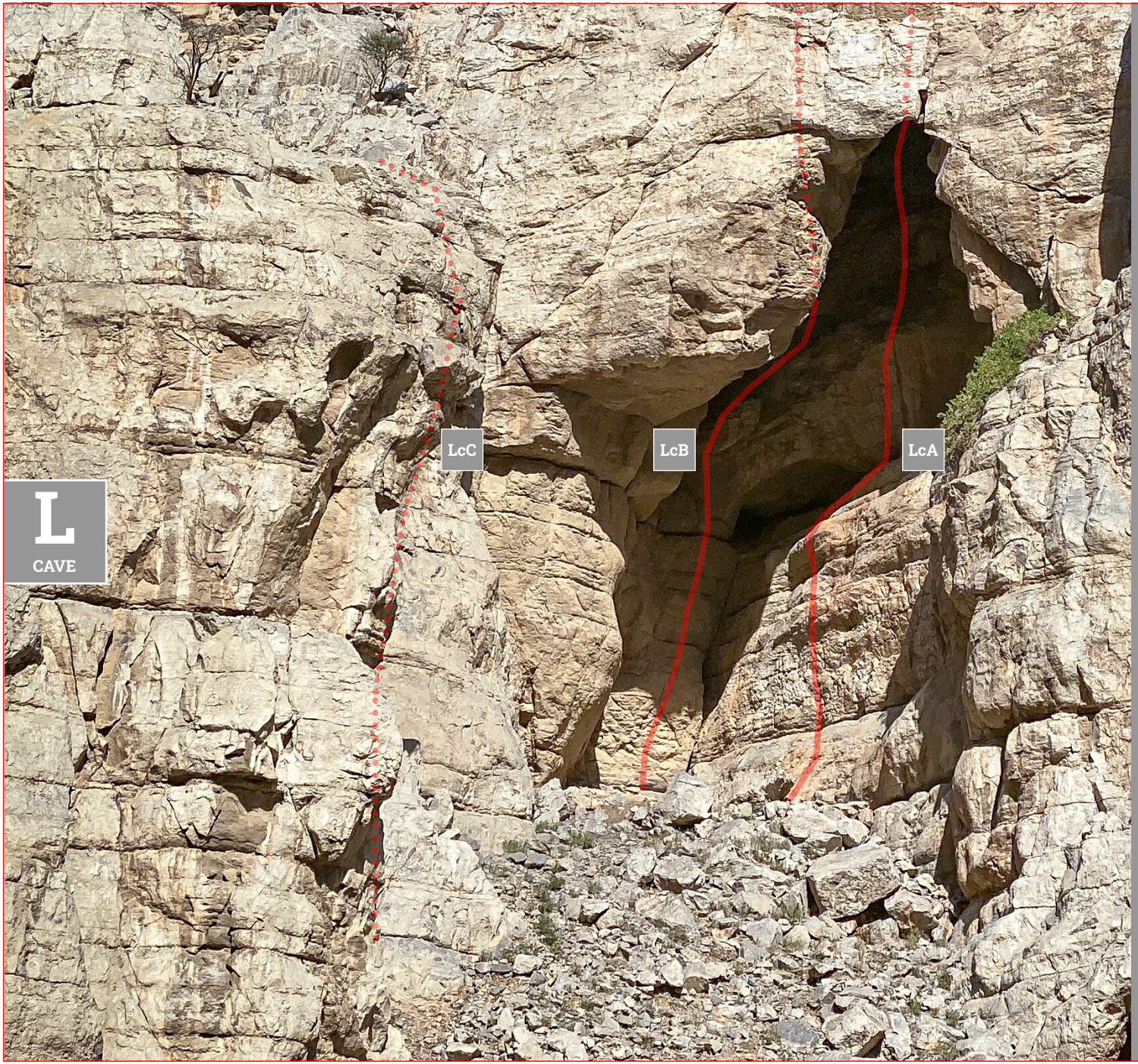

LcA **Project**

LcB **Project**

LcC **Project**

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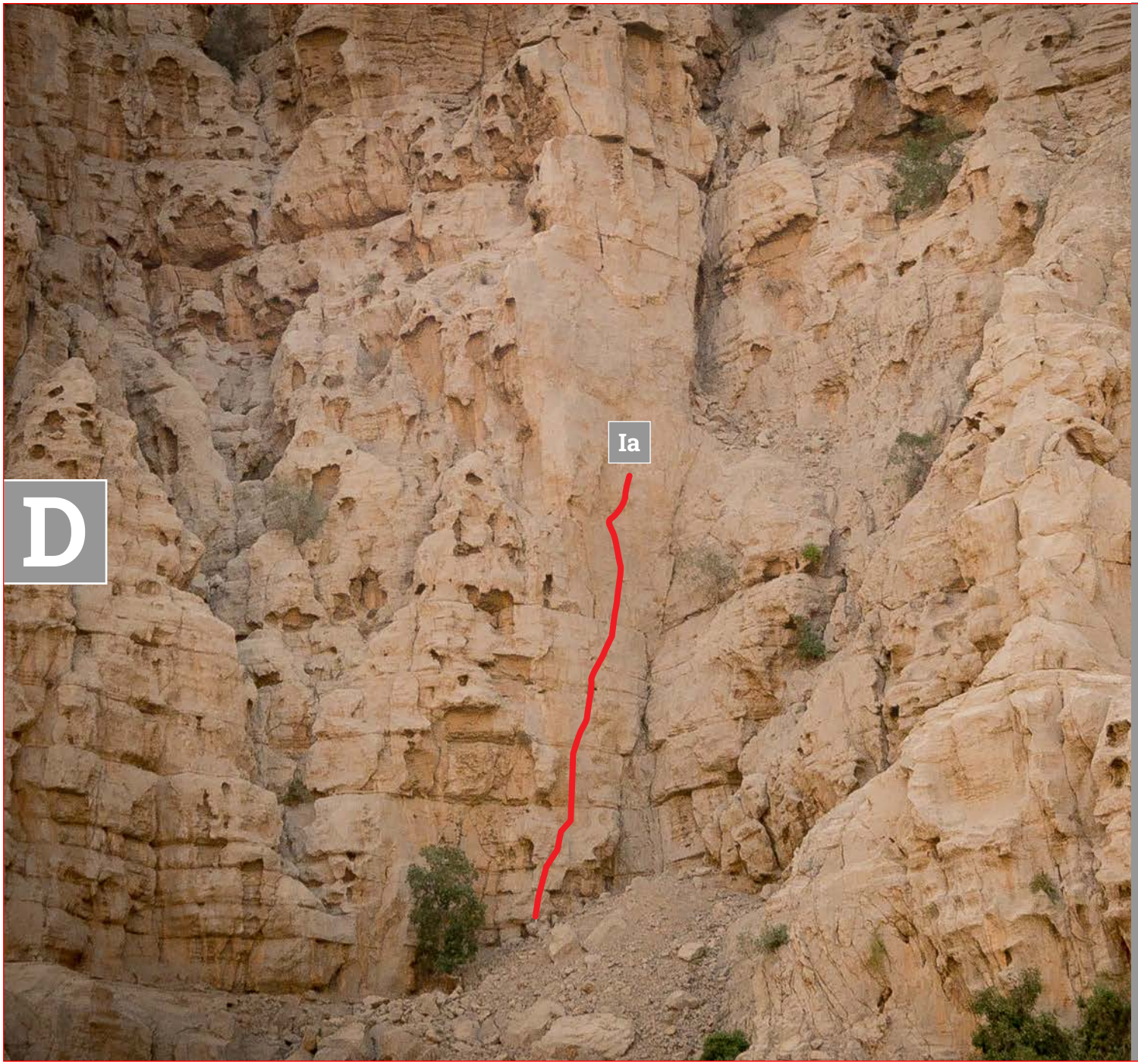

Ia **Souffler n'est pas jouer**

(needs 6 long quickdraws)

37m / 18 bolts **7a**

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LIST OF CLIMBS [59/6]

GRADE 4

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Absolute Beginners	4b	6
Follow the Rhythm	4c	6
Get Real	4c	9
Tango Lessons	4c	6

GRADE 5

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Rising Potential	5a	6
Life on Mars	5a+	7
Tango Lessons (p2)	5a+	6
Fantastic Voyage	5b	5
Volare	5b+	6
Dancing Dust	5b+	6
A Happy Land	5b+	4
Let's Dance	5b+	7
Dodo	5c	5
Hug Me	5c	4
Kiss Me	5c	4
Candidate	5c+	9
Everything's Alright	5c+	9
It All Comes Down	5c+	6
It's No Game	5c+	4

