

BAY AREA

TOP ROPES

**Chris McNamara
Chris Summit
Valentine Cullen**

A photograph of a female rock climber in a pink tank top, black leggings, and a green helmet, climbing a steep, grey rock face. She is wearing a harness and has a rope attached to her. The background shows a grassy hillside, a body of water, and a long bridge in the distance under a cloudy sky.

**Over 260
Climbs!**



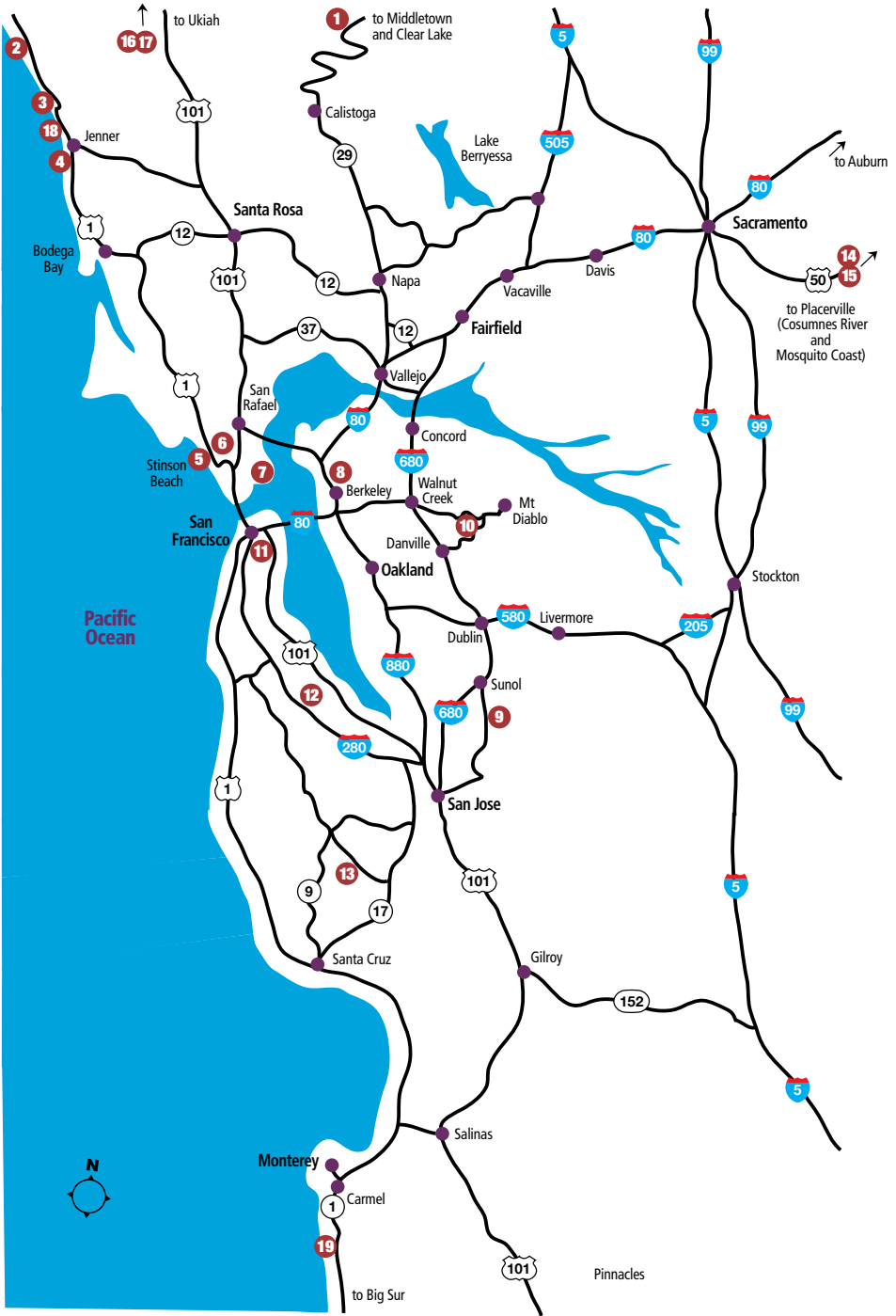


Bay Area Top Ropes

by Chris McNamara, Chris Summit
and Valentine Cullen



Bay Area Overview Map



Contents

Introduction

North Coast Dining and Amenities	9
Poison Oak	13
The Climbing Instinct	14
Key Climbing Phrases and their descriptions	16
Ratings, Anchors, and Moving to Outdoors	17
Gear for Top Roping	20
Top Rope Instruction in the Bay Area	21
Introduction to Top Roping Anchors	22
Avoiding the Biggest Dangers in Top Roping	26
Technique	28

Wine Country

1. Mt St Helena (The Quarry, Bubble, Far Side)	34
--	----

North Coast

2. Salt Point (Fisk Mill Cove, The Playground)	42
3. Sea Crag	52
4. Goat Rock (Sunset Boulders)	56
5. Mickey's Beach (Main Rock, Egg Rock)	62

North Bay

6. Mount Tamalpais (East Peak)	66
7. Ring Mountain (Split Rock)	70

East Bay

8. Berkeley (Indian Rock, Cragmont, Remillard)	74
9. Indian Joe Caves	82
10. Mt Diablo (Boy Scout Rocks)	86

San Francisco/South Bay

11. Beaver Street Wall	92
12. Handley Rock	94
13. Castle Rock (Indian Rock, Goat Rock)	96

Sierra Foothills

14. Mosquito Coast	106
15. Cosumnes River (Bucks Bar Dome, Struggler Cliff)	108

Bonus Climbs

16. Dos Rios (Eel River)	112
17. Squaw Rock	116
18. Twin Coves	118
19. Granite Creek	120
About the Authors	124
Climbs by Rating	125

Warning

Climbing is an inherently dangerous sport in which severe injuries or death may occur. Relying on the information in this book may increase the danger.

When climbing you can only rely on your skill, training, experience, and conditioning. **If you have any doubts as to your ability to safely climb any route in this guide, do not try it.**

This book is neither a professional climbing instructor nor a substitute for one. **It is not an instructional book. Do not use it as one.** It contains information that is nothing more than a compilation of opinions about climbing in the Bay Area. **These opinions are neither facts nor promises.** Treat the information as opinions and nothing more. Do not substitute these opinions for your own common sense, good judgement, and experience.

