# Peak Limestone

Alan James Chris Craggs

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Cover photo:

Tom Randall on Eye of the Tiger (E7) - p.401 Ilam Rock, Dovedale. Photo: Mike Hutton

Ethan Walker on The Golden Mile (E5) - p.259 Chee Tor in Chee Dale. Photo: Mike Hutton

This book belongs to:



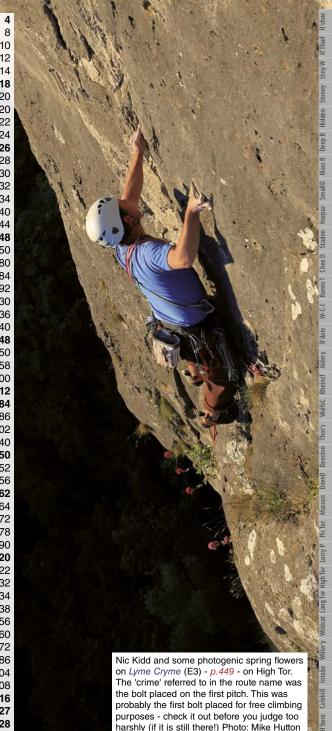
Awesome by name,
Awesome by nature!!!



Influencing the climbing world since 1999!

Liverpool 0151 298 2422 Sheffield 0114 244 6622 Stockport 0161 494 9949

Stoke 01782 341 919 Cork +353 21 486 7060 Dublin +353 1 880 0088 Introduction..... The Rockfax App ..... 8 Accommodation . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 20 Climbing Shops . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 20 Climbing Walls . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 24 Peak Limestone Climbing . . . . . . . 26 Gear and Bolting ..... 30 Trad Graded List......40 Stoney Area..... 48 Horseshoe Quarry . . . . . . . . . . 50 Horse-Thief Quarry..... 80 Staden Quarry . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 200 Water-cum-Jolly . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 302 Matlock Area . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 420 Lorry Park Quarry..... 434 Long Tor Quarry . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 456 Willersley . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 472 Intake Quarry . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 486 Colehill Quarry . . . . . . . . . . . . . 504 Harborough Rocks . . . . . . . . . . . . 508 Route Index......516 Craq and Buttress Index ..... 527 Map and General Index ..... 528



My first experiences on Peak Limestone were in Deep Dale and sections of Ravensdale that are now covered with ivy. This inauspicious start was because our school outdoor pursuits teacher was a member of the BMC Peak Area Guidebook team and he had "a few loose ends to tidy up". These trips culminated in a spectacular leader fall from *Padme* at Stoney which might have been a health and safety incident these days, but was in reality just a leader fall with no more damage than hurt pride...however, I was not deterred!

Two years later I confidently hauled myself across the jugs of Sirplum, basked in the splendid isolation of the Debauchery stance, and took a few more leader falls from top of Scoop Wall (then given E1) before tenuously succeeding and getting the emotional buzz that only big ascents like that can deliver.

These two sets of experiences cover the extremes of Peak Limestone. At its best it is world class with climbing-career-defining routes on superb crags. At the other end there are a few lesser outcrops and grotty guarries which can colour people's opinions, especially when they are usually compared to the magnificence of the nearby gritstone edges.

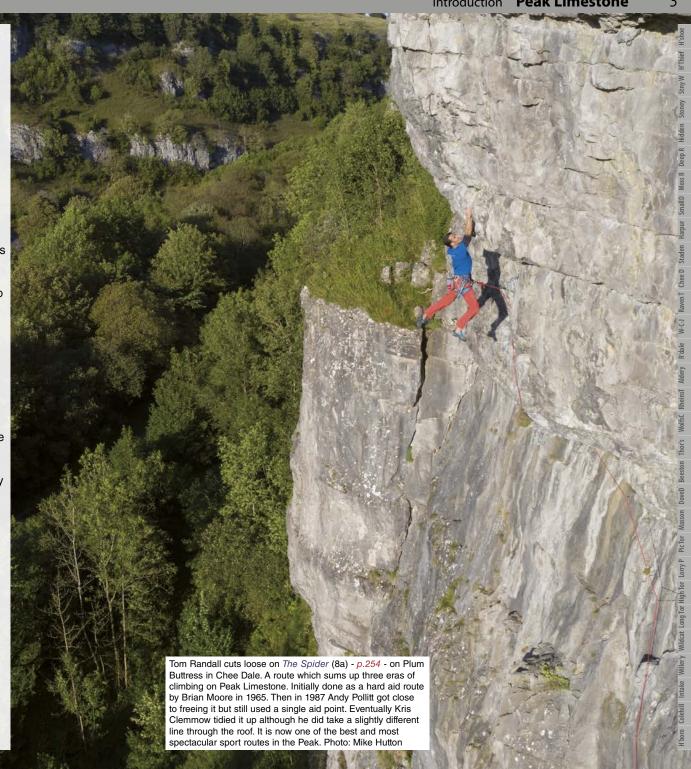
In this book we have focussed on the good stuff. Majestic limestone trad crags like the big three of High Tor, Beeston Tor and Chee Tor; picturesque pinnacles and walls in Dovedale; grand old favourites like Stoney dripping in historically significance; delightful locations like Wildcat, Ravensdale, Wolfscote, Staden and Harborough with their accessible and varied mid-grade trad routes.

Despite the pedigree of the trad climbing, the most popular Peak Limestone crags are the sport climbing quarries that pockmark the Peak District landscape. They may not always be the most picturesque locations but the likes of Horseshoe, Masson Lees, Intake and Harpur Hill have many quality routes towards the middle and lower end of the grade spectrum and are extremely popular and busy locations. Despite appearing to be worked out, new development continues and there are significantly more great sport routes in this book than the last edition from 2012.

For top-end climbing, the sport routes of the Peak have long been at the cutting edge with Raven Tor, a couple of Cornices, loads of fine cliffs in Chee Dale, the fierce fingery walls of Water-cum-Jolly, plus a number of smaller crags dotted around to go at. This includes some world-famous routes right up to 9a.

Whatever you are interested in, be it a gentle introduction to sport climbing or a soul-searching trad lead of an E7, Peak Limestone has something to offer. The best of it is in this book but, if you are inspired to explore more, then check out the Rockfax app version since that has even more delights for the true connoisseur.

Alan James, May 2020



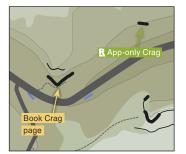
# Coverage

This is the fourth Rockfax guidebook to Peak Limestone in the last 28 years and, in common with the previous four, the print version covers the best crags and buttresses for sport climbing and trad climbing in the Peak District area. This means that the book is a selected crag guidebook rather than a selected route guidebook. If a buttress is included then it is safe to assume that it has routes on it that are worthy of attention, but in most cases this is obvious since the quality climbing shines through.

Since the last guide in 2012, the technology we have for documenting the crags has moved on apace. This has resulted in a virtually completely new set of crag photographs this time round with a massive improvement in detail. Being able to spot gear, lower-offs and chalked holds makes it much easier to get accurate route lines. Getting photos in the right light from the right viewpoint makes the photo-topos clearer than ever.