GRADE 6

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Cactus	6a	9
Never Let Me Down	6a	7
Someone Up There Likes Me	6a	8
The Unforgiven	6a	4
Because We Are Young	6a+	1
Briliant Adventure	6a+	5

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LIST OF CLIMBS continued

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Cielo	6a+	4
Everybody Loves Sunshine	6a+	9
One Bolted Over the Cuckoo's Nest	6a+	8
Youthful Indiscretion	6a+	1
Little Wonder	6a+	8
Baby Loves That Way	6a+/b	C9
StarChuvac	6b	5
Velvet Goldmine	6b	6
Veni Vedi Vici	6b	7
You Preatty Thing	6b+	C9
Noctiluca Scintillans	6b+	3
Relentless Life	6b+	3
The Right Choice	6b+	3
The Man Who Sold The Bolts	6b+	8
Thunderbolt (right finish)	6b+	8
Under the God	6c	8
Deviation d'un trou à l'autre	6c	3
Thunderbolt (left finish)	6c	8
Elle a Deux Trous	6c+	3
Lazarus	6c+	C9
Magic Dance	6c+	8

GRADE 7

Souffler n'est Pas Jouer	7a	I
Ziggi's Dance	7a	C9
Closer	7a+	C9
Prettiest Star Alexandra	7a/+	6
Hang On to Yourself	7a+	3
Lady Stardust	7a+/b	C9

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LIST OF CLIMBS continued

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Ground Control	7b	3
Under Pleasure	7b/+	C9
Modern Love	7b+/c	C9
Sky Control	7b+	3
Who's Afraid of Americans	7c/+	C9
Cat People	7c+/8a	C9

MULTI-PITCH

Everybody Loves Sunshine	5a	9M
Cactus - Left (CL)	6c	9M
Cactus - Center (CC)	6a	9M
Cactus - Right (CR)	6b+	9M
Let's Dance	6b	7MA
Never Let Me Down	7c	7MB
(variant)	6c+	

LINK TO DAVID BOWIE SONG NO DAVID BOWIE REFERENCE

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EMERGENCY CONTACTS

MEDICAL

RAK Hospital, Ras Al Khaima | Emergency Room

Dist: **32 km (31 min)** Ph: **+97172225555**

GPS: **25.768767, 55.976354**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> RAK Hospital

Saqr Hospital, Ras Al Khaima

Dist: **32.2 km (31 min)** Ph: **+97172223666**

GPS: **25.770278, 55.976589**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> Saqr Hospital

Al Zahrawi Hospital, Ras Al Khaima

(Private hospital, general services)

Dist: **32 km (31 min)** Ph: **+97172288544 / +97172288141**

GPS: **25.802432, 55.975145**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> Al Zahrawi Hospital

Obeid Allah Hospital, Ras Al Khaima

Dist: **24.3 km (28 min)** Ph: **+9712465500**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> Obeid Allah Hospital

NATIONAL AMBULANCE

Ph: **8004367677**

MOUNTAIN RESCUE

CIVIL DEFENSE

Ph: **997**

SECURITY

POLICE

Ph: **999 – 998**

GENERAL

FIRE (CIVIL DEFENSE)

Ph: **997**

ANIMAL WELFARE

RAK Animal Welfare Center, Ras Al Khaima

Dist: **61.6 km (47 min)** Ph: **+971563576029**

GPS: **25.650377, 55.777212** **URL: https://www.rakawc.com/**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> RAK Animal Welfare Center

FOOD / SUPERMARKET

RAK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY AL RAMS BRANCH

Dist: **14.4 km (17 min)** GPS: **25.869556, 56.016758**

GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS --> RAK CO-OPPERATIVE

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A Suggested Users' Guide for Stardust.

Stardust currently stands as the most visited climbing crag in the UAE, which was exactly the intention of the UAE Bolting Fund: To find a crag in the UAE that had potential for many routes, of many different grades, for the community to enjoy. We are glad that we found it and we are thankful to the few who have put their time, energy, and money into developing Stardust into what it has become.

With this growing popularity, Stardust is also facing new challenges. It is our common and individual responsibility to mitigate these issues. If you come to Stardust to enjoy its magic, you are responsible for preserving the magic too.

