

Sinks Canyon - Wyoming - USA

Sinks Canyon is sports climbing paradise. First of all is it a 4 season place if you climb very early or in the evening in summer. In winter walk up to the crag,, doesn't matter how cold it is at the parking spot. It will be most likely pleasant warm. The locals told us that climbing in a T-shirt is most of the time possible.

Furthermore are the routes very nice and well protected. For sure a place were you can push your technical (and power) limits. The rock is solid and on some routes pretty hard on your finger tips. If not tired after climbing at the crag there are some nice boulders in the valley. Maybe the only drawback is that there is not much easy climbing around. There are only a few 5.9 or less. Most of the routes are 5.11 and more. That also tells us that the climbing is steep if not overhanging.

Middle Fork Falls

Type		Approach	10 min	Altitude	7400 feet 2250m
Style		Descent	chain on two bolts	Length	up to 100 feet / 30m
Rock	Big Horn Dolomite	Gear	200 ft (60m), 12 quick draws, (maybe clip stick)	Exposure	South
Grade	US 5.4 - 5.14a	Protection		Commitment	

When to go

Sinks Canyon is a 4 season climbing place despite its elevation of 7400 feet. Tough, there is not much if none shade at all. Climbing in summer means getting up early in the morning or do something else until late afternoon. Spring and fall are the best times. Especially fall is lovely with all the colors. Nights can be cold if you stay in the canyon. According to the locals winter can be pleasant, even when it is freezing at the parking spot. Just walk up, maybe trough the snow, it will warm up at the cliff.

Restriction, Access, Ethics and Family Issues

No restrictions or access problems. Use common sense and don't leave anything behind. Hardly any easy climbs for your kids but they can play around. However, approach might be too long and there is hardly any shade. Dogs are allowed.

Hazards and Emergencies

Rattle Snakes and Poison Ivy are common in the area. Emergency call 911. Lander Valley Hospital, 332 - 4420

Camping

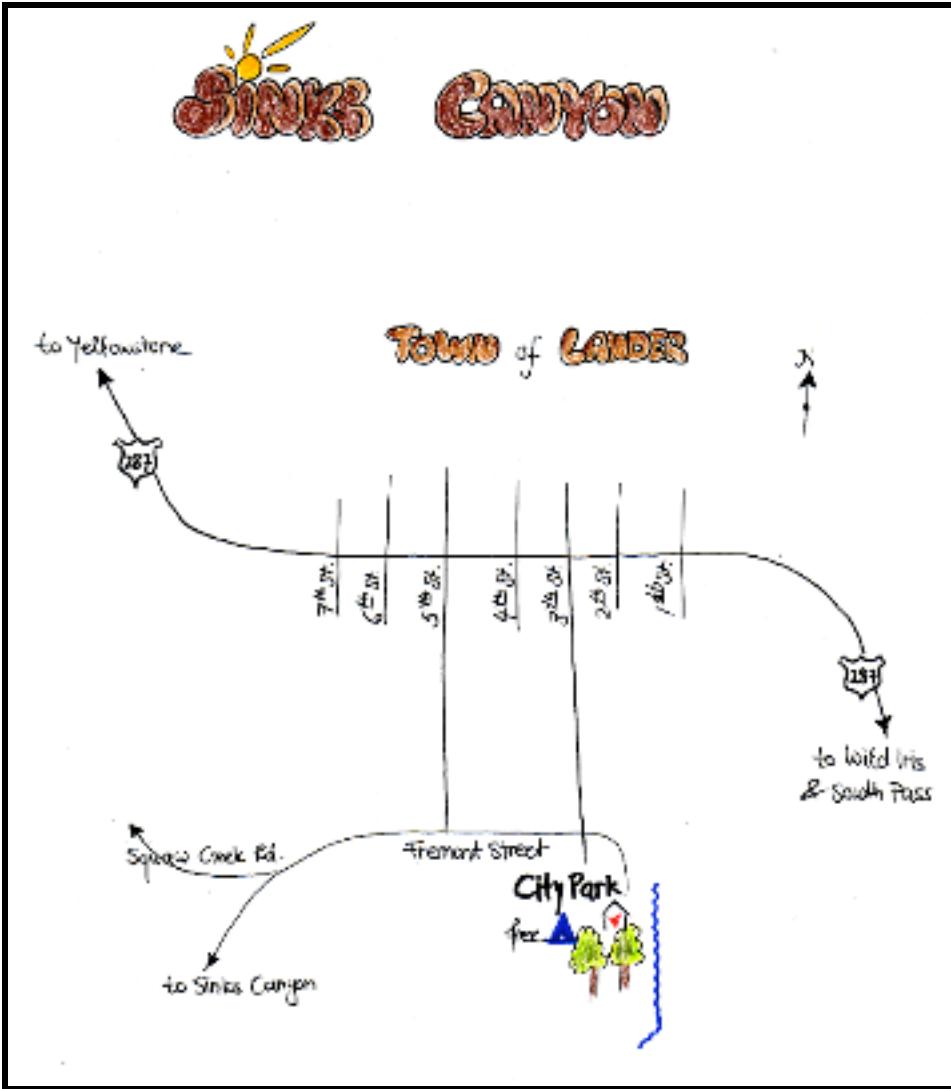
For free at City Lander Park (max. 3 days), fee camping in the canyon, free camping a minute drive up the road from the parking on your left (max. 16 days).