# **Rockfax App Extra**

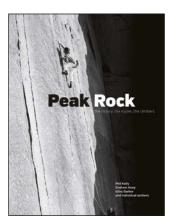
A major difference between this edition and the previous ones is that this book is being released in a significantly expanded version in digital format on the Rockfax App at the same time. The digital-only coverage includes minor buttresses on established crags, small crags that have fallen out of from popularity, lesser limestone quarries and some where the development is ongoing and any printed version would be rapidly out of date. Crags and buttresses which are app-only are indicated in the text, and on the maps and topos with a green flag (right). The app version will be updated with new developments as they happen between



editions and it is available through the subscription options which you can check out on rockfax.app. For more information on the app, see p.8.

# History

The history of climbing on Peak Limestone stretches back over 100 years and every great climber has tested their mettle on these fingery classics. The development goes from early trad ascents, to the aid climbing era; from big free ascents, to debates over bolting; from sport climbing development, to new routes of almost unimaginable levels of difficulty. Beyond the first ascent details listed with every route where known, only limited other historical information is included in this book. If you are interested then a brilliant book which covers the history of all Peak climbing, including the limestone, is Peak Rock by Phil Kelly, Graham Hoey, Giles Barker and others.



### **Guidebook Footnote**

The inclusion of a climbing area in this guidebook does not mean that you have a right of access or the right to climb upon it. The descriptions of routes within this guide are recorded for historical reasons only and no reliance should be placed on the accuracy of the description. The grades set in this guide are a fair assessment of the difficulty of the climbs. Climbers who attempt a route of a particular standard should use their own judgment as to whether they are proficient enough to tackle that route. This book is not a substitute for experience and proper judgment. The authors, publisher and distributors of this book do not recognise any liability for injury or damage caused to, or by, climbers, third parties, or property arising from such persons seeking reliance on this guidebook as an assurance for their own safety.



The Rockfax App brings together all the current Rockfax guides with UKC Logbooks and presents it in a user-friendly package for use on mobile devices. The heart of the App is the Rockfax crag and route information covering individual crags, or bundles of crags, in 'areas' which correspond roughly to printed guidebooks. The main data is sold by subscription so that you can purchase access for a period of time. Once you are subscribed, you will have every digital Rockfax guide available on your device for the period of your subscription. You can download crags and store them on your device, so you don't need a signal to be able to read the descriptions and see the topos and maps. There is also plenty of free data available without subscription, enabling

impression of what the App is like without shelling out any money.

For this book, the Rockfax App significantly expands the coverage given within the printed pages by adding extra crags. buttresses and routes. These are indicated by the

green flag marked on maps and topos, and mentioned in the section introductions. However, the app is always evolving so it is likely that the coverage will increase beyond the scope of what







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Google play

GET IT ON

is presented in these printed pages.

The Rockfax App itself is a free download and incredibly useful in its own right even without an active subscription. It contains a detailed crag map linked to the UKClimbing crags database which also displays all the 4,000+ listings from the UKClimbing Directory of climbing walls, outdoor shops, climbing clubs, outdoor-specific accommodation and instructors and guides, amongst others.

To find the App, search for 'Rockfax App' in Google or on the appropriate store.

# **UKC Logbooks**

A popular method of logging your climbing is to use the **UKClimbing.com** logbooks system. This database has more than half a million routes on nearly 20,000 crags. So far, just over 41,000 users have recorded 6.87 million ascents! To set up your own logbook just register at **UKClimbing.com** and click on the logbook tab. You will be able to record every ascent you make, when you did it, what style you climbed it in and who you did it with. Each entry has a place for your own notes. You can also add your vote to the grade/star system which is used by guidebook writers to get opinions on grades and guality of routes. The logbook can be private, public or restricted to your own climbing partners only.

The Rockfax App can be linked to your **UKClimbing.com** user account and logbook so that you can record your activity while at the crag. To do this you will need a 3G/4G data connection. You can also look at the UKC logbooks to see if anyone has climbed your chosen route recently to check on conditions.

# **Route Symbols**

A good route which is well worth the effort.

A very good route, one of the best on the crag.

A brilliant route, one of the best in the Peak.

Technical climbing requiring good balance and 3 technique, or complex and tricky moves.

Powerful climbing; roofs, steep rock, low lock-offs or long moves off small holds.

Sustained climbing; either lots of hard moves or steep rock giving pumpy climbing.

Fingery climbing with significant small holds on the hard sections.

Fluttery climbing with fall potential or a scary

A long reach is helpful, or even essential, for one or more of the moves.

Some loose rock may be encountered.

Graunchy climbing. Either wide cracks or thrutchy and awkward moves.

A trad route on a crag where most of the other routes are bolted. A rack of gear is required.

# **Crag Symbols**

Angle of the approach walk to the crag with the approximate approach time.

Approximate time that the crag is in the sun (when it is shining).

The buttress has some multi-pitch routes.

Lots of sun

The crag is exposed to bad weather and will catch the wind if it is blowing.

The crag can offer shelter from cold winds and it may be a good suntrap in colder weather.

The crag suffers from seepage. It may well be wet and unclimbable in winter and early spring.

The crag is steep and may well offer some dry rock to climb when it is raining.

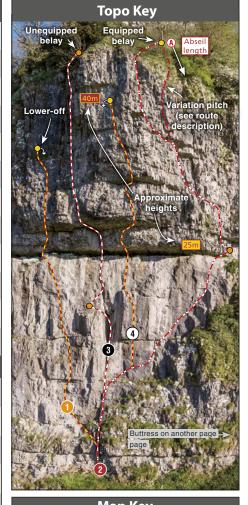
The crag/buttress has an annual restriction due to nesting birds - check the crag information.

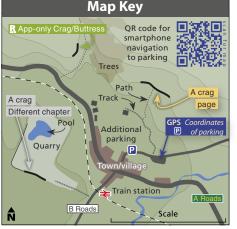
Deserted - Currently under-used and usually quiet. Fewer good routes or remote and smaller areas.

Quiet - Less popular sections on major crags, or good buttresses with awkward approaches.

Busy - Places you will seldom be alone, especially at weekends. Good routes and easy access.

Crowded - The most popular sections of the most popular crags which are always busy.





The limestone areas in the Peak have been documented since 1913 when John Laycock included some climbs at Harborough and Brassington in his Gritstone Climbs book. Since then the documentation has shifted from area guidebooks with limestone and gritstone to dedicated limestone guidebooks.

We are very grateful for the huge effort carried out over the years by all those who have worked on previous guidebooks. The key books are listed below, along with one essential website.

# Peak Limestone South (BMC 2017)

lan Carr, Gary Gibson, Niall Grimes

# Peak Limestone North (BMC 2015)

Gary Gibson, Ian Carr, Niall Grimes

### Peak Limestone (Rockfax 2012)

Chris Craggs, Alan James

### Northern Limestone (Rockfax 2004)

Alan James, Mark Glaister and Chris Craggs

### From Horseshoe to Harpur Hill (BMC 2004)

Gary Gibson

# Peak Limestone Wye Valley (BMC 1999)

Geoff Milburn

### Peak Limestone (Rockfax 1992)

Alan James

### Peak Limestone (BMC 1987)

(3 Volumes) Geoff Milburn

# Northern Limestone (BMC 1980)

Dave Gregory

# Southern Limestone Area (BMC 1970)

Paul Nunn

# Northern Limestone Area (BMC 1969)

Paul Nunn

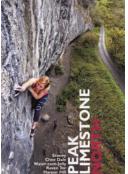
### Rock Climbs on the Mountain Limestone of Derbyshire (BMC 1962)

Graham West

### sportsclimbs.co.uk

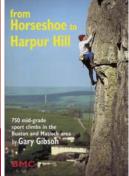
Gary Gibson's website is an invaluable resource in documenting new developments.



