

Beginners Wall (Wilyabrup) Climbing Guide

Krish Seewraj



Warning about Rock Climbing

Keep in mind that this is only a guide, it helps climbers to find out what climbs have been recorded and that is all. The information given is true and accurate to the best of the author's knowledge.

Remember climbing is an adventure sport and as such accidents may result in serious injury or death. The grades and descriptions may be subject to debate as many of the climbs have only had a few actual and/or known ascents. Therefore, be warned that you must exercise your own judgment with regard to the route location, description, difficulty and your ability to safely protect yourself from the risks of rock climbing.

You should not depend on any information gleaned from this mini-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 mini-guide, do not attempt it. When you use this mini-guide, you accept and acknowledge the risk that it may contain errors. The responsibility for your safety is solely yours.



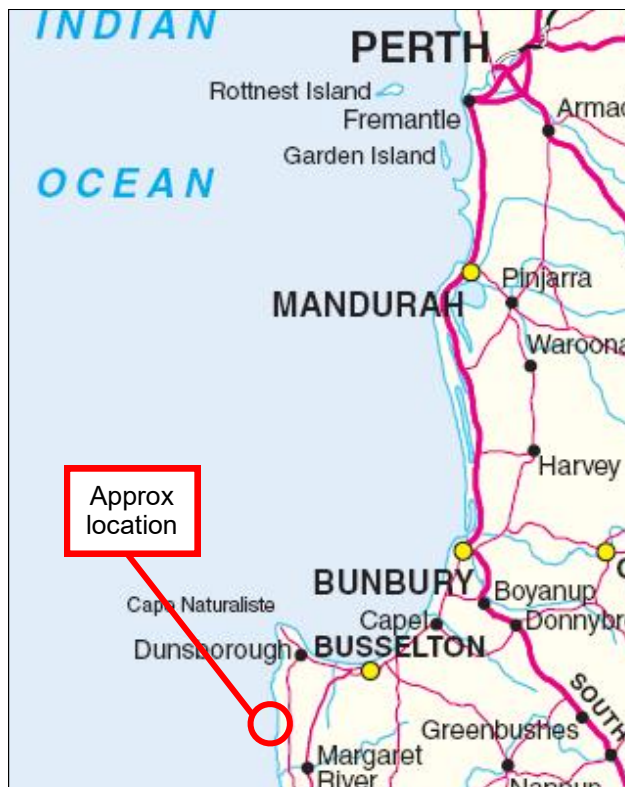
Walking to the top of Beginners Wall, with The Terrace just the left

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mechanical, without written permission
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Front cover image: Josh Hobby watching his footwork on Blurred Vision (10)
Rear cover image: Steve Sterling on the first ascent of a line that proved to live up to its name Spicy (13)

Introduction

Wilyabrup is the most frequented climbing area in the South West of Western Australia. The biggest walls of the main area are well documented on The Crag, and also in three climbing guides if you are lucky to find one as they are all out of print. This mini-guide provides information on one of the lesser frequented and smaller crags all of which lie north of the main area of Wilyabrup. These stretch for some 1.2km along the coast, and all are best accessed from the car park that is used to get to the main cliffs.



