



Where to Go: Local Rock Climbing

Want to try some outdoor climbing but don't know where to go?

Here are some local climbing spots that are within reasonable driving distance. Participants are reminded that climbing is **inherently dangerous**, and should only climb outside with proper training and equipment. For more information, ask any Adventure Assistant.

Top Rope Sites

Hidden Rocks- 30 minute drive time – 40 minute hike

Great for beginners thru advanced climbers. Hidden Rocks has something for everyone. A gem of a training ground, perfect for the end-of-the day blitz to nail a few lines, the mid-week escape to solitude and top-roping, bouldering solitude, or just hiking in an incredible setting of forests, rock, and waterfalls.

Route information:

http://www.rockclimbing.com/routes/North_America/United_States/Virginia/North_Western/Hidden_Rocks/

Guide Book: Climbing Rockingham County by Lester Zook

Directions:

Take 42 south towards Dayton until you hit 257 West. Follow 257 for several miles. Road takes several sharp turns so follow signs closely. Take a right turn at the 257 Grocery Store, drive about a mile until you see a sign for Hone Quarry on your right. Enter Hone Quarry. Follow Yellow Blazed Trail behind parking lot. Follow trail, crossing stream several times. Watch for trail to turn right up hill. Follow uphill to rocks.

Elizabeth Furnace- 60 minute drive time – 5 minute hike

Well worth the drive for a good selection of sandstone climbs from 5.-3-5.11. top is easily accessed from a trail on the north side of cliff.

Follow 81 north to exit 296 Strasburg Turn right on VA-55 toward Strasburg 1.5 miles. Turn right at N Massanutten St/Old Valley Pike/US-11/VA-55 0.2 mi. Turn left at E King St/VA-55 Continue to follow VA-55 4.4 mi. Continue for about 1.5 mile past the fish hatchery – parking is on the right.

Route Information:

http://www.rockclimbing.com/routes/North_America/United_States/Virginia/North_Western/Elizabeth_Furnace/

Bouldering Sites

Rawley Springs- 20 minute drive time

Great for those new to bouldering.

Directions:

Take 33 West for about 15 to 20 miles. Once you get past the farmland, just as you enter into the woods, look for Rawley Spring Rd (847) on your left. Turn left onto Rawley Spring Rd. Follow gravel road. Take first right fork and then stay on the road till you hit gravel parking area. Hike up the trail on the left side of parking area to rocks.

Second Mountain-30 minute drive time

More geared towards intermediate or advanced climbers. The area has steep bouldering with problems ranging from V0 to V11, with most problems in the V4 to V11 range. There are many projects open both at and above the current hardest lines. The area is steep and thus there aren't many easier problems that are of good quality. There are about 50 problems, which makes this a good day trip area.

Directions:

Take 33 West for about 20 miles. After you pass Rawley Springs drive about 5 minutes till you see Second Mountain Road on your right. Turn right onto Second Mountain Road. Hike up the trail past the gate and take a right to reach the boulders. There are three areas to boulder along this trail.

Hidden Boulders-20 minute drive time

Directions:

Follow directions above to Hidden Rocks. Follow trail until it turns right up the hill. Keep going straight along stream. Follow trail for 1/3 mile till you see orange streamer leading up hillside to your left. Follow trail up hill to rocks on top.

