

Stetind South Pillar

MiniGUIDE

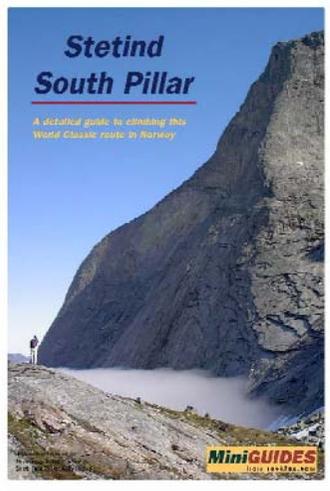
by Andy Hyslop and Jonathan Lagoe
with help from Thorbjørn Enevold

Version 1.0 - July 2003

Thank you for downloading this ROCK-FAX MiniGUIDE. We hope that you find the information useful, inspiring and accurate. Our intention is to provide many more MiniGUIDEs which will help open up new areas for travelling climbers. We also hope to provide affordable sampler guides to established areas and to extend existing coverage with newly developed crags. Print-on-demand means that we will be able to keep the MiniGUIDEs continually up-to-date but to do this we need your feedback. Please send any comments you have to feedback@rockfax.co.uk. Your subscription to this MiniGUIDE includes free updates within the same main version number.

Thanks again for your support.

Alan James, July 2003



HOW TO ASSEMBLE YOUR *MiniGUIDE*

This MiniGUIDE is designed to be printed and compiled into a compact booklet. For best results it should be printed on good quality A4 paper using a modern colour inkjet printer.

PRINTER SETTINGS

- Choose *Landscape* printing on a *Good quality colour* setting.
- Initially print at at full size (100%).
- Ensure that any options such as *Shrink oversize pages to paper size* are **UNCHECKED**.
- Select any options to *Maximize printable area*.
- Select any options to *Centre printable area*.
(See Problems below)

PRINTING

- Do not print page 1 (this page).
- Print page 2 (the cover) on strong paper, photo paper or white card.
- Print the rest of the pages on good quality paper.

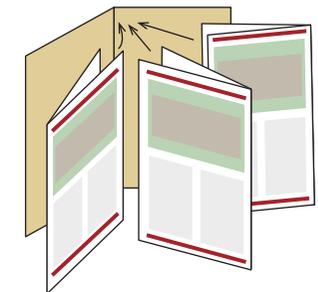
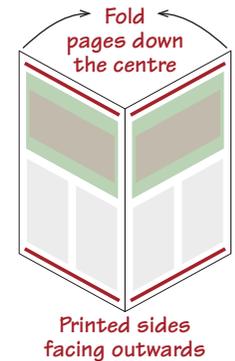
ASSEMBLING

- Fold each internal page separately down the middle so that the printed sides are facing outwards.
- Assemble the pages, with the folded center edge outwards, into a small booklet.
- Wrap the cover around the pages.
- Either staple the spine (you will need a strong stapler) or use a plastic binding clip available from stationary shops.

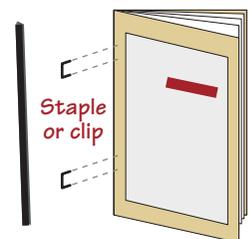
PROBLEMS

- With some printers (especially HP) it is difficult to get the pages to centre properly. Check the ROCKFAX web site

