Safe Harbor “South” Mini-Guide

It sure was a long and winding road, but after a 15-year closure some of the crags at Safe Harbor have re-opened to climbers! Currently only the southern crags are open, but there’s a good chance the northern areas (home of the highest climbs) will re-open in 2012. A complete guidebook will be published once all the crags are open to climbers—until then, I hope you will find this mini-guide helpful in your visits to the SH south crags this winter.

Getting there: From the village of Safe Harbor, travel River Road south to Green Hill Road. Take Green Hill, continuing past a few turns, and park on either side of the tunnel; be sure not to block the road. (On busy days, it may be possible to park one line of cars inside the tunnel.) Locate a climbers’ trail, beginning from the uphill side of the tunnel, and follow it for 150 yards to gain the rail trail. Turn right and hike for about 10 minutes to reach the Blood Sugar Magic sector. The other sectors are another 5 to 15 minutes—you will come upon them in the order detailed below. Climb safe, harbor only good thoughts, and have fun!

Rick Thompson on Autumn Arch (10b), 1992.

Visit SafeHarborClimbing.com and join the SH climbers’ Facebook page for further updates and to help with upcoming projects and fundraisers (for parking improvements, information kiosk, and anchor replacement). Please email route comments, corrections, etc. to: Eric@SafeHarborClimbing.com

WARNING: Climb is a dangerous activity—climb at your own risk! This mini-guide is not an instruction manual. Use of this guide indicates your assumption of the risk that it may contain errors and is an acknowledgement of your sole responsibility for your climbing safety.

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A few other things of importance:

- **ACCESS** – The Safe Harbor “north” crags remain closed, but may re-open next year.
- **PARKING** – There is no access via Brenner Hollow Road—do not park here! Please car pool—there is limited parking near the tunnel. Green Hill Road turns into a rocky one-lane road, so drive slowly.
- **FIXED ANCHORS** – **Climb at your own risk!** Some of the bolts at Safe Harbor are more than 20 years old, although many of the more popular routes have been upgraded to stainless steel hardware (an ongoing project). While the majority of bolts are likely trustworthy, you must still be vigilant and assess every bolt/anchor you clip. Please top rope through quick draws and not through rings or chains!
- **OVERGROWN/DIRTY ROUTES** – While the more popular routes are in relatively good condition, many climbs are dirty and to some degree overgrown with grass, weeds, or vines. Consider doing a little “cleaning” of the routes you get on (use a nut tool to clean dirt from cracks and pockets). Watch for loose rock—there’s a lot of this at Safe Harbor—be careful not to pry off important handholds.
- **FUNDRAISING & SWEAT EQUITY** - In addition to fixed anchor replacement, we need to install an information kiosk, as well as develop improved parking. An Access Fund “matching grant” looks likely for next Spring, and so we (the climbing community) must raise as much $$ as we can this winter. I will soon install a PayPal “donate button” on the SHC web site, and I hope to schedule fundraising events at nearby rock gyms this winter. Join the [Safe Harbor Facebook](https://www.safeharborclimbers.com) group to get involved.
- **WALK THE TALK** - We all know that climbers are generally positive, proactive, kind folks and as a national community climbers are held in high regard by most land managers. I have no doubt that local land managers (and residents) will similarly come to recognize our values and virtues as recreational users. Toward this end, here are a few things to keep in mind: Leave the crags and parking area cleaner than you find them; be friendly to passing hikers and share your passion for climbing; obey the dawn-to-dusk guidelines (no camping!); drive slowly and park in a way that will not affect traffic flow.

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**Blood Sugar Magic Sector**


1. **Key West (8)** – Lone route about 10 minutes from Green Hill Tunnel parking. 3 bolts to CS.
2. **Bomb Free Harbor (11b) *
3. **Blood Sugar Magic (12a) ** Very good route—harder than it looks!
4. **Copperhead Road (12b) *
5. – easy old-school high ball (9+) – Unfortunately now bolted.
6. Jump Start (10b) *
7. Lost Boys (10d) *
8. – short arête –
9. – short face –
10. Electric Co. (10b) ** Steepest route at this sector.
11. Under Fire (9+) *
12. Two Pines (8) *
13. Public Service (8+) **
15. – slab route – **
16. Clever Retort (10b) * Starts off bushy ledge.
17. Sugar High (11d/12a) * Just left of #16.

