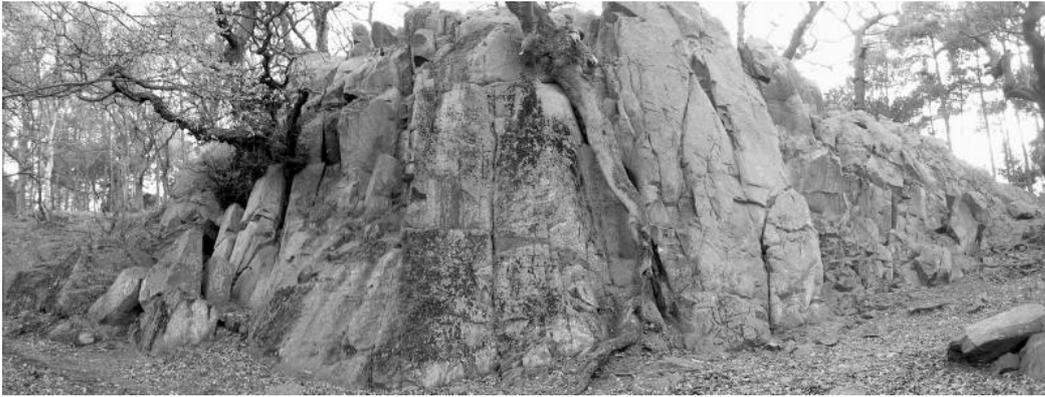


Outwood Crag



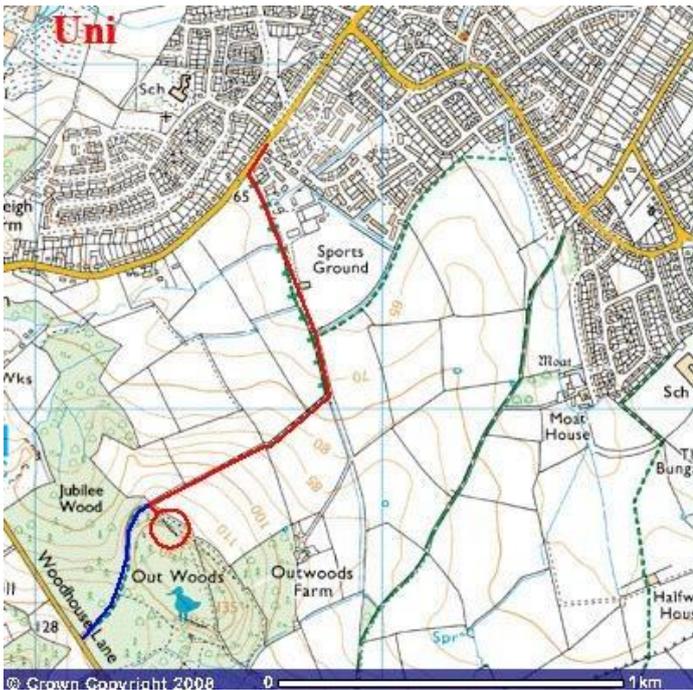
SK 514 167

[Link to online map location](#)

SITUATION and CHARACTER

Outwoods Crag is unfortunately north-facing and in the woods, therefore it's slow drying after rain and greasy in winter. (Not helped by the rock type: Precambrian slate) It has developed an orange look to it which is slightly off putting but is fine to climb on once dry. The crag catches the sun on summer evenings, so could be good as a venue after lectures finish in the summer months, because, despite its appearance there are several routes of interest at the lower grades, and is idea for beginners or more experienced members who want some soloing, where it is best combined with a visit to another crag.

There are several trees at the top of the crag which make for great belays anchors, and several of the routes have plenty of gear on them (nuts) making it an idea place for beginners to try out gear placements or belay setups before heading to the Peak District or else where.



ACCESS

Access rights are unclear, the crag is located in Out Woods forest which is owned by Charnwood Borough Council and managed by the Outwoods Management Committee. The woods are an area of public access, and you will often see runners or people having a walk whilst climbing so there should be no problem climbing, but leave if ever asked to do so by a warden.

APPROACH

Red route approach:

From campus the quickest approach is from Forest Rd, at the back of the University, which turns into Nanpantan Rd. You'll see signs on the left as you go up the hill for Nanpantan Sports grounds, take the next track immediately after this road, sign posted bridleway to Outwoods. After about 600m there is a footpath on the right leading up the hill (so you're not supposed to ride up/down it and people get annoyed apparently and 200m after one on the left) with a series of small steps, leading up to the forest. As you approach the top of the hill the crag will become obvious just inside the woods on the left. (Note biking is also banned in the woods)

This should take less than an hour's walk from campus!! – 2.5km, and a lot less on a bike

Blue route approach:

Alternatively if you have car transport there is a small lay by on the Nanpantan/Woodhouse Eaves road near Charnwood Hall, where a footpath leading to Loughborough takes you to the edge of the woods looking over Loughborough where the crag is just on your right, 5/10mins

THE CLIMBS

The LEFT WING

Photo to come soon...

