

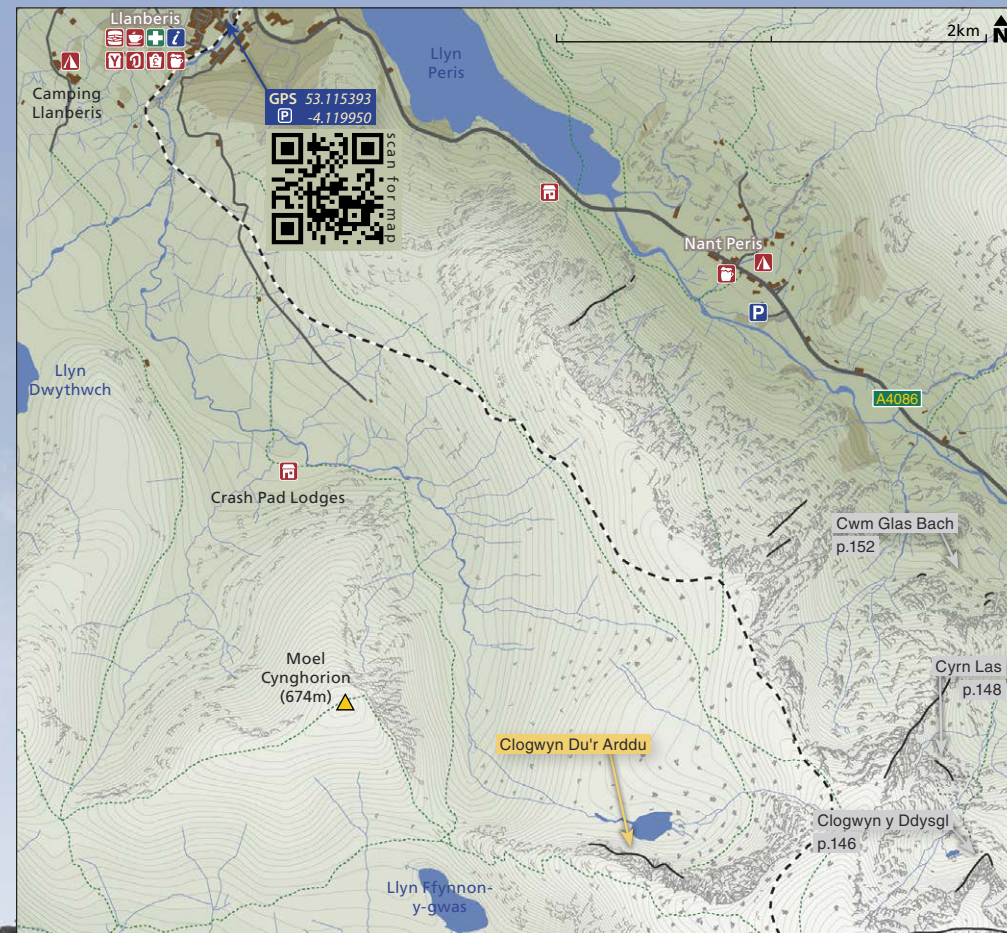
Cloggy is an amazing place; a grand cathedral to which climbers can make pilgrimage and follow in the footsteps of the founding fathers. The rock is never quite dry enough or clean enough to make the routes feel easy. But, on a day when the weather is just good enough to allow ascents to be made, it feels like you have taken a gamble and won. This is truly a crag for those searching out mountain adventure, and when planning ascents of any of the routes here, one would be well advised to be operating comfortably at the chosen standard.

Conditions

The main crag faces north and only gets a little evening sun in summertime (when we got some of the crag photos) although routes up on The Pinnacle get morning sun if you can get up early enough to get there in time. Cloggy is slow to dry, catches any wind going and has a dusting of lichen that refuses to loosen its grip even in midsummer. Don't let this put you off though; it's all part of the charm. If you get perfect conditions and climb here on the warmest and driest days of the year, then you'll have one of the most fantastic mountain experiences of your climbing career which you can finish off with a dip in Llyn Du'r Arddu, which will always cool you off. A day to bore your friends with for years to come!

Approach

Park in Llanberis at the large car park opposite the railway. Walk back along the road following signs for Snowdon Footpath, turning right into Victoria Terrace at a mini-roundabout. Follow the road up a steep lane to reach the Snowdon summit path (Llanberis Path) on the left. Follow this path for 3.5km, passing the Halfway House Cafe. Where the main path dog-legs left up a stony stairway, a subsidiary path contours straight on and bends rightwards to beneath the impressive cliffs.



State
Llanberis Pass
Clogwyn Du'r Arddu
Llwydd and Gwynant
Ogwen
Carneddau
Tremadog
Moelwyns
Betws-y-Coed
Gogarth
North Coast
Mid Wales

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Llanberis Pass
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East Buttress - Great Wall p.162

East Buttress - Pigott's Climb

It may be upstaged by its near neighbour, but the area left of Great Wall has a series of worthy routes taking strong lines up corners, cracks and grooves at reasonable grades. *Lithrig* in particular is a stunning route and even better if combined with *Pinnacle Arete*. **Approach** (map and overview p.158) - This is the first section reached by the approach path. **Descent** - From the Green Gallery above the walls, head up and right to reach the Eastern Terrace and scramble down this. Alternatively, move left with care and finish up one of the routes on The Pinnacle.

1 Sunset Crack VS 5a

Good climbing up the prominent crack in a corner on the left-hand side of the wall. **1) 4b, 42m.** Scramble up to a grassy ledge below the crack. Move up into the crack from the left (possible belay below a manky thread as for *Lithrig*) then swarm up it to a belay on the left below a steep section. **2) 5a, 20m.** Make a hard move to gain the chimney on the lip of the overhang. Some traditional thrutching up this leads to easier climbing above. Belay on the Green Gallery and escape right. *FA. A.Cox 24.6.1937*

