

## Sector Kastraki

(36.969963, 22.991085)

Kastraki is the easiest crag in Kyparissi, with routes as easy as 5a. Kastraki is in the middle section of the village, above the church and not far from the beach, in lush surroundings with beautiful views. It has all the makings of a popular crag: very good quality limestone, low to mid-grades (5a-6c), a "central" location and a very easy approach.

**Equippers**: The routes at **Kastraki** were equipped by Aris Theodoropoulos and Claude Idoux (who came all the way from Kalymnos to help). Yiannis Metaxotos from Leonidio also did a very thorough job of cleaning and gardening, on and off the rock. Most route names are local nicknames paying tribute to old seamen or other past residents of this part of the village.

Climbing: On the left (Kastraki) a quality grey wall, somewhat sharp but with great variety of features and moves. On the right (Kastraki Upper), an overhanging red wall with tufas, big holds, and gym-style routes. All routes are very well-protected; go for the onsight!

**Gear**: 70m rope; 15 quickdraws (QD) for routes up to 30m, 20 QD for routes longer than 30m.

**Conditions**: Best for spring and fall climbing, but summer climbing is also possible in the mornings.

**Shade**: In the morning and early afternoon. The sun comes at 13:30 (lower) or 14:00 (upper).

Exposure: SW

Approach: Go to the middle part of the village (called *Paralia*), on the SE side of Kyparissi. You will see the church and cemetery on the right as you drive down to the beach. Park either near the church or across the road (in a plot with olive trees used as a parking area; there is a sign). Cross the little bridge leading to the cemetery entrance and walk around the cemetery wall to the right. You will see the clear path going up to the cliff; there are also red marks. Walking time: 5 min.





| 1 | Pipis                               | 2★ | 5a 10m |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|--------|
| _ | A good training route for beginners |    |        |

2 Koles 2★ 5b 10m
Another good warm-up.

3 Tsitos 1★ 5c+ 15m Inconsistent. A hard start, then much easier.

4 Koufos 3★ 5c 10m
A short but steep wall with good holds.

5 Sirmas 3★ 6a 25m A very technical corner to start; the upper part is easier.

6a+ 25m
A great, smooth slab with good holds when you need them.

7 Batarolos
A pleasant wall with a couple of moves on steeper terrain.

8 Rozos 3★ 6a 25m
A grey wall with a short technical crack and an exceptional steep finale.

Mantrakoukos 3★ 6b 25m A steep wall with good variety and a comp-like finish on brown rock.

10 Kolios 3★ 6a+ 25m
A stiff intro, but hidden holds are a pleasant surprise. The enjoyment comes at the end!

Tafiris 3★ 6a+ 25m
A nice start with big holds leads t a technical upper wall.

12 Kakaras 2★ 6a 30m Long and satisfying with a pleasing slab on the 2nd half.

(13) Kastraki 3★ 5b 20m Good holds just keep coming.

14 Kastraki Ext
A quality grey wall and amazing steep finish up the pillar.

15 Mougaras 3★ 6a+ 30m Another beautiful and photogenic pillar.

16 Kepas 3★ 6b+ 28m

Starts with a very technical bulge and challenging footwork

Easier, but continuously interesting, after that.

17 Bouras 3★ 6a 28m
A wall full of good hidden holds!

18 Pontikos 2★ 6b 18m Hard start, easier upper part.

19 Monimos 3★ 6c+ 18m
Three cruxes and a hard final clip.

Frydias
Stellar moves from hole to hole!

Tzambas 3★ 7a 18m

Great climbing on tufa terrain with three intriguing bulges.

Gandemis

3★ 6c 18m

Easier tufa climbing plus an interesting overhanging corner with plenty of rest opportunities.

Jumping Fish
An exceptional steep climb and beautiful moves.

