

Adirondack Rock

A Rock Climber's Guide



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Published by: Adirondack Rock Press, LLC
2795 Henneberry Road, Pompey, NY 13138
www.adirondackrock.com

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First edition published 2008
Reprint, 2010

Printed in the United States of America

16 15 14 13 12 11 10 2 3 4 5

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ISBN: 0-9814702-0-3

ISBN: 978-0-9814702-0-7

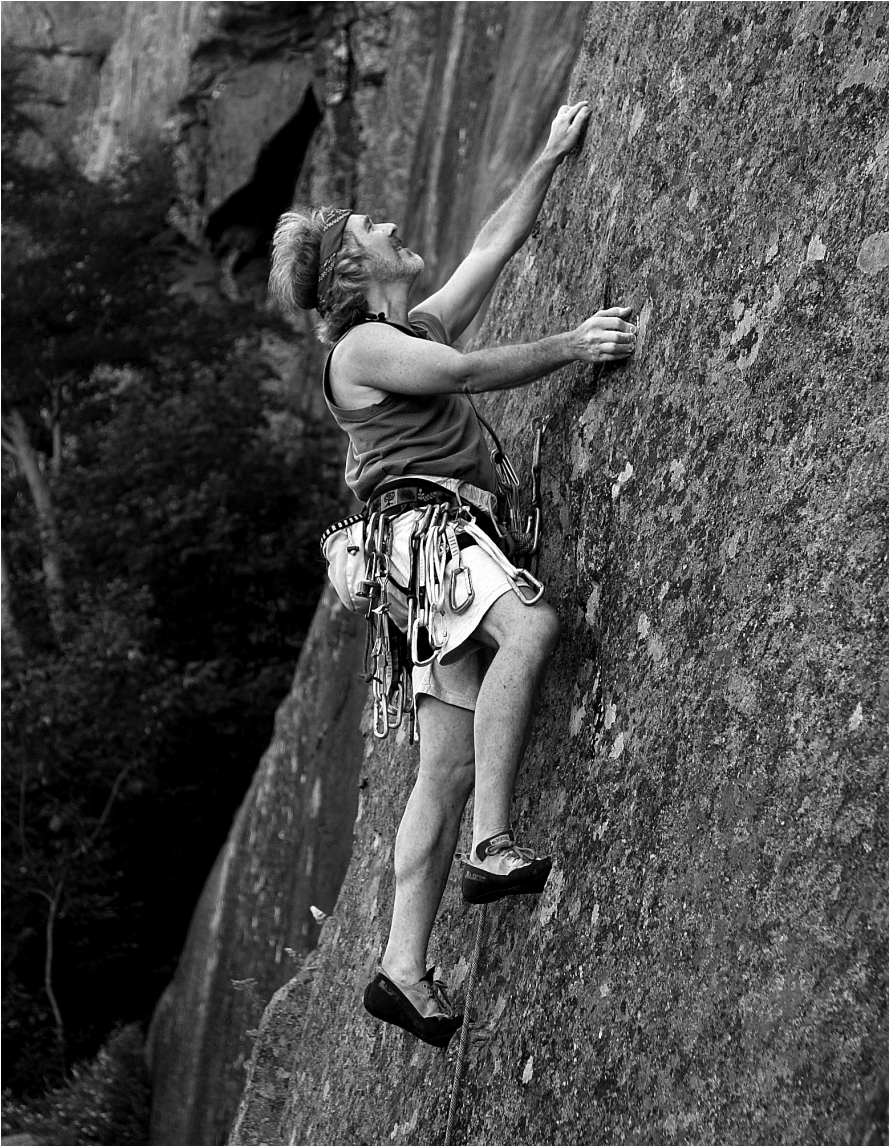
Written by Jim Lawyer and Jeremy Haas
Layout and design by Jim Lawyer and Jeremy Haas
Printed by KinaneCo Printing Systems, Syracuse, NY
Edited by Susan J. Cohan

Photographs by the authors unless noted otherwise.

Front cover: Emilie Drinkwater, **Redneck on a Rope** (5.10d), one of the new backcountry routes on the summit of Snowy Mountain.

Back Cover: Jean-Pierre (Peewee) Ouellet on **Fire in the Sky** (5.13c), presently the most difficult route in the park. Photo by Olivier Ouellette.

Title page: Birches at the Spider's Web. Painting by Lucie Wellner.

