

	No star	1	2	3
up to 4c	-	-	-	-
5a to 6a+	2	4	8	3
6b to 7a	6	6	12	1
7a+ and up	-	1	3	2

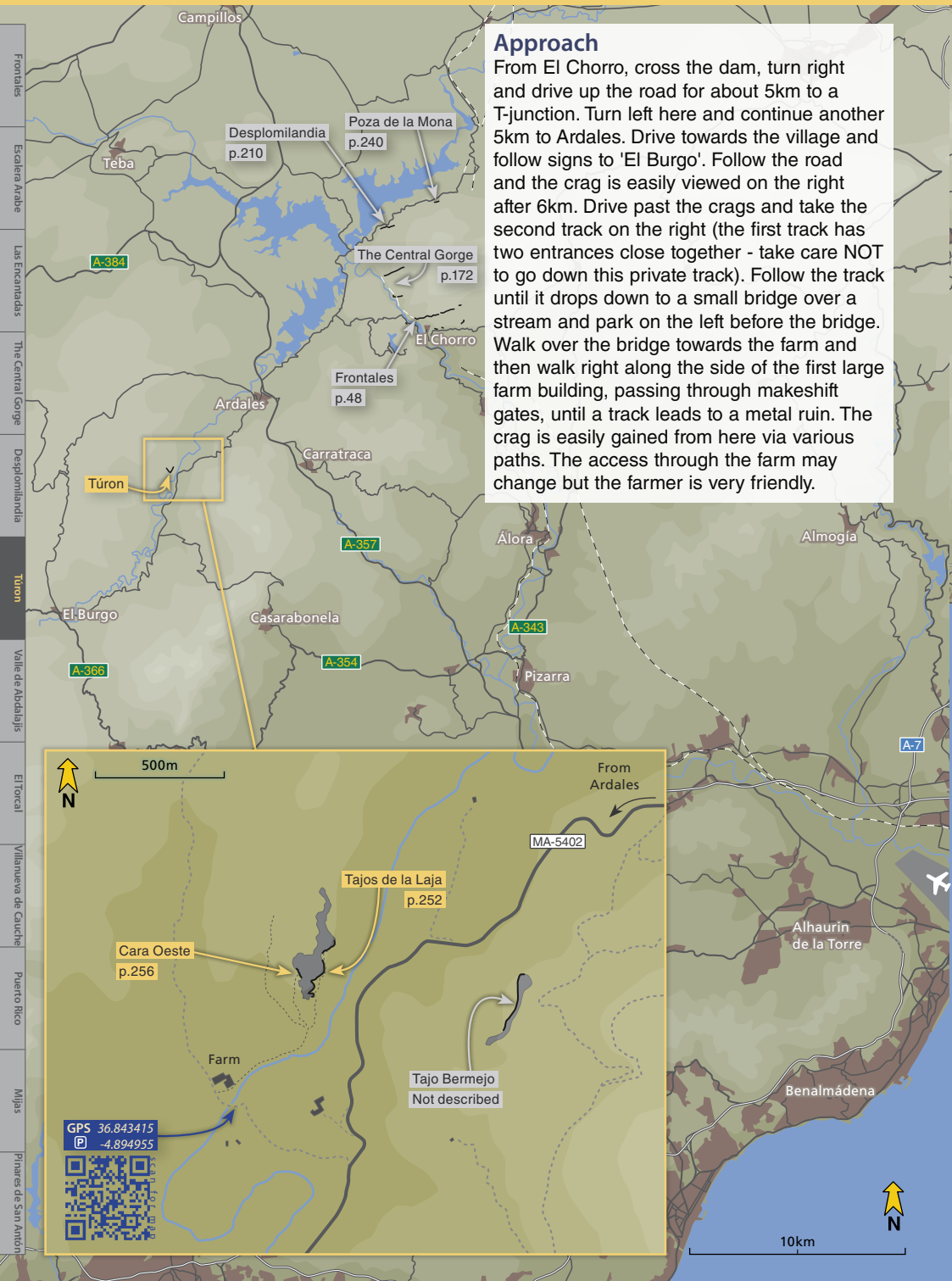
The massive slabby limestone sheets of Túron are some of the region's most distinctive formations and home to many superb climbs in the lower and middle grades. The crag is only a short drive away from El Chorro, close to the picturesque Andalucían village of Ardales. The environment is in complete contrast to El Chorro being more open, rural and tranquil. The east-facing aspect of the main Tajos de la Laja section of Túron is dominated by a huge sweep of slabs which are the main attraction for those seeking something away from the more strenuous offerings of the area. Either side of the slabs are steeper walls that also possess some excellent climbs. These are slightly tougher, although those not keen on slabs may disagree! On the other side of the fin, the superb smaller Cara Oeste provides a handful of very good climbs which receive the sun once it moves from the slab.