24 Krinos 2★ 6c 18m
A white technical line with big but sharp holds at the end.

Tantra 3★ 6a+ 18m
A slab, a bulge with good holds/long moves, then slab again

26 Panotsis

A hard but interesting bulge leads to steady climbing with no further surprises.



out hunting near these cliffs when she was overcome by thirst. Cotton-mouthed and desperate, she pounded her spear against the rock. And, suddenly... Whoosh! Fresh, cold water gushed out! Atalanta was happily rehydrated, and they say the carvings in the small caves at the foot of the cliff are remnants of ancient water basins used for dedications to the gods. It is also said that the water here was so plentiful until the 1960s that it flowed freely down the cliffs in small waterfalls. If in doubt, there are ruins of 3-4 old stone watermills in the area to prove it.

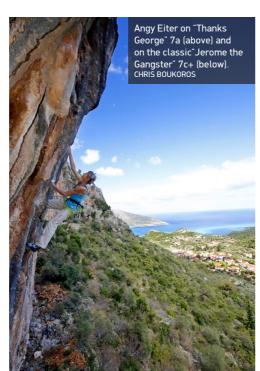
**Climbing**: On bulletproof red limestone decorated with loads of stalactites and tufa snakes. There is potential for several new top-notch sport routes.

**Conditions**: Climbing is best on spring and fall afternoons when the cliffs are in the shade. Conditions are fair on breezy summer afternoons also, especially after 17.00.

Shade: After 13:00. Exposure: NE

Approach: As you approach Kyparissi, the crag overlooks a distinctive big bend in the road. It is about 700m before you get to Vrysi, the village's first 'district' (36.957351, 22.986013). Park on the side of the road and follow the path to the chapel. When you get to about the same level as the cliffs, walk rightwards.

Walking time: 0-5 min.





| 1 | Tiris                               | 3★ | 6a 20m |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|--------|
|   | A quality slab just above the road. |    |        |

| 2 | Welcome to Kyparissi | 3★ | 6a 20m |
|---|----------------------|----|--------|
| _ | A crack and slab.    |    |        |

| 3 | Welcome to Kyparissi Ext         | 3★                 | 6c 35r |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| _ | Wall and amazing tufa finish, ha | ard to clin the ch | nain   |

4 Vryl 3★ 7c 20m
A strange start on underclings then steep and continuous.

5 Pita 4-Ever
A tufa climb left of the long big overhang.

3★ 7a+ 25m

6 Kalimeralex 3★ 7a+ 25m
Tufas and a steep overhang. Starts together with #5.

7 Esterattitude 3★ 7b 25m More tufas and steep overhangs.

8 Neromylos 3★ 8? 30m A single tufa line.

Zarax
Tufas in the middle of the cave's roof.

Medusa's Blood

A "king" line with steep start on big tufas then a devious headwall. FA Angy Eiter, 2015

11 Asclepius 3★ 7c+ 25m
Technical wall and small tufas.

Thanks George 7 7a 30m
Long big tufas and athletic climbing.

Myros 7b 30m
Excellent steep tufa climbing.

Jerome the Gangster 7c+ 25m Steep, between the twin tufas.

15 Kyparissi 3★ 7a 20m

An impressive single tufa.







15 Stelios House 3★ 7b+ 20m
Tufas and bouldery moves.

17 Stelios House Ext 3★ ? 35m

18 Kyfanta 2★ 7b+? 25m

19 Tetoros 1★ 6a 18m
The slab and groove. A bit slippery.

Smoke on the Water 3★ 6b+ 30m Slab and wall, with a late crux.

Sidiropoulos 3★ 6c 30m Again, wall climbing with a cruxy end.

Krikos 2★ 7a+ 27m
Tricky wall with hard footwork and tufas in the mid-section.

Kiafa 2★ 6c 20m A tough, short tufa start, then eases off.

24 Skourkos 2★ 6a+ 20m A steep start, then technical.

Gelis 3★ 6b 20m
An easy start, then two short problems.

25 Giouzelis 3★ 6c+ 30m A technical grey wall. The footwork isn't easy either. 27 Trypes 2★ 7a+ 20m
A short wall with a couple of "mono" moves.

28 Trypes Ext 2★ 7b+ 36m 3pa. Wall and overhang.

Koumara 3 the 6c 20m Still on the short wall, but with tufas this time.

