

THE BEST MOUNTAIN, CRAG, SEA CLIFF & SPORT CLIMBING IN SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH ROCK

VOLUME 1 SOUTH

2ND EDITION

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Gary Latter

ABOUT SCOTTISH ROCK

If you have an ambition to do all the climbs in these two Scottish Rock guides I think you'd better schedule time off in your next life. This labour of Gary's has been of gargantuan proportions. Somewhere along the way he encountered a time warp and an initial target of 1,000 climbs over a period of two years stretched to 4,500 in over a decade. Those of you who use the guides will benefit by this dedication and the sheer choice offered; if you divide the retail price of these by the number of good routes you'll realise you've got a bargain.

Volume 1 covers a proliferation of Scottish crags up to the natural demarcation of the Great Glen. They are easier of access than most in **Volume 2** and present infinite variety. Inevitably, with the march of time, progress and technique the freeing of many aid routes has come to pass and also the somewhat tedious task of cleaning on abseil has resulted in some way-out excursions being revealed. Creag an Dubh-loch is a typical example.

I have been a long-time advocate of selected climbs and the use of photographs to illustrate both climbs and action. I'm glad that this principle has been used throughout these two volumes. It gives you a push to get up and do things. Obviously Gary has had considerable time to think about layout, area intros, etc; this has been achieved with commendable clarity and lack of waffle.

The Outer Hebrides receives due attention, such as the idyllic rock playground of the Barra isles; summer sun, surf and delectable Lewisian gneiss. Just a wee way north, in North Harris, some of the intimidating routes at Sron Ulladale have, like Prometheus of legend, been freed of rock attachments. Further north, beyond the magic of Skye, in the Northern Isles even more crags are revealed such as Berry Head and St John's Head. Here at this latitude in the simmer dim you can really rock around the clock! The list seems endless and if you succeed in doing half of them you'll be a much better climber and know a lot more about Scotland – have a good decade!

HAMISH MACINNES

UIAA PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

"Climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement."