

Gower

New Developments



1.1

South Wales Climbing Wiki

<https://swcw.org.uk/wiki/>

Introduction

Since the publication of the *Rockfax - South Wales Sport Climbs* (2016), there has been further development of some crags at both Rhossili and Rams Grove.

Most of the new routes are sport routes and are on the old quarried faces above the "ledges" at Rhossili.

Two crags near Rams Grove, - *Rams Grove Seaward* and *Sister 2.5* - are not new; they held a small number of trad routes, but have now been "sported up".

All of these new developments are non-tidal and the new Rhossili crags now allow climbers there to climb a range of routes at all states of the tide.

This publication is not an exhaustive list of developments post-Rockfax; In particular there has been significant developments at *Golden Wall* at Southgate and at *Third Sister*, just east of Rams Grove.

Details of these crags can be found on the South Wales Climbing Wiki at:

https://swcw.org.uk/wiki/Golden_Wall

https://swcw.org.uk/wiki/Third_Sister



Finding Gower Crags

The location of crags listed here has been recorded on each topo page. For other crags on Gower see each wiki page or:

https://swcw.org.uk/wiki/Crag_Locations



Each wiki page should give you directions and links to the wiki's maps.

Note on Loose Rock

Assume that all new crags are loose. Ask yourself whether you have the skills to manage the risks associated with climbing on loose rock.

Inspect your route from the bottom carefully before starting to climb and check for loose material. If you are unsure you should also inspect by abseil if (and only if) you can do so safely.

Make sure your belayer (and any other person) stays well away from the fall line of your route. Helmets are of use to all!

If you find some loose rock, try to make an effort to clean it. If you have the skills, this may involve you setting up an abseil. Take care of others when you do this.

Considerable effort is made to clean routes before they are equipped. Cleaning does, however, change somewhat the flow of water over the crag and this may, in the following months, create new loose material.

After heavy traffic and many months of further weathering, most routes tend eventually to stabilise. Even so, you should maintain vigilance.

If you do not have the skills to climb safely - in particular the skills necessary to assess and manage the risks posed by a climb - then **DO NOT CLIMB**.

First Ascents

Details of first ascents can be found on the South Wales Climbing Wiki at:

<https://swcw.org.uk/wiki/>

This is Gower and these are new routes. Expect loose rock and please read and follow the note on this page.

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Access Notes

Parking

Two car parks can be used for the crags here:

The Rhossili car park is large and never becomes full.

The car park at Pitton is a farmer's field and there is an honesty box. In the summer, arrive early to be sure of a place.

Rhossili Access

Walk south along the narrow private road past the National Trust Shop and coastguard cottages, in the direction of Worms Head.

Pass through the gate and continue along the gravel road until it takes a sharp left, where the stone wall and cliff edge are closest, this is just past a bench and gate in the stone wall.

At this point turn right towards the cliffs and follow a path down, above *Wedge Wall* (in RockFax) and leading to *Trial Wall*.

The rest of the upper cliffs are reached by striking off south-west (left when facing seaward) along small paths.

Pitton Access (For *Sister 2.5* & *Rams Grove Seaward*)

Turn left (south) off the B4247 at Pitton to Pitton Farm (GR 427877).

Turn left when coming out of the car park and follow the road which passes some houses and farm buildings and then becomes a track. Follow the track uphill and pass through a kissing-gate. Follow the track further until you come to another gate/stile. Go through the gate and either follow the sign-posted directions or strike out diagonally rightwards across the field to reach another gate.

Pass through this gate to head down towards the sea to reach another gate on the Wales Coast Path after about 50 metres. This is the top end of Rams Grove. (15 mins from parking).



Rams Grove Seaward Crag is at the bottom of the grove on the right.

To find *Sister 2.5*, strike left at the bottom of the grove and follow a series of narrow paths east. After a short while you will see the crag above you on your left.

Many thanks to those who have spent considerable time, expense and effort equipping these routes.

Details of first ascents can be found on the South Wales Climbing Wiki at:

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This is Gower and these are new routes. Expect loose rock and please read and follow the advice on the previous page.



- 1 Fat End Of The Veg - Fr. 4
- 2 Vegimite - Fr. 4
- 3 Vegazzle - Fr. 5+
- 4 Meat and Two Veg - Fr. 5
- 5 Veg? Ina - HS
- 6 Veginismus - Fr. 6a

Rhossili Upper Crags

Silent Walls

OSGBR: SS 40469 87693

WGS 84: 51.565487, -4.303063

This is the first new crag you come to as you follow the lower path SW from *Trial Wall*.