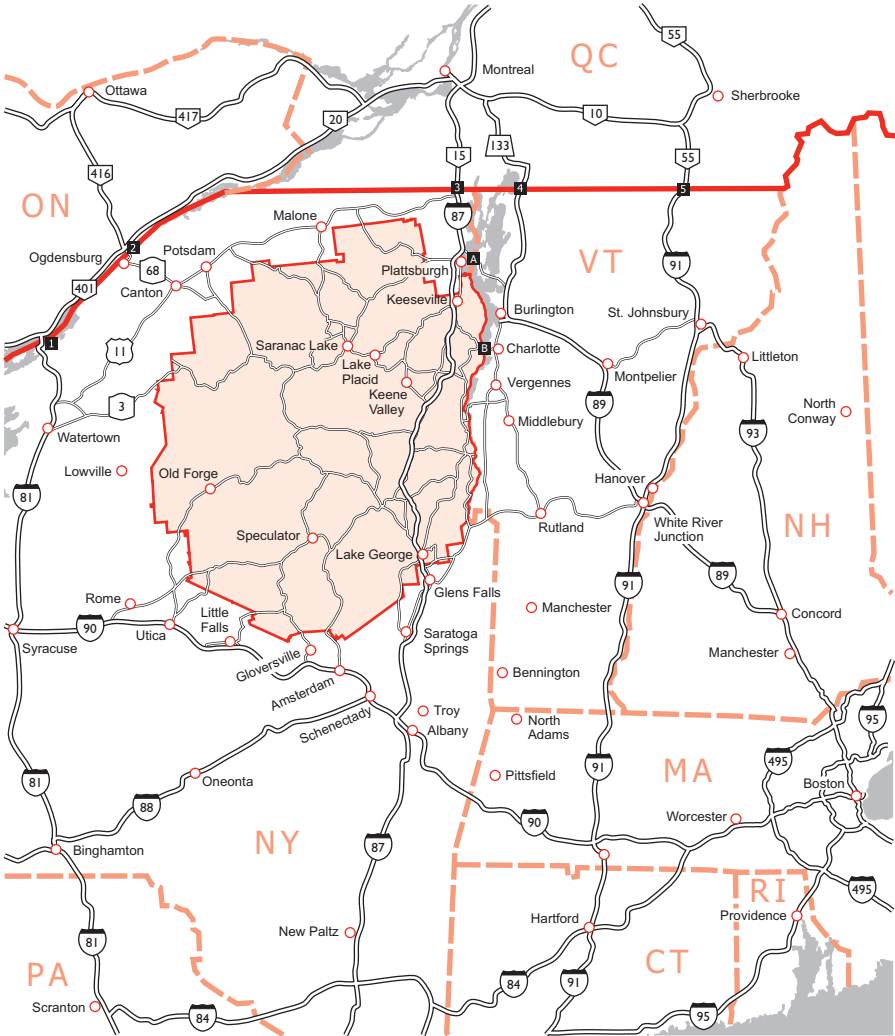


DENNIS LUTHER
1953–2007

In loving memory of our friend and climbing partner.

MILEAGES BETWEEN GATEWAY CITIES AND DESTINATIONS IN THE PARK

Gateway City	Destination					
	Lake George	Speculator	Old Forge	Keene Valley	Keeseville	Saranac Lake
Syracuse	166	113	94	194	217	222
Albany	61	87	143	121	145	148
Burlington	98	96	146	69	48	80
Montreal	164	184	206	110	80	112
Watertown	154	114	71	142	160	112
Potsdam	139	118	115	87	89	59



