

Description

≤5c+	6a-6c+	7a-7c+	8a-8c+	Project
1	19	6	0	0

Best Season: Spring and autumn. Can be very hot and humid during the summer months. When the east wind is blowing humidity and salt on the rocks can create reduced friction conditions. **Sun:** On summertime the crag gets in shade around 13:00. During winter it only gets hit by the morning sun (in shade after 12:00). **Orientation:** East.

Although Athens is surrounded by sea, Daskaleio is one of the rare local crags where one can climb and enjoy open sea views and waves swirling under her/his feet. The crag is an isolated marble cliff at the tip of a peninsula near the summer resort town of Daskaleio. The surrounding area has been delightfully ignored by the chaotic building “development” that plunders the area and remains quietly hidden among empty thyme plains and rocky creeks. The crag itself seems like the result of rather recent and violent geological activity and carries an eerie atmosphere noted by many visitors. Routes have been appropriately named from mythological creatures, heroes and monsters related to the sea element.

The marble rock face offers long (30m+) interesting climbing with moves referring directly to marble kinesiology. Climbing is mostly on vertical terrain (slabs and faces) with areas of highly featured rock but also blank desperate sections. The presence of dihedrals, chimneys and cracks adds to the variety. Rock quality ranges from excellent in places to utter choss in others. In most cases, the quality of the route can be easily assessed from its base. In either case, the use of helmet is recommended.

Apart from the 26 sport routes, a number of bouldering problems has been set on the boulders below the crag. Also notably, a cave with possibilities for hard deep water solo exists on the north side of the peninsula.

Due to the highly corrosive sea atmosphere, steel bolts suffer for heavy and rapid oxidation. A major maintenance initiative has overhauled all visually corroded bolts in June 2012 but its always good to keep an eye for rusty bolts.

History

One of the most recent climbing crags, the place was discovered by D. Stavrakakis. In 2009 D. Stavrakakis, D. Karalis, C. Evagellidis, A. Theodoropoulos and T. Michailidis established most of the routes. Activity continued in the following years mainly by G. Kagiaktakis.

Daskaleio



Access

By Private vehicle: Either follow Attiki Odos all the way to Markopoulo town (where Attiki Odos ends), or reach the small town by following Lavriou avenue. Otherwise, if coming from the south suburbs of Athens, a third alternative is to take Varis-Koropiou avenue, following the signs towards Markopoulo.

After Markopoulo continue on Lavriou Avenue for approximately 9 km. Leave the main road and turn left on the traffic light (road sign towards “Kakia Thalassa”). After 4,8 km turn right towards Daskaleio and follow the road for 1,9km. Turn left on the tiny Katerinis Street (KATEPINΗΣ) - sometimes handmade sign «Μέλια» is present next to the road. Turn right again after 50m. Follow the road for 0,9 km and then go left on the first crossroad and right on the second. The road leads to big parking spot with view on the Aegean sea. The cliff is directly below and can be reached by following the descending footpath on the right of the parking spot.

Total distance: 300m, walking time: 6min, total negative altitude: 50m.

By Public transport: It is barely possible to reach the crag by public transport. Catch the orange (regional) bus (in Greek referred as KTEL) towards Daskaleio. The bus starts from Mavrommataion st. (MAYPOMMATAIΩN) in the centre of Athens (37.9927,23.7326). Mark the left turn from Lavriou avenue towards “Kakia Thalassa” (Κακιά Θάλασσα) and after approximately 5km mark the right turn towards Daskaleio (see also above). From this point on, keep your mind on the road and tell the bus driver to leave you just before the road starts descending towards the town of Daskaleio, then seek Katerinis street and follow on foot the directions, as described above.

