

!Guri |Aib (The White Streak)

16 pitches (sport)

SA 25/6; French 7a+/b; Y.D.S. 5.12a/b

Pitch 1

SA 24; French 7a; Y.D.S. 5.11d

8 bolts; 25m

As for P1 of the Original Route. Climb the obvious bolt line up the white streak.

Pitch 2

SA 22; French 6c; Y.D.S. 5.11b

8 bolts; 15m

Step off the belay to the left, climb through a crux to gain easing terrain and a belay.

Pitch 3

SA 25; French 7a+; Y.D.S. 5.12a

15 bolts; 35m

Step left, then traverse right on underclings to gain the chimney. Traverse back left to a rail, then direct to a grey blob on the right. Climb left from this to a good flake (pull gently), then rightward through a crux to gain easing terrain. Stop at a bad belay or combine P3 and 4 (recommended).

Pitch 4

SA 17; French 5b; Y.D.S. 5.9

4 bolts; 15m

Step right then climb to a good belay on the left.

Pitch 5

SA 20; French 6a+; Y.D.S. 5.10c

14 bolts; 35m

Climb rightwards to gain an overlap and join with Slabchip P3. Continue up edges and scoops to a belay in a hole on the left.

Pitch 6

SA 22, French 6c, Y.D.S. 5.11b, 30m

8 bolts; 30m

Climb as for Slabchip P5. Traverse right to the white streak and climb direct to a bad belay on the left. Stop here or link P6 and 7.

Pitch 7

SA 25, French 7a+, Y.D.S. 5.12a

8 bolts; 20m

As for Slabchip P6. Climb the white streak using palms and stems to an undercling above a scab; pass it to gain easier climbing above.

Pitch 8

SA 22, French 6c, Y.D.S. 5.11b

8 bolts; 25m

Follow the white streak to gain a belay on a rotten knob to the right. Stop here or link P8 and 9 at SA 23.

Pitch 9

SA 22, French 6c, Y.D.S. 5.11b

10 bolts; 30m

Gain the flakes above the belay and climb these before traversing left and then direct to a belay on the right.

Pitch 10

SA 22, French 6c, Y.D.S. 5.11b

13 bolts; 30m

Climb to the right past a small crystal pocket and direct to some ledges, then climb right-facing flakes until a traverse to the left is necessary. Continue direct to a belay on a grey blob. Stop here or link P10 and 11.

Pitch 11

SA 21, French 6b+, Y.D.S. 5.11a

9 bolts; 25m

Climb direct to gain the Active Side of Infinity bolts, then follow these right to a belay in a sandy hollow.

Pitch 12

SA 22, French 6c, Y.D.S. 5.11b

8 bolts; 15m

Traverse left on a polished footrail before stepping into the white streak. Gain a rest before making crux moves up and right past a bulge to gain a belay on the right.

Pitch 13

SA 20, French 6a+, Y.D.S. 5.10c

15 bolts; 50m

Step left and climb up the white streak until you can traverse left to a belay in a scoop.

Pitch 14

SA 16, French 4c, Y.D.S. 5.8

10 bolts; 45m

Continue up the white streak to a belay in a hollow on the right.

