



B.C. CANADA, COAST MOUNTAIN RANGE

# Monarch Mountain: West Face

## RATING/DIFFICULTY:

- » D+, 5.10a, up to 42°, 1500 m climbing distance, 1100 m vertical elevation.

## FIRST ASCENT:

- » Waldemar "Fips" Broda and John L. Dudra, July 1953.

## LOCATION:

- » Monarch Mountain (3572 m) is located between the Empire-Way Glacier, a branch of the Monarch Icefield, and the Horseshoe-Glacier.  
GPS-Coordinates of the summit: N 51° 53' 58.7", W 125° 52' 35.4" @ 3572 m.

## ROUTE DESCRIPTION:

- » Cross the bergschrund and climb the big snow field towards the upper end of the highest patch. A mixed section of two pitches leads to the middle snow field. Cross this snow field upwards left to the rock face. Follow the face to its left end. A gap around the corner marks the beginning of a short rock climbing section (1 pitch, 5.5) to a crest. Follow the crest for another pitch (5.4) to gain the ice field. Once on ice, climb the short ice crest and traverse upwards to the distinctive ice gully. Climb either the ice gully or on solid rock on its left side to gain the upper ice field. Climb the ice field upwards right to the visible rock face. This marks the crux of the whole climb: A short icy hand crack up a vertical wall. Once you have climbed the wall, easy terrain leads up the final summit ridge. Follow the rocky ridge to a snow ridge, which leads towards the summit.
- » Going down on the same route. Rappel down the crux pitch to reach the upper ice field (fixed abseil cord). Climb all the way down to the crest above the middle snow field. After climbing half of the ridge, climb down leftwards on easy ground to the second abseil belay (fixed abseil cord). Rappel down (beware of loose rock) to reach your path on the middle ice field.  
GPS-Coordinates of the beginning of the route: N 51° 53' 46.6", W 125° 53' 35.7" @ 2481 m.

## EQUIPMENT/GEAR:

- » Full set of wires, abseil cord, 2 x 50 m ropes.



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OVERALL VIEW:

» The West Face route with the summit of Monarch Mountain as seen from the airplane.