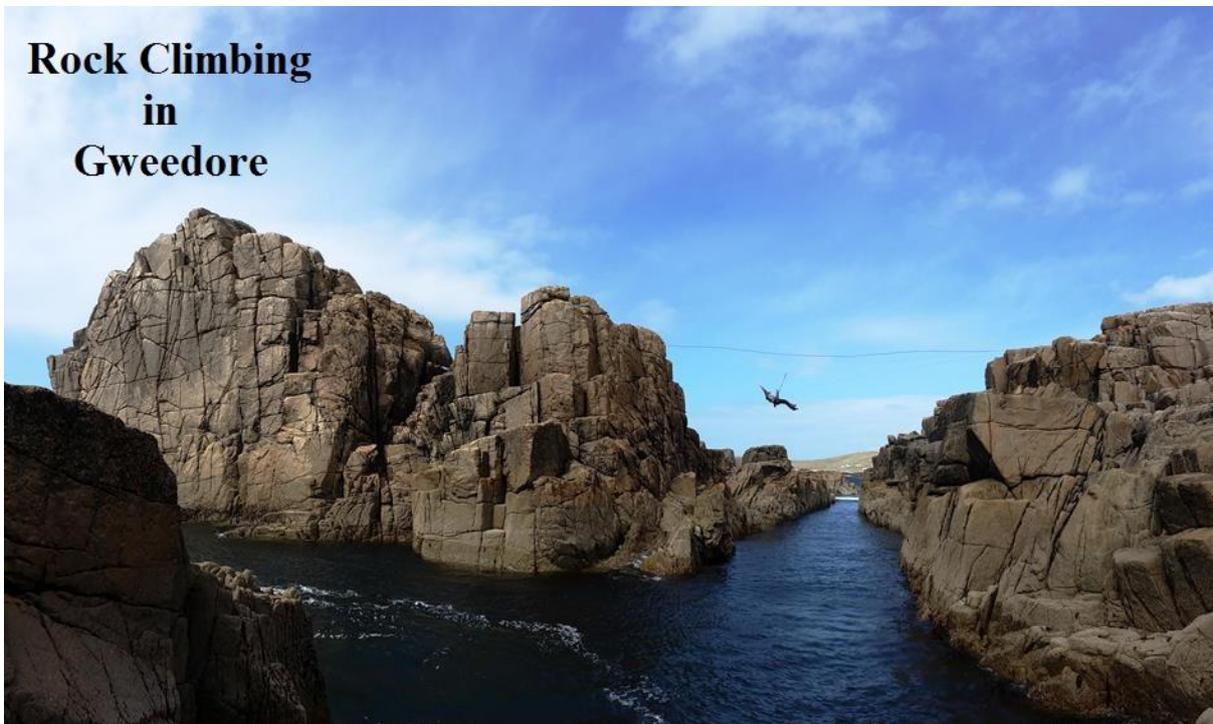


A Climbers Guide to

Gweedore

By
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Rock Climbing
in
Gweedore



Gweedore

Gweedore, known locally as Gaioth Dobhair, lies in between Cloughaneely and the Rosses to the south. Gweedore's coastline stretches for approximately 25km from Meenaclady in the north to Crolly in the south and it is one of Europe's most densely populated rural areas, it is also the largest Irish speaking parish in Ireland.

Gweedore coast along the Wild Atlantic Way can easily be described simply as one enormous Caribbean type sandy beach and as such is an outstanding place to visit in the summer months.

Within the parish of Gweedore there is an enormous amount of bouldering and highball rock dotted all over the region, it is simply a case of stopping the car whenever you see rock from the road and going for a look.

There are so far two main climbing locations both are quite small but will each provide a half day of vertical pleasure. Tor na Dumhcha being the better location and providing immaculate vertical Gola Granite to play on.

The Sand Quarry

Three short white granite walls are to be found just outside Derrybeg amongst the dunes north east of the pier for Inishmeane.