30 Koumara Ext 2★ 7a+ 36m 2pa. Wall, overhang and tufas.

(3) Kyparidiso 2★ 7a 36m Wall, overhang and tufas.

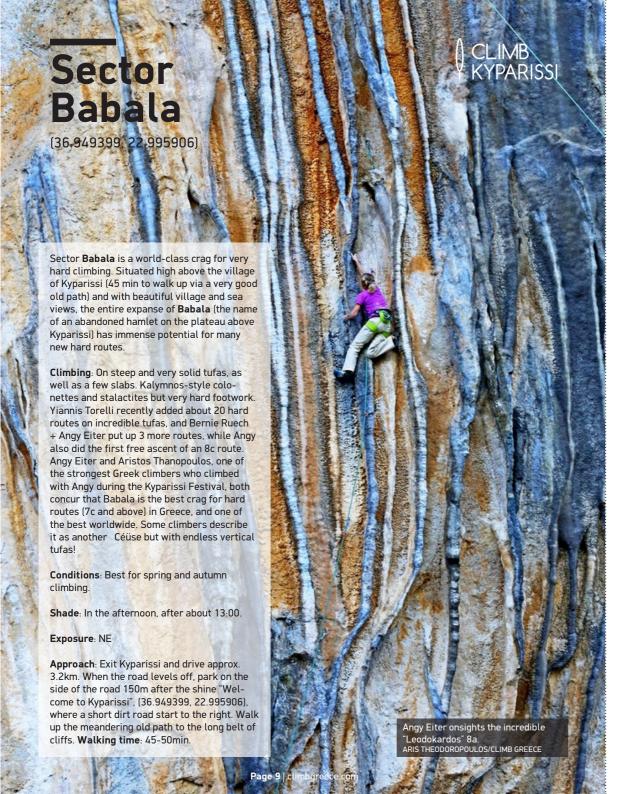
32 Cave Man 1★ 6c 33m A technical wall; not very homogeneous, and still dirty.







Page 7 | climbgreece.com





1 Gloom of Triumph 3★ 8c 30m Starts on pretty tough tufas. The middle consists of some small crimps before it ends on a perfect tufa all the way to the top. FA Angy Eiter, 2015. A Eiter. B Ruech, 2015

2 Mythos

Starts together with #1 but then traverses to the right. Big underclings and quite good holds lead to a big tufa. The very upper part is quite tough and tricky. FA Angy Eiter, 2015.

A Eiter, B Ruech, 2015

3 Carpe Diem (1st Part) Steep, athletic climbing on perfect tufas.

A Etter, B Ruech, 2015

Carpe Diem
Continues up a big tufa with a tricky finish on hard moves.
FA Angy Eiter, 2015. A Eiter, B Ruech, 2015

5 Mea Culpa 3★ ? 30m Steep on big tufas!

6 Gerobabalis 3★ ? 30m Another great tufa line.

7 Wood 'N Metal 3★ ? 35m A low-angle pillar leads to the amazing single tufa.

8 Aima kai Sperma 3★ ? 25m Excellent steep tufas and well-spaced holes and jugs.

9 Father of Lies 3★ ? 20m

10 Tiresias 3★ 7c+ 20m Excellent tufa climbing and a delicate, balancy finish.

12 Skliros Theos 3★ ? 30m

13 Stokos 2★ 6b+ 15m A short bulge and very technical slab.

Ntinos 2★ 6b+ 20m
A tricky start leads to a smooth slab.

15 Mitsaras 2★ 6c 25m Smooth slab and a hard bulge at the finale.

16 Magnum Opus 3★ 7b+ 25m
A bouldery tufa-blob start and classic tufa climbing with a tricky exit.

17 Magnum Opus Ext

Easier (7b) than the first part up a natural overhanging tufa groove.

3★ 7b+ 45m

18 Lefko Pnevma 3★ ? 25m
Intermittent tufa climbing.

Advocatus Diaboli

A smooth wall and stellar black-and-white twin tufas.

21 TCHAO Wild Goat (Part 1) 2\* 6a+ 15m

A crack with balancy climbing and well-spaced jugs.

TCHAO Wild Goat 3★ 7c 30m A technical wall.

