

Giscome

The Granodiorite cliffs and boulders overlooking Eaglet Lake at Giscome possess some of Prince George's most accessible and popular climbing and bouldering. At present routes have been developed at 7 separate cliffs (Dance Park, Roadside Bluff, Eaglet Bluff, The Far Side, The Further Side, and Giscome II (Giscome West) in the area with each cliff having its own nature in terms of style of climbing, isolation, and approach. The style of climbing present at these cliffs is primarily high angle slabs with several slightly overhanging jug hauls and crimp festes available to provide variety. Bring a standard rack for protection as the majority of the routes are mixed. Extra small stoppers and cams would be beneficial to avoid long runouts and long slings are very useful at the belays. The MacGregor Mountains to east, Tabor Mountain to the west, and surrounding agricultural areas provide a stellar backdrop for the climbing. Trent Hoover's excellent guide to Giscome's bouldering (the G boulders) is available at www.drtopo.com. Giscome has relatively lengthy climbing history (at least for Prince George) with development beginning in the late 1970 and -early 1980s.

Protection ranges from sport style clip-ups to mixed and traditionally protected routes.

Overview

Rock: Granodiorite

Quality: **

Season: March to October

Height: up to 20m

Protection: Primarily mixed with some sport

Quantity and Difficulty:

39 climbs on 6 bluffs

Up to 5.7

5.8-5.10

5.11 +

Gear: Std, bug dope, long slings, small nuts

Giscome RoadSide Bluff

Directly across from the eastern parking pullout is the Roadside bluff.

A. **Scaredy Cat. 5.8.** ** Fixed. 5 bolts. 12m

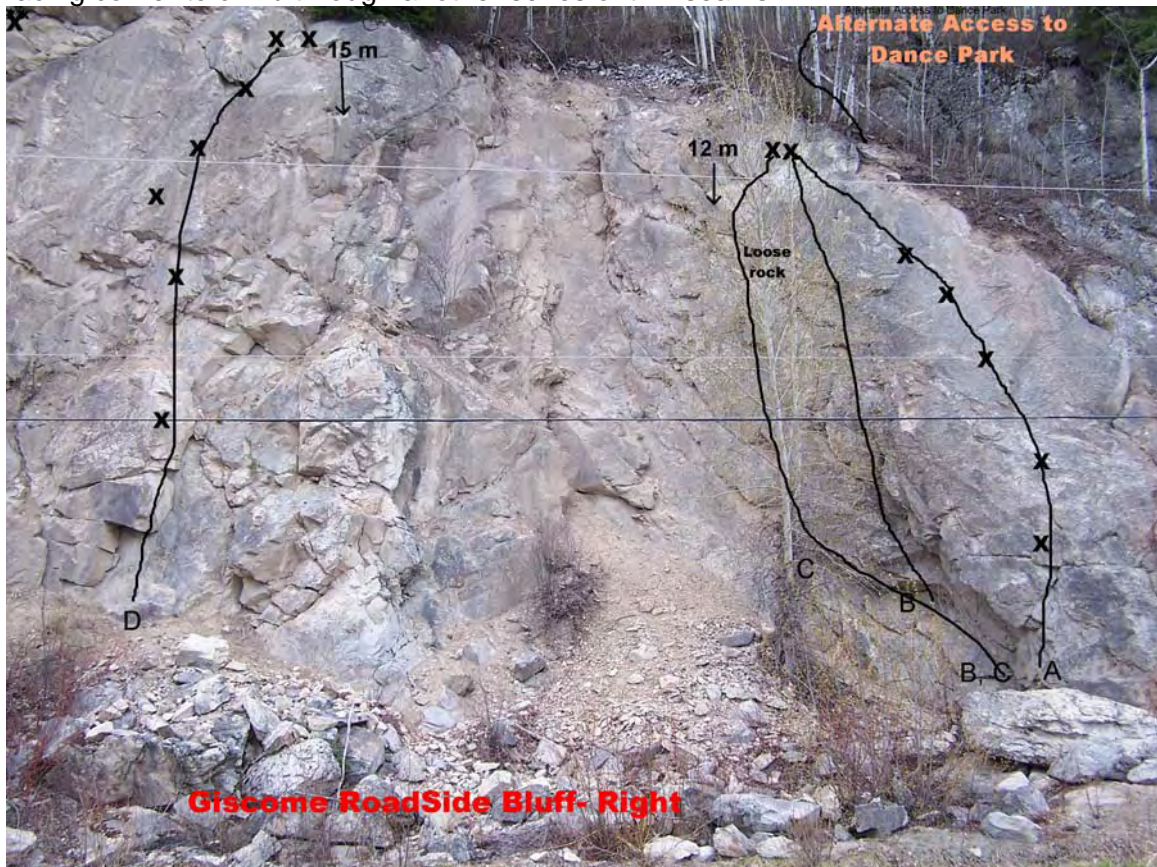
(FA: Josee Saindon and Laurie Saindon, 1997). A nice line up a beautiful granite slab. A long sling is useful to sling a flake near the top to avoid running it out.

