

# Klettern in Brseč (Kroatien)

<http://brsec.mur.at>

## Brseč

Brseč is a small historical village at the eastern coast of Istria. Despite the very busy coast road divers may be the only foreigners who ever may have noticed it. The rocky coast lacks sandy beaches and convenient access to the sea is scarce. Even the small harbour is only accessible using a wild and windy road. Therefore tourism stays away and Brseč remains a quiet treasure.

It is not surprising that divers were the first to explore the rocks. The development happened secretly over the past few years but has reached a point where we thought about making the area public.

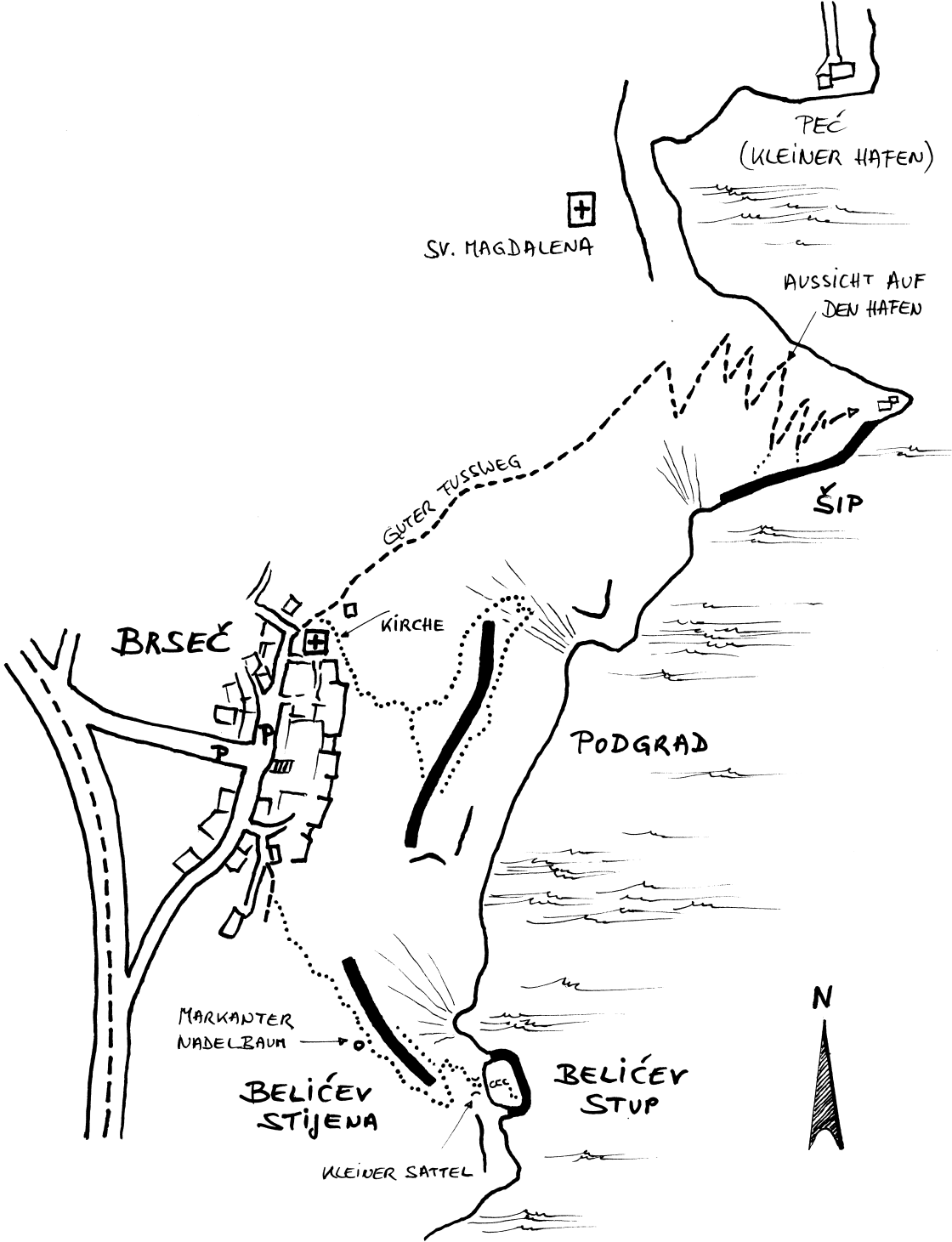
At this point it must be stated clearly that Brseč is NOT an area of “plaisir climbing”!! The limestone is extremely sharp and access to the basis of the different walls needs a considerable degree of experience. The abseil points are not easy to find and it’s tricky not to dip the rope while pulling it down. Very well then, not really family friendly, more a matter of “terrain adventure”.

