

Wilson Canyon

Elevation: 6,800 feet

Approach Time: 45 minutes

Primary Aspect: All Aspects

Number of Routes: 25

*Draft guide by Wesley Gooch.
Uncredited photos by Wesley Gooch.*

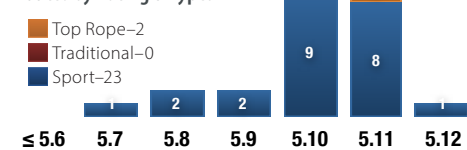
Wilson Canyon is Jackson Hole's newest sport climbing venue, and there are still plenty more routes to come than what this guide lists. The routes here are ideal for beginner to intermediate sport climbers and the area is a great option for after work cragging. The canyon gets afternoon sun but many of the routes will be shaded by trees all day long making for an acceptable summer-time crag.

Wilson Canyon will never be a destination climbing area, however, for locals this is a fun new area to climb and practice safely. The cliffs are not roadside cliffs. Expect to hike 45 minutes to the easiest-to-access cliffs. Other cliffs are higher on up on the canyon sidewalls with faint, if no, trails and will require longer. Please note that many of the climber "trails" that I outline in maps and overview photos are actually routes of least resistance with no established trail. Be prepared for a little adventure!

The rock here is a limestone and unfortunately, most of the rock in the canyon is loose if not fully choss. However, at higher elevations the limestone becomes solid enough to climb after serious cleaning efforts. That said, helmets are an absolutely must-have piece of equipment! These routes are still considered brand new – expect some handholds to break on occasion.

The Trundle Wall area is the best introduction to the canyon, has the easiest approach, and with the highest concentration of routes.

Routes by Rating & Type:



Bolting Style

For the most part, routes have been bolted very safely but there are a few exceptions. Particularly, the Flowstone Wall (read that crag's description for details).

Recommended Equipment

Bring 14 sport draws. A 60-meter rope is plenty long. Most routes are equipped with sport top anchors (steel carabiners), but not all. Be prepared to thread the rope to lower. Bring a stick clip for the Flowstone Wall. Helmets Required.

Driving Directions & Approach

Refer to the map and directions on page [?].

Active Development

Route development is active and will likely continue for years. Check back often to download a free and updated guide at ClimbingWyoming.com.

Loose Rock

Many climbs still need cleaning. Wear a helmet and be cautious of suspect-looking holds.

High-use Area

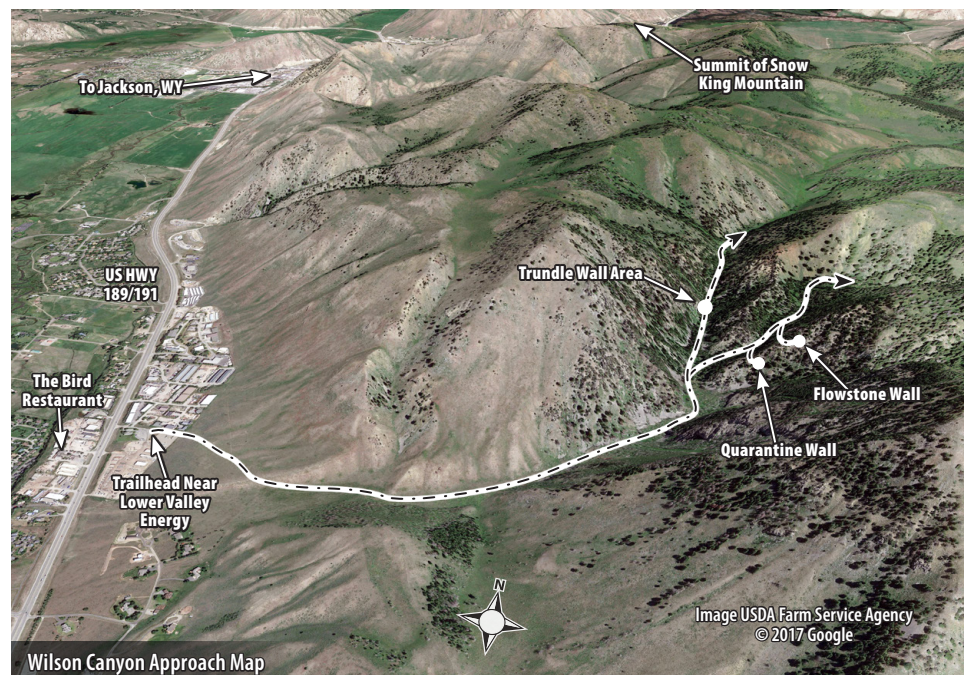
The canyon is a heavily trafficked trail that is open to hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers. Please be respectful of other recreationists. Dogs are allowed, but please keep dogs in control, or leashed, around wildlife, climbers, and other recreationists.