3★ 7c? 30m Starts with "Tchao" then goes right. Climb on the lip of the roof and above.

Octo Plus

Great rock with tufas and spaced jugs.

3 \* 8a+ 30m

25 Marion 3★ 8b+? 30m Tufas and underclings lead to a juggy crack system.

## Sector **Psilovrachos**

(36.949399, 22.995906)

Sector **Psilovrachos** is a recent creation by Yiannis Torelli. It is an almost roadside crag about 1km from Harakas village, near the top of the scenic road which descends towards Kyparissi. All routes were equipped by Yiannis Torelli in spring/summer 2015 for the Kyparissi project.

Climbing: Hard routes between 7a-8b on limestone of excellent quality. The left side features a vertical grey wall; the right is full of colonettes + very overhanging rock.

Conditions: Best for climbing in autumn and spring, as well as on summer afternoons.

Shade: In the afternoon after about 14:30. Exposure: E

Approach: From Kyparissi, drive towards Harakas village. When you get to "Stavros" (shortly before entering Harakas village) make a U-turn at the parking area just in front of the little church. From there, drive back towards Kyparissi for about 1km. Park at a small parking area off to the right near a telephone pole (36.921739, 23.007973). The crag is diagonally across the road. Use the fixed rope to go up.

Walking time: 2 min



October. CHRIS BOUKOROS





| 1 | Thalassoplagtos                             | 2★     | 7a 25m 10  | Parapola                |
|---|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|
|   | Pocketed grey slab.                         |        | -          | Again, a technical wall |
| 2 | Aoratos Roz Monokeros                       | 2★     | 7b 30m     | Astropeleki             |
|   | Technical wall.                             |        |            | Nice tufa snakes and a  |
| 3 | Ploes                                       | 2★     | 7c+ 25m 12 | Falkonera               |
|   | A super-technical wall.                     |        |            |                         |
| 4 | Syneidito Afti                              | 3★     | 8a+ 25m 13 | Blue                    |
|   | Technical with a very long reach.           |        | _          | Juggy and athletic clin |
| 5 | Poisonous                                   | ı      | ? 25m 14   | Blue Ext                |
|   | A hard single tufa climb.                   |        |            |                         |
| 6 | Bona Fortuna                                | 3★     | 7c+ 25m 15 | S. Rovatsos             |
|   |   |        |            | Big holds when you ne   |
| 7 | Siderenia Fterna                            | ı      | 7c+ 25m 16 | Ektos Edras             |
|   | Fantastic tufa snakes and then very techni  | cal.   |            | Steep tufa climbing.    |
| 8 | Manifesto                                   | 3★     | 8a 25m 17  | Ektos Edras Ext         |
|   | A hard first part leads to continuous techn | ical ( | climbing . |                         |
|   | Duch  | 24     | 2.25m      |                         |

A technical wall climb.

| 10 Parapola  | 2★ | 7b+ 25n |
|--|----|---------|
| Again, a technical wall.                           |    |         |
| Astropeleki Nice tufa snakes and a technical wall. | 3★ | 7c 25m  |
| 12 Falkonera                                       | 3★ | ? 25m   |
| 13 Blue  Juggy and athletic climbing.              | 3★ | 6c+ 25m |
| 14 Blue Ext  | 3★ | ? 35m   |
| 15 S. Rovatsos Big holds when you need them.       | 3★ | 6c+ 20n |
| 16 Ektos Edras Steep tufa climbing.                | 2★ | 7b 25m  |
| 17 Ektos Edras Ext                                 | 2* | ? 35m   |

# Sector Jerome's House

(36.915641, 23.003433)

Jerome's House is a few km outside Kyparissi. It is closer to the village of Harakas, at the point where the road starts to descend the mountain towards Kyparissi. The craq is just below the road, but you cannot see it from the road. It is a very compact mostly grey wall. At the base of the cliff is a small cave and a wide flat strip of land. The crag's name was inspired by the house of John "Blackjack" Jerome, a lone structure visible at the far end of the gorge down by the sea (pictured). Jerome was a mobster and strikebreaker originally from Kyparissi; he lived in California in the early 20th century. He had big plans for that house (including installing a cable car/teleferic to connect the house to the col!) but, alas, got himself killed before his plans could come to fruition. Jerome's House was equipped primarily by Claude + Christine Remy (routes 5-15) with the contribution of

Climbing: On well-protected routes up a quality grey wall with good hidden holds. Unusual, prominent features in the middle section of the crag. The rock in the lower part of the routes looks awkward, but the climbing is impressive. Ideal for grades from 6a to 7a+. Routes are quite new and need some traffic to clean up.