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Cover Photo: Holly Anne on Split Rock. *Photo by Jerry Dodrill*

Back Cover Photo: Chris Summit climbs Blue Heron at Twin Coves. *Photo by Jerry Dodrill*

Page 3 Photo: Lita Collins climbs on Mt. Tam. *Photo by Chris McNamara*

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For our best dog friend, Stripe, aka Buddy. We will miss you and love you forever.





Introduction

By Chris Summit

This is a guidebook to the best top rope climbs in the San Francisco Bay Area (top rope = to climb a rock with the rope securely anchored to the top). The top rope is the most frequently used technique for climbing cliffs that are about 25-100 feet tall, which is the size of most Bay Area rocks. Most of these rocks have access to the top via walking, scrambling or in a few cases a relatively easy lead climb or boulder problem. Also included are some of the best boulder problems at the top rope areas, since one person's top rope may be another's boulder problem or vice versa and because bouldering is one of the best ways to learn how to climb. There is also some lead climbing information included since lead climbing is often one and the same as top roping. You will be able to find a few of the best lead climbs at your favorite top roping areas. Bay Area Top Ropes will help you from start to finish and get you out top roping as safely as possible at all the best areas within about a two-hour drive of the Golden Gate.

WE GIVE TIPS BUT THIS IS NOT AN INSTRUCTION BOOK

There is some instructional information in the first chapter meant to point you in the right direction as far as getting started and to fill in any gaps in your learning process. Bay Area Top Ropes is not meant to serve as a main source of top rope instruction. The learning process should include a qualified instructor and we recommend the best local sources of instruction as well as gear and other relevant information. Let BATR also serve as a simple reminder of techniques and skills you will need to help you climb safely and enjoy yourself as you learn.

In the Climbing Tips-Instruction/Information section of the book we begin with which gym or guide service to choose for a climbing/belay lesson (or how to best choose an experienced friend/mentor) then we describe what type and size of gear you will need to get started and demonstrate how to place it and set up the anchor systems. Our guidebook then takes you to the actual places to top rope in the Bay Area, such as Castle Rock in the south bay, Mt St Helena in the north bay (wine country), and Mt Diablo in the east bay. Once at these areas with your newly acquired skills and gear, you will be fully equipped with all the information you'll need to set up a top rope and start enjoying some of the best climbing the Bay Area has to offer. We hope you discover that the top rope is a tried and true form of "pure" climbing for any level climber and that the Bay Area crags have some fun, picturesque and worthy climbs.

SuperTopo.com

All the Bay Area info below is available at www.supertopo.com with links directly to the sources for easier trip planning.

When to climb

You can climb year round at all areas in this book. That said, each area has its own sweet time to visit. The Bay Area is full of many microclimates and the weather at each area changes drastically throughout the year and often throughout the day. It can be 50 degrees cold and foggy at Stinson Beach and at the same moment 100 degrees hot and muggy at Vacaville. Short of a massive winter storm, there is usually some place in the Bay Area with good climbing conditions. We have done our best to provide an overview of the weather for each specific area, but it will still take some time to understand the ever-changing conditions and be able to plan your climbing accordingly.

North Coast Camping

Jenner/Fort Ross

About 16 miles north of Jenner on CA-1 is Stillwater Cove Campground. Call (707) 847-3245. A few miles north of Fort Ross and Stillwater Cove and about 20 miles north of Jenner on CA-1 is the amazing Salt Point State Park with its awesome bouldering areas and camping available at Gerstle Cove Campground and Woodside Campground. Call (707) 847-3221, or 1 800 444 PARK.

Jenner/Bridgehaven

Willow Creek and Pomo Canyon Campgrounds are off CA-1 just south of Jenner and CA-116 and just north of Goat Rock State Park in Bridgehaven. Take Willow Creek Rd. east from CA-1 and follow signs to the campgrounds. CLOSED IN WINTER.

Jenner/Guerneville

Austin Creek State Recreation Area in Guerneville is adjacent to the awe-inspiring Armstrong Redwoods State Reserve. Camping is available at Bullfrog Pond for \$15 per night. Call (707) 869-2015. Between Jenner and Guerneville on Moscow Rd. off of River Rd. (CA-116) in Duncans Mills is the popular riverside campground, Casini Ranch. Call (800) 451-8400.

North Coast Dining and Amenities

The nearest climbing gear retailers for the North Coast are Sonoma Outfitters and REI in Santa Rosa, an hour drive inland (east).

Jenner

A gas station/mini mart/deli is the main stop in Jenner (open 6-9mon-sat or 7-9sun 24hr pay at pump). The excellent River's End restaurant offers fine food, wine, and sunsets. The Sizzling Tandoor on the corner of CA-1 and Willow Creek Rd. (the road to Pomo Canyon Campground and bouldering area) just south of Jenner also has great (affordable) food and views.

Bodega Bay

Less than ten miles south of the Jenner climbing areas is the quiet fishing village and beach getaway of Bodega Bay. Get gas at the Texaco on CA-1 and food, beer, and supplies at Diekman's Store, also on CA-1. Enjoy the catch of the day with great views of the bay at The Tides Wharf and Restaurant (seen in Alfred Hitchcock's classic *The Birds*).

Guerneville

Guerneville is about 12 miles east of Jenner. From Jenner (CA-1) take River Rd. (CA-116) east for about 12 miles to Guerneville has gas, a 24-hour Safeway, the muy delicious taco wagon usually in the Safeway parking lot and the scrumptious Andorno's Pizza (16205 First St.).

Between the Marin and Sonoma Coast climbing areas is the beautiful Point Reyes National Seashore where there is excellent hiking, backpacking, whale watching, kayaking, camping and oyster feasting on pristine Tomales Bay.

Blue Waters Kayaking 415 669 2600
bwkayak.com

Tomales Bay Oyster Co. 415 663 1242
Picnic, shuck and bar b q your own!

North Bay Camping

Marin County

Marin has camping available at Mt. Tamalpais State Park (near the Mt. Tamalpais bouldering areas), Samuel P. Taylor State Park (15 minutes west of US-101 on Sir Francis Drake Blvd.) and Point Reyes National Seashore. For reservations at Mt. Tamalpais or Samuel P. Taylor contact Reserve America.