2 Lithrig E1 5c

A great, historical classic that traditionally involves a tension traverse on P2. The route is HVS if done this way and many prefer to use the original method as Joe Brown himself said that this retains the "original spirit of adventure". **1) 4a, 25m.** Follow *Sunset Crack* to a stance below the corner by a manky thread. **2) 5c (A0/5a), 20m.** Delicately foot traverse a sloping ledge right to a groove. Move up the groove which leads up to a ledge on the rib. Traverse right below the overlap into a corner, then pull up and right through the roof. Follow the good holds above and right to a spike. Descend slightly and make a technical traverse across right. Alternatively, using tension off the spike, pull yourself across to a belay ledge with pegs and wires - A0/5a. **3) 4c, 15m.** Move up and right to gain and follow a crack. Make hard moves up to gain the base of a corner to a possible belay, although it is common to link this into the next pitch. **4) 4c, 18m.** Climb the corner to a ledge on the right and then move left into a crack. This leads to a belay on a ledge just below the Green Gallery. **5) 4a, 5m.** Climb up the short wall/crack to reach the terrace. Either escape off rightwards, or go carefully up to climb *Pinnacle Arete* - p.167. *FA. J.Brown, J.Allen (some aid) 14.6.1952. FFA. C.Phillips 1967*

3 Serth E2 5c

A good line up the left-hand side of the *Lithrig* wall. **1) 4a, 25m.** Follow *Sunset Crack* to a stance below the corner by a manky thread. **2) 5c, 20m.** Climb *Lithrig* as far as the traverse right then move up left to gain a groove in the arete. Sustained climbing up this leads with some difficulty to a ledge and a belay a little higher. **3) 5b, 18m.** Drop down to a ledge, then move right across the wall to a break. Gain and climb the groove above. **4) 4a, 12m.** Cracks and flakes on the right lead to the top. *FA. B.Ingle, P.Crew (3pts) 7.10.1963. FFA. C.Phillips 1968*

4 Pigott's Climb HVS 5a

The original route of the East Buttress. It follows a series of huge stepped corners. Start to the right of the main crack/corner of *Sunset Crack* at a stepped left-facing groove leading up to the base of the main part of the cliff. **1) 4b, 18m.** Climb leftwards over ledges and follow a corner to a grassy ledge. **2) 5a, 15m.** The rib on the right leads to a break-line that leads right to below a short steep corner. Tricky moves up this gain The Conservatory - a large grassy ledge. **3) 4a, 25m.** Climb the corner past a ledge on the right and enter the chimney above - generally easy but steep and intimidating - to belay on the large ledge. **4) 5a, 25m.** The stepped corner on the right leads with difficulty to the top. An impressive pitch for its time. *FA. A.Pigott and party 1937*

5 Chimney Route VS 4c

A good route if dry, otherwise it is a bit of a slimy nightmare. Start below a greasy chimney. **1) 4a, 15m.** Climb the chimney or the right wall which, although often drier, is much harder. Belay on a ledge on the right. **2) 4c, 15m.** The narrower slot is easier but short lived. You will eventually be forced to the right where accommodating holds lead you back to the chimney and a belay. **3) 4a, 12m.** Fairly straightforward climbing leads up until the right wall slabs off. Follow this to a belay. **4) 4c, 20m.** Move down and right and step round the rib into a groove (on *Diglyph*). Climb up this to a large flake. Move right to the steep wall and climb this on good holds in a mind-blowing position to reach the terrace. Either escape left and then back right, or continue on in the chimney theme with... **5) 4b, 30m. The Continuation Chimney.** Climb the chimney above to the top. *FA. C.Kirkus, J.Menlove 3.8.1931*

6 Diglyph HVS 5b

A good route that allows some of the aura of the Great Wall to be experienced at an amenable grade. Start just left of the base of the impressive Great Wall, below the chimney. **1) 4a, 15m.** As for *Chimney Route*. **2) 5b, 20m.** Move right to a crack and climb this to a small ledge in a short corner. Continue on past a steep section (peg) and continue to a ledge. Belay on the right. **3) 4c, 25m.** Climb up to the wide groove above which leads to a large flake. Escape out right onto a steep wall to gain the terrace. *FA. J.Brown, M.Sorrell 24.6.1951*

7 Daurigol E3 6a

A superb testpiece up the grooves on the left of Great Wall. Surprisingly awkward. Start below the left edge of Great Wall. **1) 5b, 20m.** Climb a groove left of a pinnacle then step back right and climb up to some breaks. Move right then up, to a stance below a groove. **2) 6a, 15m.** Climb up to the lower groove on the right. Follow this to where holds lead left to a hanging groove. Hard moves head left to the sustained upper groove. Continue to join *Diglyph*. **3) 4c, 25m.** As for *Diglyph*. *FA. B.Ingle, M.Boysen (3pts) 28.4.1962*

State
Llanberis Pass
Clogwyn Du'r Arddu
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North Coast
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1 Great Wall **E4 6a**

One of the UK's milestone routes for any aspiring hard climber. It traces a majestic line up this stunning wall with initially technical climbing giving way to easier (but bolder) moves higher up. Start on a grassy terrace below the high groove of *Daurigol* and to the right of some thin cracks that lead up the left-hand side of the Great Wall.

1) 6a, 25m. Climb up to a small overlap below a line of cracks. Climb these up and rightwards with difficulty until a reach gains a crack. Pull up into a depression to belay.

2) 5c, 35m. Climb up the crack and then a corner above (becoming thin on gear) to a left-facing groove and overlap. A memorable long move to a good hold leads quickly to a long ledge. Traverse right along this and back left to easier ground.
FA. P.Crew 27.5.1962. FFA. J.Allen, C.Addy 28.6.1975

2 Womb Bits **E5 6b**

A searingly thin direct line to the first belay of *Great Wall*. It is very similar to many of the great E5 slabs on slate, but with even more worrying protection. Start about 7m right of *Great Wall* and climb up to gain a vertical crack at 8m.

1) 6b, 25m. Make increasingly worrying moves up to the left-hand end of an overlap. Move up again and eventually step left onto the *Great Wall* belay.

2) 5c, 35m. Continue up *Great Wall* P2.
FA. J.Redhead, D.Towse 23.7.1984

3 A Midsummer' Night's Dream

..... **E6 6a**

A long and challenging route with three big pitches up the Great Wall. Like *Right Wall* and *Lord of the Flies*, the route is considered easier when someone has done the hard work and chalked it up for you. Start on a small grassy ledge halfway between *Great Wall* and *November*.

1) 6a, 26m. Trend up and left making your way towards ledges and a peg. Move up and slightly right to a wire looped over an old bolt. Move up and slightly left to a peg hidden in a flake/groove on the left (easy to miss). A hard laybacking type move followed by a reach leads over a bulge. A line of holds leads leftwards to just above the belay of *Great Wall*, step down and belay.

