

Rock Climbing

Vang Vieng

Laos

General Information

Rock climbing in Vang Vieng was established through a group of German/American climbers in Februar 2002, with the help of Wildside Eco Group. The small tourist town of Vang Vieng is 170 km north of Vientiane, on the road 13 up to Luang Phrabang. Access and acommodation is easy and cheap. Nevertheless there are a few things to be considered. As by Lao government law all foreigners need to have a permit as well as a guide/liason officer for outdoor activities. Wildside Eco Group is the only organisation who has the permit for climbing presently. If you want to go climbing you need to check in with their office in Vang Vieng, they will provide you with a liason officer, who will show you where the climbing areas are. The fee for permit and liason officer are 5 USD per day, for all climbers together. Climbers should meet at 9 am at Wildside Office, than all can split the permit. As it took us and Wildside years to get the permission for rock climbing everyone should stick to that procedure, otherwise there is the danger that the government would shut down climbing at all. As there was trouble with some climbs being put up 1997 in Luang Phrabang before, the government is very sensible about that. Considering the fast growing number of Lao climbers we all have a responsibility for the future of the place and the sport. With getting climbing more and more popular among Lao people we hope that in the near future the whole permit issue will be dropped and everything will be just as everywhere in the world. Check with all questions with Wildside, they also have a new route book, climbing courses and some equipment for rent. As most of the harder routes have not been repeated consider the ratings as a proposal. Volker Schoeffl, 4/2003

Current News: After long discussions with the local Tousirst Authority Inty Deansavan, the Manager of Wildside Laos, succeded just recently – climbing is allowed to everyone, the whole permit issue is dropped!!!

Credits

*Many thanks to the following companies for sponsoring bolts and climbing equipment:
Krimmer Outdoor Systems, Roc'tera, Entre-Prises, E9, Flash Liquid Chalk, a'Gaudi*