For information about camping at Point Reyes call (415) 663-8054 or NPS.GOV

Olema Ranch Campground
www.olemaranch.com 415-663-8106

Napa/Lake Berryessa

Lake Berryessa has seven private resorts that have camping. Most of the resorts are on the west and south shores off CA-128 or Knoxville Rd. only a few miles from the Vacaville and Putah Creek bouldering areas. Napa has a good campground: Skyline Wilderness Park on 2201 Imola Ave., which is about 15 miles west of Lake Berryessa. Call (707) 252-0481. Bothe Napa Valley State Park is close to Mt St. Helena (707) 942-4575, www.ca.gov

Santa Rosa/Kenwood

Sugarloaf Ridge State Park off CA-12 just west of Kenwood and east of US-101 in Santa Rosa has good boulders within walking distance of the campground. Take Adobe Canyon Rd. from CA-12 for a few miles to the park entrance and campground. Call (800) 444-PARK.

North Bay Dining and Amenities**Marin County**

Brooklyn Pizza at 900 Andersen Dr. and High Tech Burrito at 484 Las Gallinas or 2042 Fourth St., San Rafael. Just off US-101 in Corte Madera (south of San Rafael) is an REI with almost everything you'll need for climbing or camping. Take the same Paradise Dr./Tamalpais Dr. exit as for the Ring Mountain climbing/bouldering area, but go to the shopping center on the west side of US-101 off Tamalpais Dr.

The Oceanside town of Stinson Beach (near Stinson and Mickey's Beach bouldering areas) has a good market: Beckers by the Beach has good food, drink, and supplies. Other dining in town can be found on the main drag - CA-1.

Napa/Sonoma

An assortment of gas stations, stores and restaurants can be found off CA-12 and CA-29 in downtown Napa or Sonoma. In Napa try the muy bueno High Tech Burrito, 641 Trancas St. (off CA-29). In Sonoma enjoy a Bay Area original, the delicious Mary's Pizza Shack in the Sonoma Plaza and on Sonoma Hwy. (CA-12).

Santa Rosa/Kenwood

Santa Rosa is one hour north of San Francisco on US-101 and has all the amenities you might need: gas, climbing/camping gear (Sonoma Outfitters, REI and Vertex) and indoor climbing at Vertex. A wide variety of dining is available in Santa Rosa. Try the Russian River Brewing Company on Fourth St. in downtown or the tasty Taqueria Santa Rosa or China Room in Rincon Valley. Or just east of Santa Rosa in quiet little Kenwood try the Mexican/Spanish cuisine at the Vineyards Inn on the corner of Sonoma Hwy. (CA-12) and Adobe Canyon Rd. (the road to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park bouldering area and campground).

East Bay Camping**Oakland/Berkeley**

Southeast of Oakland and Berkeley camping is available at Lake Chabot in Anthony Chabot Regional Park. From I-580 east in Castro Valley take the Redwood Rd. exit and turn left onto Redwood Rd. or from I-580 west take the Castro Valley exit and turn left onto Castro Valley Blvd., then right onto Redwood Rd. and follow it to the park. Call in advance (510) 562-2267.

Oakland/San Jose

Camping is available in the hills between Oakland and San Jose at Sunol Regional Wilderness near Pleasanton. Take I-580 east to I-680 south to Calaveras Rd./CA-84, turn left onto Calaveras, then take Geary Rd. to the park. Enjoy a short hike and some fun cragging at Indian Joe Caves on Indian Joe Creek Trail inside the park. Call in advance (510) 562-2267.

Vacaville/Lake Berryessa

Lake Berryessa has seven private resorts that have camping. Most of the resorts are on the west and south shores off CA-128 or Knoxville Rd.

East Bay Dining and Amenities

Oakland/Emeryville

Try the eclectic mix of food vendors at the Emeryville Public Market (5959 Shellmound St.). It is off I-80/I-580/I-880 in Emeryville south of Berkeley and north of Oakland. Take the Powell St. exit east to Shellmound St.

Berkeley

Gas, food, climbing/camping gear (REI and Marmot), and the largest indoor climbing gym in the Bay Area: Berkeley Ironworks. Enjoy an eccentric assortment of food and shops on the busy Telegraph Ave. in downtown Bezerkly (take Ashby Ave. a few miles east of I-80).

Vacaville

Gas, food and shopping malls right off I-80, only a few miles from the Vacaville Open Space bouldering areas.

South Bay Camping

Big Basin

Big Basin Redwoods State Park (the first State Park in California)—25 miles north of Santa Cruz and about 65 miles south of San Francisco on CA-236 near the town of Boulder Creek and just a short drive from Castle Rock State Park - Call (800) 444-PARK

San Jose/Castle Rock

Camping is available at Castle Rock State Park about a 3-mile hike from the parking lot. The primitive sites are about \$10 per night and are first come, first served. Near the city of Saratoga on Big Basin Way is a nice campground called Saratoga Springs with RV and tent camping.

Monterey/Big Sur

South of Carmel and Granite Creek, the bold and beautiful Big Sur has camping available - try Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. Call (837) 667-2315

Southern Marin and San Francisco getting the afternoon dose of summer fog as seen from Mt Tam. -Chris Summit



Poison Oak

Poison oak is all around the Bay Area and at many of the climbing areas in this book. You can identify it by its three-leaf pattern, which has led to the saying, “leaves of three, let it be.” The edges are rounded as opposed to oak tree leaves that have sharp points. It comes in either dark greenish bushes (easy to avoid) or small individual brownish sprouts (much harder to avoid). It is often hidden under other plants and has a variety of different colors when in bloom: green, red, and orange. Touching poison oak or anything that has touched it (clothes, shoes, dogs, or ropes) can lead to an itchy rash that can spread rapidly if you scratch it. The best defense against poison oak rash is to avoid it. If that does not work use a product called Tecnu immediately after contact. Or, just use soap and water. Immediately wash all clothes/shoes/dogs—the oils from the poison oak can stay on them for days. Once a rash develops, use Tecnu and anti-itching cream to prevent spreading.



Leaves of three let it be.



Poison oak can be red and orange also.



Comparison of poison oak (below) and (regular oak leaves) above.

