



Climbing paradise at Col du Galibier near Briançon

Exceptionally good rock, a magnificent panorama, the short ascent, well-protected bolted routes, the fast and easy descent, and a high probability to meet ibexes. These are some of the allurements of the Tour Termier which is located near Briançon in the Massif des Cerces of the French Alps. You should wait for warm and windless days to have the greatest fun, since the climbing routes start at 2.800 m a.s.l. and the area of "L'usure du temps" in particular is SW-facing which means that the sun does not hit the wall before 11:30 a.m.

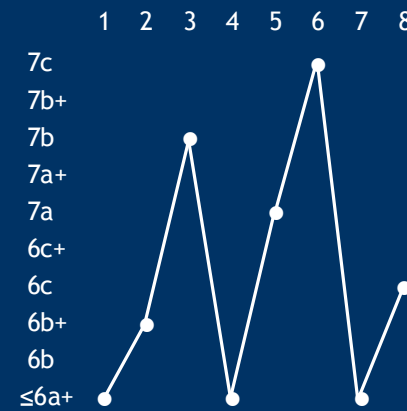
L'usure du temps

ED, 7c (6b+), S1-2

SW, 2800m a.s.l.

M.Desseux (2003-5↑)

230 clm (200 vam)



overall impression ★★★★★

- adventure
- variety ●●
- scenery ●●●
- exposure ●
- rock quality ●●●
- steepness |
- fun factor ●●

With the exception of P4 which has some loose rock all pitches have excellent rock and offer ultimate climbing (especially good are P3, P5 and P6). The first three pitches give already an overview of the variety of rocks: in P1 the gray limestone of high-altitude mountains dominates, P2 is a colorful mixture of limestone and quartzite, and in P3 mainly red and gray schistous limestone can be found. P3 is also the first climbing highlight that meets the highest standard of single-pitch sport climbing routes: moderate start, good positive holds in the rising traverse, sophisticated moves and endurance at the end of the traverse which is the crux of this pitch (in our opinion rather 7a+ than 7b) and again moderate difficulty to the belay. In P6 the second highlight is waiting for the climber: pure fun climbing of grade 7a up to the very well-protected crux which can be done easily A0 if necessary. In a free ascent this passage is a tricky 7c (in our opinion rather 7b+) with underclings, tiny ledes and and roughnesses that must be held.

Shortly before the end of P8 the question arises which descent to choose: either finish P8 up to a good ledge which leads to the right and out of the wall. In this case you have the chance to meet the ibexes. Or abseil five times over the well-equipped abseil piste (which has some inherent problems as to pulling the rope) and end up directly at the base of the climb. The beginning of the abseiling is some meters below the end of P8: traverse about 2 meters to the right into a niche to the abseil belay, then abseil two time always keeping right of the route. With the third abseil go straight down to a ledge and then walk to the left to reach the belay of „lci mieux“. The last abseil belay is straight down and hidden below a small overhang, about 25 meter above the ground and left of the route „Daisy Chienne“. Attention: The description of the start of the abseil piste in the guidebook of J.-M. Cambon can be misunderstood (the start is not at the end of „lci mieux qu'en face“ but at the end of „L'usure du temps“). For further information see www.camptocamp.org or www.gulliver.it.

Approach: parking in the last left hand hairpin bend before the Col du Galibier (coming from the Col du Lautaret). From there in about 50 minutes effortlessly to the route.

