

BALDY SLABS

Approach:

Park and approach as for the Baldy crag but where the trail turns left, before the single pitch cragging area, you will see a dry rocky creek bed feeding in from the right. Take this right hand fork for two minutes to the base of the routes where the large slabs above drain into the creek bed. The first pitch of Slabby McSlabface climbs the right hand side of the gully. Slabby PackSmacka starts up the left side of the slab, left of the gully

Walk off option:

It is possible to top out the cliff and walk off climbers left to the ridge that is left of the slabs. This option involves some downclimbing and crossing an exposed gully. Less experienced climbers may be more comfortable rapping this upper section. The lower section is less exposed. Most parties will find rapping the routes more convenient.

Warning:

There are copious amounts of loose rock accumulated on ledges all across the slabs. Ropes, feet, and reckless squirrels can dislodge rocks. The slabs funnel falling rocks to the base of the gully. Extreme caution and helmets are recommended.

With the gully by the first pitch of McSlabface being a funnel for falling rock, it is suggested to gear up and leave packs before reaching the base of the routes.

An alternative with parties above on either route is to climb the less exposed first pitch of PackSmacka, then walk across to your chosen route to start the second pitch.

Slabby McSlabface 5.6 114m

F.A. Grant Parkin & Ian Greant. 2-Sep-2018

A fully bolted slab route with generally good friction. South-west facing aspect. P1 remains shaded most of the morning but P2-4 get sun most of the day when the sun is high.

Descent:

The route has been set up to climb and rap with a single rope. A 70m rope works best but an intermediate rap station on pitch 4 allows the use of a 60m rope too.

It is also possible to traverse climbers left to the ridge, then walk down the ridge, from the top of each of the first three pitches with varying degrees of danger. Belays are suggested.

Rapping:

*P4 35m rap gains the top of P3 - knot your ropes. If you have a 60m rope then you will need to utilize the optional intermediate rap station at the first step.

*P3 25m rap to top of P2 or optionally a 35m rap will require down climbing the easy section of P2

*P2 20m rap places you on scree and a short walk to the station at the top of P1.

*P1 24m rap to the ground.

The climbing:

*P1 5.6 24m The corner can seep even in dryer conditions so the route climbs the steeper right hand side of the gully above the corner. Start at the steeper short wall at climbers right, go up then across to the scoop, clip the 3rd bolt and traverse left before going up to the next bolt. Cross the gully and move left onto the middle slab, then up to the belay. 7 bolts plus chain anchor.

*P2 5.3 29m Belayer should remain anchored to the station or relocate above the scree at the slab base. From the P1 anchor, cross scree and move up to the easy slab on good friction rock below the tree. Belay station is located at the tree on the ledge. 2 bolts plus bolted anchor.

*P3 5.5 25m From the anchor move up and right following good friction and weaknesses, up to the next ledge. 5 bolts plus chain anchor.

*P4 5.6 36m From the anchor move up and right to the left facing corner. Follow the corner as it rises to the left, up to the "step". Pass the intermediate rap station, follow the corner to the next "steps". Follow the slabs up and left on excellent friction, to the anchor. 10 bolts plus chain anchor.

Slabby PackSmacka 5.7 124m

F.A. Grant Parkin, Ian Greant, Kate Snedeker. Oct-2018

The second route on Baldy Slabs and named after the damage to a pack supposedly far enough off to the side yet still caught by rockfall when cleaning. Loose rock on ledges is a hazard just the same as on Slabby McSlabface.

The climbing:

P1 5.5 37m Begin at the left side of the slabs in the creek. Climb either left of the initial bolts on featured good friction slab, or right of the bolts using the left facing slab feature. Move up to the vertical wall and turn it just above the small bush, at an easier section with a couple of good incut holds. Above move right a couple of metres and up to the upper slab. 7 bolts to a chain anchor.

P2 5.6 45m From the top of P1, relocate the belay and walk down to gain P2 either traversing low to include the easier lower slab or cut over higher using the small diagonal ledges crossing McSlabface P2 to intersect PackSmacka's second pitch. 9 bolts to chain anchor.

P3 5.7 16m Move above the belay and right into the corner. Using friction, underclings, and handholds high on the upper edge of the corner, move up to the dihedral. Above the dihedral, move right across the slab to the anchor. 6 bolts and two ring anchor.

P4 5.5 26m Climb up following features and ledges, trending right a little to a belay stance just below the top edge of the cliff. 6 bolts to chain anchor.

Rapping:

P4 26m rap to top of P3

P3 15m rap to top of P2

P2 30m rap to McSlabface anchor *OR* 35m rap to first bolt of P2 then downclimb via diagonal ledges.

P1 35m rap to creek or with a 60m rope use P1 of McSlabface

Below: The routes as viewed on the approach up the creek

Red = Slabby McSlabface. Orange = Slabby PackSmacka



Below: Pitch 1 of Slabby McSlabface



Below: Pitch 1 of Slabby PackSmacka



Below: Upper pitches