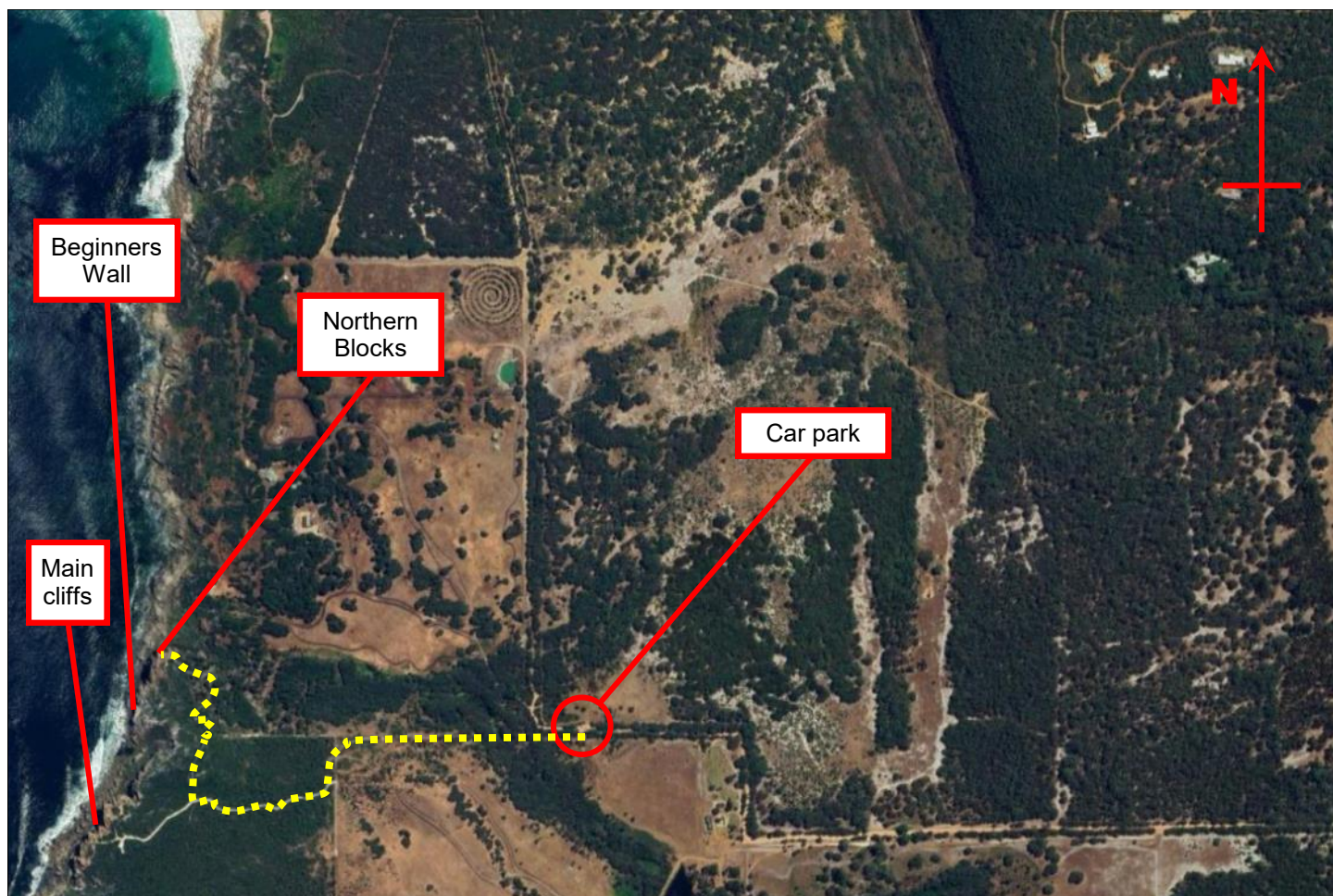
Location and Access

The crag is approx. 260km drive from Perth. From Busselton head south on the Bussell Highway, towards Margaret River. Approximately 18km down this road turn right onto Metricup Road. Where it ends turn left onto Caves Road, and after 2km right onto Wilyabrup Road. Follow this gravel road for 2.5km and just after a couple of 90 degree bends you'll find a parking area from where you can walk to all of the crags.

It is approx. 1km from the carpark to this crag, which is close to The Terrace. Beginners Wall is best accessed by walking in from the Northern Blocks and abseiling in. To get the Northern Blocks and Terrace walk to the Main Cliffs but before getting there head north on the Cape to Cape track. Turn left off this before you get to the metal staircase.

Future Development

If anyone would like to share their past or future experiences in this area, details of new or listed routes as well as any reference issues, typos or mistakes in this mini-guide email them to kermit@inet.net.au.