The routes are well protected though the distance between the bolts can be wider than in famous sport climbing areas and 4–5m are possible. For whom this is to adventures a small assortment of friend and nuts is recommended. For the long pitches without intermediate belay 14–16 runners are necessary.

The residents of Brseč are very friendly people and the village offers apartments, rooms, a grocery, a post office and a restaurant. You will find more accommodation in Vozilici in the South and Moscenicka Draga in the North (camping ground).

The area has been found by Ingo Schalk joined by Gerald Wagner, Martin Sprenger and Gerhard Grabner, supported by Hans Rust and Martin Schlitter, all from Styria/Austria.

Overview



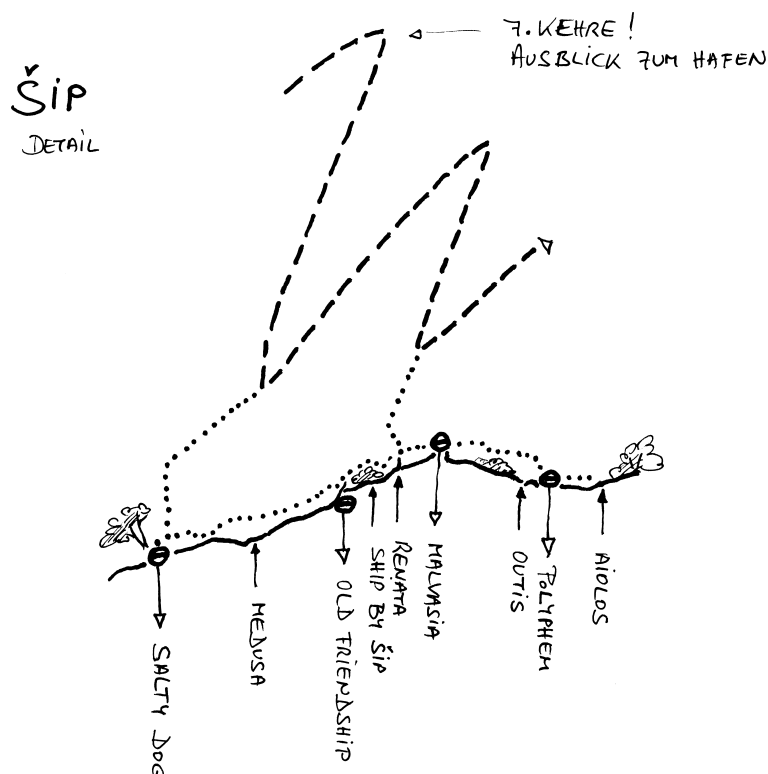
# Šip

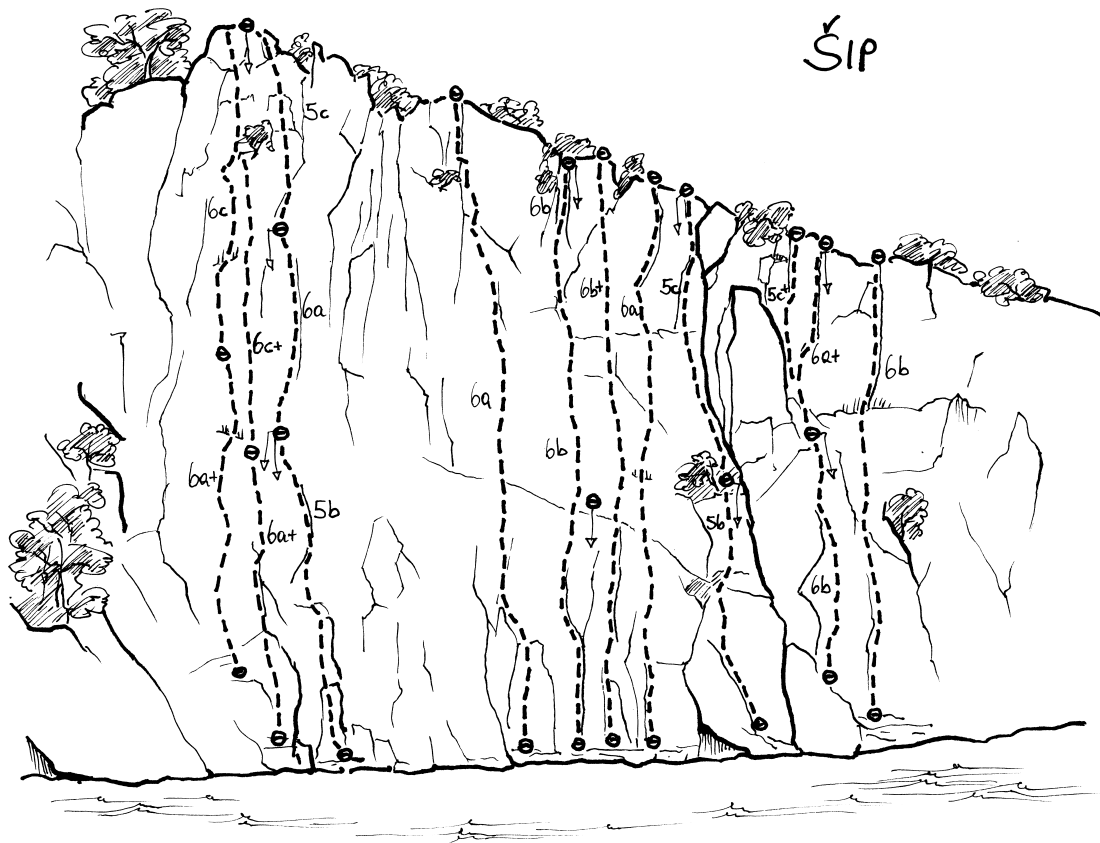
Mainly extreme harsh limestone, sharp flakes, pockets, sinters and also some steep cracks. The wall is well structured and such has moderate difficulties. Some belays are just above the water line what can be exciting when the sea is rough. Great scenery!

## Access

Half right behind the church starts a good footpath which leads downwards alongside old stonewalls. After a while the footpath becomes steeper and curves down towards the tongue of land called “Šip”. After the 7th hairpin bend you’ve a good view of “Šip” and the opposing small harbour of “Pec”. In the following hairpin bend a small “track” points straight ahead, first horizontal and then a few meters upwards to the edge of the cliff (abseil point “Salty Dog”, 60m, 3x20m). Two hairpin bends further you will reach the exit of “Renata” (slings, do not abseil!). Approximately 10m to the right (“Ship by Šip” is in between) is a small corner with the abseil point of “Old Friendship” which can be reached by climbing down (50m, 2x25m. The intermediate belay becomes visible very late!)

There are two more abseil points left of “Renata” which can be seen in the topo (both 2x25m). Caution! All other routes have NO intermediate belay! Ideally you should use a 50m or 60m fixed rope (“Salty Dog”) when climbing those routes. When you are pulling down the rope don’t forget the obligate runner otherwise your rope will take a bath.





