

Lower Door Jamb Rock Climbing Mini Guide



Fantastic Moderate Multi-Pitch Climbs on Great Rock!

Written by Brendan Clark

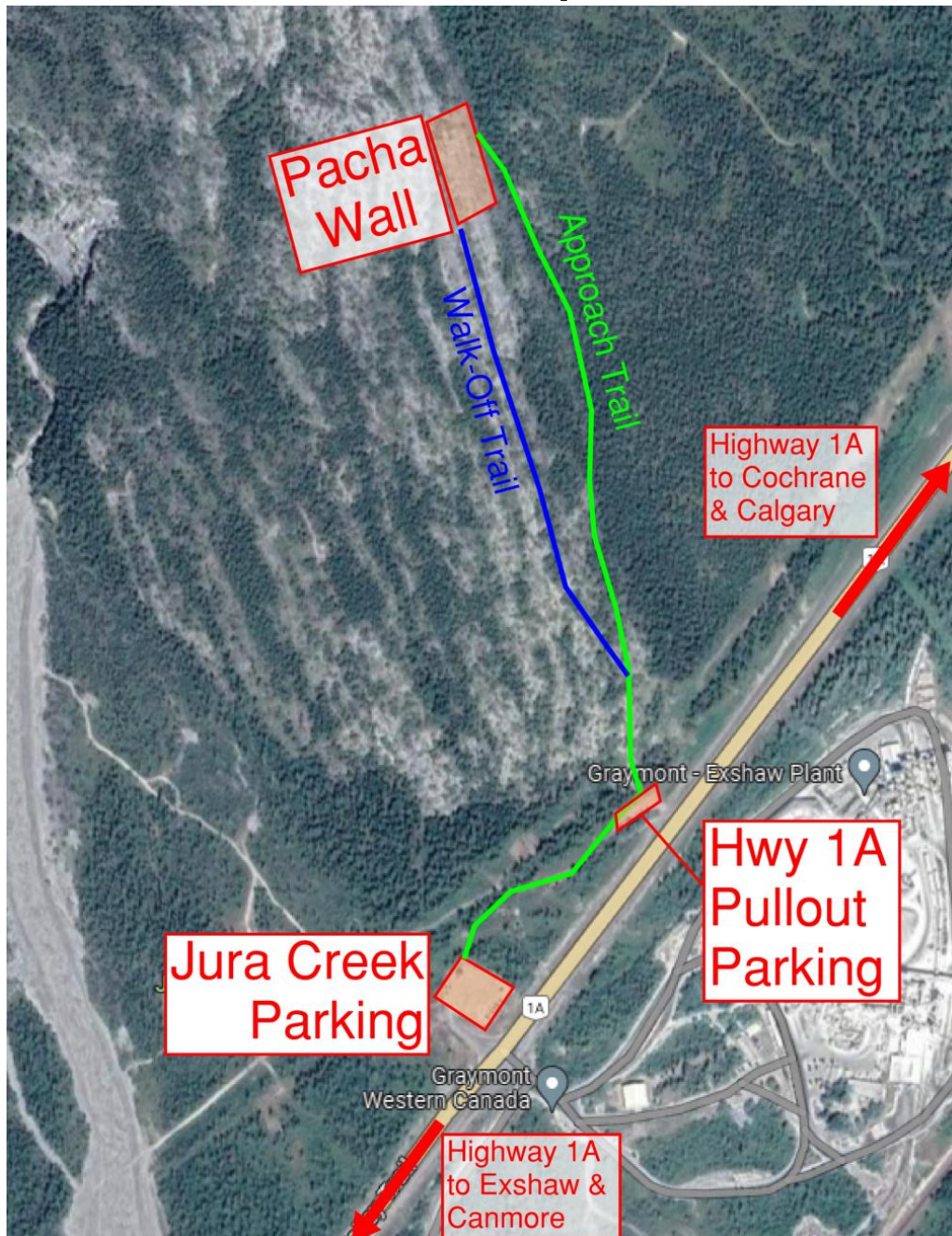
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Please visit this website for more info on how to donate: <https://www.tabvar.org/donatenew>

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 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 provided). 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, keep continuing until the trail goes up few zig-zags to where Pachamama starts at a fallen log.