The Climbing Instinct

By Chris Summit

Long ago, when saber-tooth tigers prowled the land and mammoths scratched their backs on giant boulders, humans were climbing. We were climbing trees and rocks to escape the dangers lurking on the ground and to find food and shelter. Early humans had to climb so our bodies are built for it after thousands of years of evolution. Today, humans are still climbing but now it's for fun, sport, and personal growth. Climbing, like walking, running, swimming, fighting, and making love, is one of every human's primal instincts—it's called survival. Getting in touch with these primal instincts helps us better understand our deep subconscious desires, our true self. By understanding ourselves better we can then take better care of ourselves and those around us. Unfortunately, some people also get in touch with their savage roots when they feel these primal urges. They lose control and bar fight, road rage, or wage war. Luckily, most of us feel this "call of the wild" without feeling a need to hurt anyone or anything. We find more peaceful alternatives in less agro methods of release. "Extreme sports" are growing in popularity because of this human desire to grow better, faster, and stronger. It is the natural progression of evolution to eliminate the rules and balls and contraptions of other often over-complicated sports and get back on track with the simple primal sports. Climbing, especially top roping and bouldering, are as simple as it gets. They are the purest forms of climbing and among the most "extreme" sports of the new era that tap into our instinctual desire not just to survive, but to thrive.

The climbing instinct is in all of us. Some of us have just learned to tap into it and set free a primal state of being. Passed down to us from our primate ancestors, the ability and desire to climb trees and

rocks is natural, yet it is ignored by most. Young or old, man or woman, whoever you are, climbing can be a rewarding if not life-changing experience. Today the actual climbing is nearly as primal as it was when cavemen climbed for their lives. But with the added bonus of our superior intellect and technology we have been able to eliminate most of the danger and use it as a natural, functional exercise for our body machine, an extremely active form of physical meditation and—don't forget—for fun. Humans are now capable of pushing our bodies and minds as far as we can imagine. These "extreme sports" can unleash our primal instincts and help us physically as well as mentally rise to a new level of awareness and being. Climbing and all "extreme sports" are super-natural methods of the new age that will power our human bodies and universal minds along the evolutionary fast track to a healthier, smarter, more balanced future.

Why am I telling you, a rock climber, what you already probably know? Because I want to reaffirm what you already feel inside and let you know you are not alone, so that you can be very proud of what you do and who we climbers are. Climbers new and old need to remember that our "sport" is as green as it gets. We are the friends and stewards of the stone bones of our planet and the green belts that embrace them. By having this intimate relationship with yourself and with nature you can transcend the sport aspect of climbing and enter into a realm of art and spirituality. Climbing is about becoming one with nature, not conquering it.

I hope you embrace whatever kind of climbing you love and climb ever higher, not only up the rocks and mountains, but also in life.



Salt Point

Climbs: 50 total/ 30 listed

Anchor: Slings/bolts/gear

Difficulty: 5.7-5.12, mostly 5.8-5.11

Inside Salt Point State Park in the north-western corner of Sonoma County are some of the last secret rocks on the Pacific Coast. Tafoni sandstone cliffs and boulders are hidden in lost coves and lush Eucalyptus forests and all are just off the scenic Pacific Coast Highway. Though scrambling has been going on here forever because it is often the only way to navigate the rocky coastline by foot, modern day climbing has only been going on since the 1980s. It was then that local climbers began to realize that the plentiful Northern Sonoma Coast sandstone, while crumbly in some places, could also be solid and well worth it in others. Most of the rocks discovered at first were top roped except for a few of the easier traditional lead cracks and roadside boulder problems. Sport climbing took hold in the late 1990s and many great lead routes were developed. Some of those sport routes, some of the best trad climbs, and even a few of the best boulder problems are top ropeable.

About the rock

Pocketed tafoni sandstone cliffs and boulders with solid brown patina.

Anchors

Mostly bolt anchors requiring only 5-10' slings but some climbs need longer 15-20' slings for natural rock anchors.



Rusty on Nautilus at The Playground.

When to climb

All year can be all good with the exception of winter when the rock can stay wet for long periods due to fog and sea spray. Wind and sun take care of this problem quickly so check the forecast before heading out if you are unsure. A great escape from the heat of summer and cold of winter—but keep in mind that it can be windy any time of year.

Number of climbs by difficulty

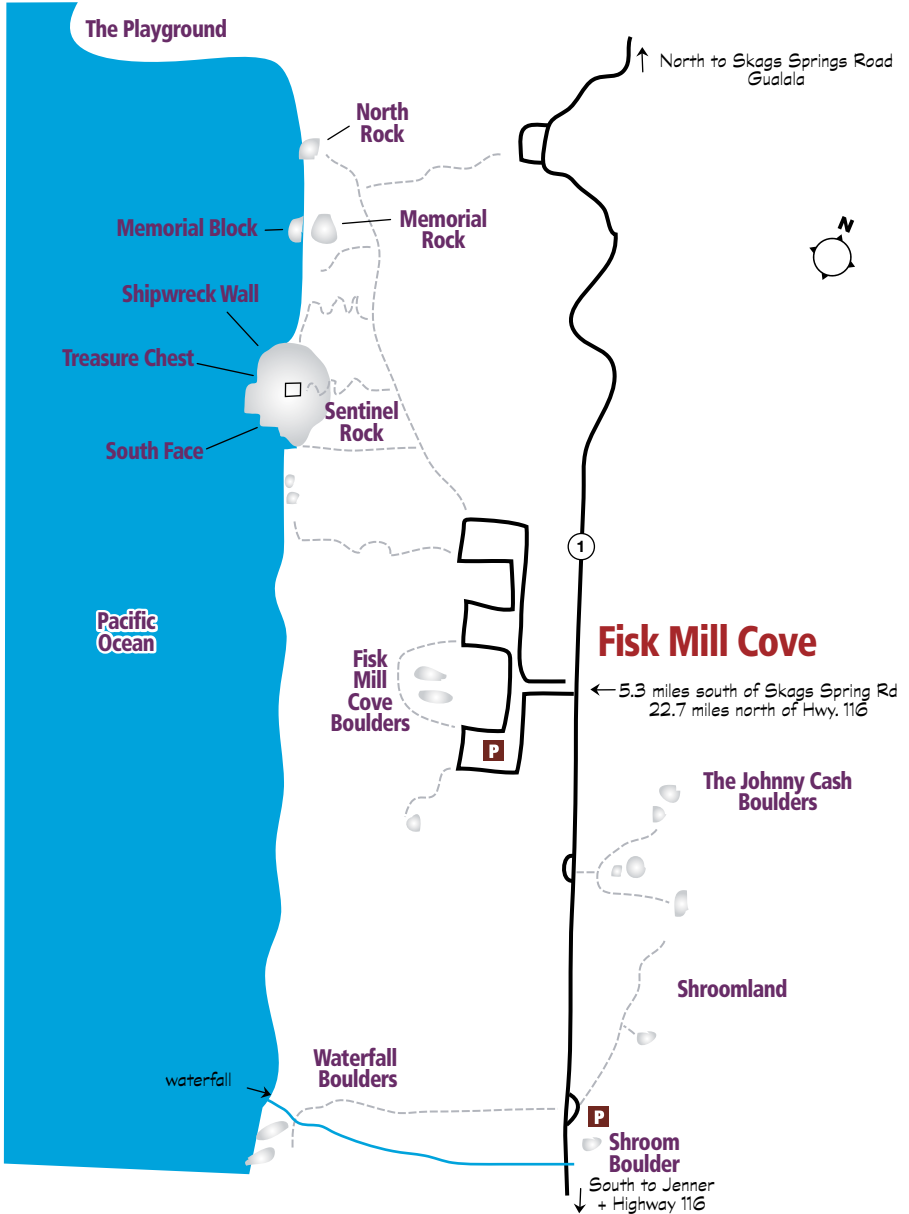
5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.10	5.11	5.12	5.13
0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	5	8	5	3	0