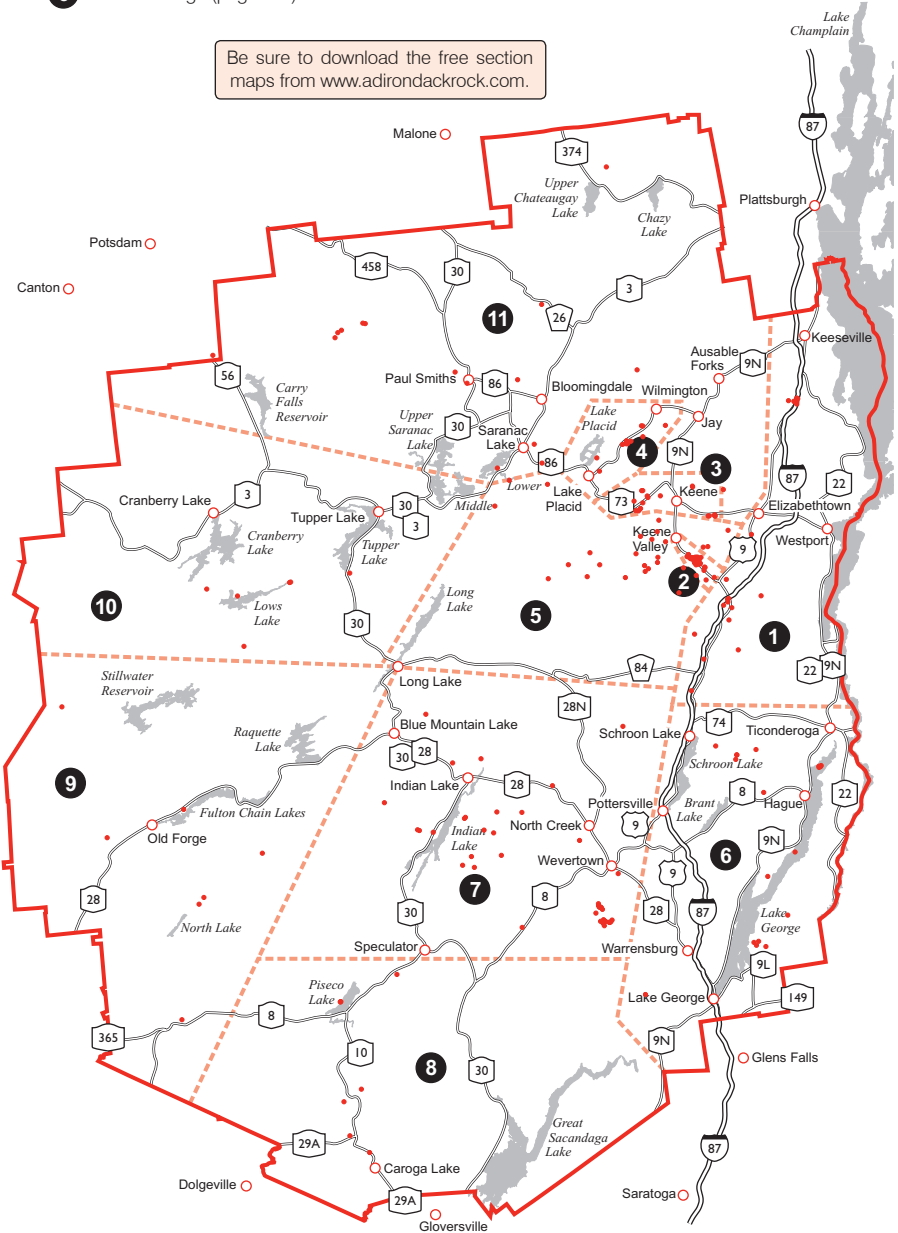
- A Grand Isle–Plattsburgh
- B Charlotte–Essex

Border Crossings

- 1 Thousand Island Bridge
- 2 Ogdensburg–Prescott Bridge
- 3 Lacolle / Champlain
- 4 Saint Armond / Highgate Springs
- 5 Stanstead / Derby Line

- 1** Lake Champlain (page 33)
- 2** Chapel Pond Pass (page 149)
- 3** Keene (page 265)
- 4** Wilmington Notch (page 315)
- 5** High Peaks (page 345)
- 6** Lake George (page 429)
- 7** Indian Lake (page 475)
- 8** Southern Mountains (page 545)
- 9** Old Forge (page 569)
- 10** Cranberry Lake (page 585)
- 11** Northern Mountains (page 595)

Be sure to download the free section maps from www.adirondackrock.com.



Acknowledgments

Producing this guide was a monumental effort involving the collaboration of many climbers. Those who made first ascents deserve ultimate credit. It's because of their dedication and perseverance that we have so many routes to climb.

We thank those who helped with background research. Don Mellor was always accessible and willing to share his insights and opinions. Without his "blue bin"—the collection of notes, correspondence, and route reporting dating back to Trudy Healy—, this project would not have been possible. Dick Tucker deserves special mention for his generous diligence in uncovering historical gems. Other contributors include Jim Goodwin, Ed Palen, Jim Shimberg, and John Turner.

Next, we thank those who accompanied us on forays into the mountains to research this guide, including Leslie Ackerman, Tim Beaman, Josh Bingham, Michelle Burlitch, Thomas Campbell, Scot Carpenter, Simon Catterall, Lori Crowningshield, Michael Dimitri, Emilie Drinkwater, Tom DuBois, Mike Emelianoff, Jay Harrison, Neal Knitel, Stuart Linke, Robert Livingston, Colin Loher, Dennis Luther, Don Mellor, Mark Meschinelli, Daniel Mosny, Patrick Munn, Ken Murphy, Colin O'Connor, Ed Palen, Tom Rosecrans, Justin Sanford, Erika Schielke, Bill Schneider, Karl Swisher, Joe Szot, Jared Thayer, Andy Tuthill, Simeon Warner, Tad Welch, Jesse Williams, and Tom Yandon.

