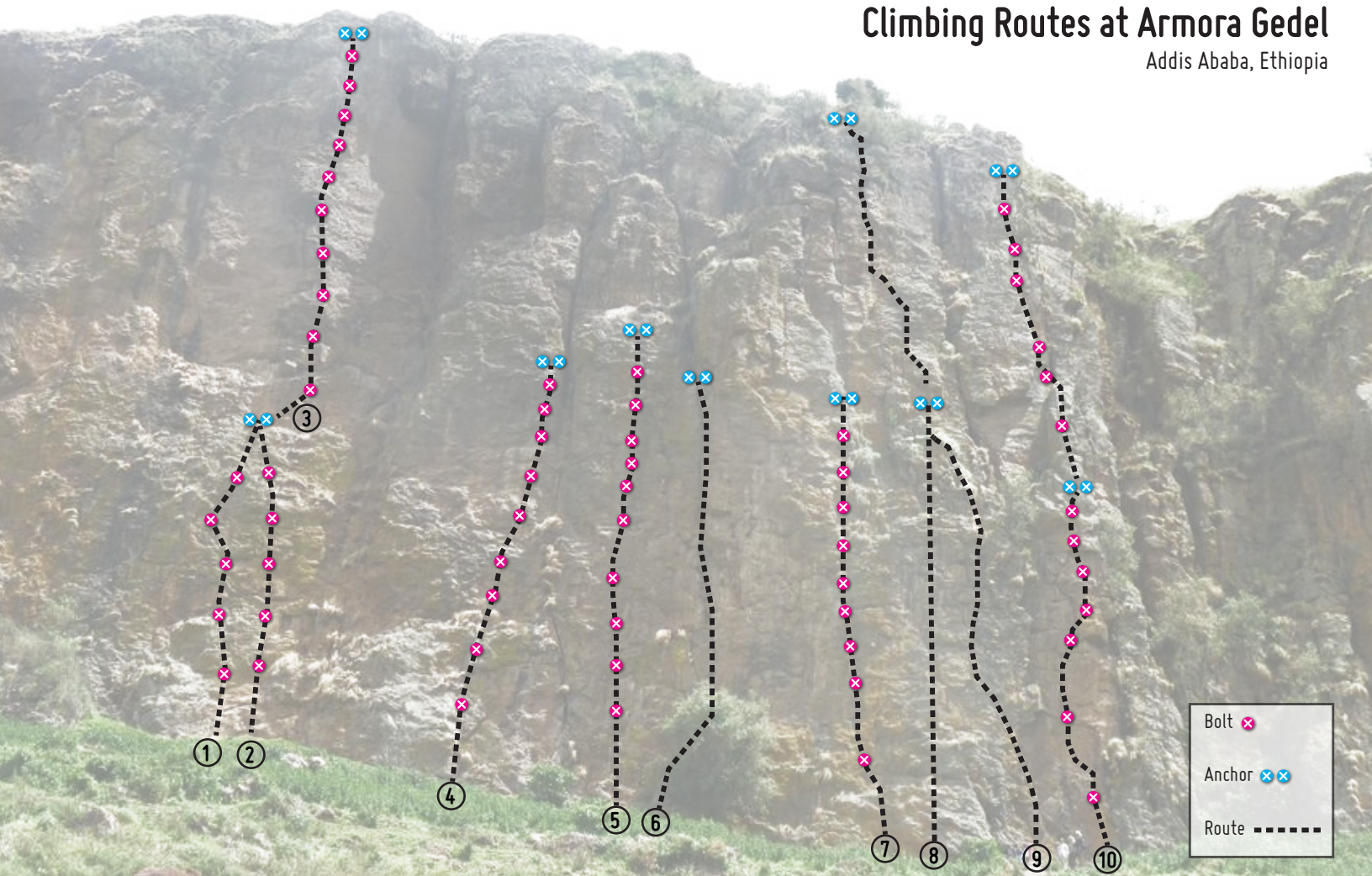


# Climbing Routes at Armora Gedel

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



*Armora Gedel* (Hawk's Cliff) is a 60m basalt, southeast-facing cliff located in the Entoto Mountains next to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The wall is high-quality basalt with pockets, cracks, crimpers, aretes and roofs! Climbing season (dry) in the Central Highlands runs from mid-September to early June. The entire cliff is in the shade after midday and sun goes down at 630pm all year round.

