

China Wall, Left Handed Compliment

Wyoming, Wind River Range

In August, Jared Spaulding and I put up a new route in the northern Wind River Range, near New Fork Park, on the 800-1,200' China Wall. We started on good rock on the leftmost part of the main wall, which required several points of aid through a steep section off the ground. We then followed cracks up and right for five pitches (5.9–5.10, with some points of aid) to a large ledge. From the ledge we moved right over a large chockstone to a 5.9 hand crack that joins the last pitch of China Wall Left (5.10). We followed the existing route's 5.8 finish to the top. We called our route Left Handed Compliment (III 5.10 C1). The rock was generally good, with some lichen and grassy cracks. The line likely would go free, with a first-pitch crux in the 5.11c/d range.

The potential for new routes on this wall is high and, being only five miles from the trailhead, it could become a modern Wind River crag with some cleaning and possibly some fixed gear. We simply followed the obvious path of weakness up an unclimbed section of the wall.

Images



China Wall from a distance.



A close up of the leftmost part of the China Wall.

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