www.rockfax.com/miniguides/help.html for a solution to this problem



Insert separate folded pages inside cover page



Fasten with a large stapler, or a plastic sliding clip

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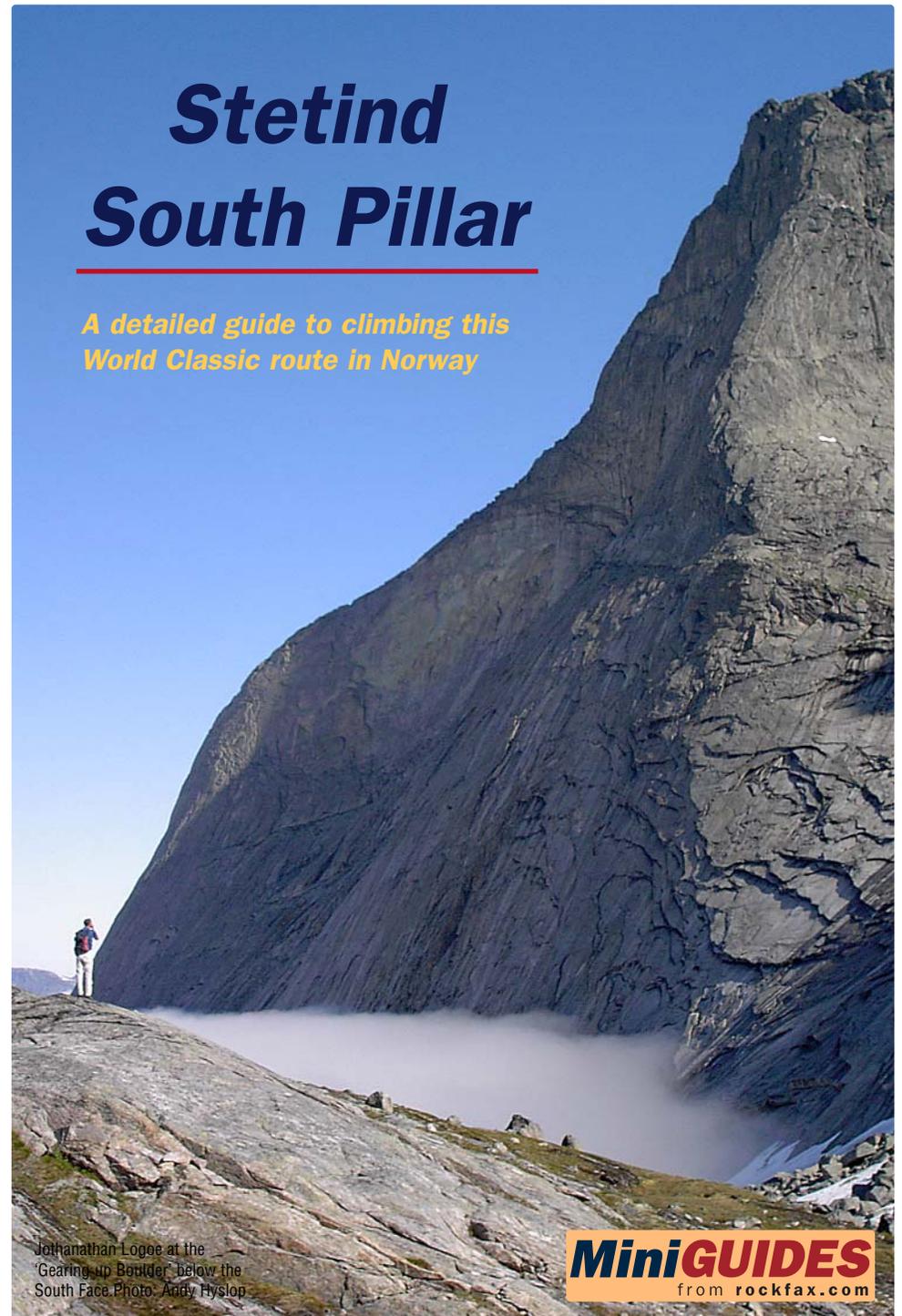
by Andy Hyslop and Jonathan Lagoe
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ROCKFAX MiniGUIDE design by Alan James and Mick Ryan.
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Stetind South Pillar

*A detailed guide to climbing this
World Classic route in Norway*



Jonathan Lagoe at the
'Gearing up Boulder' below the
South Face. Photo: Andy Hyslop

MiniGUIDES
from rockfax.com

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FOOTNOTE

The inclusion of a climbing area in this MiniGUIDE does not mean that you have a right of access or the right to climb upon it. The descriptions of routes and grades within this MiniGUIDE are recorded for historical reasons only and no reliance should be placed on the accuracy of the description. Climbers who attempt a climb of a particular standard should use their own judgment as to whether they are proficient enough to tackle that climb. This book is not a substitute for experience and proper judgment. The authors and publisher of this MiniGUIDE do not recognise any liability for injury or damage caused to, or by, climbers, third parties, or property arising from such persons seeking reliance on this guidebook as an assurance for their own safety.

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STETIND

MiniGUIDES from rockfax.com

One look at Stetind makes you want to climb it. The shape, the location and the rock make this an irresistible destination for all those who love long routes in the mountains.