**Climbing Information:** All the routes on the wall are equipped with two-bolt anchors and quicklinks. A 60m rope is mandatory. In addition, climbers should carry a full-rack, runners and at least 10 quickdraws. Helmets are recommended.

**Local Culture:** The village of Kile is located above the crag. Here dozens of families whose native tongue is Oromifa live and farm the adjacent lands. Please respect the farmers and their fields. Several kids began climbing with us as we bolted the anchors and lines. If you visit, please allow them to climb on top rope and give them positive encouragement! Harness and shoe donations are welcome.

#	Route Name	Type	Grade	Length (m)	Gear	Stars
1	Poroto Gringo	Sport	5.10c	22	5 bolts	★★★★☆
2	Wendeme	Sport	5.10b	22	5 bolts	★★★☆☆
3	Austerity Measures	Sport	5.12-	30	10 bolts	★★★★☆
4	Wei-Nei Gudei	Mix	5.11	26	9 bolts, small cam (0.75-1)	★★★★☆
5	Enkefet	Sport	5.11+	30	10 bolts	★★★★☆
6	Tara Gaga	Trad.	5.8+	25	Full rack	★★★☆☆
7	Jegna Almotem	Mix	5.11	30	9 bolts, small cams & nuts	★★★★☆
8	Oyster's Balls	TR	5.10	30	TR only	★★★☆☆
9	Oyster's Nuts (p1)	Trad	5.9+	30	Full rack	★★★★☆
	Oyster's Nuts (p2)	Trad	5.9	25	Full rack	★★★★★
10	Cracked Wheat (p1)	Mix	5.10+	28	7 bolts, small cams (0.3 - 2)	★★★★★
	Cracked Wheat (p2)	Mix	5.9	25	6 bolts, small cams (0.3 - 1)	★★★★☆

**Camping:** Expect to pay 40 birr per tent to camp in the village of Kile above the cliff. In Kile, climbers can find water, beer, soft drinks, coffee and other snacks. There is no restaurant so you will have to prepare your own meals.

**Information & Contact:** All routes were equipped between March and July in 2013

by expat climber, Nicodemus and his friends. Check the Facebook group called 'Rock Climbers, Ethiopia' for the latest updates and additional routes.

*If you want more information about the crag, bolts or other climbing destinations in Ethiopia, write to nico.parco@gmail.com.*



# HOW TO GET THERE

## Estimated Times

Bole Airport to Bret Dildi Plaza in car: 25-30 min.

Bret Dilde Plaza to Cliffbase by foot: 1 hr.

Parking to Cliffbase by foot: 45 min.

## Route One: (regular car or taxi)

Take a taxi or drive to the dirt plaza of Bret Dildi at the end of the Farensay road (*French Embassy*) in the northeast quadrant of Addis Ababa. Here, head up a dirt road north (*left*) towards the Entoto Mountains. Follow the road for 2km and stay left when you reach a fork at a small gravel production. Another 200m and you reach a large earth-moving work site (in 2013). Continue straight onto a badly cobbled dirt road, when you reach a small creek park your car. On foot, follow the dirt path up through a felled-eucalyptus forest. Veer right when you reach a large tombstone like rock on the left side of the path. Here you will be able to see the crag in the distance. Try to follow a footpath leading to the base of the cliff. Once you reach the giant, wild Fig tree, stay left and hike straight towards the obvious cliff faces.

## Route Two: 4x4 only

Drive north from the Bret Dildi taxi and bus plaza. The road will bend left and then pass a giant tree on the right. Continue and before you hit the fork in the road at the small gravel production, take a left turn on the only suitable dirt road. This road runs west for over 1km before veering north again. There are steep, rocky sections here and 4WD is mandatory. As you gain elevation the road will veer right, or eastwards, and wrap around to finally end near the Gabriel church. Park here and make the short walk to Kile village. Once you reach the Kile, Armora Gedel is another 500m further east. There are several paths that will take you down the cliff face to the base, and village kids will be more than happy to accompany you.