Jeff Batzer bouldering Route #5 in 1980
18. – slab past veggies –
19. Tenuous Odyssey (10a) ***
20. – left side slab – *
21. – short dihedral – *
22. – 2 bolt black face – *
23. – short face – *
24. The Hanging Garden (10b)
25. Horizontal Play Thing (11c)
26. Under the Bridge (project)
27. – left end of roof –
Machismo Sector

28. –short face off ledge –
29. Virtual Reality (13a) *
30. Machismo (11c/d) ** A great vertical 5.11 face.
31. Witness (10b) **
32. Too Cold Too Stroke (10b) *

Super Slab Sector

33. Your Mother (9-) *
34. – slab past tree –
35. Slab Master (9+) **
36. Super Slab (10b/10d) *** Easier if you use the small arête left of bolt #2. Climb straight past the bolts for full value.
37. Who Shot Bambi (9-) *
38. Pro Bono (7) *

David Laird leading Super Slab (10d) in 1991.
39. – “HS” –
40. – black streaked face –
41. Eminent Domain (8+) ** Move right at 3rd and 4th bolts. A good moderate lead.
42. Chillin’ & Maxin’ (10b) ** Start as in #41.
43. Locomotion (10a/b) *** Same start as #42; move left to ascend thin crack above small overhang. Dicey moves with an airy feel.
44. Wonderama (12b) *** The area classic! Pumpy, overhanging arête. Do not move around onto face on right until at anchors.
45. Visionaire (13) *
46. Expose’ (12a) ** Long and exposed.
47. Doppelganger (12c) ** Hard!
48. Autumn Arch (10b) *** Classic stemming route. A must-do! May need cleaning, tho.
49. Static Cling (11b/c) ** Think “side pulls.”
50. Urban Daydream (11b) ** Long and sustained, but like its neighbors it needs cleaning and rebolting.
51. Heart’s Horizon (10b) **
52. Lycra Perversion (10c/d) ** Neat route with a tricky traverse move. Great route name!
53. Avant Garden (9-) * This and the next route are better than they look (but they need some cleaning).
54. AF in PA (9+) * Steeper than most...and kind of pumpy.
55. Both Ends Burning (10d) *
56. Rockin’ Peacock (10a/b) * Reachy crux past roof.
57. The Final Cut (project)
58. – streaky face –
59. The Righteous and the Wicked (11b/c) ** A wicked, techy face—a Bob Perna classic!
60. 19’s In The House (10a) *
61. Wort Hogs Can’t Fly (toprope 11a) Not recommended.
62. T-Bag (8 R). Trad lead up crack/corner. No bolts, no anchors.
63. Numero Uno (10c) ** Start up small/short layback corner.
64. Wild Palms (11b) * Bouldery through low bulge; then easy.
65. Tonga (9+) ** Pull through left side of low roof. Stop at low anchors or continue up to #64’s anchors.
66. Tradatrocity (9+) * A few jam moves up high on this on.
67. Crips & Bloods (12a/b) * Start up #68, then climb arête.
68. Bat Crack (12a/b) * Up blocky face to stance, then fire up thin crack on the overhanging face.
69. Black Is Power (10a/b) *
70. When Doves Cry (8+) *
Train In Vain Sector

71. Demon In My Semen (10b) ** Popular.
72. Econoline (8) *
73. The Sighting (10d) * Short, but interesting.
74. – short face off ledge –
75. – project –
76. Train In Vain (12c) ** Same start as #77. Move right at 2nd bolt and up steep, bouldery sequence.
77. Flex All (12d/13a) * Stay left at 2nd bolt and huck V-hard move to gain nose and anchors.
Hydroman Sector

78. – dirty, streak face –
79. Parabolic Corner (9/11c) ** Popular.
80. Adopted Son (9) *
81. Le Eaglet (7) ** Good beginner’s route.
82. – past vines to 2 bolts –
83. There Goes the Hood (7)
84. – face past bush –
85. Crossroads (10d) *
86. Hydroman (11a/b) *** Safe Harbor’s first sport route. Classic! Reachy crux near top.
87. Mental As Anything (9+) ** A good, well-protected 5.9 for aspiring leaders.
88. Body Drama (12b) * Difficult boulder problem past 1st bolt; or use easier start on left and move up and right to 2nd bolt (11b).

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