2) 6a, 23m. Follow *Great Wall* up the groove for about 10m, to a move left onto a tiny ledge on the wall. A thin and technical wall above leads to holds that track left to the belay on *Daurigol*.

3) 6a, 28m. Easy climbing leads up and left towards *Chimney Route* - stop just before this. Head up to the steep arete - a side-runner to the right protects the initial steep section. A powerful series of moves up this leads to an easing in both angle and difficulty. Collapse onto the ledge above knowing you have just completed one of the best E6s in the country.
FA. E.Drummond (5pts) 1973. FFA. P.Whillans, D.Armstrong 28.7.1977 and 28.5.1978 - pitches climbed in separate years.

4 Indian Face **E9 6c**

Indian Face has established itself as the route of the 1980s. It has only had a small number of repeats in the 30 plus years since it was first climbed and no on-sight ascents, despite routes with bigger E-grades receiving more attention. We haven't really included this route so that you should actually go and climb it, more to show you where it goes. If you are keen to make an ascent then we suggest you track down one of the previous ascensionists to get their beta.
FA. J.Dawes 4.10.1986

5 November **E3 5c**

A magnificent, long crack-line that defines the right-hand edge of the Great Wall. Start on the grassy terrace below the crack that bounds the Great Wall on its right.

1) 5a, 25m. **The Drainpipe Crack** is often wet. This leads to a stance on the ramp on the right. Big cams can help with the unnerving start and continue to provide benefit beyond.

2) 5c, 38m. Move back left and continue up the increasingly steep crack to a grassy ledge.

3) 5a, 20m. Climb the corner (tricky) then cracks to the terrace.
FA. J.Brown, J.Smith 3.5.1957. FFA. A.McHardy 1970

6 Jelly Roll **E2 5b**

A sensational airy line up the grooves above *Indian Face*. Brilliant climbing at an unlikely grade for the situation.

1) 5a, 25m. As for *November*.

2) 5a, 18m. Continue up *November* until the crack closes up, then swing left and up to a ledge below a groove.

3) 5b, 35m. Climb the amazing well-protected groove above on big holds with oodles of exposure. At the top overhang, move left. Belay or continue up easy ground to the Eastern Terrace.
FA. R.Evans, C.Rogers 17.9.1971

7 Vember **E1 5b**

The original line using the *November* crack to start and one of the landmark routes of the Brown-Whillans era on Cloggy.

1) 5a, 28m. As for *November* and continue up the ramp to belay directly below the chimney crack.

2) 5b, 30m. Gain the chimney crack. Follow this in a determined fashion past several challenges to reach a grassy ledge.

3) 4b, 12m. Climb the wall then easier ground to the terrace.
FA. J.Brown, D.Whillans 13.10.1951

8 Curving Crack **VS 4c**

One of the older climbs up the huge curving groove on the right side of the buttress. Something of a traditional thrutch, where crimping ability is never required - wall rats will have a humbling experience. Start on the right-hand side of the pedestal.

1) 4c, 10m. Climb the huge flake to the top of the pedestal via laybacks or jamming.

2) 4c, 20m. Swing left on a jug into the corner-chimney. Thrutch up the crack with a variety of off-width techniques past a steeper more awkward section. Belay on a ledge out left as for *Vember*.

3) 4c, 35m. Move back into the corner and bridge wildly up, moving back into the depths to arrange protection. Follow this until the right wall starts to form a slab. Move up this before finally gaining the fantastically exposed arete. Finish up this on good holds to a grassy ledge and belay. Scramble out to finish.
FA. C.Kirkus and party 19.6.1932

