

Gasherbrum 3 British and Slovenian Expedition 2024 aka. G3 and More 2024



Left to right, G4, G3 and G2, taken from 'Camp 1' at 6000m.

Supported by:

- Mount Everest Foundation (Ref 24 - 09)
- Alpine Club Climbing Fund
- Austrian Alpine Club (UK)
- Mountain Equipment

The compilers of this report and the members of the expedition agree that all or any of it may be copied for the purposes of private research.

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Acknowledgements

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Financial Assistance

- The Fred Iseman Award administered through the Mount Everest Foundation
- Alpine Club Climbing Fund
- Austrian Alpine Club (UK)
- Mountain Equipment

Equipment

- Mountain Equipment, Petzl, La Sportiva, Julbo.

Aims of the Expedition

First ascent of the west ridge of Gasherbrum 3 (7958m) in alpine style.

Team

Tom Livingstone (UK)
Chamonix, France.

Aleš Česen (Slovenia)
Kranj, Slovenia.

Preparation

The decision was made to organise the expedition through an agent to save time.

The permit and travel was organised through Ghulam Mohammad at Blue Sky Treks and Tours:
ghulam_bluskytours@yahoo.com

Timing

June/July/August 2024.

Left home on 21 June.

Reached base camp on 29 June.

Acclimatised until 22 July.

Climbed objective from 31 July to 6 August.

Returned to base camp on 6 August.

Returned home on 13 August.

Account of Trip

The concept: climb a technical and interesting objective, like those found in the Alps, Canadian Rockies, and Alaska, but at ~8000 metres. Ideally the route would be objectively as safe as possible, have a relatively smooth descent, interesting but not extremely complicated logistics, and with a good partner.

In 2022 Ales Cesen and I attempted the west ridge of G3. We didn't get closer than the base of the route at 7000m due to strong winds. However, we agreed in early 2024 to return to this objective since it appealed to both of us.

Once reaching base camp (5000m) we acclimatised as per the timings above. An extra week was spent at the end of July in base camp waiting for Ales to recover from a unusual dizziness problem. We climbed the route as follows:

We were very happy to make the first ascent of west ridge of Gasherbrum 3 (7958m) over 3 climbing days.

Approach Day 1: Approach from Base Camp at 5000m to standard Camp 1 on G1/G2 normal route at 6000m.

Approach Day 2: Climbed to col between G4 and G3. Bivy around 7100m

Day 3/Climbing Day 1: Started up west ridge. Bivy at 7485m.

Day 4/Climbing Day 2: Climb on west ridge. Bivy at 7800m.

Day 5/Climbing Day 3: Climb on west ridge and summit G3 around 1600, descend to Camp 4 at 7400m on G2's normal route

Day 6/Descent Day 1: Descend from 7400m back to standard Camp 1 on G1/G2 normal route at 6000m.

Day 7/Descent day 2: Descend from standard camp 1 to Base Camp at 5000m.

The West ridge starts at 7000m and finishes at 7958m.

Climbed in alpine style; no fixed ropes, bolts or supplemental oxygen.
Weather was mixed throughout.
Grade - impossible!

Base camp during bad and good weather



Click here for two reports:

<https://www.climbing.com/news/first-ascent-of-gasherbrum-iiiis-west-ridge/>

<https://www.ukclimbing.com/news/2024/08/>

tom_livingstone_on_his_new_gasherbrum_3_route_edge_of_entropy-73765

We had to deal with the usual logistics of porters, liaison officer, permit and Pakistani surprises, but none were too difficult.

Accounts (£)

Expedition Costs		Expedition Income	
International travel (inc excess baggage and carbon offset)	3500	MEF	3500
Permits and peak fees	3500	AC	900
Liaison Officer	3000	Austrian Alpine Club (UK)	1500
Expedition members' insurance	800	Personal contributions:	The rest
In-Country Agent Logistics/Fees	6000		
Central Karakoram National Park Fee	400		
Porters and Staff Insurance	200		
Misc/Food/Fuel	600		
Total:	18000	Total:	5900

Photos of our ascent





