



GREYSKULL (v02)

DISCLAIMER

This topo was developed to document existing and new sport routes. The authors of this topo could not verify the integrity of every single route reported here. As always, climbers are responsible for their own safety and are recommended to wear helmets all the time and always check the conditions of bolts / hangers / chains as they climb.

BRIEF HISTORY

The development of this beautiful area started long time ago (for UAE standards) with the first routes dating back (indicatively) to 2008.

The development, mostly led by a group of British trad climbers, **was unfortunately halted due to misunderstandings with locals**, who did not understand the intentions of the bolters and were afraid they would steal their honey, and disturb their goats. Since then much work has been done to repair relations. **Recently** (Feb 2017), **communications have been reestablished**. Locals have been very friendly and did not show any resentment for past bolting activities. **We still invite all climbers and bolters to behave responsibly and follow all the recommendations below.**

RESPECT THE AREA

This crag is one of the biggest sport climbing area in the UAE with potential for further development. Rock quality is generally better than in the neighboring wadi of Stardust. **Respect of the location and of the agreements with the locals are a key condition for the climbing community to keep enjoying the area.** We strongly recommend to:

- Keep **dogs away from farm animals and always on a leash** (or at home).
- **Do not leave any trash behind – and encourage other to behave likewise.**
- **Park only in the recommended area (see coordinates below)** and in any case outside the village and far from goat farm / houses on the left side of the wall.
- **Bolters: avoid bolting too close to the village.** Limit bolting activities to where sport routes already exist (East of sector A) or further into the Wadi. An old agreement with locals includes a voluntary ban on development of the impressive main headwall as you arrive at the crag. We recommend to stick to this.

GPS coordinates

- To the extent that it is possible, coordinate to **avoid big groups** of 4 or more cars (e.g., on whatsapp). If you see many climbers' cars as you arrive, try to park farther from the village / houses even if it requires a slightly longer approach.
- Should any local complain about your presence, kindly avoid arguing and accommodate for his / her request (which might include interrupting any climbing or bolting activity); the authors of this topo would greatly appreciate if you could **report any issue with the locals**, so that we can monitor the situation closely.

APPROACH

The approach is fairly simple with minimal offroad, accessible without 4x4. Coordinates are indicated at the bottom. From the parking area, the first sport routes are less than 5 min away.

