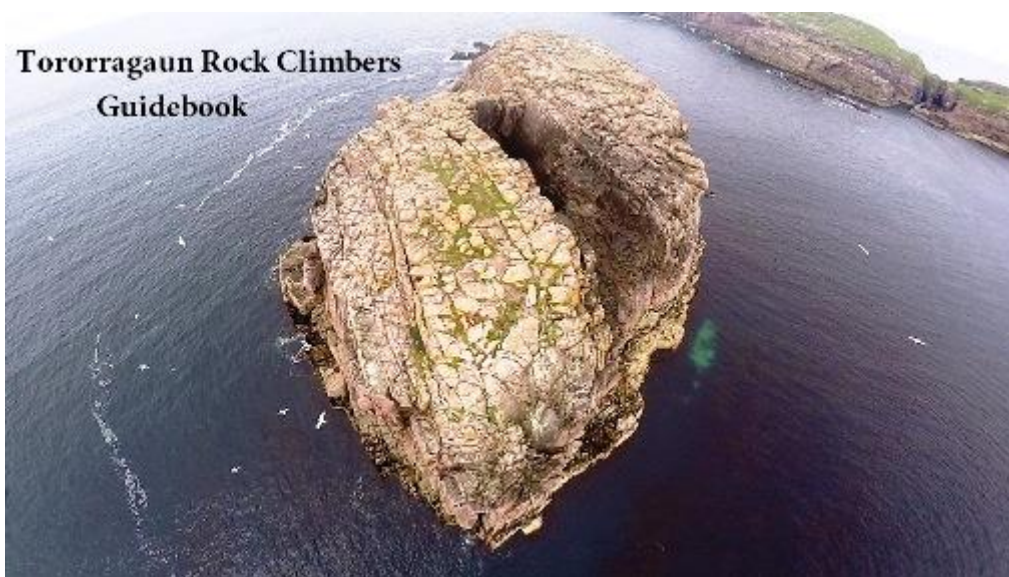


A Climbers Guide to

# Tor Uí Arragáin

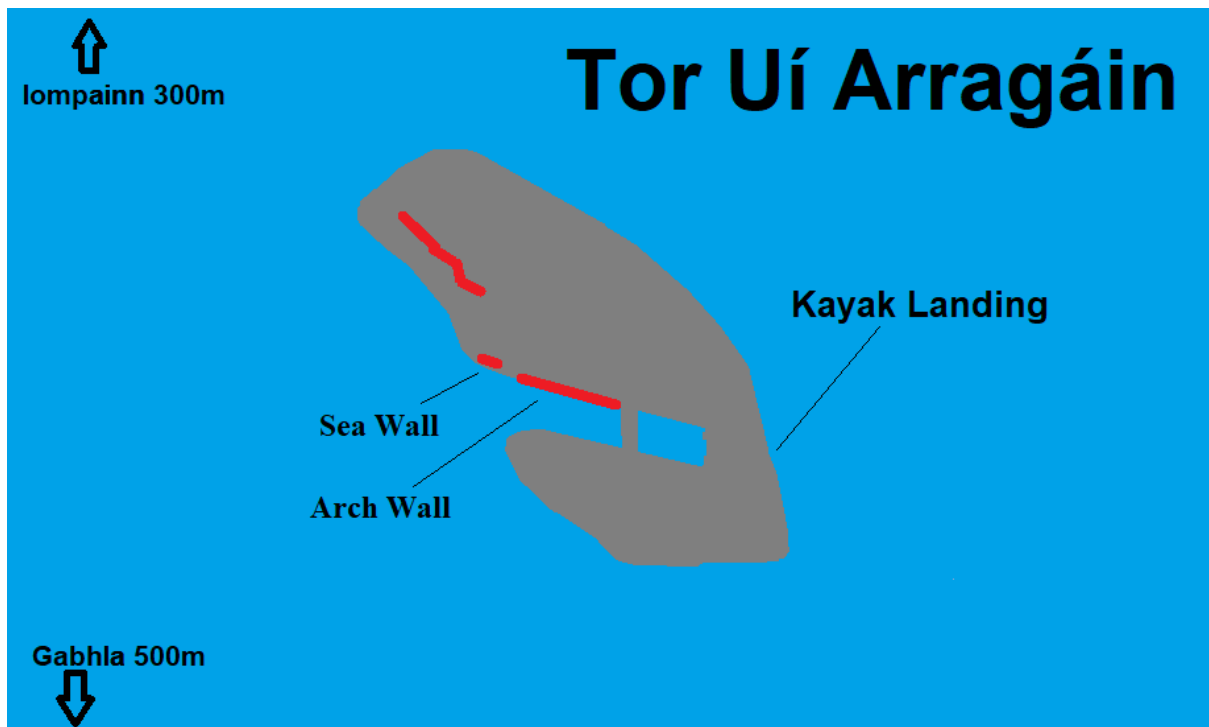
By  
**Iain Miller**



## Tor Uí Arragáin

Tor Uí Arragáin is a 22 metre high rocky granite island living in the channel between Gola and Umfin Islands four kilometres off the Gaoth Dobhair coast. The island is effectively guarded on all sides by Gola Island quality sea cliffs and off course the potential for climbing new routes is enormous. Running through the centre of the island is a huge, and I do mean HUGE, sea washed water spout. It is difficult to imagine the size of this water spout but it would easily accommodate a million tons of sea water at a time.

