

GONZALES HEIGHTS

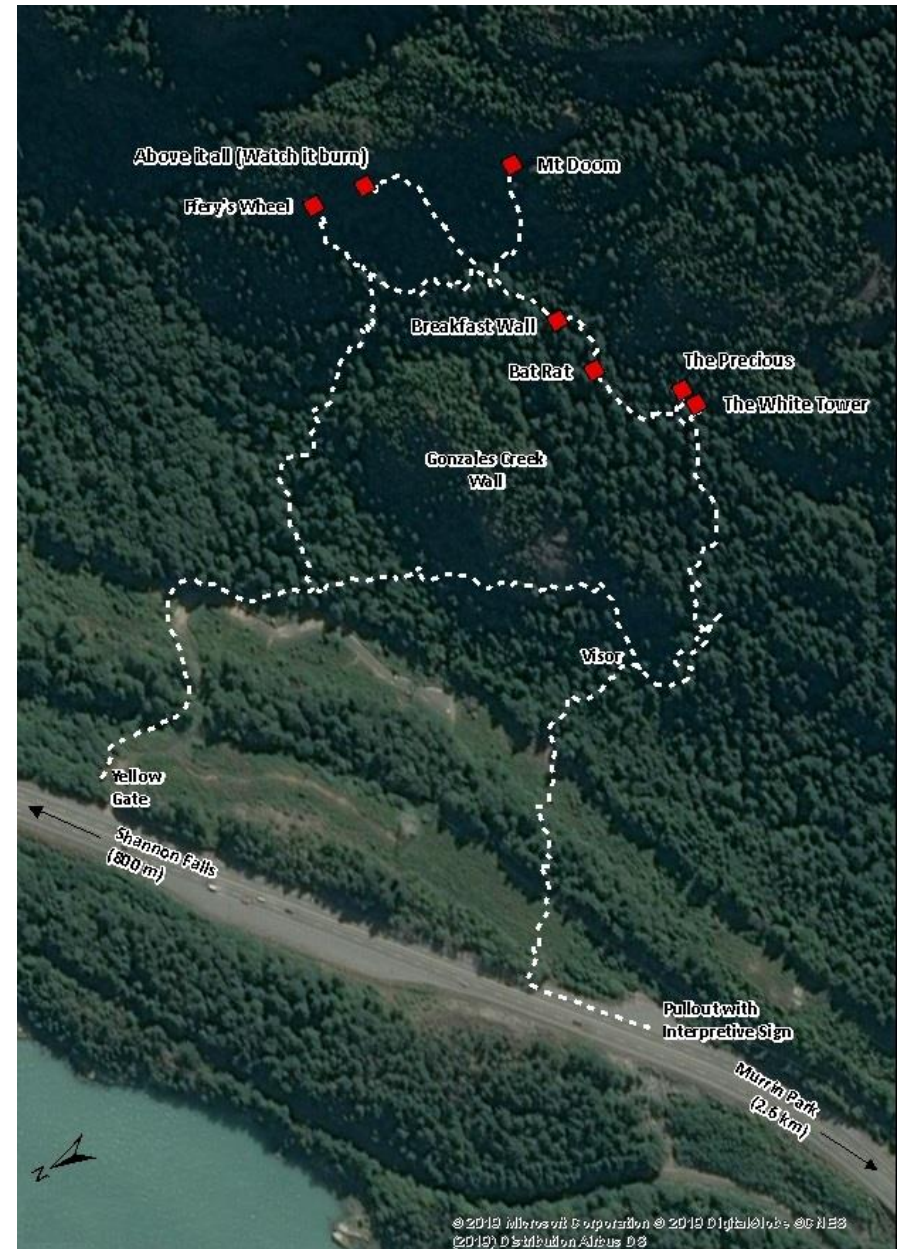
In the highlands above Gonzales Creek Wall is a collection of crags. These are the Gonzales Heights! On the left is Above it All with the 4-pitch Watch it Burn (10c). To the right is Isengard, a group of steep walls hidden in the forest.