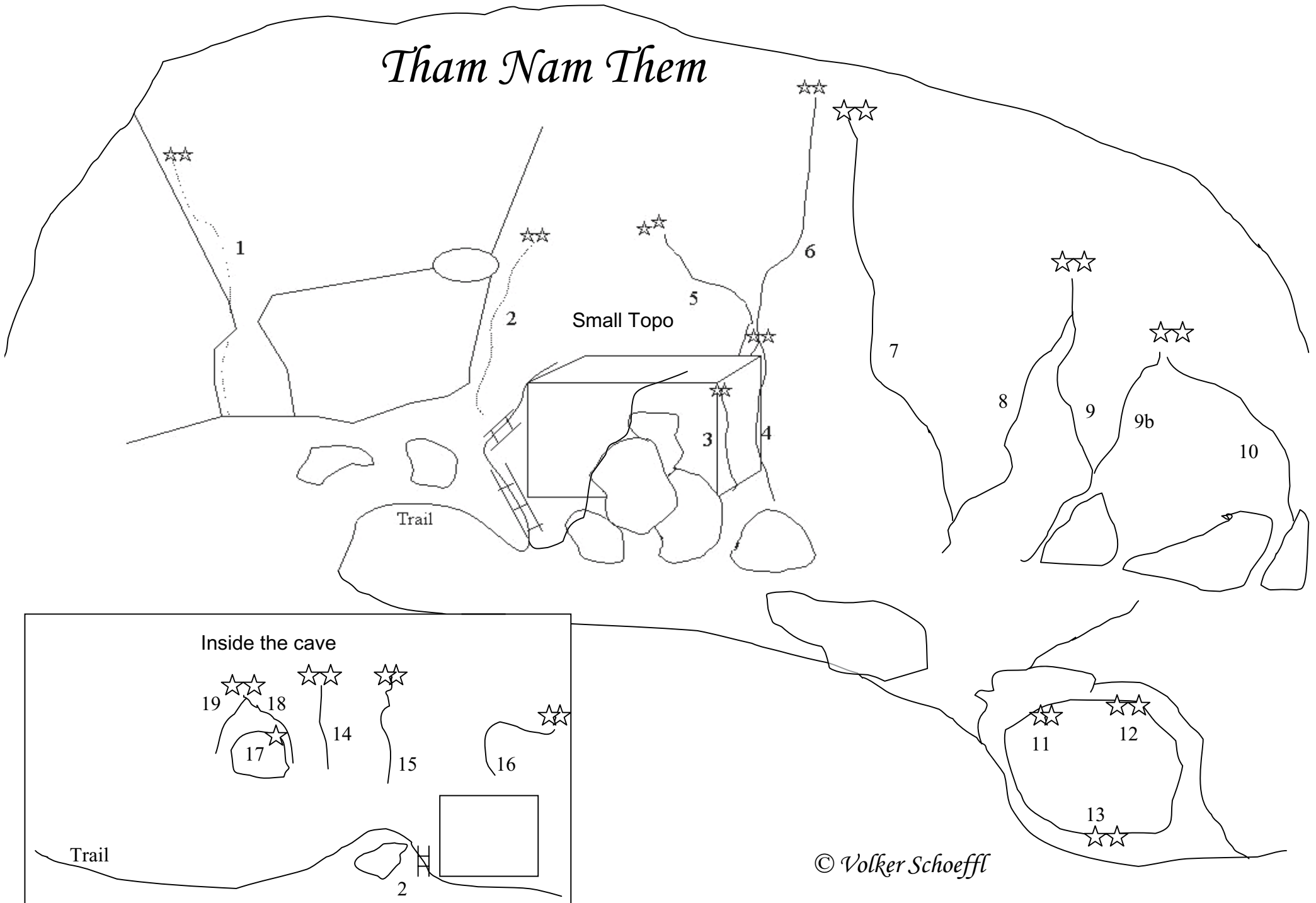


Tham Nam Them

Access:

Leave Vang Vieng north on the main road, after 7km turn left , just where a house with a blue roof is right hand side. Follow the dirt road up to ist end onto rice paddies, traverse these to the left where a small path leads to the river. After crossing follow the mostly dry small river bed for 10 min., just before it 's end at a little cave follow the trail right to Tham Nam Them Cave. Go through the cave, the climbing area is just at ist opening on the other side. You can also walk on a small trail across the saddle to the other side instead of going through the cave. If the temperature outside the cave is too hot, the routes within the cave might be wet. Thats why the projects are not yet finished.

