

# Lower Door Jamb Rock Climbing Mini Guide

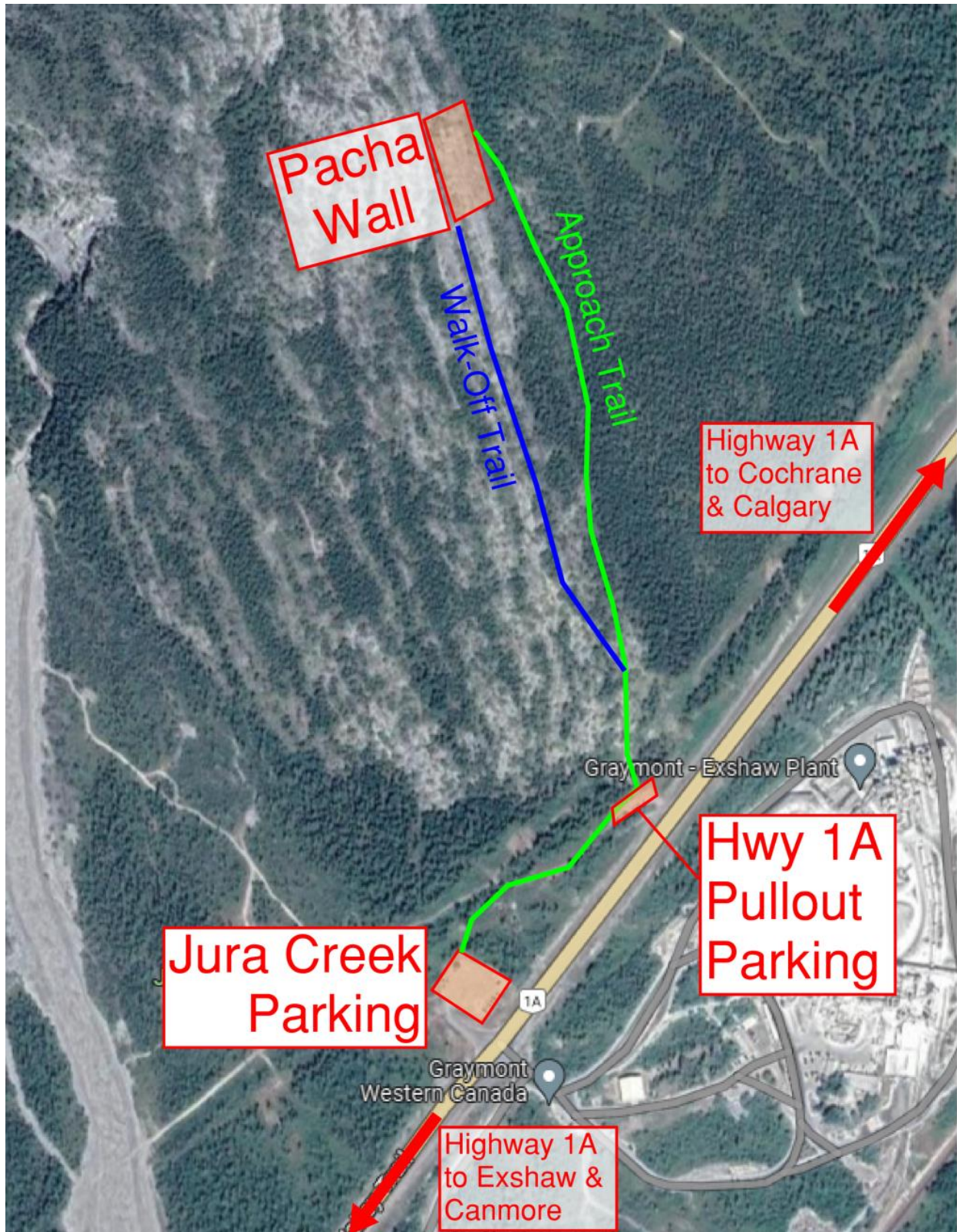


**Fantastic Moderate Climbs on Great Rock!**  
**4 Multi-Pitch Routes + 7 Single Pitch, 5.5 to 5.9**

Written by Brendan Clark  
Version 2.0 – September 29, 2024



## Area Map



## The Approach & Descent

Park at either the Jura Creek parking lot (recommended, washrooms provided) or the rough gravel pullout at the base of Door Jamb Mountain. Start your hike on a small hump directly beneath the power lines on the far hiker's right side of the Door Jamb Mountain trail. Hike up the trail, staying on the rightmost well-trodden trail. After about 5-10 minutes you will reach a scramble up a V-shaped feature beside a large tree. Follow a rough trail to the right and up, or otherwise, scramble up the V and look to your right for a very obvious large cairn (waypoint coordinates provided below). This is the start of the climber's trail. From the cairn, drop off the ridge and traverse on the nice trail. Stay left at all major junctions. Eventually you will come across the rock on your left-hand side. The first route you will come across is Paramnesia.

### Approach: 700 m, 120 m gain, 15-25 min

All routes are easily rappelled with a 60m rope. Note that some of the rappels are close to 30m so be sure to tie knots in the end of your rope. There is also a very nice walk-off descent: from the top of the cliff, head left through some trees then gain the main Door Jamb Mountain scramble trails to head down the ridge back to the parking area. There are several trails braided amongst the trees, but they will all take you down the mountain to the bottom.