Driving from Squamish:

Drive South. Go 2.8km past Shannon Falls, passing a chain-up area. Stop at the next pullout (a lookout point) to turn around on the highway. Drive North 1.5km, pass the overpriced Squamish sign and park at a pullout with an interpretive sign and a trash can.

Driving from Vancouver:

Park 2.6 km North of Murrin, at a pullout with an interpretive sign and a trash can.



ABOVE IT ALL

Climate: The wall gets full sun after 2pm, with the bottom staying shady. Fairly quick to dry.

Character: Pleasant crack and face climbing with a great view of Howe Sound.

Gear: A 70m rope and trad rack.

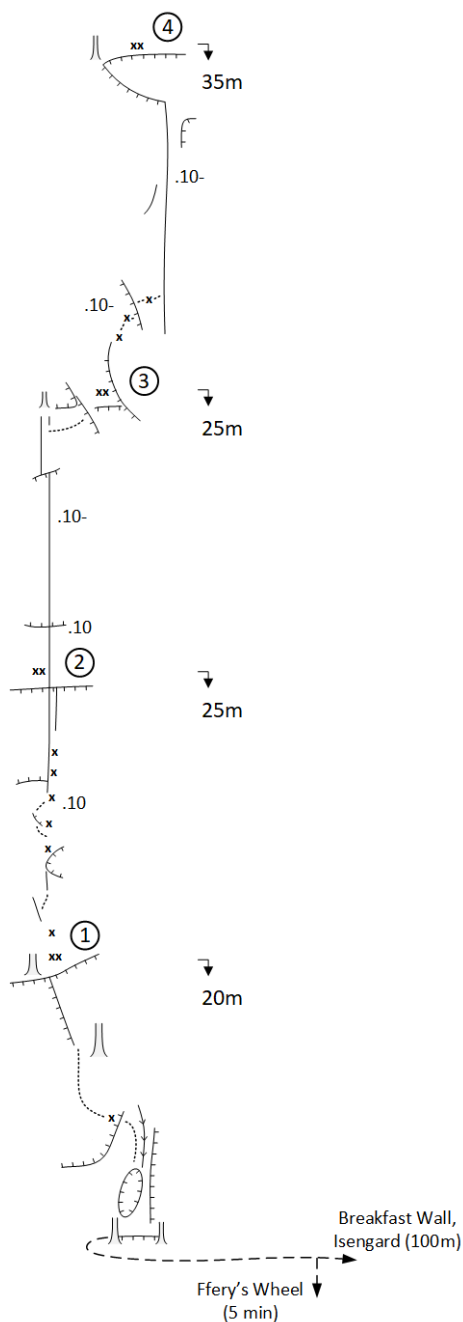
Approach: 25-30 minutes, steep

Approach Beta: Park in the chain up area 900m South of Shannon Falls or in the pullout with the interpretive sign 2.7km North of Murrin. Starting from the yellow gate, follow the main road into the second hydro cut until 30m before a hydro tower. Take the first of two trails which start 5m apart and follow it steeply uphill. About 30m below the Ffery's Wheel, take a right fork (flagging) and continue uphill and then back left to the base of the cliff. Watch It Burn starts on a belay platform below a detached boulder. Alternately, approach by cutting 150m left from the base of the Breakfast Wall at Isengard.

Thanks to the Sea to Sky Route Development Fund for the bolts and to Paige Sorger for help with the crag.

Email david.brayden@gmail.com for beta or corrections.

ABOVE IT ALL – WATCH IT BURN



Watch It Burn (10c) *** 4 pitches

The first route at Above It All follows finger and hand cracks to the top of the wall.

