



Mt Lindesay Climbing Guide

Ross Weiter, Dec 2003

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A WARNING ABOUT ROCK CLIMBING

Climbing is a sport where you may be seriously injured or killed. Read this before you use this guide.

This guide is a compilation of often-unverified information gathered from many different climbers. The author(s) and the Climbers Association of Western Australia (CAWA) cannot assure the accuracy of any of the information in this guide, including the route descriptions, the difficulty ratings and the protection ratings. These may be incorrect or misleading as it is impossible for any one author to climb all the routes and confirm all the information. Some routes listed in the guide have had only one ascent and the information has not been verified. Also, difficulty and danger ratings are subjective and depend on the physical characteristics such as height, experience, technical ability, confidence and physical fitness of the climber who supplied the ratings. Additionally, climbers who achieve first ascents sometimes underrate the difficulty or danger of a climbing route to appear heroic or out of fear of being ridiculed if the climb is later down-rated by other climbers.

Therefore, be warned that you must exercise your own judgement with regard to the route location, description, difficulty and your ability to safely protect yourself from the risks of rock climbing. Examples of these risks are: falling due to technical difficulty or holds breaking off, falling rock, climbing equipment dropped by other climbers, equipment failure and failure of protection including fixed protection such as bolts.

You should not depend on any information gleaned from this guide for your personal safety. Your safety depends on your own experience, equipment and climbing skill. If you have any doubt as to your ability to safely attempt any route described in this guide, do not attempt it.

The inclusion in this guide of any crag does not imply that any member of the public has a right of access to the crag or the right to climb upon it.

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INTRODUCTION

Mt Lindesay is located 15km due north of the town of Denmark, 400km or 5 hours drive south of Perth. The climbing area is nowhere near the main summit, but rather at the farthest east end of the main ridge.

It offers a variety of crack, face and slab climbing routes ranging from 10 to 50 metres. The views from the top are fantastic, the noises of civilisation are far away, there are no tourists and the whole end of the ridge is made from granite. Unfortunately not much of it is climbable and the most impressive cliffs will remain unscaled. One other thing: the crystals are huge here, their size is often measured in centimetres !

GEAR AND ETHICS

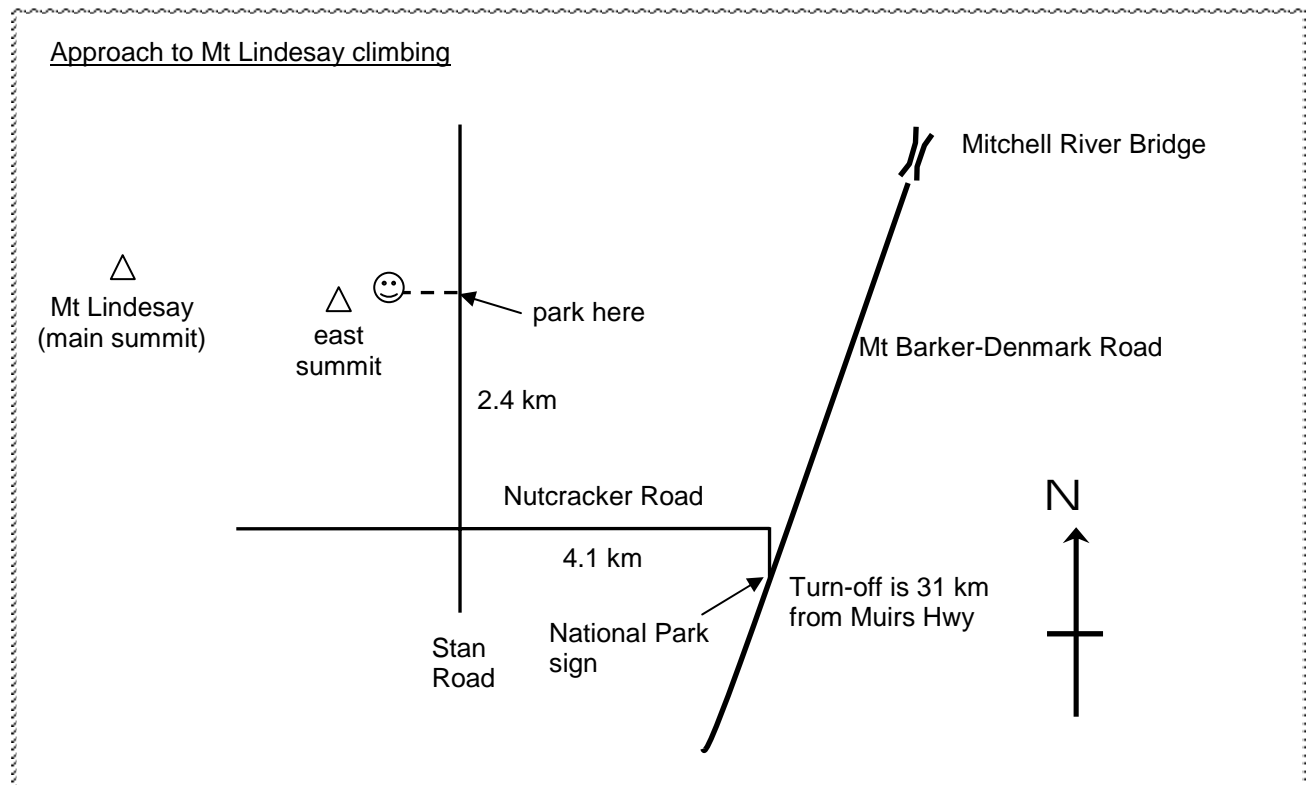
All gear is glued-in 10mm hex head machine bolts: very strong and unobtrusive. Bring your own hangers - do not use RP hangers as they will not fit some of the bolts, use PFH hangers instead. There are some trad routes too. No holds were manufactured and any "enhancing" activity will not be tolerated.

