

Lake Leslie Bouldering Guide

Use this guide if you want, go exploring if you want, Leslie is great for exploring, but it's very easy to see nothing but blank boulders on first inspection. It's all granite, so be prepared to lose some skin.

I've put together a few semi-dodgy maps of what we've done, this is just the most appealing lines, there's still some hard stuff and scary stuff.

A few names have been added to problems just cause it makes it more interesting to read. The number applies to a small group of boulders as shown on the map; the letter shows roughly where the problem is on the boulder. Expect to get confused. But have fun.

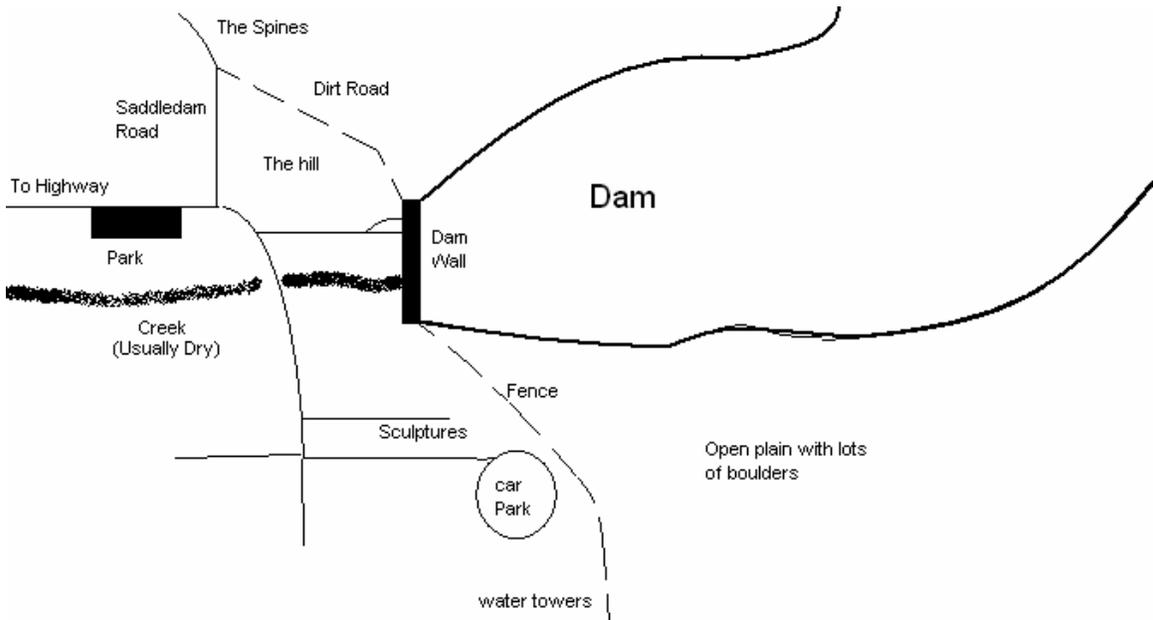
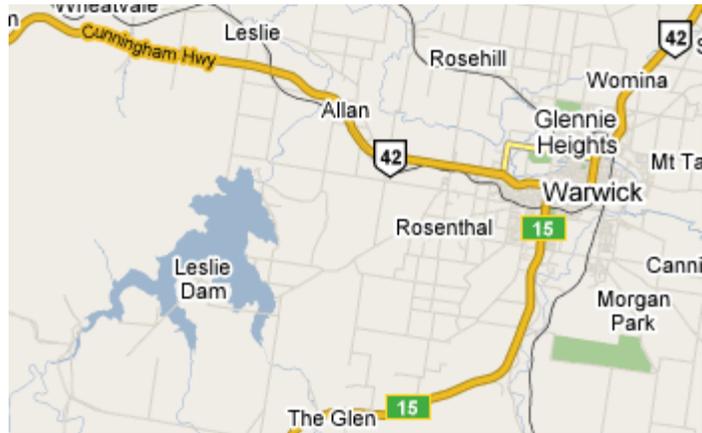
* are some of my favourites
(ss) - sit down start

Disclaimer

Grades were thrown about at random depending on how I was climbing on the day feel free to slander them or admire them.

