

Zeitschrift: Jahresbericht / Akademischer Alpen-Club Zürich
Herausgeber: Akademischer Alpen-Club Zürich
Band: 120-121 (2015-2016)

Artikel: Climbing with a vista of the Aegean
Autor: Vlahakis, Aryestis
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-825723>

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CLIMBING WITH A VISTA OF THE AEGEAN

Kalymnos is a luxurious sounding destination for any climber. The short walks to the bottom of the densely routed crags, the good food at seaview tavernas and the stunning vistas of the Aegean are an unbeatable recipe. There is no adventurous mountaineering on unknown peaks, but if you are looking to push your sports climbing level, this isn't too bad a place. In September 2016, a dozen of us from the AACZ got to enjoy the island's climbing for almost a week, which was a good enough chunk of continuous climbing. Our daily schedule went as follows:

Early wake up and breakfast (7am or earlier, for those of us who were disciplined). Climb until the sun peaks over the crag or until exhausted/no skin left on fingers/sunburnt. Enjoy lunch – for those with the good sense to climb near Arginonda this meant meze at the tiny stall in the

middle of the beach. Climb some more – the tempting alternative being a refreshing afternoon swim. Dinner. Application of copious mosquito repellent. Sleep.

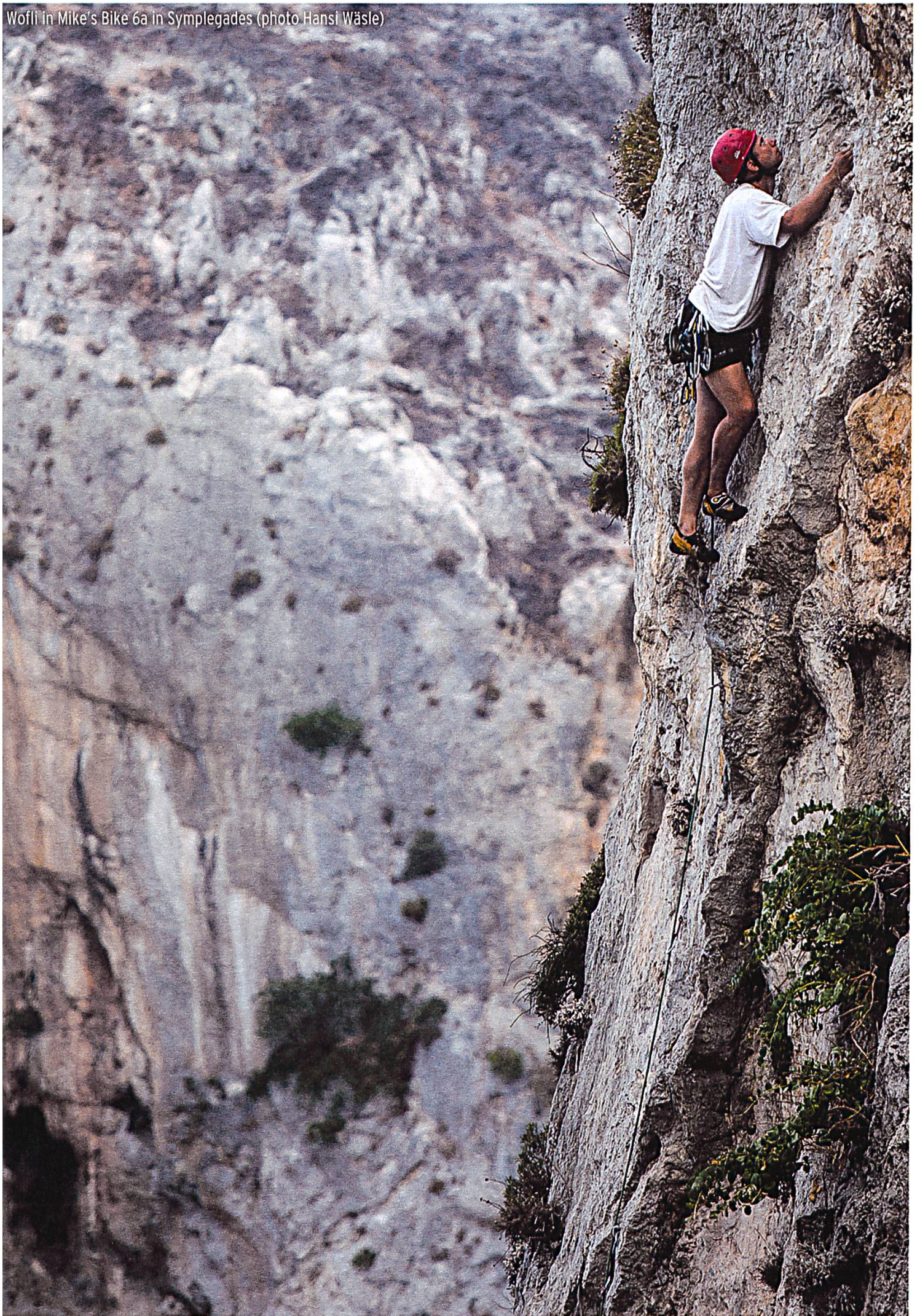
I would be remiss not to thank the club for the kind financial support for the student members who joined the trip. And finally some notes on logistics: There are a few ways to reach the island. After comparing the options and the cost/time balance, we chose to fly to Kos and then take a short ferry to Kalymnos. We stayed in a small hotel in Masouri, right on the beach and close to the crags. We also rented scooters which made it much easier to park at the bottom of the crags. Sadly this was just a toe-dipping exercise. I for one cannot wait to return.

Aryestis Vlahakis

We were not the only ones
(photo Hansi Wäsle)



Wofli in Mike's Bike 6a in Symplegades (photo Hansi Wäsle)



Aryestis and Stephan enjoy easy climbing at Sea Breeze (photo Hansi Wäsle)





Maria enjoys the view on Tufa chair in Frapogalo 7a. (photo Hansi Wäsle)



Wofli approaching The Beach (photo Hansi Wäsle)