P1. Start up the detached boulder, head left past a bolt, and make your way to a handcrack. (5.8, 1 bolt, 20m)

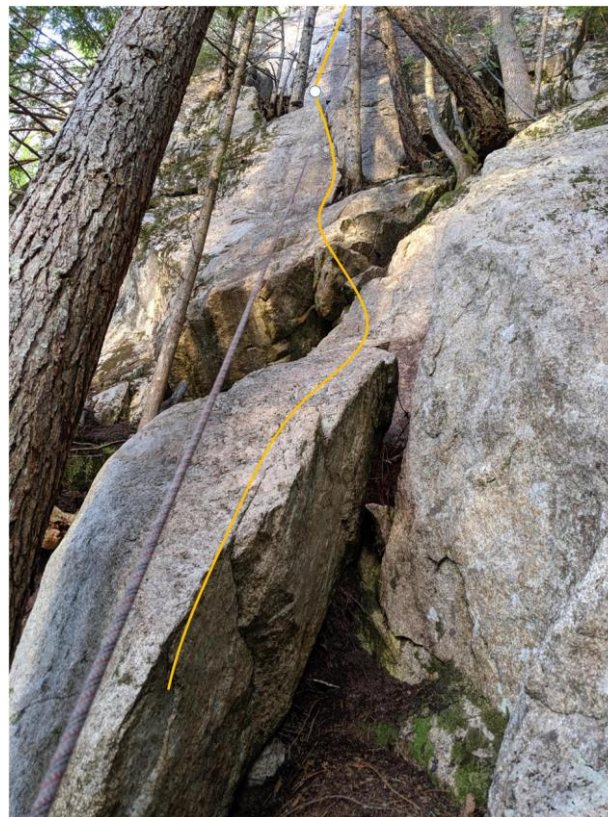
P2. Climb cracks and flakes through the steep wall. Hidden jugs on both sides keep the grade reasonable. (10c, 6 bolts, 25m)

P3. Climb the sweet splitter through a cool undercling crux. Where it ends before a tree, step right and up to the anchor. (10c, 30m)

P4. Follow the curving flake above and face climb past two bolts. Step right at the third to gain a fun crack and follow it through the steepening wall to the top. (10a, 3 bolts, 35m)

Rap the route with a single 70m

.2 - 3, (2x) .3 - 1, nuts



ISENGARD - OVERVIEW

Location: 10 minute drive South of Squamish, near Gonzales Creek

Climate: Shady and cold - good summer cragging. Slow to dry

Character: Steep burly cracks! A good spread from 5.10 to 5.12.

Gear: A 60m rope and trad rack. Crack gloves are helpful.