HOW TO GET THERE

Drive from Perth to Mount Barker. Just before the Albany Hwy crosses the railway line turn R, after 800m turn R again onto Langton Rd which later becomes Muirs Hwy. Follow this for 11km then turn L onto the Denmark-Mt Barker Rd. Follow this for 31km and then turn R at the "National Park" sign onto Nutcracker Rd. This is a well maintained dirt road. After 400m the road takes a sharp L turn and continues for another 3.7km to a junction with Stan Rd. Stan Rd is not so well maintained and crosses several creeks that subject it to flooding and winter erosion. Follow this road for 2.4km until you reach the walk-in track, identifiable by two wooden bollards (posts) on each side of the road. Park here.

The entire drive in is generally accessible to any nimble vehicle and 4WD is not required in dry conditions. Having said that, very long cars with very low clearance (eg Ford Falcon) may have a problem and the bottom will get scratched on the scrub. If you have a problem then park early and walk for an extra 30 minutes.

From the parking spot walk L (west) for 10 minutes or 800m along a very overgrown track until arriving at a small clearing with a fire place. It is possible to fit 3 small tents here. The main crag is visible immediately to the west.



THE CLIMBS

CAMPSIDE BOULDER

Follow the faint foot track west from the camp clearing to the end of a huge log, which conveniently spans the thickly wooded creek. Across the top of this to the base of the huge Campside Boulder, then L along its base until you arrive at the base of a prominent 8m high corner, Campside Corner. This is about 200m from camp site.

* Campside Corner (17, 48m)

Layback up the short prominent corner at the east end of boulder to stance at 8m. It is possible to walk off R for 10m and downclimb down the easy north side of the boulder, but it is far better to continue to the top to enjoy the stunning view of the main crag. So....up L of dead tree and through several overlaps (microcams and small nuts) to arrive at the top of the boulder. Good belay on medium size nuts. To descend, downclimb the easy North Slab.

FA: Ross Weiter, Danilo Zonta Dec 01

North Slab (4, 50m)

The easily angled slab that leads to the top, the descent route in fact. Start 20m R of Campside Corner and R of all the boulders, wander up the line of least resistance. A tennis shoe scramble with not much gear, but well worth it for the view.

FA: Bob Gnarly

The main crag is located above Campside Boulder. The routes are described from L to R: east face, then north face (closest to camp and Campside Boulder) and then west face. Access to the top is up the left end of east face.

MAIN CRAG - EAST FACE

Sadistic Execution (22M0, 18)

Start 5 m L of El Coño and follow the R-trending line of 5 bolts to top. Pull up, stretch and clip 1st BR. Gain the one good undercling and move R strenuously to clip 2nd BR. Gaston and crank past the crux to an excruciatingly painful finger pocket and 3rd BR. Another crank to a slopy ledge and 4th BR. Up water runnel with crumbling crystals on R to reach DBB 5m back. Rested on bolts 2 & 3 on first ascent. Will go free at about grade 25/26 to a tall hardman.