Aris Theodoropoulos + Yiannis Metaxotos (1-4, 16,17).

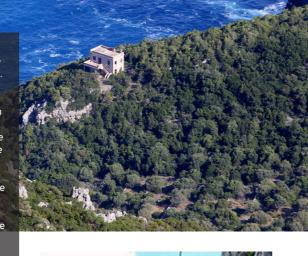
**Gear**: 70m rope minimum; 15 quickdraws (QD) for routes up to 30m, 20 QD for routes longer than 30m.

**Conditions:** Breezy and cool, as the crag is near the col. Best for climbing in autumn, spring, summer afternoons.

Shade: All afternoon starting at 12 o'clock noon.

#### Exposure: NE

Approach: From Kyparissi, drive to Harakas village. Park at an obvious parking area on the left near a chapel, shortly before the entrance to Harakas (36.915641, 23.003433). Then walk back towards Kyparissi for 150m and down a steep hard path to the right starting opposite a small shrine (36.917377, 23.003299) following red marks and cairns. The path goes through discarded rubbish, but a cleanup and improvement of the path is planned for next spring. Walking time: 15 min.







|             | 77 114 10  | 18              |                            |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Pinkerton | 2* 6b+ 30m | 11 Hospeatality | JEROME'S HOUSE  3★ 6b+ 30m |

|                | A wall with good holds when you need the   | n!                 |                                 |
|----------------|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 30m            | Choco Heaven  More wall climbing with good holds.  | 3★                 | 6b+ 30m                         |
| 0m             | Bangstersand more wall climbing with good holds.   | 3★                 | 6c 30m                          |
| Om<br>ves.     | Bangsters Ext  Keep climbing up the wall but the holds ge  | <b>∫</b><br>et sma | <b>7a+ 38m</b><br>aller. 20 QD. |
| 20m<br>turn is | The Crazy World  A big overhang, crack and wall.   | 2★                 | 6c 30m                          |
|                | 16 The Crazy World Ext<br>A crack. 20 QD.  | 2★                 | 7a+ 35m                         |
|                | Of Arthur Brown Overhanging with big holds.  | ı                  | 6b 20m                          |
| 5m             | 18 Of Arthur Brown Ext<br>Wall and crack climbing.   | 3★                 | 6b+ 30m                         |
| 0m             | 19 Catalavenis? Wall, overhang and monos.  | 2★                 | 7b 25m                          |
|                | 20 Catalavenis? Ext  |                    | 7c 50m                          |
| 30m            | Five meters up a smooth wall, 7c. Then, th with good holds, about 6c. You can also aid then go up the nice 6c wall. 20 QD. |                    |                                 |

Page 13 | climbgreece.com



Kidoni
A wall and crack.
2★ 6a+ 20m

22 Low Cost 2★ 6a+ 20m

A wall, crack and smooth slab.

Strikebreaker 2★ 5c 25m A good warm-up for this sector.

24 Teleferic 2★ 5c 25m
An interesting corner climb.









Above, a lovely lady in the village of Harakas who let us into her home to charge our drill battery whilst bolting routes at sector Stavros, and treated us to sweet figs from her garden and cold water while we waited.