Tham Nam Them



Tham Nam Them

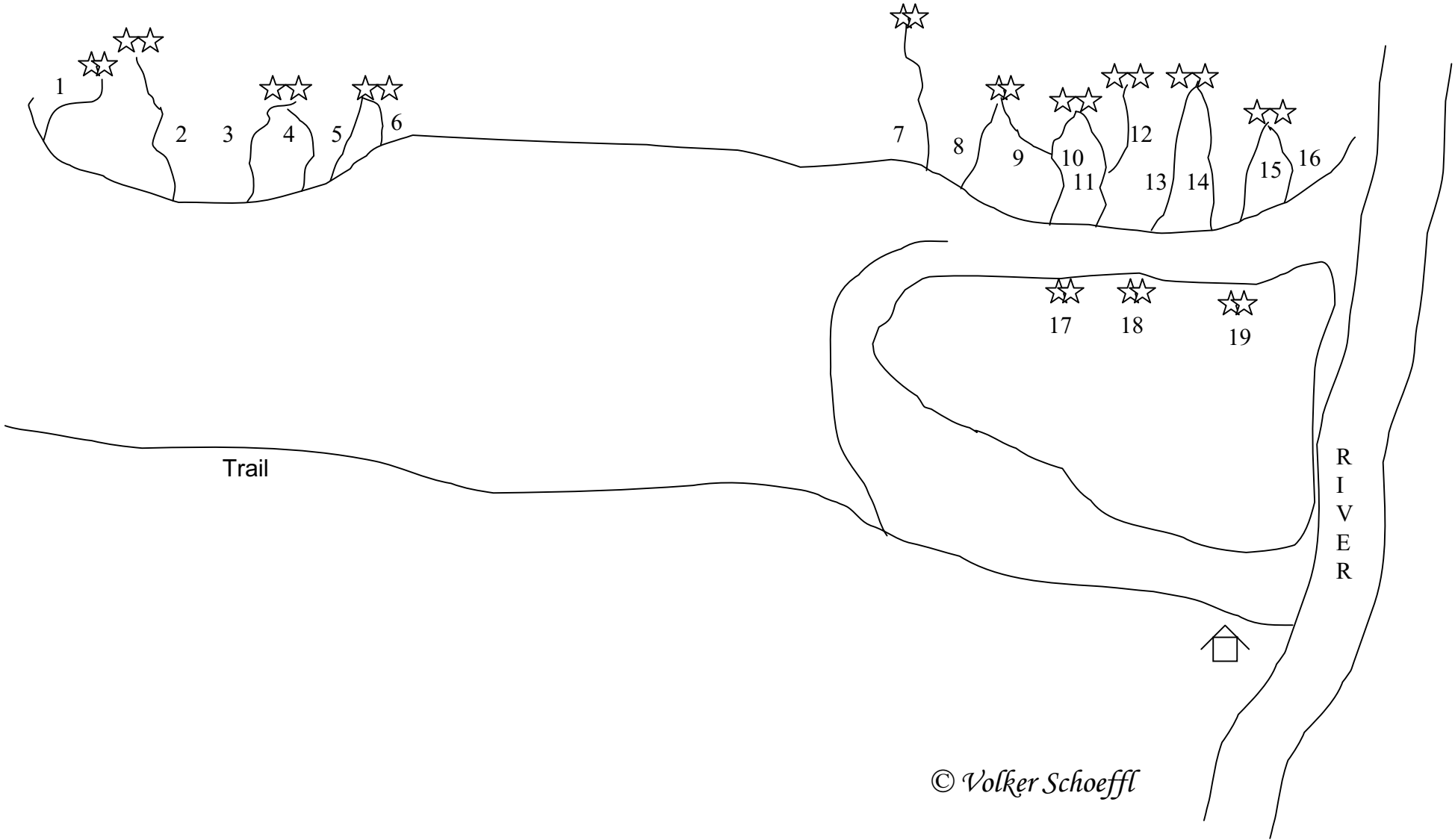
1. *Prince of the Sky, 8a+* *Volker Schoeffl,, Christina Mueller Feb.2002*
2. *Barrel Roll, 8a* *Volker Schoeffl, Sam Lightner Feb.2002*
3. *Quicky, 6a* *Gerd Schoeffl Feb.2002*
4. *Poppy Seed, 6a* *Radek Capek, Feb.2002*
5. *Lima Site, 7a+* *Gerd Schoeffl Feb.2002*
6. *AK-47, 7c* *Carsten Seidel, Feb.2002*
7. *Tuk Tuk Express, 7c+* *Radek Capek, Feb.2002*
8. *Yellow Rain, 7a+* *Sam Lightner, Carsten Seidel, Feb.2002*
9. *Missing Sweety, 6b+* *Sam Lightner, Feb.2002*
- 9.b *Aaron, 6c+* *King, Aey, Feb.2003*
10. *Alternate, 6c* *Sam Lightner, Feb.2002*
11. *Beer Lao 5c* *Carsten Seidel, Feb.2002*
12. *Remember Me, 6a* *Carsten Seidel, Feb.2002*
13. *Sabaydee, 6a* *Christina Mueller, Feb.2002*
14. *The Critton, 7a+* *Sam Lightner, Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2002*
15. *Project*
16. *Another Day in Paradise, 8a+* *Volker Schoeffl, Christina Mueller, Jan.2003*
17. *Project*
18. *Volkers Eistraum 7b+* *Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2004*
19. *Eiszeit 7c/7c+* *Volker Schoeffl, Carsten Seidel, Feb.2004*

Sleeping Wall

Access:

Take the road north of Vang Vieng, after 2km leave it to the left, following the sign to Tham Non Cave (Sleeping Cave). As you get to the river (Nam Song) yell for the boatmen on the other side to take you across. The wall is just behind the visible shit wall next to the river.

