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Hidalgo Information

Homero's / Quinta Santa Graciela

Always “El Original”, Homero's established in 1989 is still serving up hospitality, good times, great food, and camping, all at reasonable prices. Homero's has the closest view of the 2700ft front side of The Sierra San Miguel Mountain range. Homero's is widely considered the Camp 4 of El Potrero Chico.

The camp has improved quite a lot over the last year and now offers a four bedroom house, with individual rooms available. These rooms all have new A/C, are simply furnished, spacious, and clean, and some boast fine views of the mountains. One of the rooms even has a private bath. Back in the day, the house was party-central for the entire campground which made sleeping rather difficult if you were renting a room in the house. Now days, the house rules have changed. The house is now reserved only for renters and their guests. A palapa (casita w/ thatch roof) is also available for rent with stove, fridge, and 5 beds. Tent camping is all around the property with a few super choice camp spots. And you can always camp under the large tin pavilion that recently has been turned into a nice common room with the addition of walls, for refuge on those chilly winter nights. Getting sleep in the renovated pavilion at Homero's can be difficult at times because it's now become a busy climber's hang-out. Parties sometimes go on until the wee hours. Homero's restaurant, is still serving up delicious local cuisine for breakfast and dinner (Winter season only). Be sure to ask about long stay and off-peak season discounts that may be available. For prices and reservations visit www.elpotrerochico.com or email at climbing@elpotrerochico.com

La Posada

The Posada is truly one of the nicest campground at El Potrero Chico, and is quickly becoming a favorite with traveling climbers. The well kept grounds, amenities and helpful on-site staff, make the Posada a good choice if you prefer a little bit more luxury to your trip. Casual, friendly, and busy at times, La Posada has the most amenities of any of the area campgrounds.

If you are camping at La Posada you will find beautiful campsites with lush green grass on which to pitch your tent. There are also 7 private rooms for rent. These small rooms are simply decorated, but always clean. Some of the rooms have available A/C, heating and small private baths.

The Posada now has a full size house and a casita for rent. And has doubled its land for tent camping.

The large communal kitchen is one of the nicest, has ample room for preparing your favorite Mexican foods and comes equipped with primitive cookware and dishes, 5 stoves and 3 refrigerators. There is always room to cook and room in the fridge for your produce and milk. The dining area has plenty of tables for dining and a DVD player, wireless internet, and satellite TV for watching movies on the occasional rainy day. There's also a gear shop and a professionally staffed climbing school and guide service (in season). View guide service offerings and prices at www.elpotrerochico.com.mx. La Posada also offers mountain bikes for rent, and climbing helmets you can borrow (or rent if you're not a tenant) if you've forgotten your own. There are Spanish lessons for those interested in learning to interact and communicate with the locals. For pricing and reservations visit www.elpotrerochico.com.mx or email Luis Lozano at posada@elpotrerochico.com.mx