### Coordinates

Jura Creek Parking: 51.069533, -115.140450 (N 51° 04.172 W 115° 08.427)

Hwy 1A Pullout Parking: 51.071050, -115.138300 (N 51° 04.263 W 115° 08.298)

Start of Climber's trail (large cairn): 51.072683, -115.138650 (N 51° 04.361 W 115° 08.319)

Trail Mark 1 (stay left): 51.073433, -115.138500 (N 51° 04.406 W 115° 08.310)

Trail Mark 2 (stay left): 51.074150, -115.138483 (N 51° 04.449 W 115° 08.309)

[CLICK HERE FOR A GPX TRACK OF THE PACHA WALL AREA](#)

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## Pacha Wall

The Pacha Wall is a NE-facing section of rock on the lower slopes of Door Jamb Mountain, tucked in a steep slabby area that had not seen any prior modern route development. The wall is named after the route Pachamama, with the steep left-facing corner (3<sup>rd</sup> pitch) of that route enticing the development of the first sport climb on the wall by Brendan Clark back in spring of 2022. The routes on Pacha Wall climb from the forest up onto the south ridge of Door Jamb Mountain, offering great views of the Bow Valley with fun climbing on sound rock. The approach is also reasonably short, which makes it even more surprising that these cliffs have not been previously developed.