1. **Fat End Of The Veg** - Fr. 4
The short arete.

2. **Vegimite** - Fr. 4
As for Vegazzle then move L at block to belay of *Fat End of the Veg*

3. **Vegazzle** - Fr. 5+
Faint corner, block, moving R to shared belay.

4. **Meat and Two Veg** - Fr. 5
Slab leading to corner.

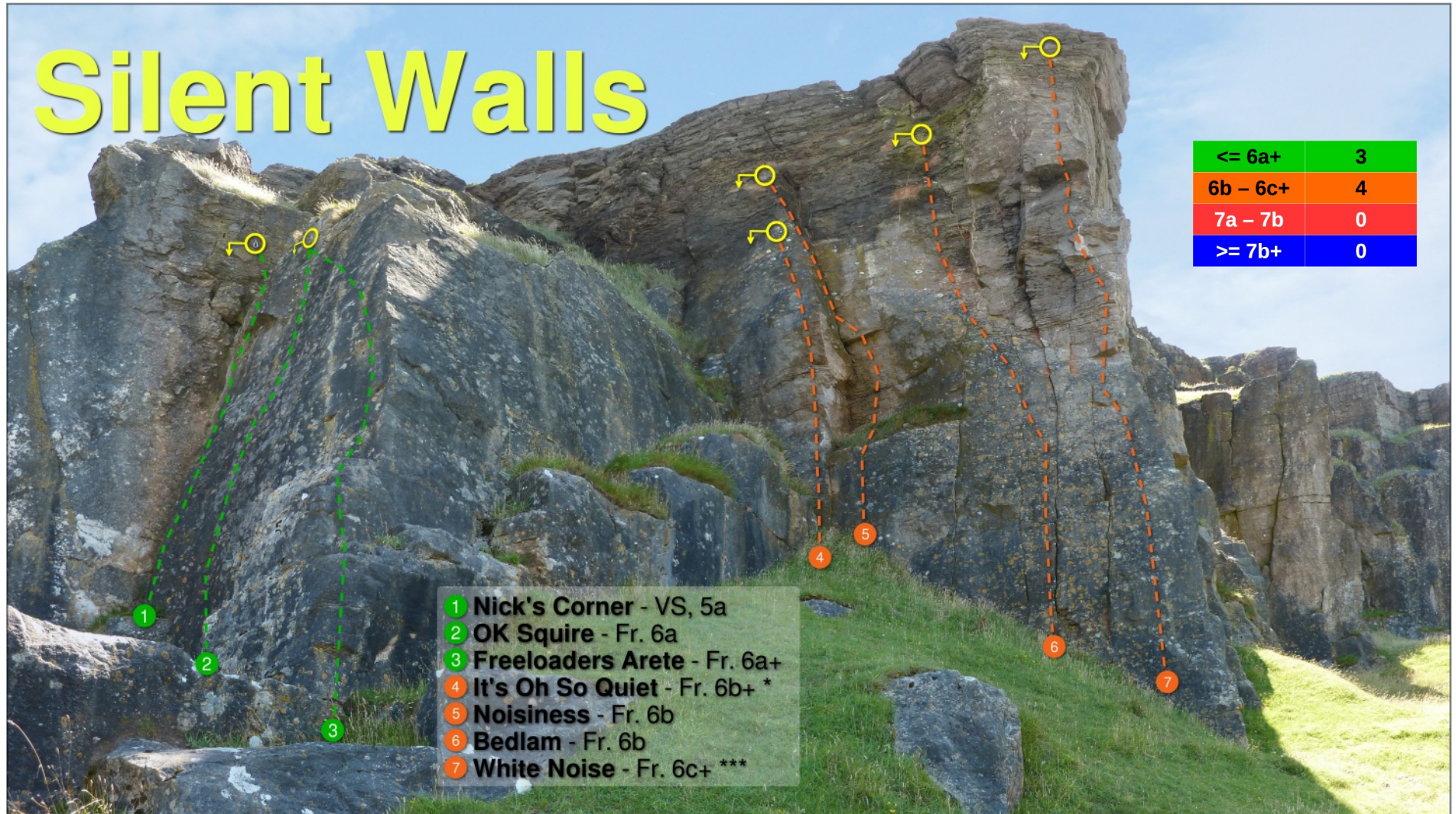
5. **Veg? Ina** - HS
Grass ledge, corner to shared belay of *Veginismus* without recourse to bolts.

