

Beyond The Gondola (BTG) Crags, Squamish

Overview

A collection of 35 cool sub-alpine climbs, mainly sport, within an easy 15-20 minute hike from the summit lodge at the top of the Sea-To-Sky gondola. Developed by Nigel and Rosy Slater, and Robin Barley in the summers of 2020/21. All routes have anchors for rappel. Thanks to the sea to sky route development fund for donations of hardware.

Whirring Wall – 5 minutes, 18 routes, 15 sport / 3 trad climbs, west facing.

BJR (Below the Jolly Ride) - 15 minutes, 4 sport routes, north-west facing

Whitestone Scar – 15-20 minutes, 4 sport / 3 trad climbs, north and west facing

Neverlandia Rock – 15 minutes, 6 sport / 1 trad climb, west facing

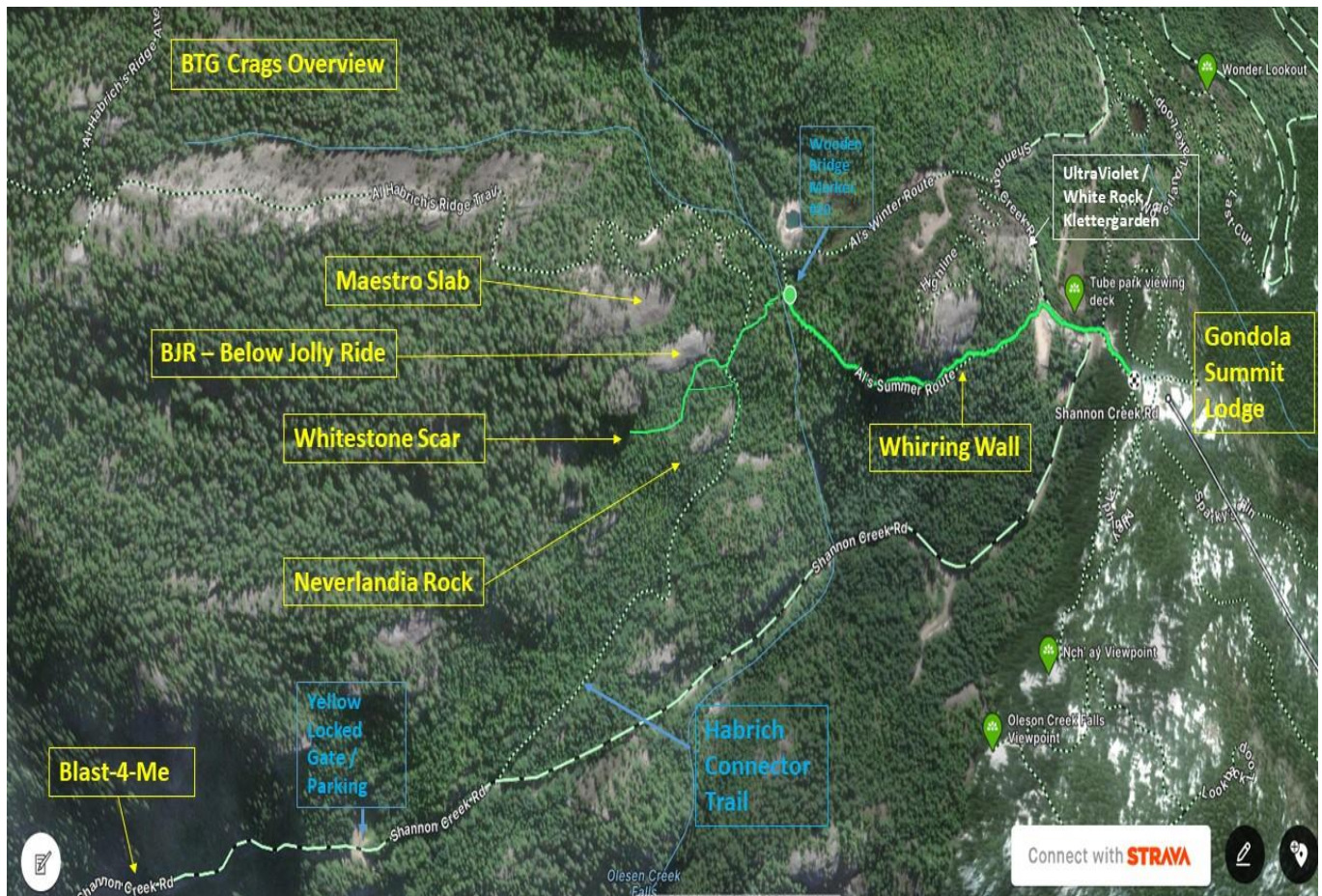
Location and directions for each crag start from “Al’s Habrich” trail (Al’s summer route), 200m east of the gondola summit lodge, on the dirt road between the generator and tube park.

Alternatively, access BTG crags from Shannon Creek FSR. Park at Habrich/Golden Gate crag, and hike up the Habrich connector trail (approx. 15 minutes to Neverlandia Rock).

For information on Ultraviolet crag, (the crag just right of the start of Al’s Habrich trail, also called Whiterock and Klettergarden), please see Squamish Rock Climbs (McLane) or search online.



Important! - Check closing time for the last gondola ride down. It's a long hike....



Whirring Wall

User-friendly technical slab sport climbing 5 minutes from the Gondola, on excellent rock, steep in places with lots of divots and pockets, especially on the left side of the wall. A nice place for learning friction climbing techniques.

Directions: Follow "Al's Habrich" trail (Al's summer route) for 150m to the red/white marker #3 on a tree. Continue 10m further. Before the trail descends, turn right up the slope to the wall, 20m.

Elevation: 900m, (2,953 ft)

West facing, shade in the morning.

Google Earth Location: 49°40'20.5"N -124°52'23.1"W (49.672370, -123.126913)

The approach trail meets the right side of the wall at the striking dike of "War of Adhesion".

From Right to Left:

1. **Bolting for Britain** – 11b, 20m, sport. Start 1m right of the War dike. Edges to a small ledge, then rightwards and up the dike to the anchor.
2. **War of Adhesion** – 11b, 30m, sport. Start up the dike where the approach trail meets the crag, then continue straight up to cross the counter-dike near the top.
3. **Snip'n go** – 11d, 25m, sport. Start 6m left. A desperate start. Straight up past 4 bolts to finish up More whinging....
4. **More whinging than whining** – 11b, 25m, sport. Start 5m left at a thin diagonal crack. Step right at the 3rd bolt then climb the thin cracked dike to easier ground.
5. **A work of friction** – 10a, 20m, sport. Start 2m left at the crack intersected by a perpendicular crack. At the fourth bolt, climb straight up.
6. **Cohesion** - 10a, 20m, sport. Start 3 m left at shallow groove, then flakes to the anchors.

The next routes start from a small ledge above the bench (the "roost"). Access by a knotted rope. From Right to Left:

7. **Rather Dishy** – 5.9, 20m, sport. Twin cracks and wall.
8. **Woblin wobin** – 5.8, 20m, sport. Same start as Rather Dishy, but move left and up the shallow groove (above the tree stump).
9. **Quest for a porthole** – 10a, 15m, sport. From the belay bolt on the ledge, climb the flake and wall above to the finishing porthole.
10. **More pimples than dimples** – 10b, 15m, sport. Straight up the wall right of the yawning corner/groove past an amazing mouse hole.
11. **The Yawning** - 5.7, 20m, trad. Stem, chimney or lie back the groove and corner at the left edge of the crag. A few bolts but take a couple of cams to 2 inch for additional pro.

The next routes start from a ledge, left of the main wall, at the far left side of the crag. Access by traversing left (facing-in) under whirring wall, approximately 20 m past yellow flagging to a yellow knotted rope. Pull up the rope to the ledge.

From Right to Left:

12. **Robins Roost** – 5.7, 12m, trad. The shallow groove just right of the knotted rope, to the ledge with the "roost". A few wires or small cams to 1".
13. **Angus McCoatup** – 10c, 15m, sport. Just right of the knotted rope, start up the groove then direct up the wall to the anchor (Shared anchor with Dogs).
14. **Dogs and dikes** – 11b, 15m, sport. Climb the wall just left of the knotted rope. Stick clip recommended or pull on the first bolt and clip the second. Easier divot climbing after the hard start.
15. **Dike-ally** – 10d, 25m, sport. Start 5 m left and climb the diagonal thin crack/dike, then straight up the face above and left to an airy finish.
16. **Project** – 20m, the steep prow. Work in progress.
17. **Who Dunnit?** – 5.7, 20m trad. The appealing corner groove past an old tree stump. SR, cams 2 to 4 inch.
18. **Divotalis** – 11a, 20m, sport. Straight up the middle of the wall on divots and edges. 11 bolts.
19. **Fanny on Furlough** – 10d, 20m, sport. Left side of the wall. 10 bolts.