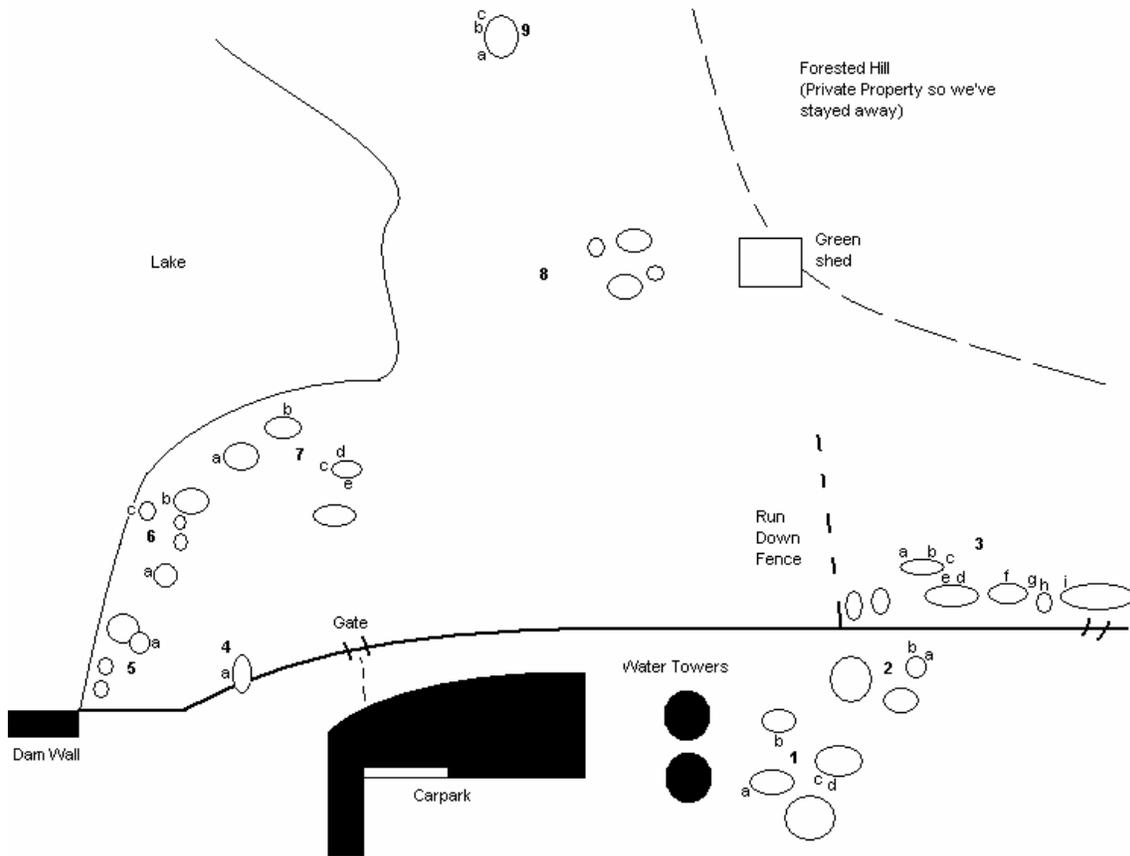
Directions

Go through Warwick; keep going on the Cunningham Hwy to Goondiwindi/Inglewood. A few km's after Warwick, turn left at the sign to Leslie Dam.



The Dam

This is where most people have been, Follow the signs to the lookout, then head down in to the sun on the dam floor, or seek more shade amongst the water towers.



The water towers area has lots of highballs, and some definite classics, bring a few mats for comfort.

- *1a. V? - The obvious sharp highball arête, Start underneath the detached block then move up and onto the R face above a nasty nasty landing (ss)
- 1b. V4 - Thin problem starts off the big undercling next to a tree
- 1c. V2 - Use diagonal crimps to get off the ground then follow the arête to the top
- *1d. 'Hung like a gerbil' V3/4 - Delicate moves take you to a thin vertical seam, sling the sapling if feeling scared and continue to the top (we've been downclimbing the opposite arête then walking along the ledge, either way it's still a scary way down)
- *2a. 'Lassies lobotomy' V4/5 - Beautiful rounded arête climb the LHS, desperate
- 2b. V3 - Slab, better than it looks, start off the block out R then up the face

This collection of boulders can be accessed through the towers or via the open dam, it has some lovely warm-ups.