A special thanks to Karen Kwasnowski for her GIS expertise, and Sue Cohan for copy editing, John Thackray for editing advice, Kelsey O'Connor for photo editing, and Colin O'Connor, Tad Welch and Lucie Wellner for their artistic contributions. Our pilots deserve recognition for flying us around while we leaned out the window with our cameras—Mike Klein, Jim Barrett, and Jim Bisson. Several organizations were very helpful—The Mountaineer for tracking down first ascensionists, and the Department of Environmental Conservation for their bits about peregrines, timber rattlesnakes, and reviewing the backcountry rules and regulations.

There are many contributing writers who provided material from which we adapted content, including Bruce Bandorick, Scot Carpenter, Arien Cartrette, Jay Harrison, Tom Rosecrans, Will Roth, Justin Sanford, Jon Strazza, and Dick Tucker.

Many climbers contributed essays to help portray Adirondack climbing in a different voice, including Gary Alan, Jason Brechko, Loïc Briand, David Buzzelli, Jim Cunningham, Julien Déry, Michael Dimitri, Bill Dodd, Dominic Eisinger, Tony Goodwin, S. Peter Lewis, Colin Loher, Tom Rosecrans, Alan Rubin, Karl Swisher, Dick Tucker, Jim Vermeulen, Robert Weinman, and Tad Welch.

We've contacted many first ascensionists, who have our deep appreciation for subjecting themselves to our cold calls and dredging their memories to recount route details of long-ago climbs. These include Fred Abbuhl, Frank Abissi, Steve Adler, Dave Aldous, Gary Allan, Derek Amberman, Mark Arrow, Bruce Bandorick, Henry Barber, Tim Beaman, Martin Berzins, John Best, Paul Boissonneault, Chuck Boyd, Kevin Boyle, Al Breisch, Harry Brielman, David Buzzelli, Scot Carpenter, Bob Cartwright, Mike Caruso, Michael Christon, Dave Cilley, Russ Clune, Tom Condon, Ryan Crochiere, Kevin Crowl, Jim Cunningham, Jim Damon, David Legg, Julien Déry, Michael Dimitri, Bill Dodd, Mike Donahue, Emilie Drinkwater, Tom DuBois, Todd Eastman, Jeff Edwards, Dominic Eisinger, Mike Emelianoff, Dan Foster, Chris Fracchia, Dave Furman, Peter Gernassnig, Eric Gessner, Jim Gilman, Richard Goldstone, Tony Goodwin, Rich Gottlieb, Bill Griffith, Nick Gully, Bob Hall, Peter Harris, Steve Harris, Jay Harrison, Steve Hayashi, Mike Heintz, Bob Hey, David Hochschartner, Dave Hough, Chris Hyson, George Ide, Alan Jolley, Pete Kamitses, Tim Kelly, Jay Kullman, Butch Kinnon, Neal Knitel, Demetri Kolokotronis, Dave Lanman, Steve Larson, David Lent, Robert Livingston, Dennis Luther, John Mansberger, Will Mayo, Jim McCarthy, Don McGrath, Don Mellor, Louis-Philippe Ménard, Steve Mergenthaler, Mark Meschinelli, Peter Metcalf, Frank Minunni, Felix Modugno, Bill Moratz, Jonas Morelli, Todd Morgan, Bill Morris, Dan Mosny, Patrick Munn, Ken Nichols, Rolf Orsagh, Ian Osteyee, Ed Palen, Richard Parker, Charles Pechousek, Alden Pellett, Bernard Poisson, Mark Polinski, Patrick Purcell, Mark Rawdon, Rich Romano, Tom Rosecrans, Will Roth, Brian Rothery, Al Rubin, Jamie Savage, Bill Schneider, Bill Simes, Sam Slater, Craig Smith, Geoff Smith, Stanley Smith, Kevin Steele, Lincoln Stoller, R.L. Stolz, Karl Swisher, Mark Synnott, Joe Szot, Geoffrey Tabin, Jared Thayer, Gary Thomann, Bruce Thompson, Dick Tucker, Maxime Turgeon, John Turner, Andy Tuthill, Royce Van Evera, Jim Vermeulen, Craig Vollkommer, Nick Wakeman, Hobey Walker, Ed Webster, Robert Weinman, Tad Welch, Bill Widrig, Kris Wild, Dick Williams, Jesse Williams, Tom Yandon, and Nick Yardley.