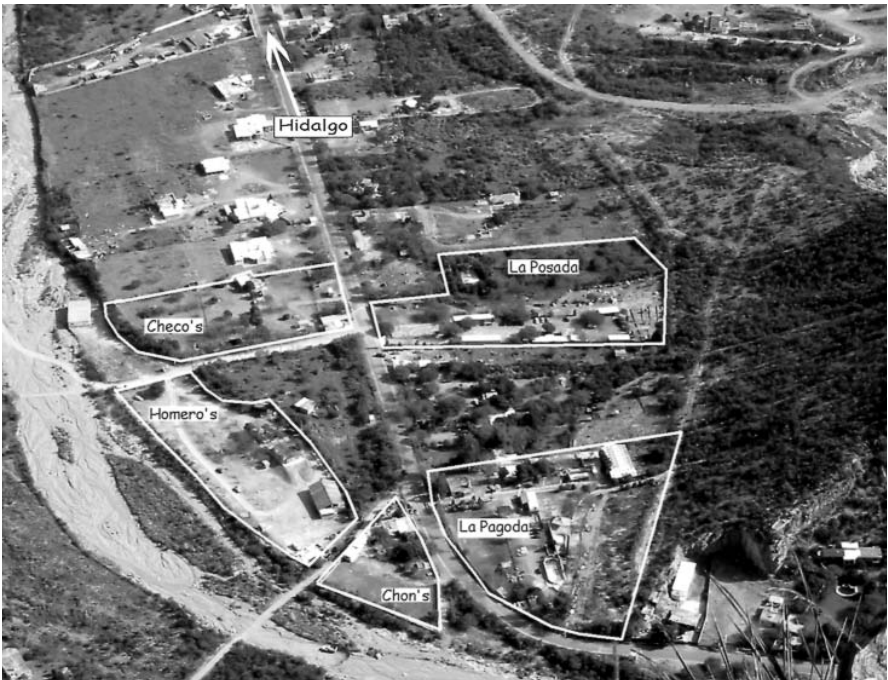
Hidalgo Information

Rancho Cerro Gordo

The rumors of the death or closing of Rancho Cerro Gordo are greatly exaggerated and just not true. The Rancho, run by the Mel Gutierrez and family, is definitely still open, and has a warm and friendly atmosphere. The campground has stunning views of the mountains and the rates are very reasonable. Best of all, the peace and quiet is nice. It has a European flair with winding paths to your private campsite. In fact, the Rancho's main emphasis is on camper privacy, with all campsites being semi-private or private. The pavilion and communal indoor/outdoor kitchen are one of the nicest at El Potrero and come complete with slack line, couches for hanging out, and a dance floor with a real disco ball. The nice fire pit and barbeque grill help keep the chill off in winter. They've also got an on-site deposito serving up cold cervezas. Private casitas are also available for rent and the super cool round house is available also, with two bedrooms pool and bath. RCG is located a bit off the beaten path and away from all the noise of the main road and other campgrounds. It is probably the quietest campground at El Potrero Chico. And the 20 minute walk into the canyon is a perfect warm-up before climbing. If you aren't in the mood for the walk in, Mel will be glad to drive you into the park. For pricing and reservations visit www.ranchopotrerochico.com or email Mel Gutierrez at melgutierrezrcg@hotmail.com

La Pagoda

This gem of a campground is Potrero's best kept secret and has it all. Three rooms are available for rent in the main house. They share one big bathroom, a cool main room with one of the best fireplaces around, and a kitchen stocked with every thing you need to prepare your



Hidalgo Information

Places to Get Help

If you are climbing and have an accident or emergency while you are in the Potrero, you can find the nearest telephone at La Pagoda. You will need a phone card to operate the phone, so it's always a good idea to have one on hand.

Police

The number to call for the police is 286-02-47. If the phone at La Pagoda is not working or you can't get to a phone for any reason, Luis at La Posada, Homero, or any of the locals are always willing to help you get help, or drive an injured party to a clinic in town.

Ambulance & Emergency Services

The Cruz Verde ambulance station is located at the police station. They can transport an accident victim to a hospital in Monterrey if the clinic in Hidalgo can't handle the problem. The doctors here usually speak little or no English, so bring a Spanish speaker with you to more accurately relay to the doctors what the problem is.

The best clinic to use in town is located at the police station. A visit with a doctor for any minor problem is currently 45 pesos. And there is little waiting, unlike the free clinics in town, which have long lines. Should you need to go to a hospital in Monterrey, the ambulance is right out front of the clinic.

As of this writing El Potrero Chico has no high-angle rescue team to come and get you, and no chopper rescue that can pluck you off the wall. Should you get in over your head, you are on your own! There is some rescue gear at Homero's, including a litter, splints and an extensive first aid kit in the office next to the Restaurant. Contact Milton or Homero for assistance. Some self-rescue knowledge, basic first aid and C.P.R are good to know and could save a life.

X-Rays

If you have an injury and think you may need an X-ray, there is a place in nearby Monterrey. X-rays are about 250 pesos, so it may easily be worth it to go there before even seeing a doctor.

Centro de Especialidades Medicas Anahuac

Sur Juana Ines de La Cruz # 106

Col. Anhuac

Phone 8376-4455 or 8376-6762

Useful phrases for emergencies:

It's an emergency	Es una emergencia
Call an ambulance	Llame a una ambulancia!
Call a doctor	Lame a un medico
Could you help me please?	Me puede ayudar, por favor?

Hidalgo Information

Where's the nearest
I need a doctor
I'm sick
It hurts here
I'm injured
I'm cut
I was bitten

Donde esta mas cercano?
Necesito un doctor!
Estoy enfermo
Me duele aqui
Estoy Herido
Estoy cortado
Estaba mordiendo