Driving directions

From CA 116/CA-1 intersection south of Jenner drive about 20 miles north into the park or about five miles south of Skags Springs Rd. on CA-1. The climbing/bouldering areas are all to the north and south of Fisk Mill Cove off CA-1. Fisk Mill Cove Parking Lot GPS: 38.59397 -123.34467 (across from mile marker 4263)

Approach

Follow separate approach info listed with each area—most are in Fisk Mill Cove or just off CA-1 north of it and only require about 5 to 10-minute hikes on mixed terrain. Sentinel Rock GPS: 38.595607, -123.349118 Memorial Rock GPS: 38.597034, -123.351734 North Rock GPS: 38.597860, -123.352961





Fisk Mill Cove as seen from the point just south of The Playground. Rusty anchors from the 1800s were used to load boats with stone that was used to make the buildings and streets of San Francisco.



Sentinel Rock, north-west face. Shipwreck Wall (center) and The Treasure Chest and South Face (bottom right).

Fisk Mill Cove

Routes listed on next page

A Sentinel Rock

1 South Face

1a Sea Biscuit

2 Treasure Chest

2a Gritty Kitty 5.7 top rope crack corner.

3 Shipwreck Wall

3a Peg Leg (LEAD ROUTE)*

B Memorial Rock

4 Memorial Block

C North Rock

5 South/West/North Faces

Tafoni sunset seen from the top of Sea Biscuit. Photo by Jerry Dodrill—JerryDodrill.com



Fisk Mill Cove–Sentinel Rock (South Face)

From the north end of the north-most parking lot in Fisk Mill Cove hike on the main trail toward Sentinel Rock and the cove. Just before Sentinel Rock take a left onto the trail heading downhill to the ocean and the chill spot next to the South Face of Sentinel. From there the final part of the trail down to the belay area is a 5.5X downclimb scramble and a short rappel is recommended. There is a one-bolt belay anchor just above the water line—DO NOT try these climbs if it is high tide or big waves.

Anchor A: 10' sling around rock.

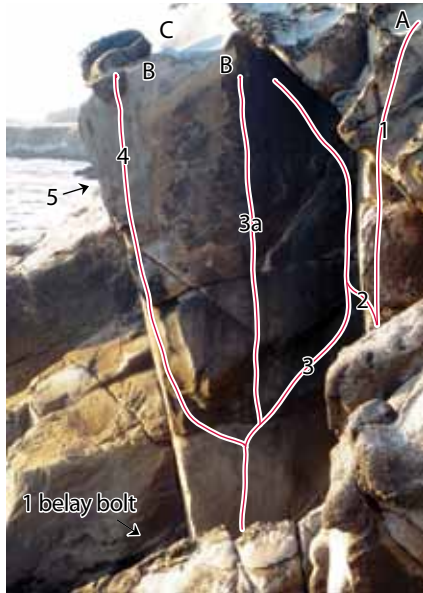
1. 5.10★ Arête—step off rock to start.

Anchor B: Climbs 2–4—two 2-bolt anchors with only draws or short slings needed.

2. Sea Serpent 5.10b/c★★ Start off rock same as the 5.10 arête, then traverse horizontal crack left into the finish of Swashbuckler (use directional bolt(s) off Swashbuckler anchor).

3. Swashbuckler 5.11b/c★★★★ Start Sea Biscuit, then up right into corner. 3a 5.12+ TR face.

4. Sea Biscuit 5.12b/c★★★★ Steep left arête over the water. Belay anchor.



Sentinel Rock—South Face.



Fisk Mill Cove–Memorial Rock/North Rock (North Cove)

Park in the huge dirt pullout 0.5 miles north of Fisk Mill Cove (mile marker 4306) and hike on good trails either southwest to Memorial Rock or northwest to North Rock. For Memorial Block scramble down the 3rd class rocky hillside on the south side of Memorial Rock—the routes are on the north side of the Block. For North Rock a short scramble is also needed to get to the base. Memorial/North Rocks Parking GPS: 38.59893 -123.34987

Memorial Rock–Memorial Block

Anchor A: boulder/solo short V0 or climb old log on East Face to get to the big ledge with the two-bolt anchor—draws or slings.

- 1. Blockhead V0R★★** Approach/descent.
- 2. Sardine Roof 5.8★★** Left face/roof.
- 3. Black Pearl 5.8★★★** Main line-Lead/TR. Three black bolts to two ring bolts on ledge.

- 4. Captain Nemo 5.8★★★** Right face.

Anchor B (for #5): bolt/gear + 10' slings

- 5. Gym Squids 5.12/V4R★★★** West Face.

- 6. Block Pearl V1/2★★★** Sit start mini roof to no hands rest at start of Black Pearl or left to rest at the start of Block Party.

