

CLIMBING IN MACEDONIA

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CLIMBING LOCALITIES IN REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

CLIMBING LOCALITY MATKA

MATKA is 15 km west of Skopje, on the way to Tetovo. It offers both traditional and sport climbing routes. Matka is a wilderness area centred on the River Treska and Lake Matka. In the area there are two Macedonian Orthodox monasteries dating from the 13th century that are accessible along easy trails. You can get to Matka by car or by bus No 60 from Skopje. The bus leaves every 100 minutes from Skopje central bus station. The first landmark for the trails around Matka is the hydroelectric plant near the dam outlet. To find the hydro plant from the small parking lot at the gate, continue by foot on the paved road along the river. A couple hundred meters beyond the hydro plant, right on the shore of the lake, is a mountain refuge. To find it, head right at the hydro plant and follow a trail cut into the rock. The refuge, also named Matka, offers food, lodging and camping in the vicinity. Another lodging place for sleeping is refuge Konak place in monastery St. Nikola Shishevski, high above the refuge on the other side of the lake. The refuge is a couple hundred meters beyond the hydroelectric plant at the dam, along a trail cut into the rock. St. Nikola. Most of the routes are accessible by trail that begins over the large dam outlet near the hydroelectric plant or by taking a small boat from the refuge to the opposite shore and scrambling up the slope. There are two springs along the trail.

Rock structure: The rock is a limestone conglomerate, giving it a very craggy appearance. BE carefully on this sometimes-loose rock, especially in winter when the rock gives a false impression of solidity.

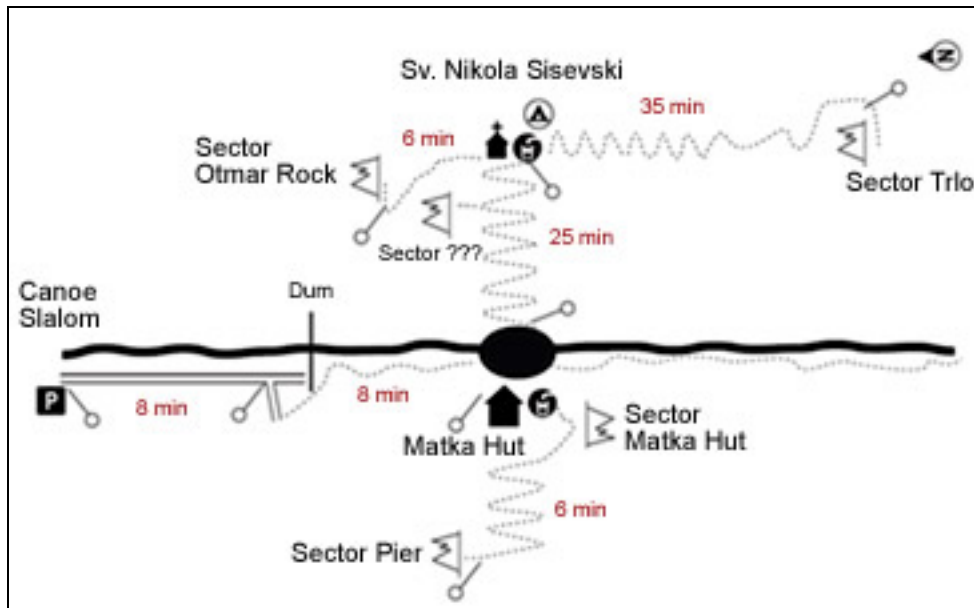
Climbing season: With good weather, you can climb in Matka year round. The periods from March through June and from September through November are best, although in winter there are also some good days for climbing. During midsummer, early morning and late afternoon climbs will keep you out of the heat.

Protection: Alpine routes are relatively well protected with pitons. Because of the rock composition, the security of pitons can vary - be careful. Sport climbing routes are bolt protected. In the summer be aware of snakes.

Equipment: Standard gear for traditional or sport climbing: dynamic rope, 15-25 quick draws (depending of the route), sometimes helmets, shoes, harnesses etc.



CLIMBING ROUTES



OTMAR'S ROCK

Location: Take the trail that leads down to the lake from St. Nikola Shishevski to the base of the south/southwest side of this crag. At the fork in the trail, take the path on the right. The routes are easy to find since they are marked with small blue and white painted signs. All routes on Otmar's finish on the top of the ridge that also defines the route Novogodishen. Follow this route back to the monastery. It's usually always in sight and makes a good landmark.