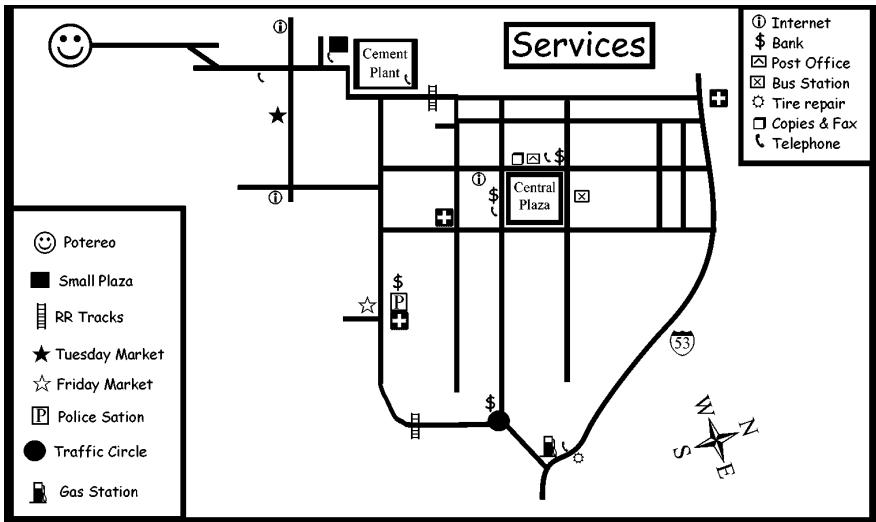
Clinics

There are 3 clinics in town that can help in the event of minor injuries or illnesses. There are 2 free clinics that are run by the government. Lines are long and there are always lots of people. The pay clinic is much less crowded, but there is a fee for the services you receive. You can expect to pay 45 Pesos as of the printing of this guide.

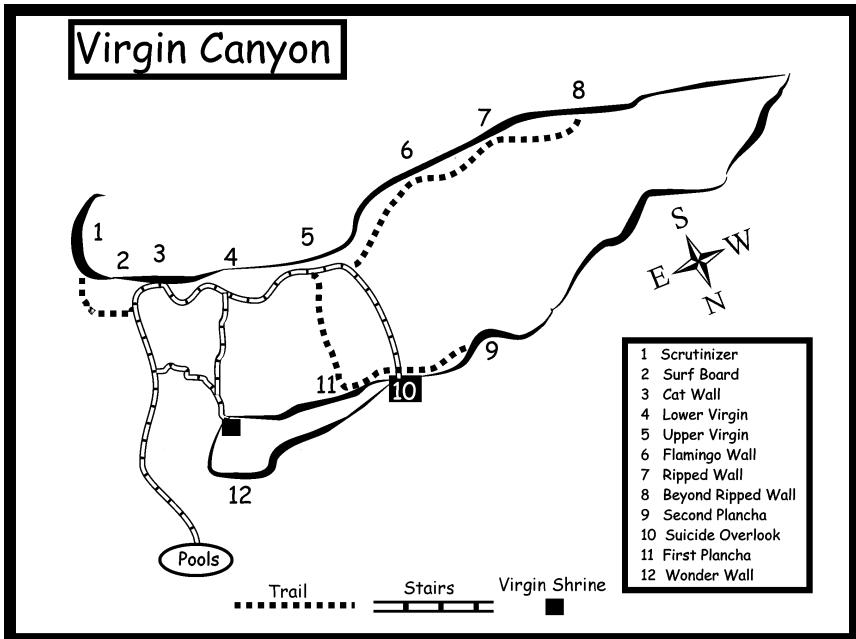
Water

All of the campgrounds around El Potrero Chico use fresh spring water that comes down out of the mountains of the Potrero itself. This spring water is clean, safe and drinkable and is actually sold by the bottle in Hidalgo. A friend studying at the University recently did a study of the water for a class project and found that the only thing in the water was a high concentration of calcium, probably due to the fact that it has filtered through tons of limestone. Otherwise the water tested as clean as pure bottled water with no other contaminants or harmful chemicals.

The actual town of Hidalgo gets its water from another source, so I recommend that you always drink bottled water, sodas or beer when you are in town. Make sure you look out for potentially contaminated ice while you're in town as well.



The Virgin Canyon



- ** **XL Puff Sneaker - 5.11d** **6 Bolts - 70 ft.**
Twenty feet right of FnF Bomb. Climb the blank face on vertical pockets and cracks. From the only jug hold on the route trend right and up to anchor on small ledge.
Matt Greco & Dane Bass & Ralph Vega - 2004
- ** **The Popsicle Kings - 5.10b** **6 Bolts - 75 ft.**
Twenty feet right of XL Puff Sneaker. Climbs the not quit as blank face right of XL Puff Sneaker to juggy face finish. Anchor above juggy face.
Dane Bass & Ralph Vega & Matt Greco - 2004
- * **Doof Crack - 5.7** **5 Bolts - 90 ft.**
Ten feet right of The Popsicle Kings. Climb the obvious crack on the right side of The Surf Board. At the 2nd roof trend left onto the face to the anchor for The Popsicle Kings.
Ralph Vega & Dane Bass & Matt Greco - 2004

Cat Wall

2 minutes from main pool complex entrance

The Cat wall is the next wall up from the Surf Board. It is covered with a nice variety of vertical cracks from fingertips to offwidth, offering a wide range of climbing challenges. It is also an excellent wall for the beginning lead climber offering several well bolted 8?s and 9?s keeping the fear factor low so you can focus on learning to lead. To get to The Cat Wall go through the swimming pool entrance (there is no charge for climbers when the pool is open) when the pool is closed for winter just hop the fence to the right of the main entrance. Then follow the stairs on the right up into the Virgin Canyon when the stairs hit the wall you are at The Cat Wall. It runs from Blind Faith up to 31ft Smurf.

