



Wolthat Mountains, Various Ascents

Antarctica, Queen Maud Land

In January and February 2023, on my sixth expedition to Queen Maud Land, I spent three weeks ski mountaineering in the western Wohlthat Mountains, climbing peaks in the Humboldt Mountains and Petermann Range.

Rupert Heim (Germany) and I climbed: Nanunatak (1,510m, 71°31,379'S, 11°37,649'E) on January 17; Babyhaifischflossenberg ("Baby Sharkfin Mountain," 1,647m, 71° 34.753'S, 11°46.115'E) on the 18th; Kristallkopf (2,033 m, 71°35.007'S, 11°41.477'E) on the 19th; and on the 26th I soloed Nanukspitze (2,700m, 71°41,9934'S, 11°38,3812'E) and Denalispitze (2,765m, 71°42,1307'S, 11°37,4103'E) in the Kvervenuten Massif via the Couloir of Tears. All of these were first ascents.

We also made second ascents of Nicksfjell (1,865m, 71°40,170'S, 11°51,045'E) on the 27th (first ascent in 1994 by Odd Eliassen, Bård Stokkan, and Jo Tofthal), and Sphinxkopf (1,423m, 71°24,558'S, 11°55,402'E) on February 3 (first ascent by scientists).

Only three expeditions have climbed in this region before: Odd Eliassen and the Norwegians mentioned above, Americans Mike Libeck and friends in 2012 (AAJ 2013), and Michael Goggol and me in 2017.

– **Christoph Höbenriech, Austria**

Images



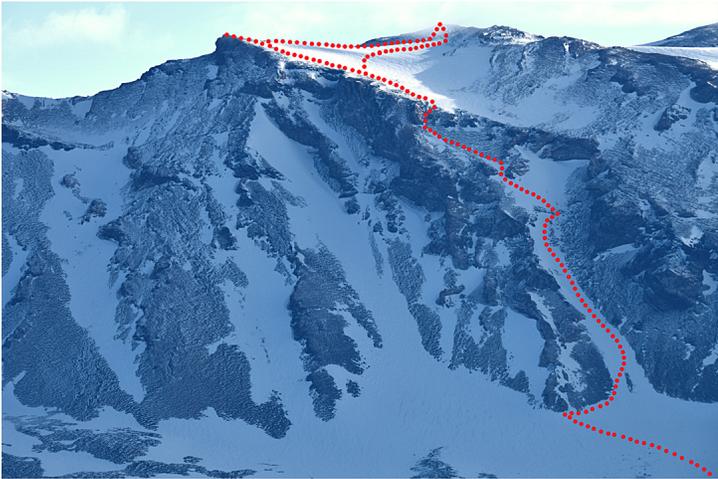
Haifischflossenberg (behind and left), climbed and named (officially) by Michael Guggolz and Christoph Höbenreich 2017, and Babyhaifischflossenberg, climbed in 2023.



Camp in the Petermann Range with Bertha's Tower behind (climbed and named in 2012 by Mike Libeck, Cory Richards, and Freddie Wilkinson).



The sparkling crystals of the Kristallkopf summit. In the far distance is the Kvervenuten massif with the tops of Nanukspitze and Denalispitze.



The route through the Couloir of Tears in the Kvervenuten Massif to reach Nanukspitze (left) and Denalispitze.



The Sphinxkopf.

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