GR8029. Take a left at the first brown beach sign outside of Derrybeg. This laneway L53231 is signposted as Bealach na Gealtachta Slí na Earagail, trá Beach. Park the car above the beach close to the solitary pick-nick table, Walk back across the flat grass to find a secluded granite outcrop located in a bit of a sand pit. Not a major crag by any means but a nice spot to kill a couple of hours on a few easier climbs if you are in the area. 6 routes have been done on the two main granite faces.

1: Robins Route S 8m

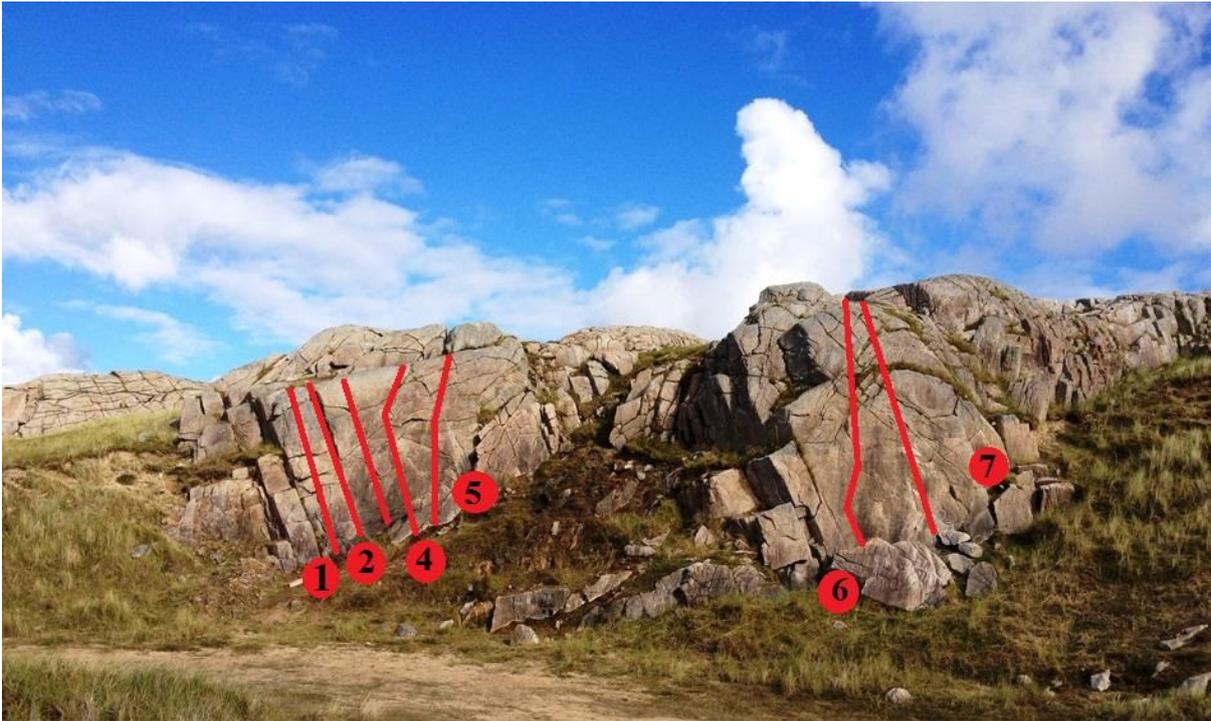
Climb the left pillar on the left of the left wall.

2: Chimney Bleep S 8m

Climb the deep chimney.

3: It's not the royal wedding HS 9m

Straight up the wall to the right of Robins Route, avoiding the easier cracks for next time wear a rope on the right.



4: Next time wear a rope S 9m

take the line on the photo (3), just left of the undercut using the best holds you can find.

5: Run Away Bride HS 10m

Take a rightward trending line to the right of the undercut scoop

6: Windsor Malice HS 12m

Follow the main crack on the right hand end of the right hand wall.