FA: Jon Gregg, Ross Weiter Apr 02

El Coño (19, 20m)

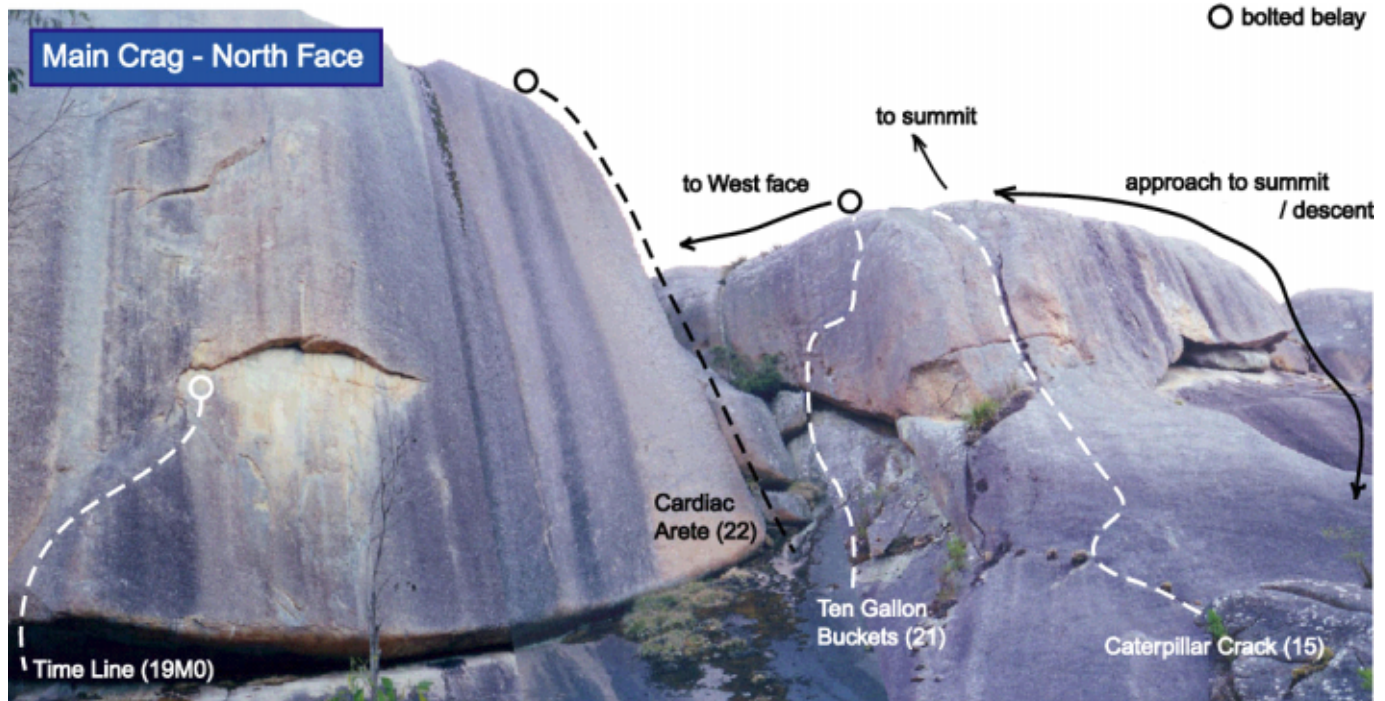
The wide crack half way up the east side of the main crag. Start up the front of the 4m high triangular rock, then up awkward wide section above to gain the squeeze chimney L of rooflet. Get in a couple of good cams here and start squeezing! Keep going past 2 BRs. Gear: 2 BRs, medium cams and nuts. Double bolt belay 10m up the slope and R of crack.

FA: Ross Weiter, Danilo Zonta, Dec 01

*** Crystal Prophet (20, 22m)**

Start 4m R of El Coño up the long R edge of the huge exfoliation flake. Up this, then step R onto wall and past 2 BRs next to water runnel. Fight past 3rd and 4th BRs to get to the top. 4BRs, medium and large cams or long sling for top of flake. Belay on boulders 15m back.