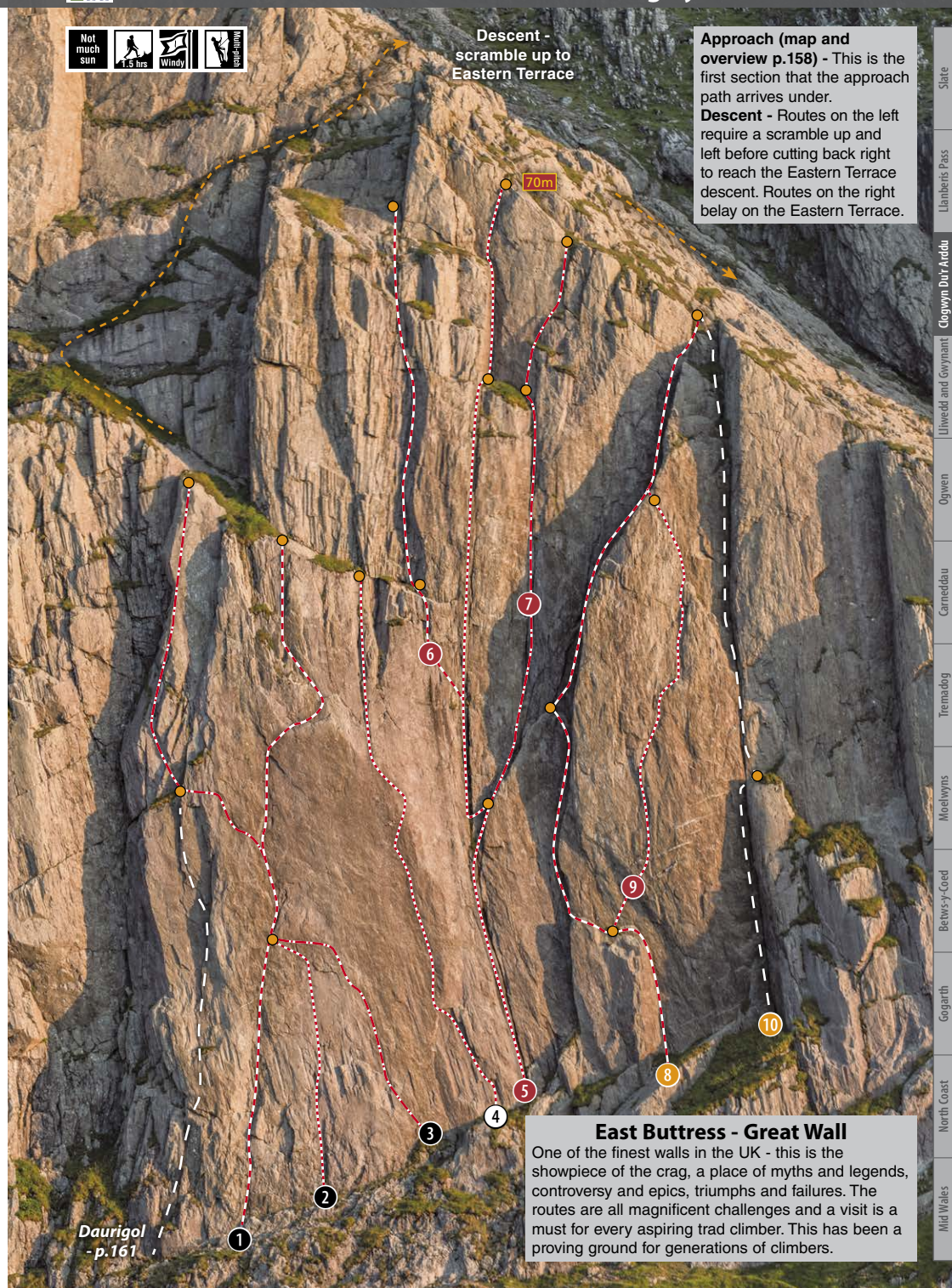
9 The Troach **E2 5b**

A magnificent bold wall climb giving open and exposed climbing on good holds with spaced protection. *Photo p.11*.

1) 4c, 10m. As for *Curving Crack* to the pedestal belay.

2) 5b, 45m. Move out right passing a narrow corner, then head up via a hard move to a small quartz ledge. Move up and left gaining a small groove and follow it for 13m past an old peg. Move right and head up with difficulty to an overlap and more ageing ironmongery. Go right to gain better holds and a short groove leading to a large flake. Traditionally the belay is here, but continuing up left onto the arete makes for a better pitch and a more comfortable belay.

3) 5a, 12m. Finish easily up the arete as for *Curving Crack*.
FA. H.Banner, R.Wilson (some aid) 4.10.1959. FFA. R.Evans 1967



Descent -
scramble up to
Eastern Terrace

Approach (map and overview p.158) - This is the first section that the approach path arrives under.
Descent - Routes on the left require a scramble up and left before cutting back right to reach the Eastern Terrace descent. Routes on the right belay on the Eastern Terrace.

East Buttress - Great Wall

One of the finest walls in the UK - this is the showpiece of the crag, a place of myths and legends, controversy and epics, triumphs and failures. The routes are all magnificent challenges and a visit is a must for every aspiring trad climber. This has been a proving ground for generations of climbers.

Daurigol /
-p.161



10 Pedestal Crack HVS 5a

The middle of the three long corners. Good climbing but often wet. Starting up the first pitch of *Scorpio* makes the route a worthwhile VS. Scramble up to a belay below the large corner.

- 1) 5a, 20m. Climb the crack to the pedestal on the right.
- 2) 4c, 15m. Move back left into the crack and climb it to a stance in the developing corner.
- 3) 4b, 25m. Continue easily up the corner to the terrace.

FA. C.Kirkus, G.MacPhee 3.8.1931

11 Scorpio E2 5b

A winding route up an impressive wall. Great sustained climbing leading to a thrilling climax. Scramble up to below *Pedestal Crack* and start just right of this at a rib.

- 1) 4b, 20m. Climb the rib for 8m then go right into an easy groove. Follow this up and left to a stance on the pedestal.
- 2) 5b, 40m. Move right along a ramp/ledge to a groove then climb this to a hand-traverse. Move right along this then up to a ledge. Climb upwards steadily until a move right gains a blind flake. Sprint up this to finish.

FA. N.Soper, P.Crew (some aid) 27.5.1961. FFA. T.Herley 1968

Not much sun
 15 hrs
 Windy
 Traditional

Eastern Terrace descent

The Boulder
 p.168

12 Silhouette E2 5c

A great direct version to *Scorpio*, sharing its middle section. P2 is long, so take a large rack. Hard for the grade.

- 1) 4b, 20m. As for *Scorpio* but move right to belay.
- 2) 5c, 45m. Climb a thin crack to reach the groove of *Scorpio* (possible belay). Follow *Scorpio* to a peg, then take the crack on the left to an overlap. A long move round this leads to another easier crack. Follow this to the top.

FA. R.Edwards, N.Metcalf 23.5.1975

13 The Corner HVS 5b

'Cloggy Corner' is comparable to *Cenotaph Corner* in quality and only slightly easier. It is often wet but can still be done since the jams are all sinkers.

- 1) 4c, 30m. Scramble up awkward ground, past grassy ledges to a belay below the corner. Can also be reached from *Scorpio* P1.
- 2) 5b, 35m. Climb the corner with one slight detour onto the left wall at around 6m.

FA. J.Brown, J.Allen, D.Belshaw 20.6.1952

14 Terrace Crack VS 4c

A pleasant route and a useful grade for Cloggy. Start in a small corner below a higher crack

- 1) 4b, 20m. Climb the corner and crack just to its left. Cross vegetated ledges to a slim groove. Ascend the groove to belay below the upper crack on the right.
- 2) 4c, 20m. Ascend the crack. Where it gets tricky, it is easier to make a slight diversion to the left and regain it at a chimney. Finish up the chimney - traditional - or the slab to the left.

FA. C.Kirkus et al 1931



Gwen Lancashire on *Shrike* (E2) - p.166 - high up on The Pinnacle, one of the most exposed faces of Clogwyn Du'r Arddu. Photo: Mike Hutton

Site
Llanberis Pass
Clogwyn Du'r Arddu
Ulivedd and Gwynant
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The Pinnacle

A magnificent chunk of rock with routes that give stunning exposure. Well worth the effort of the arduous approach.

Approach (map and overview p.158) - For *Shrike* and *The Axe*, slog up to the top of the buttress, most easily up Eastern Terrace or up the main Snowdon summit path and down the ridge. Abseil from a block above the East Gully. The routes on the front are also often used as continuations of routes below on East Buttress and are reached by an exciting scramble up steep vegetation.

Descent - Down the Eastern Terrace.

