

Fingal Gym

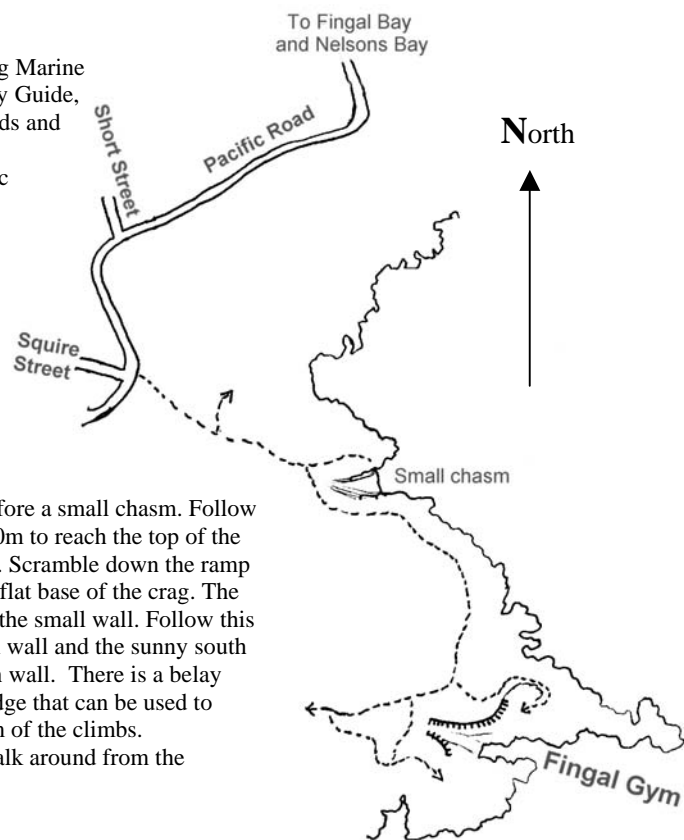
General

This area near Fingal Bay is a great new crag with a large range of climbing styles to be catered for; bouldering, sport climbing and trad climbing are all here, (hence the name “Fingal Gym”). The grades aren’t too hard and most climbs are very well protected with some nice solid rock. A great crag to spot some whales in the winter season, although bare in mind, following rain, the cracks in the rock of some climbs can seep a little. The main wall faces south and is in the shade pretty much all day, making it a good summer crag.

Location

Head to Fingal Bay along Marine Drive (See Hunter Valley Guide, Pg. 91). Follow till it ends and joins Pacific Rd at Barry Park. Then follow Pacific Rd till you come to the T-intersection for “Squire Street”. Park on the left side of the road (approximately 10m South of the sign) and step over the log to reach the sandy track. Follow for about 250m till you reach a sandy

track on the right just before a small chasm. Follow this track for another 250m to reach the top of the crag facing directly East. Scramble down the ramp just L of the track to the flat base of the crag. The first side you come to is the small wall. Follow this around to reach the main wall and the sunny south wall is opposite the main wall. There is a belay point on the mid-way ledge that can be used to gain access to the bottom of the climbs. Alternatively you can walk around from the southern side.



Sunny South Side:

The juggy-looking wall alongside the ramp.

1. Whale Watchers Direct

15 10m
Starting 3m left of 'WW' #2, up juggy corner directly below lower offs.
[G] [VW, DBI, 15/9/04]

2. * Whale Watchers

15 11m
The juggy wall on the opposite side to the main wall. Up past three bolts, moving left to lower off.
[3*B] [TH, EG, 1/8/04]

3. Beached Whale

6 11m
Corner and crack right of 'WW' finishing on slab.
[Solo] [VW, 15/9/04]



4. Blubber Boy **17 10m**
Start on the slab at the base of the diagonal crack, 2m right of 'BW', small wires and cams to finish on the slab to the left.
[G] [CS, TH, LJ, 13/11/04]

