

A tall, jagged rock formation stands prominently on a rocky plateau. The rock is light-colored with some darker, possibly mineral-rich, veins. The background shows a vast, open landscape with rolling hills under a clear, bright blue sky. The overall scene is arid and rugged.

Le Reef

v 2.0

BRIEF HISTORY

Le Reef is the obvious rock wall right facing as observed from Al Hoota Rest House. The crag was envisioned as a climbing destination by Théo Giani, circa 2014. There were already two established crags at Al Sharaf, Oman – Birkat and Wall of Shadows. After some thorough planning and preparation, a team of UAE based bolters and climbers descended on the area during the month December 2015. In five days 14 new routes were established and a new crag was born. Over the years many more sport routes have been added and others are being set. The area offers a wide range of lines from 4b to 8b with the majority in the 5b to 6b range. The name suggests a resemblance to a reef, while the French phraseology refers to the myriad French and francophone initial route setters.

THE SETTING / LOCATION

The area is located in close proximity to Al Hoota Rest House at approximately 1900-meter elevation. Le Reef is a single limestone wall (approximately 150 m long) with North – North/East orientation with a wall incline of 65 – 90 degrees including a cave area in the center. The quality of the rock is good to excellent with rare rock falls. However, wearing helmets is highly recommended as in all climbing areas. All climbs are single pitch, as the height of the wall does not exceed 50 meters.

WHAT IS SUITABLE FOR

- **Sport Climbing** (only kind of route setup)
- **Rappelling / Abseiling**
- **Camping** (at the beginning at the approach, where the vista of the soundings of the surroundings is the most impressive)

WEATHER AND THE ELEMENTS

The weather is very season dependent. Generally, the air temperatures are 15 - 20 degrees lower than Bahla - the closest big urban center. In the winter months (January – March) temperatures can drop to 10°C, while in the summer they could go as high as 30°C. In the summer months (June – August) a predominant part of the wall is exposed to the sun during the day. In the winter months the Wall is in the shade during the daylight hours. The area experiences occasional storms and precipitation, all year round. The winds can reach high speeds in the winter, which could alter one's, perception of shade, sunshine and overall temperature.

APPROACH

D

Drive from anywhere in Oman to Al Hoota Rest House, near Bahla, Oman. At a point before The Land of the Moon | أرض القمر , Sharaf turn left into the obvious dirt road in front.



Beginning of the approach:

Lat: 23° 9' 11.06" N
Lon: 57° 25' 14.622" E
(23.1530722, 57.4207283)



Road turn:

Lat: 23° 9' 4.29" N
Lon: 57° 25' 21.042" E
(23.1511917, 57.4225116)



Front Walkdown:

Lat: 23° 9' 20.87" N
Lon: 57° 24' 57.18" E
(23.1557972, 57.415883)



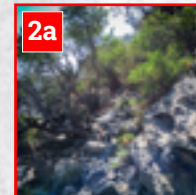
Front Walkdown Bottom:

Lat: 23° 9' 18.28" N
Lon: 57° 25' 6.708" E
(23.1550778, 57.41853)



Back Walkdown:

Lat: 23° 9' 20.88" N
Lon: 57° 24' 57.09" E
(23.1558, 57.4158583)



Back Walkdown Bottom:

Lat: 23° 9' 19.81" N
Lon: 57° 24' 58.26" E
(23.1555028, 57.416183)

After heading west from the parking spot, follow the immediate upper rim. 10-15 min into the walk look for obvious step down to the right. Continue in westward direction and move to the right until you reach the rocky rim. Walk until you see the first big break in the rock wall, which dips down to the base. This is the

beginning of the Front Walkdown. Scramble down following series of cairns until you reach the bottom and see the Le Reef sign. Start walking westward at the base of the wall.

To access the Back Walkdown continue westward on the upper end of the rim. Pass an obvious wade rock

channel end continue until you see the next obvious break in the rim. Continue scrambling down as you follow the occasional cairn to the base of the rock. Use caution and your best judgment. When at the base of the wall, head East to reach No More Sector (6) and beyond.

Google Mapping

Latitude: 23° 9' 19.878" N

Longitude: 57° 25' 1.95" E

Decimal Degrees
GPS

23.1555217
N 23 09.331

57.4172083
E 57 25.032

SECTORS



1



Welcome Wall

2

The Flats

3

Musketeers Wall

4

The Cave

5

The Plaza

6

No More Sector



1

Welcome Wall



1A	Gotama	25m / 12 bolts	6b
1B	Siddartha	25m / 12 bolts	6a+
1C	Run with the Flow	27m / 14 bolts	6a

2

The Flats



No climbs yet

3

The Musketeers Wall



3A	d'Artagnan's Revenge 22m / 10 bolts	5b
3B	The Three Musketeers 25m / 10 bolts	5b
3C	Crackling Fire 25m / 9 bolts?	5b+

4

The Cave



4A	Levre Majeure 25m / 12 bolts	6b
4B	Just Breathe 25m / 12 bolts	7b+
4C	Levre Inferieur (Project) 20m / 10 bolts	8a
4D	Shakti (Project) 20m / 10 bolts	8b
4E	Stairs of Happines 15m / 8 bolts	4b
4F	Origami 15m / 8 bolts	5a

5

The Plaza



5A	Denisa 22m / 11 bolts	5c+
5B	Le Big Mac 20m / 10 bolts	6b+
5C	Bulgarian Strudel 25m / 12 bolts	6b+
5D	Red Hawk 25m / 12 bolts	7a
5E	Diamonds are Forever 18m / 9 bolts	6a+
5F	Red Rabbit 18m / 9 bolts	6a+
5G	High on Crack 20m / 9 bolts	5c+
5H	Psycho Billy 26m / 11 bolts	6a+
5I	Adrenaline Shot 27m / 11 bolts	6a+

6

No More Sector



6A	There will be light 30m / 13 bolts	6a+
6B	Blue fingernails 25m / 12 bolts	5c+
6C	Mina Maria 25m / 10 bolts	5c+
6D	Illumination 30m / 14 bolts	6a+
6E	Step into the sunset 30m / 13 bolts	6a+
6F	Project 30m / 00 bolts	7a?

LIST OF CLIMBS [26]

NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
GRADE 4		

Stairs of Happines	4b	4
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GRADE 5

Crackling Fire	5a	3
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Origami	5a	4
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d'Artagnan's Revenge	5b	3
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The Three Musketeers	5b	3
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Blue Fingernails	5c+	6
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Denisa	5c+	5
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Mina Maria	5c+	6
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High on Crack	5c+	5
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GRADE 6

Run with the Flow	6a	1
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Adrenaline Shot	6a+	5
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Diamonds are Forever	6a+	5
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Illumination	6a+	6
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NAME	GRADE	SECTOR
Siddartha	6a+	1

Step into the Sunset	6a+	6
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Psycho Billy	6a+	5
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Red Rabbit	6a+	5
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There Will be Light	6a+	6
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Gotama	6b	1
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Levre Majeure	6b	4
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Le Big Mac	6b+	5
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Bulgarian Strudel	6b+	5
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GRADE 7

Red Hawk	7a	5
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Just Breathe	7b+	4
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GRADE 8

Levre Inferieur (Project)	8a	4
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Shakti (Project)	8b	4
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THE MAKING OF A CRAG


It was fortunate that the initial development efforts of Le Reef were captured in a short documentary, which could be found here: goo.gl/pYqZt7



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE UAE AND OMAN
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