1 Shrike E2 5c

A superbly-positioned route with massive exposure from the first move. It is steep, well protected and has plenty of rests. Start about 12m right of the abseil, where a pinnacle rests against the overhangs. *Photo p.5 and p.165.*

- 1) 5c, 18m. Climb up the left side of the pinnacle and traverse left below a steepening for 3m to reach a thin crack. Tricky moves up this lead to a stance on ledges above.
- 2) 5b, 28m. Follow the groove above and pull round the overhang with interest to good holds on the left. These now lead out leftwards towards the arete. Climb up for a few metres before a delicate traverse leads back to the main crack. The crack is short and steep but thankfully blessed with huge holds and spike runners. At its top there is a ledge. From here, traverse out left again to the arete. Climb up before making a few tricky moves back right. A couple of steep and intimidating moves on buckets lead to the top.

FA. J.Brown, H.Smith, J.Smith 25.10.1958

2 The Axe E4 6a

The stunning arete is a magnificent pitch for which the word 'exposed' is nowhere near descriptive enough. Start right of *Shrike*, just right of an arete, by a flake/crack that leads to an overhang. Climb the flake/crack up to the roof and make a hard pull over this. Swing leftwards to a flake, then climb up the thin flake and wall to the arete above. Follow the arete to a good spike on the right, then move up and regain the true arete again by the overhang. This leads fairly directly to the top. Sensational! *Photo p.156.*

FA. P.Littlejohn, C.King 6.7.1979

3 Octo E1 5b

A great corner climb, and as well positioned as you would expect for this wall. The approach scramble across steep grass needs some care. It is best reached from below by routes on the East Buttress. Start below the prominent left-facing corner.

- 1) 4b, 15m. Climb the right-hand crack to a stance in the chimney.
- 2) 5b, 20m. Move up to an overhang, heave around this with difficulty, then another pokey section leads back into the crack above. A brutal fight up this on rattly jams leads to easier climbing up to the grassy ledge on the right. Scramble off easily right to escape.

FA. J.Brown, S.Sorrell, D.Belshaw 15.6.1952

4 Authentic Desire E7 6b

The compelling arete right of *Octo* provides a stimulating lead. Many micro wires protect. From the belay of *Octo*, move up to the base of the corner. Step out right to a good hold left of the arete. Then climb the left side of the arete for several metres to a delicate move around it which leads to better holds and a rest. Climb directly up the arete, past a further difficult move, to easier ground and gear in the break beneath the roof. Overcome the roof and climb the easy wall above.

FA. J.Redhead 24.9.1986



5 Pinnacle Arete E2 5b

A great route that is best used as an extension to routes on the East Buttress. Scramble up to spike belay below a corner, right of the arete of *Authentic Desire*.

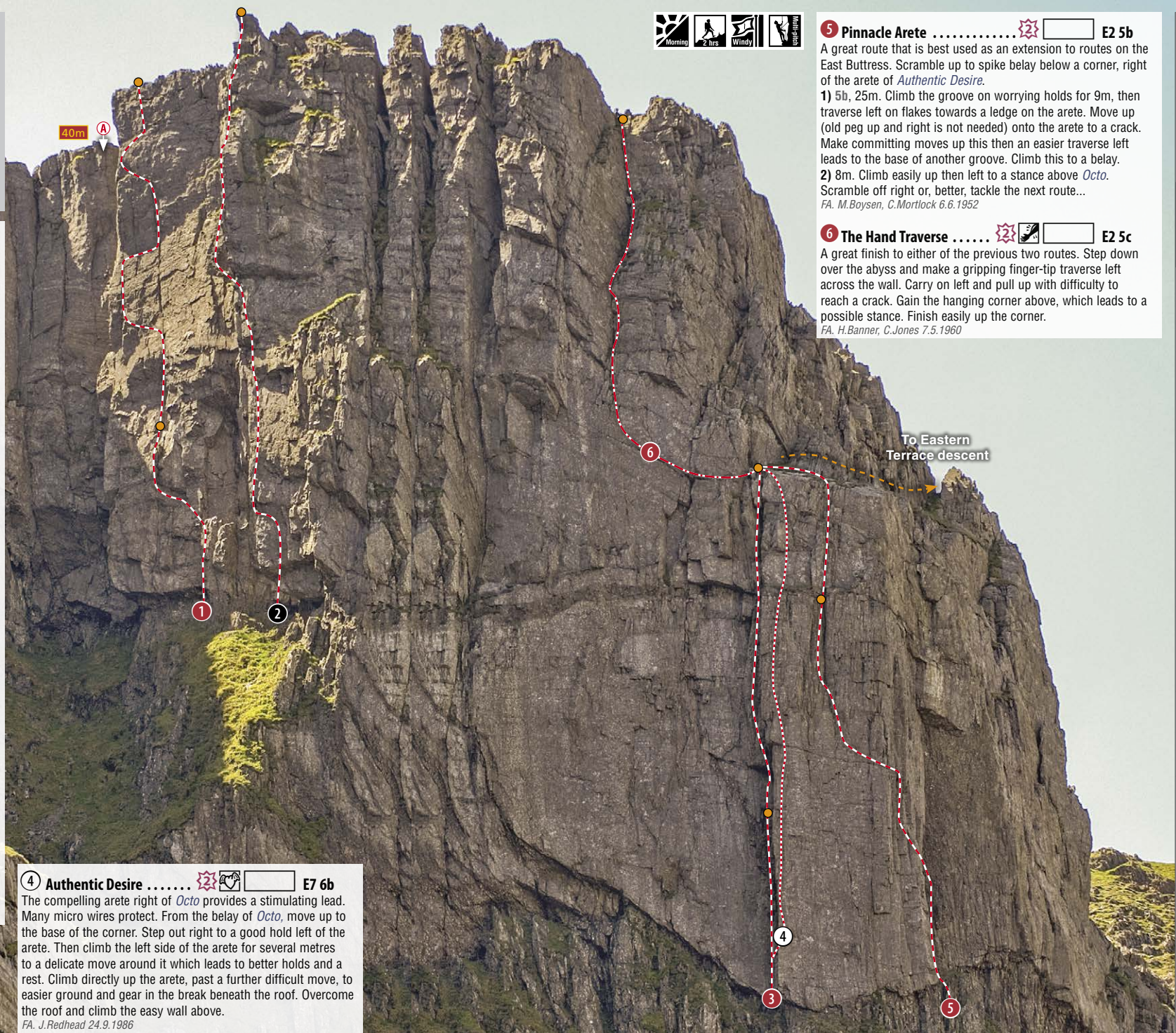
- 1) 5b, 25m. Climb the groove on worrying holds for 9m, then traverse left on flakes towards a ledge on the arete. Move up (old peg up and right is not needed) onto the arete to a crack. Make committing moves up this then an easier traverse left leads to the base of another groove. Climb this to a belay.
- 2) 8m. Climb easily up then left to a stance above *Octo*. Scramble off right or, better, tackle the next route...

