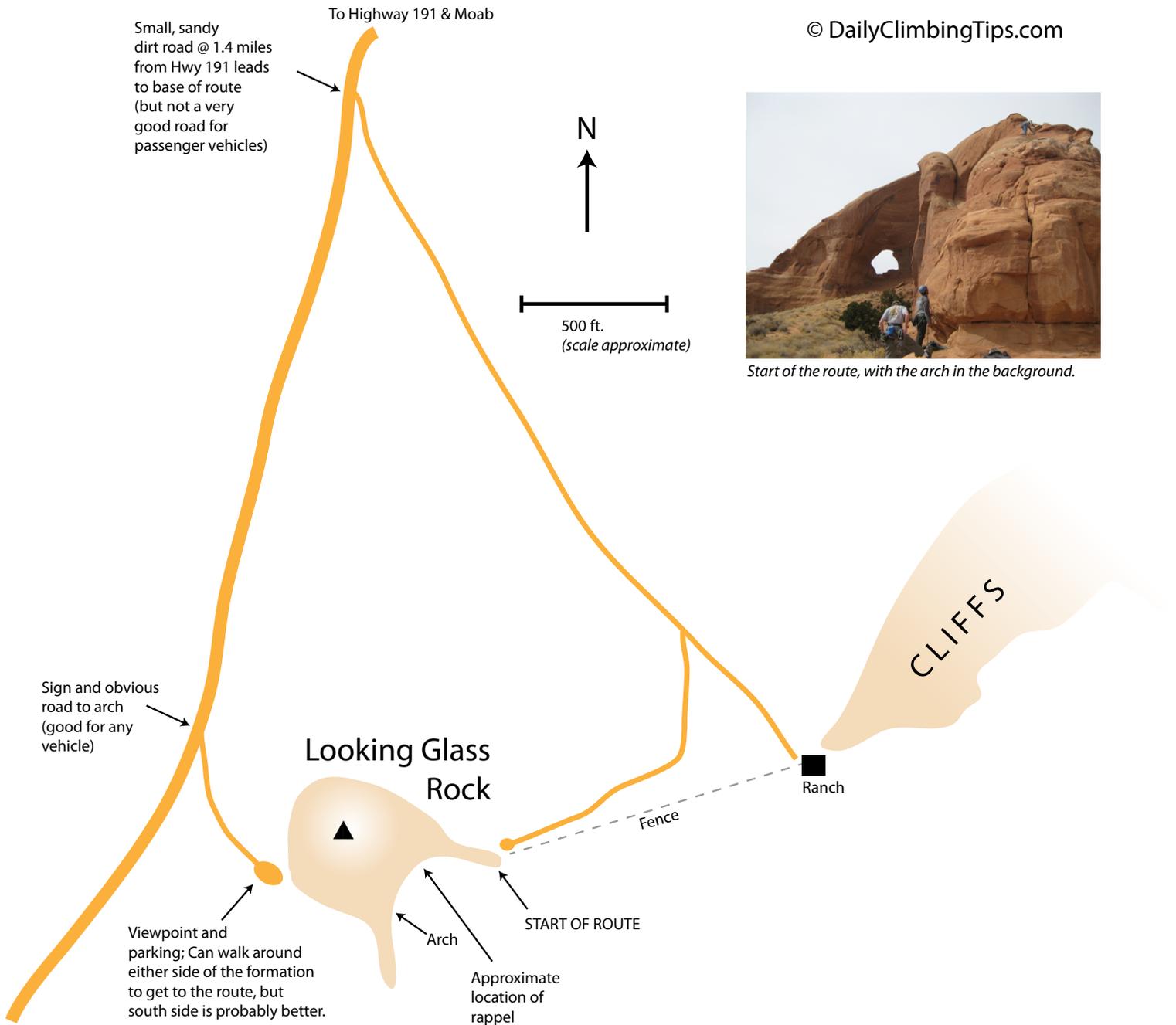


Looking Glass Rock, Regular Route (3 pitches, 300'+, 5.5)

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GETTING THERE

Head south from Moab for 20-something miles. Be looking for obvious signs that say "La Sal Junction." About 3/4 of a mile after the junction, you'll see a sign on the right side of the road that says "Looking Glass Rock." Turn onto the dirt road. See the map for the rest of the information; the road at 1.4 miles from the highway will get you closer to the route but may not be suitable for passenger vehicles. The other way requires a 5 minute walk to the base of the route. Route starts just left of buttress.

GEAR

3 draws/slings (more if linking pitches), plus whatever you need for belays.
70m rope or 2 shorter (50m or 60m) ropes.
Possible purple Camalot placement at top of first pitch. You could also probably get a piece in at the start of the route. Cams not necessary; next time, I won't take any.

THE CLIMB

Note: Pitch lengths are approximate. We combined pitches 2 & 3 with a 70m rope (there was just barely enough rope left). Not sure if you could combine 1 & 2 with a 60m rope.

Pitch 1: Up short crack/dihedral to bolt on flat ledge. Follow ridge/buttress up past 2 more bolts to 2 bolt belay on ledge. 3 bolts, 100'

Pitch 2: Keep going up the ridge to a 2-bolt belay on ledge. Possible purple (.5) Camalot placement right before belay. 3 bolts, 100' (crux pitch)

Pitch 3: Head up easy slab past 1 bolt to a 2-bolt belay. 1 bolt, 110'

Unrope and walk (2nd class) up to the summit of the formation.

DESCENT

Look for rap anchor at the lip of hole that goes through the formation to the arch amphitheater. You'll need to scramble down to the anchor itself, but there are 2 bolts at the top of the scramble that you can use to belay each other to the rap anchors. Rap anchor is several bolts with webbing and looked solid as of 3/11.

A single 70m rope doubled up will barely be long enough to get you down (we had a foot or two left on each end before rope stretch). Otherwise, take 2 ropes.

Very wild and very cool free-hanging rappel!