Sleeping Wall



Sleeping Wall

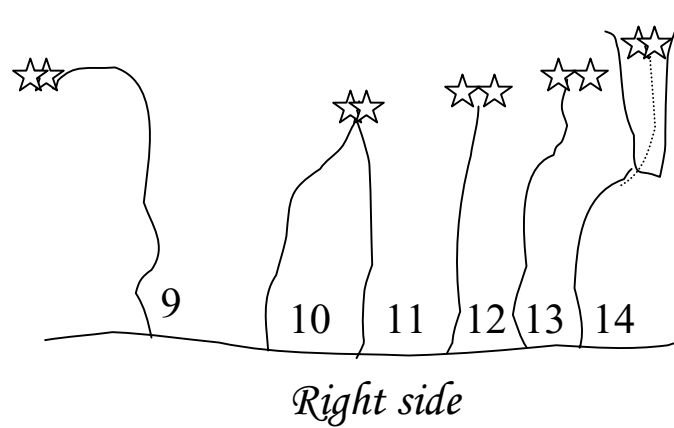
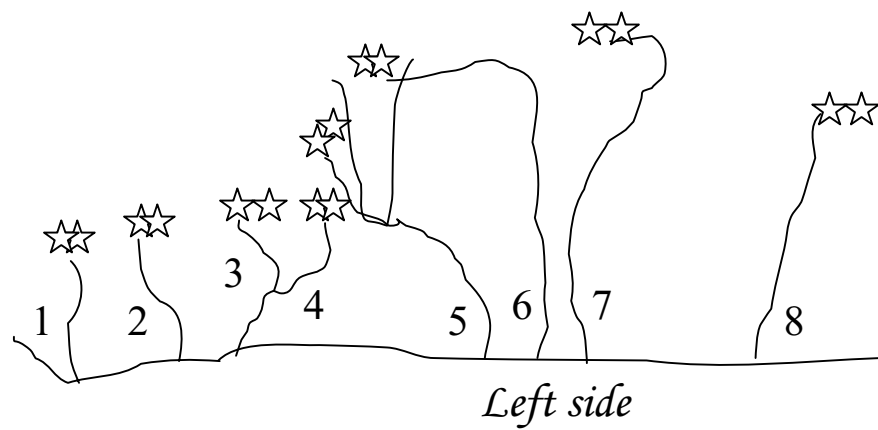
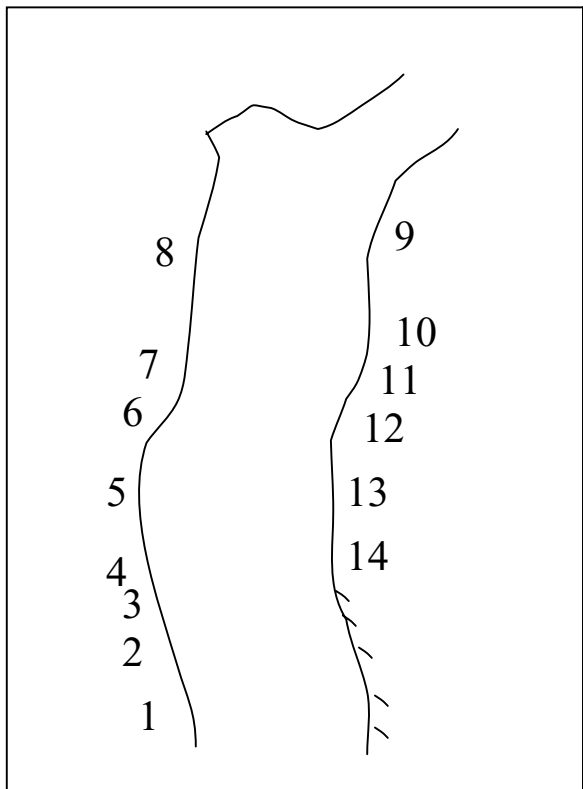
1. *Oscar, 7b+* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
2. *Tina, 7c* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
3. *Spider, 7a+* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
4. *Snake Skin, 7a* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
5. *Lonely Cowboy 6b* *Volker Schoeffl Oct. 2003*
6. *Hate 6b* *Volker Schoeffl Oct. 2003*
7. *White Jungle 6b+* *Enrico Ramoth, Gerd & Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2004*
8. *Happy 6a* *Sek and Volker Schoeffl Feb 2004*
9. *Sek Billion 5b* *Sek Feb 2004*
10. *Sam's Dream, 5* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
11. *Wildside, 6b* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
12. *Kouky, 6c+* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
13. *Si Pou, 7b+* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
14. *La, 6c* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
15. *Happy TuTu, 6c* *Christina Mueller, Volker Schoeffl Dec.2002*
16. *Give Pizza a Chance, 6c+* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
17. *Gerton Jonny Watson, 4* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
18. *Rcap 512, 5a* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*
19. *Bierseidel, 5b* *Volker Schoeffl and Christina Mueller Dec.2002*