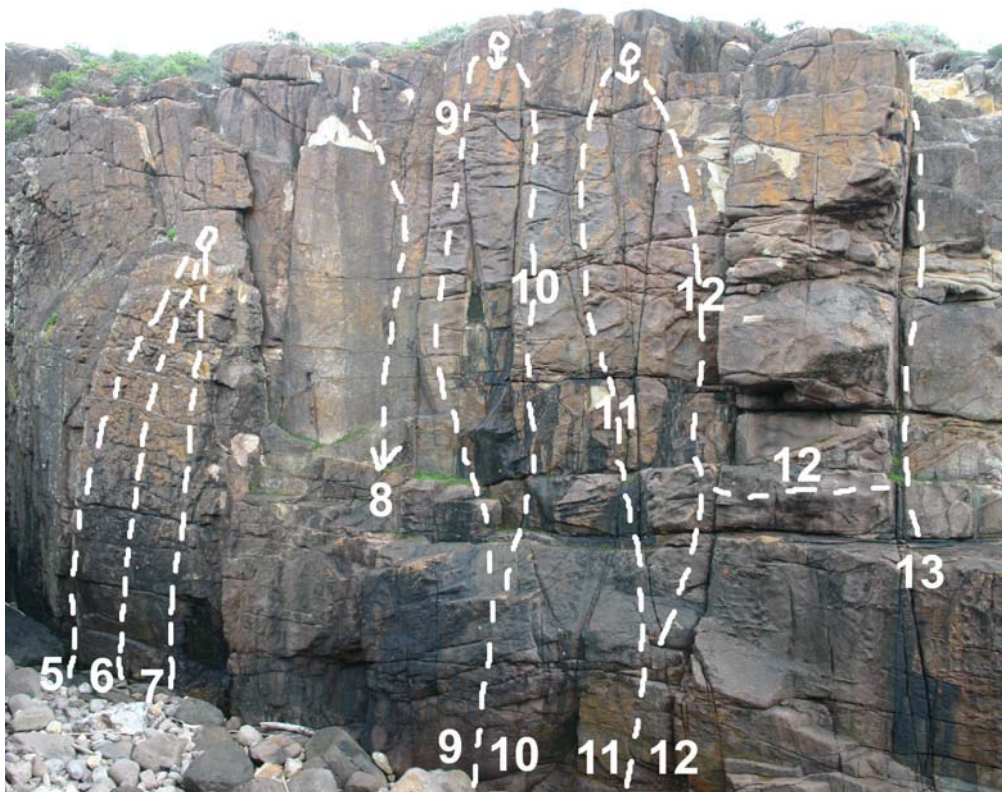
Main Wall Left:

Lower off on pinnacle is common for #5, 6, and 7. Use a long sling on lower offs for top roping to avoid rope drag.

5. ** Side Pull Bob **18 14m**
On the left side of the pinnacle, following the arête and nice face holds up to top. Put a long sling on the last ring on Justin's project before lower offs.
[4*B] [LH, TH, 2/8/04]

6. Builders Cleavage **20 14m**
Straight up the middle of the small buttress starting 1m right of #5 'SPB'.
[4*B] [JJ, 12/12/04]

7. Three Amigo's **19 14m**
Start under the small roof-let on the right side of the pinnacle. Hard move at start to some nice sustained climbing.
[4*B] [TH, EG, 1/8/04]



Main Wall:

8. Project (Tim Haasnoot)

9. * All Ass** **19 19m**
Bouldery move past bolt, moving left up easy ground to step onto block, then climb the blocky wall right of the blank face. Superb climbing either side of the block with quick clips at the top!
[5*B] [CS, TH, 18/07/04]

10. ** No Class **17 19m**
Start as for #9 'AA', moving straight up following the dominant arête.
[5*B] [CS, TH, 18/07/04]

11. ** Free Bill **17 19m**
Bouldery start up to first ring, then easy ground to climb the solid wall on some great rock!
[5*B] [TH, CS, 18/07/04]

12. * Kill Willy **16 19m**
Can be done by starting as for #11 'FB' or if the seas are too high, start from the belay ledge at halfway. Up the juggy overhang, moving left past 3 bolts to tricky finish at the common lower off of #11 'FB'.
[5*B] [TH, CS, 18/07/04]

13. The Dark Side Of Dana **15** **10m**
 Start at the half way belay station on the far right of the main wall. Straight up crack bridging and jamming your way to the top.
 [G] [CS, LJ, Shane, Dana, 13/11/04]

Small Wall:

14. Old School **14** **11m**
 Start in to off-width corner, 5m left of #17 'WTW', easy moves up corner to lower off.
 [G] [LH, TH, 2/8/04]