FA. M.Boysen, C.Mortlock 6.6.1952

6 The Hand Traverse E2 5c

A great finish to either of the previous two routes. Step down over the abyss and make a gripping finger-tip traverse left across the wall. Carry on left and pull up with difficulty to reach a crack. Gain the hanging corner above, which leads to a possible stance. Finish easily up the corner.

FA. H.Banner, C.Jones 7.5.1960





Slite
Llanberis Pass
Clogwyn Du'r Arddu
Llwydd and Gwynant
Ogwen
Carneddau
Tremadog
Moevynys
Betws-y-Coed
Gogarth
North Coast
Mid Wales



Not much sun
1.5 hrs
Windy
SARAPAO
DANGER

Descent

110m

70m

Eastern Terrace descent

White Slab - p.171

The Boulder

The West Buttress is bounded on its left-hand side by a smooth wall of rock. This has a series of superb, bold and delicate routes. To the right of this the interwoven slabs of the main West Buttress begin.

Approach (map and overview p.158) - Head up onto the Eastern Terrace and then scramble down the grassy rake below the cliff.

Descent - Down the Eastern Terrace.

1 Left Edge E1 5a

The 'easy' introduction to this slab follows the left edge as you would expect from the name. It gives amenable climbing with spaced protection. Start by a break below the left arete of the slab.

- 1) 4c, 15m. Step onto the slab and balance tentatively up to gain a small stance (peg).
- 2) 5a, 35m. Move up and left to a ledge around the arete and continue past a hard section to another ledge. Pull back right onto the front face of The Boulder and head up to a short groove which leads to grassy ledges. Scramble off above - best to stay roped up and take care when it is wet.

FA. R.Moseley 17.4.1954

2 The Boulder E1 5a

A bit harder than its left-hand companion, it features a superb, bold and exposed traverse across the face.

- 1) 4c, 15m. As for *Left Edge*.
- 2) 5a, 30m. A committing move gains the gently-rising traverse line which leads delicately rightwards for about 10m. A further heart-in-mouth move gains another slightly higher traverse in a similar vein. A final move up gains a stance just left of the corner.
- 3) 5a, 15m. Move up and right into the corner of *The Black Cleft* then pull up left and around the overhang above to a belay.
- 4) 40m. The slabby gully leads to the top.

FA. J.Brown 28.10.1951

3 The Boldest E4 5c

The best of the bunch takes a direct line up The Boulder. Often considered an E4 climber's *Indian Face*, the route features thin and technical climbing with spaced protection. A good rack of micro wires will be of use. Start towards the bottom of the ramp, just left of a groove that heads up the lowest right-hand part of The Boulder.

- 1) 5c, 40m. Traverse right across grassy ledges to reach a corner. Climb this to a hollow spike. From this, go up and right and then back left to beneath an overhang. Traverse left under this and climb through it on its left side. Above, continue left and then back right to reach a worrying flake. Stuff this with small cams before heading up and slightly leftwards to reach *The Boulder* traverse line with relief. Climb up a few feet to a good nut belay.
- 2) 5c, 30m. Another bold pitch. Climb direct to a shallow groove. This gives some tricky moves before easier ground leads to the top. Belay well back with care.

FA. (P1) P.Crewe, B.Ingle 21.9.1963. FA. (P2) C.Phillips, P.Minks 1969

4 The Black Cleft E2 5c

Horrific and slippery climbing up the compellingly obvious line - you have to really want to climb this one. The corner is usually wet in a summer drought, and really wet at other times so expect to get filthy. In winter it can offer a great winter route - VII,7 mixed with thin ice on the first pitch.

- 1) 15m. Climb the right-hand edge of a pillar, left of the main corner (and usually the driest option) and belay on the top.
- 2) 5c, 20m. Move into the corner and start swimming upwards to an optional stance.
- 3) 5c, 20m. Continue in the same damp line past some hanging gardens and a small overhang. Continue up, then step left to a belay and junction with *The Boulder*.
- 4) and 5) As for *The Boulder*.

FA. J.Brown, D.Whillans 4.5.1952

5 Longland's Climb VS 4c

A fine old classic that takes an intricate line up the slender slab on this side of the West Buttress. The first route to breach the imposing West Buttress. Start at the foot of *The Black Cleft*.

- 1) 15m. Scramble across easy ground to a block and traverse right to a ledge below the narrow slabby corner.
- 2) 4a, 25m. Climb the slabby corner to a belay in the base of the widening chimney-crack.
- 3) 4b, 12m. Climb up the chimney and slab above either on the left (easier) or by pulling out right and traversing back above (better) to a belay on the right.
- 4) 35m. Easy climbing leads up the slab to a crevassed ledge on the right.
- 5) 4c, 25m. From the right end of the ledge, pull up steeply over the overhang on good but spaced holds. Then move right into a chimney. Climbing up this leads to easier ground and the top.

FA. J.Longland and party 5.1928

6 Gecko Groove E2 5b

A hard groove climb with tenuous gear. Start at the foot of *The Black Cleft*.

- 1) 4b, 20m Scramble across easy ground to a block and traverse right to a ledge below the narrow slabby corner. Continue down and right to below the next narrow slab.
- 2) 5b, 20m. Make a hard move to enter the base of the groove from the left. Climb the groove to a bulge, go round this on its left to then move back right to a ledge and belay shared with *White Slab*.
- 3) 5b, 40m. Climb boldly up the groove to a runner at about 10m. Make a delicate and challenging traverse left to the arete. Climb this to eventually join *Longland's Climb* which leads to the crevassed stance.
- 4) 4c, 25m. As for *Longland's Climb*. From the right end of the ledge, pull up steeply over the overhang on good but spaced holds. Then move right into a chimney. Climbing up this leads to easier ground and the top.

