



The Black Band Journey

THIS UPDATE

- 1) reinstates the original name “**THE BLACK BAND JOURNEY**” rather than the name “A Journey” in the previous uploaded file
- 2) adds the 2 original pitches that were not included in the older file named “A Journey” .

THE BLACK BAND JOURNEY is a bolted sport on Tunnel South in the Banff Black Band area

8 pitch sport route 5.10c plus short-rope/scramble exit of 100 m.

Route Developer: Bob Milko

First Ascent: September 9, 2022 by Bob Milko, Naomi Dale, Jay Olstad

GEAR: 60m. rope and 14 draws including 2 regular slings

note:

- 1) climbing is a hazardous activity and your safety is your responsibility .*
- 2) Be careful, as on any climb, when there are parties climbing below. It is best to start early since there are sport climbs below.*
- 3) You must feel comfortable traversing 5.10b/c face climbing where it is difficult to lower off.*
- 4) Best climbed when not too hot or windy.*

P.1 25 meters - 10-11 bolts. 5.8 Start at the beginning of the Black Band to the left of the climb *Siding 29*. Climb up the face through the short right facing corner clipping 2 new bolts and then joining *Siding 29* at the 3rd bolt (5.8) and then continue up *Siding 29* leaving the route and traversing the BlackBand clipping bolts on the next 3 routes to the right and one new bolt between the 2 anchors of *Home Cookin* and *Rocket Surgery*. The first station is the *Rocket Surgery* station.

P.2 25 m. 5.8. Step down and right around the corner from the anchor and cross the face heading towards *Dab Hand* clipping 2 new bolts on the way. Step across the gap clipping a new bolt on the wall to the left of *Dab Hand* and then continue up *Dab Hand* . Then traverse right across the ledge clipping bolts from other climbs where needed eventually arriving at the anchor of *The Missing Linc*. This is station 2.

or climb Missing Linc to the anchor 9 bolts 10a and start P.3

P.3 20 m. 11 bolts. 5.10c . Set off from the Missing Linc anchor traversing the Black Band across the face on good chert holds following bolts through a double quick-link anchor until reaching the hanging belay at the anchor of *Force Full (double ring and chain and hanging belay platform)*.

P.4 35 m. 11 bolts. 5.8. A few moves off the anchor and trend up and right reaching a sloping wall exiting through the small chimney to the outermost slab ramp. Double ring anchor near the base of the pillar.

P.5 32 m. 11 bolts 5.8 Head up from the anchor towards the pillar first climbing the left shoulder of the pillar and **then turning the edge onto the**

face of the pillar exiting on the top and climbing a short face to a scruffy traverse along an easy ledge to the double ring anchor.

P.6 40m. 5.10a 14 bolts. Head off right across the face until reaching *Camino del Sol* and climb through *Camino* (*using 1 or 2 bolts of Camino*) and continue right to a double ring anchor.

P.7 10 m. 5.10b 6 bolts. Traverse to underneath the overhang making a few tricky moves to the low point, then up through the 5.10b overhang passing a couple of horizontal breaks and head up, **or** right on a foot ledge turning the corner and moving easily up left to the 2 ring anchor.

P.8 20m. 8 bolts 5.10a Move up across the face until a mantle to easier ground and then traverse the face to a slight overhang 5.10a and through to flat ground finishing the main face of the Blackband. Walk back 5 meters to a 2 ring anchor but it is recommended to use the rope to extend to the edge to belay the second to reduce rope drag on the chert.

Short-rope/scramble finish. 100m 12 bolts. 5.6 Finish The Blackband Journey by short-roping/scrambling 6 small sections of interesting bolted chert face climbing ranging from 3m to 8m in length, interspersed with short walks. Start directly above the anchor of pitch 7. All the bolted climbing sections are marked by cairns at their start.

After the scramble/short-rope section, walk off up to the trail for 20 m and then follow trails in the forest trending up and left and join trails heading down Tunnel toward the Banff Centre.

Rappels/escape routes

P1 -2 - rap any anchor of multiple sport routes

P3 - rappel 20 meters to a station half way down The Force and then 15 meters to the ground OR 35 m to the ground

P4 - rappel 17 m straight down until reaching a sloping broken ledge and follow this climbers right until reaching the double ring anchor of Clean Slate and then to the ground 33 m. or to the top of Domino 25 m. and then 8 meters to the ground

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P5 rappel straight down 28 m to a double ring station on a clean grey wall 5 m. below and rt of a tree on a ledge, then rappel 17 m trending climbers left to the double ring anchor of Clean Slate, then to the ground 33 m. or to the top of Domino 25 m. and then 8 meters to the ground

P6 rappel 18m to the 2nd anchor of Camino del Sol and then as for Camino : 30m, 30m and then down the ramp as for Camino to the base of Middle Slab

P7 easily climb up left 2 m to the ramp and use 6 bolts for the 20m 5.1 section closer to the edge of the ramp that brings you to the final anchor and start of the short-rope/scramble section or walk-off. IF you need to go down - rappel trending climbers left to the last anchor and then down Camino as for the P5 rappel

P8 it is best to finish the 100m short rope/scramble section or walk up the ramp..IF you need to rappel to the ground go back down the ramp (using several bolts along the edge) to the anchor at the start of P.7 and then follow as for P6 rappel down to the base of Camino...