

Blåtinden, Nightwatch Pillar

Norway, Lyngen, Uløya Island

In September I sat in my house in Uløya through amazingly stable weather. Finally, I couldn't bear the pressure any more and set out to free solo the southeast pillar of Blåtinden (1,142m, 69°50'39.80"N, 20°36'37.28"E). I climbed the left flank of the 250m pillar in 45 minutes—most of the route was UIAA II and III, but there were three sections of IV+. This was the first route on the entire Blåtinden wall, which on its eastern aspect looks very serious. Although the rock has a strange, nearly black appearance, giving the impression it might be damp and slimy, in fact it is clean and very sound. My route, which I named Nightwatch Pillar, was absolutely solid from bottom to top—amazing for mountain terrain that has never been climbed.

- Artur Paszczak, Poland

Images



The unclimbed east face of Blåtinden.



Nightwatch Pillar, the left flank of the southeast pillar of Blåtinden.



Artur Paszczak on top of the southeast pillar of Blåtinden in glorious weather.

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