

# Tre Cime 2004 – Dave MacLeod, Scott Muir

## Expedition Report



Aiding on Bellavista Pitch 7 (F8c/E10 7a)

### Objective:

2<sup>nd</sup> ascent of Bellavista, 600m, F8c, North Face of Cima Ovest. The hardest multipitch rock climb in the world.

### Expedition Costs:

Ferry - £690

Fuel - £120

Accommodation - £250

Equipment - £200

Total = 1260

### Expedition support:

MCofS grant = £400

### Report:

The trip dates were Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sep 11<sup>th</sup> 2004. We acknowledged before starting that a repeat of this climb in a single trip would be a highly ambitious objective and that our first attempt might provide a starting point to assess the route and base training for a subsequent attempt. Starting up the route we discovered that the entire climb had been stripped of its pegs on abseil in order to deter repeat ascensionists. We did not anticipate this and did not have the experience or equipment to make an aid ascent in order to re-equip the climb (the climb is new wave A4+). We attempted to free the route anyway and climbed the first 6 pitches (F6a – F7b+) over three days. In their

pegless state this involved some onsight leading up to E7 6b with extremely poor protection. We attempted to climb the F8c/E10 pitch using a semi aid/semi free style but had to retreat from about halfway up the pitch due to lack of aiding equipment and not enough pegs and time to re-equip 600 metres of climbing. The equipping of the route took the first ascensionists (Alex Huber) several weeks.



Bellavista, Pitch 5 (E6 6b).

The remainder of the trip was spent repeating climbs in the same area such as Fulminator F8a+, Cinque Torre, Volpera Monster F8a+, Volpera, Sogna Alles Ombres F7c+/8a (onsight) and attempting some harder routes in preparation for subsequent visits.

We are aiming to return to Bellavista to complete the ascent as soon as this becomes possible. Wish to thank the MCoF S for their assistance with our expedition.

Dave MacLeod, Scott Muir.