WHAT IS SUITABLE FOR

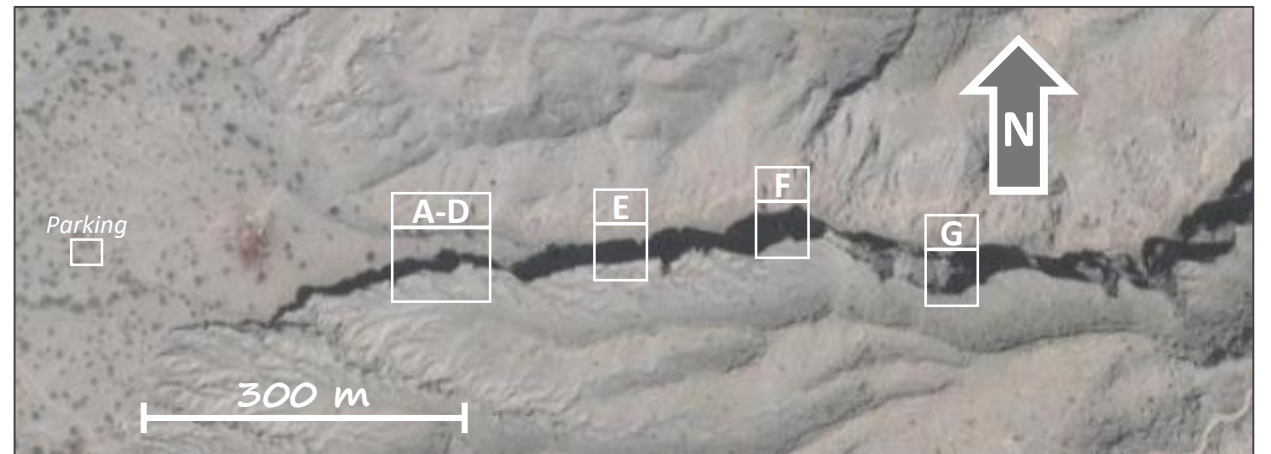
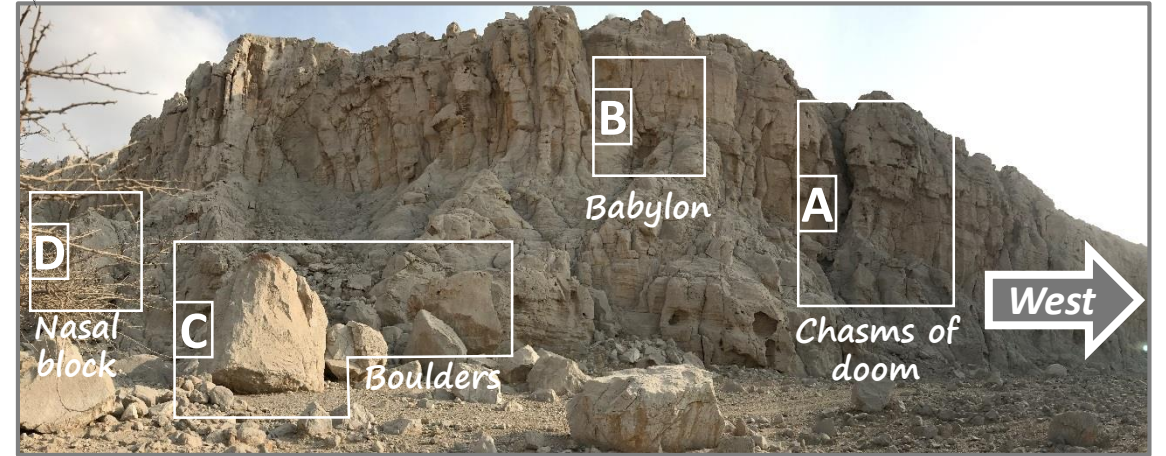
- **Sport climbing:** currently over 25 routes (on this topo) with massive potential for further development
- **Trad climbing:** indicatively 30-40 routes, not verified by the authors of this topo
- **Bouldering:** two boulders discovered and climbed to date (on this topo)
- Due to the possible issues with local population, **camping** in this area **is not recommended**. Numerous other camping areas can be found nearby, incl. Stardust
- Possibly other recreational outdoor activities such as hiking, caving training, etc. (not yet explored)

WHEATHER AND EXPOSURE

The wall is North facing pretty much throughout its entire length. As such, it is in the shade most of the day from mid October to mid April. Shade offered by the wall becomes minimal in warmer months and flies become abundant, thus making the experience less enjoyable from May through September. The most recent sector (The Italian Job) offers shade the whole day any time of the year.

Exit from main road:	25°54'26.1"N 56°03'34.0"E
Parking area:	25°54'33.7"N 56°03'56.2"E
Crag (Sector F - Cave)	25°54'35.5"N 56°04'20.8"E (25.909868, 56.072456)