Conditions

The slabs and walls of Tajos de la Laja receive sun from early morning until mid-afternoon. Cara Oeste gets sun from mid-afternoon onwards. Túron is not the place to be in rain or wind as there is little in the way of shelter or overhanging rock.

Access

Do not park beyond the small bridge or block the access track - this is the track to the farm and is used by large vehicles. If the parking is full, park up on the main road and walk down the track.



Approach

From El Chorro, cross the dam, turn right and drive up the road for about 5km to a T-junction. Turn left here and continue another 5km to Ardales. Drive towards the village and follow signs to 'El Burgo'. Follow the road and the crag is easily viewed on the right after 6km. Drive past the crags and take the second track on the right (the first track has two entrances close together - take care NOT to go down this private track). Follow the track until it drops down to a small bridge over a stream and park on the left before the bridge. Walk over the bridge towards the farm and then walk right along the side of the first large farm building, passing through makeshift gates, until a track leads to a metal ruin. The crag is easily gained from here via various paths. The access through the farm may change but the farmer is very friendly.



Martin McKenna taking on *Los malos también lloran* (7a+) - page 253 - one of the steeper and more difficult pitches at Túron. Photo: Mike Hutton.

Frontales
Escalera Árabe
Las Encantadas
The Central Gorge
Desplomilandia
Túron
Valle de Abdalajis
El Torcal
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Mijas
Pinares de San Antón

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Tajos de la Laja

Tajos de la Laja is best known for its immaculate slabs although the left-hand side is made up of some steep walls in a gully that are worth investigating. The central area of the crag is its showpiece of beautiful clean, grey rock where friction and flutings are the name of the game. **Approach (see map on p.250)** - From the parking, walk over the small bridge towards the farm and then walk right along the side of the first large farm building, passing through makeshift gates, until a track leads to a metal ruin. Go past this and walk up rightwards to reach the first routes on a tall pillar. **Descent** - Some of the routes on the slabs are long and require an abseil descent in two stages.