Guidebooks

Sport Climbs of Sinks Canyon by Pail Piana

Other Information

Visitor Center in town, just follow the signs.



Getting there

Lander is at the junction of Highway 287 and 789. Once in the town turn South on 5th Street (Sign Sinks Canyon). Take a right on Fremont Street. This road turns into Highway 113. Follow the road into the canyon for about 9 miles. Park after the cattle guard on your right.

Camping in town!

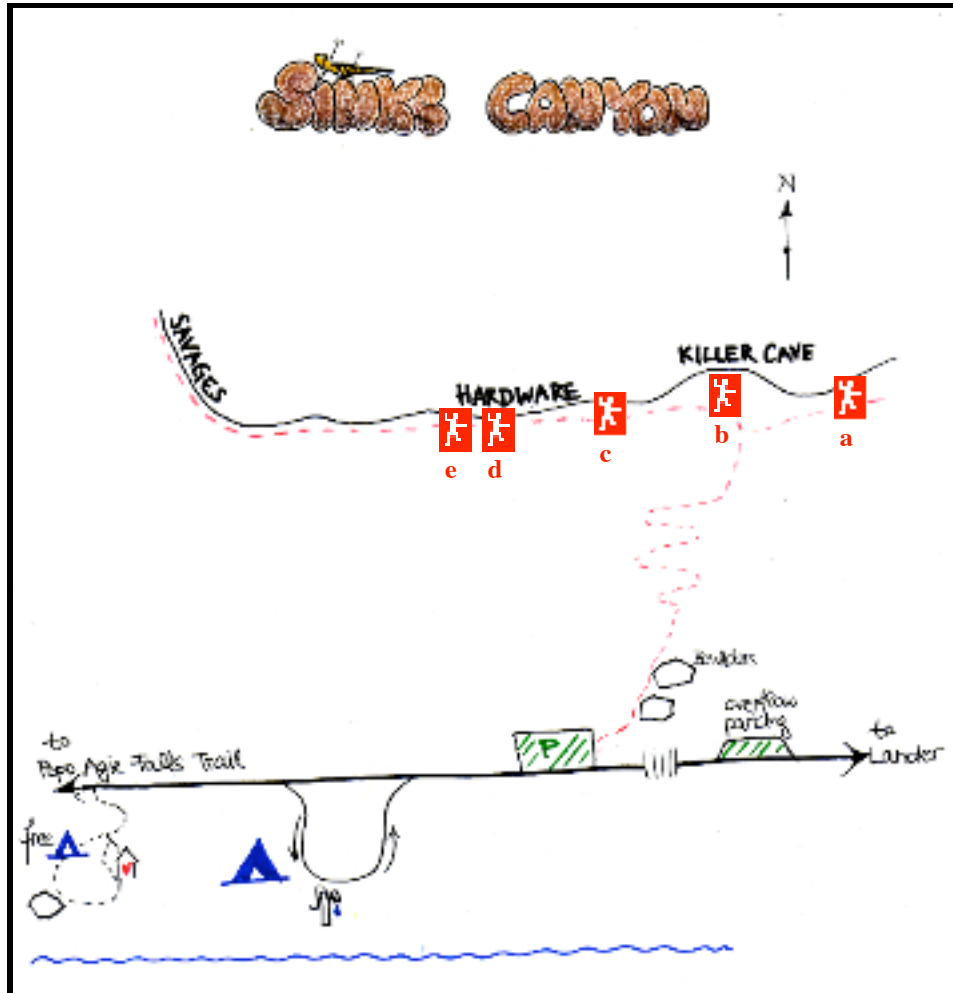
There is free camping at the City Park in Lander. Please respect the 3 days limit.