SECTORS

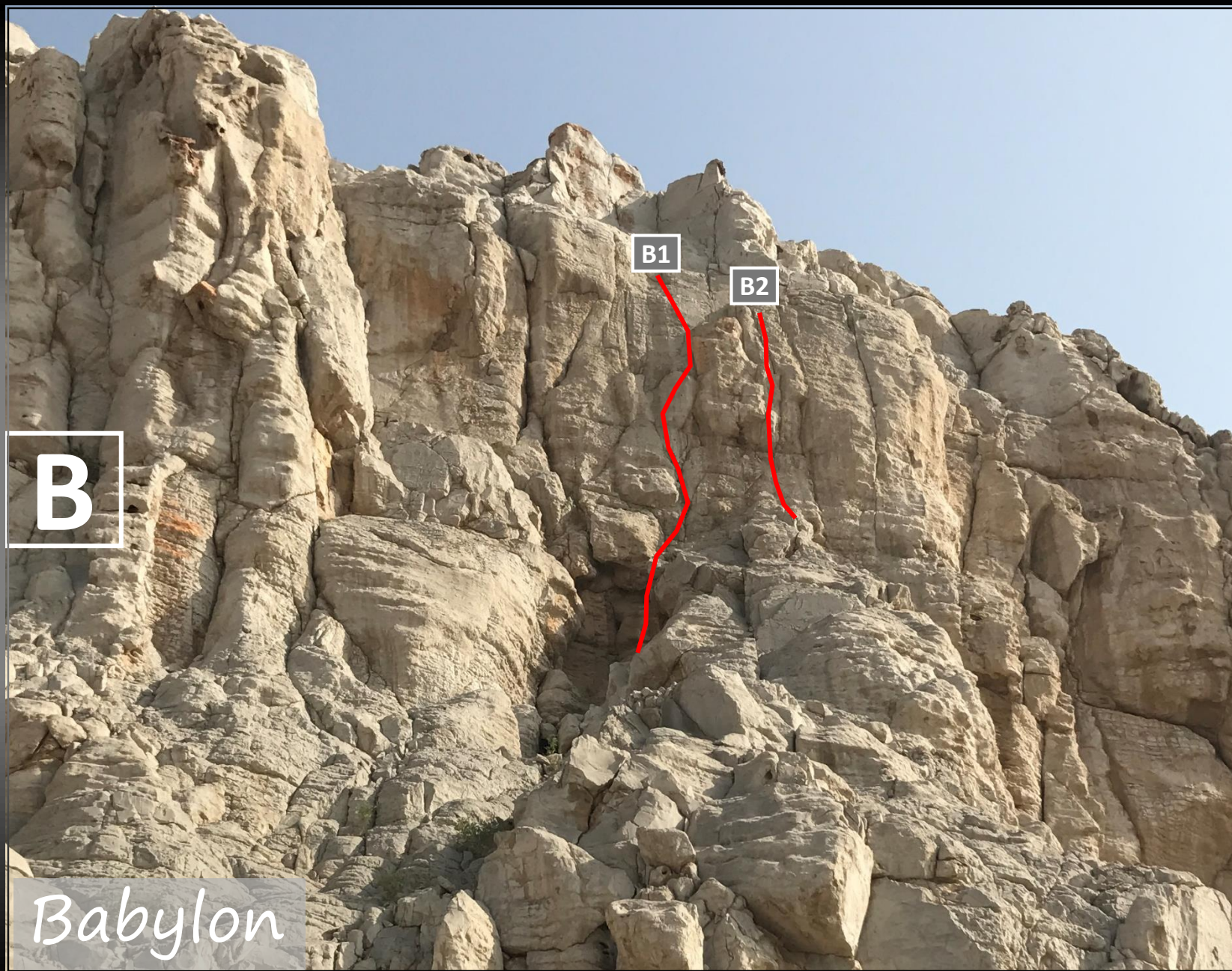




A

Chasms of doom

No bolted routes in this sector yet



B1 Midge fest

18m / ? Bolts

6a

B2 Atomic thumb

11m / ? Bolts

6c/+

Bolt integrity and anchor condition in this sector to be verified. One of the two routes has only 2 bolts (no anchor).