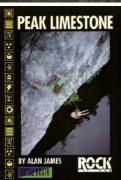


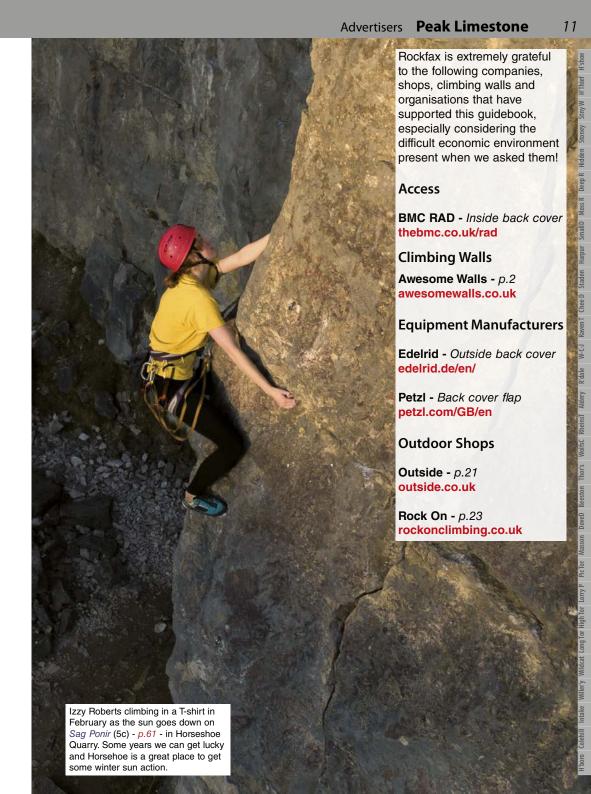












The writing of this guidebook has been one of the most enoyable things I have done in recent years. After Chris Craggs took the lead on the 2004 and 2012 editions it has been wonderful to get my fingers dirty again on the local limestone crags. It wasn't that I had deserted them since I last took lead authorship, but writing and researching a guidebook gets you so much more involved in an area. Every trip becomes an adventure, although some of my climbing buddies may think that 'adventure' isn't always a good thing!

The trip back in time to 1992 didn't end with authorship - I also rekindled my climbing relationship with some old mates from that time. Paul Dearden, last seen in a rubber ring on the cover of the 1992 guidebook, has been to several obscure venues. Fliss Haines (neé Butler) joined me on a few trips and my oldest climbing mate, Nigel Boothroyd, was up for a bit of obscure crag research. I am also grateful to Dominic Green who has been a reliable and keen companion on many trips.

Of course without the routes we would have nothing to write about. In that category one names stands head and shoulders above the rest. I even have a keyboard shortcut for his first ascent details because they get typed so often. Gary Gibson has put an immense effort into Peak Limestone, not just in terms of bolting his many new routes, but also as a prolific re-bolter and custodian of many crags. On top of this he also documents many of the new developments on his excellent website sportsclimbs.co.uk. Thanks Gary for everything.

There are many others who have put effort in to the gear and crag maintenance. Kris Clemmow in particular but also Jon Fullwood, Mark Rankine, Nicolas Ecoffet, Seb Grieve, Jamie Edward, James Jacobs, Vince Smedley, Keith Sharholds, Sam Townsend, Ian Carr and many more over the years. Thanks to everyone including anyone missed in this list.

For access the whole BMC Peak Area committee needs a mention but especially Henry Folkard who deserves endless praise from every climber who ever touches rock in the Peak District.

There are a number of people who have been a great help while writing this book. Kris Clemmow has read many sections and given me detailed feedback on lines, loweroffs, grades - basically everything. Paper print outs for Mark Pretty have also been willingly returned with scribbles attached. Nick Taylor has sent me information on his and John Allen's new route developments. Others who have given great feedback are Dominic Lee, Simon Cundy, Jon Clark, Jon Fullwood, Ian Parsons and Neil Foster. These days a guidebook is only as good as its photography. I have had some great help in this respect. Mike Hutton once again has come up with some brilliant shots from all over the area. Others who have supplied photos are Paul Evans, David Simmonite, Keith Sharples, John Coefield, Marsha Balaeva, Nick Gant, Hazel Gibson, Neil Foster, Andi Turner, Fliss Haines, Nick Brown and Rob Greenwood. Thanks to all of them. Although this is a new book much of it is still based on work done on previous editions. Chris Craggs did a great job back in 2004 and 2012 and has been a big help this time with proofing, feedback and extra photos. Thanks also to the UKC/Rockfax team, Rebecca Ting in particular for sub-editing and Theo Moore for trying to sell the advertising in the most taxing of cirumstances.

As I write this we sit in isolation from the greatest challenge the world has faced in recent years. One bonus of the Corona lockdown has been having a full house of family around me, something which normally only occurs for short special occasions these days. At times like this it is important to remember what really matters as we hope for a return to better times when we can enjoy freedoms and pastimes that we normally take for granted.

Alan James, April 2020



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### Mountain Rescue

In the event of an accident requiring the assistance of Mountain Rescue:

### Dial 112 and ask for 'POLICE - MOUNTAIN RESCUE'

All mountain rescue incidents in the Peak District area fall under the responsibility of Derbyshire Constabulary. If in any doubt request Derbyshire Police Operations Room.

### **Tourist Information**

If you are short of ideas of what to do on a wet day or need some accommodation, take a look at the **visitpeakdistrict.com**. This web site contains much more useful information than it is possible to include in these pages.

There are Tourist Information Centres in Sheffield, Buxton, Castleton, Bakewell, Cromford, Middleton and Matlock marked on the maps with a small blue 'i' symbol.

### When to Go

Peak Limestone can offer something on most days of the year. Winter sun-traps like Beeston Tor and Horseshoe Quarry can be pleasant and climbable in mid-winter. This is indicated in the text and the crag planner on page 44. Most of the steep crags suffer from seepage and only come into condition from March and April onwards, or later if we have a wet spring. If travelling from afar, take note of the crag seepage symbols to avoid disappointment. Once the summer arrives, the leafy dales offer plenty of shade and there is almost always something to go at, even during a heat wave. A lot of the harder crags offer dry climbing in heavy rain and this is often possible at Willersley on mid-grade routes as well. Once dry some very steep crags like the Cornice (both in Chee Dale and WCJ) and Raven Tor can be climbable longer than expected when the weather appears to have turned in the autumn. It is also worth noting that the limestone crags and quarries are significantly less exposed to bad weather than their nearby gritstone counterparts.