Approach: 700 m, 120 m gain, 15-20 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: N 51° 04.172 W 115° 08.427

Hwy 1A Pullout Parking: N 51° 04.263 W 115° 08.298

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

Trail Mark 1 (stay left): N 51° 04.406 W 115° 08.310

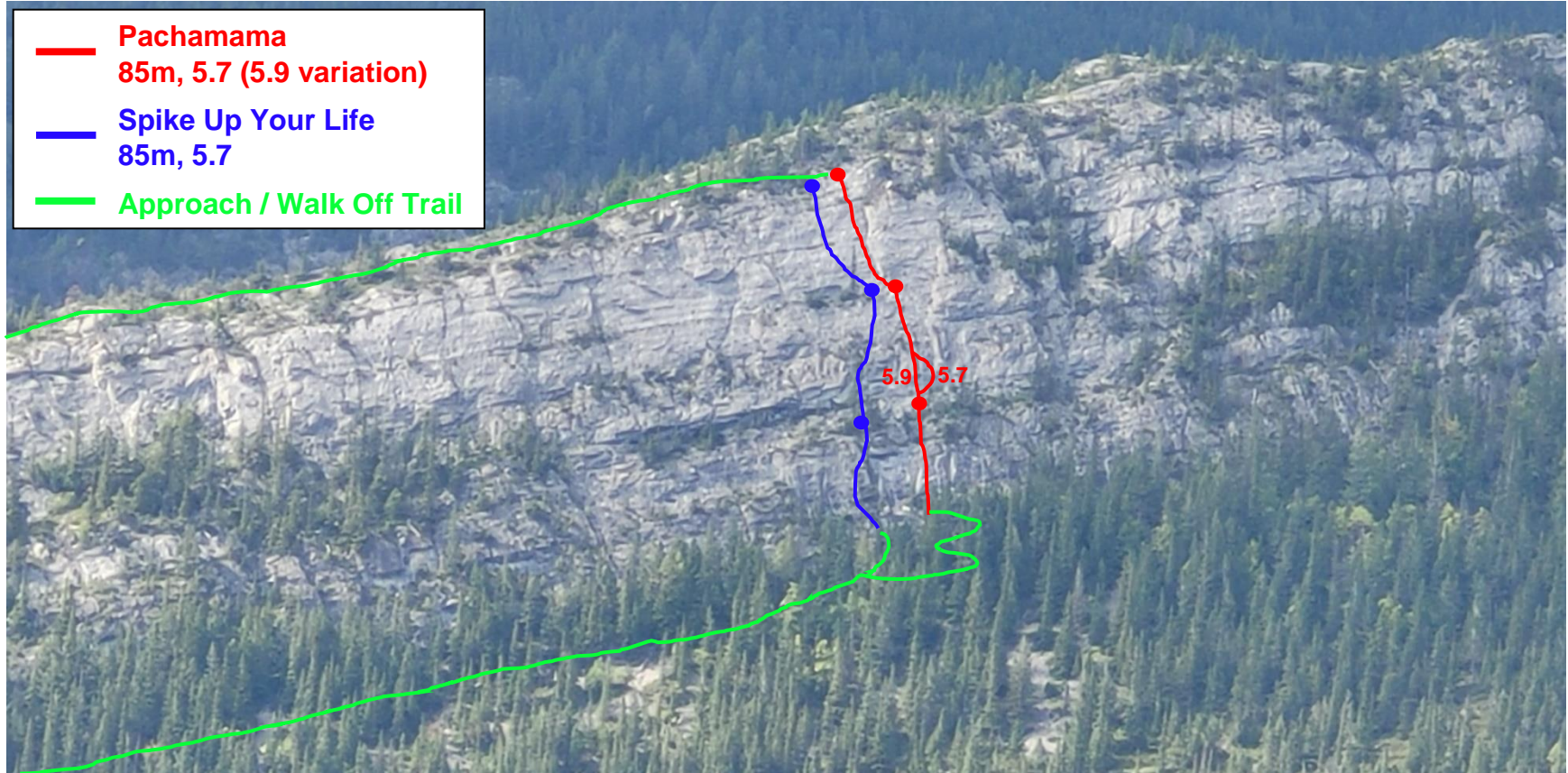
Trail Mark 2 (stay left): N 51° 04.449 W 115° 08.309

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 routes climb from the forest up onto the south ridge of Door Jamb Mountain, offering great views of the Bow Valley, and 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. You may notice one or more bolted routes on the way to the routes described in this guide. I recommend that you do not climb those routes for now as they are still under construction (they may have loose rock and/or bolts that lead to nowhere). Use the photos in my route descriptions to find the two completed routes: Pachamama and Spike Up Your Life.

