

# **MT. LOUIS**

## **THE GARGOYLE 5.10a,**

**280m**

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**Meinen July 08'**

The route climbs up amazing water worn, stippled rock connecting crack system with long run out slabs (30m) of easy and airy climbing. The crux's are all well protected and the gear is good. Route finding is tricky. One bolt was added (with a hand drill) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> belay. The route finishes via the Kain Route.

**Start:** from the approach trail the lowest point of Mt. Louis is visible after the trees, locate the large rotten chimney cracks directly under the lone tree 100m up the wall on a ledge and begin just to the left on excellent grey broken rock. Gear: 10 draws + runners, set of cams (double up on smaller sizes)/set of nuts and double ropes.

**P1: 5.7 80m** Start on the water runnels and meander up the wall passing a fixed pin for about 40m, then trend right and back left on some loose rock aiming for a break left of the roof. Simulclimb up easy rock to a ledge. Belay 20 feet left on the ledge behind small pillar.

**P2: 5.8 30m** Up from the ledge through the obvious roof and onto a small ledge. Clip the pin and commit to the awkward crack up right and belay under the large yellow roof. (1 bolt +sling horn)

**P3: 5.10a 50m** Up from the belay, sink a #1 cam and clip the pin. Climb the crack trending left and make a few thin and balancy moves (crux) to gain a hand rail/crack up and left. A tad run out on 5.9 rock up to the first groove/crack and climb up on solid rock for a 30m runout to the next ledge up and left. Belay far left on ledge behind small pillar. (small gear for belay)

**P4: 5.8 20m** Climb up to a small groove with good gear then make a few thin moves to gain upper slab and traverse left for 10m to good ledge below upper cracks.

**P5,6,7: 5.5 100m+** Climb up the slab left of the corner crack until the upper chimney is reached. Fun and easy! As old pin was found near the top below the chimney and it looked like a slab to the Gmoser route could easily access this point. The upper section of this corner has seen at least a few ascents but we will include it for completion of the route. Climb the amazing hidden staircase (5.4) up to join the slabs on the east face. Then traverse over to the Kain Route and to the summit.

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