

# Sutton

Better known as The Gater Stone to locals and Ordnance Survey officials, Sutton is an enormous nose of clinging to a lofty perch in Lumb Clough. The Clough itself is a fascinating geographical feature: dizzyingly steep walls of vertical mud, vegetation, and rock; a beck bubbling through; and great carpets of garlic. There is a limited quantity of routes but all have an air of boldness about them, with low protection or being very highball in nature. They are all worth seeking out, however, and have character in spades.

**Conditions:** North facing and sheltered, so leave a few dry days after heavy rain. The trees offer some protection from showers and pleasant condition can be had in the shade on a hot day.

**Approach and Access:** From the car park for Earl Crag (Yorkshire Grit: Vol2), turn left. Go straight over a crossroads and after 500m park in a layby on the right. Continue down the lane and take the track on the right. Follow this through a gate and, before the second house, bear away from the track, following the fence-line of the Clough. Cross a stile into the clough and take an immediate right to reach the crag. The approach is via public footpaths but the crag is on private land and no formal access agreement exists. Please be on your best behaviour.



## 1\ Sutton Wall Font 6A+

Left of the huge roof, start on the obvious rail and lock strenuously to the pod. Could be used as a fun direct start to either of the next two routes.

John Hunt & Will Hunt – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## 2\ The Gater Stone HVS 5c

A route that encapsulates both ends of the HVS grade. Start at the left end of the roof and make strenuous moves up to the pod (crux). Place a thread/wire here and finish more easily direct up the bold finish. You did check the top was clean, didn't you?

John Hunt & Will Hunt – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015



**3\ Black Annis E5 6b**

Boulder to the pod, placing a low runner in the break on route. Make a technical traverse rightwards (reachy), breathe, and finish boldly up the ramp to a topout that you previously checked was clear of leaves.  
Will Hunt & John Hunt – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**4\ Treebeard Font 7C**

The sensational arête. Start under the roof and climb out to the square-cut chip. Lip traverse to the arête and begin the hard climbing! A tied down spotter is essential?  
Mark Katz – March 2013



John Hunt seconding on the first ascent of Black Annis.