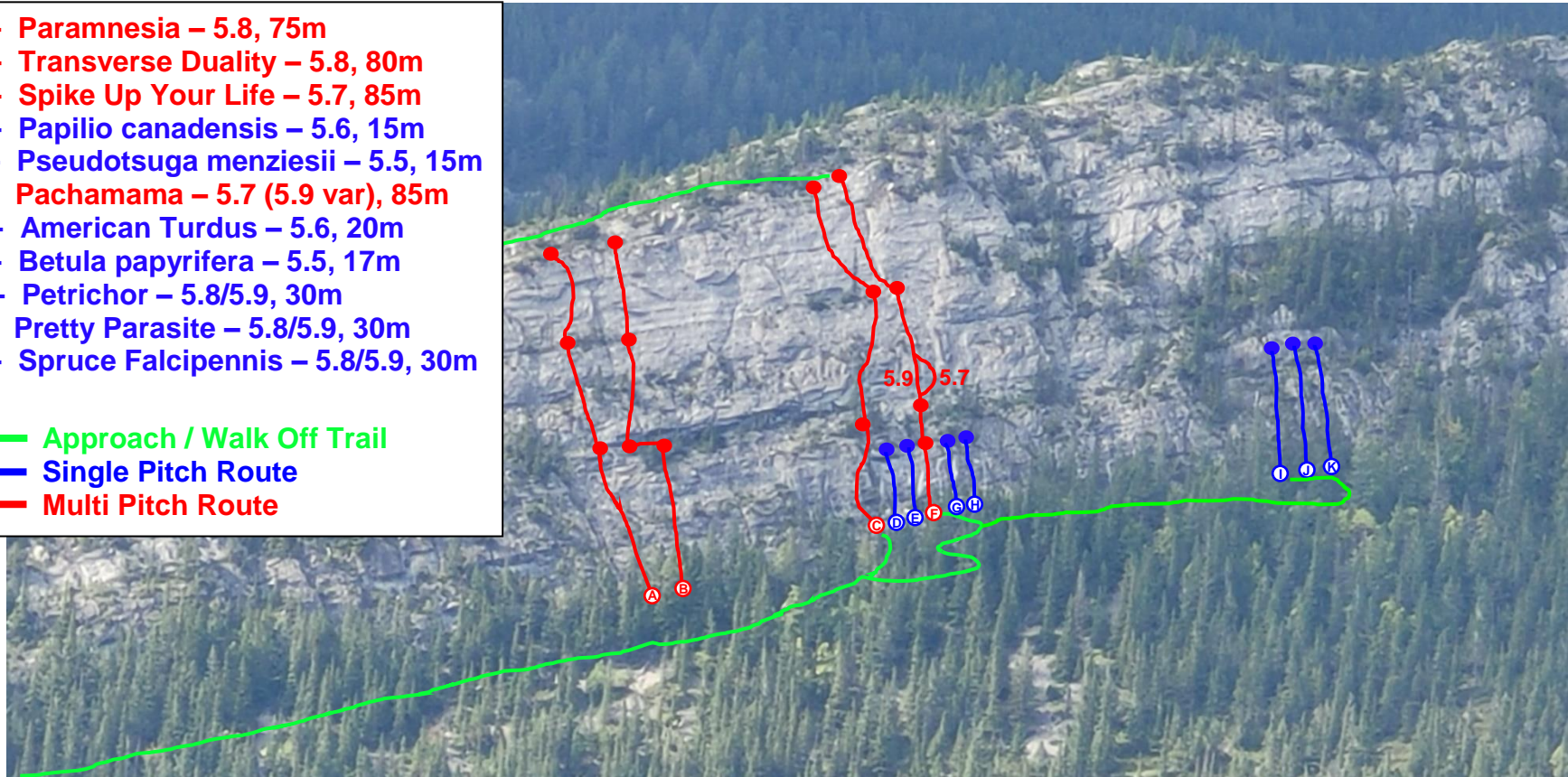
After hiking up the main Door Jamb trail and heading off onto the nice climber's trail, you will eventually come across the tall, slabby wall on your left-hand side. **Note that some route development is still active in the area so please be mindful of fixed ropes and obey all area closures if developers need to safely clean loose rock from above.**



## Lower Door Jamb – Pacha Wall Photo Topo

- A - Paramnesia – 5.8, 75m
- B - Transverse Duality – 5.8, 80m
- C - Spike Up Your Life – 5.7, 85m
- D - Papilio canadensis – 5.6, 15m
- E - Pseudotsuga menziesii – 5.5, 15m
- F - Pachamama – 5.7 (5.9 var), 85m
- G - American Turdus – 5.6, 20m
- H - Betula papyrifera – 5.5, 17m
- I - Petrichor – 5.8/5.9, 30m
- J - Pretty Parasite – 5.8/5.9, 30m
- K - Spruce Falcipennis – 5.8/5.9, 30m

- Approach / Walk Off Trail
- Single Pitch Route
- Multi Pitch Route





# Paramnesia – 5.8, 75 m, 3 pitches

FA – John H. & Guy P., 2023

Route Coordinates: 51.076092, -115.140073

The first bolted climb you will come across as you hike along the trail.

**Pitch 1: 5.8, 32 m, 11 bolts** - Begin up the low angle slab using holes, incuts, and edges. The pitch trends a little leftward generally. The climbing is mostly low 5th until the 5.8 overhang. Good footwork and a reasonable high handhold takes you through the overhang. Clip the first bolt of P2 as a directional for your second and step right to the anchor above a good ledge.

**Pitch 2: 5.7, 23 m, 8 bolts** - From the anchor traverse left past the bolt you clipped at the top of P1 then friction moves into a bay. The general direction is a slight leftward trend but some moves require searching for the holds and sometimes stepping left or right. Towards the top it gets a little technical but decent climbing.

