

Dave Lucas Routes Around St Katherines

Little Rabba

This can be seen on the east side of Jebbel Rabba In Wadi Arbean.



The routes below go from left to right across the topo.

*** The Three Wise Men. HVS 5a, 5a/b, 5a/b, 4b Dave Lucas, Tom Booth, John Spiller - 25/12/13

- 1) 5a, 35m. Climb from the base of the crag at the bottom of the corner/chimney system. Climb up over short walls into a corner crack continue up this to a base of a steepening offwidth.
- 2) 5a/b 40m. Stay right of the steep corner offwidth and climb the left to right short crack on the slab to a horizontal break. Climb over this to another break. Climb up over a boulder past a bush and a further 10m a ledge. Climb a crack on the right wall for 5m before traversing 2m left to another crack. Continue left around a rib into a chimney that leads to a crack to a small overlap. At the overlap traverse to boulders and big ledge left. Old white tat and a metal ring may be seen here.
- 3) 5a/b 55m. Climb back right into the crack which leads up and left 35m to an overhang. Climb through this overhang and easily along the crack/ledge.
- 4) 4b 40m. Continue in the crack/groove through a prickly bush to a large ledge and the top of the Shield .

Descent - Walk down a rock filled gully and then round right it is possible to scramble down 30m here to the base of the shield (it is possible to do a 30m abseil here with slings around boulders. From there scramble down just out right of a steep gully back down to the base of the routes.

***** Heba Douda. E2, 5b, 5c, 5a/b, 5c, 4c Dave Lucas, Max Dutson, Sam Harvie - 25/02/14**

- 1) 5b, 35m. Start below loose looking flakes climb these to a shallow corner and continue to the ledge.
- 2) 5c, 35m. Hand traverse the break leftwards until at the bottom of the main corner. Climb crack 5m to a ledge at the base of the corner.
- 3) 5a/b, 35m. Climb the corner to a horizontal break and a steepening. It is possible to belay past this steepening to reduce drag on pitch 4. (a further 10m)
- 4) Continue up to the overhang and then step right and then climb over the overhang using a left to right undercut flake line. To base of chimney and then step right to small crack. Climb the crack to its end and then trend up and right on an unprotected featured slab. To a flared groove and belay 10m before orange overhang.
- 5) 4c, 55m. Climb up on a short crack towards overhang then trend left 4m to a good track that then works back slightly right. Continue up over ledge and crack to a deep incut cleft in the wall. Climb over this and easily up an unprotected slab.

Descent – Walk left past massive great looking boulders. Descend to old terraces and then continue down and left to join the descent of TTWM.

***** Half a Yellow Sun E2 5c, 180m – Alex Twist, Martin Kocsis – 17/03/14**

This route starts beneath the left facing corner of the right hand shield on Little Rabba. Belay in the recess beneath a capping overhang.

- 1) 5b 35m
Climb the parallel cracks in the left hand side of the recess with gradually increasing difficulty until good holds appear on the LH arête. From here make exposed technical moves up and left to reach easier ground. Continue to a good ledge with large boulder. (Spike belay behind boulder).
- 2) 5a 35m
From behind the boulder, follow excellent natural features up and slightly right, until the cracks and holds run out. At this point, traverse delicately right 3m to the base of a left slanting corner. Climb this on positive smears with good protection and belay shortly after the peg. An excellent pitch.
- 3) 5c 30m

Place high gear above the belay (BD camalot 1 – red) and traverse rightwards on small holds to stand on a gritty pinnacle (low gear). Continue traversing rightwards until a finger rail appears and it is possible to step across into the

corner. Climb the wall left of the corner using small but good protection in a thin crack to a final tricky move leftwards to a ledge. Drop down into a leftward facing corner and climb this to a small belay ledge.

- 4) 4c 25m
Squirm and thrutch through the cleft and follow the groove until large cracks appear on the RH wall, allowing access to the next pitch.
- 5) 4c 30m
Follow the cracks rightwards onto the front face of the shield. Climb this using a crack and corner at first, then sparsely protected slabs (micro cams useful) to enter the chimney above the capping overhang. Belay on the good ledge.
- 6) VDiff 30m
Traverse left from the belay then start up the wide crack and continue easily to the top of the crag using any reasonable route.

The Easy Keshet (?) HS 4b * 180m

On the right of Little Rabba is a big right facing corner; below and right is a dark, brown tower above a ledge system. The climb starts at the right of this. After the first pitch it is possible to move left to hakeshet.

- 1) HS 4b 40m
Climb the right facing corner on the right of the tower and the fun, juggy chimney on the left above (you can bypass this in the right hand side). Belay on top of tower and walk across to the main wall.
- 2) HS 4b 30m
Climb the cracked groove just left of a prominent, brown dyke. At the top, move right and climb the dyke and flake, then up right past a boulder to a good ledge.
- 3) HS 4b 50m
Take the right-hand cracked groove with a few tricky moves, then another cracked groove above. Take the continuation scoop up the slab above and try and find the best belay you can.
- 4) VD 60m
Up scoops and slab to the top.

Jebel Fara



F - * Blazing trails - 125m E2 4b, 5c, 5c, 5c Dave Lucas and Tom Booth 08/01/14**

Start to the crack to the right of Dear Eva Route the 2nd crack to the right from the chimney of Big Eyes. Middle of the three lines as shown above.

- 1) 30m 4b. Climb the first pitch of Big Eyes to the ledge.
- 2) 35m 5c. Climb the right of the two cracks and traverse along a foot traverse to join another crack. Climb this to belay in an alcove.
- 3) 40m, 5c. Traverse 4m to the right to join a thin crack that leads to a widening crack and corner above. To a ledge
- 4) 20m, 5c. Walk along the ledge to a crack that splits the slab leading to carved rock above.

Descent – As for North Corner.

F - *"Are you ready for Piolet D'or?" - 110m. E4 4b, 6b, ?, 6a - Sergey Nefedov and Marco Richon 20/11/2011** (Shown in the topo above as the right hand line starting in the chimney then cutting out left across the face.

- 1) 30m 4b. See Pharoah's Chimney route pitch 1.
- 2) E4 6b. Climb out onto the face past two bolts and up to a bolt belay.
- 3) XXXX
- 4) 30m 6a XXXX

Jebel Batta

*** Battered E4 5b, 4a, 4b, 6a, 4c. Max Dutson, Sam Harvie & Dave Lucas 01/03/14**

- 1) 5b, 35m. Climb the offwidth to a sloping ledge belay before it steepens.
- 2) 4a, 30m. Continue up the corner crack and belay next to a big chimney to your left.
- 3) 4b, 40m. Climb the chimney on your left and then follow the ramp and cracks to a dome shaped boulder. Pass this on the left hand side and then belay on the ledge.
- 4) 6a, 40m. Continue up crack climbing underneath an arch passing a bolt and a peg (placed before first recorded ascent) as it trends left. As the arch runs out climb through the roof on crimps and

thin cracks up and left. To belay on a small ledge and crack.
5) 4c, 60m. Continue up chimney to the top ledge.
The route is shown in the image below as the left hand of the three routes marked.