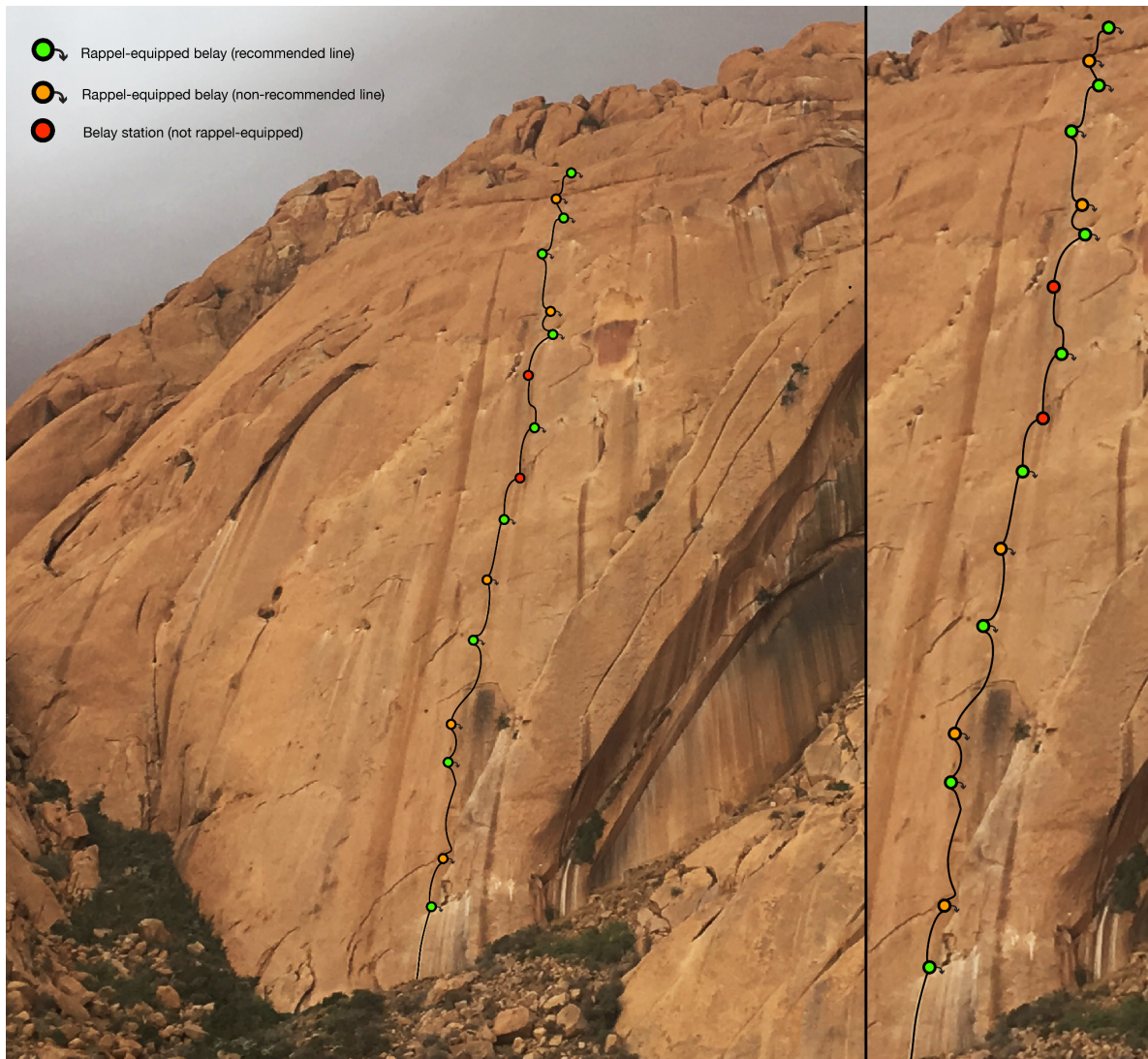


Fig 1. Topo with detail inset.

Pitch 15

SA 10, French 3, Y.D.S. 5.4

2 bolts; 30m

Cross the huge ledges to a belay under the bulge.

Pitch 16

SA 25/6, French 7a+/b, Y.D.S. 5.12a/b

12 bolts; 30m

Climb up the slabs to an initial low bolt under the bulge, traverse left and find your way through the bulge. Height helps. Traverse back to the white streak and palm your way to a jug hole. Mantle and continue up easing terrain.

Descent

Scramble down, or rappel the route on two 60m ropes following the green line (rappel length is maximised, and anchors from which ropes are likely to be snagged are avoided). This rappel line replaces the Slabchip rappels as the recommended route, if rappelling the S.W. Face (it is more direct and less snaggy).

Rack

Take 16 draws, or more if you want to link pitches together. Several extendable draws will help avoid rope drag. Two 60m ropes make retreat possible.

!Guri |Aib was bolted by C. Robertson and N. Robertson 11–17 May 2022 and free climbed in a single push using a portaledge by C. Robertson 26–29 May 2022, supported by N. Robertson (pitches 3-4, 8-9, and 10-11 were combined). The name is in Khoekhoegowab, the language of the Damara people who live around Spitzkoppe (thank you to Benny Gids for the translation and guidance on pronunciation).