The Virgin Canyon

La Flakita - 5.11c

10 Bolts - 90 ft.

Fourty feet up the trail from Doof Crack. Start on big flake and climbs pocket and crack jug to small ledge from ledge climb the crack in the corner or climb the thin face to the right of corner. Anchor on small ledge above face.

Ralph Vega - 2006

Putas de Fuego - 5.10

10 Bolts - 100 ft.

Twenty feet up the trail from La Flakita. Start on big boulder against the wall and climb nice face to small roof. Above roof climb cool face on nice cracks. Anchor below small roof.

Ralph Vega & Hervey Peña - 2006

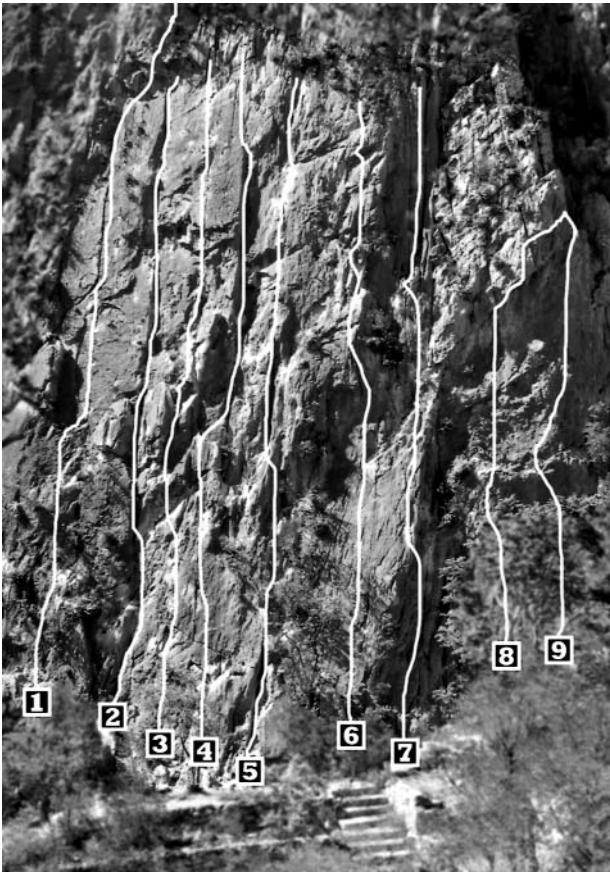
Blind Faith - 5.11a - 70m Rope

13 Bolts - 420 ft. **

4 Pitches (5.10a, 5.11a, 5.10a, 5.9)

Starts fourty feet up the trail from Putas de Fuego. Start on top of huge flake against the wall. Pitch 1 Climb the obvious crack up the center of the clean face to anchor on big ledge. Pitch 2 Climb face to large roof at roof you will have 3 lines of bolts. The left line goes no where, the

Dane Bass ©



center line is the hard way over the roof and the right line is the 5.10d it goes out right and then back left. Pitch 3 Climbs nice face with cracks Pitch 4 Is lack luster but gets you to the ridge proper. **Note:** a 70 doesn't get you down on the first pitch. You can rap to the anchor for A gringo Ate My Baby.

Alex Catlin & Nathalie Challulau - 2003

A Gringo Ate My Baby - 5.8 *

8 Bolts - 100 ft.

Ten feet right of Blind Faith. Climb cracks up through small notch to a small right facing corner to a nice offwidth finish. Anchor at top of offwidth.

Dane Bass & Matt Greco - 2005

DNA-DRD-2 - 5.10 *

7 Bolts - 100 ft.

Five feet right of A Gringo Ate My Baby. Climb the juggy face to small bulge, above bulge climb small roof to finger crack in the face above the roof. Anchor is at the top of the face.

Matt Greco & Dane Bass - 2005

1 Blind Faith 5.11a	6 31 Foot Smirf 5.10b
2 A Gringo Ate My Baby 5.8	7 Skairdy Kat 5.9
3 DNA D.R.D2 5.10	8 Penitente 5.10b
4 Cat Daddy 5.9	9. Cat Walk 5.10b
5 Cat's Meow 5.8	