There is no fresh water on the island and pretty much every horizontal surface is birded as this is home to approx. 500 nesting pairs of Fulmar and a token amount of Gannet. Best avoid the island during the nesting period as there is nowhere to go to avoid being spat on.



Access to the island by sea kayak from Port Arthur Pier at Map ref B798284 on the Gweedore Coast. Landing on Tor Uí Arragáin is not without a certain degree of rocky uncertainty as there are no easy landing beaches, coves or recesses. The easiest landing is at the eastern tip of the island onto rock sea level ledges. With a west sea running the island provides excellent lee and this eastern tip has large non-tidal ledges for kayak storage.

[Google Maps pin for Tor Uí Arragáin](#) Map ref: B766280

### Sea Wall

Left Rib Diff 14m

Scramble up left rib, used as a descent between routes

*I. Miller 07/07/22*

An Simleír Mór 12m

Climb the deep chimney pulling through the roof on glorious jugs.

*I. Miller, L. Murdiffe 07/07/22*

Central Groove V. Diff 12m

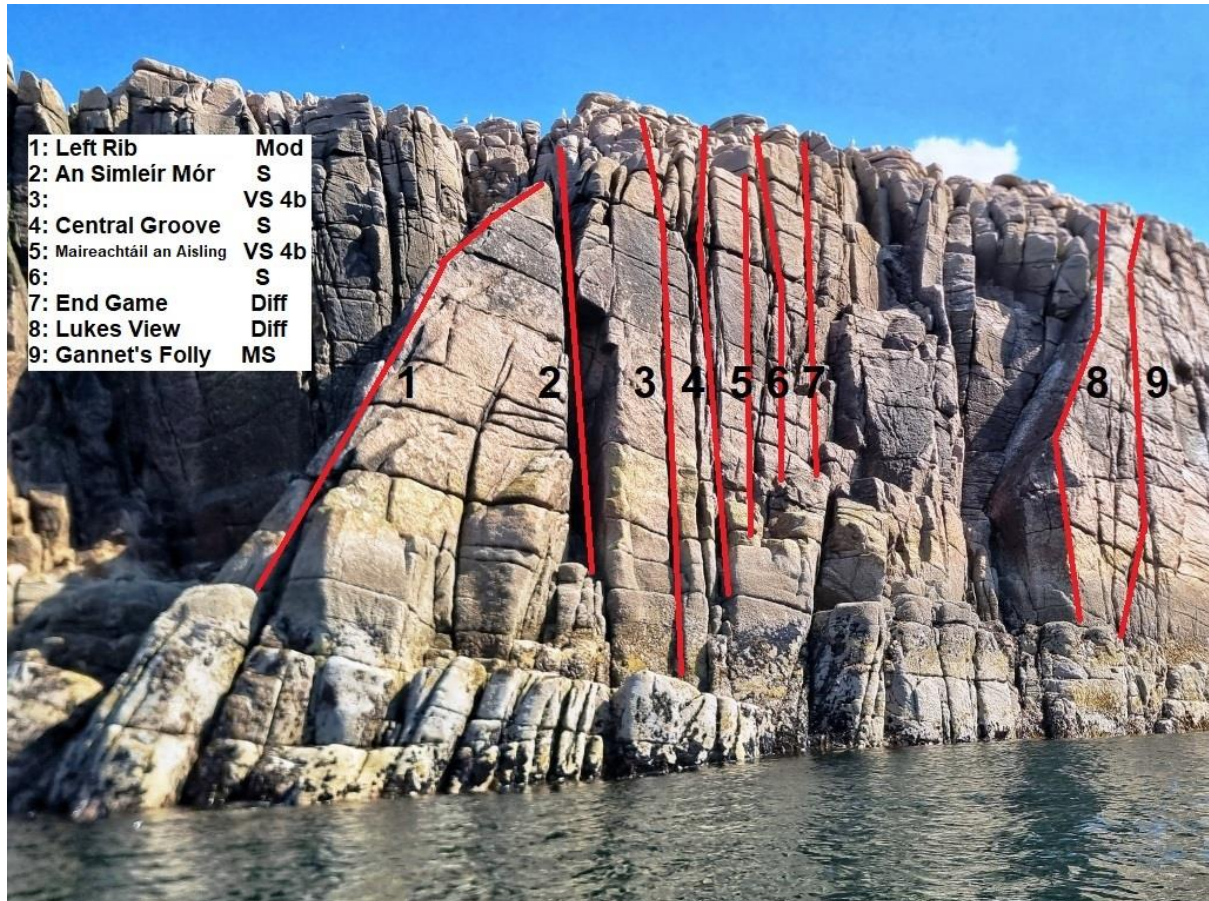
climb the central groove of the crag mainly on big bulky pinches.

