

Cathedral Provincial Park, Bishop

Canada, British Columbia, North Cascades

In July, Brandon Workman and I headed into Cathedral Provincial Park to climb the Deacon, a granite wall a few hundred yards from the USA-Canada border. We repeated a route on the Deacon and then set our sights on the 700' east-facing cliff a few hundred yards north. We dubbed this feature the Bishop. It's approximately the same height as the Deacon and has clean, steep rock. As far as we can tell it had not been climbed.

On the morning of July 19 we began climbing the Bishop via the right-hand of two obvious dihedrals, on the right side of the wall. After three pitches sharing leads up corners and seams (5.7–5.9), the cracks appeared to dead-end, but we had faith we would find a safe passage. Brandon worked his way up and left across an unprotected face and past a large roof. This led to rightward-trending ramps through otherwise steep and blank terrain. Two more strenuous crack pitches (5.10c and 5.10a) led directly to the summit. We descended a ramp to the northeast to the head of the basin. Our six-pitch route is called Faith (700', III 5.10c).

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Images



Brandon Workman leading on Faith (700', III 5.10c), Bishop, Cathedral Provincial Park, British Columbia.



The route Faith (700', III 5.10c), on the Bishop, Cathedral Provincial Park. The Deacon is out of view to the left.

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