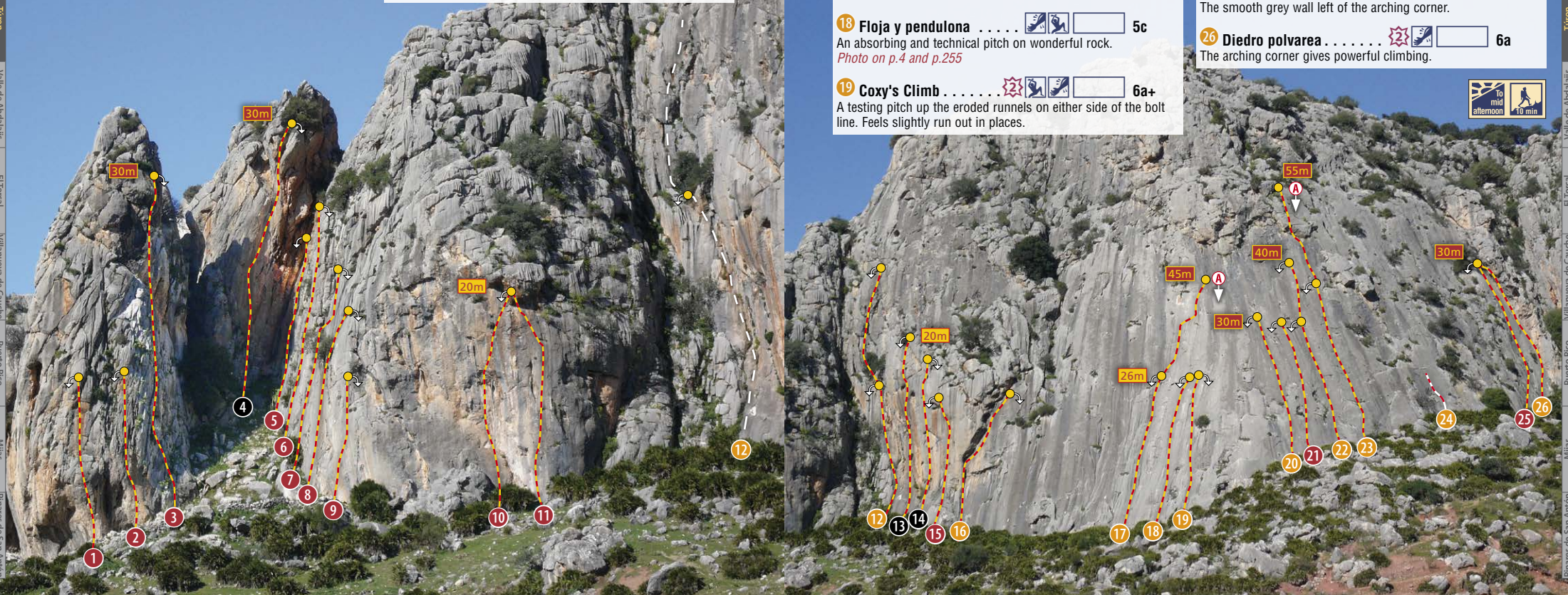
- 1** **Dónde están mis amigos.** **6c**
The steep line of pockets on the arete. The last bolt is hidden.
- 2** **Potage de lentejas.** **6c+**
The bulging line of pockets on the grey wall.
- 3** **Kavernicola.** **6c**
A nice slab to start, then steady climbing to the tricky finish.



- 4** **Gualtrapidos sin fronteras** **7a+**
Good moves combined with an exciting finish up the steep pillar at the top of the gully. A poor lower-off.
- 5** **Bolleré** **6b+**
An enjoyable steep slab. The line weaves about.
- 6** **Chupaté esa Teresa** **6b**
A high quality pitch up the line of cracks in the pillar.
- 7** **Teardrop** **7a**
The blank wall past a teardrop-shaped pocket at mid-height and right of a tree.
- 8** **La grieta de tu nieta** **6b**
Pockets and cracks passing a tree on the right.
- 9** **El payaso decotador** **7a**
A thin wall and cracks.
- 10** **La de paraor** **6c+**
Steep tufas to a lower-off below the roof. May have suffered loss of holds and could now be harder.
- 11** **La de Maria.** **6c+**
The blunt arete to a lower-off below the roof.

- 12** **La libertad de expansion.** **6a+**
1) 5a, 2) 5c. A two-pitch route right of the vegetated gully.
- 13** **Apolonio** **7b+**
Great climbing on steep pocketed rock, passing a high hole.
- 14** **Los malos también lloran** **7a+**
Varied and airy climbing through the central overlap on immaculate rock. *Photo on p.251*
- 15** **Quasimodo** **6c**
Coral-like rock and big pockets. Quite sharp on the fingers. *Photo on p.248*
- 16** **Suspiros nostálgicos** **6a+**
The leaning corner/groove can be wet.
- 17** **Julay lama** **5c**
A stunning climb taking on the massive slab. The bolting at the top of pitch 2 is confusing. Follow the description below for the 5c grade. Climbing direct past the final bolts is much harder.
1) 26m, 5a. Move up to the first bolt. Continue past a steepening midway to easier ground and a stance with a lower-off.
2) 22m, 5c. Move up to below the second-to-last bolt - step right and then stretch up left to clip it. Now traverse right 2m to good holds. Move up and step left to clip the final bolt. Move back right and then up rightwards a short way to a bolt belay.
Descent - Abseil off.
- 18** **Floja y pendulona** **5c**
An absorbing and technical pitch on wonderful rock. *Photo on p.4 and p.255*
- 19** **Coxy's Climb** **6a+**
A testing pitch up the eroded runnels on either side of the bolt line. Feels slightly run out in places.

