Telluride Edge

Rock Type: Dakota Sandstone

Height: 30 to 45’

Climbing Style: Traditional/Sport

Gear Suggestions: A good range to wide hands, 8 quickdraws, 60m rope and if you plan on setting up a top rope, bring a very large sling or an extra rope.

Season: All seasons; winter on selected days-south facing

Land Status: U.S.F.S.

Restrictions: No camping!

Approach Time: 20 to 35 minutes

This area is comprised of a band of red sandstone about half mile long. It is located above and north of the west end of the town of Telluride. It is accessed by parking at the top of Aspen Street (north side of town). From here continue hiking north. Cross the foot bridge (the Jud Wiebe Trail). Once across the bridge hike to the top of the hill. Where it levels out, look for a steep trail that ascends to the north. Continue up this “climbers trail” through trees and dirt openings for about five minutes or so. When you reach the cliff turn left (west). You will find the first climb almost right away. Backtrack or continue west along the cliff for about half mile until you reach the junction with the Jud Wiebe Trail, from here continue down and east to town.

Telluride North
Most anything that looks like it could be a route has probably been climbed in some fashion. The routes that are included here are the best quality lines. Almost any part of this wall provides good bouldering. People began climbing and bouldering here in the 1970s but there is room for many new routes here. Please be responsible when placing bolts. Many of the routes listed here could use anchors as well. First ascent info has been left out as it is hard to say who was the first to lead many of these routes.

From East to West

1. 5.9, arching crack—loose rock to start
2. 5.6, crack—loose rock to start
3. 5.11, bolted face, single bolt at top with rap ring (rapping off a single bolt is never recommended)
4. 5.3, crack in corner—a low angle route
5. **5.11, face with two bolts to anchor (fun route)
6. **5.10+, face climb five bolts to an anchor
7. 5.11, tricky face climbing past five bolts
8. 5.10+, climb the corner just left of the bolted face
9. 5.10, the Y-Crack, both right and left finishes are 5.10
10. 5.10, climb pockets up a steep face (toprope)
11. 5.11+, climb a very steep and pumpy face (toprope)
12. 5.10, climb a crack in the corner
13. a very thin hard toprope
14. a even thinner hard toprope
15. 5.8, climb a crack in a corner
16. climb a face that becomes steep at the top (no grade info available)
17. superb bouldering along this wall. Lots of pockets!
18. Project. Overhanging and steep.
19. 5.12, climb face to steep seam
20. **Jack Pera Route 5.10+, arete to hand crack (or 5.11 variation to right). Super route!
21. Sunshine Superman 5.12, climb the crack through a roof with a bolt at the crux (mostly fingers and hands)
22. 5.8, hand crack in a corner
23. 5.7, climb face and cracks to top
Mill Creek Wall

Rock Type: Dakota Sandstone

Height: 70’

Climbing Style: Mixed gear and bolts

Gear Suggestions: A good range to wide hands

Season: Early spring to late fall

Land Status: U.S.F.S.

Restrictions: No camping!

Approach Time: 20 to 30 minutes.

Drive one mile out of town (west) and across from the gas station, make a right on to Mill Creek Rd. (637). Continue up and west, then it switch-backs heading east. Park at the Mill Creek / Deep Creek Trailhead. Head up the trail, cross the bridge and head up to the wall.

1. Sandman 5.10.
2. Starfire 5.13.
4. Ar‘vi Donc 5.11+.
5. Steve’s Smile 5.10.
6. Little Rose 5.11+.

Routes established by Antoine Savelli in 1989.
Mill Creek Spire

Rock Type: Telluride Conglomerate / San Juan Tuff

Height: 200'

Climbing Style: Traditional, aid

Gear Suggestions: A good range, three sets of thin to OW

Season: Early spring to late fall

Land Status: U.S.F.S.

Restrictions: None

Approach Time: 1 hour (approx)

A mile west of town, just west of the gas station, make a right onto the Mill Creek Road (637). Drive to the trailhead about 1.5 miles up the road and take the Mill Creek Trail. Go left onto the Deep Creek Trail (418). Then take a right on the Sneffels Highline Trail (434). Continue along this trail until you reach a large meadow. From here you will be able to see the spire to the northeast. Faint game trails and bushwacking will bring you to the base of the spire.
1. Alien Stem Route 5.8, C2+, 3 pitches. Climb a thin arching crack (anchors have no hangers). Pitch 2 goes up a fat crack. Pitch 3 is 40’ of face climbing with no protection. Rappel the north face or climb down 40’ to a slung horn (a 30 foot piece of webbing may be needed to sling horn). FA: SJ, MK, CF.

2. Henry Barber Route 5.9, 2 pitches. Pitch one climbs a corner in the middle of the south face (150’). Pitch 2 goes up 40’ of unprotected face to the top of the spire. FA: HB, 1974.