Route's I part

1. BATMAN..... 7b+? (L1)
2. MADAM MILEVA..... 6c+ (L1)
3. PANCEV.....5b/6a (L4)

Rout's II part

1. JAMBO JET.....6b+/7a/ (20m)
2. TRITE NOJA..... 6a (15m)
3. ADINGPOKS..... 6a (15m)
4. ZELEN ZAB..... 6b+ (15m)
5. VIDI POSKOK.....? (20m)
6. GUSTEROV LET.....6c+ (20m)
7. NINA (second part)..... 4b (50m)
8. BIG MAMA.....6a+? (30m)

CENTRALA ROCK

Location: This crag is on the right of the main trail when you are going to the monastery St. Nikola Shishevski, about 200 meters on the left side from the hydro plant as you are approaching.

Climbing season: Summer. Centrala is north facing.

1. CHARLI CHAPLIN.....6c (12m)
2. CIGO POSTOMODERNA.....7a (15m)
3. EES KOMUNIKACII.....?
4. CENTRALA EXTREME.....7a (20m)

ROCK: MATKA HUT

Location: There are several routes on the rock face immediately around the refuge. Late spring, summer and early autumn are best for climbing in this area, since it is north facing. Be careful after rain, the rock dries slowly.

1. CICIBAN (before the refuge garden area) 6b.
2. SHKOLSKA NASOKA.....4c
3. SPELEOLOSHKA.....5a/6a+ (22m)
4. A1 DINO.....5b/6b (22m)
5. MAKEDONIJA KUP.....5c (6b+) (17m)

ROCK: PIER

Location: This rock is located up to the refuge Matka, on 200m distance from the lake. It is on the right side of the main mountain trail, this starts from the mountain refuge Matka.

1. BEZ MOA.....8a (10m)
2. APOCALIPSA.....7c+ (11m)
3. KENEF.....7c+ (11m)

MATKINO TRLO ROCK

Location: From St. Nikola, take the first trail on the left which generally follows a ridge system toward Mt. Vodno. There are small blue sings painted on rocks to help find the way.

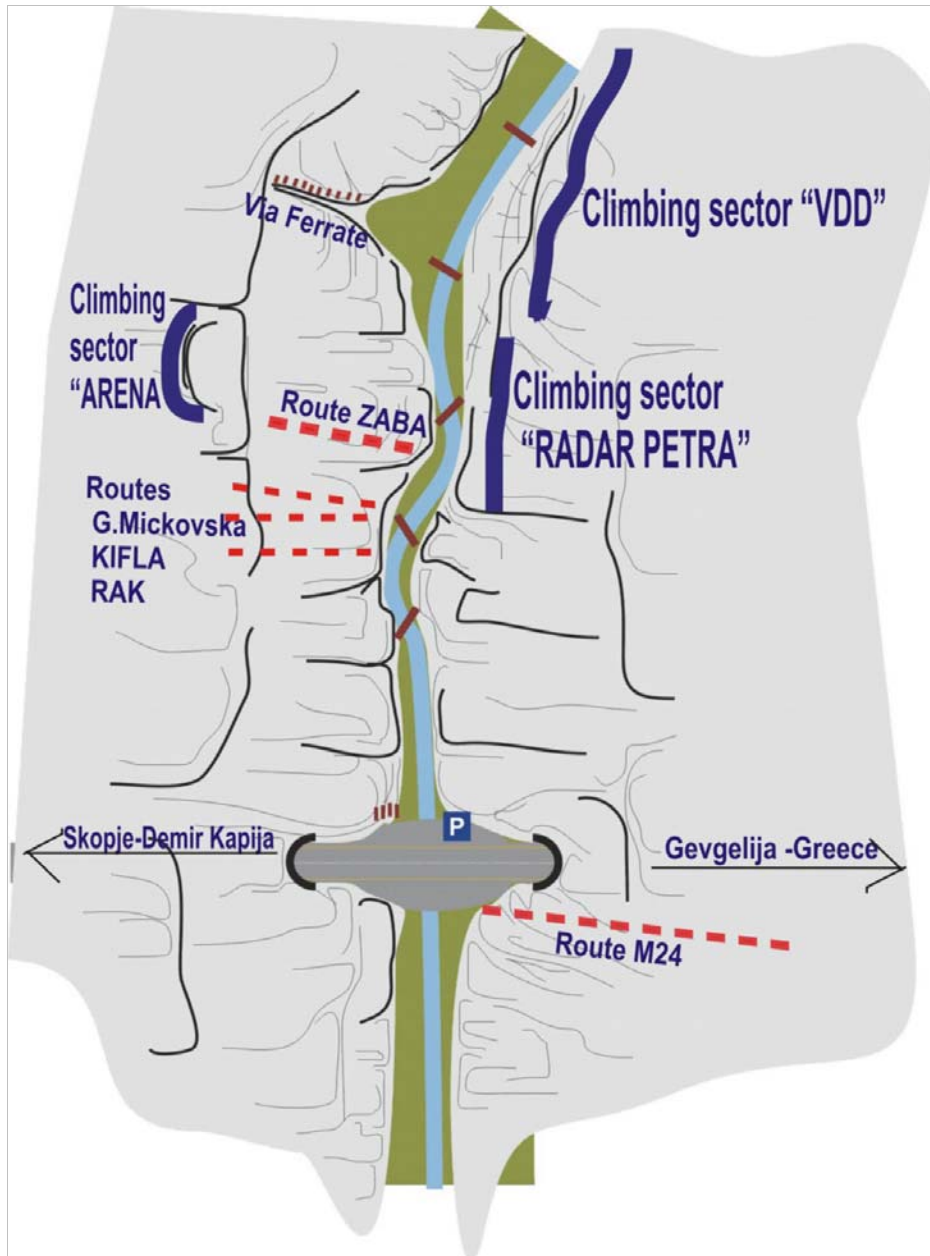
Rock structure: The rock is hard limestone.