Sleeping Cave

Access:

Take the road north of Vang Vieng, after 2km leave it to the left, following the sign to Tham Non Cave (Sleeping Cave). As you get to the river (Nam Song) yell for the boatmen on the other side to take you across. Up to here it is the same approach as to the Sleeping Wall. After crossing the Nam Song river turn right, to the Tam Non Cave. As a private guide has a concession to the cave there is an admission fee of 3000 kip (30cent), to be paid at the little hut at the river.

Sleeping Cave



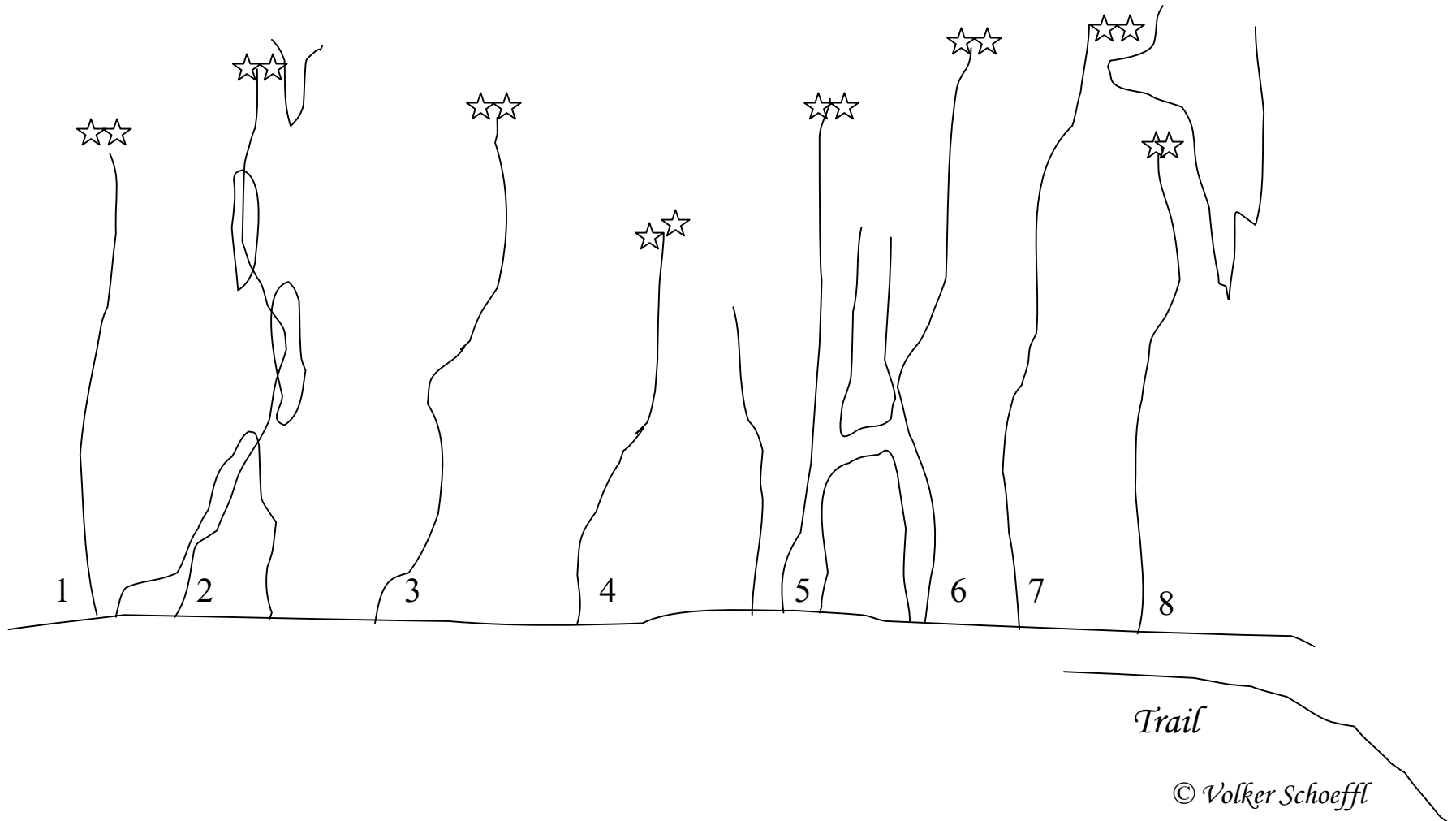
Sleeping Cave

1. *Xayhoo* 7b+ *Volker Schoeffl, Carsten Seidel, Gerd Schoeffl, Enrico Ramoth Feb. 2004*
2. *Sok di Phi Mai*, 8a *Volker Schoeffl, April 2003*
3. *Butterfly*, 8a *Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2004*
4. *Tag am Meer* 7c+/8a *Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2004*
5. *Just horrified* 7a *Volker Schoeffl March 2004*
6. *Karaokee*, 7b *Volker Schoeffl, March 2003*