FA: Ross Weiter, Danilo Zonta, Dec 01



MAIN CRAG – NORTH FACE

Time Line (19M0, 15m)

A route with no start and no end. The corner and face in the middle of the main north face. Stick-clip the hanger on the bottom BR and pull up to it. From there free climb past 3 more BRs to lower-off rings. Maybe one day someone can do the start unaided or even continue to the top!

FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Gregg, Dec 00

***** Cardiac Arete (22, 30m)**

The climb of the crag, well protected but mentally exhausting anyway. Up striking arete at the R hand end of the main wall. 9 BRs (without hangers) and a double BR belay. Walk off to the left.

FA: Jon Gregg, Ross Weiter, Dec 00

*** Ten Gallon Buckets (21, 20m)**

An excellent technical face climb up the pocketed face right of Cardiac Arete. Difficulties increase as one gets higher. 5 BRs and DBB belay up the far side of the water runnel. To descend, walk west to cairn, then to the right, down bushy gully and slab. This descent is not possible in wet conditions.

FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Gregg, Dec 00

*** Caterpillar Crack (15, 25m)**

A good warm-up climb - the slabby start is followed by a pleasant crack with large incut holds. Scramble to the top of boulder 15m right of TGB and 6m above ground, belay here. Trend to stance just L of bulge, clip hard to see BR to R, then R over slabby bulge and slab with 2nd BR to base of crack. Up crack on medium to large cams and nuts. Belay at double bolt belay 8m up water runnel, up on its R side. Descend as per TGB.

FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Greg, Dec 00

MAIN CRAG – WEST FACE

At the west side of the main crag (up the gully just R of CA) are two cracks that are joined at the bottom to form the letter Y. They are the west end of the foot-wide crack line that splits the whole main crag in east-west direction. Access is best by abseiling in from above, alt. scramble in from the west side. Both cracks require very large cams.

Big Momma (11, 10m)

Up crack, then L at overlap for 2m (crux), then up face L of offwidth.

FA: Ross Weiter, Danilo Zonta, Richard Wainwright, Dec 01

West Monster Abbey (16, 10m)

Up, then take the R squeeze chimney option. Not as bad as it looks from a distance as there are face holds.

FA: Ross Weiter, Danilo Zonta, Richard Wainwright, Dec 01

WINDCHANNEL WALL

This is the area near the highest point of the boulders. To get there from the main area, first walk west from the belay of Caterpillar Crack for 300 metres, towards the highest elevated point you can find, then bypass this highest point to the right. You should go past an old wooden ladder on your left, then continue down gully ahead for 30 metres. There will be 5 routes to your left. There is a bolted belay that can be used for all these climbs - you will find it at the highest point of the crag.

Left Side (18, 16m)

Up short slab to BR below flake, strenuous moves past the 2nd BR gain the bulge and 3rd BR. Up over this to horizontal crack that takes small cams and medium nuts. Up and L from there to exit.

FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Gregg, Apr 02

**** Crystallography (18, 18m)**

The R trending line offers good technical climbing on edges and huge crystals. 4 bolts and small/medium cams for the top cracks. FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Gregg, Apr 02

*** Nobody Likes A Bogan (21, 20m)**

This wall is not quite as blank as it looks. Strenuous and insecure moves gain the 2nd BR, then pull over the bulge on good holds and reach R to clip 3rd BR. Traverse R to twin black streaks (skid marks) and then up past two more BRs. Small/medium cams for the top, same finish as for Crystallography.

FA: Jon Gregg, Ross Weiter, Apr 02

Crisp'n'Crimpy (17, 20m)