Climbing season: All year, depending on weather and time of the day. All routes are south facing.

1. CAMCE.....4c (15m)
2. ALFA SALI.....4c (15m)
3. MRZLIV.....6b (19m)
4. SRDALINKA.....6a+ (19m)
5. LA CUMBRE.....7a(17m)
6. LA CUMBRE DIRECT.....7b (15m)
7. TVRDOGLAVI.....6a+ (17m)
8. FIN MUS.....6a+ (15m)
9. DON'T WARRY BE HAPPY.....6b+ (23m)
10. EVENT.....6b+ (17m)
11. KAKTUS PUCI.....6a (25m)
12. VESEL GOLOB.....(25m)
13. BIG BALL.....(25m)
14. SPIKER.....(25m)
15. ZENA MI NE ME PUSTA.....(25m)
16. KICMA.....6b+(17m)

CLIMBING LOCALITY DEMIR KAPIJA

Location: The climbing locality DEMIR KAPIJA is located in the central part of Republic of Macedonia, 100km south away from Capitol city Skopje under the Cliffs on Demir Kapija passing the highway Skopje-Gevgelija-Thessaloniki. To the routes you can approach from the parking place between two tunnels. From direction of Skopje to the left, you can get the climbing sector A and sector ARENA.



ARENA (big and small cafe)

1. Nasha Mama..... 7b+ (30m)
2. Starata shkola..... 7c+(?) 30m
3. Pioner..... 7c (30m)
4. OF-F..... 7c (30m)
5. Muri..... ?
6. Letacki.....6b+ (30m)
7. Vrum.....6b (30m)

SECTOR A

1. Hollywood..... 4- (10m)
2. Majska skara..... 5 (20m)
3. Patrick Edlanceur.....6a(L1), 7b(L2)? (50m)
4. Radar Petra.....6a(L1), 7a(L2) (50m)
5. Dr. Oktavius..... 6a (L1)
6. S'kz..... 5b(L1), 7a (L2)
5. Zaba..... 6b (17m)
6. Arizona dream..... 7a+ (20m)
7. Tri Lava..... 6c+ (20m)
8. Crna dvojka.....7b (20m)
9. VDD..... 7a (20m)
10. Letecka Dijana.....7b (20m)
11. Tetka biberce..... 6b (20m)
12. MI -24 5a/6a

All 12 routes are starting from the parking place, between two tunnels, on the right side from Skopje direction.

SECTOR TOWN

Location: In periphery of town Demir Kapija, crossing the cafe and tunnels, counting to the left up to the train tunnels.

- Bliznaci.....7b?(7m)

CLIMBING LOCALITY OHRID

OHRID city of UNESCO and Ohrid Lake are well known in the region and worldwide by its natural beauties, as home place of the Slavic literacy and culture, by its wide cultural inheritance, churches, frescoes, icons, and manuscripts. In Ohrid region by now there are four cliffs on different location that have bolted routes for sport climbing.

ROCK St. KANEO

Location: The rock is located in region of "Gorna Varosh" axially in the old part of Ohrid, near to the monastery St. Kaneo. When approaching to the monastery before of the entering door of the Monastery area, turn to the left, down the stairs, which are finishing on the Lake's beach. Before the end of the stairs, on the left side you can notice the rock.

Rock structure: Not high quality red limestone.

Climbing season: All year around. In winter period, climbing is possible in the afternoon.