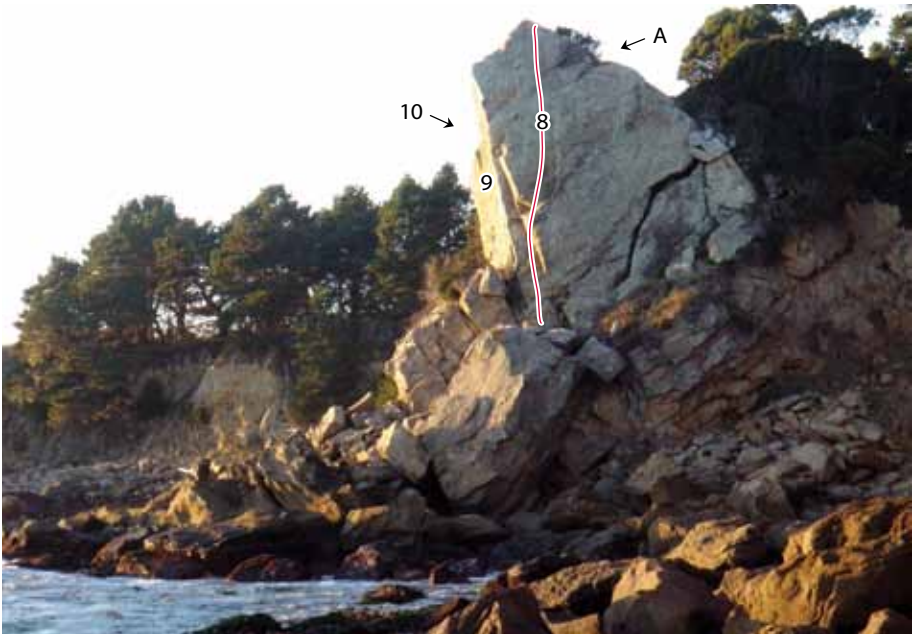
- 7. Blockhead Traverse V2/3★★** Traverse the east face—pads + spotters recommended.

North Rock

Approach from the parking area and hike in from the north cove trails direct to the top of North Rock and scramble around either side.

Anchor A: Bolts. Bring 8-10' slings.

- 8. Free Willy 5.10★★** Southwest face/arête—Lead or TR.
- 9. 5.11★** West face of North Rock.
- 10. 5.12★★** North face of North Rock.



The Playground

Park in a long dirt pullout on the west side of CA-1 1.0 miles north of Fisk Mill Cove (mile marker 4366). Find the trailhead (about 20 feet north of mile marker 4366, follow it downhill through the trees into an open grassy field and continue toward the rocky outcrop at the waters edge. Hike just south and up and over this rock formation to the numerous short walls of The Playground.

Playground Parking GPS: 38.6039, -123.35765

The Playground has a few good boulder problems from VB-V4 mixed in with the routes. Just south of the main formation off the trail to the west near the point are a few fun small boulders. The Iron Fish Boulder and the smaller boulder to the north are the best, with problems from VB to V5.

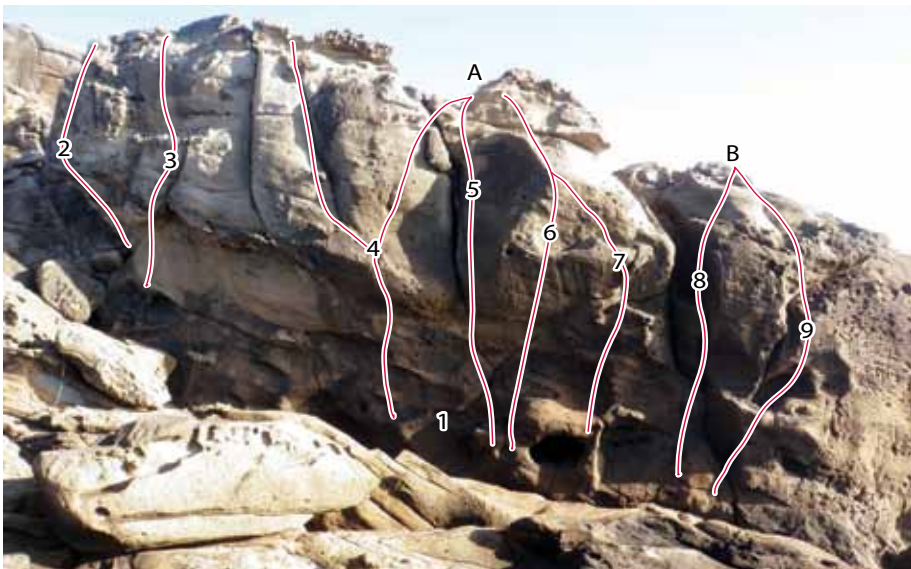
Conch Crag

Anchor A: Two bolts. Bring draws or 1' slings.

- 1. Childs Play Traverse V0★★** Traverse small cliffband with horizontal cracks.
- 2. Drunken Butterfly V3★★★★** Left arête. – or Drunkenmaster V4, do the Childs Play Traverse into Drunken Butterfly to finish.
- 3. Player V0R/X★★** Left side of face with short bulge and pocketed headwall.
- 4. 5.10b/c★★** Face/Crack.
- 5. Conch Crack 5.10b/c★★★** Short jam crack. Leadable–pro to 3”.
- 6. Nautilus 5.11a★★★★★** Steep bolted pocket face.
- 7. For Play 5.10a/b★★★** Steep bolted face.

Anchor B: Bring 20' slings for rocks.

- 8. 5.7★** Short corner crack. Leadable–pro to 3”.
- 9. 5.??★★** Unknown face over water.



Anchor A: Rocks. Bring 8-12' slings.

☐ **10. Log Jam 5.9☆☆☆** Crack roof/corner.
Leadable—pro to 3.5".

Anchor B: Cracks and rocks. Bring 10-12' slings and pro to 3".

☐ **11. 5.5☆☆** Crack corner.

Anchor C: 2 bolts. Bring 2-3' slings.

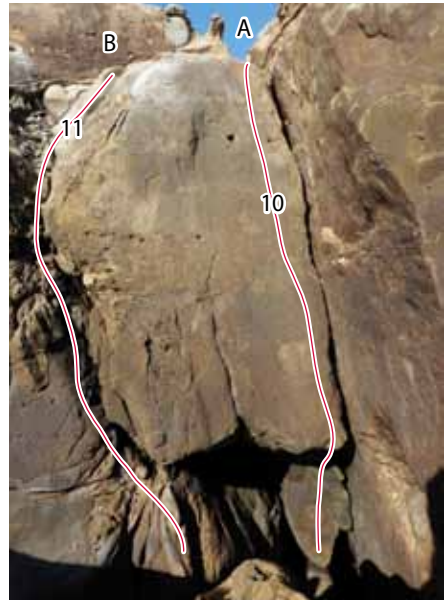
☐ **12. 5.10a☆☆** Face right of ear Hug.

☐ **13. Bear Hug 5.6☆☆☆** Squeeze the twin slab cracks—or 5.7 left or right crack.
Leadable—pro to 3.5".

Anchor D: two bolts. Bring draws or one-foot slings.