Temperature °C	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average Max Temp (°C)	6	6	9	10	14	17	20	19	15	12	8	5
Average Min Temp (°C)	1	1	3	3	6	9	11	11	8	6	3	1
Average Rain Days/month	9	10	8	6	6	5	6	6	7	7	8	6

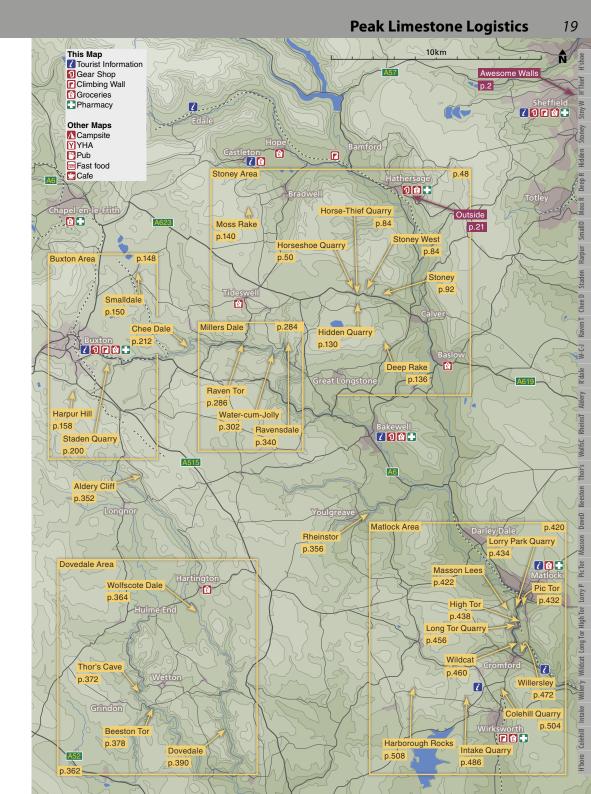
# **Getting Around**

The easiest way to access most of the crags in this book is by car and the approach descriptions are written assuming you have access to one. Certain crags are accessible using public transport and there are train stations at Matlock, Buxton and Hathersage. Bus coverage for the Peak District is reasonable. More information - thetrainline.com and traveline.info There are some crags that are reachable on foot from campsites or YHAs. Check the accommodation options on the following pages for more information on this.

# Satellite Navigation

The parking spots on the close-up maps are indicated with a precise GPS location and QR code (right). Just point your phone at the QR code and open in your chosen navigation app to take you direct to the parking spots.





### Accommodation

The Peak District is a big National Park and as such has lots of accommodation on offer. This ranges from cheap and cheerful campsites to lovely cottages with plenty in between.

# **Campsites**

A few of the smaller and more convenient campsites are listed below and indicated on maps where possible. You can find more on the following listings sites.

ukclimbing.com/listings/accommodation/ coolcamping.co.uk campsites.co.uk

# **North Lees Campsite**

Situated below Stanage. Useful for general climbing weekend but not ideal for the limestone apart from the Stoney Area.

**Dale Farm** - p.137

Small site in Great Longstone. Good for Water-cum-Jolly, Ravensdale and Stoney. dale.farm

Cowdale Hall Farm - p.149

Very small site near Staden. Well placed for Buxton crags and Chee Dale.

Sterndale Green Farm - p.149

A secluded site near Deep Dale. Walking distance to Chee Dale and Staden.

**Hulme End** - *p.363* 

Two sites in Hulme End. Great for all the Dovedale Area.

bankhousefarmcamping.co.uk hulme-end-campsite.co.uk

Smithy Fields - p.363

Small site in Alstonfield. Thor's Cave. Beeston and Dovedale in walking distance. smithyfieldscamping.com

There are a number of caravan-type sites near Matlock. There is a camping field behind The Duke William in Starkholmes which is very convenient but difficult to recommend.

### **Youth Hostels**

There are numerous Youth Hostels in the Peak District including several which are very well placed for the limestone crags yha.org.uk

**YHA Eyam** - p.49

As with many youth hostels, it is situated an annoying distance up the hill above Eyam.

YHA Ravenstor - p.284 Literally above the craq!

YHA Hartington - p.363

Well placed for Wolfscote Dale and within reach of Beeston. Thor's Cave and Dovedale.

YHA llam Hall - p.363 At the southern end of Dovedale.

# **Climbing Shops**

### Outside

Main Road, Hathersage. Tel: 01433 631111 outside.co.uk

Very large store with climbing equipment department and in-store cafe. See opposite

Alpkit - Main Road, Hathersage. alpkit.com

Craq X - Sheffield

Go Outdoors - Sheffield

Go Outdoors - Hathersage

Jo Royles - Buxton

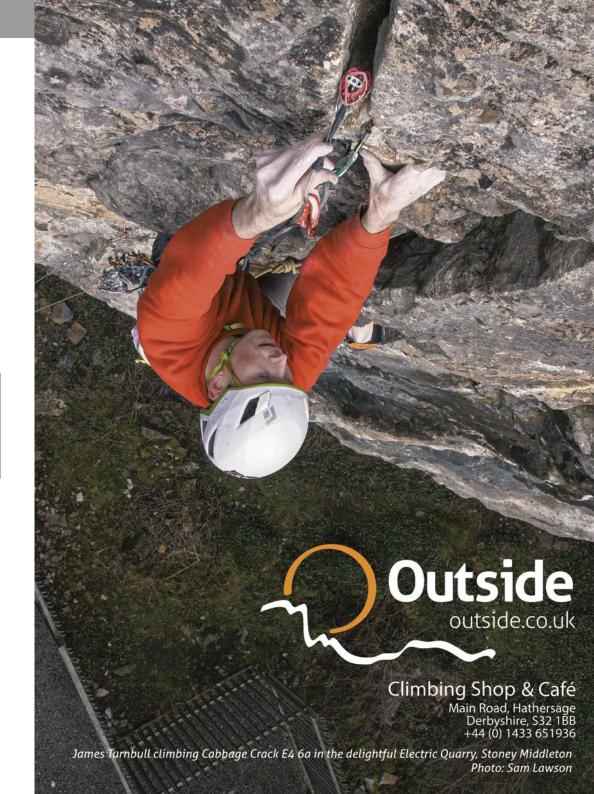
More shops listed at -

ukclimbing.com/listings/outdoor\_shops/

### Instructors and Guides

The area is liberally supplied with guides, instructors and large adventure centres. If you want a one-to-one session of coaching or climbing from someone who knows the area then check the listings on:

ukclimbing.com/listings/instructors+guides/





Pubs are an integral part of the climbing experience. The Peak District is blessed with many fine hostelries which make great locations for an après-climb pint where you can discuss the highs and lows of your day. The list below are recommendations contributed by readers of the forums on UKClimbing.com.

They are marked on the relevant crag map where possible.

# **Stoney and Horseshoe**

The Moon Inn (p.49), Stoney Middleton. An old favourite, with a sense of history and the best fish and chips in the Peak nearby.

The Miners Arms (p.49), Eyam. Traditional pub with friendly and obliging staff.

# Chee Dale and Miller's Dale

The Bull's Head, Foolow.

Good food and beer though quite small.

The Barrel Inn, Bretton.

Good beer and magnificent views.

Three Stags Heads, Wardlow Mires. Good atmosphere and beer but not to everyone's taste. Open Thursday to Sunday. Doesn't serve lager and mobile phones must be turned off!

The Red Lion, Litton.

A great pub in a tranquil location with fine beer and good meals.

The Anglers Rest (p.284), Miller's Dale. A climbers' favourite with good food and beer passed on the way to Raven Tor.

The Monsal Head (p.284), near WCJ. Can be busy, but has okay food and a fine selection of beers. Pricev.

The Packhorse, Little Longstone. Great beer, but can get crowded because it is small.

### The Central Peak

The Quiet Woman (p.352), Earl Sterndale. Fine old country pub, great beers, beautiful location. Handy for Aldery Cliff.

The Queen's Arms, Taddington. Small friendly country pub with a small shop.