7. *Flash Keks*, 6b *Volker Schoeffl, March 2003*
8. *Pin Pah Noi Ngun*, 5c *Volker Schoeffl Stefan Zenker ,, March 2003*
9. *Chicken Schnitzel*, 7b+ *Volker Schoeffl, March 2003*
10. *Cornflake*, 6c *Volker Schoeffl Max Felle,, Alex Hislop, Oscar Willemsen, March 2003*
11. *Ostkamin*, 6a+ *Volker Schoeffl Max Felle,, Alex Hislop, Oscar Willemsen, March 2003*
12. *Puzzle*, 6c+ *Volker Schoeffl Max Felle,, Alex Hislop, Oscar Willemsen, March 2003*
13. *Hamilton Powerarm meets
Tyrone Shoelace* 6b *Mark Ryan,, Volker Schoeffl Feb. 2004*
14. *Scary Tuna*, 5b *Stefan Zenker, Volker Schoeffl, March 2003*

Sleeping Cave Upper Wall

There is another wall next to Sleeping Cave, with potential for future development (5 to 6c). Just fork off to the right side before entering the cave. Continue the trail up to the wall and to its right end. There is a bolted via ferrata with a fixed rope (Carsten Seidel, Volker Schoeffl, Feb.2004) to a big ledge. If the rope is gone you can follow the bolts, something like a 4 or 5.