1 Pip 6m D

Start at the bottom left-hand corner of the slab. Go up round the overhang on its left and finish up the slab.

2 Roof 6m VD

Directly over the centre of the overhang.

3 Squeak 8m D

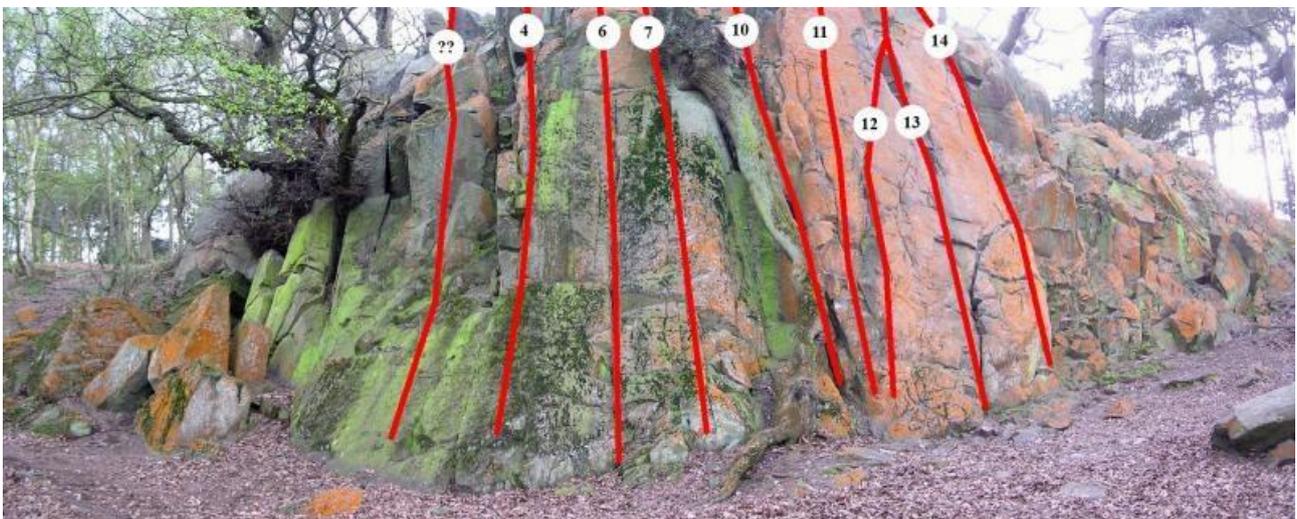
Start in the bay. Follow the little rib in the centre of the bay to broken rocks. Finish up the arête above.

The slab at the bottom of the next rib with boulders at the foot has several problems, both on the slab and on the wall to the left.

Photo to come soon...

To the right is an inverted V slab. There are several 5m problems here.

- a) 3c The overhang at the top of the slab
- b) 4a The upper of the three cracks on the right
- c) 4c The centre crack
- d) 5a The wall between the centre crack and the easy right-hand crack.
- e) 5a The wall to the right of the easy crack without using the crack or right arête



The MAIN FACE

?? – Unknown 6m D

Climb over the small overhang, small problem.

4 Wilfred 6m Diff

Up the slab and then the left edge of the buttress.

5 Mid 6m S

1m to the right of the edge of the buttress, in-between 4 and 5, very green, and barely an independent route!! – I didn't bother!!

6 Split 6m Diff

The obvious crack in the buttress left of the tree.

7 Twee 6m HS

The slab between the crack and the tree. Mind your head on the tree. Seriously green – I didn't bother!!

8 Oak 6m VS *

An unusual route. Climb the chimney formed by the tree and the face left of the tree. Finish direct over the overhang of the tree. The tree appears to have grown somewhat making this route now un-climb able in its original state.

9 Monkey 6m VD – NOTE: tree climbing in the woods is banned under bye laws and carries a fine

The tree direct! Make the Dead Man's Leap from the top.

10 Puzzle 6m Diff

Climb the crack just right of the tree.

11 Clown 9m S

The face 2m right of the tree between the two cracks.

12 Bear 9m Diff

Climb the right-trending crack to the niche. Finish direct.

13 Squirrel 9m Diff

Climb the thin crack direct to the niche. (see photo)

14 Edge 9m HS 4b

The right arête of the main crag direct -

15 Steps 9m Diff

The staircase at the right of the main crag with the three green overhangs – which is



obvious when you're there

Soloing Squirrel (Diff – No 13)