

## 2-Peg Arch, 21

Roland & Berrit Graf, M.Venter, July 2023

**The route** follows the obvious arch and up the slab to the summit of Pontok 2.

It is a mixed route (trad and bolts) with superb trad climbing at the arch. All belay points are bolted. The overall rock quality is very solid. Average grading is about 18 with some bolt protected grade 21 moves on friction.

**Approach** the route from the south eastern side of the Pontoks. Start below Pontok 4 and walk up left diagonally on easy slabs below and past Pontok 3 towards Pontok 2 (follow beacons, approach takes approx. 1½ hours)

**Descent:** Abseil the route to the arch, pick up your trad equipment (which you deposited on the belay anchor on the way up) and traverse 4m to the abseil anchor. (This anchor was placed to avoid the rope getting trapped at the blocks below while pulling it down). Abseil 3x 55m straight down from the arch.

### **Pitch 1 - 30m - Mixed "18"**

Climb the big flake (cam protection), to the slab and corner (bolts) up to a ledge.

### **Pitch 2 - 30m - Mixed "19"**

Follow the crack line, superb face climbing with some bolts, place additional protection in the crack.

### **Pitch 3 - 30m - Mixed "20"**

Delicate friction climbing, fully bolted until the crack opens again. Place trad protection and start to approach the arch until reaching the bolted belay.

### **Pitch 4 - 20m - Trad "17"**

Enjoy superb trad climbing on moderate grades by traversing the prominent arch past 2 pegs (pitons) (I regard pegs as trad protection) to the next bolted belay.

### **Pitch 5 - 30m - Mixed "17"**

Climb up and traverse the arch on trad and bolts. Follow the arch and climb until you reach the block terrain. Climb up on trad and reach the belay above the arch. **Leave your trad gear at the belay anchor.**

### **Pitch 6 - 60m - Sport "21"**

Climb the finn and cross over to start delicate face/friction climbing on good protection (Rope drag is disturbing, the pitch could be split on a single bolt somewhere in the middle)

### **Pitch 7 - 60m - Sport "18"**

Face/friction climbing on good quality granite, some run outs.

### **Pitch 8 - 60m - Sport "14"**

Easy slab climbing to the last anchor. Only 5 bolts on 60m.

Walk up on the left slab to reach the summit

### **Gear:**

2 x 60m ropes.

15 draws

Trad rack: Cam sizes No 0.75 - 6 (Optional Cam No 1 twice)

2 standard slings