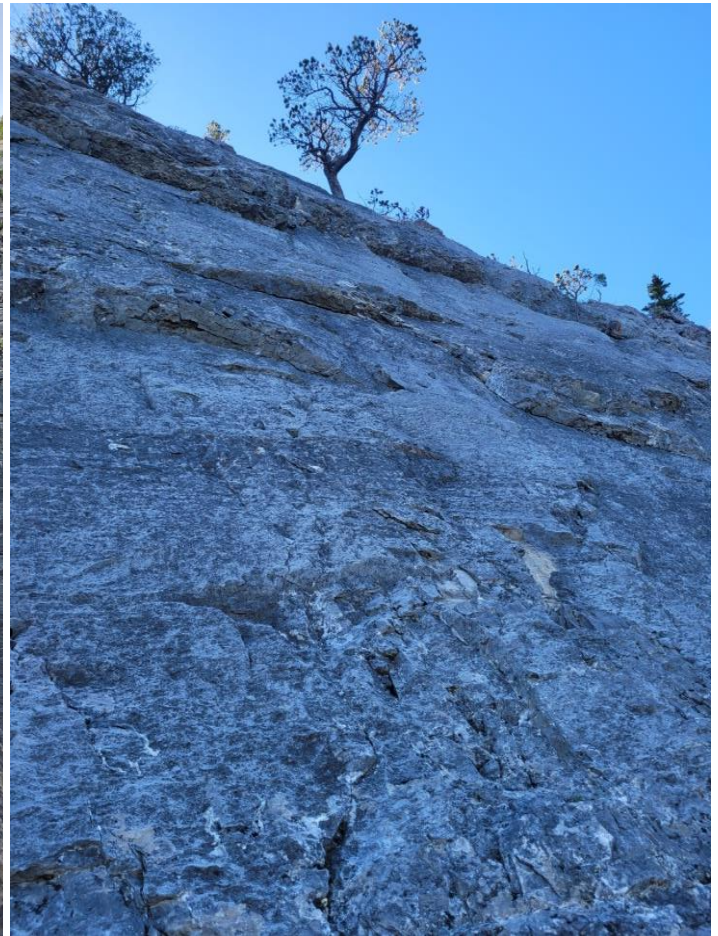
**Pitch 3: 5.8, 20 m, 8 bolts** - The last pitch follows an arc that initially moves right before arcing back left and finishing at a ring/chain below a bush. It is technical steep slab with a few thin mantle moves, friction holds on small edges.

Beta warning follows: After clipping the 3rd bolt traverse further right then go up. After clipping the 6th bolt, a low hand traverse with friction feet going left before gaining a ledge leads to the final couple bolts to the anchor. Belay in the shade of the bush on a small flat ledge.

**Descent: Walk off or rappel the route.**



Looking up Pitch 1 of Paramnesia



Nice Slab on Pitch 3



# Transverse Duality – 5.8, 80 m, 4 pitches

FA – P1 Guy P, Brian J., P2-4 Guy P, Pete W., 2023

Route Coordinates: 51.076092, -115.140073

A few metres right of Paramnesia.

**Pitch 1: “The Weeping Angel” 5.6, 25 m, 9 bolts** - Begin on a rock in front of a tree which makes an ok belay stance. Move up and trend gently left to find the anchor below the large overhang.

**Pitch 2: “The Traverse Pitch” 5.1, 8 m, no bolts** - Traverse the ledge to climbers left, moving behind the trees and use the P1 anchor of Paramnesia. Linking P2 and P3 is not advisable for rope drag. This is mostly to move the belay to the left for the Transverse Pitch.