Pha Daeng Mountain



Pha Daeng Mountain

1. ?
2. *King Cobra*, 6a+
3. *Pit Viper*, ?
4. ?
5. ?
6. *Pea My*, 6a+
7. ?
8. ?, 6a+

Access:

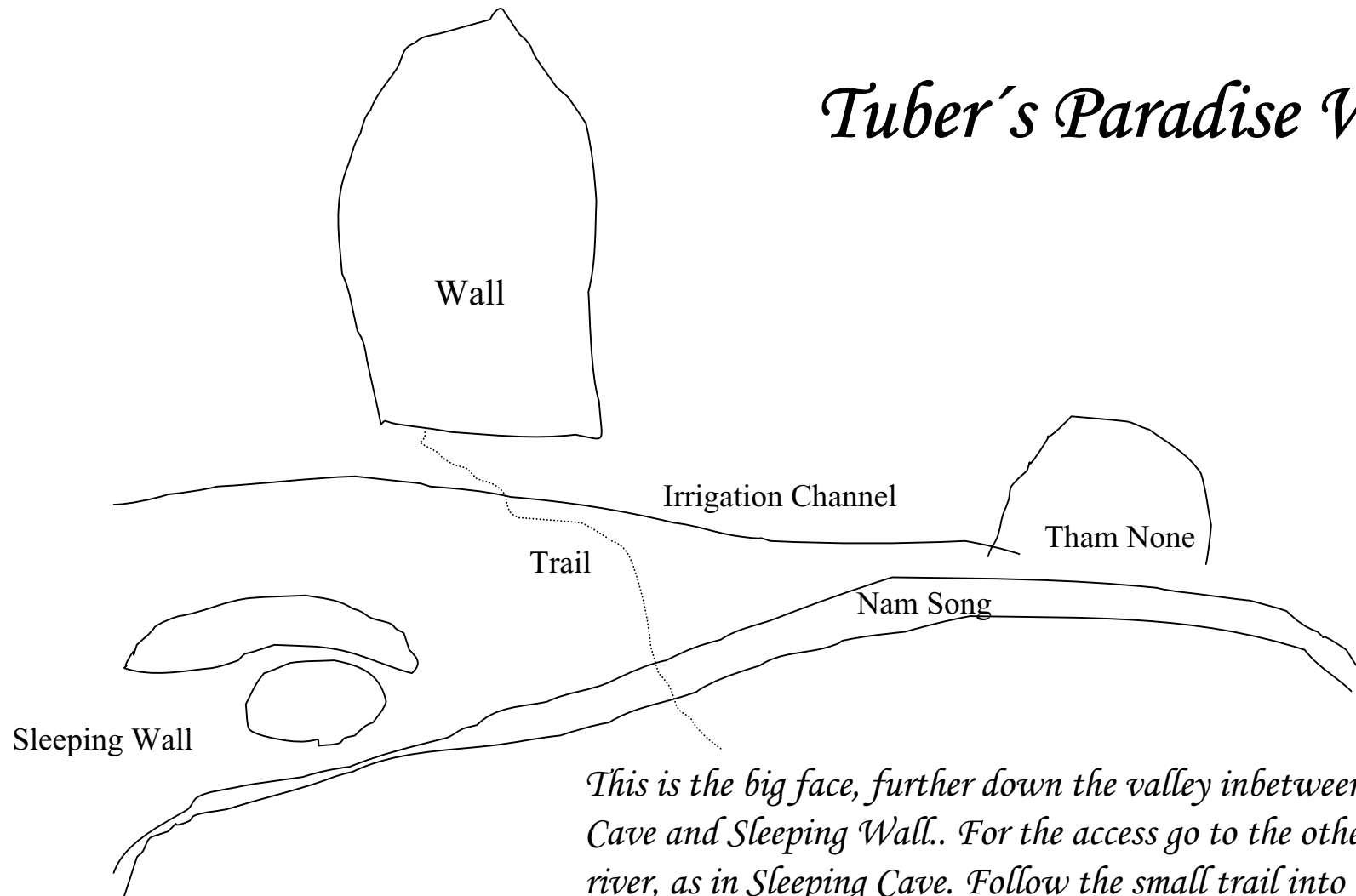
In Vang Vieng cross the Nam Song River and hike in the direction to Pha Daeng Mountain or Lusy Cave .