Rock, Protection & Grading

The Willyabrup cliffs comprise gneiss, a layered hybrid of granite and sedimentary rock, so has a smoother feel than the granite outcrops to the north and south, such as Moses Rocks and Cosy Corner, which are detailed in other mini-guides. The rock is well featured so there are plenty of holds, however there are several routes which rely on small friction holds that take a little getting used to. Being a lesser used crags there may be some loose rock, as such care is required.

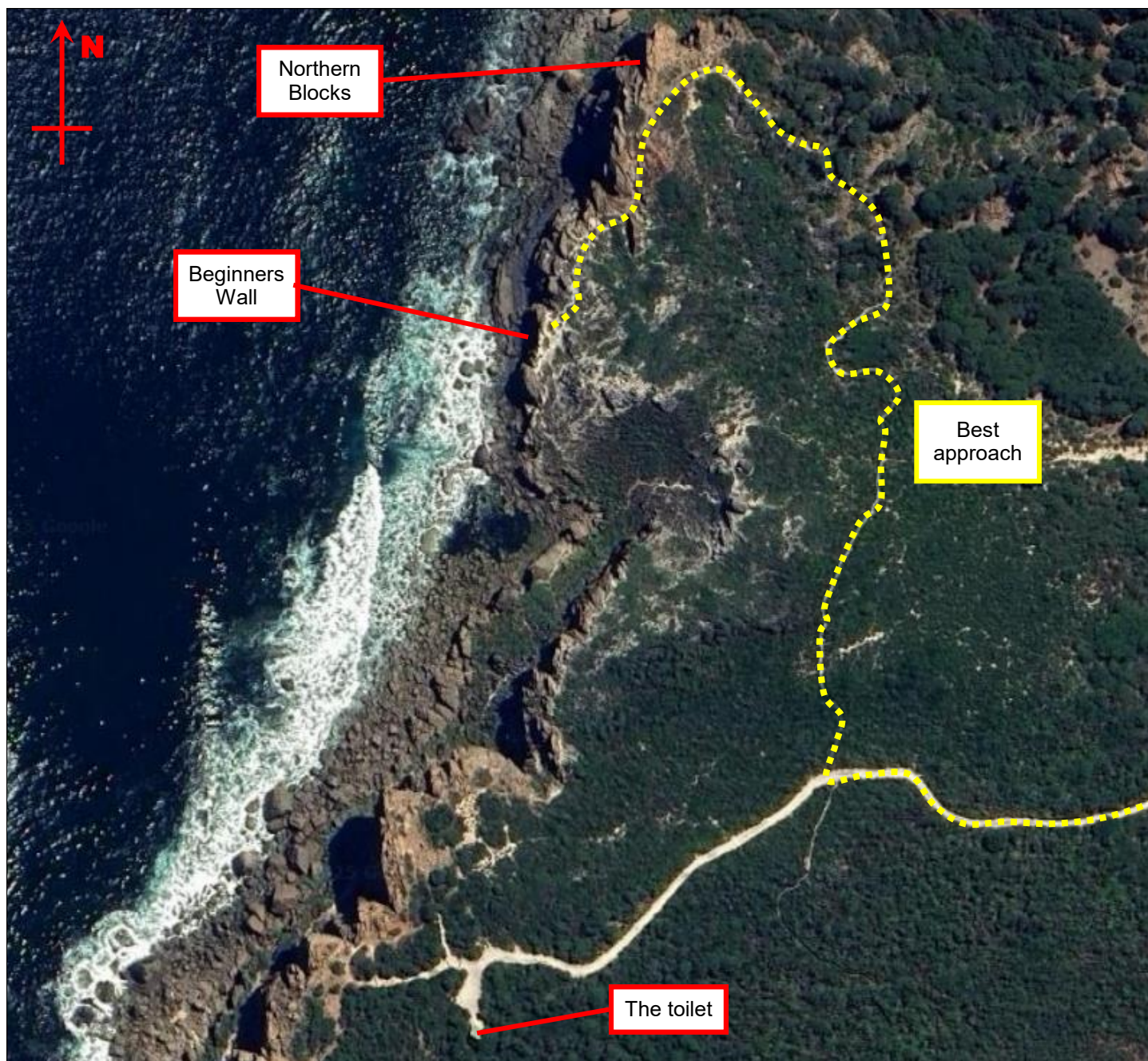
This crag offers both slabby and some reasonably steep and highly featured walls, on which all lines are traditional. The routes are mostly low grades, there are however a couple of more testy lines. This place is very close to the ocean and as such on big swell days gets battered, so there is very little loose rock. On a calm day it is a wonderful place to be but you have to respect the ocean as king waves can come from nowhere.