**1. Kiklopas 6a *****

An atmospheric and intimidating 30m chimney. 30m, D.Stavarakakis, T.Michailidis 2009

2. Mira 7c ***

A long sustained line, starting easily before throwing a superb 4 moves boulder problem. It's all about endurance after the crux. 25m, T.Michailidis 2009

3. Ooriksia 7c+ ***

The hardest route to date, stands out for its sheer verticality and absence of features. A desperate midway balance crux gives way to a sustained fight on small crimps all the way up. 30m, T.Michailidis 2009

4. Erinies 6c ***

Endurance lower part on a vertical face just before a dramatic zigzagging exit. 30m. T.Michailidis, D.Stavarakakis 2009

5. Argonaftes 6a **

The unattractive corner gives way to the most amazing surprise. A bit harsh on your ropes if you lower - better to rappel. 35m, A.Theodoropoulos, D.Stavarakakis 2009

6. Tritonas 6a **

A long journey but somewhat awkward route set-up. The upper part is all fun on big jugs and but the rope drag can torture you if you fail to use the right extensions. 35m, D.Stavarakakis, C.Evangelidis 2009

7. Kakomutsunos 6a

As the name implies “an ugly face” which however has certain appeal to some. 30m, A.Theodoropoulos, D.Stavarakakis, 2009

8. Kakomutsunos Extension 7a **

Another 5 meters of overhanging terrain after the anchors of “Kakomutsunos” add a fantastic finale to the disappointing lower part. 35m, A.Theodoropoulos, D.Stavarakakis 2009

9. Kserokefalos 6c **

A very nice line consistently interesting with two crux and a dramatic finale. 35m, Th.Michailidis, D.Stavarakakis 2009

10. Nireas 6b+ **

A long affair with lot of variety in features and moves all the way 35m, G.Kagiaftakis 2010

11. Lefkothea 6c+ ***

Immaculate! Similar to Nireas but much more sustained and physically demanding. 35m, G.Kagiaftakis 2010

12. Forkis 6b+ ***

A beautiful natural line. Long, imaginative climbing and a finale worthy of the lengthy journey. 35m, D.Stavarakakis, C.Evangelidis 2009



13. Kito 6a+

Varied line starting with bouldery crux followed by easier climbing, ending up on a distinctive corner. Unfortunately the line can be potentially dangerous to the inexperienced climber due to poor rock quality. Be very careful what you pull. 35m, G.Kagiaftakis, A.Papamihail 2013

14. Sirina 6c+ *

Nice continuous climbing. Be careful the runout on the first half since the ledge is looming below... 32m G.Kagiaftakis 2013

15. Kalypso 6c ***

Dynamic start with finger crack traverse on the crux and beautiful easy face climbing on the second part. 32m, M.Mastrokalos, G.Kagiaftakis 2013

16. Posidonas 6b **

A nice long line moving among some interesting rock formations and some paper thin flakes. 30m, T.Michailidis 2009

17. Tifon 6c **

Long line with several cruxes from bottom to top. 30m, T.Michailidis 2009

18. Ehidna 7a ***

An engaging route - one of the best choices of the crag. Powerful starting sequence and a sustained perpetually interesting follow-up. 35m, D.Karalis, C.Evangelidis 2009

19. Medusa 7a+ ***

Very similar to its neighbours, a constant fight. Superb. 35m, D.Karalis, C.Evangelidis 2009

20. Arpiia 7a+

Very technical corner that joins with "Skila" after the first half. Difficulty is very dependent on conditions. 35m, D.Karalis, C.Evangelidis 2009

21. Skila 6b+ ***

Another natural line of the highest quality. Unfortunately it is shoggy and covered with salt most of the time. In such conditions it can feel much harder than the grade implies. Recently re-bolted (2012) but due to the salt concentration bolts tend to rot fast. 35m, D.Karalis, C.Evangelidis 2009

22. Harivdi 6c***

Start up as "Skila" but continuous straight after the corner. Don't rush to clip the critical quickdraw. 35m, D. Karalis, C.Evangelidis 2009



23. Giousouri 5c

Challenging start on slab with sloppy holds followed by a somewhat chossy diagonally moving dihedral.

30m, G.Kayaftakis, K.Tsoukleidis 2011

24. Papirela 6a+ ***

The first indifferent meters cannot prepare you for the elegant and airy crack that follows. Go right on the exit (direct exit around 6b+).

25m, D.Karalis, S.Koukouzeli 2009

25. Gorgona 6a **

A somewhat disconcerting first step over the void to clip the first bolt. Otherwise a comely and exposed line directly over the sea.

25m, G.Kagiaftakis 2010

26. Atlantida 6b*

At the furthest edge of the crag, this interesting route follows a system of corner cracks. Needs more traffic.

30m M.Mastrokalos 2013