

ROCKSPORT

Tom Rosecrans - Owner

Success Magazine: Tom, RockSport offers 4,200 feet of indoor rock climbing. What features are included in this space?

Tom Rosecrans: RockSport has walls as high as thirty-two feet and climbs as long as forty-five feet. There are two designated bouldering “caves” which feature short difficult climbs that are attempted unroped, close to the ground, and with soft landing pads. We also have a series of shorter, “gentler” walls for the young and/or timid. The main part of the gym has corners, pillars, overhangs ... all the same type of topography that you would encounter outdoors climbing on real rock.

SM: Why is RockSport a great venue for a party?

TR: A party is a great first-time introduction to the sport and whether it is a birthday party, scout or church group, or a bachelorette gathering, there is something satisfying about attaining one’s goals.

SM: Do you offer outdoor guided climbs as well? How do you ensure that every climb is a safe and successful one?

TR: Indoor climbing gyms developed as a training ground for climbing outside. Since their inception as a commercial venture here in the US in 1985, they have begun to take on a life of their own. But, their ultimate purpose is to prepare the climber for the challenges outdoor climbing poses. The Adirondacks are a wonderfully diverse collection of rock faces. Some are miles from the nearest road



and are hundreds of feet high. Some require a canoe or boat ride to the base, as the cliffs soar above the shores of an Adirondack lake. Within an hour’s drive of RockSport are classic routes sought after by climbing visitors and dedicated locals alike.

To ensure the safety of climbers outdoors a guiding operation must have excellent training and a wealth of experience. The guides at RockSport are trained by the American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) and the Professional Climbing Instructors Association (PCIA). In addition, RockSport guides have climbed in the great mountain ranges of the world. From the Himalayas, Africa, and Europe to the many areas in the US and Canada, our guides have been there. Not only do RockSport guides have the varied experience of world-wide climbing, but we also have been climbing and guiding in the Adirondacks for the last forty years. We have been activists in creating new routes and areas, especially in the Southern Adirondacks and the Lake George area. Our familiarity with the rock allows us to match climbers to routes that will ensure success and a sense of accomplishment.



SM: What would you like people to know about rock climbing? What advice would you give to someone considering trying it for the first time?

TR: Rock climbing is not the “lunatic fringe” activity that it was once thought to be. With the advent of commercial climbing gyms, climbing is within reach of everyone. It is not just for the young, either. I’m turning 61 this month and I’m going climbing in Nepal and Tibet next month. I can’t wait!

ROCKSPORT

Outdoor Guiding Service & Indoor Climbing Facility



518-793-4626



Parties - Groups - Scouts



rocksportny.com