Wildlife Closure

The Wilson Canyon Trail is closed due to a Winter Wildlife Closure from December 1st to May 1st. Please respect the closure and the area's wildlife.



Andrew Hildebrand climbing 1984 – 5.10b.



Driving Directions

From Jackson, head south on Highway 189/191 for approximately 3.8 miles (from the Albertson's parking lot).

Turn left/east towards Lower Valley Energy and park in the upper northeast/left corner of a large parking lot near the fenced-in power transformers. The trailhead begins at the corner of the parking lot on the fence line.

Approach

There are a few different public trails in this area, but the Wilson Canyon trail is well marked. From the parking lot, the trail leads through an open meadow and an old burn from 2012. Higher up, the meadow gives way to thick forests and rocky outcrops.

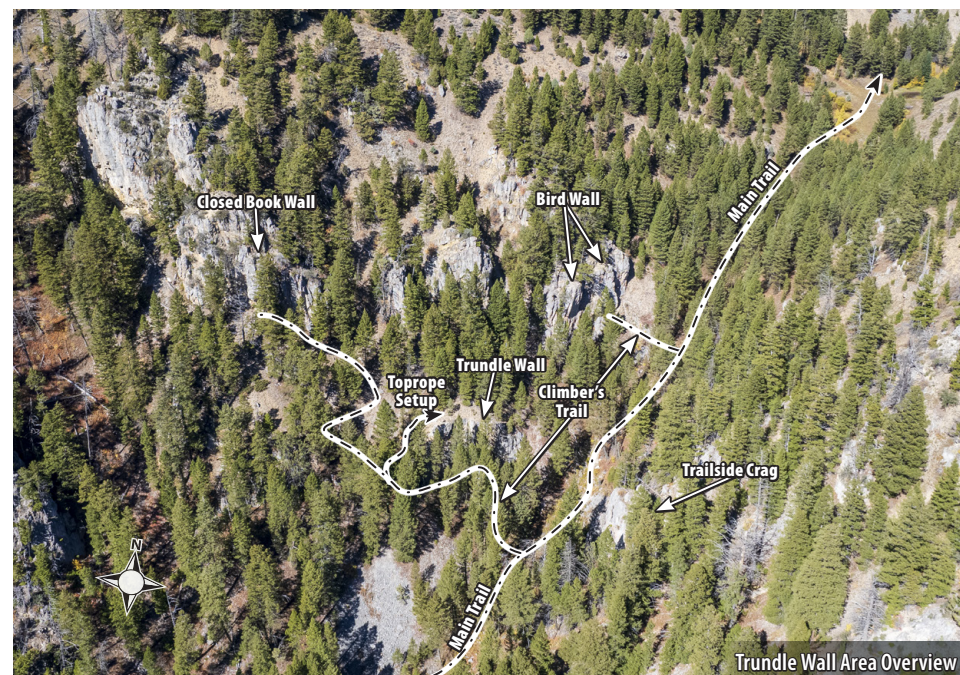
The approach to the Trundle Wall Area is approximately 1.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 890 feet from the parking lot. Other crags will have a longer and steeper approach, so plan accordingly.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENT & HOW TO GET THE LATEST FREE GUIDE