- 20** **High Bolt 1** **5b**
Starting just left of the first bolt, make tricky moves to much easier ground and generally positive crimps.
- 21** **High Bolt 2** **6b+**
Unbalanced but great if you can do the first move.
- 22** **High Bolt 3** **5c**
A fabulous sustained line that has little in the way of positive holds for hands or feet! There is a lower-off at around 26m, but the route continues to a lower-off at 40m.
- 23** **Acosa y derribo** **6a**
A fine first pitch but the second has some old gear. *Photo on p.246*
1) 35m, 6a. The start is easier and less of a stretch on the left. Above there is a tricky move up a steeper section using an undercut.
2) 20m, 5c. Some old bolts on this pitch. Climb up to and over the roof.
A little further to the right is an impressive corner.
- 24** **La prima** **5a**
An old two-pitch trad climb that is now dirty and seldom climbed. There is a name plaque at the base. 1) 5a, 2) 4c.
- 25** **Sombra gris** **6b**
The smooth grey wall left of the arching corner.
- 26** **Diedro polvarea** **6a**
The arching corner gives powerful climbing.



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- 27 Anna** 6a+
The wall passing a thread.
- 28 Sector olletas** 5c
Climb the cracked wall.
- 29 Pitiflan exprés** 6a
The staggered cracks give good climbing.
- 30 La raja del siesso** 7a
A hard and sharp start gains easier climbing left of a tree.
- 31 Manteca colorá** 6b+
Steep and enjoyable climbing on large holds.
- 32 Como un burro amarao** . . . 6c
A bit of lateral thinking is required on this one.
- 33 Paco micro y su niva** . . . 6b
The name is painted on the rock. It gives three steep pitches. 1) 6b, 2) 4c, 3) 6b.
- 34 Lo que no puede sar** 7a+
The very bald and steep slab.

- 35 Condón goretex** . . . 7b+
Micro holds. The name is on a plaque at the base.
The next line is some way right, past some broken ground.
- 36 Me cago en la benemérita** 6c
A short hard line.
- 37 Almoraju** 6a+
Worth seeking out. Climb the line left of the nose.
- 38 Agustitu** 6c
The right-hand side of the nose is tough.
- 39 Calostro** 7a
A dirty line up the vertical wall.
- 40 Sabor salado** 6b+
A two-pitch line starting from the higher terrace further up the hillside. 1) 6a+, 2) 6b+.



