**AFRICA AMPHITHEATRE ‘*20*’**

**TABLE MOUNTAIN, CAPE**

**Approach:** The route starts at the top of Africa Ravine. Rappel in from the Right Face – Arrow Face Traverse by doing a 50m abseil off the big cherry tree using the lowest link in the big chain, or hike in.

**Start:** The route starts a little right of the middle of the amphitheatre at the original big, leaning-over beacon.

**Pitch 1 10m 13:** Ascend the undercut recess and then onto a long ledge.

**Pitch 2 22m 15:** Traverse along the ledge for 8m where a high reach over a bulge and a strenuous pull-up enables a move up onto a good ledge. Climb a face for 3m and then move diagonally left into a series of recesses leading to a good stance.

**Pitch 3 28m 19:** Climb a narrow slit situated directly above the last pitch. Stretch up to a handrail, then a series of tricky moves leads to the overhang above. Move down and traverse 5m to the left to a small ledge. Traverse to the left around the corner and climb up to a bushy stance.

**Pitch 4 36m 13:** Climb the face above, then climb diagonally left for 28m before moving right to a good stance level with the Right Face – Arrow Face Traverse.

**Pitch 5 18m 13:** Climb a crack to the right for 8m and continue up a recess to a stance at the top of the large blocks, which form the corridor to the Right Face – Arrow Face Traverse.

**Pitch 6 28m 18:** Step off the right hand side of the stance and climb the face for 9m to a handrail. Traverse to the left for 8m and move up past a narrow crack. Continue up to a narrow stance.

**Pitch 7 9m 10:** Climb diagonally up to the right to a small stance under a small overhang.

**Pitch 8 25m 20:** Traverse 5m to the left and move up onto a smooth saucer-shaped face. Climb up past a peg and then do a few pull-ups to a high rail. Rail right to a stance.

**Pitch 9 18m 17:** Step out onto the nose to the right and climb the crack above. Balance up to a handrail and move onto a corner, bearing left to a large cave-like stance.

**Pitch 10 11m 17:** About 4m to the right of where the cave peters out, reach up through the overhang and pull up onto the face above. Climb the face to a stance on the left.

**Pitch 11 9m 14:** Climb the recess, then traverse out to the left on an extremely exposed nose to a good stance on the tip of the overhang.

**Pitch 12 30m 13:** Move to the left and ascend the face to a large ledge. Traverse to the left along the ledge for 70m to 80m. The next pitch continues up a corner directly below a large overhanging corner immediately to the left of Africa Face and Africa Sideburn.

**Pitch 13 18m 14:** Ascend the face slightly to the right of the corner ridge and to the left of the bushy recess containing Africa Sideburn. Climb to a stance below the large overhang.

**Pitch 14 12m 12:** Traverse left and then continue past an awkward block, moving down to a good stance.

**Pitch 15 6m 13:** Climb directly upwards, avoiding loose flakes, to a stance on the left.

**Pitch 16 12m 20:** Traverse to the right to an undercut open book recess. Climb this until it is possible to move to the right to a good stance. [Variation: 12m 16: Traverse to the right at the bottom of the open-book recess. Continue up the recess to a good stance]

**Pitch 17 35m 14:** Climb the overhanging crack slightly to the right and above the last pitch. After 8m ascend the face above more or less diagonally to the right. The last 9m are up a series of blocks.

**Pitch 18 18m 16:** Climb the corner to the left with a tricky take-off and up to the large ledge above.

**Descent:** Cable car or India Venster walk.

**First ascent:** Keith Fletcher, Rick Williams, Don Hartley, 1967

**First free ascent:** Robin Barley, Tony Barley, Don Hartley