- *3a. V2/3 - The R arête of this block, climb the LHS
- 3b. V4 - Strong moves through thin holds at the ground take you up the L hand face of this boulder
- 3c. V0 - End of this block at the front of the others
- *3d. V1 - 'Laybacks go to heaven' Layback up the beautiful thin crack on the face. Marvelous

- *3e. V2 - 'Slabs go to hell' Face just right of the crack through the knob up high
- 3f. V0 - '3 pitch glory' ramble up this block via two big ledges
- 3g.V2 - Follow the thin seam on the corner of this block, above a very sloping landing
- 3h. V1 - Hug the rounded block to get on top
- 3i. V0 - Climb the steepest corner of this wide low angled slab

These boulders are near the dam itself, starting near the dam wall and moving out

- 4a. V3 - walk past the stunning overhanging arête Stand on the rubble to the right of it, grab the good hold, the hollow sounding hold then up and mantle, don't grab the tree
- *5a. V4 - Top stuff. Grab the good chalked hold at head height; move up to crimp, then fun dynamic move with the right takes you to an easy top out
- 6a. Proj
- 6b. Proj
- 6c. Proj
- *7a. V4 - 'No Fishing' Start just right of one of the many NO FISHING graffiti. Use the long vertical rail, then through a tenuous top out (ss)
- *7b. V2 - 'Don't Fish Climb crack' The crack on this wall screams at you from a mile away. Climb it.
- 7c. V3 - sit start on the slightly steep diagonal rail, up through delicate top out (ss)
- 7d. V4/5 - difficult start off two diagonal small crimps takes you to an easier top out
- 7e. V1 - 'slap slab' step up through a few footholds and no handholds

The next three problems are found on the big round boulder deeper in the field with the obvious diagonal crack (jump off the back to descend).

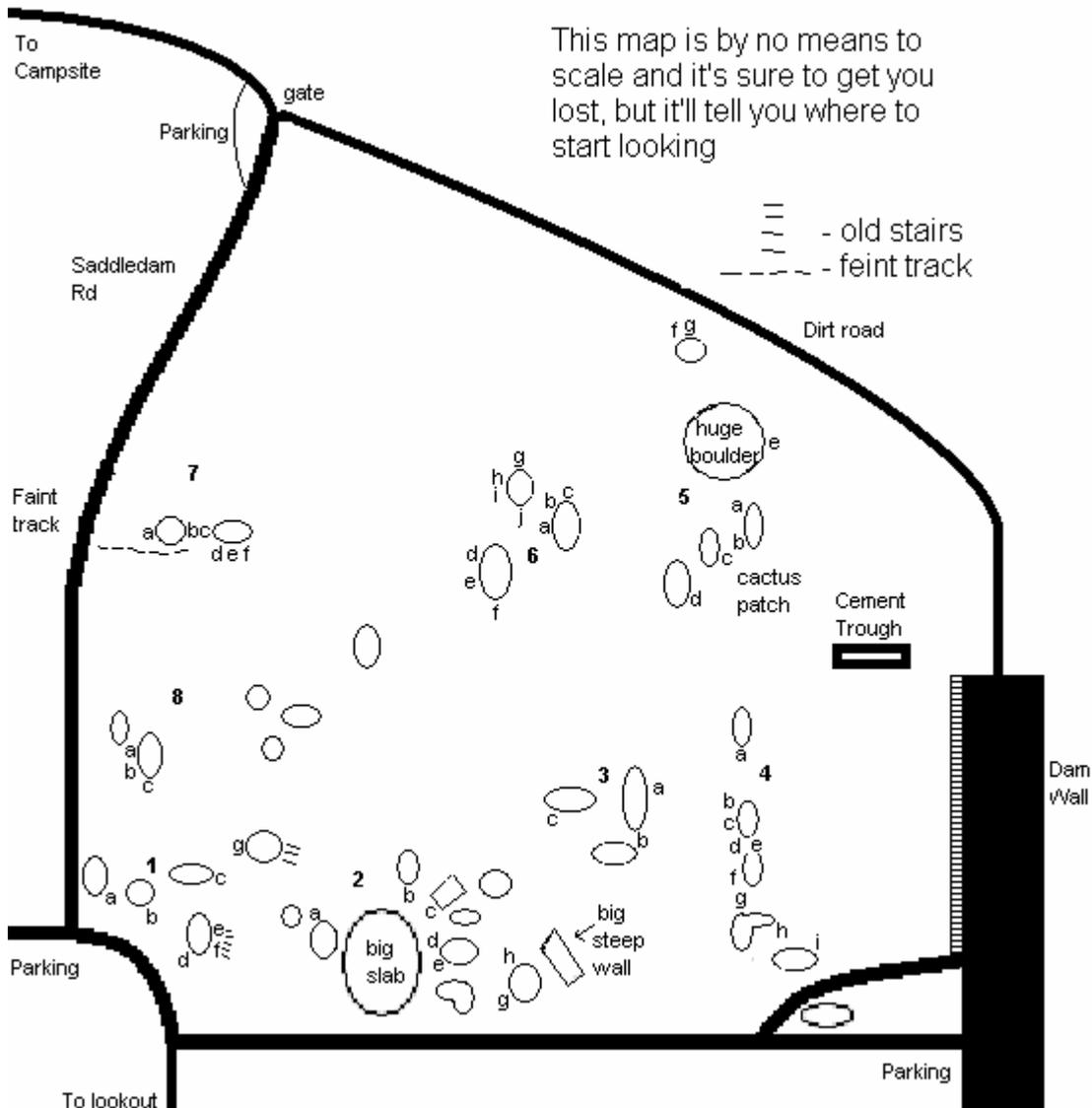
- *9a. V2 'The crack' much photographed, once thought to be the only boulder at Leslie. Good stuff
- 9b. V3 'Crack direct' Sit start on the diagonal rail, strenuous moves to the right will meet up with the crack (ss)
- 9c. Proj - 'The Arête' the arête L of the crack looks hard