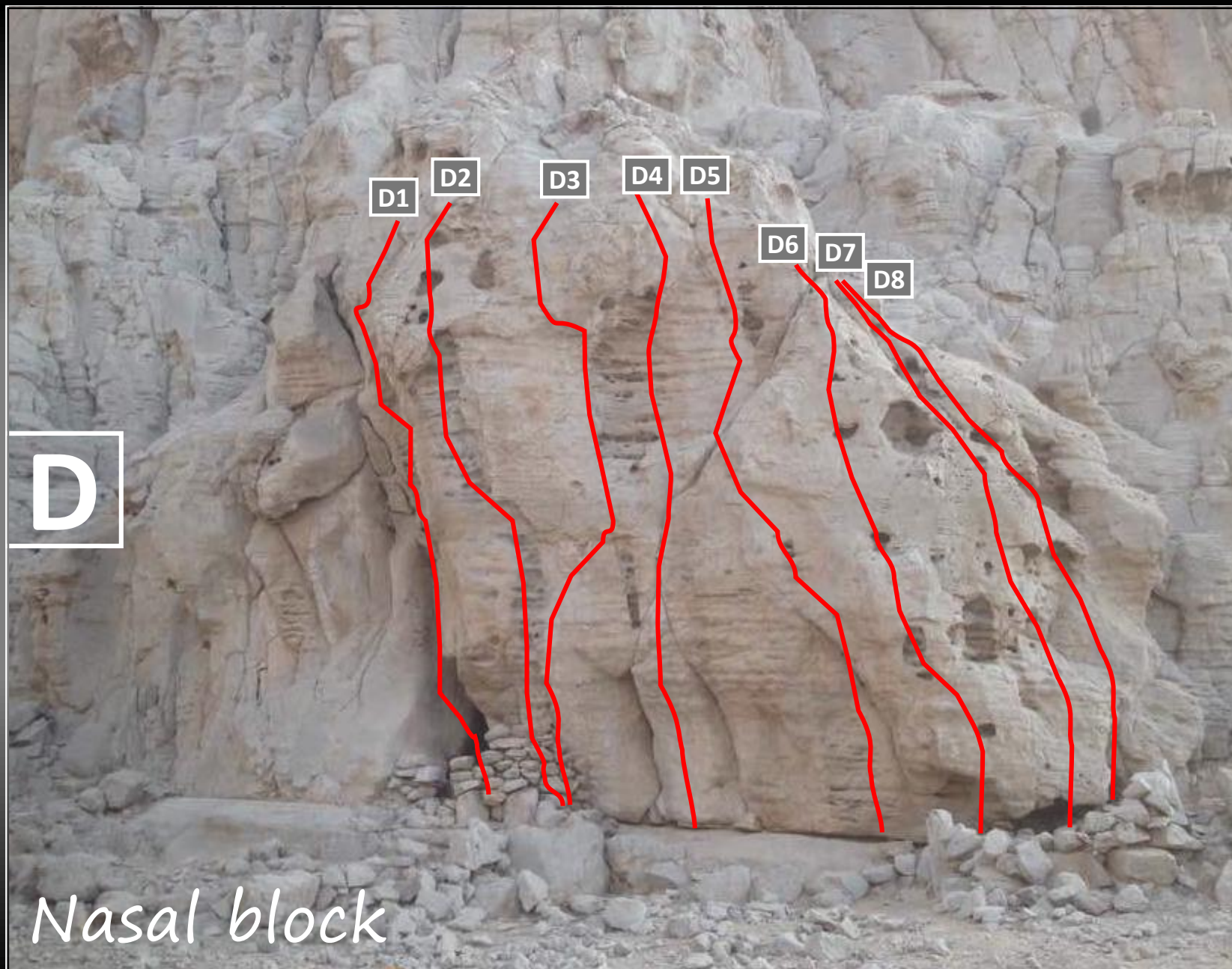


C

Boulders

Several bouldering problems exist – not yet documented





D1	Ocio	12m / 5 bolts	6a+
D2	Catarrh	12m / 5 bolts	5c
D3	Sinusitis	12m / 5 Bolts	6a
D4	Belay brothers	11m / 4 bolts	6b
D5	Nasal block	10m / 4 bolts	6a+
D6	Hazim	8m / 3 bolts	4
D7	Fahed	8m / 4 Bolts	4
D8	Talal	8m / 4 Bolts	3