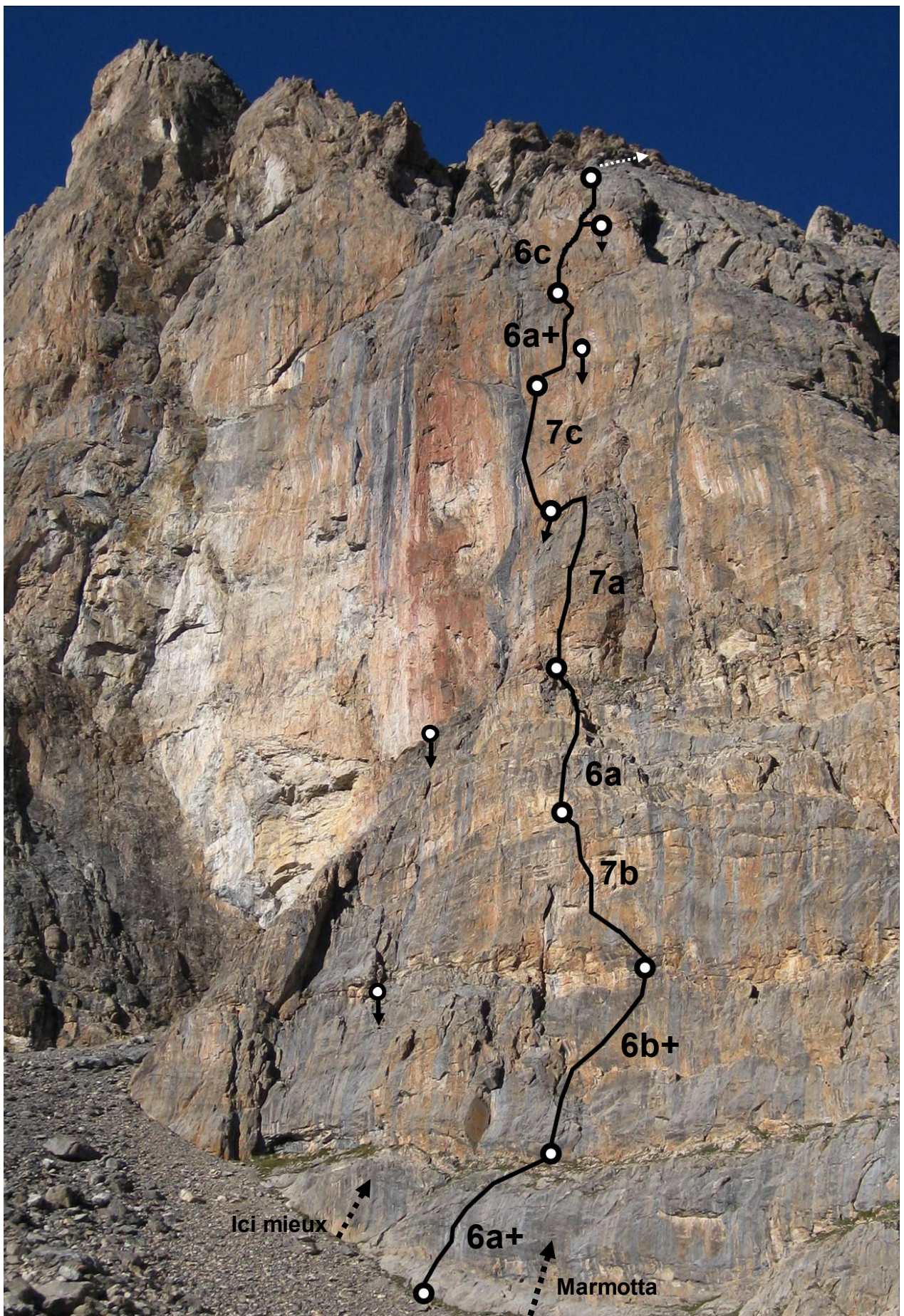
Start of the route: between the routes „lci mieux qu'en face“ and „Marmotta impazzita“. The first pitch leads over a gray slab to a ledge.

Guidebook: Oisans Nouveau, Oisans Sauvage, Livre Est, Jean-Michel Cambon 2015



L'usure du temps on Tour Termier (F)

Multi-pitch climbing routes in the Alps





The incredibly good P6 with the well-protected 7b+/7c crux.



L'usure du temps on Tour Termier (F)

Multi-pitch climbing routes in the Alps



P1, the start of the route which leads to the ledge.



The fantastic P3.



In the easy P7 after the crux pitch.



Grand encounter on the descent path.