There's a few more boulders past the crack boulder, I've only written up 2

- 10a. V2/3 - Continue along next to the dam on the track for a fair while till you see a long boulder with a nice face and nice landing, there's a problem on the face facing back towards the car park
- *10b. 'My goldfish won't flush' V4/5 - continue on the track to the boulder just next to the fence, Strong moves up the slightly overhanging end of this boulder with no footholds

The Hill

The Hill is opposite the first car park that you go past, next to Saddledam Rd. It's a nice shaded scrubby forest that's very easy to get lost in. The rock is friendlier on the fingers than the dam itself, and has all ranges of grade. It's tops.



These boulders are closest to the eastern car park

1a. proj- the arête on this huge boulder, just R of the scooped cave

*1b. V3- 'pineapple soup' Sit start jug, big move to arête and up (ss)

1c. V0 - slab your way up the western side of this boulder

*1d. V5 - Fun throw and catch off small crimps to the rounded ledge, then funky layback up the top boulder, nice and high

*1e. V1 - Follow the nice array of holds on this wall, next to old stairs

1f. V2 - easy moves down low to a crux right at the top on this slabby monster

1g. V3 - The top end of this boulder, through sharp crystals

The next six are best found once you're standing on the big fat rock slab visible from the road

- 2a. proj - up the high arête with holds that are oh so far apart
- 2b. proj - starts well, but the top is oh so rounded
- 2c. proj - start on the pinch, do something
- 2d. V1 - squeeze in between saplings onto the jug then mantle through more branches (ss)
- 2e. V0 - start in break, escape out L onto the slab
- 2f. V0 - Sit start on the rock, up via crack and funky knobs (ss)
- *2g. V4 - Start just left of hollow sounding knob, to top, and then move slightly left to mantle.
- 2h. V1 - step up high to an easy slab top out, sit start possible??

The next group of three is in between 2 and 4 a bit up the hill, surrounded by trees.