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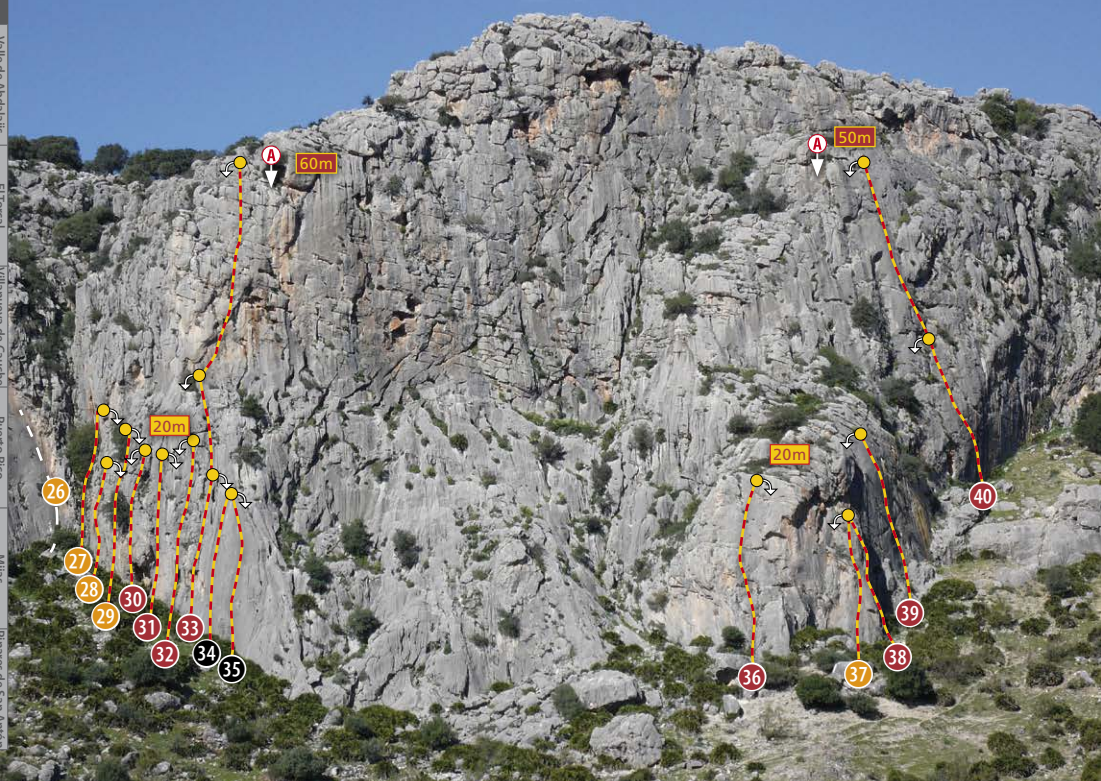
El Torcal

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Puerto Rico

Mijas

Piñares de San Anton



Paul Phillips and Ola Stepien on *Floya y pendulona* (5c) - page 253 - and a team high on *Julay lama* (5c) at Turon. These magnificent fluted slabs are the main attraction at Turon. The style of climbing is unusual, often relying on faith and friction. This regularly takes people by surprise, especially those who have been heaving up juggy tufas all week! Photo: Mark Glaister



Cara Oeste

This great little sector is well worth the extra walk. It has some fantastic unpolished climbing of a quite different style to the usual El Chorro limestone, with jamming cracks, roofs, corners and thin slabs. It is usually deserted, gets shade in the early morning and the full roasting for the rest of the day; whether you are sun-dodging or sun-seeking it can be neatly worked in with the slabs around the corner which get the opposite. **Approach (see map on p.250)** - From the parking follow the approach for Túron, alongside the farm until you can see the wall up on the left. When the footpath heads uphill to the slabs after the old barn frame, bear left on one of many goat paths and head up the hill past the boulders until the crag appears on the right.

1 Uno **6a**
Lots of variety here. Layback the runnel flake and follow the crack to the small roof, then head left up the wall through the bulges and holes.

2 Dos **6b+**
A complete technical workout? Follow the delicate slab to the crack-line, sneak a rest in the corner above, then make hard moves to gain and complete the wall above.