Whirring Wall – Right



Whirring Wall – Center



Whirring Wall – Center Left



Whirring Wall - Left



Whirring Wall



War of Adhesion



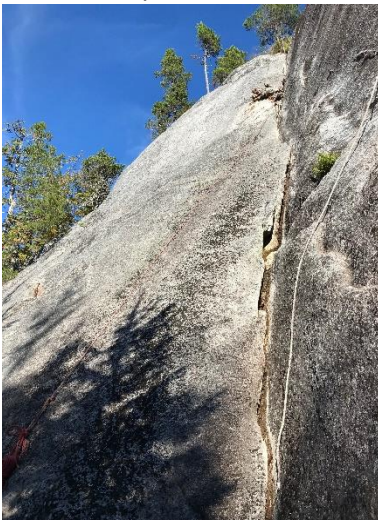
Quest for a porthole



More whinging than whining



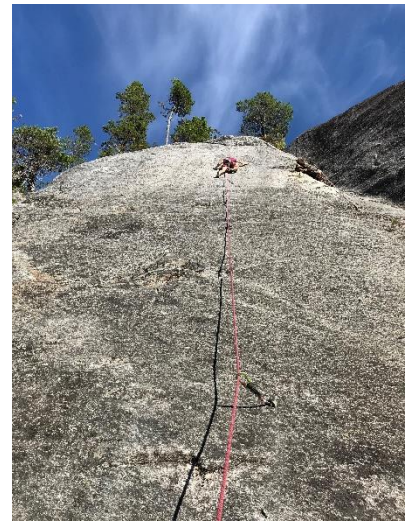
Cohesion



Who Dunnit?



Rather Dishy



Divotalis



Fanny on Furlough



Angus McCoatup



A work of friction

Below the Jolly Ride (BJR)

Wall and slab sport climbing with excellent rock.

Directions: Follow "Al's Habrich" trail (Al's summer route) past the boardwalk and stairs to the red/white marker #10 on a tree, 600m. Continue 30m. Turn left off Al's Habrich trail immediately after crossing a wooden bridge and cross the stream into the forest. Follow this trail, away from the stream, approximately 50m downhill through the woods, joining another trail (Habrich connector). Descend 20m, then head right off Habrich connector just before a steep descent (to Neverlandia Rock), 20m. Arrive at the right end of the BJR wall, approximately 3 minutes from the bridge. You should see a large flake leaning against the center of the crag!

North West facing with good shade in the morning. A steep wall with a large slab above (and a "jolly ride" trials bike trail across the top). Above the "jolly ride" is "Maestro Slab", a popular rock slab for trials and mountain bikers.

Google Earth location: 49°40'27.9"N -124°52'38.5"W 49.674424, -123.122642

Routes are described from the approach trail, right side of the crag. There are a couple of projects at the right end of the wall.

From Right to Left:

1. **Jolly Rider** – 10c, 20m, sport. Start in the center of the large flake and climb the shallow groove and slab above.
2. **What a Jolly Ride** – 10d, 20m, sport. Start up the left side of the flake moving left and up past a pocket to the slab above.
3. **Darn Boring** – 10d, 20m, sport. The steep crack and slab above. Maybe a little barn-doory!
4. **Jolly Rogering** – 10c, 20m, sport. Just left of Darn, the wall, bulge, and slab above.



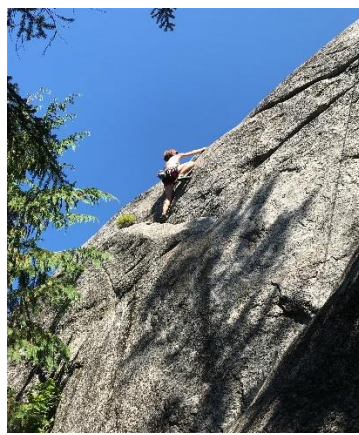
BJR – Right side



BJR – Left side



Jolly Rider



What a Jolly Ride



Jolly Rider

Neverlandia Rock

Mainly wall and slab sport climbing on excellent rock.

Directions: Follow “Al’s Habrich” trail (Al’s summer route) past the boardwalk and stairs to the red/white marker #10 on a tree, 600m. Continue 30m. Turn left off Al’s Habrich trail immediately after crossing a wooden bridge and cross the stream into the forest. Follow this trail, away from the stream, approximately 50m downhill through the woods, joining another trail (Habrich connector). Descend this trail to the right side of Neverlandia Rock, 50m. Approximately 5 mins from the bridge. The trail passes under the crag and a white flake lies across the trail at the left end the crag.

At the left side of the wall, the trail continues downhill and joins Shannon Creek FSR (alternative approach to taking the gondola).

Faces North West and West with good shade in the morning.