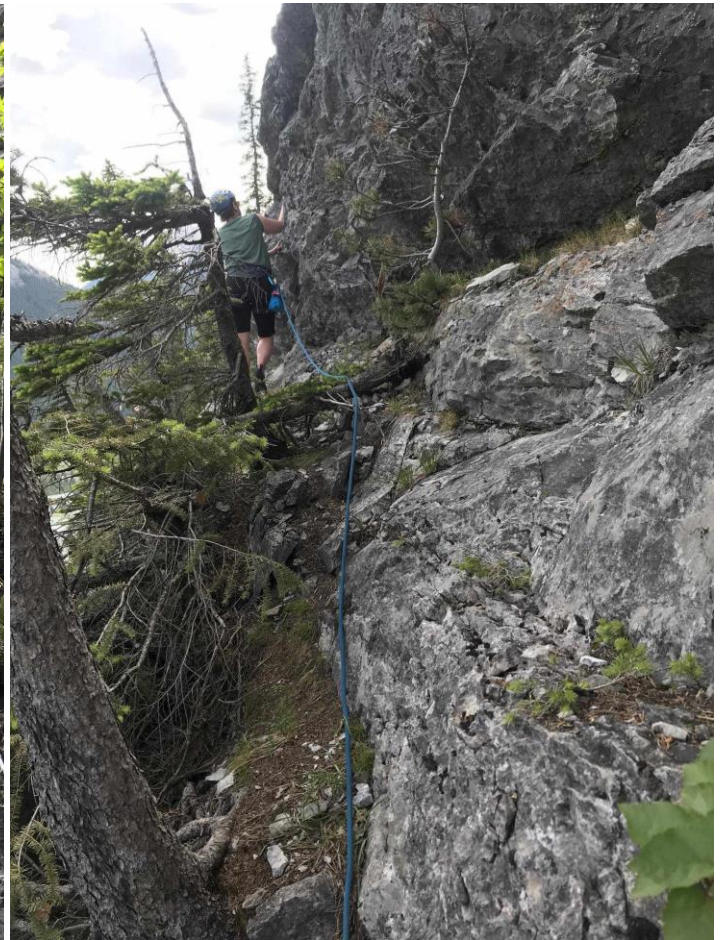
**Pitch 3: “The Transverse Pitch” 5.7, 20 m, 6 bolts** - Do not traverse left as for Paramnesia but go straight up from the belay to gain the slabby traverse back rightwards. After stepping across the chute, clip the 5th bolt and head up right to the anchor. Use extendable draws to reduce rope drag.

**Pitch 3: “The Master Pitch” 5.8, 29 m, 12 bolts** - Start left of the belay and go up to the small roof about 3/4 way up the pitch. Slightly right through the roof then up and back left to the top.

**Descent: Walk off or rappel the route.**



Pitch 1 of Transverse Duality



Pitch 2 Traverse



# Spike Up Your Life – 5.7, 85 m, 3 pitches

FA June 27, 2022 - Brendan and Jamie Clark

Route Coordinates: 51.076367, -115.140250

About 30m to the right of Transverse Duality, this route starts to the left of a large rocky bay with a fallen tree. Scramble up a short distance from the main trail to spot the bolts of the first pitch.

**Pitch 1: 30m, 5.5, 8 bolts** – Climb up and left on fun rock before heading back right and up a groove to the anchor.

**Pitch 2: 30m, 5.7, 9 bolts** – Head up a steep wall and into some fantastic climbing beside a steep right-facing corner (crux). Gain easier ground and climb up and right, into a final slabby section that leads to the anchor situated on an excellent ledge beside a tree.

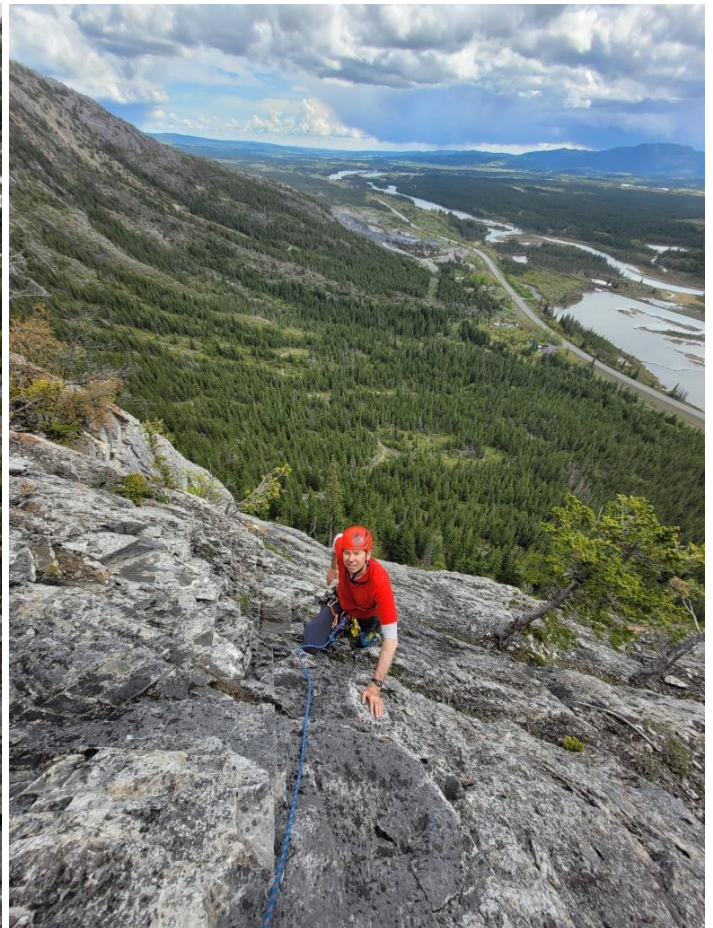
**Pitch 3: 25m, 5.6, 8 bolts** – Climb diagonally up and left on awesome textured slab on great rock before continuing straight up to the top of the route. The climbing may feel more difficult than the grade suggests if you don't have much experience with friction slab. Keep your eyes peeled for the climbing relic that inspired the name of this route!

