

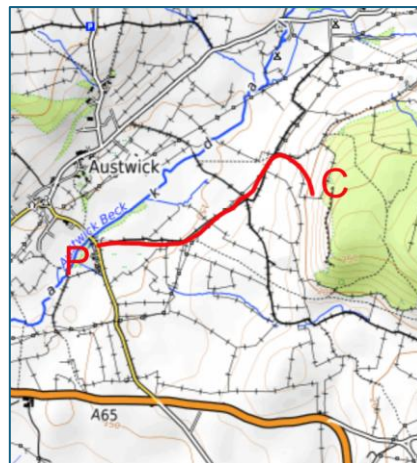
Oxenber Quarry

Character

A very small limestone quarry with short but steep and interesting routes in a very pleasant location. It is west facing so gets sunshine in the afternoon and evening. There is likely to be seepage after significant rainfall but the crag dries quickly in the afternoon if the sun is shining. Deposition of calcite crystals in a joint plane that influenced the quarrying means that holds often have a crinkly nature. Grassy ledges run across a broken lower section with the bouldering starting from the highest of these.

Access.

See map. Travelling from Settle along the A65 turn towards Austwick and park on the right just before the bridge (signs ask to keep off the grassy verge). Take a track eastwards to a junction (750m). Go forward on another track and, at the next junction (another 300m), go right. Pass through a gate. From the gate, follow the left-hand wall to another gate and then the old quarry track up the hillside. Alternatively, immediately leave the main track to follow a close by the uphill wall. As it bends left go rightwards to the quarry.



Bouldering All Bouldering by John Hunt Jan 2026 unless otherwise stated.

Conglomerate Traversing Wall

Down and left of the main area. Past and below the quarry with the tree in an old bathtub.

Normanton Knobbler f4+

Left to right, along the top. Sit start; step off at the end.

Awkward of Ackton f5+

Stay below the top – the top of the central jutting prow is allowed. Sit start. Gamble with pockets and conglomerate weirdness. Left to right again.

Quarry Bouldering

The left side of the quarry has boulder problems starting from a flat and grassy ledge that is at a higher level than those used for the routes.

Right Angle Face

The first problems are on a wall of superb water-worn rock on the left side of the higher ledges and at right angles to the main walls.

Ox Bloc Eliminate f6a+ *

Make a hard stand up off a keyed in undercut hold for the right hand. The ground lump is in for feet but the big flakes to the right are out.

Flakes f5 **

Sit start. The joyous line of major flakes.

Flakes Pure f5+ *

Sit start. The major flakes but cutting the high ledge on the left for the full effect.

Ox Bloc f4

All across the wall. Sit start at the lump and follow the line of least resistance.

Main Wall Bouldering

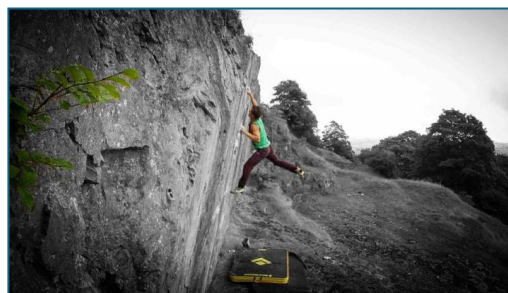
To the right starts the main wall and a line of old bolt studs run across it.

Stud Wall f7b+

Climb the wall past the right end of the studs.

Dave Sutcliffe 2025

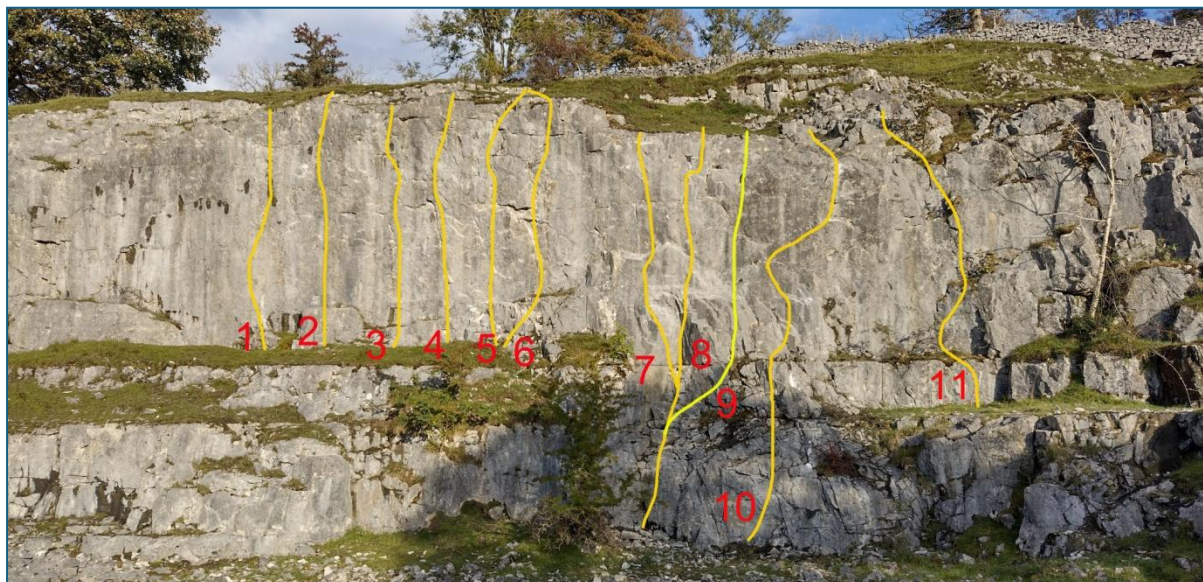
Dave has also done some 'easier' problems to the left. Knowing Dave, these may not be so easy.