### **Dovedale and Manifold**

**Devonshire Arms** (p.363), Hartington. One of two pubs in Hartington which does great food and beer in the centre of the village. The Charles Cotton (p.363), Hartington. Welcoming family pub which does good food. The Royal Oak Inn (p.363), Wetton. Good food and beer, friendly staff. They have offered camping in the field behind in the past. Good for a weekend at Beeston Tor, Manifold and Dovedale.

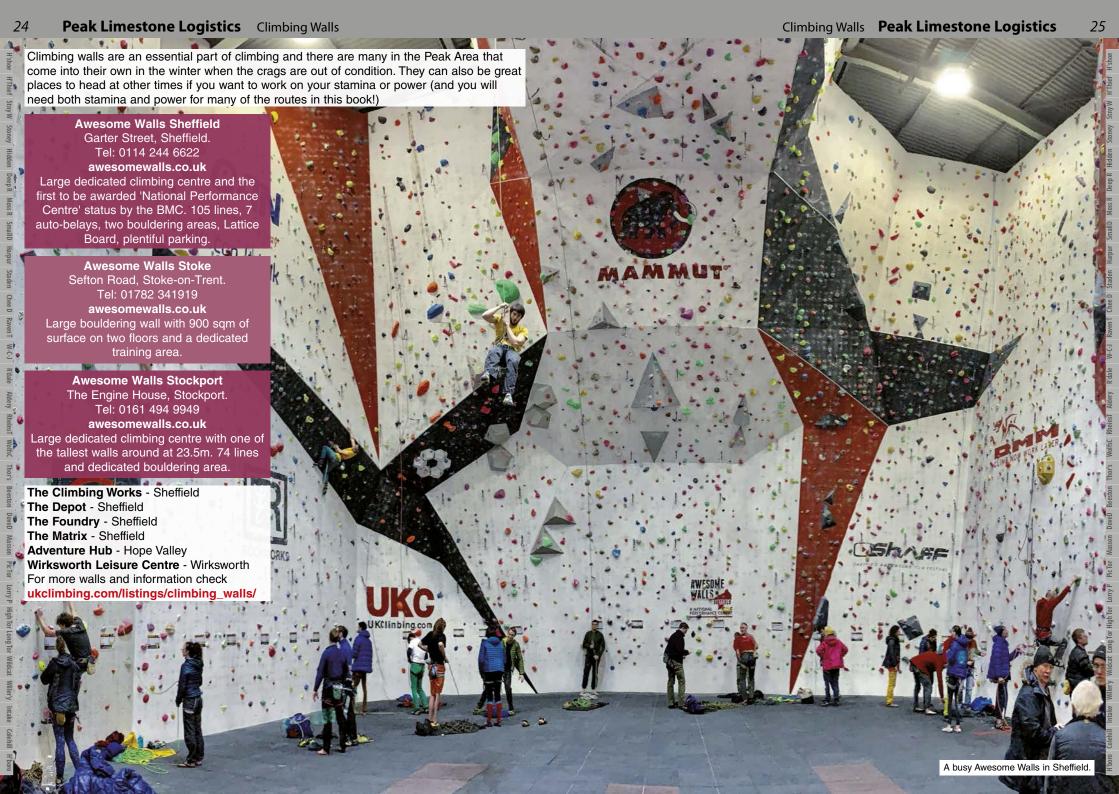
### **Matlock Area**

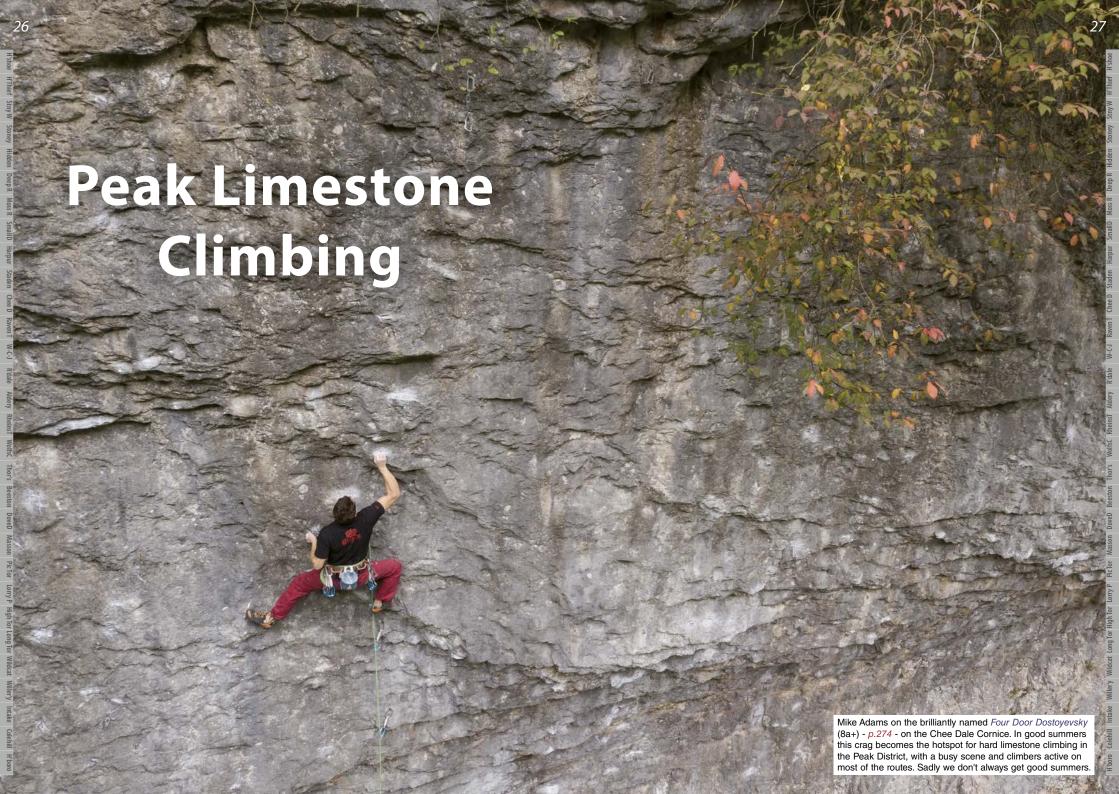
Toad Tails and Ales (p.460), Matlock Bath. Good real ales and atmosphere, friendly staff and lots of bikes to look at on a weekend. The White Lion (p.438), Starkholmes. Traditional pub with log burner good food and very close to High Tor.

The Boat Inn (p.460), Cromford. Good for Willersley and near Scarthin Books. The Barley Mow (p.421), Bonsall. Great food and beer plus regular music nights

and the annual international hen race! The Rising Sun (p.421), Middleton. Friendly and local feel. Good food.

Many shops claim to be climbing specialists. At Rock On we sell climbing/ mountaineering equipment and books, and absolutely NOTHING ELSE. Now that's specialist! Mile End Climbing Wall Redpoint Climbing Centre
Haverfield Road, 77 Cecil Street, Craggy Island 9 Cobbett Park. Slyfield Estate, Guildford, GU1 1RU. Bow, London, Birmingham, B19 3ST. Tel: 0121 359 8709 E3 5BE. Tel: 0208 981 5066 Tel: 01483 565635 www.rockonclimbing.co.uk Sam King on Windows 95 (6b) - p.217 - Blackwell Halt Photo by Jess Garland



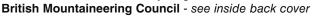


The limestone crags of the Peak District are managed by a variety of different landowners and conservation groups, all of whom are keen to protect their own part of the natural landscape. This often brings them into conflict with climbers particularly over issues such as crag approach paths and nesting birds. The main issues in the Peak have been in Chee Dale and Water-cum-Jolly, and at some of the smaller crags like Ravensdale and Willersley. In most cases, patient negotiating by members of the BMC Peak Area Committee have resulted in satisfactory solutions which enable climbing to continue, but sometimes with restrictions. All the specific details are given with the craq introductions. Please familiarise yourself with this information before climbing.