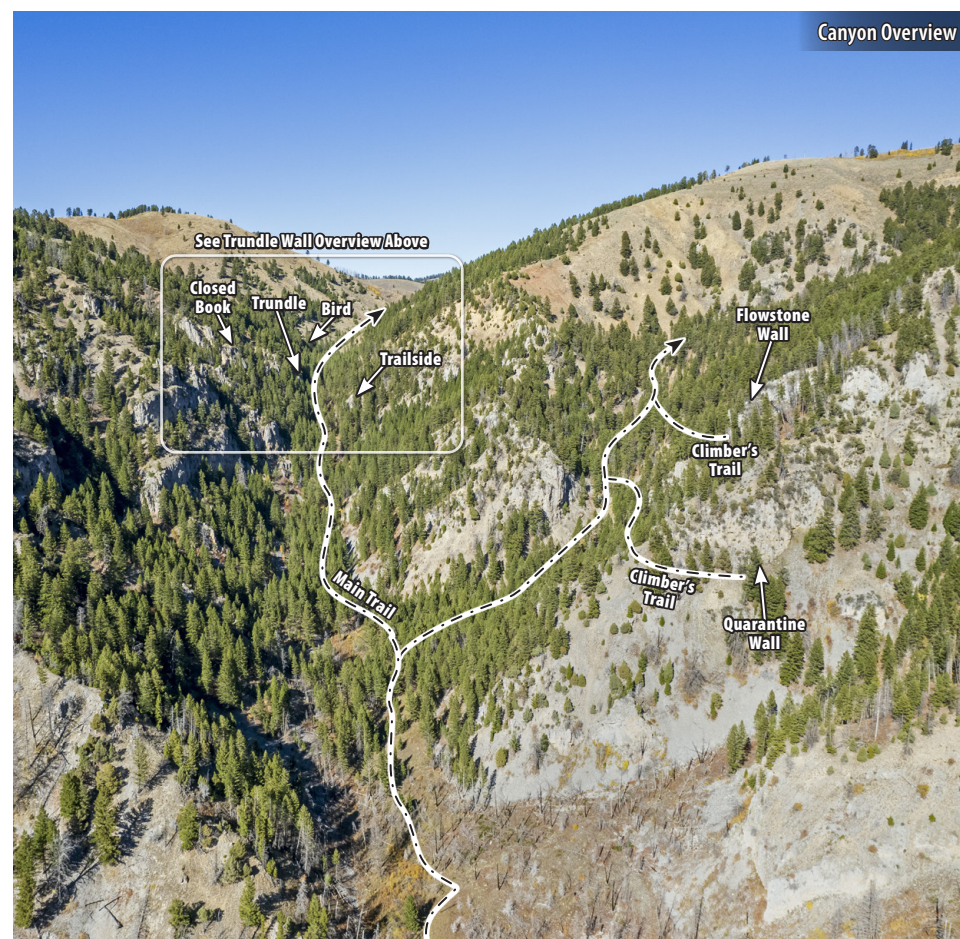
Wilson Canyon is in active development and will likely be for years to come. When new routes are established, this guide will be updated and republished online for free. Take note of the guide version number and date in the top right corner of each page. Download the latest version of this guide for free on ClimbingWyoming.com.

This guide is forever free. Please download, print, and share with friends! Feedback is highly encouraged and appreciated. Contact Wesley Gooch via email at Wesley@ClimbingWyoming.com to give feedback.

Safe climbing and have fun!



Trundle Wall Area Overview



Canyon Overview

Andrew Hilderbrand on Tom's Route – 5.10b/c.



Andrew Hilderbrand on Tom's Route – 5.10b/c.



Trailside Crag

This crag is located directly south (opposite side of trail) from the Trundle Wall and is only a few strides from the trail. There's currently only one route with potential for one or two more.

Tom's Route ★ 5.10b/c

10 bolts. Description goes here...



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Trundle Wall

Description of wall and approach here... four routes and one unfinished top rope. All routes on the Trundle Wall were established by Tom Hargis – if you see Tom, say thanks!

1 Darkness At Noon ★★ 5.10d 6 Rhinoceros ★ 5.10a

Balancy with hidden sidepulls. Best quality rock on the wall.

Fun warmup. Beware of a potentially loose block about halfway up on the right.

2 Cows That Type ★★★ 5.11a/b # V For Vendetta ★★ 5.11d/5.12a

Steep climbing with great finger pockets on the top half.

Far right route. Description todo.

3 1984 ★★ 5.10a/b

Steep stemming crack with fun movement and an exposed finish.

4 Animal Farm ★ 5.10d

If you stay on the right hand of the top arete the grade is 5.10d, or you can bypass the crux by going left on the top arete at 5.10a.

