

Brosmetind, west face, Kvaløya.

SONATA ARCTICA, 130 m, 6/6+.

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The easiest access to the base of the west face is by abseil. There is a bolted rappel station on the big ledge on top of the main wall (50 meters south of the summit of *Brosmetind*). We used a 150 m static rope that was fixed all the way down. Since retreating from the base of the wall is severely difficult, a fixed rope will serve as an escape if necessary.

The rock is mainly of the same quality as on *Gullknausen*, but a bit more loose. The surface is flaky and holds can break. In addition, there are some loose blocks in corners and on ledges. Our route takes the most rock solid path of least resistance up the main wall, in four short pitches. The belays are on comfortable ledges away from the drop line of falling rock from the leader. The route is steep, offering nice face climbing on good holds and overall good protection, except for parts of the first and last pitch.

Gear: Standard rack of nuts and cams. Twin ropes.

Pitch 1:

Climb up the slabby right side of the base of the wall and make a step right (4-) into a small dihedral that leads to the left-slanting gully system. Scramble up to the grassy ledge and belay behind big blocks to the right. Some loose rock and dubious protection on this pitch. **30 m, 4-.**

Pitch 2:

Traverse left on the big ledge and a little up the gully to reach the left (and less steep one) of two cracks that both lead up to "the Axe", a thin sharp block visible from the belay. From the Axe, step carefully one meter left and climb straight up steep terrain on good holds (5+) to enter the big dihedral that leads to the Marlboro ledge. Good protection, but hand- and footholds can easily break on this pitch. **35 m, 5+.**

Pitch 3:

From the Marlboro ledge, climb diagonally right to the top of a big pillar. Then straight up on pumpy but beautiful face climbing to a small roof. Traverse right under the roof to easier climbing up a small dihedral that leads to a slabby ledge. Belay on the right, under the obvious hand crack. Good protection and mostly solid rock on this pitch. **35 m, 6/6+.**

Pitch 4:

Climb up the left-slanting crack to a small roof. Avoid the overhanging off-width part of the crack by traversing left under the roof to some hollow sounding blocks, then straight up on face holds into the dihedral above. Climb the loose dihedral (6-/6) to a small ledge. Continue straight up to a niche under an overhang, only two meters below the big ledge with the rappel anchor. Climb carefully through the overhang on loose blocks and top out in glory. A slightly serious pitch, but fairly good protection. **30 m, 6-/6.**



1st pitch:



2nd pitch and the Marlboro ledge:



3rd pitch:



4th pitch:



Summit smoke....

Ø.A.