1. 011..... 6c+? (15m)
 2. Sirena..... 7b? (15m)
 3. Pastrmka..... 6c (7m)starting from water
- Bouldering place (traversing all rock under the monastery St.Kaneo)

ROCK TRPEJCA

Location: On the beaches of village Trpejca, go to the left and after 100m, when we you loose the view on the village, you can notice the small rock, which is growing from water.

Rock structure: Limestone

Climbing season: All year around. In winter period, climbing is in the afternoon.

1. Nirvana..... 6b (15m)
 2. Diam..... 6b+ (15m)
 3. Diam direct..... 6c (15m)
 4. Nokna zvezda..... 6b+ (15m)
- The route 4 is 100m more on the beach.

ROCK St. NIKOLA

Location: From Ohrid on the way to St. Naum, at only 3km from camping place "Gradiste" to the village Trpejca, road continues on the right. From asphalt road, you continue on the grand road. You approach the biggest field place where you may park your vehicle (if any). From the field place to rich the climbing site take hike to the end of the grand road which continues on trekking road. Trekking road is by the coast of the lake, through the monastery garden, down the rocks. The last rock is climbing sector. Follow the red market sine.

Climbing season: All year around. Climbing is best during the summer period in afternoon and in winter in the mornings.

1. Papucha..... 5a
2. Apostolka.....5c
3. Sandala.....5c
4. La dunda.....6a

ROCK ZLI DOL

Location: From Ohrid on the way to St. Naum after the village Trpejca, the road is continuing to the left to the National Park Galicica, at the mountain Galicica. After 1km you may park your vehicle on the first biggest place for parking which is under very lousy rock. By walk you leave the asphalt road, on the left side and take the trekking road in the forest. In 15 minutes hiking you come between rocks of Zli Dol. On both, left and right side are the sport climbing sites where the climbing routes are. The length of the climbing site is 1km, and the height of the routes is up to 50m.

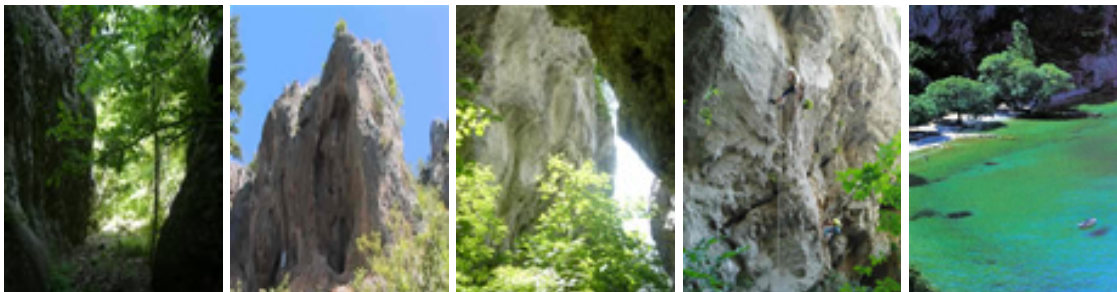
Climbing season: It has ideal climbing conditions during the summer, since it is surrounded with woods and the routes are in shadow of the trees almost all day.

Sector "D"

1. Libra..... 7a+
2. Nevestulka.....7b+
3. Katusha.....7a+/7b
4. Muhujma.....6c
5. Children ziv.....6c+/7a
6. Bubasvaba.....7a+ (?)
7. Red zmija.....6c
8. Bakushka.....7a
9. Pizon.....7c
10. I am hungry for.....7b+
11. Shpote.....6b+
12. Sashenka.....6b+
13. Okroshka.....6b+/c
14. Shurda.....6a
15. Skopsko I se e mozno.....6a+
16. Bitolska kabadaja.....6b+
17. Shtipski dizajn.....6c+

Sector "Z"

1. Prashalnik.....6
2. Cicni strumka..... 7a+/7b
3. Final.....8a+(?)



CLIMBING LOCALITY PLOCHA, Stip

Climbing locality "Plocha" is on magisterial way Stip – Radovish, only 25 km from Stip. On the locality there are exiting traditional routes, opened 20 years ago. Sport climbing routes were opened recently. Up keeping of the routes and the locality is on Alpine Sport Climbing Club "X-Challenge" from Stip.

There are few sectors with different sport climbing routes

Sector A

1. Inizio.....?
2. Mijagi.....?

Sector B

1. Tomahavca.....5a
2. Saiber.....6a+

Sector Kocka

1. Learn to fly.....?
2. Karma.....?
3. Linea Shopur.....?
4. Tat a tat.....?
5. Chipi chan.....?
6. Stinki.....?
7. E, sho znam.....?