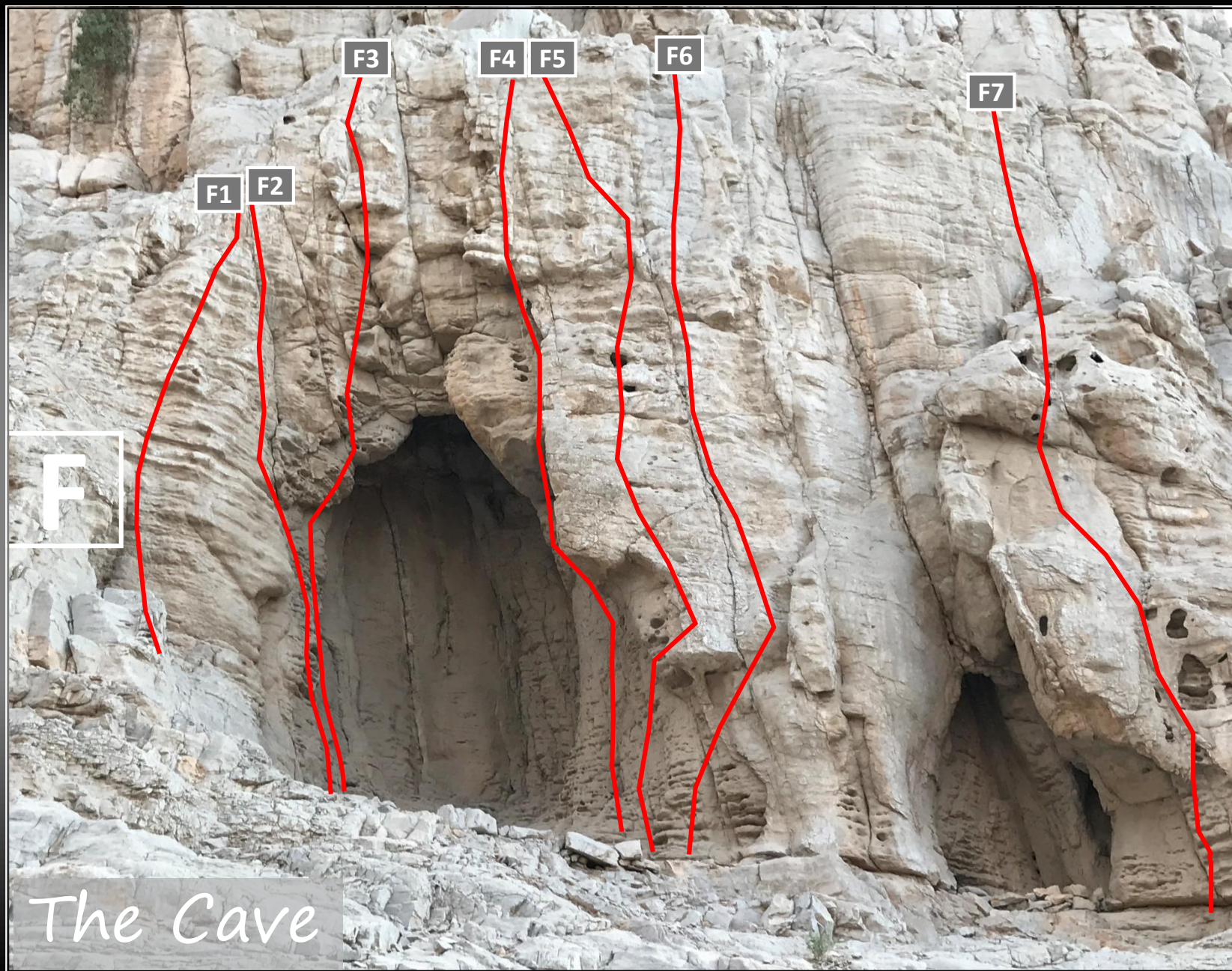


E1 Oranges Aren't the Only Fruit

25m / 8 Bolts

7b+/c

Bay of figurines



F1	Paul's route	12m / 7 bolts	5c
F2	Left wing	13m / 6 Bolts	6a+
F3	Il Corvo	20m / 8 bolts	6c
F4	Gatta selvatica	20m / 8 bolts	6b+
F5	Vespers	20m / 7 bolts	6b+
F6	Wicked weasel	20m / 6 bolts	6b
F7	Weasels ripped my flesh	18m / 8 Bolts	6a+



G

The Italian Job

G1 *Quindici più diciotto (2 pitches)*

L1: 18m / 6 bolts 6a+
L1+L2: 33m / 12 bolts 6b

G2 *Fenice (2 pitches)*

L1: 13m / 5 bolts 6a+
L1+L2: 32m / 15 bolts 6c+

G3 *Privet iz Rossii (2 pitches)*

L1: 15m / 5 bolts 6a
L1+L2: 32m / 12-13 bolts *WIP* 7c/+?

G4 *Sussurro*

15m / 6 bolts 5c

G5 *Service road*

(needs additional bolts and a chain)

18m / 4 bolts 4

G6 *Project (fully bolted)*

18m / 7 bolts 7c?

*This sector is still under development with several routes yet to be fully cleaned. Rock falls from 30+ meters during bolting / cleaning activities are likely and frequent. If you decide to approach this area ensure no one is bolting / cleaning. From route G1/G2/G3/G6, additional protection bolts allow access to the top of the Wadi. They **must not be used** when other climbers are at the bottom of the sector due to the presence of loose rocks above the routes.*

List of routes (27)

	Grade	Sector	Bolters' journal
Grade 3-4			
Talal	3	D. Nasal Block	
Hazin	4	D. Nasal Block	<i>New chain</i>
Fahed	4	D. Nasal Block	
Service road	4	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>

Grade 5			
Catarrh	5c	D. Nasal Block	<i>Rebolted, new chain</i>
Paul's route	5c	F. The Cave	
