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Grand Sentinel, West Arête

United States, California, Sierra, Kings Canyon National Park

Daniel Jeffcoach and I explored the climbing on the west arête of the Grand Sentinel, the biggest formation in Kings Canyon proper, across from North Dome. The approach starts from Roads End trailhead and is mostly cross-country. The route was a very natural line which, to our surprise, hadn't had a known ascent. It wasn't much of a climb to brag about, but it did have a few interesting sections, with occasional slabby face climbing to connect major systems that snake up the west arête (ca 1,000', 5.10). The crux seemed to be a thin crack over a bulge, which was probably 5.10b for someone who just got back from a month on a glacier in Alaska. All belays are naturally protected, and the descent is by 3rd-class scrambling.

— Vitaliy Musiyeko

Images



The west arête (ca 1,000', 5.10) on Grand Sentinel.



Map showing the approach to the west arete of Grand Sentinel.



Climbing on the west arête of Grand Sentinel in Kings Canyon National Park.

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