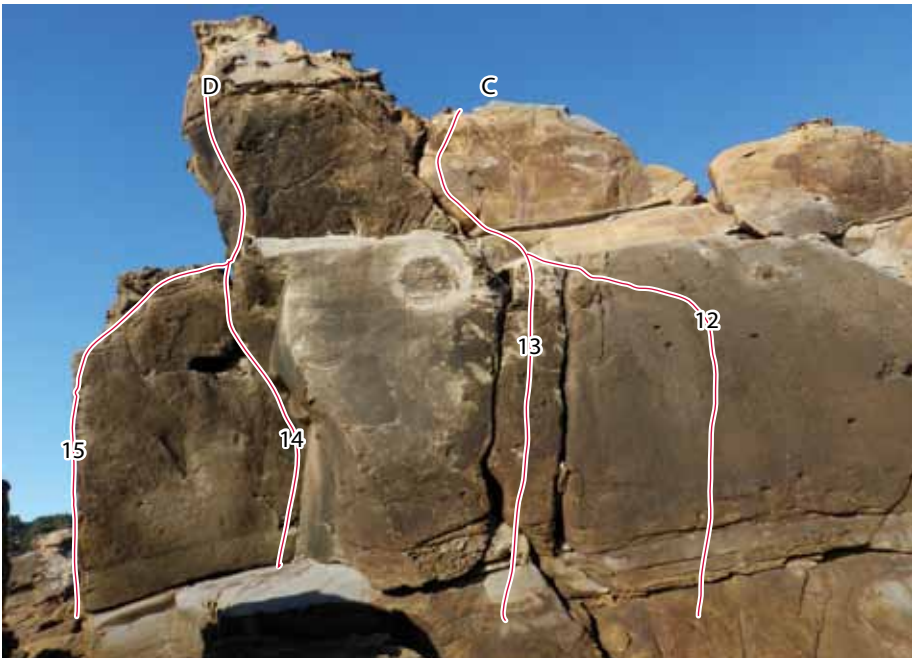
☐ **14. Epiphany 5.10d☆☆☆** Short splitter corner crack in dark brown dihedral.
Leadable—pro to 2.5".

☐ **15. Playtime 5.9☆☆☆** Two-bolt face to ledge to short steep finish past one more bolt to two-bolt anchor on top of face—three lead bolts.



Playground Buttress—Southwest Face

Climbs listed right to left.





Richie Esquibel does Conch Crack. (5.10).

Playground Buttress–Northwest face

Climbs listed right to left.

Anchor A: Two bolts. Bring draws or slings.

☐ **15. Playtime 5.9★★★** Two-bolt face to ledge to short steep finish past one more bolt to two-bolt anchor on top of face—three lead bolts.

☐ **16. Sandboxer 5.9★★** Left face start to ledge to same steep finish as Playtime TR.

Anchor B: 10 to 12' slings around rocks.

☐ **17. 5.6★★★** Corner crack/face. Leadable—pro to 4”.

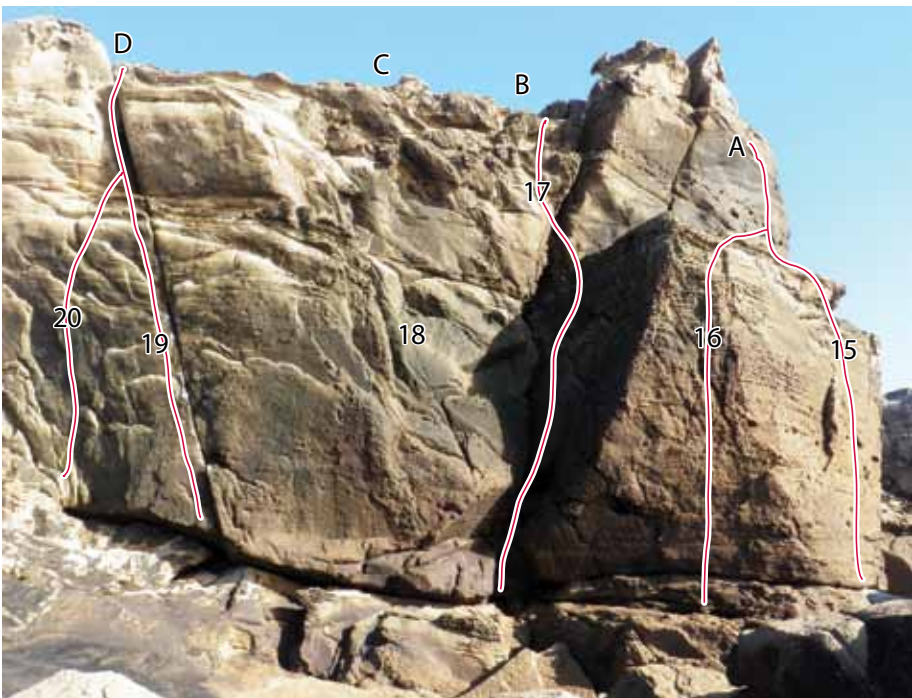
Anchor C: 10-12' slings around rocks.

☐ **18. 5.7-5.11★★** Various face routes.

Anchor D: Two bolts. Bring 7-8' slings.

☐ **19. Jack of all Trades 5.9★★★** Sandy splitter crack classic. TR/Lead—pro to 2.5”.

☐ **20. 5.11a★★** Face left of Jack to same top.





Laurie Teevan on For Play (5.10a/b)

Sea lions in a sheltered tide pool near the boulders just south of The Playground. Photo by Valentine Cullen



About the Authors

Chris Summit (yes, it's his real name) was born to climb but didn't find it out until he was about 17. A Northern California native, he started climbing and bouldering with his friends on the local crags,—Sugarloaf, Goat Rock and Mt. St. Helena—and was instantly addicted! Since then his natural desire has evolved into a passionate obsession, changing his life forever for the better. In his 20 years of climbing, Chris wrote the small guidebook for his hometown crags called *The Wine Country Rocks* and worked at North Bay climbing gyms setting routes, belaying, and teaching indoor and out. He has done many first ascents of sport climbs, traditional climbs, and boulder problems all over Northern California. His appetite for new, high quality, unique, and challenging rocks to climb used to drive him to travel far and wide. Now he travels less because he has found that what he is looking for is usually close to his front door.

