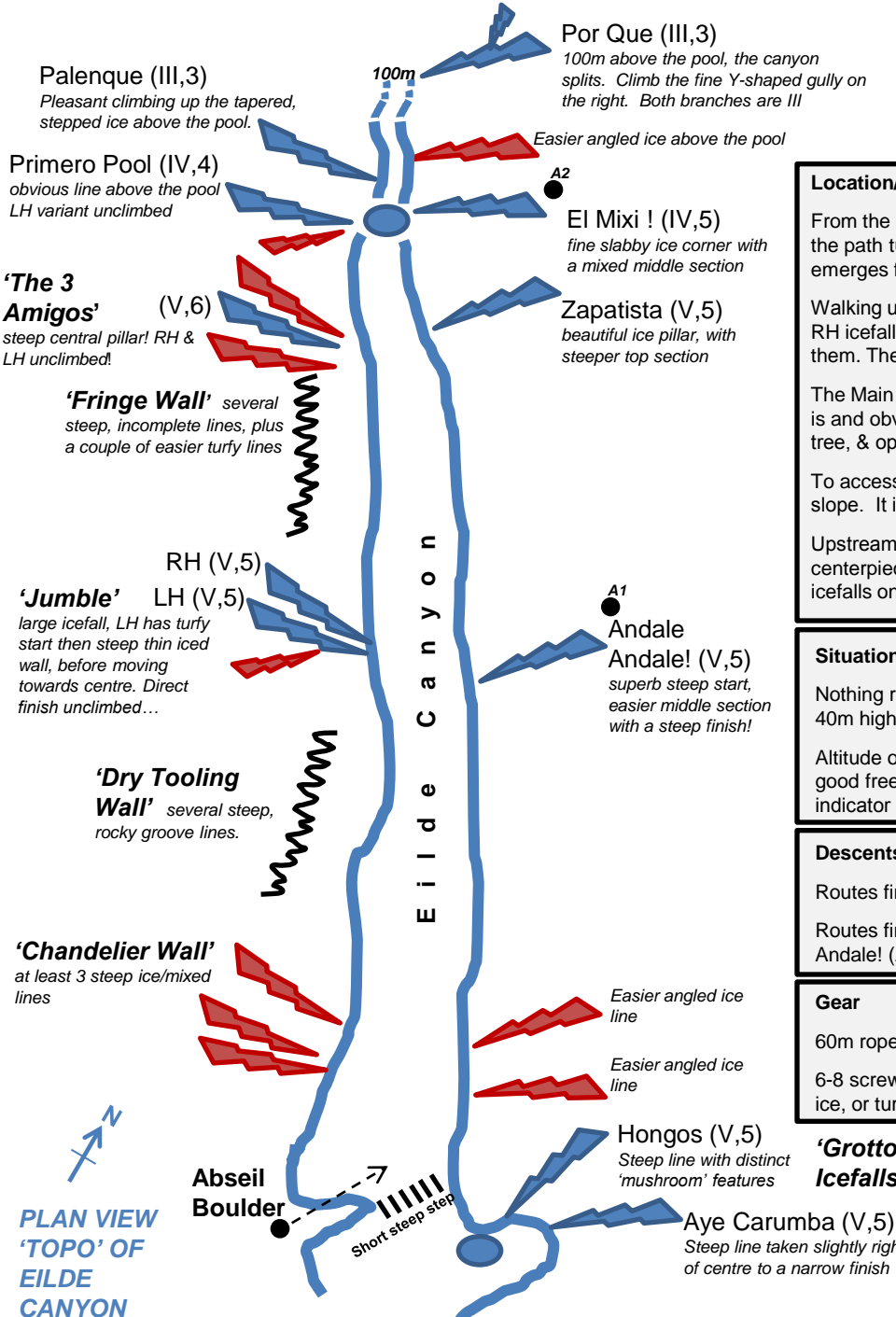


# 'Eilde Canyon' - Coire Eilde, Glencoe

(updated 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012)



## Location/Access

From the large new carpark (not shown on most maps) at 188563, a good path leads up Lairig Eilde. Where the path turns due south at 170536, head due west and follow the true right bank of the Alt Coir Eilde which emerges from a deepening gorge/canyon.

Walking up the true right bank of the canyon, a pair of short, steep icefalls (LH icefall: 'El Mini', 12m IV,4. RH icefall unclimbed) can be seen, and are accessible by scrambling into the canyon just downstream of them. These are not shown on the topo, and are c. 100m below the Main Canyon.