**Recommended rack:** 10 quickdraws, 60 m rope.

**Descent:** Walk off or rappel the route.



Pitch 1 of Spike Up Your Life



Top of Pitch 2



The following 2 routes are in the rocky bay area to the right of Spike Up Your Life and to the left of Pachamama. Be wary of rockfall into this bay if there are climbers on the multipitch climbs.

## **Papilio canadensis – 5.6, 15m, 5 bolts**

FA - Jay Mills & Lin Oosterhoff, 2023

Climbs up the middle of the slabby rocky bay between Spike Up Your Life and Pachamama. Often seeps with water. Anchor can be seen from the base on a rocky overlap. Length and # of bolts is approximate. If people are climbing or rappelling off P1 of SUYL there is a serious rockfall hazard.

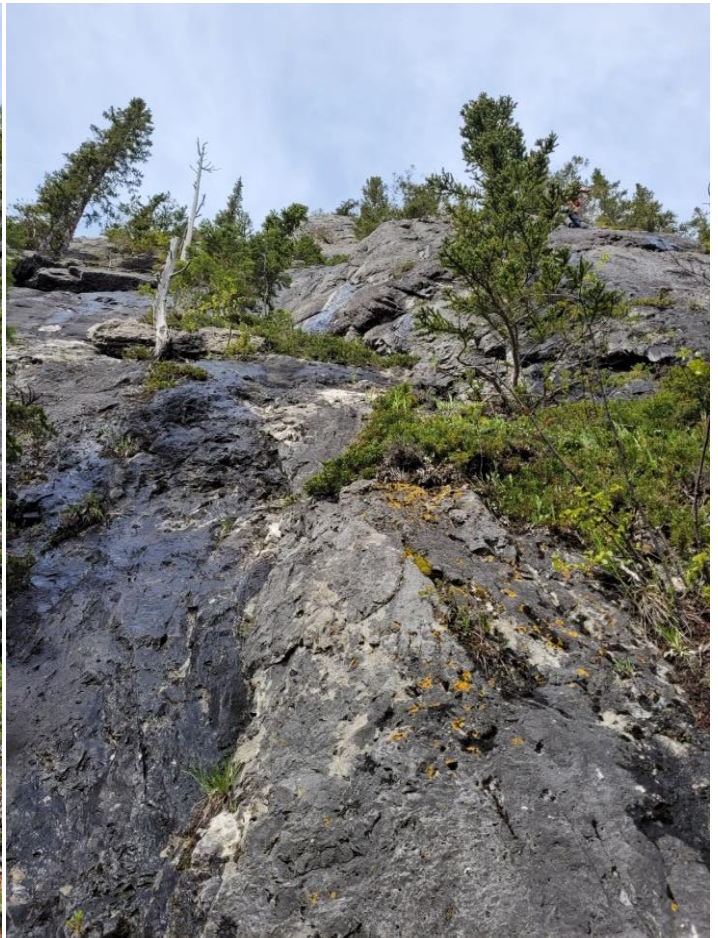
## **Pseudotsuga menziesii – 5.5, 15m, Gear**

FA – Jay Mills, 2023

Climbs up the left-facing corner directly to the left of Pachamama. A bolt can be spotted just before a bush. This is a traditional climb that requires gear (not fully bolted). Anchor is bolted.