B. **Randy's Route. 5.9+.** * Trad. Pro to 1.5", small nuts. 12m.

(FA: Randy Kissel, 2000). A sustained, bold lead climbing though the obvious left facing corner to link a series of small seams. Watch for loose rock at 10 m.

C. **Dieter's Route. 5.10-.** * Trad. Pro to 1". 12m

(FA: Dieter Ayers, 2000). Another sustained, bold climb moving left from the left facing corner to climb through another series of thin seams.



D. **Mr. Clean. 5.10 +.** ** Fixed. 5 bolts. 15m.

(Randy Kissel, 2003). A sequential technical testpiece requiring creativity and flexibility to send its sustained crux. Deserves more traffic than it receives.

E. **When the Dust Settles. 5.9.** Fixed. 5 bolts. 15 m.

(Chris Small, 2003). Unfortunately the dust hasn't, otherwise this route would be a Giscome classic- well protected and moderately sustained.



Approximately 100m west of When the Dust Settles along the road are the following climbs.

- F. **The Nobel Prize. 5.6.** * Trad. Standard Rack. 7 m. (Chris Small, 2004). An excellent introductory gear lead climbs through a crack adjacent to a series of blast holes.
- G. **Ben's Brush with the Goddess of Compensation. 5.6.** * Mixed. Standard Rack. 7m. (Chris Small, Ben Heemserk 2004). Sometimes reality nearly mimics television. Named for an eerie coincidence during the first ascent to a Kids in the Hall skit in which a construction worker wants some paid time off (Compensation!) via a dropped hammer to the head



H. **The Tottering Pillar. 5.8X.** Trad. 12m.
 (Chris Small, 2004). About 50 m west of Ben's Brush is this runout, not recommended climb capped by a tottering detached death slab.

The Front Bluffs AKA Eaglet Bluff-

The Front Bluffs loom directly above the Roadside bluffs and are accessed by a trail through the boulderfield to the west or by bushwacking from Dance Park. This cliff is steeper with both sport and traditional routes.



A. **Eaglet One 5.7 TR 8m.**

(Unknown, 1970s). Layback the left facing corner to right, stepping right at a ledge to climb up the featured face.

B. Eaglet Two 5.7 Trad. 8m

(Unknown, 1970s). Climb the left facing corner into a thin chimney at the top

C. Scimtar 5.9 ** Trad. 8m.

Unknown, 1970s. Starts up right angling finger crack right of the large chimney then pulling through a large layback flake.

D. All Ages Gig 5.12c ** Fixed. 10m 3bolts.

(Trent Hoover, 1997). Crimp strength and excellent footwork are required on this outstanding route. Stick clip the first bolt as the fall potential from the belay is frightening.

E. The Chimney 5.7 * Trad. 10m

(Unknown, early 1980's). A classic offwidth grovel. Can clip a couple of bolts on the Wild Thing.

F. The Wild Thing 5.10c. ***. Fixed. 3 bolts. 12 m

(FFA. Brad Zdanivsky, Bryce Cox, 1994)

The STEEP overhanging Prow is overcome with dynos on good jugs. Blind last clip.

G. The Thing 5.11a. ** Fixed 4 bolts 14m.

A steep bolted line on the main face. A broken hold at the bouldery crux of this route has increased its difficulty.

H. Eaglet 3 5.10a * Trad.

(Unknown, ?). Fun moves up the right into a left facing layback flake to positive knobs and horns above.

I. Unknown 5.9. Trad. A new route approximately 2m right of Eaglet 3

Giscome Front Bluffs – Right

Several additional routes have been established on a small face down and to the right of the main bluff.



- J. Sidewinder (5.9 – 10a) *10 m Chris Small (1996). An S shaped finger crack
- K. Unknown (5.8) . An OK face climb along the arête.
- L. Randy's Route 2. (5.9 – 10a) 8 m . Trad. This Line offers sustained climbing through a series of overlaps. Somewhat difficult to protect.
- M. Unnamed. 5.8 A short 2 bolt sport line requiring a bit of traffic to clean it up.