5 Hunger Games ★★ 5.9

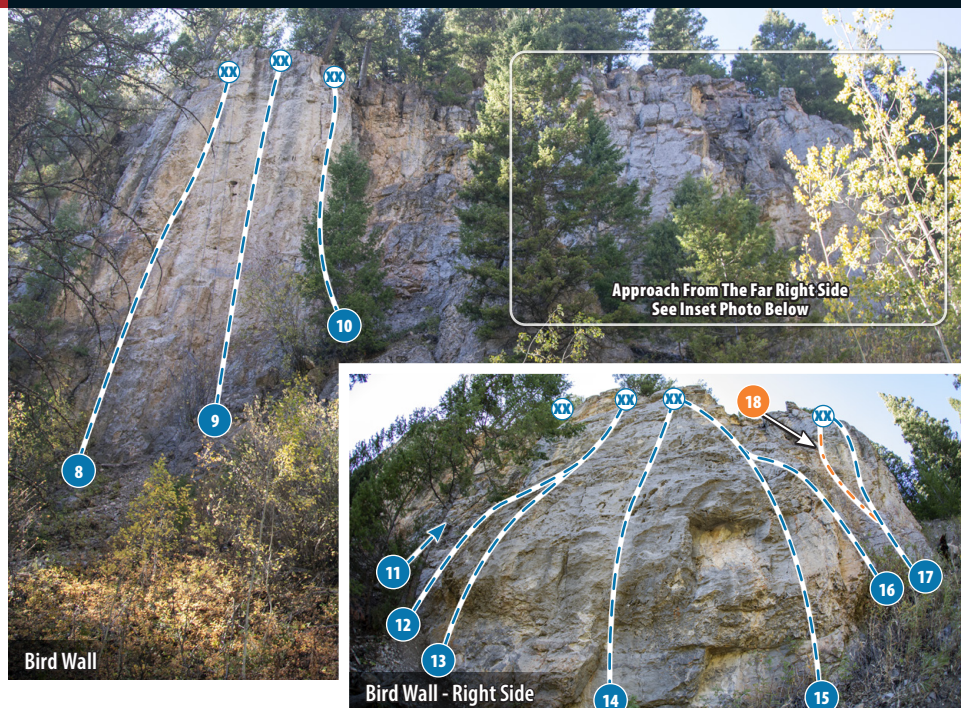
11 bolts. Fun warmup.

Catching Fire ★ 5.9

Description todo.

Jack Yaguda on Darkness at Noon – 5.10d.





Bird Wall

This wall is named after the Bird Restaurant located across the street from the Wilson Canyon trailhead. Each route is named after an item on the Bird's menu. The Bird Wall can be seen from the main trail (north/left side of trail) but don't scramble directly up once the wall is in sight, instead, continue up the main trail until you are at the same elevation as the base of the cliff, then traverse in on a climber's trail to the right side of the wall. Routes are listed left to right.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>8 Schnitzel Night ★ 5.11b</p> <p>9 bolts. Slightly overhanging finger crack with some big and physical movement.</p> | <p>12 Ghetto Deluxe ★ 5.7</p> <p>5 bolts. Bolted hand crack. Good practice for the aspiring crack climber.</p> |
| <p>9 Club Sandwich ★ 5.11d</p> <p>9 bolts. This route was established by the local High School Climbing Club! The climbing is crimpy and thin.</p> | <p>13 Ghetto on a Good Day ★ 5.9</p> <p>6 bolts. This is a more direct variation start to <i>Ghetto Deluxe</i> with a crux right off the ground.</p> |
| <p>10 Cabo & Fries ★ 5.11b</p> <p>8 bolts. Jugs up steep rock with a strenuous pull move at the top.</p> | <p>14 Spaten Lager ★ 5.10a</p> <p>5 bolts. Naturally this was the first route bolted on the wall because the rock is quality is the best. The crux is at the first bolt then cruiser climbing from their to the top.</p> |
| <p>11 Wrong Decision ★ 5.11a</p> <p>9 bolts. Climb the boundary arete between good and bad rock. The crux is a short 4-6 move boulder problem at the obvious steep section.</p> | <p>15 Sunday Brunch ★ 5.10c</p> <p>6 bolts. Harder climbing off the ground then cruiser to the top. Merges with <i>Spaten Lager</i> at the last bolt.</p> |

16 Funday ★ 5.8

5 bolts. This is a decent beginner lead route that was established to fill the need of easy routes to learn on, however, the climbing is a bit contrived.

17 Philly ★ 5.11a

5 bolts. Another High School Climbing Club route with a short finger crack up high and right.

18 French Dip ★ 5.11a

Top Rope. A top rope variation to *Philly* that is slightly harder and more sustained.



Evan Mathews moving into the crux of *Wrong Decision* - 5.11a. Photo: Evan Mathews





Closed Book Crag

Closed Book Crag

This crag is located above the *Trundle Wall* and is approximately 60 feet high composed of slightly more solid rock for the area. Approach from the left side of the *Trundle Wall* via a faint climber's trail that trends up and left. Routes are listed from left to right.

Unnamed ★★ 5.8

This is a safe route suitable for a first lead. You can swing over to the anchors of the adjacent route to setup a toprope.

Unnamed ★ 5.9

Todo...

Unnamed ★★★ 5.11d

Todo...