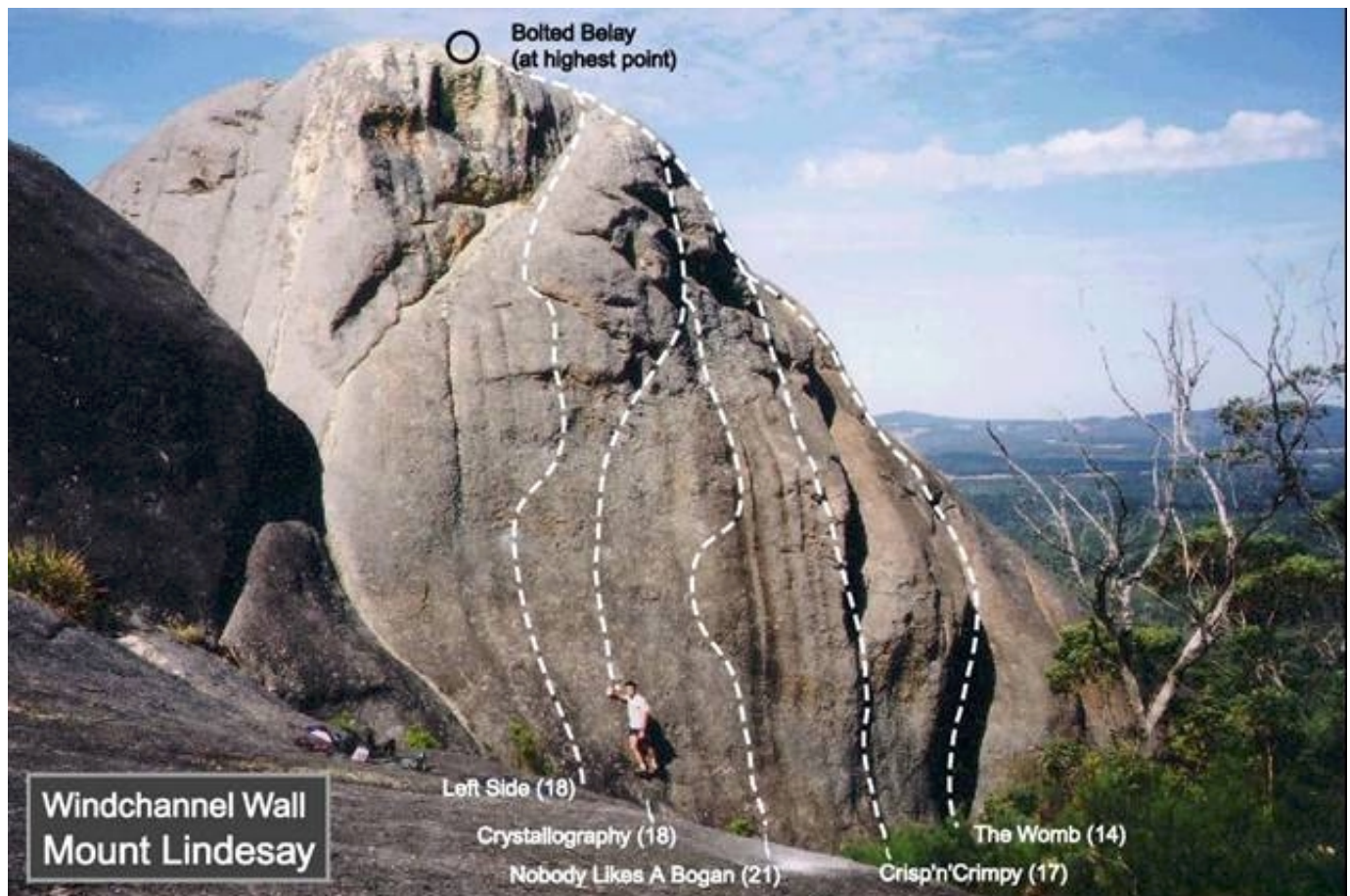
Up past 1st BR, then directly up face above 2nd BR (not up gully to right). Large nut plus medium to large cams for gear and belay. Descend down mossy gully on the far side of the summit.

FA: Jon Gregg, Ross Weiter, Dec 00

*** The Womb (14, 25m)**

Very funky and unusual. 5m right of C&C is a wide chimney. Walk up this - the crux is exiting it at the top, via a delightful bridging move to L. There is good gear at the crux - small to medium cams and medium nuts.

FA: Ross Weiter, Jon Gregg, Dec 00





SUMMIT AREA BOULDERING

This is a great little spot with four easy problems so far. Approach from the main area as for the other climbs, but head for the highest elevated point to the left. This spot is easily located by a granite “ball” 4m in diameter and sitting precariously on a sloping slab. The climbing is just beyond, up a nice 6m wall L of a gully. This wall is split by a perfect hand crack. All problems are around grade 16 and 6m high. Listed from L to R:

* **Joshua Tree Crack** – the excellent right trending hand crack, *Jon Gregg (solo), Dec 00*

High’n’Dry – the corner 5 m right of JTC, *Ross Weiter (solo), Dec 00*

Yowie – the face 2 m right of HND, *Jon Gregg (solo), Dec 00*

Growler – the fist jam crack 2 m right of Y, *Ross Weiter (solo), Dec 00*