FA. H.Banner, R.Beasley 17.5.1959



West Buttress - White Slab

The complex set of slabs and walls in the centre of the West Buttress is home to some of the finest multi-pitch climbs around. **Approach (map and overview p.158) - Sheaf** is reached by scrambling down to the base of the Eastern Terrace. *West Buttress Eliminate* and *White Slab* are gained from the base of the crag. The *Great Slab* is reached by scrambling up the Western Terrace. **Descent** - Down the Eastern Terrace.

Descent

110m

The Boulder p.168

Longland's Climb - p.169

Approach to Sheaf

Linnell's Leap



1 Sheaf HVS 4c

A complex line that weaves up the West Buttress at a relatively friendly grade. Start at the base of the Eastern Terrace, just above a wet and grassy crack.

- 1) 4c, 20m. Climb a crack to a small stance under the rib of *White Slab*. This can also be reached from the base of *Longland's*.
- 2) 4c, 12m. Move right, then pull round onto the slab. Move right again, then descend with difficulty (Linnell's Leap) to a belay at the bottom right of the slab.
- 3) 30m. Move down slightly and scramble rightwards then up grassy ledges. Climb the short slab to a belay in a corner.
- 4) 4b, 20m. Climb the slab to the arete and pull round to a big shared belay on *White Slab*.
- 5) 4c, 20m. Move right then up the groove to an overhang. Swing round this to another groove and follow it to a small ledge and belay in the corner above.
- 6) 4c, 20m. Stride right across the corner, then pull round onto a narrow slab. Climb this more easily to a stance.
- 7) 30m. More broken scrambling up grassy ledges leads past one more possible stance to the top.

FA. J.Campbell, A.Cox 17.10.1945

2 West Buttress Eliminate

..... E3 5c
This superb climb takes the most direct line on this side of the West Buttress - 'eliminate' in name but certainly not eliminate in nature! Start below a red groove.

- 1) 5c, 35m. A serious pitch. Climb the groove for a short distance until you can move across the steep right wall on good (but spaced) holds and up to ledges. Head up to a large block and climb the groove above with difficulty over a bulge to the base of the *White Slab*.
- 2) 5b, 40m. Climb the groove on the right-hand side of the slab to a shared belay on a flake.
- 3) 5b, 40m. **Walsh's Groove**. An amazing pitch up the main groove, requiring sustained back-and-foot techniques. Belay at the top of the slab on a ledge over to the left on *White Slab*.
- 4) 4a, 12m. Climb easily up behind the belay to a crevassed stance on the right. This is P6 of *White Slab*.
- 5) 5a, 30m. Either finish as for *White Slab* P7, or step left and follow the slab to the top. This is **Longland's Direct Finish**.

FA. B.Ingle, P.Crewe 3.6.1962

3 White Slab E2 5c

One of the great Welsh Classics, with the other of Cloggy's great lasso/pendulums. Start about 30m right of the base of Eastern Terrace, where a small broken pinnacle leans against an overhang. *Photo p.173*.

- 1) 5b, 25m. Climb up and off the pinnacle and make a delicate traverse across the lip of the overhangs to a groove. Move left again into an often-wet groove and follow this to a ledge and flake belay. Quite a serious pitch so place all the limited runners you can find - your second will need them! It is possible to leave a sling on a low spike to back-roped the second.
- 2) 4b, 20m. Climb the groove and slab to the base of the main upper slab.
- 3) 5a, 30m. Move up the slab briefly and then make a diagonal traverse with difficulty to the arete (Linnell's Leap in reverse). Climb the arete to a spike, move right and take a thin crack up to a flake. Head left round the rib to a groove and move up to a belay.

- 4) 5c, 15m. Pull up and right round the arete, from here there are several options. The original is to lasso a small spike over in the groove - you'll need good eyesight and the precision aim of a cowboy plus about 12m of rope. You can then either pendulum across or free climb the thin traverse (this is also possible without the spike lassoed of course). A third option, which requires bravery and an extra E point, is climbing the extremely bold blunt rib direct at E3 5c before moving right to the belay.
- 5) 5a, 35m. Climb the edge of the slab up to a ledge.
- 6) 4a, 12m. Climb easily up behind the belay to a crevassed stance on the right.
- 7) 4c, 30m. P5 of *Longland's*. Pull up steeply then move right to a chimney. This leads to easier ground and the top.

FA. R.Moseley, J.Smith (1pt) 19.4.1956

4 Great-Bow Combination HVS 5a

A brilliant combination of pitches taking the best line up this side of the buttress. Rope up and scramble up for about 40m, as far as the first weakness through the overhang, by a reddish slab.

- 1) 4c, 45m. Move up and left to spikes and blocks. Climb onto the slab and arrange gear on the right. Step down and left to the base a long groove. Follow this, on good holds, to a move left to a good ledge on the arete. Traverse left to a block belay.
- 2) 4a, 25m. Move right across exposed ledges to gain the rib. Climb this in a spectacular situation to a stance.
- 3) 5a, 35m. There are two options: hard or bold. The harder one is a low traverse to make a difficult pull up to gain the diagonal break. Option 2 is to go high, which is scarier, and foot traverse the break. Continue to a crack which leads to a ledge on the left edge of the slab.
- 4) 4b, 25m. Steady climbing up a thin crack in the slab edge to another well-positioned stance.
- 5) 35m. Pull right back onto *Great Slab* and climb the rib past a possible belay to the top.

FA. (Great) C.Kirkus, G.Macphee 15.6.1930

FA. (Bow) J.Edwards, J.Cooper 9.1941

5 Great Slab VS 4c

One of the great Cloggy mountaineering routes, with only one technically demanding section up an often-damp corner. Other than this most of the climbing is straightforward. Rope up and scramble up for about 40m, as far as the first weakness through the overhang, by a reddish slab.