*I. Miller 07/07/22*

Maireachtáil an Aisling VS 4b 12m

Climb the full crag height flared crack, hands to start and feet to finish.

*I. Miller, L. Murdiffe 07/07/22*



Sea Wall

End Game Diff

Follow the huge jugs and groove at the far right of the crag.

*I. Miller 07/07/22*

## Arch Wall

Lukes View Diff

Climb the gentle angled ridge at the seaward edge of the main face.

*I. Miller 16/10/15*

Gannets Folly Mild Severe

Climb the first deep crack in from the seaward end of the face.

*I. Miller 16/10/15*

Heelanmans Umbrella S 4a

Climb the tapering corner crack to a recess and follow cracks above to summit.

*I. Miller 16/10/15*

Jugfest S 4a

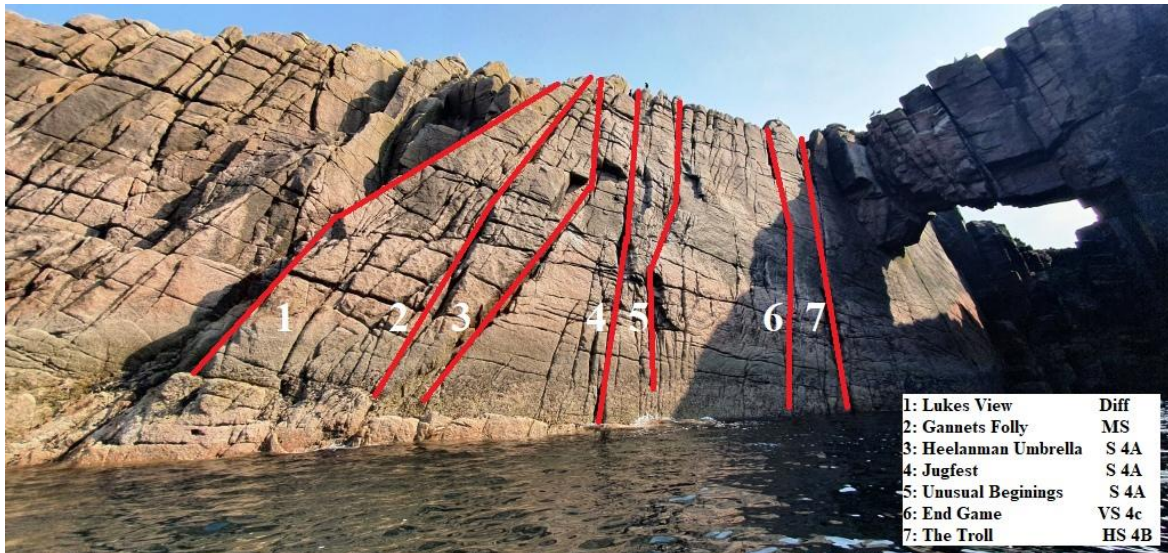
Climb the continual deep crack from sea to the summit.

*I. Miller 16/10/15*

Unusual Beginnings S 4a

Climb the next crack in from the sea where the wall steepens, holds get bigger as height is gained.

*I. Miller 16/10/15*



**Arch Wall**

End Game VS 4c \*\*

Climb the thinner cracks to the left of "The Troll."

*I. Miller April 2016*

The Troll HS 4b \*\*

Climb the narrow twin crack immediately below the bridge on the seaward side.

*I. Miller 01/06/16*

The Corner V. Diff

Climb the big corner at the landward end of the wall right of the troll. Access by the green staircase at the very back of the spout.

*I. Miller 01/06/16*

**Disclaimer**

This guidebook is intended for information purposes only, it is not an instruction manual. This free guidebook is for the use of experienced outdoor climbers to make their own judgement calls as to what is and where is safe to climb on any given day.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this guidebook at the time of writing, it alas cannot be guaranteed to be completely accurate. Many of the routes, locations and even some of the islands in these guidebooks are seldom visited, with a considerable amount of the routes having only ever been climbed once before.

The west coast and islands of Donegal are very exposed to the Atlantic Ocean swells brought by the ever present trade winds. A good working knowledge of such nautical matters is essential to ensure safe practice whilst visiting and climbing on remote and very exposed sea cliffs and stacks.

Rock climbing is an activity with a very real danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities must employ appropriate levels of mountaineering / rock climbing guile and common sense. Participants must take personal responsibilities for their actions and involvement in these activities at all times.

In Ireland all land is owned by someone, the inclusion of a location in this book does not mean we have the right of access or the right to climb there. Please respect the rights of the landowner and we can continue to visit these beautiful places.