

Little Princess

French 7a+/7b & E3 5c
USA 5.12a/b 140 m

First Ascent: P1 - John Gregory - March 2011 (Free climbed)
(Ground Up) P2 - Andrew LaBonte - March-April 2011 (aid / bolted on lead)
P3 - Andrew LaBonte - December 2012 (aid / bolted on lead)
P4 - Aiden Laffey - December 2012 (aid climbed)
P5 - Aiden Laffey - January 2012 (aid climbed)

First Free Ascent: Andrew LaBonte and Aiden Laffey
March 31, 2012

Legend

Summit Register

Bolted Belay

Gear Protected

Bolt Protected

Descent



Little Princess- Red Wall (Wadi Nakhab)

140m French 7a+/7b and E3 5c+ or USA 5.12a/b

First ascent:

Pitch 1: John Gregory (free) *March 2011*

Pitch 2: Andrew LaBonte (aid/ bolting on lead) *March-April 2011*

Pitch 3: Andrew LaBonte (aid/ bolting on lead) *December 2011*

Pitch 4: Aiden Laffey (aid) *December 2011*

Pitch 5: Aiden Laffey (aid) *January 2012*

First Free Ascent (every pitch red pointed): Andrew LaBonte (pitches 2,3, and 5)
Aiden Laffey (pitches 1 and 4) *March 31st 2012*

Notes on First Ascent:

This route was climbed ground up with a mixture of free and aid climbing. All of the bolts were drilled on lead. A combination of tactics was used such as hanging from sky hooks or marginal gear placements when there was no stance from which to drill. This is not a *compressor route* i.e. bolt ladder.

Since aiding the first ascent we have jummed up fixed lines and given the route a proper cleaning before attempting to red point the hard pitches.

Pitch 5 ends just a few meters shy of the top of the cliff because of a guillotine shaped rock that is balanced directly above the belayer mid way up the pitch. Aiden pendulumed over to the right of the block and attempted to climb past it but the rock quality deteriorated the rest of the way to the top. So, we stopped

there. The current pitch 5 is short but it is of quality that is not out of character with the rest of the route, which is to say that it is very good.

Approach:

See approach to Red Wall. Road has been extended a long ways since that topo for *Vertical Vice* was written and an extension to the Bedu path has been found. Now it takes about 45-60min to walk in.

Route Description:

- P1.** Climb past 2 bolts up the right facing corner for 55m to a ledge (hvs 5a or 5.9)
- P2.** Clip the first bolt and climb down 2 m from the belay then right and up following line of bolts. Some awkward and pumpy climbing leads to a rest below a white cascade line. Make a dynamic move to the top of the small right facing corner then move left on slopers to the bolt belay. (20m 7a+/7b or 5.12a/b depending on your reach)
- P3.** Follow the line of bolts through crimpy technical moves to a small ledge then up a corner/ crack to the belay ledge. (25m 6c/6c+ or 5.11a/b)
- P4.** Climb straight up from the ledge to reach the crack. Climb straight up the perfect hand/fist crack through three hour-glass chimneys to reach the last ledge. (35m E3 5C+ 5.10d/5.11a)
- P5.** Climb straight up the finger crack to reach the ring bolt where the summit register is. Check out the guillotine block before lowering down to the ledge. (5m E1 5b or 5.9/5.10a?)

Gear:

P1. Standard rack + 2 draws

P2. Quick draws

P3. Quick draws + one 3 inch cam

P4. 2X 1 inch cam

3X 2 inch cams

8or 9 X 3 inch cams (seriously)

1 X 4 inch

1 X 5 inch

One draw for the one bolt in the chimney

NO STOPPERS or small cams!

P5. 3 smallish cams (0.3 – 0.5 inch)