Many of the guarries described have no formal access agreement. Climbing has taken place in these quarries over the years, but it should be noted that their inclusion in this book does not imply that you have a right of access to climb on the crag.

Access arrangements can change and we recommend that, if unsure, you use the BMC Regional Access Database to check what the up-to-date situation is. You can check the RAD here - thebmc.co.uk/modules/RAD/ or install the BMC RAD app from your iOS or Android app store.

If you do encounter problems then contact the BMC Access and Conservation representative. They are always happy to discuss problems and often the BMC's involvement at an early stage can defuse a situation before it develops.



British Mountaineering Council, 177-179 Burton Road, Manchester, M20 2BB.

Tel: 0870 010 4878 thebmc.co.uk office@thebmc.co.uk



### Good Practice Points for Crag Development and Maintenance

The following Good Practice Points for new routing, crag re-development, bolting and route cleaning have been suggested as a way of avoiding conflict. Please read them carefully especially if you are new routing or considering (re)placing any bolts.

- 1) Find out if the area intended for development or maintenance is protected for geological or biological reasons, or because of breeding birds.
- 2) Some cliffs may be in SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest). Drilling and vegetationstripping on SSSIs will require consent from the landowner or the land manager. If you are unsure, make a note of as many of the details as possible - for example grid reference, nearest village. For all areas contact the local BMC Area Representatives (see above).
- 3) Adhere strictly to any bans or restrictions on drilling. If in any doubt seek advice from the BMC Access Officer or local Area Representative (see above).
- 4) If you encounter access problems when at a craq, DO NOT be confrontational. Leave the craq politely and inform the local BMC Area Representatives (see above).
- 5) Ensure safe practice when cleaning or drilling particularly with respect to members of the public who may be below. Try to be discrete and don't drill at busy times and weekends.
- 6) Check on the local ethical situation and consensus before bolting or replacing gear.
- 7) Avoid leaving krabs and threads on routes while working them.

# **Smartphone Apps**

If you have a smartphone then download the **Echo112 app** from the iOS or Android app store. This useful app has an SOS button that will call the correct emergency service no matter which country you are in and send your location using your phone's GPS system. There are also other useful apps that can calculate your OS grid reference from your phone's GPS system - search for Grid Reference to find one of these in the appropriate app store.



Echo112 app



# Gear

For the traditional routes on Peak Limestone a good-sized rack with plenty of small and medium wires is required. A few cams should be carried but be wary of trusting them the same way you might trust a placement on grit since it is not unknown for them to strip out of smooth-sided limestone cracks when loaded. Around a dozen quickdraws will suffice for most routes and double 50m ropes are essential. A selection of threads of various lengths and thicknesses will be found useful on many climbs for tying off old pegs, threading pockets and saplings, and extending runners.

For sport routes, a single rope is the norm and, apart for a few exceptions, a 60m rope plus 12 quick-draws will be adequate. A rope sheet to keep the rope clean and a clip-stick to clip high first bolts may also be found useful.

# **Bolting**

The bolting history of the Peak area is the longest in Britain with many of the ethical debates being fought out here in the 70s and 80s. This has resulted in a variety of different bolts being littered across the crags varying in quality from solid to downright dangerous. Most of the guarries now have relatively good bolts and many of the old bolts on the harder crags have been replaced in recent years. Be wary of anything that looks like it has been there for more than 30 years since it probably has!

### **Bolt Funds in the Peak Area**

The **Peak Bolt Fund** was set up in 2008 by local climbers who wanted to re-equip existing routes mainly on crags like Raven Tor and the Chee Dale Cornice. A lot of work has been done on these crags but there is still much to do.

The second bolt fund for the Peak limestone area is the Gary Gibson Bolt Fund. Gary has bolted thousands of routes across the country and is responsible for the majority of the bolting in the Peak guarries. Although Gary has established many new routes he also puts in a huge amount of effort in rebolting older climbs.

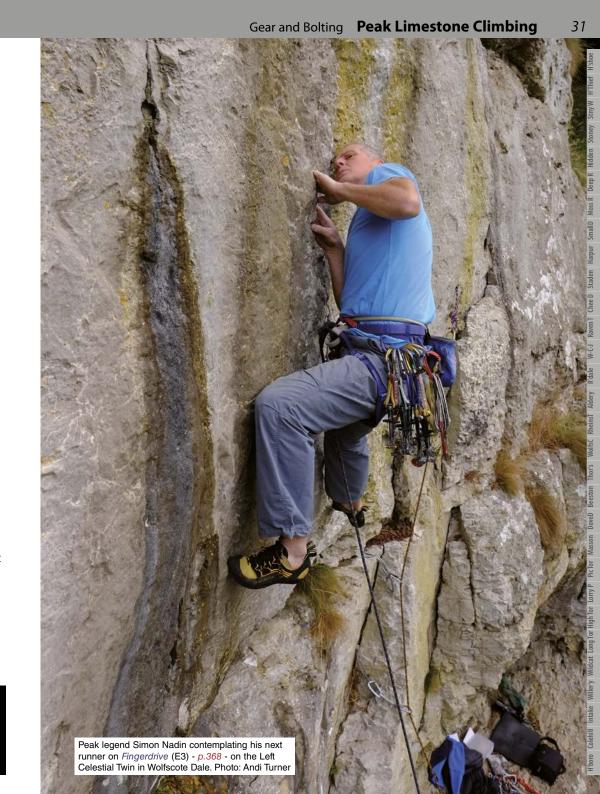
# How Can You Help?

The main way everyone can help is by making a donation. The simple gesture of a £10 online donation each time you go clipping bolts in the Peak can go a long way to providing the necessary funding. If you want to get more involved then there is always a need for volunteers to help with the hard work. Bolting is a difficult and time-consuming activity. If you are an experienced climber, or have a background in rope access, you could be a real asset to the Peak Bolt Fund.

If you wish to place some bolts yourself, please contact either the BMC or the Peak Bolt Fund first since they will be able to advise on bolting technique. It is important that all new bolts placed should be proper stainless steel bolts at least 10mm in diameter. For more information have a look at the BMC Better Bolts Campaign - thebmc.co.uk.

To donate to the **Peak Bolt Fund** or the **Gary Gibson Bolt Fund** go to **ukboltfund.org**. A contribution will be made to both of these bolt funds from the proceeds of this book.





The routes in this book are given one of two different grades depending on whether they are a trad route or a sport route. The table to the right gives a rough comparison of the sport and trad grade with other international grading systems.

On trad routes the majority of the gear is carried by the lead climber and is hand-placed.

A sport route is defined as one where all the major protection comes from gear fixed in the rock (bolts).

# **British Trad Grade**

1) Adjectival grade (Diff, VDiff, Severe, Hard Severe (HS), Very Severe (VS), Hard Very Severe (HVS), E1, E2,.... to E10).