Dave Sutcliffe on Stud Wall

Routes

The routes are to the right, where the wall gains height. These are short but steep and bouldery. This makes them difficult to grade using the French system as this is not designed for climbs of this nature. Grades of a bloc nature are offered which makes them close to their bouldering equivalent but you may wish to choose your own. The majority of the routes have their lower-offs located on the top of the crag and so involve topping-out. In a couple of cases there is no suitable location for this or the top edge is sharp and so the lower-off is passed to reach the top before returning to it.



1/ Fullangr 8m 7b/+?

The steep wall just to the left of a slightly higher block/ledge. Start by reaching leftwards to a layaway and progress via thin edges until some tendon-stretching layaway moves gain a slot and then better holds. Lower off on a ledge above. Strong fingers and some cunning required. *Paul Clarke 2025*

2/ Har 8m 7a

Just to the right and left of the first crack. Pull up to a finger slot and use this to reach a small hold and then an undercut. Gain better holds above and a still-steep finish to reach up and rightwards, past the lower-off, and then up to the top. *Paul Clarke 2025*

To the right are three obvious crack lines (although the third one is something of a double crack system).

3/ Elifr 8m 7a+

Compression moves using the first, razor-sharp, crack and the second one gains the undercut. Use this and more edges out right to make a reach for a good break. Move left on crimps and reach a slot that can be used to reach up leftwards to gain the top.



Terry Holmes on Dwalin

The next three routes share a common lower-off above the crag.

4/ Project B 8m

The middle crack system leads with the use of the edge of the third to an undercut and then the break on Elifr. A crimp and side pull allow a long move to good holds and the top. Lower-off.

5/ Dwalin 8m 6b+/c

The twin cracks feel steep. Pull up to a crimp and use it to reach the flake/crack. Use this and the upper crack to a strenuous finish and top-out. Lower-off above. *Mark Radtke 2025*



Terry Holmes on Fili

6/ Balin 8m 6b+

The shallow crack/groove system is much harder than it looks. Pull up to undercuts and layaways to a strenuous finish using flat holds. Top-out and go up to the lower-off shared with the last route. *Mark Radtke 2025*

The next routes start at a lower level

7/ Fili 12m 6b

Climb the shallow groove, stepping left to rising ledges. Continue steeply on big holds, the crux involving a long reach so will be found harder for those lacking the reach. Pass a glued-in bolt to reach the top and then lower-off. *Mark Radtke 2025*

8/ Kili 12m 6b/+

Climb the same groove to the ledge system. Steep pulls, utilising a side-pull and a long reach, gains a good jug and a rather perplexing finish to reach a good flake. The lower-off is a little higher. *Mark Radtke 2025*

9/ Gimili 12m 6b

Exit the groove rightwards and climb to the ledges. The wall above has a hard move to gain improving holds that lead to a lower-off. *Mark Radtke 2025*

9/ Bashful 12m 7a?

Easy climbing leads to the mid- height ledges. Climb the steep wall above by initially moving left to a good side-hold then reach/rock for crimp edges that are traversed rightwards until a hard move up gains another edge and a good side-pull. A shallow crack system leads to a slabby finish. *Paul Clarke 2025*

10/ Doc 8m 4c

From ledges on the right climb the groove/arête feature to ledges. Currently it is necessary to use the lower-off on the left. *Dave Turnbull, 2025*

General

Climbing is Dangerous - By choosing to climb at these crags you must accept responsibility for your own personal safety. You must make your own decision regarding the condition of any fixed equipment. Neither the first ascensionists nor, the author accept responsibility for the condition of any fixed equipment.

The inclusion of a climbing area or climb in this guidebook does not mean that there is public right of access. Climbers should be aware that, on some of the climbs, there can be uncomfortably long run-outs and inconsistent grading, gear can fail, rock can fail and falls can result in injury. Test all holds and always wear a helmet.

Replacement of fixed gear is a costly and time-consuming exercise so please lower or top-rope off your own quick draws. By doing this you will extend the life of the equipment considerably.

House Keeping

If you must tick-up a climb then brush the marks off after you have climbed it.

Take the time to clean chalk and dirt off holds with a soft brush, it will be appreciated by the next team. Clean your shoes before you climb, limestone is soft and polishes easily, grit and dust on your climbing shoes contribute greatly to this.

Limestone crags can seep after prolonged rain. Limestone is also weaker when wet so avoid climbing on wet holds.

If you need to make a toilet stop, go away from the crag and the tracks.