



## Bastardo

5.8 12-pitch

First Ascent: July 2024  
Rupert Davies,  
Conny Amelunxen,

**Climb:** This 12-pitch, 350-meter climb is sport-bolted. Pitches can be combined at times, a handful of alpine quickdraws will reduce rope drag. This is an alpine climb with alpine hazards, notably, loose rock, weather, and early-season snow. The base of the route is at 50.10964, -123.19797 (UTM 10U 485844E 5550840N). The best time of the year for the climb is late July, Aug, and Sept when it is free of snow.

**Gear:** 12 quickdraws, at least 4 of those should be longer. 60 m rope. Mountain boots, and possibly crampons and an ice axe may be required if there is still snow on the ledges.

### Approach and Descent

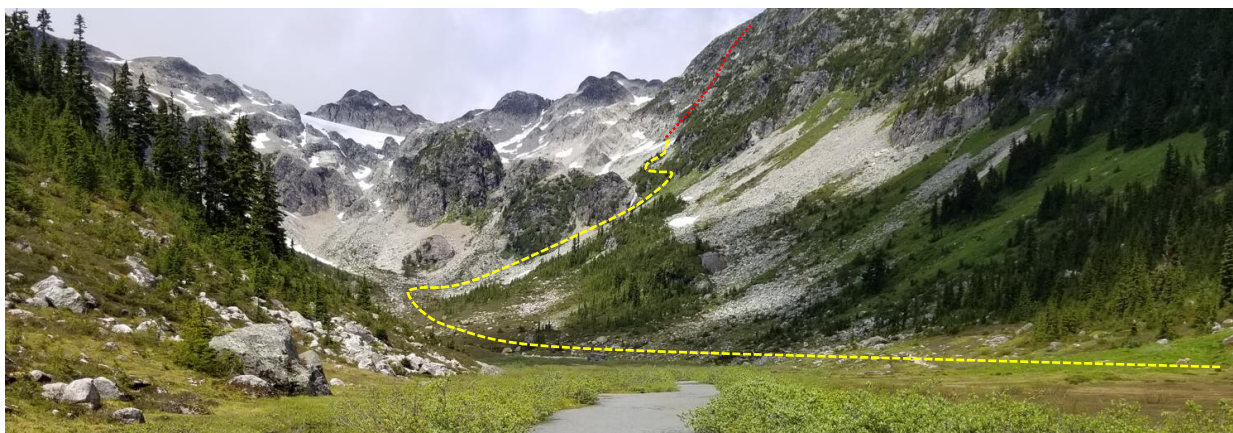
**Classic day:** Park at the Metal Dome trailhead (4x4 required) and walk along the forestry road before continuing up the Brandywine Meadows trail. At the end of the meadows leave the trail and follow the lightly vegetated rib up steeply, just right of the large waterfall. Hike straight up to the base of the rocks then follow them left on a goat trail. The trail works its way through a short, forested area that has been brushed out slightly. The best route goes straight up after the forest and follows the base of the rock wall left to the start of the climb. 5.5 km, 450 m ascent to the base of the route.

From the top of the climb walk southwest. You will quickly reach a 4<sup>th</sup> class ridge crest. Once past this, climb Metal Dome and follow the cairned path down or bypass Metal Dome summit on the west and pick up the trail around 1575 m where it goes into the forest at roughly 50.09058, -123.17233 (UTM 10U 487672E 5548716N).

**Fastest day:** If you start at the lower Brandywine trailhead or if you take bikes from the upper parking follow the same route to the base of the climb as above (stashing your bike shortly after you leave the meadows).

Once on top of the climb, hike down by walking southwest. After passing the 4<sup>th</sup> class ridge section and once the terrain becomes easier, drop down the steep face toward Brandywine Meadows. A faint trail starting at 50.10722, -123.19129 (UTM 10U 486321E 5550569N) works its way down a boulder field then through several ledges down a steep but not exposed face. The trail is flagged and cairned with a few areas brushed out. Once below the bluffy section continue straight to the valley bottom and back out the main trail. See the photo. A GPS track will help.

**Best Return to the start of the route:** If route-finding is not a strong suit or if you come from a sport climbing background this is probably the best bet. The route can be rappelled with a 60 m rope. Be diligent in landmarking the rappel stations when climbing because it can be easy to miss one on the way down.





P12: 5.5, 5 bolts. A high step off the belay, then scramble through friable rock. Watch for sharp edges on the rappel.

P11: 5.8, 12 bolts. Trend left in a cool position, then steep above an alcove. Watch rope drag.

