these are the QUOTES of our ROPES...
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Introduction

About This GuideBook
This book covers selected rock climbing and bouldering areas in the east end of San Miguel County of southwest Colorado. Over 450 routes are recorded, as are some of the many bouldering spots in the area. A more detailed guide to area bouldering is in the works. Classic high country climbs on some of Telluride’s surrounding peaks are recorded in the final chapter. For information and updates please visit: www.mountainworldmedia/info.html.

The Climbs
Most of the climbs in this guide have been repeated by the authors and friends; nevertheless, the information here is only approximate—use good judgment and climb at your own risk. This guide records only selected routes in various areas—routes of poor quality that requiring hammer aid are omitted.

Rock climbs in this guide range from 30 to 900+’ long; most are short, less than 80’ high. Many of the climbs are bolt-protected, the others require gear. A selection of 2-3 sets of cams and wired nuts is sufficient for most gear routes. Some bolted routes require as many as 25 quickdraws. A 60m rope is recommended and two ropes are needed for descents on the Ophir Wall and in Bear Creek. Some routes are equipped with fixed belay/rappel anchors on top, however many routes, especially in Ophir, lack a lot of fixed gear. Many of the routes in this guide have seen only a few ascents, therefore ratings should be considered tentative. High country climbs usually require an ice axe and crampons for approaches and descents and loose rock makes a helmet advisable.

Seriousness Warnings
PG 13: Long fall possible, but fairly safe when led by an experienced climber
R: Could be serious consequences in event of a fall, injury not unlikely
X: Potentially very serious consequences in a fall, serious injury or death not unlikely. Lack of a seriousness warning does not imply that a climb is safe.

All climbing is dangerous; risk cannot be eliminated from the sport. Many of the routes in this guide are serious undertakings that should only be attempted by experienced climbers.
Quality Ratings
Some routes are rated for quality:
*  Pretty darn good
**  Highly recommended
***  Excellent climb, gotta do
Routes without a star are still worth climbing.

New Route Information
People who contributed to the establishment of a route or an area are noted, along with dates and other information, when known. Please send all new route information or corrections to: info@mountainworldmedia.com.

Access
Most of the climbing areas in this guide are located on USFS land, however, there are some that are either on private land or cross it for access. Restrictions are in place in numerous areas in this guide, please read the restrictions as noted throughout and check locally for changes. Inclusion of a route or mountain in this book does not imply that access is guaranteed. For current status, check locally or contact The Access Fund (www.accessfund.org, 303-545-6772).

Seasons
Climbing is possible year-round, but the prime time for most crags is from mid-spring through late fall. Summertime is the best time for climbing in the region; however, afternoon thundershowers are common. For high country climbs, including rock routes in Bear Creek, mid-June through mid-September is the best time.

Camping
There are a few free camping spots near the climbs; the parking area at the base of the Ophir Wall is one such area. Important: Limit the impacts from camping here! Campfires are banned during periods of high wildfire danger. Camping is no longer allowed in the east end of the Telluride Valley and in most of the Ilium Valley due to high impacts. Pay camping areas, opened seasonally (late spring until mid fall) include: Telluride Town Park: East end of town. Sunshine Campground (USFS): Between Telluride and Ophir on Highway 145. Matterhorn Campground (USFS): A few miles south of the Ophir Wall on Highway 145. Ilium Campground (USFS): On the Ilium Road a few miles west of the Ophir Wall.
Services
Telluride is the nearest town with a full range of services, including grocery stores, lodging, and gas. Sawpit and Placerville have some limited services, including gas, food and beer. There are several outdoor shops in Telluride and a number of local climbing guide services.

Nearby Climbing Areas
Our other book, The Wild Wild West, records many sandstone climbing areas to the west, including Paradox Valley, Big Gypsum Valley, Naturita and Norwood.

Emergency Medical
The closest clinic is in Telluride on Pacific St and Townsend St. Call 911.

Minimize Visual Impacts
Remove all garbage and incidental climbers’ shwag such as slings, tape, back-off ‘biners and abandoned gear. Always camouflage fixed anchors. Be discrete. Dispose of human waste properly: Use toilets where available, otherwise, bury it or pack it out.

Use Existing Trails and camp in designated or pre-existing sites.

Do Not Disturb Cultural Or Historic Artifacts
Areas described in this guide contain many archeological sites; it is a Federal crime to disturb them. Ruins older than 50 years are considered historic and are protected by law. Federal land managers commonly enforce a 50’ buffer around rock art and other cultural sites.

Fixed Anchors
All fixed gear should be placed for safety and resource preservation only, not for convenience. Webbing anchors should be avoided—they degrade quickly and are unsightly. Many of the routes in this guide have fixed anchors. It is imperative that climbers visually inspect these anchors and be prepared to fix or replace those that are deemed unsafe. Some routes do not have fixed anchors due to poor rock, so plan accordingly. Do not lower directly off fixed anchors—they will wear out quickly and become dangerous.
Map and Topo Symbols

- Paved road (with designation)
- Dirt road
- Trail
- Crack
- Left facing corner
- Right facing corner
- Ledge
- Roof
- Chimney
- Groove or straight-in corner
- Arete or outside edge
- Fixed protection
- Fixed pin

**Approximate range of cracks:**
- Thin - less than 1/2"
- Fingers - 1/2" to 1 1/2"
- Hands - 1 1/2" to 3"
- Fist - 3" to 4 1/2"
- Ow - 4 1/2"+
How To Use This Book

This book breaks down the climbing into three categories: rock climbing, bouldering and mountains. The rock climbing portion of this book is broken down into five parts: Telluride North, Telluride East, Telluride South, Ophir and Ames (see Telluride Area Map to the right). Bouldering has been treated in brief. Lastly, the mountain section of this book has been expanded to incorporate more mountain peaks and more accurate information than did previous editions of this guide. Climb safe!

First Ascents (FA)

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1. Telluride Edge
2. Mill Creek Wall
3. Mill Creek Spire
4. Pandora Wall
5. The Good Book
6. Mine Boulders
7. Pipeline Wall
8. Falls Walls
9. Last Light Wall
10. Needle Rock
11. Sesame Street
12. Wasatch Wall
13. Wasatch Boulder
14. Bear Creek Boulder
15. Rock of Ages Boulder
16. Wasatch Mtn Wall
17. Wall of Justice
18. Gertrude's Bell Spire
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22. Ames Wall
23. Ilium Boulders
24. Bilk Wall
25. Society Turn
26. Lizard Head