Sussurro	5c	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>

Grade 6			
Sinusitis	6a	D. Nasal Block	
Midge fest	6a	B. Babylon	
Privet iz Rossii (L1)	6a	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Nasal block	6a+	D. Nasal Block	

	Grade	Sector	Bolters' journal
Grade 6 (cont.)			
Ocio	6a+	D. Nasal Block	<i>New route</i>
Fenice (L1)	6a+	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Weasels ripped my flesh	6a+	F. The Cave	
Left wing	6a+	F. The Cave	
Quindici piu diciotto (L1)	6a+	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Quindici piu diciotto (L1+L2)	6b	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Belay brothers	6b	D. Nasal Block	<i>New route</i>
Wicked weasel	6b	F. The Cave	
Gatta selvatica	6b+	F. The Cave	<i>New route</i>
Vespers	6b+	F. The Cave	
Il Corvo	6c	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Atomic thumb	6c/+	B. Babylon	
Fenice (L1+L2)	6c+	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>

Grade 7			
Oranges Aren't the Only Fruit	7b+/c	E. Bay of Figurines	
Project	7c?	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route</i>
Privet iz Rossii (L1+L2)	7c/+?	G. The Italian Job	<i>New route, still in progress</i>

New bolters' contributions color coded in dark blue



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE ORIGINAL
BOLTERS OF THIS CRAG AND THE UAE
CLIMBING COMMUNITY FOR THEIR
ENTHUSIASM, COMRADERY AND HAPPY
VIBES.

Acknowledgements

First bolters:

*Ralph, Piers, Nathan,
Simon, Matt, Paul,
Karl, and others*

New bolters:

*Alberto, Federico; with
the support of: Amalia,
Doug, Michael, Michelle,
Xavi, and others*