An overall picture of the route including how well protected it is, how sustained and a general indication of the level of difficulty of the whole route.

# 2) Technical grade (4a, 4b, 4c,.... to 7b).

The difficulty of the hardest single move, or short section.

# Sport Grade

The sport grade is a measure of how hard it is going to be to get up a certain section of rock. It makes no attempt to tell you how hard the hardest move is, nor how scary a route is.

Sport Grade	British Trad Grade (for bold routes)	UIAA	USA
1	Mod	1	5.1
2	Moderate Diff	П	5.2
2+ 3a	Difficult VDiff Very Difficult	111-	5.3
3h	HVD Hard Very	111	5.4
3c	Sev	III+	5.5
4a	Severe HS UK tech 4a	IV-	5.6
4b	Hard Severe VS	IV IV+	5.7
4c 5a	Very Severe UK tech 4c 4c	V-	5.8
5a 5b	HVS	V	5.9
5c	5a Hard Very Severe 5b	V+ VI-	5.10a
6a	E1 5b	VI	
6a+	5c E2 5c	VI+ VII-	5.10b
6b	6a <b>E3</b>	VII	5.10c
6b+	6a		5.10d 5.11a
6c	6a E4 6a	VII+	5.11a
6c+	_ 1	VIII-	5.11c
7a	6b E5	VIII	5.11d
7a+	6b	VIII+	5.12a
7b	E6 6c		5.12b
7b+	E6 6c	IX-	5.12c
7c	6c F7 6c	IX	5.12d
7c+	7a	IX+	5.13a
8a	7a   E8	<u> </u>	5.13b
814		X	5.13c
8b	7a E9 7a		5.13d
8b+	72	X4	5.14a
8c	7b   E10   'a	XII-	5.14b
864		XI	5.14c
9a	7 <sub>b</sub> E11	XIA	5.14d
9a+		5 45 5	5.15a
9b	7b	XII]-	5.15b
9b+		XII	5.15c

# **Colour Coding**

The routes are all given a colour-coded dot corresponding to a grade band. The colour represents a level that a climber should be happy at, hence sport routes tend to be technically harder than the equivalent coloured trad routes because the climber doesn't need to worry about the protection.

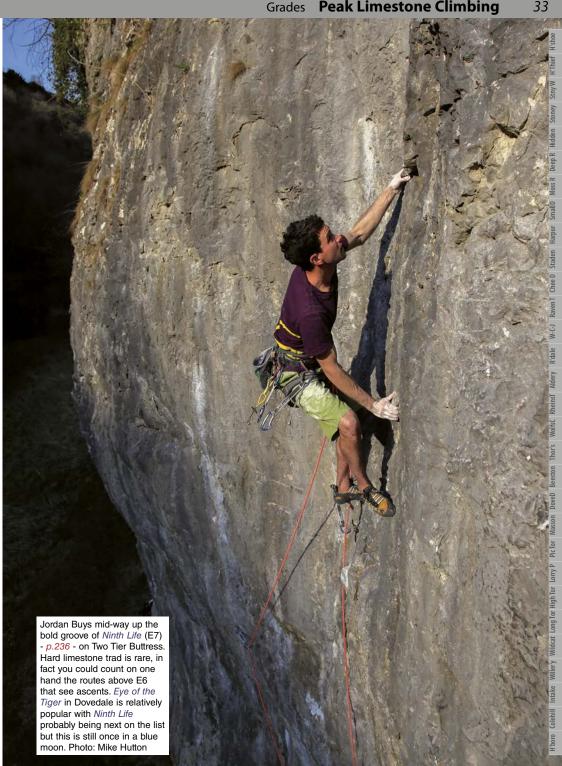
**Green Spots** Beginners - everything at grade **Severe/4c and under**.

Orange Spots Experienced - HS to HVS/5a to 6a+ inclusive. General ticking routes.

Red Spots Advanced - E1 to E3/6b to 7a inclusive. The next level to push yourself on.

Black Spots Expert - E4 to E6/7a+ to 7c+. Hard routes for dedicated climbers.

White Spots Elite - E7/8a and above. The hardest routes for the world's best climbers.



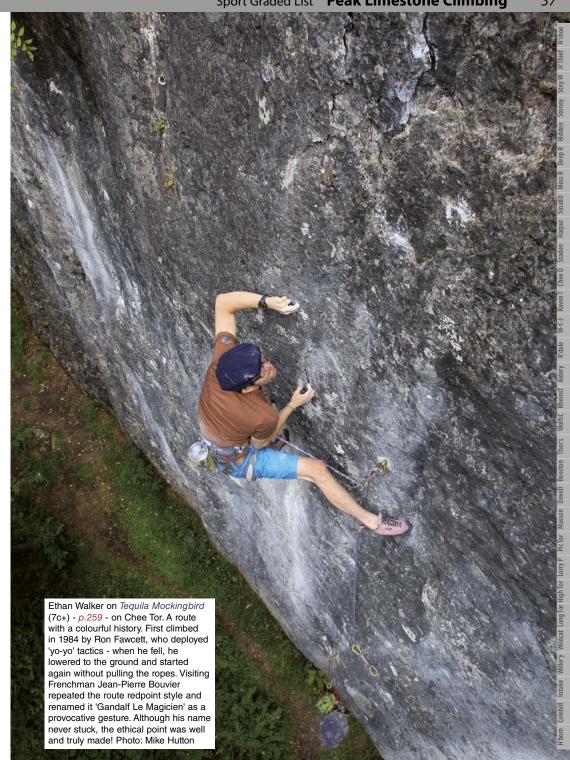
Since 2003 the routes on Peak Limestone have been open for voting on stars and grades on UKC and Rockfax and the graded lists here are based on the many votes received. In the middle and lower grades the voting numbers are substantial and the concensus is well established. In the higher grades the votes from actual ascents are more limited and, being Peak Limestone, holds are sometimes shed which can affect grades

