

Gatzsch Your Goat ** 5.12a or 5.11a/A0, 550 m, gear

Standard Rack to 4" double ropes, 18 draws (several long slings) recommended

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This is another good addition to the **Goat Wall** and adds to its stout reputation of housing long involved traditional-routes. This line has a very "Old School" feeling on the first 5 pitches then reverts to a somewhat to a more "Modern Mixed Traditional" motif on the upper pitches due to a power drill being employed on the upper portion of the climb. Rock quality is generally solid but there are several suspect sections that will require care. The line was established over three separate attempts with only marginal cleaning of loose rock. It's a very worthwhile longer route for the competent low 5.11 leader and due to the two plus hour approach and the length of the climb it requires parties plan on a very long day to complete. The team should be very strong and competent traditional climbers at the upper end 5.10 grade or better yet the lower end of 5.11. The 5.12 bit is a short boulder problem on pitch 9. This crux can be overcome by pulling on two fixed points for aid (A0).

Note: The first five pitches were put up without the bolting equipment on a rainy day in June. To climb these original pitches it is recommended that you bring a few pitons. The first ascent party hopes to return someday to add proper belay bolts to pitches 1, 3, and 4 and a additional protection bolts to pitch 3 and pitch 4 above the fixed pin to help protect the awkward crux in the off-width dihedral. All belays from the top of pitch 5 through pitch 12 are equipped with two ringbolts to facilitate rappelling the route.

To Start: To locate the climb start at the base of the large left facing dihedral located at the right side of the South Face housing the climb *Goat Buttress*. To access the start, follow the creek till you reach the headwall to access the *Goat Buttress* route. As the creek butts up against the base of the wall protecting the upper hanging drainage. Follow the base of the headwall up a slope to the right for roughly 10 min to reach a obvious left facing gully/dihedral. The top half of the dihedral is shown in "Bow Valley Rock" on page 78 and is the large shadow line in the lower right hand corner. This obvious corner line concludes at a notch with a pronounced tower separated from the main wall. On the two subsequent attempts to complete the line the first ascent party choose to solo up to this notch at the top of pitch 5 by an easier corner system on the East facing Goat Wall. This corner is found about 100 m left of the climb *Oreamnos* on **page 82** in "**Bow Valley Rock**" to start onto pitch 6.

P1: 5.7, 55 m. Start up into the dihedral after 20 m of easy climbing but loose, head out left onto a solid grey slabby face avoiding the rubble filled corner. Several seams allow for good protection to gain a small scree-covered ledge with a small tree. The belay is marginal and could use bolts.

P2: 4th class, 20 m. Head up and right over rolling ground to a large spruce tree to belay.

P3: 5.7/X, 55 m. Climb the face above looking for the line of least resistance. After 30 m start angling rightward to end up in the corner of the dihedral at the base of the off width crack. Several cracks offer a good belay from cams.

Note: The pitch needs 2 or 3 bolts added as there doesn't seem to be any natural protection. Although only a few moves at the grade stated you are essentially free soloing with a rope.

P4: 5.10d, 55 m. Climb the obvious off width crack above. This pitch is mostly sustained 5.9 climbing on excellent rock. There is a knife-blade pin on the right wall at roughly 30 m just above is the devious but committing crux. This should have a bolt added or bring 6" pro. Continue up the dihedral for 10 m as the dihedral widens. First climb the left of two cracks avoiding a loose blocky section on the right. Then make awkward moves right to gain the right hand crack and continue on steeper ground to reach a two-piton belay below a large roof.

P5: 5.9, 50 m. Make strenuous moves out to the right to overcome the roof. Follow the obvious corner crack above until it is possible to squeeze onto a notch between the main wall and the tower formed by the dihedral on the right. There is a two-bolt belay on the main wall through this opening.

P6: 5.10d, 50 m. Climb onto the tower opposite the belay for 3 m then step across the void onto the main wall to clip a bolt. Hard sustained moves to the right, to gain a shallow right facing corner. Climb the corner trending slightly left on sustained perfect grey rock past four bolts to a right slanting corner. Climb the corner for 5 m more moving right to the belay.

P7: 5.10a, 60 m. Climb the steep groove up and left from the belay past a bolt to gain the easier right slanting corner above. Follow the corner to the bolt belay.

P8: 5.10b, 55 m. Climb for 5 m then traverse left for 15 m rising past three bolts. Then climb to a fourth bolt, continue up the face angling slightly right to a small ledge. Move right using the ledge as a handrail to gain a crack climb the right slanting crack to the belay.

P9: 5.11a/A0 or 5.12a, 45 m. Traverse right to a bolt, climb sustained ground past two bolts to a small alcove below a steep bulge. Hard stemming leads over the bulge past the next two bolts (5.12a boulder problem or A0 the two bolts). Move up to a roof and mantel onto the slanting ledge above. Climb the slanted ledge to a bolt make hard moves right to gain a crack, climb the crack then move left onto the face up to a bolt. Hard moves lead up and left from the bolt to gain a ledge, moving leftward along the ledge for 5 m to reach the bolted belay.

P10: 5.10a, 55 m. Climb directly above the belay to a large ledge, move left along the ledge to a small tree. Climb the face above to gain a shallow right slanting groove and a bolt. Climb the groove to a second bolt now traverse right to gain a left facing dihedral. Climb the corner to the belay near the top on the right.

P11: 5.10b, 55 m. Climb the corner to the top and then step onto the face climbing past a bolt. Continue up to a second bolt and the move right then up and back left past a bolt to gain the obvious right facing dihedral above. Climb the dihedral for 10 m to the bolt belay on the right.

P12: 5.10a, 45 m. Continue up the crack for 20 m to a bolt at a difficult bulge move up and right to a second bolt. After the bolt move back left to some discontinuous cracks climb these being careful of loose rock to the top and a bolt belay on the right.

Decent: The first ascent party rappelled the route to the top of pitch 5 using two 60 m ropes, they then rappelled off to the east from the notch towards the start of *Oreamnos* (not down the line of ascent detailed above). After another full 60 m rappel, the team then soloed down approximately 150 m of 5.5 to 5.6 to reach the base of the wall taking a little over 2 hours for the entire descent using this preferred option. The original descent option as for the route *Goat Buttress* starts just off to the left from this climb. However It requires that parties continue scrambling upward and north to the summit of Goat Mountain for 1-2 hours then down-climb to the **Goat/Yamnuska Col** then traverse back to the start of the route. This second option takes approximately 4 hours to return to the start of the route. It requires significant down climbing, that's goes up to 5.6 for grade for a competent party that knows the way! You make the choice and let the adventure begin.

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