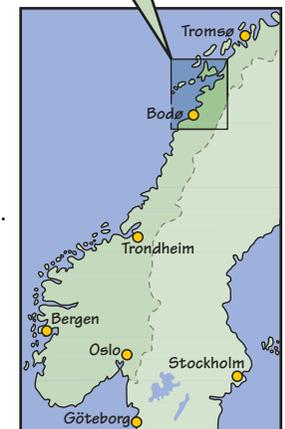
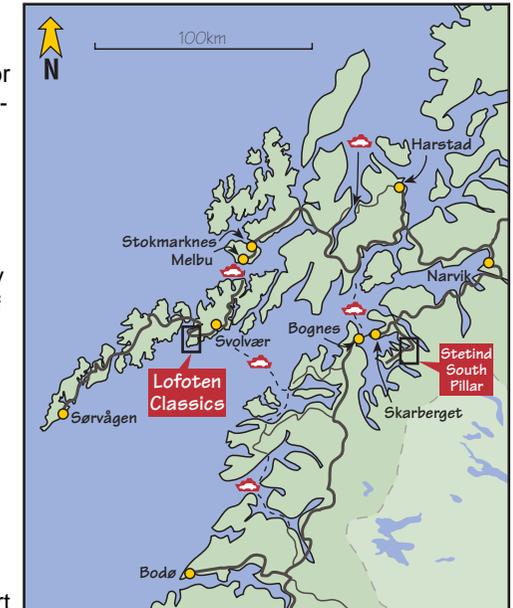
Stetind (1391m) is situated at the head of Tysfjord and was at one time only accessible by boat. Nowadays an incredible section of road construction means you can park right at the base. This intrusion hardly detracts from the remoteness and purity of the peak, but you can imagine what an amazing adventure it must have been to sail up the fjord in the 1960s to make the first ascent of the South Pillar. Stetind has recently been adopted as Norway's 'National Mountain'.

www.stetind.nu

How to Get There

Getting to the Stetind using public transport alone is going to be fairly tough. Thankfully there are two budget airlines that now fly to Norway and have reasonable car hire prices. Ryan Air (www.ryanair.co.uk) fly from Stansted and Glasgow to Oslo where you can either hire a car, or get in internal flight, to Harstad/Narvik. Norwegian.no (www.norwegian.no) fly from Stansted to Oslo and have onward flights to Harstad/Narvik. Alternatively get the ferry from Newcastle to Bergen and get stuck into a couple of days driving.

The approach is relatively straightforward until you are about 70km south of Narvik on the E6. After the two bridge crossings of Edfjorden turn left on the 827 signed to Tysfjord and Kjølsvik. After the first long tunnel you will emerge under the north face of Stetind, which rises all the way from the sea to Stetind summit at 1391m. After the next tunnel there is a parking area and WC. The path starts here and it is also a good place to camp.



One of the easy pitches below the 3rd ledge system.



The North Face of Eidertind (right), in the evening sun, 11pm.

Rack

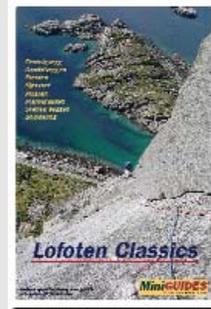
Double set of nuts from 1-10
 Cams from 0.5 - 3.5 with doubles from 1-2
 120cm slings x 2
 60cm sling x 2
 Quickdraws x 10 (mainly 20cm and longer)
 50m ropes (60m are useful if you have them).
 Light shoes for descent
 Appropriate clothing for the conditions.
 Drink and food
 Small sack for 2 to carry

When to Go and Timing

The best months to rock climb in Northern Norway are June, July and August. May will probably have too much snow to get on the route. June and July have 24 hour sunlight so getting benighted is not a problem. 12 hours car to car with 5-6 hours actually spent on the route is average but allow more time if you are not 'mountain fit' or are new to long routes in an alpine environment.



Crossing snow on the way to the 'Kings Box'



LOFOTEN CLASSICS

by Andy Hyslop and Jonathan Lagoe

A selection of the best routes on the superb granite walls and slabs of the Lofoten Island. This MiniGUIDE gives all the information you need to get to the area, stay there and climb the routes. Thirteen major routes are covered with full photo-topos and descriptions, plus some other climbing and bouldering information.