Gear is plentiful and the name of the crag is apt, providing a great place to get used to lacing routes with lots of runners. There are a heap of climbs in single digits allowing rest spots to fiddle about and get used to selecting and placing gear. The top can at time prove a little more problematic for finding anchors, but there are some bolts including some unusual ones to help with that.

A full and varied rack can be used here.



General Area Topo



Beginners Wall



Close Call (10m, 14)*

An engaging climb up the vertical rounded crack up the south facing wall at the far right of the crag (unknown).

The Ramp (10m,10)

The wide right trending crack eventually leads to a left leaning ramp, both of which provides a very pleasant romp (unknown).

Windy Wall (10m, 14)

Use the horizontal breaks to gain the right edge of the ledge, step into and follow the crack (unknown).

Claw Fish (10m, 14)

Start a few meters left of Windy Wall from the ledge the crack offers a couple of fun moves (unknown).

Fishy Finger (10m, 12)

Jug through the middle of the overlap to reach the ledge, then follow the left most crack (unknown).

The Stairs (10m, 5)

Stroll up the gully (unknown).

Leg Up (8m, 6)

A right trending line just left of the gully (unknown).

Looking for Chewie (8m, 5)

A Hans Solo amble up the right leaning line (Steve Sterling, Krish Seewraj 2014).

Cat Walk (8m, 5)

A steep lower wall leads to an easy scramble (unknown).

Beginners Wall



Crab Crawl (8m, 12)

The shallow corner crack and over the shield to the finishing slab (unknown).

Blurred Vision (8m, 10)

Head for and climb the blocky crack (unknown).

Standing to Attention (8m, 10)

Step into the sentry box and climb the slab (Lou Fischer, Krish Seewraj 2014).

Comic Strip (8m, 12)

The right facing corner (unknown).

Barely There (7m, 18)

The right hand side of the steep wall on sketchy gear, then over the wall above on rounded holds (Krish Seewraj, Steve Sterling 2014).

Seaside Circus (7m, 15)

Surprisingly comfortable considering the wall has very limited gear. Through the crack to finish (unknown).

Layback Jack (7m, 17)**

A must do and a shame it isn't longer, the obvious right facing corner with bomber gear (unknown).

Nose Job (5m, 23)

Strenuously pull over the nose (Kim Carrigan 1986).

Beginners Wall



Hot (5m, 15)*

The crack immediately left of the nose leads to great flakes to the side of the nose (Krish Seewraj, Steve Sterling 2014).

Spicy (5m, 13)

An awkward start to gain the crack on the arête just left of Hot (Steve Sterling, Krish Seewraj 2014).

Second Chance (7m, 15)

Further right past a wide gully this line has a deceptive start up the right facing wall into a small recess before launching up the crack above (Krish Seewraj, Lou Fischer 2014).