6. **Veginismus** - Fr. 6a
Slab then easing to a step left into shared corner.

<= 6a+	5
6b - 6c+	0
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0



Silent Walls



<= 6a+	3
6b - 6c+	4
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

- 1 Nick's Corner - VS, 5a
- 2 OK Squire - Fr. 6a
- 3 Freeloaders Arete - Fr. 6a+
- 4 It's Oh So Quiet - Fr. 6b+ *
- 5 Noisiness - Fr. 6b
- 6 Bedlam - Fr. 6b
- 7 White Noise - Fr. 6c+ ***

1. **Nick's Corner** - VS, 5a
Trad corner.

2. **OK Squire** - Fr. 6a
Right of corner.

3. **Freeloaders Arete** - Fr. 6a+
Arete then L to shared belay.

Up the grass slope on the right is a sombre wall to the left of the arete of Silent Fright Buttress.

4. **It's Oh So Quiet** - Fr. 6b+ *
Excellent arete just L of a grubby corner. Reachy start.

5. **Noisiness** - Fr. 6b
Good bridging up the corner.

6. **Bedlam** - Fr. 6b
Crack moving left to a steeper section.

7. **White Noise** - Fr. 6c+ ***
Pick of the bunch. Left side of arete. Excellent.

Rhossili Upper Crags

Silent Walls

OSGBR: SS 40440 87675

WGS 84: 51.565321, -4.303461

A short but interesting slab and, a little further right, some harder and longer routes.



Calcite Bay

Rhossili Upper Crag

Silent Walls

OSGB 36: SS 40392 87640

WGS 84: 51.564993, -4.304148

An assortment of routes here. Some are a little crunchy !

<= 6a+	7
6b - 6c+	5
7a - 7b	1
>= 7b+	0

The impressive wall right of *Audience of Sheep*

1. **Mutton Geoff** - Fr. 6b+ *
Tricky on the upper wall.

2. **Lambs to the slaughter** - Fr. 7a
Heel lock is the key.

Down to the right and beside the track leading to the Calcite Wall are two very short routes

1. **Minnie Me** - Fr. 4+

2. **Minnie You** - Fr. 5
A short rectangular wall of crystalline calcite and a right retaining wall provide some sheltered

entertainment

1. **Calcitron** - Fr. 5
Ledgy start to a short steeper headwall.

2. **Calcite Crunch** - Fr. 6b+
Steep pulls leading to a harder exit.

3. **Calcite Punch** - Fr. 6b+
Right hand start to previous.

4. **Crinoid Crimper** - Fr. 5+
Wall L of flake.

5. **Just 2 Mohs** - Fr. 4
Flake, step L to share belay.

6. **Low on The Hardness Scale** - Fr. 4+
Wall left of orange rubble.

On the right retaining wall are 3 routes

1. **Calcite Crack'n Up** - Fr. 6a+
Wall just R of thin crack

2. **Drill your Own** - Fr. 6b
R again to separate L.O.

3. **Calcitaclone** - Fr. 6b
last route to shared belay.



- 1. **Devil May Care** - Fr. 6c+
The side wall just R of the short arete. Long stretch off the pedestal.
- 2. **Transgressor's Corner** - Fr. 5
The slabby calcite lined corner.
- 3. **Butcher's Slab** - Fr. 6a
The slab on the right to same L.O.
- 4. **Repentance Arete** - Fr. 6b+
The right side of the slabs arete gained by a short traverse from the stepped corner.
- 5. **Stepped Corner** - Fr. 6a
The stepped corner.

- 6. **Sin Bin** - Fr. 6a+
Fragile calcite scabs lead to a slab with a tricky to clip belay for the short.
- 7. **Scintillate** - Fr. 6a+
Layback flake joining previous after roof.
- 8. **Forgiveness** - Fr. 6b
Huge calcite crystals lead to steep flake, join previous after roof.
- 9. **Father Confessor** - Fr. 6a+
The pillar,deceptive, tricky final moves on sub optimal rock.

- 10. **Sin Sear** - Fr 4+
Corner crack, nice bridging. Belay can be gained WITHOUT USE OF LARGE JAMMED BLOCKS IN CHIMNEY.
- 11. **Sinbad** - Fr. 6b
- 12. **Sinus** - Fr. 6b
- 13. **Synthesizer Slab** - Fr. 6b *
- 14. **Devilment** - Fr. 4
Short arete leading to pleasant stepped groove.