For more information - www.rockfax.com/lofoten/

Other Climbing In The Area

The South Pillar has several other routes on it including *Gullfisken* (named after the legend that there are Goldfish in a pond on the summit of Stetind). The West Ridge looks very good and there are hard routes on the North and West faces. See topos at www.stetind.nu

Back on the main E6 road there are several amazing looking granite domes close the road including Kughornet (979 m), Sildpolltind (879 m) and Eidetind (845 m). Notably, on the North Face of Eidetind there is a classic new route of about 15 pitches called *Blodrød September natt* (Blood Red September Night), that follows crack systems to the right of a central chimney line. The large slabs that you pass on the road to the south are *Verdens sva* (The World Slab), which sweep down from Kughornet and are popular with mountain bikers.





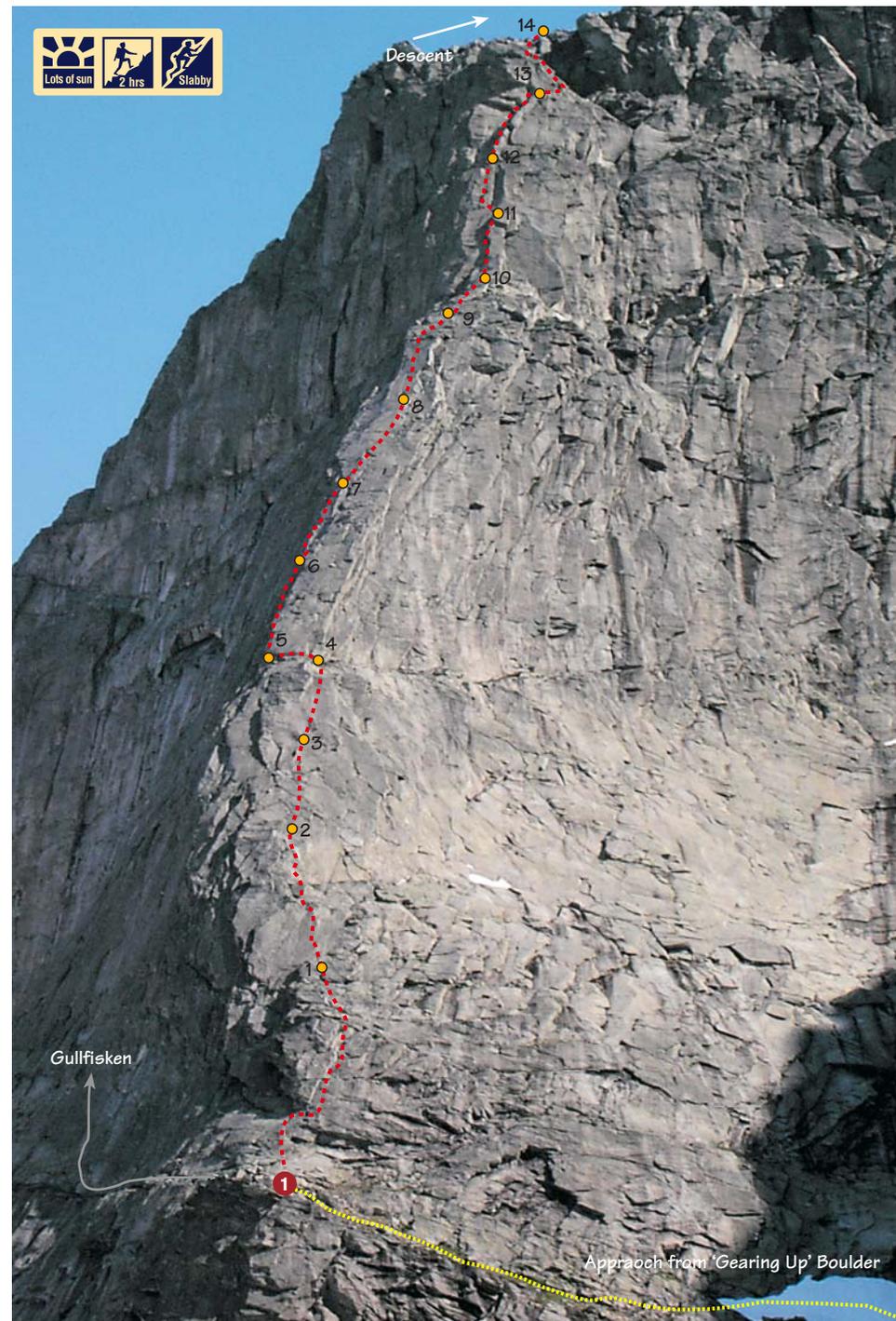
Approach

Follow the good path from the parking area up the left side of the stream (initially marked with red paint). This leads through birch forest and eventually out into open country. Ascend through boulders following a discontinuous path - fill water bottles up here - to a level area on top of the moraine about a 100m above an iceberg filled lake. There is a big flat 'gearing up' boulder at the saddle.

Layout

From the gearing-up point, Presttind is the big loose face to the south east and Stetind is to your north. The South Pillar route can be clearly seen forming the left edge of a huge Amphitheatre. The ordinary route up Stetind (and the descent route) is the south east ridge and can be seen on the skyline. Halls Peak is the subsidiary peak just south of Stetind. The small flat pinnacle just north of the saddle between Halls Peak and Stetind is the Mysosten Block and is the crux of the ordinary route. In descent it requires a short abseil.

There are 3 ledge systems running across the Amphitheatre onto the South Pillar. The first ledge is used to access the foot of the route. The 2nd ledge is not recommended for escape. The 3rd ledge can be used to escape onto the south east ridge just below the Mysosten Block.





Jonathan Lagoë starting up pitch 11

Route Overview

Between the 1st and 2nd ledges the route is climbed just right of the crest.
 Between the 2nd and 3rd ledges the route is climbed just left of the crest.
 Above the third ledge the route climbs the headwall directly, trending right at the top.



Superb technical climbing on Pitch 13.

