

# MOUNT LOUGHEED

A route called The Warrior climbs the central portion of the north face of Mount Lougheed's northwest peak (the peak that is next to Windtower and prominently in the view from Dead Man Flat). This is not a rockclimber's climb but rather a loose and serious alpine-style climb that is likely to require a bivouac. The route is named in honour of Brian "BJ" Wallace, who lost his life during the penultimate attempt. It is not recommended by the first ascent party but is included here for the sake of completeness.

## Approach

From West Wind Pass, a good trail contours in a southeasterly direction across the back (south) side of Windtower and eventually climbs easy scree slopes to the summit. Follow this trail until it begins to climb directly up the slope and then continue diagonally rightward to the Windtower/Lougheed col. From here there are two options. The first is to follow a goat trail east underneath the face to a flat saddle and then descend for about 150 m to gain a gully system that breaks through the rock band below a rubbly slope at the base of the main face. The rock band is 5.5 on loose rock. The second is to continue up the west ridge of Mount Lougheed to gain the rubble slope beneath the main face at its west end. This option is easier and quicker, but scarier.

## Descent

From the summit, go down and right toward the Spray Lakes Reservoir and find a relatively easy break through some short cliff bands. Continue down a wide easy gully that curves left toward the head of a large drainage on the southwest side of the mountain. Where the major cliffs end on the right, move around the ridge, descend a break in a small cliff band, and make a long traverse right above the tree line back to West Wind Pass. Alternatively, continue down the gully and the scree slopes below into the drainage and follow this out to the Spray Lakes road, reaching it about a kilometre south of Spurling Creek.

The Warrior 550 m, 5.10a

J. Marshall, S. DeMaio & A. Genereux, September 1988

The climb begins below the summit in an obvious chimney/gully that is the only apparent access to the central portion of the face.

- 1-2) 100 m Climb to the top of the chimney/gully.
- 3) Stay left and climb past a large ledge to a stance.
- 4) 5.10a Climb straight up through overhangs via a notch.
- 5) 50 m Traverse left to a ramp and follow this up right to a single bolt belay.
- 6) 50 m Traverse right along a break. Climb up right to a bolt and continue up to a ledge.
- 7) 50 m Climb up and left to a large terrace.
- 8-9) Traverse for two rope lengths along ledges.
- 10) Climb up for 20 m and then traverse left to below a steep corner.
- 11) Climb to the top of the corner, step right and climb 6 m up another corner (pitons). Traverse left across a steep slab to a second terrace.
- 12) Go right for one pitch to the top of a pedestal.
- 13) Climb up to the top.