3 Tres **6a**
A lovely sustained crack-line with some jamming required.

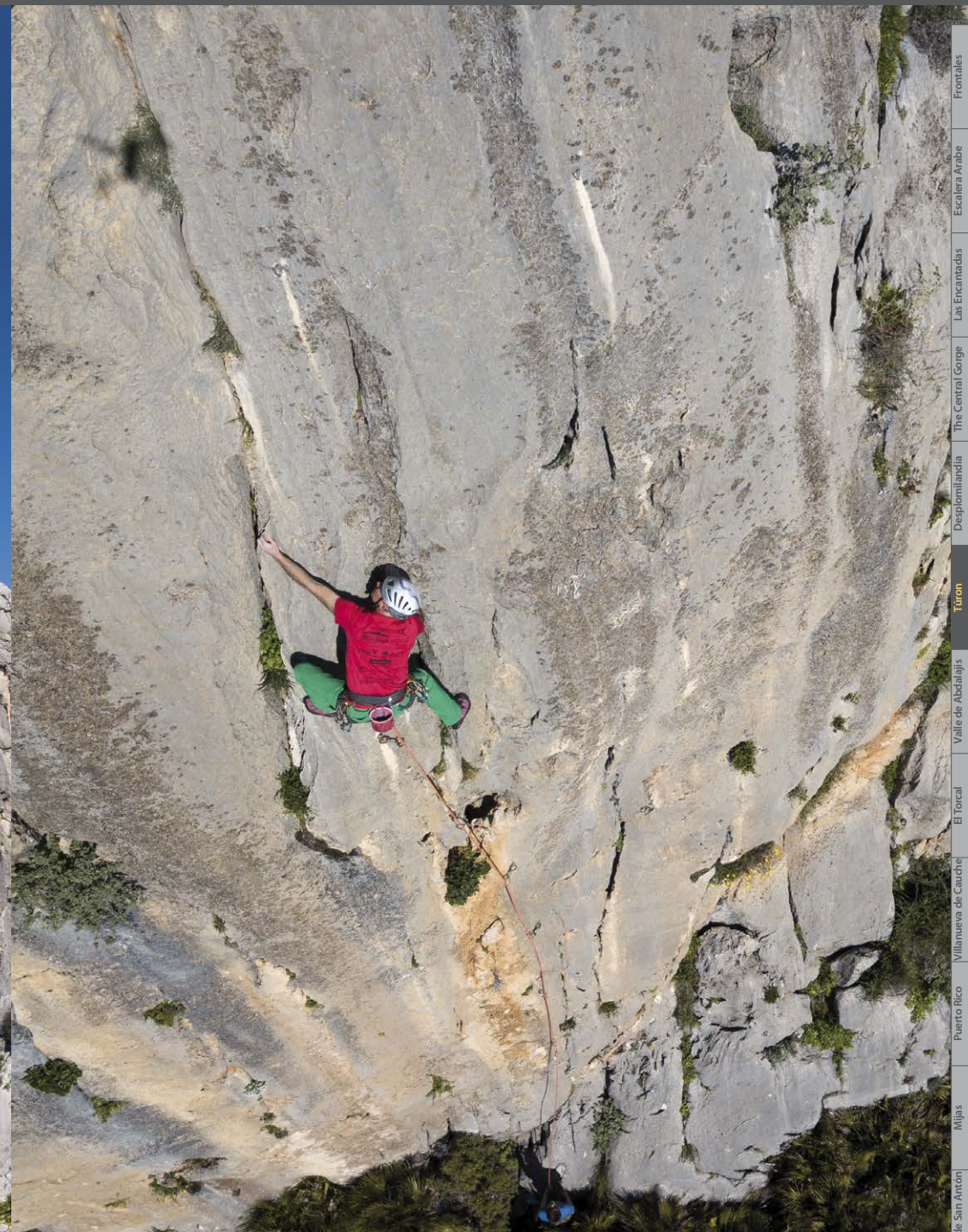
4 Cuatro **5c**
The right-hand crack-line offers excellent climbing and a chance to get intimately acquainted with some local vegetation.

5 Cinco **6b+**
This vicious, bouldery little line takes no prisoners and is especially nasty to the vertically challenged.

6 Seis **7a+**
The super thin line straight up the face. Beware the spiny asparagus living in the only decent hold. *Photo on p.36*

7 Siete **6b**
The twin cracks are even better than they look, the roof is positive and a slab and crack wait above. So good!
Photo opposite.

8 Ocho **6c**
The last line starts steeply and eases onto a thin slab.



Mark Glaister on the superb double cracks of *Siete* (6b) - *opposite* - the best route on Cara Oeste at Túron. Photo: Alan James