Papilio canadensis



Pseudotsuga menziesii



# Pachamama – 5.7 (5.9 variation), 85 m, 3 pitches

FA June 27, 2022 - Brendan and Jamie Clark

Route Coordinates: 51.076550, -115.140300

The original sport route developed at Lower Door Jamb. Starts just to the right of the left-facing corner of the rocky bay. You can use the photo below to make sure you're on the right bolt line.

**Pitch 1: "Uku Pacha" 5.6, 30 m, 9 bolts** - Climb to the left of a couple trees to gain the bolted rock that climbs up a white streak. Climb the bulgy, interesting stone up to a dirty ledge, then proceed up past one more bolt on slab before hiking up a stepped, dirty section - the only bad part of this otherwise great route.

**Note: An anchor was added about 2/3 the way up the first pitch without the FA's knowledge or consent. Climb PAST this mid anchor to the base of the next rock wall to continue to P2.**

**Pitch 2: "Kay Pacha" 5.7 / 5.9 var, 27 m, 8 bolts** - From the anchor take the left line (straight up) for the 5.9 variation. To keep the route at a more moderate 5.7, head up and right to the right hand variation. Climb through a well bolted crux sequence, then head more easily up a groove. Belay at a cove to the right of a ledge and the upper face.

**Pitch 3: "Hanan Pacha" 5.5, 28 m, 9 bolts** - A very fun pitch that climbs up beside a left-facing corner. Head left from the anchor to clip a bolt, then climb the obvious corner feature. Pull a steep move up high and head left to the anchor. Congrats, you're at the top!

**Recommended rack:** 10 quickdraws, 60 m rope.

**Descent:** Walk off or rappel the route.



Looking up Pitch 1 of Pachamama



An excellent corner feature on Pitch 3



The next 2 single pitch routes are directly right of Pachamama.

## **American Turdus – 5.6, 20m, 7 bolts**

FA - Jay Mills, 2023

Climbs just on the other side of the 2 trees from Pachamama. A tree root crosses over the bottom of the route at the base of the pitch.

## **Betula papyrifera – 5.5, 17m, 6 bolts**

FA – Jay Mills & Steph Kish, 2023

Just to the right of American Turdus. 10m right of Betula papyrifera is an abandoned 5.4 gear climb with crappy gear and crappy climbing. Anchors will be removed by Jay at some point.



American Turdus



The next 3 single pitch routes are on the trail that follows 100m to the right of *Betula papyrifera*.

## **Petrichor – 5.8/5.9, 30m, 11 bolts**

FA - Jay Mills, 2023

Bolted line on the left side of the wall. 11 bolts to bolted anchor.