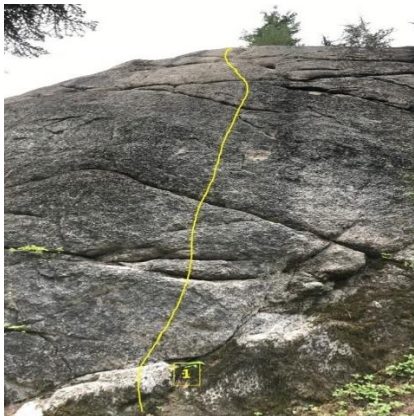
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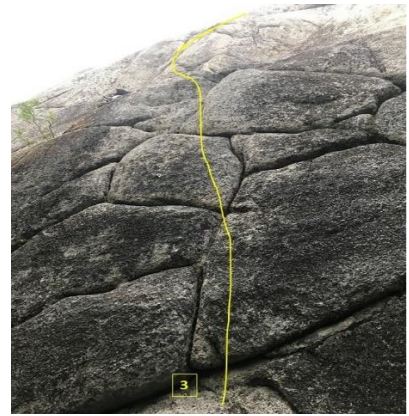
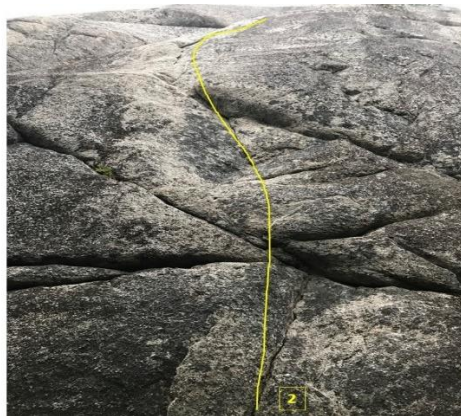
From the approach trail, right side of the crag, Right to Left:

1. **Gritstoning With Bolts** – 10d, 15m, sport. The first route at the right side of the crag, by the bench. Shallow cracks to finish on a ledge. 7 bolts.
2. **Less So** – 10a, 15m, trad. The shallow groove/flake 10m left. Take a few cams to 3” to supplement the 2 bolts.
3. **Stinkerbelle** – 11a, 20m, sport. Start 5m left, stepping above the tree stump and up the groove to finish.
4. **The Mousehole** – 11a, 20m, sport. Start 15m left of Stinker, and 3m right of the white flake across the trail. The shallow groove. 9 bolts.
5. **Rosy’s Elegant Serrations** – 10c, 20m, sport. Start 3m left of the flake across the trail and follow the serrations and crimps up the prow. 10 bolts.
6. **A Face with Dimples** – 10c, 20m, sport. Same start, but straight up the slab and wall, 10 bolts.

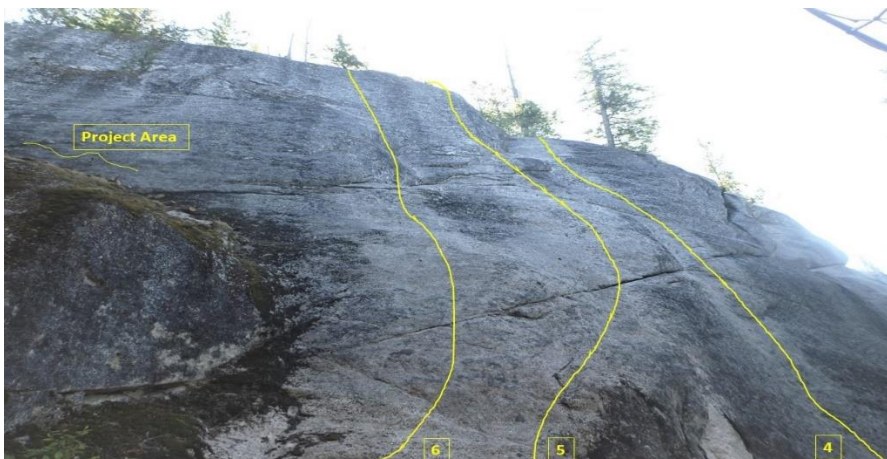
There are some projects in progress to the left.



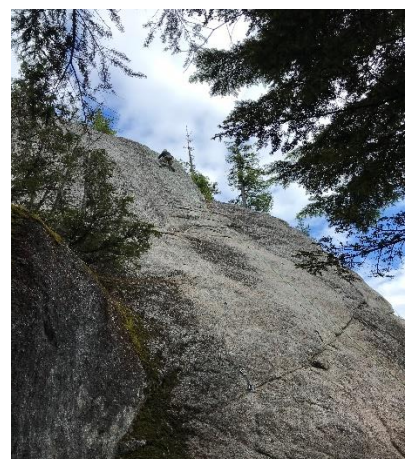
Neverlandia – Right Side



Neverlandia – Stinkerbelle



Neverlandia - Left Side



Rosy’s Elegant Serrations

Whitestone Scar

Sport and trad climbing in a quiet location with nice views of Squamish.