- 1) 4c, 45m. Move up and left to spikes and blocks. Climb onto the slab and arrange gear on the right. Step down and left to the base of a long groove. Follow this, on good holds, to a move left to a good ledge on the arete. Traverse left to a block belay.
- 2) 4a, 12m. Follow *Great-Bow Combination* for 12m metres to the first easing on the rib with a prominent diagonal break just above. Step right onto the slab, passing a flake/spike. Carry on traversing right to the corner and climb the grassy gully to a belay below a groove.
- 3) 4c, 45m. Climb the groove past an often-wet section, crux, and continue up to gain the corner/groove on the left. Follow this to the first grassy moustache and then take a diagonal line leftwards across slabby rock to a belay in the middle of the *Great Slab*.
- 4) 4c, 45m. Carry on in the same vein, moving diagonally left to hit the arete and savour the exposure. There are several possible belays here, the best one is higher up.
- 5) 15m. Climb the easy but sensational arete to the top and scramble out.

FA. C.Kirkus, G.Macphee 15.6.1930



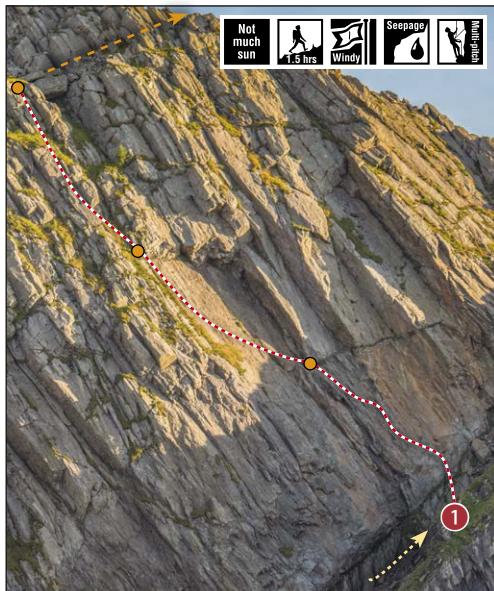
Bloody Slab

Although rather isolated, and with a more challenging approach, *Bloody Slab* is a good route.
Approach (map and overview p.158) - Scramble up Western Terrace - care needed with loose rock.
Descent - Head to the top and walk left to the Eastern Terrace descent.

1 Bloody Slab E3 5b

The best route on the right-hand side of the West Buttress tackles the clean red slab. Start by scrambling high up the Western Terrace to a point below the right edge of the slab, just before a large boulder.

- 1) 5b, 30m. Pull up, then traverse up leftwards to a flake at 15m. Move up over a bulge, then continue up leftwards along a flake to a small overhang. Pull round this on the left and belay in a shallow corner (peg).
 - 2) 5b, 25m. Traverse left and head up to a tiny ledge, then move down and left to reach a grassy gully. Follow this to a stance.
 - 3) 35m. The rib above leads to easier ground and the top.
- FA. J.Streety 10.6.1952

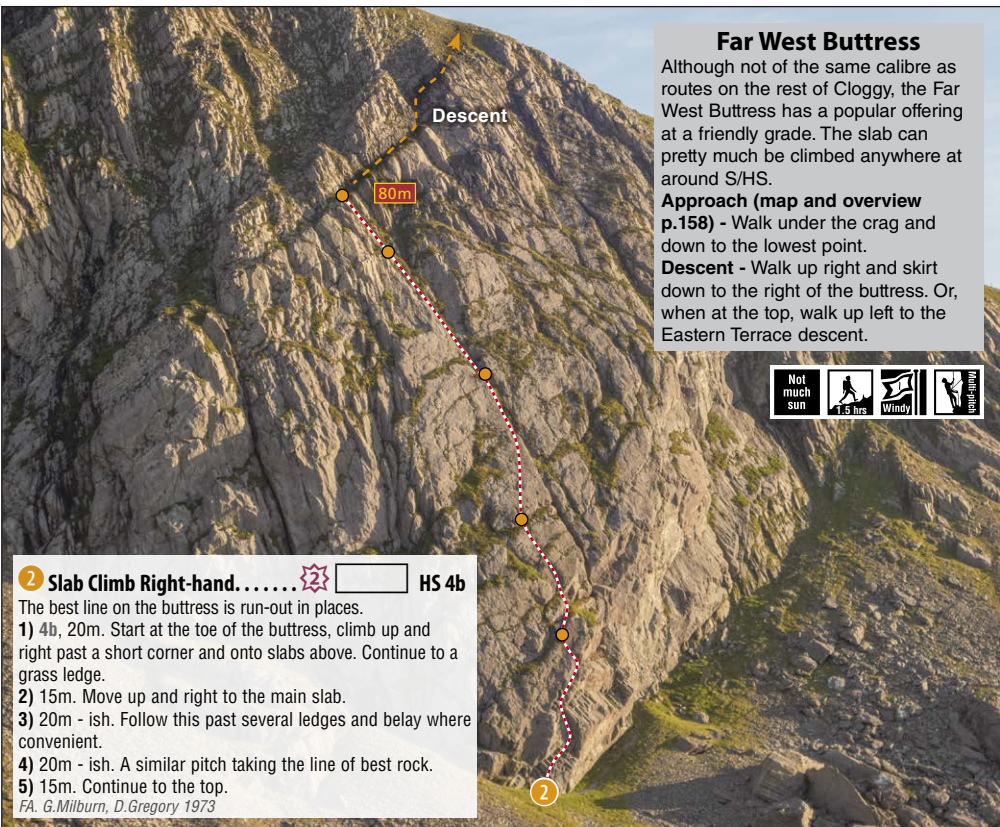


Far West Buttress

Although not of the same calibre as routes on the rest of Cloggy, the Far West Buttress has a popular offering at a friendly grade. The slab can pretty much be climbed anywhere at around S/HS.

Approach (map and overview p.158) - Walk under the crag and down to the lowest point.

Descent - Walk up right and skirt down to the right of the buttress. Or, when at the top, walk up left to the Eastern Terrace descent.



2 Slab Climb Right-hand..... HS 4b

The best line on the buttress is run-out in places.

- 1) 4b, 20m. Start at the toe of the buttress, climb up and right past a short corner and onto slabs above. Continue to a grass ledge.
 - 2) 15m. Move up and right to the main slab.
 - 3) 20m - ish. Follow this past several ledges and belay where convenient.
 - 4) 20m - ish. A similar pitch taking the line of best rock.
 - 5) 15m. Continue to the top.
- FA. G.Milburn, D.Gregory 1973



Luke Davies enjoying one of the very best multi-pitch E2s in North Wales *White Slab* (E2) - p.171 - on the West Buttress of Clogwyn Du'r Arddu. Photo: Luca Celano