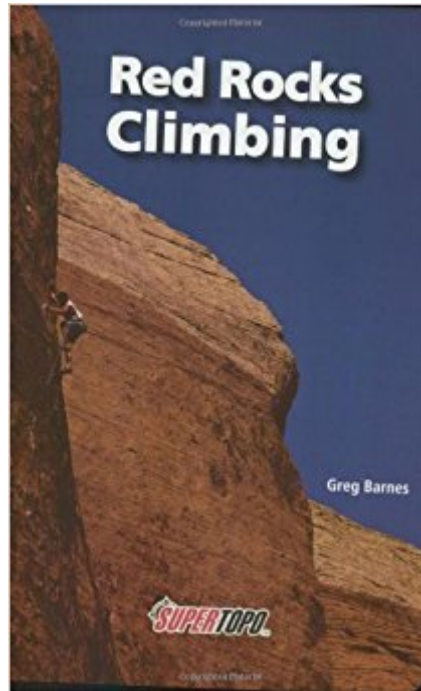




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# Red Rocks Climbing: Supertopos



## Synopsis

This book offers one hundred of the best routes in Red Rocks from 15-pitch trad climbs to single pitch sport routes. While this guidebook focuses on the most classic multi-pitch routes such as Crimson Chrysalis and Epinephrine, cragging routes are also included. Includes formerly obscure and unpublished climbs to provide more options for avoiding crowds. As in all SuperTopo books, the authors personally climbed and documented each route with meticulous care to create the most detailed and accurate topos ever published.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

SuperTopo is the authority when it comes to delivering super accurate, super detailed topos.

--Duane Raleigh, editor, Rock & Ice Magazine  
SuperTopo offers a clear and concise format and sets the stage for your own adventure.

--Conrad Anker, world renowned climber and mountaineer  
SuperTopo sets the standard for guidebooks. This book matches the majesty of the area, and that's a wonderful thing.

--John Long, author and Red Rocks First Ascentionist  
  
Greg has been climbing since 1994, and he can tell you every move on every route he's done, draw a topo from memory, give you his opinion on the rating of any pitch, repeat anything written in any guidebook, and tell you about the weather that day. He is Director of the American Safe Climbing Association. Between March 2001 and November 2002, Greg spearheaded the replacement of 482 bolts in Red Rocks canyons, including most of the long routes in this guidebook. He and other ASCA volunteers work long and hard to restore deteriorating bolts. Greg lives in

Bishop, Yosemite, Tuolumne, Joshua Tree, and Red Rocks and develops SuperTopos for these areas.

It's a good book if you're trad climbing, it has the majority of the routes in it. If you really want to know all the routes and have a ton of information, there are better guide books out there for Red Rocks.

To all the negative reviewers who complain about route selection: Supertopo guides have *\*never\** been about having a comprehensive route listing. Instead, they are meant to give very detailed route descriptions, which this guide does in spades. I do agree it could use a few more photographs to make it easier to find the start for the various routes. Otherwise, it has never led me astray.

I've got every Red Rocks guide ever published, which is about 10 books, including a really old one published in Rock and Ice around 1982. This guide is not comprehensive but contains a good selection of classic long routes. One thing I enjoyed was the historical information on each route. For example, Triassic Sands has a section on the history of this climb that can't be found anywhere else. However, if you just want to get up these routes you may think all this history is unnecessary. Red Rocks is a difficult area for one guide book as there are such a wide variety of climbs, from single pitch sport routes to multi-pitch sport routes to full day trad affairs. This book does seem to emphasize the latter and if you are more into sport climbing you are probably better off buying one of the comprehensive guides. The photos in this book are superb. The online version, in particular, has some really good shots. I guess they reproduce better on a monitor than on paper.

Compared to more recent publications, especially *Red Rocks, a Climber's Guide*, this book is next to useless. It's out-of-date and access descriptions are minimal causing much confusion and lost time. Getting to the routes quickly is important if you want to climb in the shade. Some of the best areas are not even mentioned. Photos are small and limited. Route descriptions themselves are good as are the line drawings of the routes, but overall coverage is limited.

This is the most useless climbing guide I have ever seen. There are 3 guidebooks available for Red Rocks. The best one is the new edition of Mountaineers guide edited by Roxanne Brock, which is a very comprehensive, and gives good route descriptions pitch by pitch. It is similar to 'Falcon' guide; in fact it is a copy of it with much improved topos and graphics. It is also somewhat

better organized than 'Falcon' guide and provides stellar guide for each route; very helpful. I definitely recommend it. The only good thing about supertopo guide are actually topos but unfortunately the number of routes described in this book is very limited. I can only guess that the author included only routes he has done, otherwise I cannot understand the reason of producing the guidebook to a phenomenal climbing area including only 10% routes or so. Second problem with the book is a lack of detailed route descriptions; instead the author decided to suggest strategy of doing the route consisting of a statement such as that the route is very popular and you should start early to be first in line to avoid waiting in the queue; I guess this is really difficult to figure out yourself. Third problem with the book is the lack of directions on how to get to the route. OK after few days and after talking to other climbers, who have climbed there for few days, you can get a good orientation but if you don't have anyone to ask for directions, you cannot work-out from this book. The book looks impressive if you never climbed in Red Rocks, but if you did, it is absolutely useless, unless you really want to limit yourself to a small number of routes described in the book. So do yourself a favor and don't waste your money for this particular book; go for Mountaineers guide, it is very good and useful. Besides it is cheaper. I bought this book because it was offered in the electronic form and I could print it out and reap easily pages with topos for the route. And go climbing in Red Rocks, it is really a stellar climbing area.

While the appearance of this guide is attractive and the information accurate it fails by being too selective in the routes it describes. If you're headed to Red Rocks, check out Red Rocks: A Climber's Guide by Jerry Handren and Southern Nevada Bouldering – Southern Nevada Bouldering – by Tom Moulin. Both have high artistic values and are comprehensive.

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