The ultimate hospitality! ARIS THEODOROPOULOS

Left, a view of the Myrtoan Sea and the abandoned house from sector "Jerome's House". K ROUSSOU

Below, the small beach beneath the abandoned house of John "Blackjack" Jerome. The entire coastline around Kyparissi is dotted with pretty beaches and clear water. CHRISTINE REMY



Page 16 | climbgreece.com

### Sector Stavros

(36.915641, 23.003433)

Sector **Stavros** is a sport crag with a distinct mountain character in a beautiful setting. The crag is next to an old and very impressive zigzag cobblestone path called *Gyres*, which leads down to Pyliza and the abandoned house of Jerome the Gangster. *Gyres* is a rare sample of the hardships local residents had to endure until the road connected them to the rest of the world, but it is also proof of the mastery and craftmanship of the locals. It is a connection to the past and in dire need of maintenance to avoid it collapsing, and it would be a real shame if it was lost along with so many other remarkable paths like this all over Greece.

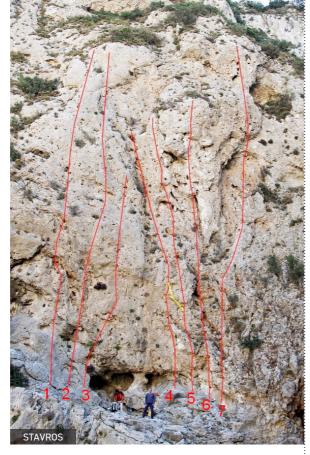
Sector **Stavros** was created by Aris Theodoropoulos, Yiannis Torelli and Yiannis Metaxotos in September 2015. Route #1 was first bolted in 2008 by N Kostopoulos + D Mavropoulos, but it was cleaned and rebolted in 2015.

**Climbing**: On vertical-to-slightly-overhanging mountain-style grey limestone full of hidden holds. The start of routes #4-#7 is easy but the rock is not very good; climb with care. **Helmets necessary**.

**Conditions**: The crag is near the col, so it is very cool and breezy. Best for morning climbing in summer, spring and fall. Not good on windy or cold days!

Shade: Until 14:30 Exposure: N

Approach: From Kyparissi, drive to Harakas village. Park at an obvious parking area on the left near the small chapel, shortly before the entrance to the village (36.915641, 23.003433). Then walk down the old stone path for 3-4 min. The crag is to the right of the path as you descend, on a pretty limestone balcony. Walking time: 3-4 min.



Paliochora 3★ 6b+ 35m
A pocketed bulge then pleasant grey wall. First bolted in 2008 by N. Kostopoulos, D Mavropoulos. Rebolted/cleaned in 2015.

2 Alonaki 3★ 6c+ 35m Slightly overhanging start on good pockets, then an easier but interesting thin wall.

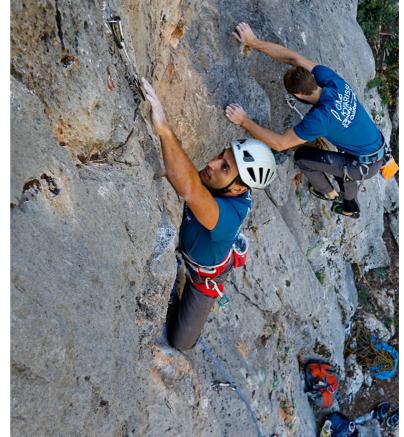
3 ★ 7a 25m
Intense pocketed climbing on a slightly overhanging wall.

Moma (Pyliza) 2★ 6b 30m
A hard start leads to an easy groove.

5 Zastano 2★ 6a 30m A well-featured wall climb.

6 Vigliza 3★ 6c 32m A poor groovy start then several amazing juggy bulges.

7 Gyres 2★ 6c 40m A poor start again, only for experienced climbers. Then, overhangs with well-spaced big holds.



CLIMB KYPARISSI

Left, Spiros Anatolianos climbing at sector Kastraki during the festival's "Climbing Marathon". With grades from 5c-7a and very well-protected routes, sector Kastraki is, understandably, quite popular. CHRIS BOUKOROS

Below left, our local friend Nikos, one of many people from Kyparissi who proudly helped with the details in preparation for the festival. ARIS THEODOROPOULOS

Below right, one of the undeniable highlights of the Kyparissi festival: The dinner buffet! Look at all the food on those plates. ARIS THEODOROPOULOS





Page 17 | climbgreece.com Page 18 | climbgreece.com