There's also a long list of photographers, many of whom donated their photos, including Leslie Ackerman, Patrick Cadieux, Scot Carpenter, Arien Cartrette, Simon Catterall, Jeff Cochran, Jim Cunningham, Joel Dashnaw, Bill Dodd, Jessica Donovan, Todd Eastman, Jeff Edwards, Liam Griffin, Drew Haas, Autumn Harrison, Jay Harrison, Keenan Harvey (www.kennanharvey.com), Trudy Healy, Mike Heintz, Curtis Howard, Neal Knitel, David Le Pagne (www.davidlepagne.com), Rick Levinson (www.rlphoto.com), Andrew Linke, Colin Loher, Abraham Lustgarten (www.abrahm.com), Darren McGee, Jamie McNeill, Don Mellor, Louis-Philippe Menard, Mark Meschinelli, Ed Palen, Brie Rosecrans, Jamie Savage, Barb Schielke, Stanley Smith, Olaf Sötö (www.osphoto.com), Bill Sprengnether, R.L. Stolz, Karl Swisher, Dick Tucker, Andy Tuthill, Ben Uris, Royce Van Evera, Dave Vuono (www.davevuono.com), Nick Wakeman, Simeon Warner, Robert Weinman, Lucie Wellner, and Jesse Williams.

Read This First

Rock climbing is an inherently dangerous activity regardless of your level of skill and experience. It requires that you constantly assess and manage risk. You alone are responsible for your safety.

This book is not an instruction manual for climbing. Information in this book has been collected from a variety of sources, and, despite efforts to verify it, the authors and publisher make no guarantees as to its accuracy or reliability. The routes in the Adirondacks change—vegetation reclaims critical protection placements, rockfall alters sections of routes, the freeze-thaw action in winter loosens rocks, and once-open rock slides grow in and become unclimbable. Fixed protection is unreliable—pitons loosen and pull out; bolts rust and weaken; and anchors become old, rotten, sunbaked, or are removed by other parties.

**THE AUTHORS AND PUBLISHER OF THIS GUIDEBOOK ASSUME
NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR ACTIONS AND SAFETY.**

If there is any doubt, if you are nervous and scared, then don't do it—seek instruction or hire one of the excellent local guides.

Emergency Information

Search and rescue is under the authority of the DEC forest rangers. In an emergency, call the DEC's 24-hour emergency dispatch center at:

518.891.0235

Make sure you have as much information as possible—name of the injured, time and location of the accident, nature of the accident, description of the injuries, who is present to assist, and what type of response to prepare for—high-angle rescue versus a litter carry.

Other important numbers include the following:

518.897.1300	Forest ranger headquarters
518.897.1200	DEC general information
518.897.2000	New York State Police in Ray Brook

You can call 911, but that requires extra rerouting of the information, and if you have a cell phone, depending on the receiving tower, you could be dialing 911 in Vermont.

Self-Rescue

Many of the remote cliffs in the park require that climbers be self-sufficient and get themselves out of tight situations. If you can safely evacuate the injured person to a vehicle, there are several hospitals in and around the park. Be warned that there are regions of the park where the nearest hospital is more than an hour from the trailhead. If you do self-rescue, be sure to let the DEC rangers know after the fact.

IN THE PARK

Here are the larger medical facilities in the park, each of which has a 24-hour emergency room:

Elizabethtown	Elizabethtown Community Hospital, 75 Park Street	518.873.6377
Lake Placid	Adirondack Medical Center, 29 Church Street	518.523.3311
Saranac Lake	Adirondack Medical Center, 2233 NY 86	518.891.4141
Star Lake	Clifton Fine Hospital, 1014 Oswegatchie Trail	315.848.3351
Ticonderoga	Moses-Ludington Hospital, 1019 Wicker Street	518.585.2831

OUTSIDE THE PARK

Just outside the park boundary are more options:

Glens Falls	Glens Falls Hospital, 100 Park Street	518.926.1000
Gloversville	Nathan Littauer Hospital, 99 East State Street	518.725.8621
Plattsburgh	Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital, 75 Beekman Street	518.562.7500
Potsdam	Canton-Potsdam Hospital, 50 Leroy Street	315.265.3300
Utica	St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2209 Genesee Street	315.798.8100