Valentine Cullen has been climbing, boogie boarding, hiking, swimming, and simply enjoying the outdoors for as long as she can remember. A resident of Sonoma County for 35 years, she also loves photography and crafting. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Creative Writing from Sonoma State University and published poems in SSU's annual publication now called, *Zaum*. Valentine has been climbing for over 20 years, starting on the local rocks, Sugarloaf Ridge and the Sunset Boulders. She especially enjoys bouldering and top roping anywhere along the Northern California coast on any sunny day. She now enjoys sharing all her favorite outdoor activities with her wonderful and inspirational daughter, Holly Anne Grinnell. They are both particularly fond of climbing, boogie boarding and tide-pooling together.

Val and Chris have been climbing and enjoying the outdoors in the Bay Area together since 1990.



Photo by Kira Marie

Climbs by Rating

5.4

Butt Crack 90
Cote Memorial Wall 85
Swiss Cheese 102
Butt Crack 90
Cote Memorial Wall 85
Swiss Cheese 102
SE Face 60

5.5

Bat Crack 85
Food Baby 41
Split Slab 72
The Cleavage 85
Bat Crack 85

5.6

Bear Hug 49
Bucket Prow 80
Castle Rock Cave 90
Cragmont Crack 79
Egg Arête 65
Freeway 84
Knobby Wall 111
Seagull Arête 118
Summit Route 101
Sunset Slab 60
The Split 73
Beginners Cracks 110
Cracked Wall 54
Ttransportation Crack 78

5.7

Butt Face Direct 90
Cragmont Undercling 79
Knobby Wall+ 111
New Tradition 40
Quarry Cracks 36
Red Face 90
Shwayze 114
The Pod 110
The Great Chimney 110

5.8

Buckets 60
Butt Face 90
Cave Route 90
Center Face 102
Chockstone 101
Far 40

Farther 40
Fish N Game 47
Hourglass 84
Live and Learn 111
Mystic 114
Pidgeon Tunnel 90
Ram Face 60
Scorpio 111
Something Good 40
South Face 105
Splitter 111
Step To The Left 40
Surprise 111
Table Scraps 41
Testpiece 110
The Chickens are Breastless 40
Tomahawk Arête 116
Training Pants 111
Triple Overhang 102
Unconquerable 110

5.9

Beer Holder 114
Beginners Crack 78
Bubble Slab 38
Cave Route 79
Chounards Crack 89
Cracker 116
Dans Delight 111
Dinkum 110
Direct Crack 92
East Face 101
Egg Face 65
Gardens of Babylon 111
Grey Slab 64
Jack of all Trades 50
Jardinero 40
Kola 40
Log Jam 49
Mangler 111
Mystery Hole 40
Peeper 64
Plaque Face Left 80
Plaque Face Right 80
Playtime 49
Pocket Face 95
Red Face 104
Red Slab 54
Remilard Crack 80
Sandboxer 50

Saviour Heart 40
Seymour Frishberg 40
Shute/Mills 41
Soul Sister Thunder 111
Struggler 60
Sunset Face
The Corner 124
The Falls 101
The Flake 124

5.10a

Amazing Face 88
Appertif 41
Blowing Bubbles 105
Calamari 118
Farewell to Arms 79
Farewell to Arms 101
Feelin Your Oats 40
Galapagos 54
NE Face 60
Pelican Arête 60
Puckered Starfish 105
Pull Up 84
Red Arête 104
Rust Never Sleeps 64
The Crack 92

5.10a/b

Atlas / Atlas Shrugged 40
For Play 48
Remilard Roof 80

5.10b

Beach Blanket Matterhorn 118
Grin and Bear It 84
In Memorium 104
Moss Ledge 79

5.10b/c

Adhesion 110
Conch Crack 48
Free Willy 47
Hermit Crack 107
Left/Right 111
Mastophilia 111
Pebble Face 89
Sea Serpent 46
The Great Roof 102
Watercourse 78

5.10c

Blue Heron 118
 Closed Captioned 65
 Face It 84
 Ozone 89
 Sea Cave 54
 The Chief 40
 Twist and Shout 107
 Vicious Circles 105
 Walking a Thin Line 64
 West Face 38

5.10c/d

Bar Fight 121
 Big Surprise 111
 Blue Ballot 110
 Braveheart 116
 Butt Cave 90
 Cranky Lizard 110
 Dreamer 110
 Killer Crack 60
 Last Tango 110
 Mainline 114

5.10d

Better Eat Your Wheaties 40
 Bolt Route 88
 Bubble Ladder 38
 Diagonal Crack 60
 Diagonal Crack 88
 Epiphany 49
 Jungle Book 89
 On the Edge 84
 Rackless Crack 54
 Snakecharmer 114

5.11a

Arête 104
 Edge of Eternity 104
 My Demon Lover 104
 Nautilus 48
 Orange Arête 84
 Permanent Erection 102
 Solar Power 38
 Sport Wall 54
 Stegosaurus 89

5.11a/b

Dirty Dancing 107
 Sunnyside Up 65
 Two to Tango 107

5.11b

Aeronautical Engineer 101
 Boneless Chicken Ranch 40
 Bridwell Bolt Route 102
 Bubble Boy 38
 Desperado 105
 Egghead 65
 The Temptress 104

5.11b/c

Antline 107
 Black Slab 114
 Center Overhang 78
 Cummed On 102
 East Face 124
 Nexus 104
 Obermans Roof 69
 Pie Crust 89
 Plaque Face 80
 Straight Lines 107
 Susan Forever 107
 Swashbuckler 46

5.11c

Bats in the Belfry 116
 Bolt Route 79
 Catchy 38

5.11c/d

Crack a No Go Does Go 90
 Off The Wall 114
 The Cave 95
 West Split 73

5.11d

Dinosaur 88
 Dire Blow 88
 Donkey Dong 105
 In the Buckets 89
 Long Face 88
 Mystic Rhythms 114
 The Pit and the Pendulum 118

5.12a

Deliverance 90
 Godzilla 89
 Hard to Swallow 114
 Liquid Fire 114
 Pelicans 64
 Sucka Fish 54

5.12b

Jailbird 105
 Jungle Work 65
 Well Endowed 105

5.12c

Little Eiger 84
 Shell Shock 65
 This is Your Brain on Drugs 65

5.12c/d

Dark Christal 114
 Eunuch in a Whoehouse 111
 Fingerprint 110
 Nightmare 110
 Overhanging Seam 101
 Pseudo Bohemian Hitchiking
 Youth 54
 Ten Minute Crack 111
 Wet Dreams 64

5.13

Billy Goat Face 102
 Dreams of White Porsches 64
 Holy Mackerel 64
 Insomnia 64
 Judge Dredd 54
 Jury Duty 54
 Sexsomnia 64