7: Wedding Peasant Diff 10m

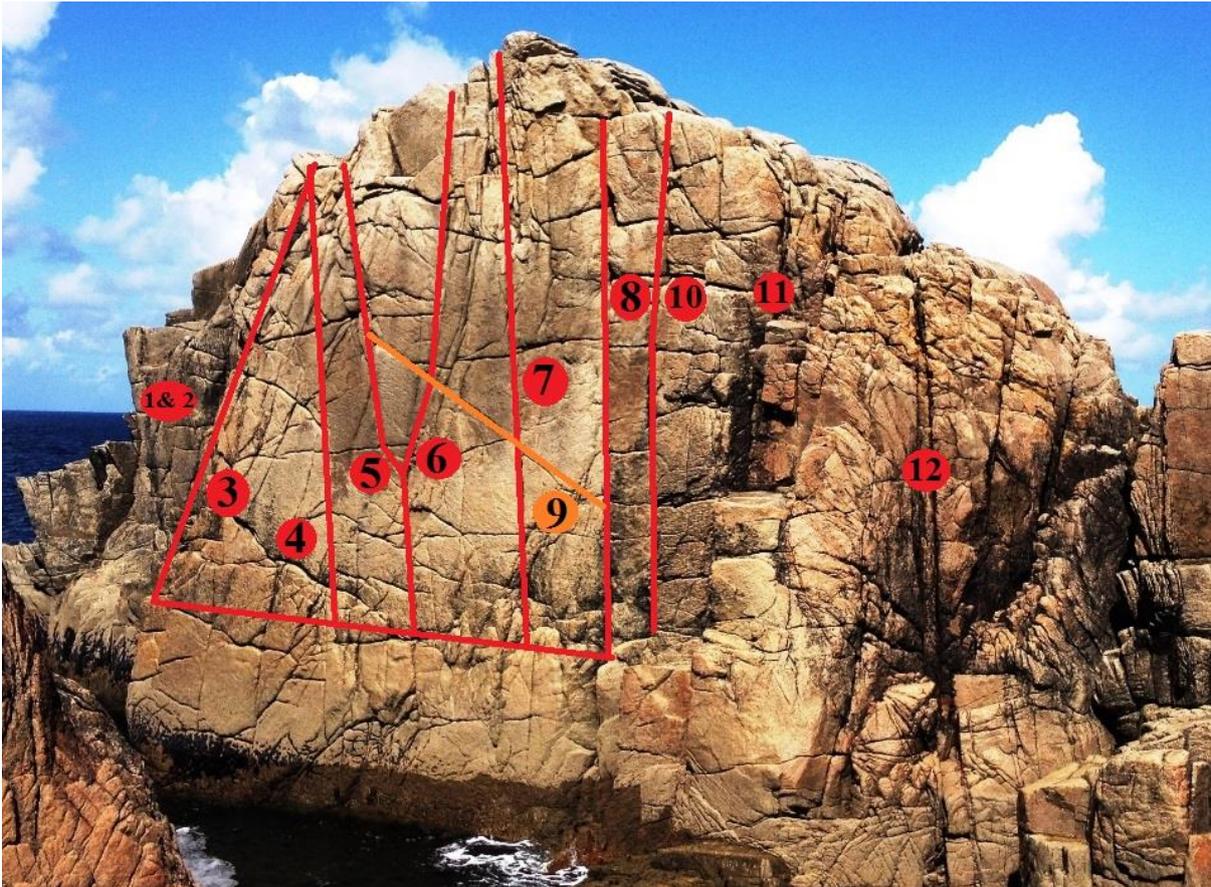
Follow the easier cracks and ledges to the right of Windsor Malice.

Tor na Dumhcha

This 20 metre stack is situated just off the Lower Glashagh headland by Gweedore. Access is by a five minute walk and a short sea passage. The stacks south face is a 20 metre vertical wall of excellent "Gola" type sea battered granite.

Directions: From Jacks Hotel as you leave Gweedore take the sharp left and follow the B class road to the small beach car park. On foot follow the coastal path North over several new wooden bridges to the headland overlooking the stack.