- 15. **For Ye Who Has Sinned....** - Fr. 6c
- 17. **The Seven Deadly Sins** - Fr. 6c+
Squeezed in eliminate using the first two clips of Wages of Sin, and then climbing via two expansion bolts to the lower-off of For Ye Who Have Sinned.
- 18. **Wages of Sin** - Fr. 6c+ *
Below the square notch.12m.
- 19. **Sinner Man** - Fr. 7b
A final short problem



SINNERS WALLS

- 10 Sin Sear - Fr. 4+
- 11 Sinbad - Fr. 6b
- 12 Sinus - Fr. 6b
- 13 Synthesizer Slab - Fr. 6b *
- 14 Devilment - Fr. 4
- 15 For ye who has sinned.... - Fr. 6c
- 16 The Seven Deadly Sins - Fr. 6c+
- 17 Wages of Sin - Fr. 6c+ *, E4, 6a
- 18 Sinner Man - Fr. 7b

- 1 Devil May Care - Fr. 6c+
- 2 Transgressor's Corner - Fr. 5
- 3 Butcher's Slab - Fr. 6a
- 4 Repentance Arete - Fr. 6b+
- 5 Stepped corner - Fr. 6a
- 6 Sin Bin - Fr. 6a+
- 7 Scintillate - Fr. 6a+
- 8 Forgiveness - Fr. 6b
- 9 Father Confessor - Fr. 6a+

Rhossili Upper Crags

Silent Walls

OSGB 36: SS 40355 87593

WGS 84: 51.564559, -4.304656

A very varied collection of routes.

<= 6a+	8
6b – 6c+	5
7a – 7b	9
>= 7b+	0



Windy Buttness

<= 6a+	2
6b - 6c+	2
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

- 1 **Blow Me Down (thar)** - Fr. 6b+
- 2 **Tha'r She Blows** - Fr. 6b+
- 3 **A Stiff Blow** - Fr 6a
- 4 **Blow Up** - Fr. 5+

1. **Blow Me Down (thar)** - Fr. 6b+
More delights; cash crisis means stick clipping high first bolt above crunchy start. Kindly a pre drilled 10mm hole is there so feel free.....

2. **Tha'r She Blows** - Fr. 6b+ *
Steep start in centre of wall. Central shared belay. Low in the grade.

3. **A Stiff Blow** - Fr. 6a
Fragile crack to start then over steep bulge.

4. **Blow Up** - Fr. 5+
Easy steps lead to steepening,taking care with crunchy rock,will improve with traffic, lots of bolts to compensate.

Rhossili Upper Crag

Windy Buttness

OSGB 36: SS 40338 87574

WGS 84: 51.564384, -4.30489

An exposed buttness composed of the crunchiest limestone!



- 1. **Chubby Loving** - Fr. 6a
The left side of the wall. Tricky handjam to reach top and double staple belay on the right.
- 2. **Plumper Romp** - Fr. 6b+
Wall to R, tricky finish to shared belay
- 3. **Bosom Pals** - Fr 6b+
High first bolt. Single bolt belay so share on left and use a clipstick.

- 4. **Butterball** - Fr. 5c*
Left of earthy chimney. Belay on arete.
- 5. **It's Not All Over** - Fr. 5c
Right of chimney then share belay 1m to left.

- 1. **Waiting for the Fat Lady's Thong** - Fr. 5
From the corner, climb left of the arete.
- 2. **Carbonate** - Fr. 6a
Arete just up from the slab. Good looking line.

Rhossili Upper Crags
The Fat Lady Wall
OSGB 36: SS 40332 87536
WGS 84: 51.564042, -4.304955
 Steep slab and wall.
 Over right on this topo, are the first two routes of **Carbon Slab**



The Fat Lady Wall



- 1 Chubby Loving - Fr. 6a
- 2 Plumper Romp - Fr. 6b+
- 3 Bosom Pals - Fr. 6b+
- 4 Butterball - Fr. 5c*
- 5 It's Not All Over - Fr. 5cB

<= 6a+	3
6b - 6c+	2
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

- 1 Wait for the Fat Lady's Thong - Fr. 5
- 2 Carbonate - Fr. 6a+

Rhossili Upper Crags

Carbon Slab

OSGB 36 : SS 40304 87532

WGS 84: 51.563995, -4.305359

Nice slab routes in a beautiful setting. (Try climbing here whilst the sun sets)

It's advisable to secure your belayer at the point marked with a tat.