The Main Canyon is reached by walking further up the true right bank: a large boulder above a pair of trees is an obvious landmark. c.50m upstream of this (164536) is a slightly squatter boulder, again above a small tree, & opposite an obvious pair of steep, c.40m icefalls. ('Grotto Icefalls') - 1½ hrs from the road.

To access the Main Canyon, abseil (20m) from the squat boulder (c.8m of slings req) down a steep turfey slope. It is possible to climb back up this slope at c.grade II, but it's awkward to descend – hence the abseil.

Upstream, there are icefalls on either side of the Canyon, with the impressive 'The 3 Amigos' forming the centerpiece. The canyon narrows at a small pool, with a short ice step above it. Above this, easy angled icefalls on both sides, before the canyon splits 100m upstream.

## Situation/Character

Nothing really like this exists in Scotland! The main canyon is around 250m long, 10-15m wide, and 25-40m high walls. Most of the routes form by streams dropping into the canyon, and are 30-40m long.

Altitude of 500m, but also it is very sheltered from the wind, and no sun gets into the canyon! It requires a good freeze, but is pretty resistant to thaws, and may well be in condition fairly often – probably a good indicator is Beinn Udlaidh... if Udlaidh is 'in', then Eilde Canyon is worth a visit!

## Descents

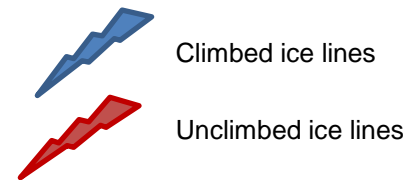
Routes finishing on the true right bank - walk back down to the Abseil Boulder.

Routes finishing on the true left bank, abseil slings & crabs in place 15m back from the top of Andale Andale! (A1), & at small outcrop close to edge of the canyon, just upstream of the finish of El Mixi! (A2).

## Gear

60m ropes recommended – some routes have belays well back.  
6-8 screws, 2 x warthogs, single rack of wires – most routes are pure ice lines. Belays at the top are often in ice, or turf (hence warthogs!), or some exposed rock outcrops.

## 'Grotto Icefalls'



PLAN VIEW  
'TOPO' OF  
EILDE  
CANYON



Simon Yearsley  
4<sup>th</sup> February 2012



Main Canyon from the abseil point  
- Chandelier Wall on left, 'Andale Andale!' visible on right.  
Photo: Simon Yearsley



'Groto Icefalls': 'Hongos' LH line, & 'Aye Carumba' the marked RH line  
Photo: Simon Davidson



Looking back down Main Canyon from the foot of 'Zapatista'.  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climber: Malcolm Bass



'Jumble', showing LH, RH and dotted unclimbed Direct Finish  
Photo: Simon Yearsley



'Jumble LH'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climber: Neil Silver



'The 3 Amigos'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climber: Neil Silver

## 'Eilde Canyon' - Coire Eilde, Glencoe



'Andale Andale!'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climbers: Neil Silver & Simon Davidson

### First Ascents (so far!!)

- 2010 December 22<sup>nd</sup>
- 2010 December 24<sup>th</sup>
- 2010 December 26<sup>th</sup>
- 2010 December 28<sup>th</sup>
- 2011 January 11<sup>th</sup>
- 2012 February 3<sup>rd</sup>

- Primero Pool**
- Andale Andale!**
- Jumble Left-Hand**
- El Mini , Aye Carumba,**
- Jumble Right Hand.**
- Central Amigo**
- Zapatista, El Mixi!**
- Hongos**
- Por Que, Palenque**

- Simon Yearsley, Dan Peach
- Simon Yearsley, Simon Davidson, Neil Silver
- Neil Silver, Simon Davidson, Simon Yearsley
- Simon Davidson, Tom Broadbent
- Simon Yearsley, Malcolm Bass
- Malcolm Bass, Simon Yearsley
- Simon Davidson, Neil Carnegie
- Simon Yearsley, Chris Pasteur



Looking up at 'Left Amigo' and 'Central Amigo'  
Photo: Simon Davidson



'Andale Andale!'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climber: Simon Davidson



'Zapatista'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley



'Zapatista'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley  
Climber: Malcolm Bass



'Primero Pool'  
Photo: Dan Peach  
Climber: Simon Yearsley



'Primero Pool'  
Photo: Simon Yearsley



'Central Amigo'  
Photo: Malcolm Bass  
Climber Simon Yearsley