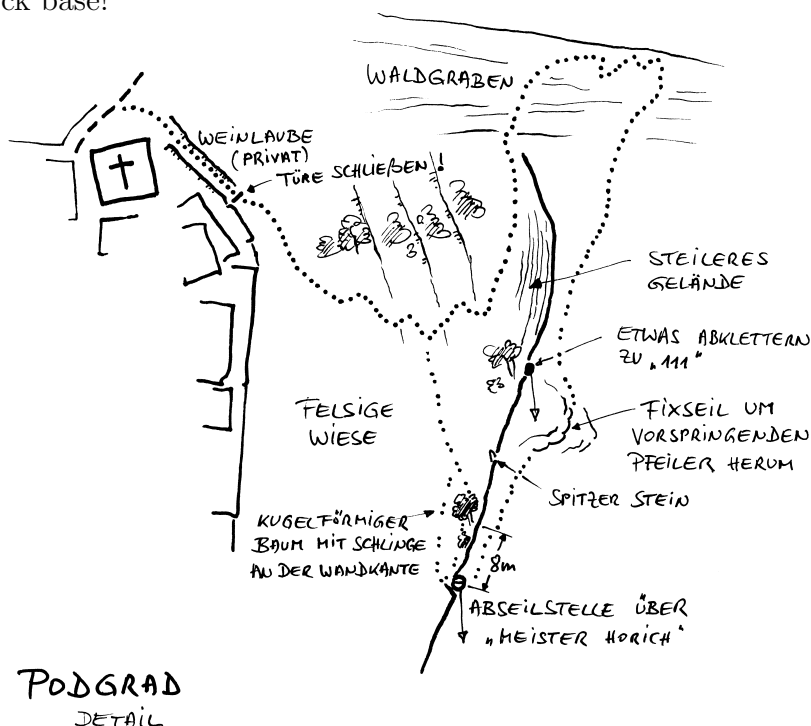
## **Routes:**

(from left to right)

- a. **Last Sugar**, 6c, 55m, The crux is an exciting slab
- b. **White Pepper**, 6c+, 60m, Phantastic pitch along a white ridge
- c. **Salty Dog**, 6a, 60m, Just in the middle a wee bit more difficult
- d. **Medusa**, 6a, 55m, Very homogeneous long pitch
- e. **Old Friendship**, 6b, 50m, Nasty double crack at the end
- f. **Ship by Šip**, 6b+, 50m, Compact wall with small holds in the upper part
- g. **Renata**, 6a+, 50m, Sharp pockets in the upper section
- h. **Malvasia**, 5b/5c, 45m, The perfect route . . . after to much Malvasia
- i. **Polyphem**, 6b/6a+, 35m, Two very nice crux
- j. **Outis (Nobody)**, 5c+, 15m, Easier alternative
- k. **Aiolos**, 6b+, 35m, Gently overhanging top crack

## Podgrad (Brseč-Wall)

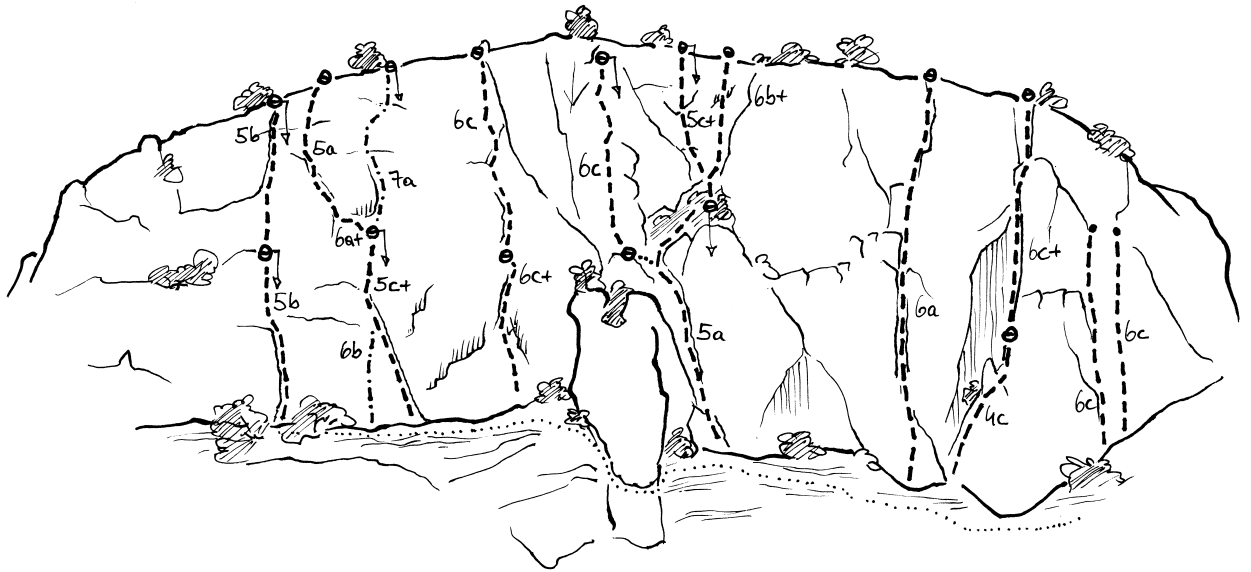
Situated 50m below Brseč this 50m high wall offers many different sorts of climbing. Everything is there, from some easier classic lines to routes in overhanging red rock. Harsh small pockets and fine structured rock is mixing up with demanding cracks. Sloping rock base!