15. TAFE **17** **11m**
 Start on the slab left of #14 'OS'. Bouldery start on small gear to finish as for #14 'OS'.
 [G] [TH, LH, 2/8/04]

16. * Little Frog **17** **11m**
 The obvious crack 1m left of #17 'WTW', moving left at halfway and up face on strong rock.
 [G] [LH, TH, 2/8/04]

17. Wetting The Wick **19** **10m**
 Up the slab past 3 bolts to lower off. Harder than it looks, requiring a long sling on the second bolt.
 [3*B] [TH, LJ, 18/07/04]

The arête to the right of 'Wetting the Wick' has been soloed also.

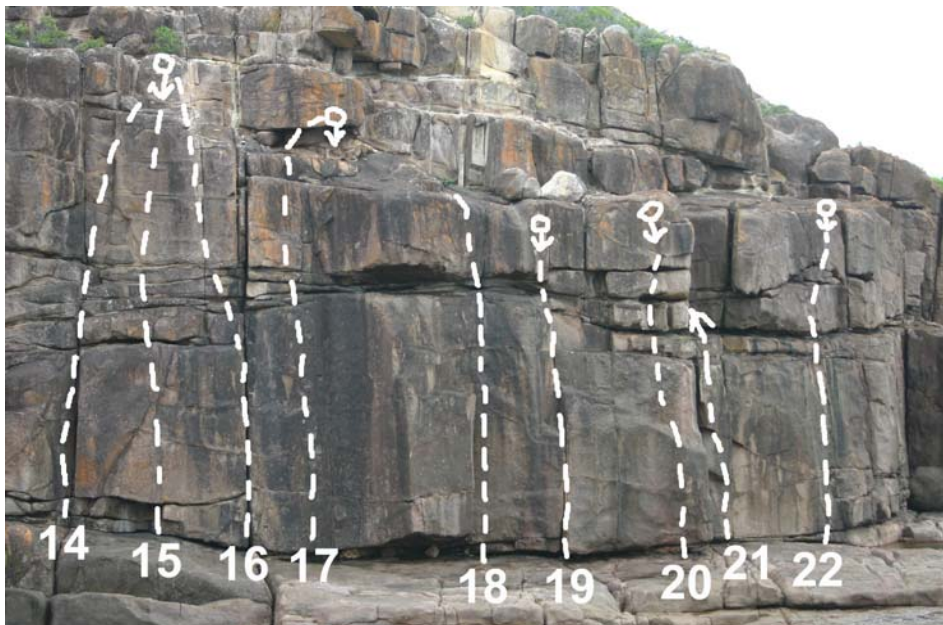
18. Vertical Hanger **19** **12m**
 Start in the overhanging crack 2m left of #19 'CL', small wires and RP's to start, then up to easier ground.
 [G] [TH, MP, 1/8/04]

19. Cliff Limit **17** **11m**
 Hard bouldery start, then up vague crack to double ring lower off.
 [G] [TH, MP, 1/8/04]

20. Ichi Knee **13** **8m**
 Mantle to easy moves past two rings to a lower off.
 [2*B] [AR, MB, 24/7/04]

21. Wide Horizon **15** **8m**
 Layback corner to finish at #20 'IK'. Has been sent direct but needs lower offs.
 [G] [CS, AR, 4/7/04]

22. Can You Place It **16** **8m**
 Step up on easy ground to high nut placement. The crux is doing the move with the wire in the crack! Take some bolt plates for the anchor, which can be set up from the top.
 [G] [CS, AR, 4/7/04]



There are some more lines to be put up to the right of No. 22, if any keen developers out there are interested. Some rock may need to be cleaned but the majority of it is ok. The lines right of the jutting boulders have all been climbed and bouldered on. The traverse is a good way of warming up!

All grades are still subjective and the author is open to constructive criticism!

First Ascensionists

TH = Tim Haasnoot
 CS = Corey Sawyer
 MP = Matt Parsons
 EG = Ed Giles
 AR = Amy Richardson
 LH = Leigh Harper
 LJ = Lauren Johnson
 MB = Merryn Butler
 VW = Vanessa Wills
 DBI = Dortes Blaadt
 Shane
 Dana