First three bolts of the route Sun Spot, 5.12a



Summit Pinnacle



Sinks Canyon Overview and Approach

The long cliff is very obvious from the parking. The trail goes up the hill just on the right side of the parking area and leads to the killer cave. The climbs are mostly bolt protected and the anchors are in a good shape. For your safety a clip stick might be a good idea.

Sectors

- a Right Killer Cave (Page 3)
- b Killer Cave (not included)
- c Child's Play (Page 5)
- d Little Creatures (Page 6)
- e White Heat (Page 6)

Camping + Water

Free camping is a bit further up the road on your right. Water and fee camping is just a few yards after the parking area also to your right.

Right of Killer Cave and Summit Pinnacle

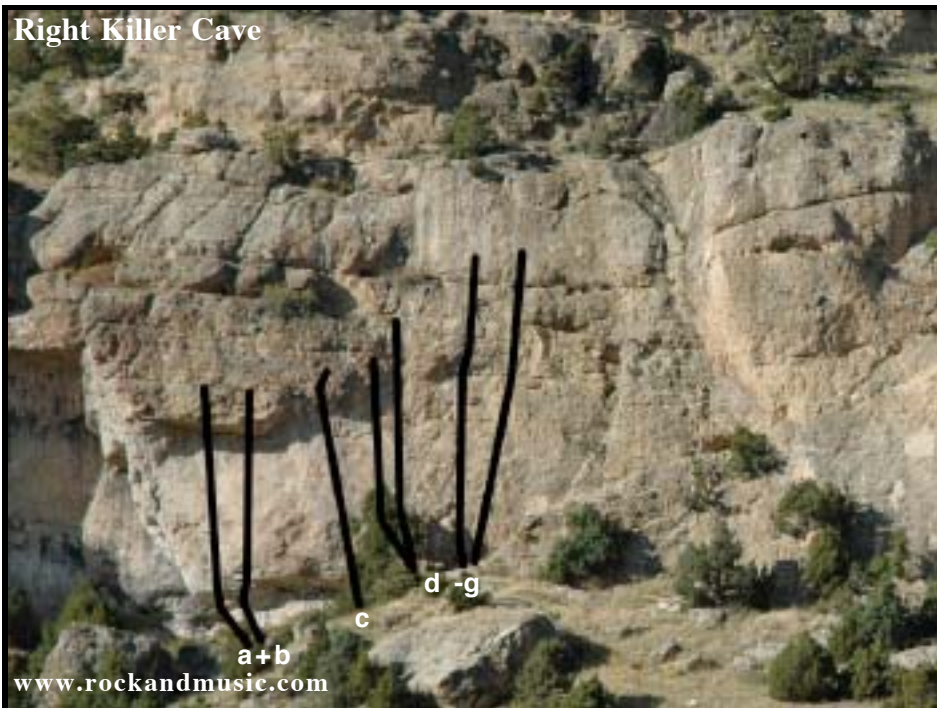
Left of Killer Cave is a good place to get used to the rock. There are many moderate routes. It's also a good place for warming up or cooling down, the climbs are steep but mostly not overhanging. All climbs are bolt protected and the anchors are in a good shape. Clip stick recommended.