### Access

Turn right immediately behind the church, walk through a small private wine yard (Treat with respect! Keep the gate shut!) towards a rocky sloping grassland just below the village. Stay left! Before the terrain gets steeper, traverse to the left into a woody trench. Again, stay left and traverse to the right not before you are at the same level as the rock base and the routes of the right sector. To get to the left sector you must traverse further using a fixed rope (Attention! Alpine area). Maybe a better alternative to get there is to abseil down "Meister Horich" (2x25m). To get to this abseil point you must scramble down to the right instead of traversing into the woody trench (see topo). Look out for a small but prominent ball-shaped tree with a sling attached (do not abseil!). 8m to the right is a small ledge, from there you can climb down to the abseil point.

## PODGRAD



### Routes:

(from left to right)

- a. **Meister Horich**, 5b, 45m, Homage to Franz Horich
- b. **Diver in Danger**, 7a, 50m, Complicated crux, dream exit
- c. **Flying Dutchman**, 6a+, 55m, Beautiful classic line in compact rock
- d. **Crimson Hawk**, 6c+, 50m, Overhanging, pockets, genial. Demanding exit
- e. **111**, 6c, 25m, Top pitch! Also accessible by "Wanderratz"
- f. **Wanderratz**, 5c+, 50m
- g. **Ratroof**, 6b+, 20m
- h. **Once upon a time**, 6a, 50m, Classical crack
- i. **Feige/Sau**, 6c+, 50m, Unique crack, not for everybody. Demanding
- j. **Hope**, 6c, 50m, Steep and always hard. Perfect
- k. **Müllmania**, 6c, 30m

# **Belićev Stup and Beliće Stijena**

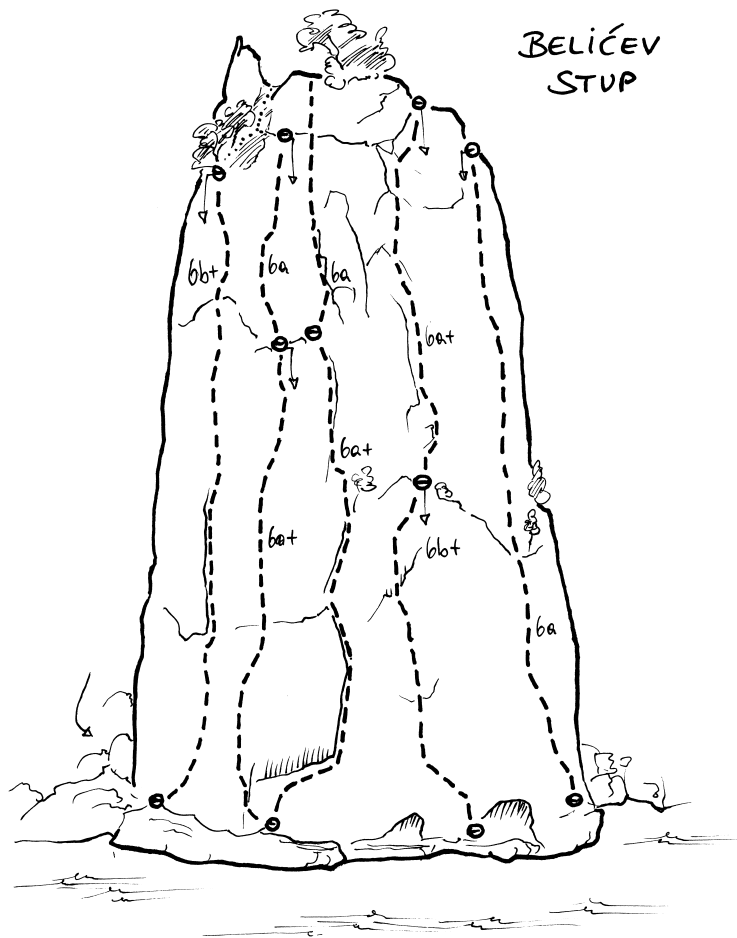
## **Belićev Stup**

Beautiful 40m high monolith with a steep and compact wall, just above the sea. Fortunately there is a small ledge to start. The lower part is breccia which crumbles at places, above you will find best limestone. Everyone who needs is fingers to make her / his living shouldn't climb here. Due to the steepness and the extreme sharp pockets and flakes you can't loosen your grip. However, you will be rewarded by a fantastic scenery.