are sometimes shed which can affect grades	
significantly. If you disagree with the list then	
please let us know by voting on the Logbooks	
on - UKClimbing.com	
on ortonnong.com	
9a *** Mutation	
*** Roofolution	
*** Stevolution	
** Hubble	292
8c+	
*** Evolution	294
*** Kaabah	
** The Bastard	321
The Bastara	021
8c	
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8b+  ** The Anatomy Act	076
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Miccoa The Mid life Choic Opposite	
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44 D	estination Planner	Routes	up to 4c		6b to 7a	7a+ to 7c+	8a and up	Mod to S		E1 to E3	E4 to E6	E7 and up	Approach	Sun	Shelt- ered	Dry in Rain	Multi- pitch	Restric- tions	Seepage	Summary	Page
H'sh	Horseshoe Quarry	265	23	S <sub>1</sub>	oort Rout	es 5			4 4	rad Rout	es 2		4 - 8 min	Sun and shade						Probably the most popular crag in the book with loads of well-bolted sport	54 eous
Mous Mary Janua avean	Horse-Thief Quarry	20	1	12	7	-		-	-	-	-		1 min	X	Sheltered					routes in the mid-grades. A good suntrap.  A small roadside crag with a set of close-packed sport routes. Popular with instructors to teach leading. Sunny, sheltered and quick-drying.	82 H
Area et Stnyw	Stoney West	61	_	14	30	-	-	1	9	4	3	-	10 min	Lots of sun	Sheltered					Instructions to learn reading. Suring, sheltered and quick-drying.  Stoney's little brother. A natural crag with mostly sport routes. Some quality routes in a hidden location. Quick-drying and sheltered.	86 H
ey A	Stoney	236	-	6	19	11	7	7	49	72	65	-	6 - 15 min	Lots of sun	Sheltered	Dry T	Kutti-pite			Grand old venue with superb trad climbs in a busy setting and a busy sport buttress. Lots of historical classics with some polish but a year-round venue.	97 Stands
	Hidden Quarry	23	-	8	13	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	5 min	Sun and shade	Sheltered					Part of the vast quarry workings opposite Stoney. The two walls covered each give a decent set of technical wall climbs. Sun or shade and sheltered.	132 ladge
ton Area S 4 550W 8 deaq ueppiH	Deep Rake	12	-	1	5	6	-	-	_	-	-	-	10 min	From mid morning	Sheltered					An old lead vein mine with a steep wall of sport routes. A bit dusty but good climbing and very sheltered and sunny.	138 geal
Moss R	Moss Rake	36	0	17	19	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	15 min	Lots of sun						A big open quarry with one excellent slabby wall and a couple of lesser sections. There may be more development but not of the same quality.	142 yss
Ullems	Smalldale	59	-	10	35	8	-	-	\$	\$	-	-	<b>A</b> 6 - 8 min	Evening		Dry To in the rain				North-facing walls with a good set of sport routes. A nice evening venue in summer. The best routes are in the 7a range.	152 gle w
	Harpur Hill	390	9	190	140	7	-	-	24	20	-	-	8 - 20 min	Sun and shade						The most extensive of the quarries with lots of sport routes on some good buttresses. Some poor sectors and it can be cold. Great on summer evenings.	162 Indu
Harpur Staden	Staden Quarry	75	0	2	10	15	0	-	14	26	8	-	1 - 10 min	Not much sun	Sheltered				Seepage	Two north-facing areas: a fine trad quarry and a steep natural sport buttress. A good venue for hot days.	202 staden
Chee Dale	Chee Dale	545	-	10	119	192	61	1	25	71	64	2	15 - 30 min	Sun and shade	Sheltered	Dry To in the rain	Multi-pitch		Seepage	The most extensive area in the book with sport and trad routes on natural buttresses. Sun and shade as required. Not much in the lower grades.	216 g
Dale Dale	Raven Tor	88	-	-	2	<b>3</b> 0	55	-	-	-	-	-	Roadside Roadside	Lots of sun		Dry V in the rain			Seepage	One of the country's most important hard crags with world-famous routes in the upper grades. A huge suntrap but seepage is a problem.	290 Laven 1
F:)-M	Water-cum-Jolly	282	1	6	51	81	35	-	11	39	54	1	5 - 25 min	Sun and shade		Dry T in the rain			Seepage	A mixture of mid-grade trad buttresses and hard sport crags on opposite banks of the river. Well sheltered providing sun or shade.	306 ₹
I!W R'dale	Ravensdale	42	-	-	-	-	-	2	24	12	4	-	15 min	Afternoon			Multi-pitch			Multi-pitch trad routes on a towering crag with some great lines. Few harder routes and some polish on the classics. Bird restriction in spring.	342 es
Central	Aldery Cliff	30	_	-	-	-	-	2	21	7	-	-	Roadside Roadside	Morning	Sheltered					An old east-facing quarry with a good set of slabby easier routes. Quick to access and in a secluded location. Some loose rock following tree damage.	353 Aldery
	Rheinstor	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	5	-	-	2 min	Afternoon	Sheltered					A small wall in an idyllic setting by a river. Short and bouldery routes on pockets.	358 supplies
le Area	Wolfscote Dale	58	_	-	-	-	-	2	16	28	12	-	10 - 25 min		!				Seepage	Three small trad butresses widely spaced in a picturesque dale. Mid-to-hard trad route with a few little gems to seek out. One bird restriction in spring.	366 Slow
<u>_</u>	Thor's Cave	17	_	-	-	4	5	-	8	8	2	-	15 - 20 min	Shalle		Dry Ton the rain			Seepage	A very popular (with walkers) cave with hard sport routes and a trad wall.  Some seepage but cool when dry.	374 sign
pex	Beeston Tor	45	-	-	-	3	2	1	14	18	7	-	12 - 15 min				Auti-pitch		-	A beautiful suntrap crag with fine routes in the mid-to-hard grades. Some great classics and multi-pitch routes. Year-round climbing.	380 osto
OQ DoveD N	Dovedale	134	-	1	13	6	2	\$	28	42	<b>3</b> 6	3	15 - 35 min		Sheltered	Dry V in the rain			Seepage	A set of pinnacles and buttresses with mostly trad routes in sunny and shady settings. Some great classics.	392
OQ DoveD Masson PicTor Lorry	Masson Lees	77	6	15	42	14	_	-	-	-	-	-	10 min	Sun and shade	Sheltered				Seepage	A quarry with a decent set of sport routes in the mid-grades. Some friable rock. Sunny and shady walls.	424 OSSEW
PicTor I	Pic Tor	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	2	-	5 min	Not much sun	Sheltered				Constraint	This small natural buttress of trad routes has some good climbing on pockets. Very shady and seldom busy.	433 log
~ <b>_</b>	Lorry Park Quarry	29	-	-	8	177	3	-	-	-	1	-	2 min	Early morning	Sheltered				1	Grotty quarry with a decent wall of mid-to-hard sport routes. Shady but not the nicest location.	436
igh Tor Ltg	High Tor	94	_	2	8	9	2	1	7	26	<b>3</b> 9		12 - 15 min				Multi-pitch		Saanana	The best natural limestone crag in the Peak with stunning routes and rock. Superb lines and climbing, little seepage and plenty of sun.	441 Jol Buon
nim teopim lo <u>l</u> fuor luot un tered. Matlock Area	Long Tor Quarry	19	-	-	6	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	5 min	Not much sun		Dry V in the rain			3 Sanana	A secluded wall with hard sport routes in a very shady setting just seconds from the busy A6.	
lat lo	Wildcat	60	_	-	3	4	-	2	30	12	9	-	15 - 30 min	Difference	Sheltered		Multi-pitch	Restrictions	Seenane	A fine natural crag with multi-pitch trad routes in the lower-to-mid grades.  West-facing with little seepage.	462 spin
Viller'y I	Willersley	62		-	0	2		-	24	21	14	1	3 - 5 min	Not much sun	Sheltered	Dry T in the rain			0	North-facing and with access problems, but good routes on some decent cracks, corners and walls. A good hot weather crag.	475 Allie
ntake C	Intake Quarry	176	4	42	80	4	-	1	6	29	10	-	8 - 15 min	Sun and shade						A large quarry with a number of extensive walls of varying quality. One big trad wall but mostly sport. Sun and shade as required.	488 em
oogii	Colehill Quarry	36		19	15	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	i i	Lots of sun				Restrictions		A sunny quarry with technical sport routes. Access problems.	505 ille
boro	Harborough Rocks	58	- 11	467	720	420	177	40	16	1	222	1	10 min	From mid morning	Windy		ho rau			Some delightful easy routes on a nice hillside. Only short but perfect rock quality and very sunny.	510
	Iotals	3057	44	467	730	428	177	64	341	462	332	1	raded symbol me	ans tha	u only so	ome of t	ne route	es - are	sneiter	red / are dry in the rain / are multi-pitch / are restricted	