Approach

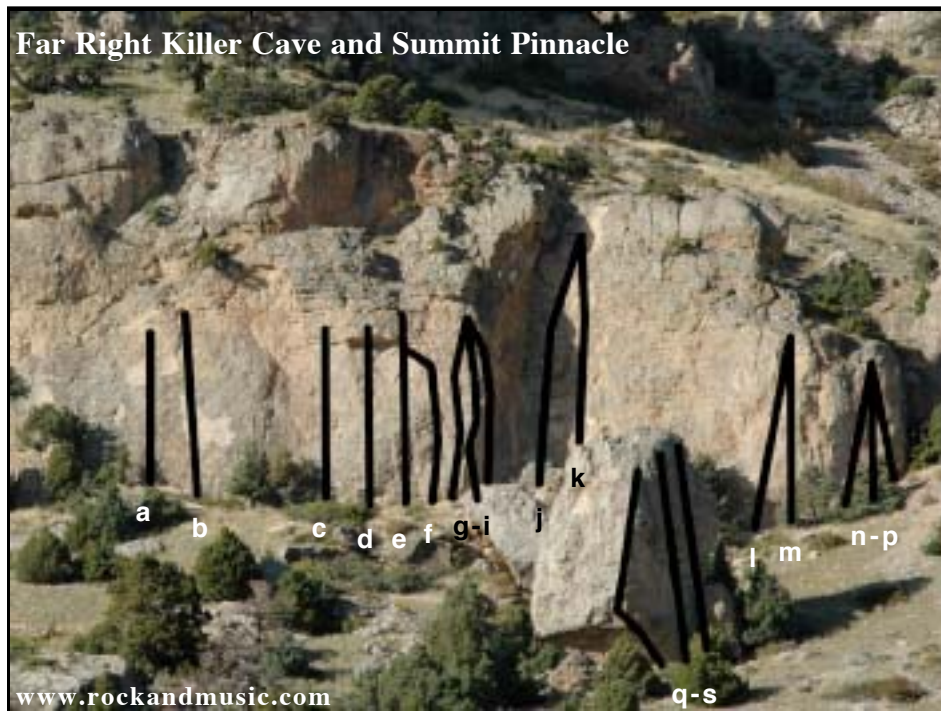
Take a right at Killer Cave. One Love is the first climb after the cave. Follow the trail for the other climbs. Summit Pinnacle is reached before getting to Killer Cave on the main trail

Right Killer Cave



- a One love, 5.13c
- b Coming' Home Curly, 5.14a
- c Spook Eyes, 5.12a
- d Second Hand Nova, 5.11b
- e Back-Up Binky, 5.12a
- f King of Hearts, 5.10d
- g Action Candy, 510a

Far Right Killer Cave and Summit Pinnacle



- a Dog'n Dude, 5.9+
- b Banoffe, 5.10a
- c Duck Soup, 5.10c
- d Stud Alert, 5.10d
- e Climb Like A Girl, 5.10b
- f Atta Boy, 5.10b
- g Unknown
- h Boy I Gotta go, 5.10a
- i You Go Girl, 5.11a
- j Mei Day, 5.7
- k Girl's Day Out, 5.7
- l Rubber Soul, 5.11b
- m Storm of the Century, 5.11a
- n Scud Alert I, 5.10d
- o Scud Alert II, 5.10b
- p Scud Alert III, 5.10d
- q Spank the Monkey, 5.12a
- r Monkeys on the Moon, 5.11c
- s Monkey Man, 5.10d



Unknown climber at the crux of the climb Stud Alert, 5.10d (Right Killer Cave)

Child's Play

Child's Play has one of the best easy climbs at Sinks Canyon. Put Down your Ducky is a excellent 5.9 climb that is just a lot of fun. Don't miss it. All the climbs are bolt protected and the anchors are in a good shape. Clip stick recommended.

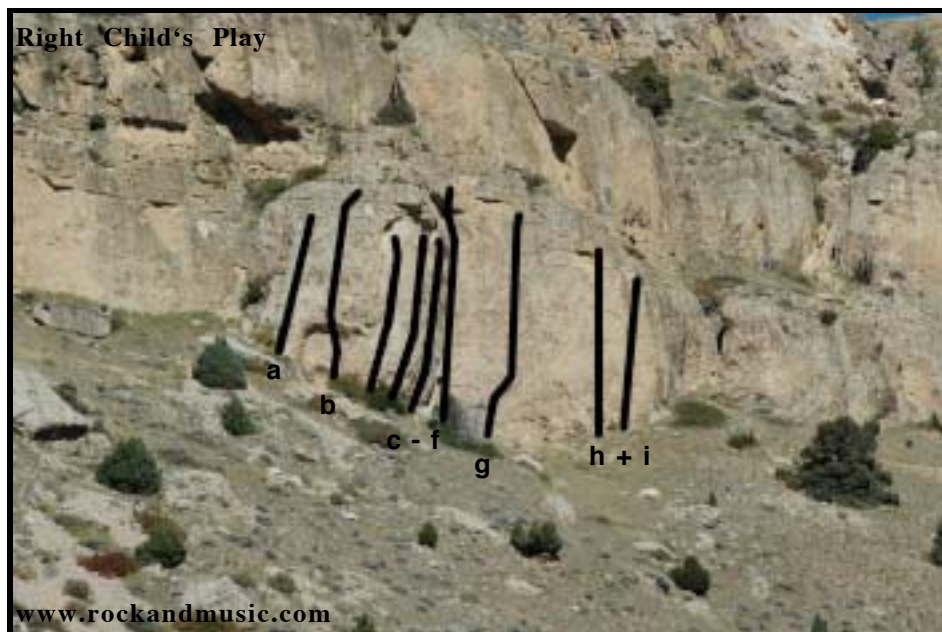


Approach

Take a left at Killer Cave. You will pass several climbs until you reach Put Down your Ducky after an obvious pillar. Keep on going for the other climbs at Child's Play.