- 3. Carboniferous - Fr. 4+
- 4. Carbon Copy - Fr. 6b *
- 5. Carbon Dating - Fr. 6b+ *
- 6. Carbon Era - Fr. 6b *
- 7. Carbon Times - Fr. 6b
- 8. Carbon Light - Fr. 4



- 1 Wait for the Fat Lady's Thong - Fr. 5
- 2 Carbonate - Fr. 6a
- 3 Carboniferous - Fr. 4+
- 4 Carbon Copy - Fr. 6b *
- 5 Carbon Dating - Fr. 6b+ *
- 6 Carbon Era - Fr. 6b *
- 7 Carbon Times - Fr. 6b
- 8 Carbon Light - Fr. 4

<= 6a+	4
6b - 6c+	4
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

- 1. **Phelan Man** - Fr. 6b *
- 2. **Grainger Man** - Fr. 6a+ *
- 3. **The Peacock Guys** - Fr.6b
- 4. **Mano a Mano** - Fr. 6c *
- 5. **Man Up** - Fr. 6a+

- 6. **Man Down** - Fr. 6b *
- 7. **Soundstrip** - 27m E3,5c
Corner to small bush then out right to pull over roof by 3mm thread.
- 8. **Oh Man** - Fr. 6c+ **
- 9. **Play The Pink Oboe**
Black line on topo to shared LO on R.

- 10. **Ram Raiders** - Fr. 6b
Tricky wall to start.
- 11. **Ram Bam Thank Ewe Lamb** - Fr. 6a
Gain the faint crack to start
- 12. **Blowing The Horn** - Fr. 6a
Steep wall to start(through bolts) to join the upper section of Ram Bam.

Rams Grove Seaward Crag

OSGB 36: SS 42880 86570

WGS 84: 51.556076, -4.267799

Accessed from the parking at Pitton.

Rams Grove Seaward Crag



<= 6a+	4
6b - 6c+	6
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

- 1 **Phelan Man** - Fr. 6b *
- 2 **Grainger Man** - Fr. 6a+ *
- 3 **The Peacock Guys** - Fr.6b
- 4 **Mano a Mano** - Fr. 6c *
- 5 **Man Up** - Fr. 6a+
- 6 **Man Down** - Fr. 6b *
- 7 **Soundstrip** - E3,5c
- 8 **Oh Man** - Fr. 6c+ **
- 9 **Project**
- 10 **Ram Raiders** - Fr. 6b
- 11 **Ram Bam Thank Ewe Lamb** - Fr. 6a
- Blowing The Horn** - Fr. 6a

1. **Eat My Shorts** - Fr. 5
2. **Rikes Raggy** - Fr. 6a
3. **Howdy Partner** - Fr. 6a+ *
4. **They Killed Kenny** - Fr. 6a+
5. **Suffering Succotash** - Fr. 6b *
6. **Ridiculous is the Burden of Genius** - Fr. 6b+ *

7. **The Wettest April Since Records Began** - E3 5c
 Near the left-hand end of the cliff is a brown coloured crack. A few metres to the right is a slim groove in the grey wall leading up to the left of a jutting overhang. Climb the groove to a short flake crack below a bulge. Move right and through the bulge. Finish up an easier broken groove.