Rope Cutter (7m, 11)

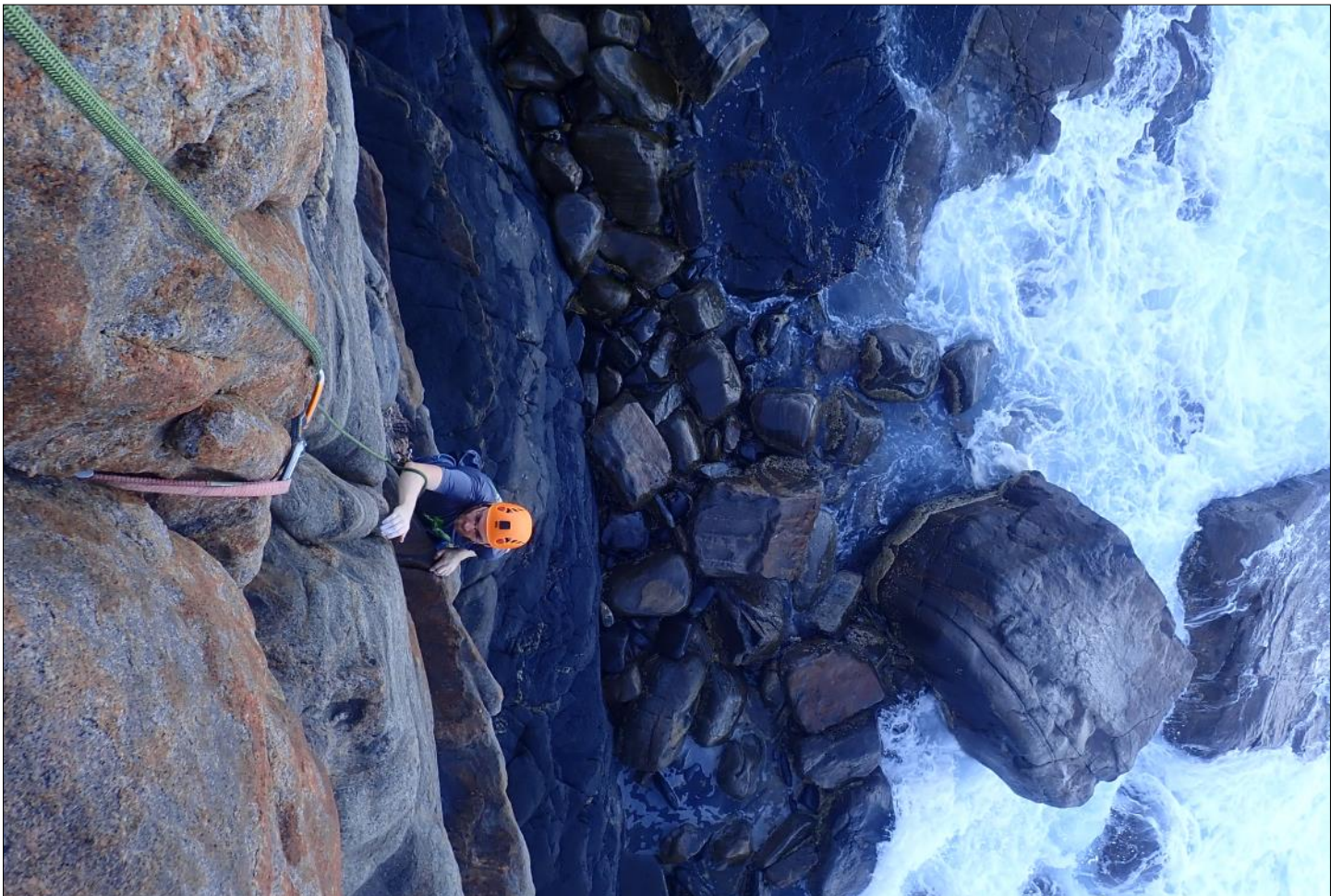
A nicely sustian direct lien with a trick move halfway up (Sam Avery, Krish Seewraj, Josh Hobby 2026).

Worthy (6m, 13)

From the ledge above Second Chance the right facing corner provides a fun exit route (Lou Fischer,



Rob Saunders on the tricky, sustained, and surprisingly exposed upper section of Windy Wall (14)



Alan Browne with a wet wave washed base below on a not so calm day, as he follows up Claw Fish (14)



Sam Avery going ground up on the first ascent of Rope Cutter (11)



The must do gear gobbling line of the crag may be short but is so sweet, Layback Jack (17)



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