## **Pretty Parasite – 5.8/5.9, 30m, 12 bolts**

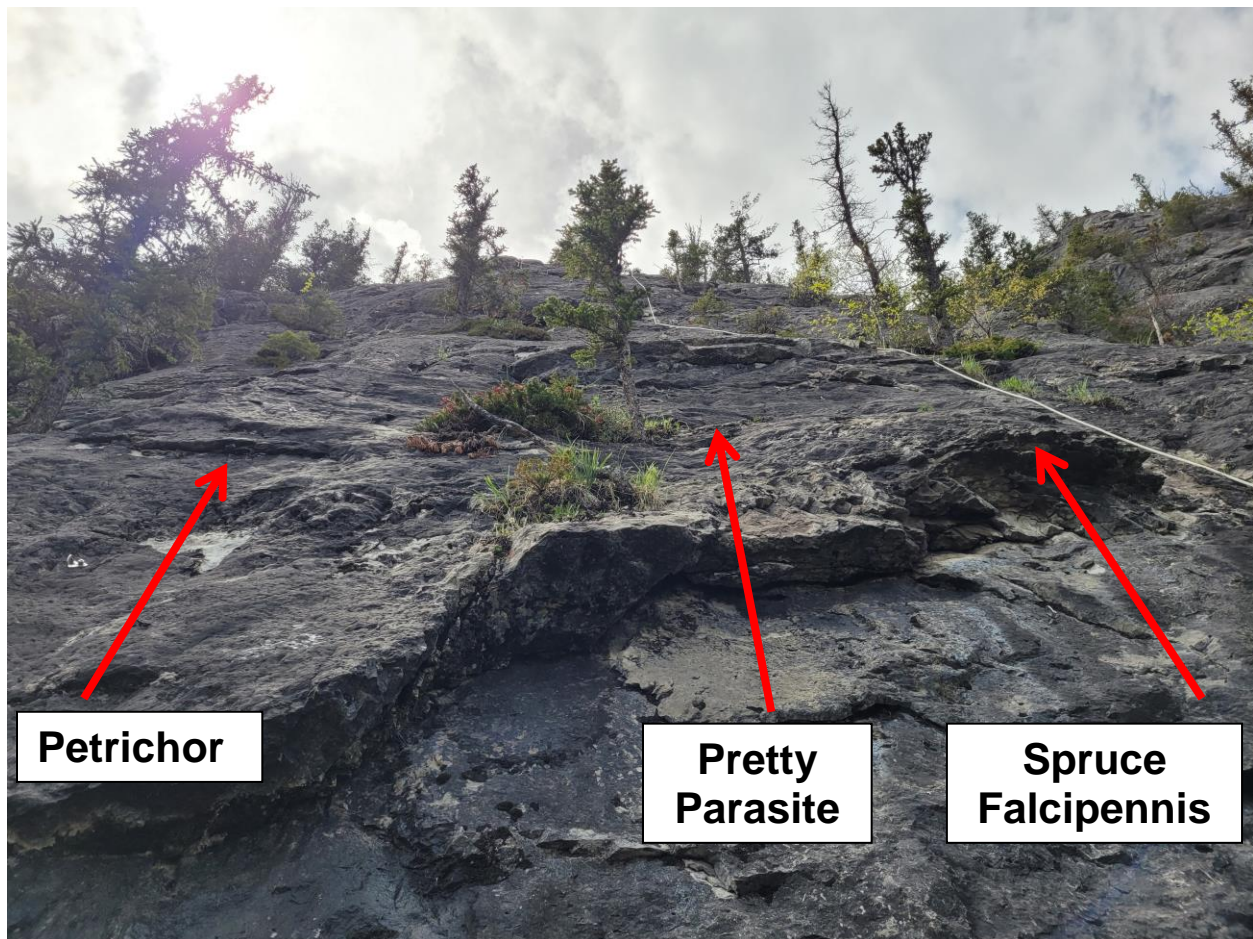
FA – Jay Mills, 2023

Bolted line up the middle of the wall. 12 bolts to bolted anchor.

## **Spruce Falcipennis – 5.8/5.9, 30m, 11 or 12 bolts**

FA – Jay Mills, 2023

Bolted line on the right side of the wall. Either 11 or 12 bolts to bolted anchor.





## Some Fun Facts!

### Pachamama Naming note:

"Pachamama" means "Mother Earth" in Quechua (the language spoken by the Incan people of Peru), and is one of the most important Gods of the people of the Andes. In Incan mythology, the cosmos is divided into three pachas, with Pachamama being the supreme Goddess. "Uku Pacha" is the "below world", a place where those unfit for Hanan Pacha would go upon their death; "Kay Pacha" is "this world", a physical realm that living beings inhabit; "Hanan Pacha" is the "upper world", which is the realm of the Incan Gods. Those who live a good life in Kay Pacha are said to ascend to Hanan Pacha. The mythology seemed to fit perfectly with the character of the route - the lowest pitch being a bit dirty and scrappy, the second being challenging and offering choices, the third being a lovely easy pitch to the top of the route. All in all, I hope you enjoy your adventure!

### The Bulky Boys:

The Pacha Wall has been climbed long ago. As I developed these routes, I discovered some old relics, including some pitons and a rail spike (!) which was presumably used as old-school pro (try to find it on P3 of SUYL!). These rail spikes were the callsign of a group of badass climbers that called themselves the "Bulky Boys". I got in touch with one of the Boys and he was certain it was their spike and said he did explore the area, but couldn't remember anything else. The original route appeared to meander through both Pachamama and SUYL. The Bulky Boys have the original FA up what would have been a very runout traditional climbing route.





# Photo Gallery



The excellent corner pitch 3 of Pachamama being enjoyed by a local climber





Pitch 2 of Pachamama on the first ascent



**Enjoy your visit to Lower Door Jamb & the Pacha Wall!**



Rappelling down Pachamama on the first ascent of the fully completed bolted route