This users' guide is based on PRINCIPLES. "Principle: a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior or for a chain of reasoning."

THE PRINCIPLES ARE: BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE RESPECTFUL.

These are not rules, but rather an appeal to each visitor to use their common sense, to learn about climbing safety, to adopt a respectful climbing and camping etiquette and to become positive members of the UAE climbing community.

BE SAFE

1 - Learn, practice and teach safe climbing techniques. You, your partner and all the climbers around you will benefit from it. If you don't do it for you, do it for the rest of us. A severe accident at the crag will jeopardize the access to climbers to this area.

2 - Share positive recommendations for safety. If you see someone being unsafe, kindly suggest a safer way of doing things. If someone suggests a safer way to you, listen up and take mental notes. There are many right ways, try to find the safest.

3 - Life savers for Stardust:

a. Wear a helmet (leaders, belayers, spectators). One of the leading causes for rock climbing fatalities is trauma to the head, which can be greatly mitigated by wearing a helmet, especially during a head-first fall or due to rock fall (which is common at this crag).

b. Bring the right equipment. Make sure your rope is long enough and you have enough draws (some climbs at Stardust are longer than your usual 30m13bolt sport route).

c. Partner-check and self "double-check" before starting the climb, at anchor, and during lowering/rappel.

4-Check weather forecasts. Have emergency numbers with you (they are included at the end of the topo), have an action plan, carry a first aid kit, and learn/update your first aid techniques.

5-Learn/refresh rescue and self-rescue techniques for climbers, especially if you are venturing into the multi-pitch territory.

BE KIND

1 - Look around you. You are not alone at Stardust and each individual at the crag deserves to have a positive experience.

2 - Don't hog routes. You may not be the only one working on that project. Communicate and share with others.

3 - Keep noise levels down during the day. Climbers and belayers need to clearly communicate commands to each other. If you like a soundtrack for your send, ask around if it is ok to have music at a low volume.

4 - Keep quiet hours at night. Climbers need to rest, locals and their goats need calm, and wildlife lives here. You are a guest to a public natural space, be a good guest.

5 - Share Stardust! Bring your friends and new climbers, just take it upon you to pass these principles along to them, so Startdust and the UAE climbing community keep on thriving.

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BE RESPECTFUL

1 - Respect nature or go home. Bring your own firewood, avoid littering, and use the restrooms.

2 - Respect local residents. They have agreed to us developing their land for our recreational use and have even provided some infrastructure for our benefit and comfort. They deserve nothing but our utmost respect: Keep noise levels down, observe quiet hours at night, and avoid disturbing their goats (keep dogs on leash if they can't help themselves). DO NOT turn Stardust into a "party campsite". The owners of the land have opened their doors to climbers, in return we promised to respect the place. These doors can easily close if we betray that agreement.

3 - Respect infrastructure. Avoid pitching your tent in the gazebo/common area. Conserve water (short showers, effective dishwashing). Pack-out your own trash bags (the canister in place is only for small items, it is not meant for general garbage collection). Keep the bathrooms clean.

4 - Respect the developers' vision. Check in with them before bolting. Use the crag for climbing and caving practice only. Stardust is not meant to be a campsite for large groups that just want to hang out (nothing wrong with that, this is just not the place).

5 - You are encouraged to contribute in whatever way you can: Donating funds or engaging in community service. Be part of good Karma.

*All of the original and current developers of Stardust have either contributed to or agreed with the following publication.

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE UAE CLIMBING COMMUNITY FOR THEIR ENTHUSIASM, COMRADERY AND HAPPY VIBES.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

LT	**Ludmil Trenkov**	**TG**	**Theo Giani**
KN	Khajag Nazarian	**IM**	Ioana Maris
OS	Oliver Schwesinger	**SJ**	Sergio Juarez
EC	Eric Claudel	**AM**	Alberto Michelotti
FA	Francesco Arneodo	**FG**	Federico Galbieri
IL	Ivan Laskiv	**VM**	Vlad D Mazure
MN	Magdalena Martina Nowak	**EW**	Emily Winchip
RL	Rob Low	**AP**	Adam Powell

Stardust Climbing Crag is

COMMERCE-FREE DESTINATION

supported by the climbing community.

We hope that remains so in perpetuity.

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