1 South Pillar **E1 5b**

From the flat boulder, follow cairns over boulders to a large cairn at the foot of a well worn right-slanting gully line. This is the start of the *Ordinary Route* via the south east ridge. Ignore the line of cairns to the left leading up a grassy ramp and follow the *Ordinary Route* up right for about 75m. Look carefully for a line leading off left (cairns) onto a horizontal ledge system. Follow the ledges into scree/snow bowl and continue across on the same line onto the South Pillar proper, eventually reaching a flat ledge on the crest - 'The Kings Box'.

- 1) 50m, 4a. Climb a slab and step right into a groove system. Climb this to ledges.
- 2) 50m. Easy slabs and cracks to a belay below a steeper smoother section.
- 3) 50m, 4a. Climb grooves and cracks to belay below a clean right leaning groove.
- 4) 50m, 4b. Undercling into the groove, then straight up this to a belay at the second ledge under a big steep groove just right of the crest.
- 5) 15m. Traverse horizontally round the ledge to the left and belay on a small ledge in a sensational position.
- 6) 50m, 4b. Up into a groove system and climb this to a belay at the foot of a flared bomb-bay chimney.
- 7) 50m, 4b. Climb the chimney and continue up cracks and grooves to ledges.
- 8) 50m, 4a. More easily up cracks.
- 9) 50m, 4a. More cracks up slabs.
- 10) 20m. Continue to the third big ledge.
- 11) 50m, 5a. Directly above is a 40m pillar with a groove either side. Climb up easy cracks to the left-hand groove and climb this past an old piton to a belay ledge on top of the pillar.
- 12) 30m, 5a. Go up and left and climb the right hand of 2 cracks. At its top step left to belay on a large block below a beautiful right-slanting groove.
- 13) 40m, 5b. Climb the slanting groove with a couple of delicate moves, which leads up to the right side of big roofs. At the top step right and then straight up a crack to a good ledge in a good position.
- 14) 70m. Traverse right into an easy gully and follow this up left. A ramp leads back right to the summit plateau.



DESCENT

Scramble down the south east ridge. Make a 15m abseil from chains at the Mysosten Block then scramble up to the summit of Halls Peak. Large Cairn.

From Halls Peak descend the crest of the ridge easily following cairns and look carefully for the descent path cutting over right onto south facing slopes. The cut-off point is well before the Halls Peak/Prestind Col. This path leads diagonally down and right to regain the gearing up boulder.