Grid Reference B803304



1: A Bridge Too Far S 4a 20m **

From the Large Triangular ledge at the seaward end of the face traverse across the steep wall on monster jugs to gain the base of the corner. Bridge (or squirm) up the corner with increasing air between your feet.

I. Miller, M. Boner 17/05/09

2: Chatterbox S 4a 15m *

Climb the big corner immediately to the seaward side of the main face, abseil access or a traverse in from the main face is much more sporting.

M. Boner, I. Miller 17/05/09

2a: First Blood S 4b 15m

From the stance at the end of the first pitch of "Nature always provides," traverse out to sea onto the square cut arête, climb this arête on its's outer edge to the summit.

I. Miller, B & M Martin 15/06/16

3: Nature Always Provides S 35m **

Pitch 1: 20m Starting on the spacious recess at the bottom of Easy Exit, follow a superb sea level traverse just above the high water mark to a smaller stance at the bottom of the Arete at the seaward end of the face.

Pitch 2: 15m Climb the arête directly above the stance.

I. Miller, M. Boner 28/02/09

4: Ziggy Zig Ahh! VS 4b 15m *

Climb the left most crack on the face.

I. Miller, A. Harding. R. Anderson 10/08/14

5: Exit Stage Left VS 4b 15m **

Climb "Unhindered by Talent" for 3 metres, make a step left onto a superb series of layback jugs. Layback on

jugs to the summit.

I. Miller, E. Wallace, M. Boner 31/05/09

6: "Fine Display, Young Wallace!" HVS 5a 15m **

Climb The steep & sustained finger/hand crack to the left of "Unhindered by Talent." Eases nicely in the last few metres.

I. Miller, E. Wallace, M. Boner 31/05/09

7: Unhindered By Talent VS 4c 15m ***

Climb the superb hand crack up the centre of the face.

I. Miller, M. Boner 17/05/09

8: The Internal Grin S 15m **

Climb the superb left facing corner, right of the centre of the face on huge jugs, big gear and a massive smile.

I. Miller, M. Boner 21/02/09

9: One for the Photographer VS 4b 18m *

Starting at the bottom of "The Internal Grin," make a rising traverse seaward following the shallow diagonal crack line, join "Exit Stage Left" and the follow to summit.

I. Miller, H. McCormack 09/10/14

10: Heavens Hexes HS 4b 15m *

Climb the excellent steep jamming crack between "The Internal Grin" and the "Easy Exit" chimney, without jamming!

M. Boner, I. Miller 28/02/09

11: Easy Exit Diff 12m

At the extreme right of the face climb the wide chimney groove, finish on the ledge or step left and continue to summit.

I. Miller, M. Boner 21/02/09

12: Exit Stage Right DIFF 10m

On the access ramp from the landward side of the main face climb the dark chimney crack.

M. Boner 31/05/09

Disclaimer

This guidebook is intended for information purposes only, it is not an instruction manual. This free guidebook is for the use of experienced outdoor climbers to make their own judgement calls as to what is and where is safe to climb on any given day.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this guidebook at the time of writing, it alas cannot be guaranteed to be completely accurate. Many of the routes, locations and even some of the islands in these guidebooks are seldom visited, with a considerable amount of the routes having only ever been climbed once before.

The west coast and islands of Donegal are very exposed to the Atlantic Ocean swells brought by the ever present trade winds. A good working knowledge of such nautical matters is essential to ensure safe practice whilst visiting and climbing on remote and very exposed sea cliffs and stacks.

Rock climbing is an activity with a very real danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities must employ appropriate levels of mountaineering / rock climbing guile and common sense. Participants must take personal responsibilities for their actions and involvement in these activities at all times.

In Ireland all land is owned by someone, the inclusion of a location in this book does not mean we have the right of access or the right to climb there. Please respect the rights of the landowner and we can continue to visit these beautiful places.