At the base of the mountain turn left and continue the trail until you get to a small cave. Keep left until a trail leads up to the cliff. If you can't find the trail ask the guide at the little cave, he can show you.

Routes:

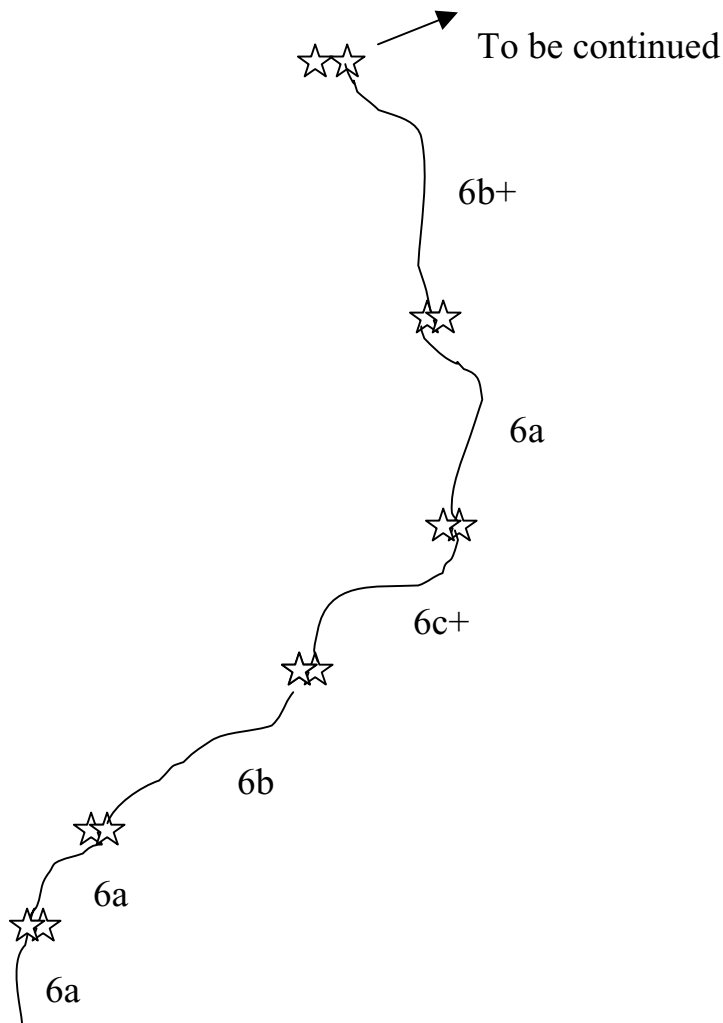
All routes done by a guy called Dave and a friend, as he considers the cliff his private climbing area he wasn't giving any information...

Tuber's Paradise Wall



This is the big face, further down the valley inbetween the Sleeping Cave and Sleeping Wall.. For the access go to the other side of the river, as in Sleeping Cave. Follow the small trail into the jungle, continuing left at the irrigation channel.. Traverse is at the spot where we built a little bridge (2 tree logs). Continue first left than straight to the end of the secondary jungle. From there follow the jungle trail, which is marked with orange colour. Take care on the trail, a lot of the rocks are very sharp and loose.

Khoi ha chao – Tuber's Paradise Wall



Khoi Ha Chao: 6c+

*Isabelle Roloff, Volker Schöffl
Oktober 2004*

*Equipment: 50 m ropes, 12
Quickdraws, all bolted.*

*Rappels: The rappels are down
the route, with backclipping at
the 3rd and 4th pitch (tricky !).
We will continue it higher up
the next time.*