- i Red Light Love, 5.11c
- j The Ogre, 5.11a
- k Put Down your Ducky, 5.9



- a No Self Control, 5.10b
- b Straight Up Crew, 5.11d
- c Wam-Mo, 5.12ca
- d Sand Digger, 5.12b
- e Camel Jockey, 5.13b
- f More Funky than Gunky, 5.9
- g Child's Play, 5.10c
- h Lost Boy, 5.12a
- i Red Light Love, 5.11c

White Heat and Little Creatures

White Heat and Little Creatures offer a good number of awesome moderate to hard climbs. However, Storm Warning is a hard 5.9 with some interesting moves. All climbs are bolt protected and the anchors are in a good shape. Clip stick recommended.



Approach

Take a left at Killer Cave. Pass Child's Play. There are a few climbs before you reach Fine Dining at Little Creatures. Keep on going for the other climbs.



- a Fun, Fun, Joy, Joy, 5.10b
- b Dime Time, 5.13b
- c Mono A Mono, 5.13a
- d Acid Ranger, ??
- e White Heat, 5.12d
- f Blushing Crow, 5.12c
- g War Party, 5.12b
- h The Sting, ??
- i Consumption, 5.12b
- j Center Pillar, 5.10d
- k Searching for Jose Cuervo, 12c
- l No Impact, 5.11d
- m Spike'n Vein, 5.11b
- n Storm Warning, 5.9
- o Hale Bop, 5.11a
- p Peter Bop, 5.10d
- q Little Creatures, 5.11a
- r Titanic, 5.11b
- s Pocket full of Kryptonite, .13b
- t Guardian Angel, 5.12b
- u The Brisket, 5.12b
- v Fine Dining, 5.12b



Unknown climber on Spook Eyes, 5.12a (Right Killer Cave)



Killer Cave in the middle of the picture. Right of Killer Cave further back

Services in Lander:

- **Grocery:**
Saveway in town (Main Street). Open from 6 am to 10 pm 7 days a week.
- **Water / Showers:**
Water at the fee campground in the Canyon. Showers at the Lander Pool 450 S. 9th.
- **Restaurant:**
El Sol de Mexico, 453 Main Street, Very good Mexican Restaurant close to Saveway. A bit pricy
- **Internet Access:**
Public Library at 451 N. 2nd (Closed Sunday)
- **Outdoor Gear:**
Wild Iris at 333 Main Street, www.wildirisclimbing.com
The NOLS Outlet Store at 502 Lincoln Street

Other activities and attractions

- **Road bicycling** is very popular around the town of Lander.
- **Mountain Biking** is possible. A good but hard trail is up to the Middle Fork Falls. Watch out for horses on the trail.
- **Hiking / Back Country** A lot of possibilities. Nice hike up to the Middle Fork Falls. For more check out the visitor center in town.
- **Jogging** is possible in the town but also a bit up in the canyon.
- **Horse Back Riding** is very popular in Lander. Ask at the visitor center for rental possibilities.
- **Sinks Canyon State Park.** The creek disappears in the ground and comes about two hours later a few hundred yards further down back to the surface.
- Check out www.rockandmusic.com for more information

Climbing areas close by you will find on www.rockandmusic.com

- Lots of crags in **Utah**

Other climbing areas close by

- **Wild Iris** about 40 minutes out of the Lander on Highway 287

Information on the Internet

Lander: www.landerchamber.org

Sinks Canyon State Park: www.wyobest.org

RaM Experience Board

Always check out the RaM Experience Board before you head out to a climbing area. There might be an important message. Should you encounter anything special could we kindly ask you to add your experience/comment to the RaM Experience Board. A big thanks from all the other climbers.



above Sometimes a Hawk is flying around above the cliff
left Unknown climber or cowboy at Banoffe, 5.10a (Right Killer Cave)