



## Saga-Dissipation-Artisan-Combination: A hard to beat multi-pitch route in the deserted hinterland of Nice

On the cliff Paroi du Giet there are some of the best multi-pitch routes of France, but this combination of three routes, which are all beautiful routes by themselves, offers all features of a perfect route: a logical and very exposed line through the main part of the 250 meter high wall with excellent rock from the very beginning to the last hold, and an almost homogeneous distribution of difficulties (the very hard, often wet and a little dirty sinter pitch of the otherwise great Artisan is thereby avoided). The very good protection, the almost level and short approach and the beautiful descent in the lovely Esteron valley round off this extraordinary climbing highlight.

**Saga-Dissipation-Artisan Comb.**  
ED+, 7a+(6c), S1-2  
SW, 640 m a.s.l.

Tanguy, G. Thomas (1983-94↑↓)  
270 clm (20 vam)



overall impression ★★★★★

climbing ratio 84%  
variety ●●●  
scenery ●●●  
exposure ●●●  
rock quality ●●●  
steepness \\  
fun factor ●

In his book "Itinéraires d'un grimpeur gâté" P. Mussato already suggested the route combination of Saga and Dissipation. Our idea to replace the Dissipation exit with the three last pitches of Artisan du Huitième Jour results in a route that is even more direct, more exciting and more difficult (when redpointed it is comparable to the nominally harder Alix Punk on the Duc in the Verdon Canyon).

At the beginning one climbs the first four pitches of the route Saga. P1 is a bit harder than the 6a+ in the guidebook, because the rock has become a little patinated (in our opinion rather 6b). In return the traverse of P2 is somewhat easier (in our opinion rather 6a than 6a+). After the belay of P2 the route Dissipation would continue straight up. However, we follow the line of Saga up and then right in generous face climbing (6c). P4 starts with athletic climbing over a small overhang (6b+), followed by 25 meters of face climbing over gray and red rock up to a large ledge (beware of rope drag!). Follow the broad ledge to the left for about 15 meters until a large boulder. On top of it is the belay of the route Dissipation which we now follow for two pitches and which are the best ones of Dissipation. While the rock of the first four pitches was mainly red, the next wall sector is characterized by mainly yellow rock and is steep to overhanging with large holds. P5 offers great athletic endurance climbing, though sometimes on chipped holds (6c). After long periods of rain a wet sinter could give some trouble. In the following pitch P6 prevails beautiful endurance climbing, interrupted by a hard boulder passage (6c+) in the middle. The belay is common with the route Artisan. Here we leave the Dissipation (which would continue with a left traverse) and instead climb right and follow the Artisan to the top of the cliff. These last three pitches of Artisan are very steep and utmost exposed with excellent brown and gray rock. P7 starts with a short right traverse, then up over a small overhang (6c+) which is the crux section of this pitch. In P8 prevails steep face climbing, where large holds alternate with technically difficult sections on small holds (7a+). This pitch would be a highlight in every klettergarten, but here in 240 meters above the ground it cannot be topped. Too bad that one is already tired from the several previous steep climbing meters. But fortunately the protection is always good-natured. Also the last pitch P9 is spectacular with a difficult and steep right traverse in gray rock (7a+). After a small overhang and a few last meters of face climbing one reaches the belay on a shoulder, just below the summit of the Paroi du Giet.

From this last belay of the Artisan go right and around the corner for about 20 meters (still on the rope) until you reach easy terrain. Some cairns lead the way to the main descent path (about 30 minutes to the parking in Aiglun).

**Approach:** Park at the exit of Aiglun (coming from Roquestéron). Walk about 20 minutes on an almost level trail towards the left part of the Paroi du Giet. Follow the cliff right and slightly up until you reach the center of the right part of the Paroi du Giet.

**Start of the route:** The first bolt of the route Saga is about 7 meters up behind a large tree.

**Guidebook and further information:** "L'escalade dans les Alpes-Maritimes" by Jean-Claude Raibaud, 2010; other climbers' opinions of the three routes on the French site [camptocamp.org](http://camptocamp.org).



# Combination of three routes - Aiglun (F)

Multi-pitch climbing routes in the Alps



**P9: 7a+ (Artisan)**  
25m. Difficult and steep right traverse with a small overhang at the end.

**P8: 7a+ (Artisan)**  
30m. Spectacular, steep and extremely exposed. Stamina with large holes and technical sections.

**P7: 6c+ (Artisan)**  
25m. Difficult over the overhang, then easier.

**P6: 6c+ (Dissipat.)**  
25m. Less steep with a complicated short section in the middle.

**P5: 6c (Dissipat.)**  
35m. Steep with good holds up to an overhang which is passed on its right. Again steep until the belay. Great endurance climbing.

Belay of Diss. on boulder.

**P4: 6b+ (Saga)**  
35m. In gray rock over a small overhang (difficulty) then spacious face climbing with sometimes distant protection. Pay attention to rope drag!

**P3: 6c (Saga)**  
35m. Up and then right along small holds (the route Dissipation continues straight up).

**P2: 6a+ (Saga)**  
30m. Easy traverse to the right. Rather 6a.

**P1: 6a+ (Saga)**  
30m. Behind a tree first straight up along a thin crack, then difficult section at the beginning of the right traverse. Rather 6b.



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In the upper part of P3 (Saga).



# Combination of three routes - Aiglun (F)

Multi-pitch climbing routes in the Alps



The beginning of P3 of Saga.



Athletic climbing on good holds in P5 (Dissipation).



P8 (Artisan): steep and technical.