## **Access**

From the parking place in Brseč walk back (South) and down the first road to the left. After a few steps take the horizontal road (house access) to the right. At the end of the road follow a trail which is heading straight on. After a couple of meters a small footpath starts to the left and leads you down to overgrown ancient cultural land. Most of the time you have a stonewall to the right and the slope to the left.

After passing by a prominent tree you're just above the cliff "Belivec Stijena". To get to the "Stup" you are heading further down, traverse the base of "Belivec Stijena" and scramble down to a small saddle. From the saddle a fixed rope and some iron holds will help you to the top of "Stup". Alternatively you can climb down (nasty) to the right into a small bay and traverse to the start of the climbs (until "Dr. No" fixed rope).



### Routes:

(from left to right)

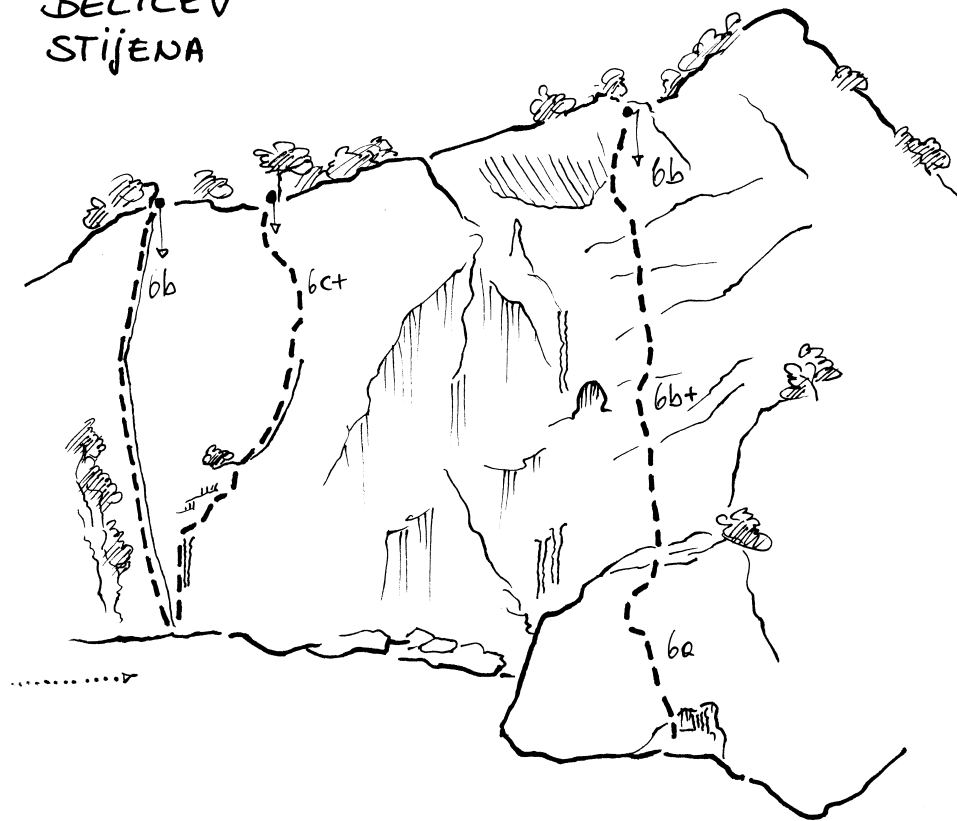
- a. **Goldfinger**, 6b+, 30m, Crux with small holds
- b. **Octopussy**, 6a+, 35m, Slab with small pockets. First Class!
- c. **Dr.No**, 6a+, 40m, Easy traverse at the start and a tricky one the end
- d. **Casino Royale**, 6b+, 40m, Inclined start, then unbelievable rock
- e. **Moonraker**, 6a, 32m, The first one in the shadow

### Beličev Stijena

Steep wall on the way down to “Stup” with three exciting routes and (what else?) quite sharp rock



# BELIČEV STIJENA



## Routes:

(from left to right)

- a. **The Ivy Plot**, 6b, 25m, Nice corner
- b. **Kitten in the need**, 6c+, 25m, Start at the sinter column
- c. **Wespennest**, 6b+, 30m, Looks wild, steep with many holds