*Move the belay 30 m left.*

P10: 5.6, 5 bolts. Sustained climbing with a sting at the end.

P9: 5.8, 8 bolts. Thoughtful climbing on nice rock.

P8: 5.8, 8 bolts. Great position, great rock. A few thin moves lower down.

*Move the belay 40 m left.*

P7: 5.5, 5 bolts. Trend up right to the forest tunnel. Pass the tree chain to the bolted anchor. The tree chain rappel is more direct, but both rap routes work.

P6: 5.8+, 10 bolts. Great climbing, capped by a black roof.

P5: 5.7, 8 bolts. A steep start. Hard left after the scrappy crux.

P4: 5.4, 5 bolts. The slab slowly steepens. The mental crux is stepping back onto the heather.

*Move the belay 30 m up left.*

P3: 5.5, 4 bolts. A move or two off the station then easy slab. Easily combined with the next pitch.

P2: 5.7, 7 bolts. Scrambly off the station, caution if the heather step is wet. A steep step just below the anchor.

P1: 5.6, 6 bolts. Start on the left of the fault. After a few moderate moves trend right to the anchor. The chains are visible from below.



There is weak cell coverage along most of the climb and approach. The climb is west southwest facing. In August the climb gets sun around 10:00-11:00 am.



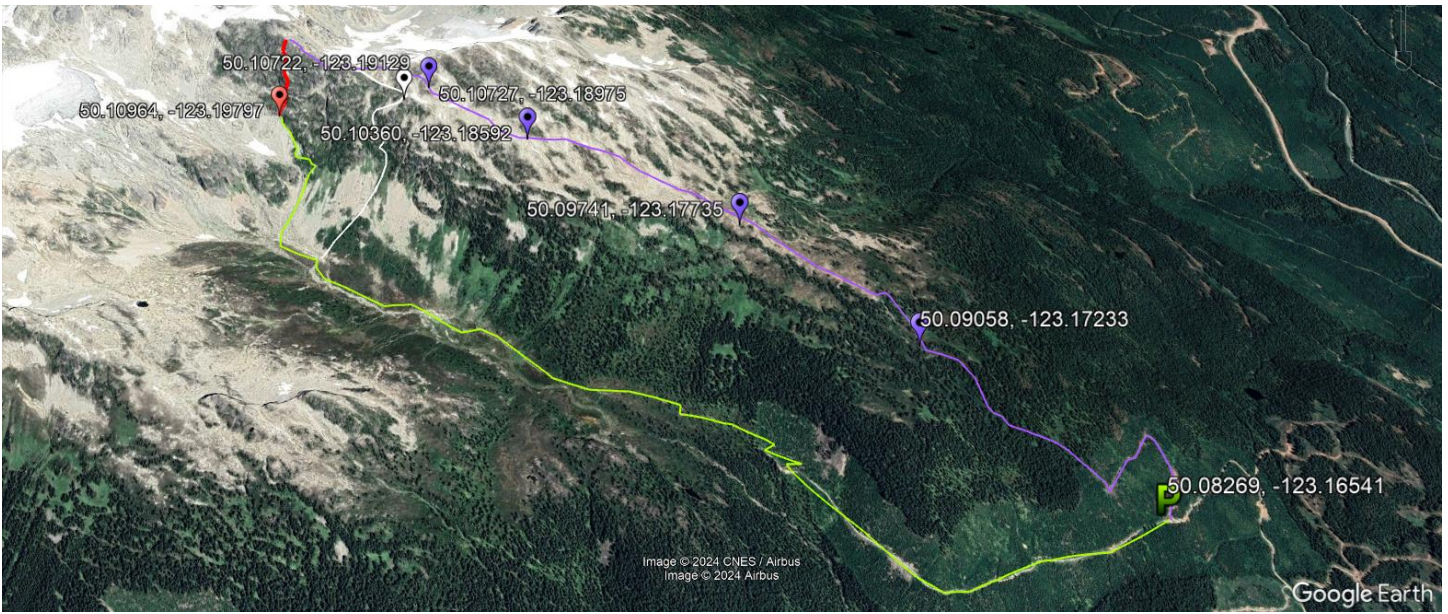


Figure 1: The green line is the Brandywine Meadows access trail. The red line is the climb and the purple line is the Metal Dome bypass descent. The "P" in this image is the upper parking lot and requires a 4x4 for access. As of the summer of 2024, there is equipment improving the road to the end of the road and the true upper trailhead. The trail from the lower parking ascends the creek in the bottom, center of the image and joins the green line near the small zig-zigs.