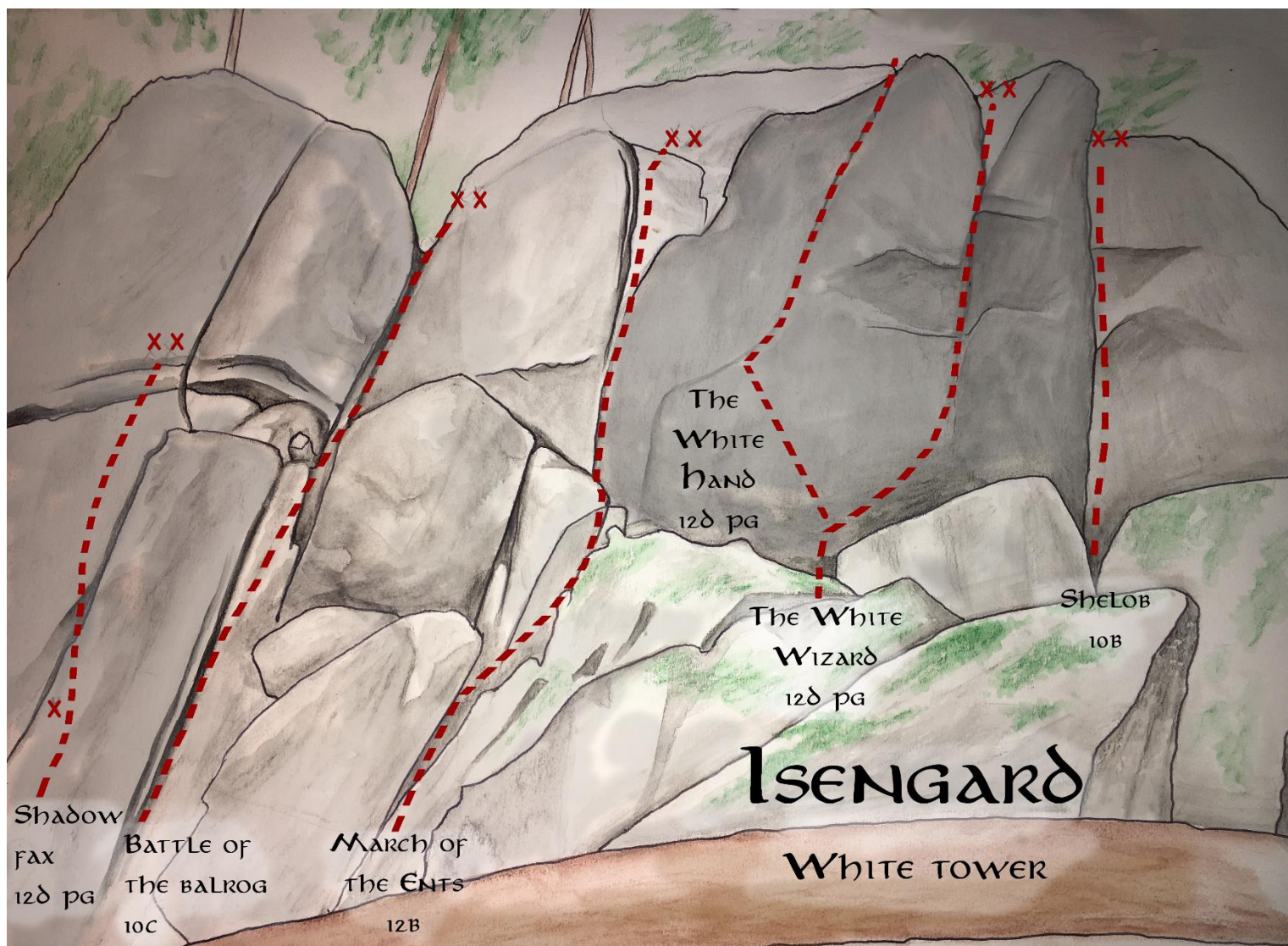
Approach: 20 minutes, steep

Approach Beta: Walk about 50 paces North along the highway. Go up the grass bank to a flagged tree, then follow a trail through two hydro slashes. After walking under a big duck bill, turn right along the base of Gonzales Creek Wall, then go up into the forest. Flagging marks the whole trail.

Thanks to CASBC for anchor funding, and to everyone who helped with the crag – especially Luke Irwin, Dee Anna, Kenn Sippell, Holly Buehler, Ian Bennett, Abi Garbanzo and Duncan O'Regan.

Email thedrewguy@gmail.com for beta

ISENGARD – WHITE TOWER



Illustrated by Holly Buehler

- 1. Shadowfax (12d PG) ** 10m**
 Short and stout. The pro is bomber but hard to place. Pre-place a piece to bump it down a letter.
(1x) .5 to 1, bolt
- 2. Battle of the Balrog (10c) ** 15m**
 Climb steep double handcracks to a ledge, then enter the chimney and prepare to battle the balrog.
(2x) .5 to 3
- 3. March of the Ents (12b) *** 15m**
 Steep burly jams.
(2x) .2 to 1
- 4. The White Hand (12d PG) ** 10m**
 Steep face climbing on thin gear. Safe but worth scoping the gear on top rope.
RPs, .1 to .5, #1 ball nut useful
- 5. The White Wizard (12d PG) *** 10m**
 The king line! Bouldery and sustained, with a little spice. A crash pad on the ledge makes it safe. Easy to set up a top rope from Shelob.
 Seeps after rain
000 C3 to .5, crash pad
- 6. Shelob (10b) ** 10m**
 A short but quality layback
(1x) .4 to 5