Lower Door Jamb – Pacha Wall Photo Topo



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

FA June 27, 2022 - Brendan and Jamie Clark

Route Coordinates: N 51° 04.593 W 115° 08.418

Pitch 1: "Uku Pacha" 5.6, 30 m, 9 bolts - Climb over a fallen log and beside 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.

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.

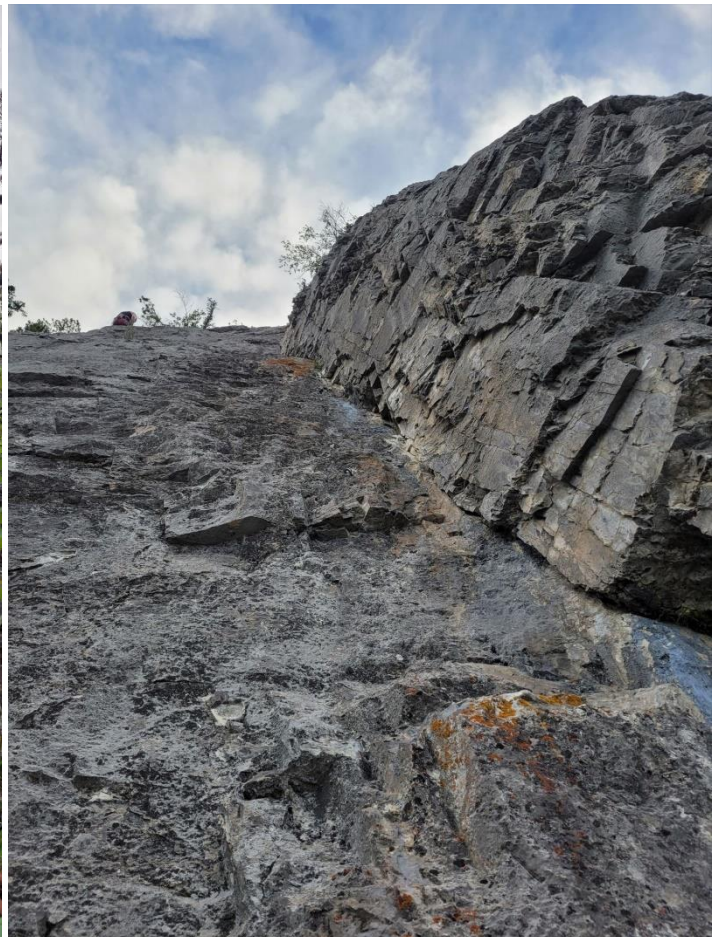
Pitch 3: "Hanan Pacha" 5.5, 28 m, 9 bolts - A very fun pitch that climbs up beside a left-facing corner. Head left from the anchor to clip a bolt, then climb the obvious corner feature. Pull a steep move up high and head left to the anchor. Congrats, you're at the top!

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

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

FA June 27, 2022 - Brendan and Jamie Clark

Route Coordinates: N 51° 04.582 W 115° 08.415

The sister route to Pachamama is Spike Up Your Life - a similar 3 pitch route that also goes at 5.7. Start to the left of the large fallen tree and the rocky bay, scramble up from the trail to spot the bolts. Pitches go as follows:

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

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.



To be continued.....

There has been a lot of development in the area outside the scope of the routes in this guide. It's my intent to update this mini guide with all of these additional routes once they are ready and I have the info from the developers! I suggest avoiding the unlisted routes for now as they may still be under construction and may not be fully complete & ready for climbing.

Enjoy your visit to Lower Door Jamb!



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