Annou ncement of Upcoming 3rd Editon of The
Jackson, Driggs, Pinedale, Dubois Climbing Guide



See Inset Photo Below

Flowstone Wall – Left

Flowstone Crag

All routes on this formation are slightly overhanging and north facing with a thuggish style.

The Flowstone Wall has some odd bolting styles. Perhaps the route's originator is not finished but many of the route's first bolt is very high off the ground with ankle breaking potential. For the Flowstone Wall, bring a long stick clip. Hopefully those first high bolts will be fixed soon.

Approach info here.... Routes are listed from left to right.

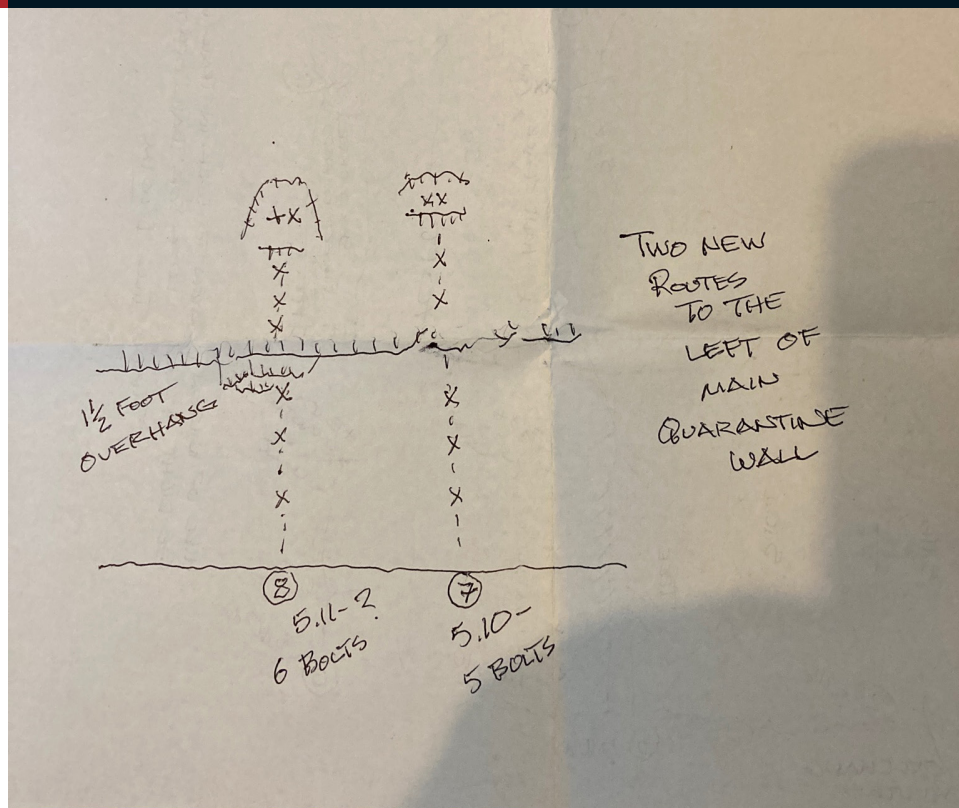
Unnamed ★ 5.10c/d
Todo...



Flowstone Wall – Right

Unnamed ★ 5.11+? # Unnamed ★ 5.11a/b
Todo... Todo...

Unnamed ★ 5.11a/b # Unnamed ★ 5.12a
Todo... Todo...



Quarantine Wall – Left

Overhanging wall located left of the main Quarantine Wall. Both routes tackle a small overhang.

541 AD: Justinian's Nightmare

★ 5.11a

6 Bolts

1346 AD: the four horseman riding hard and strong

★ 5.10a

5 Bolts.



Quarantine Wall – Main

Todo... At quarantine wall Uv therapy has an alternate start to the left “uv alternative” a little easier. Lysol injection has an alternate finish to the right “Lysol direct” same grade

Unnamed

★ 5.10d

Todo...

Unnamed

★ 5.10a

6 bolts that follows a handcrack

Unnamed

★ 5.11a

Todo...

Unnamed

★★★★ 5.11a

Spaced climbing with a hard mantle move to a perfect corner with good jamming.

Unnamed

★★★ 5.10d

Todo...

Approach Map Via Google
Earth Rendering

East Fork of Wilson Canyon Approach

Todo... describe approach with no trail.



The hike out of Wilson Canyon on a beautiful fall day.

East Fork of Wilson Canyon Wall

Big fin in the shade all day but needs more cleaning. Slightly overhanging rock with powerful moves between pockets.

Unnamed

★ 5.11

Todo...

Unnamed

★ 5.11

Todo...