Directions: Follow "Al's Habrich" trail (Al's summer route) past the boardwalk and stairs to the red/white marker #10 on a tree, 600m. Continue 30m. Turn left off Al's Habrich trail immediately after crossing a wooden bridge and cross the stream into the forest. Follow this trail, away from the stream, approximately 50m downhill through the woods, joining another trail (Habrich connector). Descend this trail, turning off right just before the trail descends steeply (down to Neverlandia Rock) 20m. Arrive at the right end of the BJR wall, 20m, then follow the trail leftwards under the crag and through the forest about 40m, turning right just after a clump of old cut tree stumps. In 70m the crag will appear. Approximately 8 minutes from the bridge.

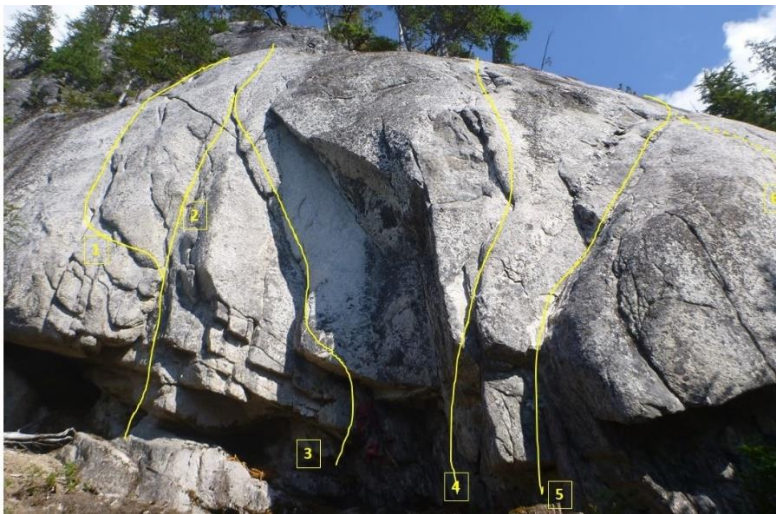
North West and West facing with good shade in the morning.

Google Earth location: 49°40'31.3"N -124°52'40.6"W 49.675373, -123.122066

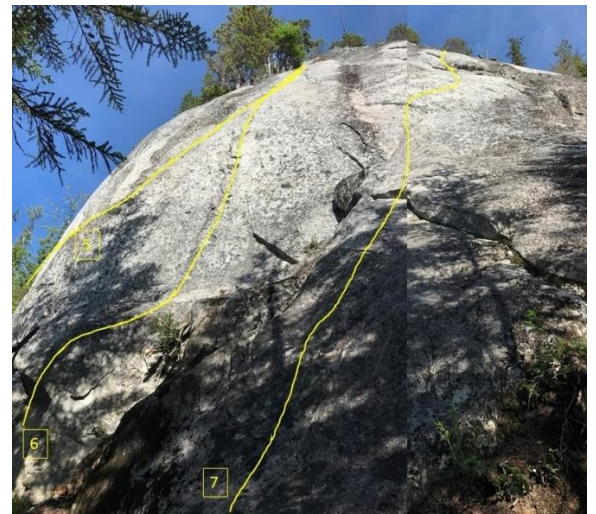
From Left to Right:

1. **Snorter** – 11a, 20m, sport. Start at the overhang. The wall and crack left of Rock n crack with the same start. 8 bolts.
2. **Rock'n'crack** – 11a, 20m, trad. The top half of the striking crack is attained directly up the bolt protected wall below. 3 bolts, cams to 4".
3. **Crack Cocaine** – 11a, 20m, trad. Excellent climbing up the overhanging corner and splitter crack. SR to 4"
4. **Cultural Cruise** – 10a, 15m, sport. The shallow groove in the arête, 6 bolts.
5. **Cultural Modification** – 10a, 15m, sport. Only 5.8 with the "tree" start. SR to 3"
6. **Dust** – 11a, 20m, trad. Direct past 5 bolts to finish up CM. Take a couple of cams to 1" for the finish.
7. **Fingering the dike** – 11a, 18m, sport. Direct up the wall moving along the dike at half height. 7 bolts.

There is a project wall at the left side of the crag



Whitestone Scar - Left



Whitestone Scar - Right



Dust



Dust



FTD



Crack Cocaine



Snorter