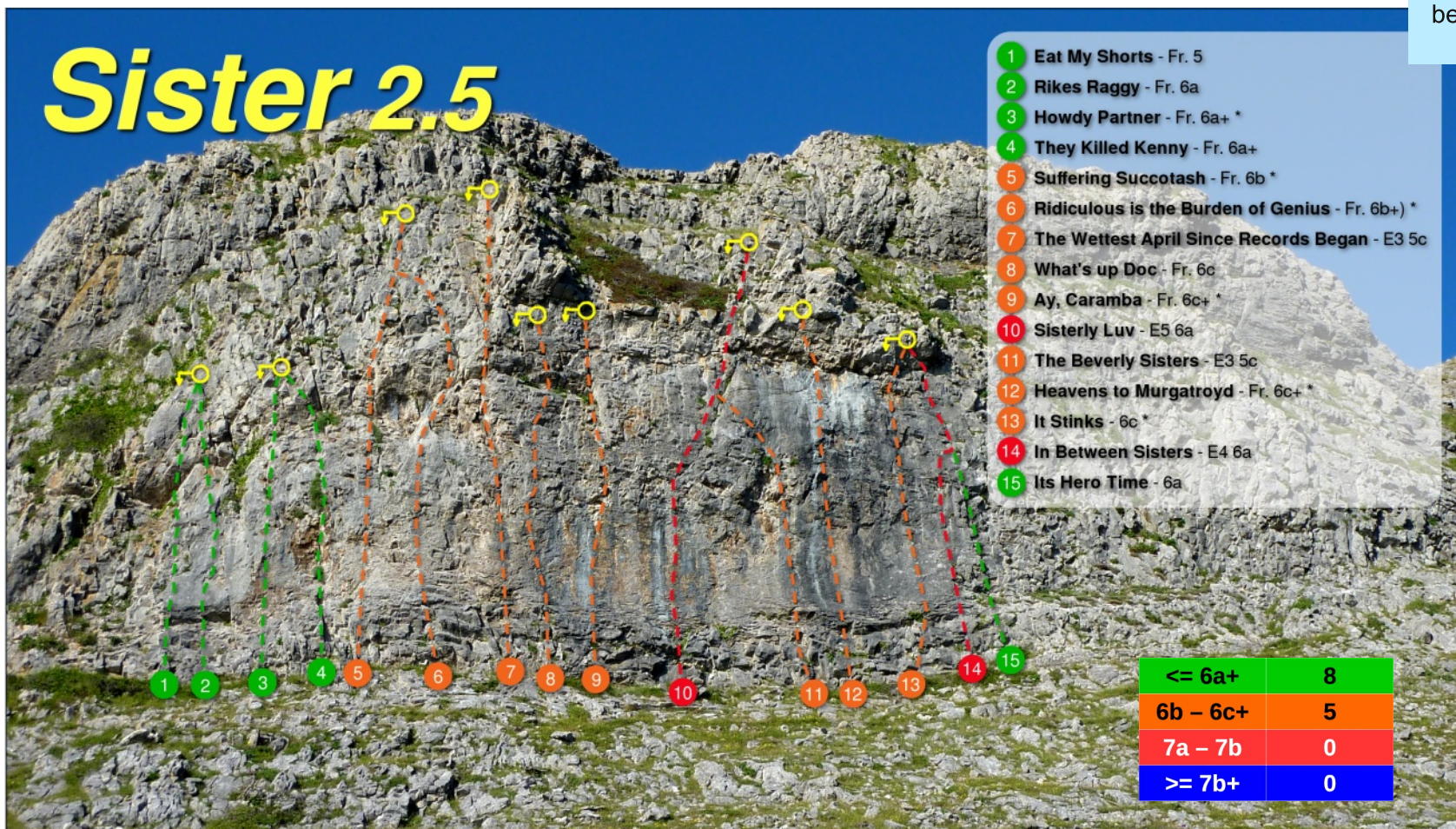
8. **What's up Doc** - Fr. 6c
9. **Ay, Caramba** - Fr. 6c+ *

10. **Sisterly Luv** - E5 6a
 Follow the junction of the grey streak and white rock past Bristol PRs to a bulge. Overcome this to a crack leading rightwards to an overhang, a short groove on the right and a wobbly exit to the ledge.



Sister 2.5
OSGB 36: SS 43108 86381
WGS 84: 51.554436, -4.264437

Short but sweet routes in a beautiful setting.



- 1 Eat My Shorts - Fr. 5
- 2 Rikes Raggy - Fr. 6a
- 3 Howdy Partner - Fr. 6a+ *
- 4 They Killed Kenny - Fr. 6a+
- 5 Suffering Succotash - Fr. 6b *
- 6 Ridiculous is the Burden of Genius - Fr. 6b+ *
- 7 The Wettest April Since Records Began - E3 5c
- 8 What's up Doc - Fr. 6c
- 9 Ay, Caramba - Fr. 6c+ *
- 10 Sisterly Luv - E5 6a
- 11 The Beverly Sisters - E3 5c
- 12 Heavens to Murgatroyd - Fr. 6c+ *
- 13 It Stinks - 6c *
- 14 In Between Sisters - E4 6a
- 15 Its Hero Time - 6a

<= 6a+	8
6b - 6c+	5
7a - 7b	0
>= 7b+	0

11. **The Beverly Sisters** - E3 5c
 Start below and slightly to the right of the orange niche. Make committing moves into the niche and continue up the crack and wall to join Sisterly Luv at the overhang.
12. **Heavens to Murgatroyd** - Fr. 6c+ *
13. **It Stinks** - Fr. 6c *
14. **In Between Sisters** - E4 6a
 Start 4m left of a rubble zone at the right end of the wall. Move up to a small pocket on the smooth grey wall (crucial Rock 5 placement). Step right and move up on scoops to a bulge (TRs possible). Surmount the bulge direct. Abseil off at the top of the good rock.
15. **Its Hero Time** - Fr. 6a