- *3a. V1/2 - Nice face through crimp at the top of this boulder
- *3b. proj - start with hands on the diagonal rail, straight up through thin holds
- 3c. Proj

This group is right next to the dam wall, head up the hill from the big boulder by the road

- *4a. V0 - slab it up the face, slap it up the arête
- 4b. V0 - top corner of this boulder
- *4c. V2 - 'Put your balls on the slab' Highball slab bypassing the only hold visible from the ground
- 4d. proj - Corner, trying to do it only L of the crack
- 4e. 'Elbow deep adventure' V1 - Up crack
- 4f. V3 - Stand on tip toes on the boulder to reach the obvious hold, then straight up
- 4g. proj - juggy top side of this stack
- 4h. proj - blank steep hard wall. is it possible? looks so good
- 4i. V2/3 - Start with R sidepull, up through tough mantle on the uphill side of this boulder

The Cactus Patch

These cruisy warm-ups are near a big clump of cacti, good for getting the blood into the fingers

- 5a. v1 - 'cacti-rampi' Traverse R on the diagonal sloping ledge and mantle once at the top
- 5b. v1 - 'cacti-sharpi' straight up using small sharp crimps at chest height
- 5c. v0 - 'cacti-lacki' lovely easy slab arête, shame it's so short
- 5d. v0 - 'cacti-bacti' layback/jam up the short slabby crack

The next few are just near the dirt road

- *5e v2 - 'pinnacle dreaming' grab the jug, grit your teeth and layback/jam through the thin crack to stand on the lower tier. Keep going up if you've got big balls and no brains.
- 5f. v3/4 - 'choose your own adventure - blue' start on low holds move up and R through R gaston, head back left and mantle
- 5g. proj - 'choose your own adventure - red' start on the same hold but big dynamic move up L

These are all at the top of the hill, you'll find them

- 6a. 'Heiffer hunt' V1 - Start at undercling, big move to top, then move R and mantle
- *6b. 'Young and duffed' V4 - Start on jug, up via crimps to a difficult mantle
- *6c. 'Pram jammer' V3 - Start on undercling and side pull, straight up
- 6d. V3 - Delicate moves down low leads to a high slab mantle
- 6e. V2 - Same start as 21a, traverse R on low slopy footholds, mantle near tree
- 6f. proj
- 6g. V2 - sit start under arête, slap out and up L side (ss)
- 6h. V1/2 - difficult move onto L Face, up - stand start V0/1
- *6i. V3 - same start as 22b, onto R face and slap, slap, slap to top out (ss)

6j. V5 - 'like a lamb' Difficult start follows crack up diagonally R (ss)

You can follow a faint track up from Saddledam Rd to these boulders

- *7a. 'Budgie Ebola' V3 - start off the block using opposing sidepulls up via crimps on top
- 7b. V3 - fun but a bit contrived, sit start with feet on the chockstone, straight up (ss)
- 7c. V1 - eastern end of this boulder, just next to the tree
- *7d. 'It's raining Granite!' V2 - face just L of the crack; note the big empty space where a chunk of granite should be
- 7e. V2 - The crack take a grade off if you can actually climb crack
- 7f. V2 - Bunch start on the low hold, pounce for the top and mantle, avoid crack
- 8a. proj – Just right of the trees up via very shallow pockets
- 8b. proj - blank looking arête. looks good, but hard
- 8c. 'Begeezus' V4/5 – crimp and smear like a demon on the R of the arête to grab the ledge on top

The Spines

This is a little easy area with moderate climbs and moderate heights; it's down where the boaters hang out so watch out for the broken shards of glass.

- 1a. V1 – Start on the ledge with diagonal crimp, straight up
- 1b. V2 – Just left of 'a' with a long vertical crimp and shallow pocket
- 1c. V0 – An easy ramble up this side of the boulder moving up and left
- *1d. V0 – Climbs the nice arching crack (laybacks only, no jams required!), ss at the crack then follow it up and left. Head right at the top for a VE (good as the descent route for all these next climbs
- 1e. V1 – thin holds a few metres L of the crack
- *1f. V0 – A very pleasant stroll up the spine of this block
- *1g. V2 – ss on right arête, then up the block to a nice smeary mantle
- 1h. V2 – On the next block along, a long move on crimps leads to another smeary mantle

The next problems are further along the dirt road, in the bush up to the right

- 1i. V1 – Slab on the back of the boulder with the no fishing signs, stick R of the water run, more problems should be on the front of this boulder
- 1j. V3 – tough moves off the ground lead up the steep short end of this boulder with big rough holds. (ss)
- 1k. proj – should be worth a star, tough start on side pulls leads to slopey top out which climbs well (ss)