ISENGARD - THE PRECIOUS

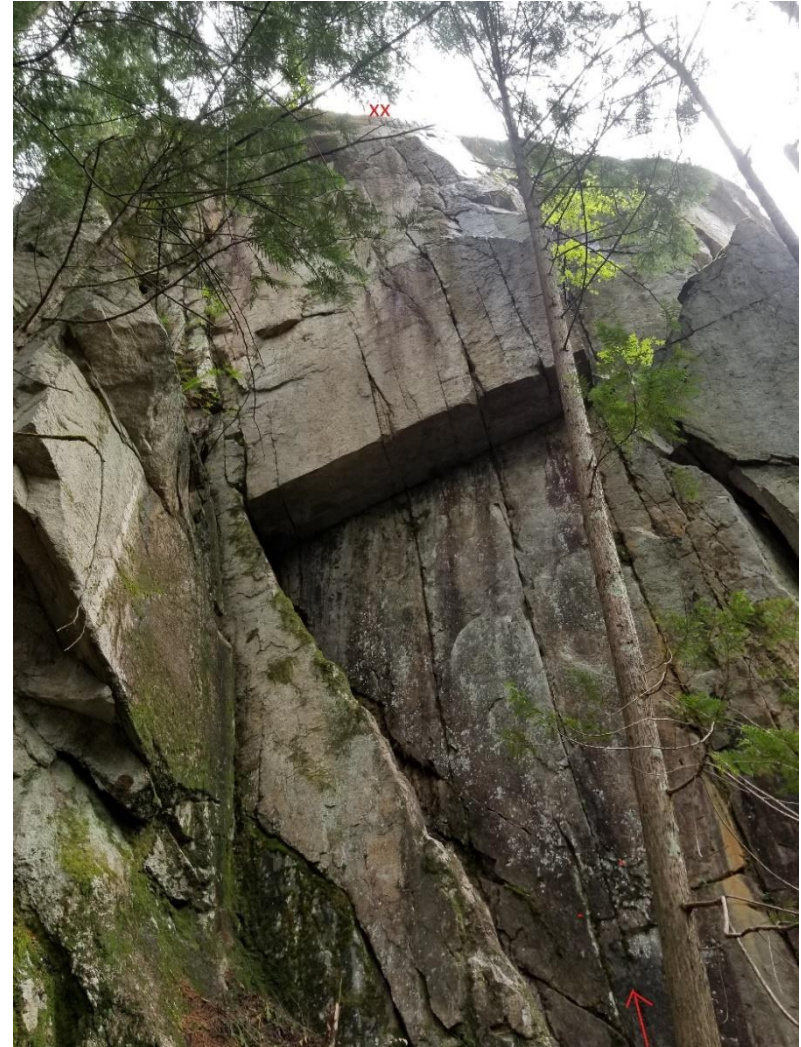


The Precious (10c) ** 15m

A good climb for people with little hobbit hands.

(1x) .2 to .5, (2x) .75 to 1, (1) 2

ISENGARD - BAT RAT



Bat Rat (12a) *** 25m

Awesome crack climbing through a roof. Named after a flying squirrel that lived nearby

(2x) .2 to 2, 1 bolt

ISENGARD - BREAKFAST WALL



1. Second Breakfast (11b) * 15m

Tricky, with a reachy gear placement. Medium offset nuts are the key (2x) .3 to 1, offset nuts

2. Elevensies (11c) * 15m

In case you're still not satisfied after second breakfast (1x) .2 to .5, (2x) .75 to 2, (1x) 4, wires

ISENGARD - MT DOOM

It's a bit of a hike to get to this one. Bring your wide gear and offwidth stoke!



Cracks of Doom (10c) ** 30m

A wild adventure up a majestic wide corner. Highly recommended
(1 - 2x) .4 to 6

FAs:

Shadowfax – Duncan O, 2019
Battle of the Balrog – Drew M, 2018
March of the Ents – Drew M, 2018
The White Hand – Drew M, 2019
The White Wizard – Drew M, Clinton L, 2019
Shelob – Drew M, Dee A, 2016
The Precious – Laurie B, 2018
Bat Rat – Drew M, 2017
Second Breakfast – Drew M, 2017
Elevensies – Drew M, 2017
Cracks of Doom – Drew M, Jon R, Danny G, 2018
Watch It Burn - David Brayden, Jade Littlewood, 2019

Topo by:

Drew M, Holly Buehler, David Brayden