

# HIMALAYAN ROCKS

A person is rappelling down a dark rock face on the right side of the frame. The background features a vast, rugged mountain range with snow-covered peaks and glaciers, partially obscured by white clouds. A bright sun is positioned at the top center, creating a starburst effect and casting a long shadow of the person onto the rock.

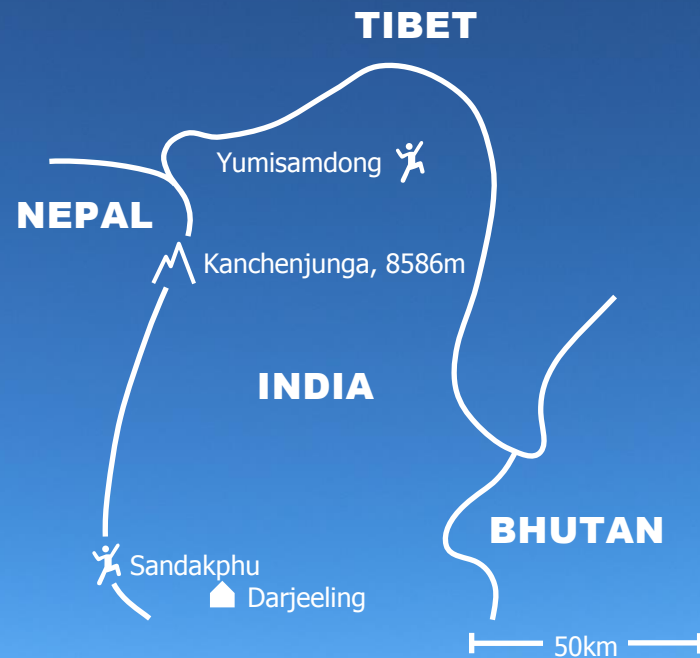
AT YUMISAMDONG / SIKKIM

AND SANDAKPHU / DARJEELING

KAI MALUCK



**ROCK CLIMBING** between Darjeeling and Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan. Multi-pitch climbs well over 5000 meters. Short routes for the novices and those seeking to combine trekking and climbing. All set in a breathtaking, Himalayan scenery around the world's third highest mountain, Kanchenjunga!



This brochure is available printed and online at [www.kai-maluck.de/himalaya.htm](http://www.kai-maluck.de/himalaya.htm). + Photographs: Clemens Pischel, Kai Maluck. + Disclaimer: All reasonable care has been taken in preparing this



brochure. No liability is assumed for the correctness and completeness of its content. Seek additional advice especially regarding general rock climbing techniques and acclimatisation. + © Kai Maluck 2021



# Yumisamdong

Kanchendzonga Zeepai Sacha, 5225m

Lapchungten,  
5300m

Pang Ri, 5220m

Changme Ri, 5550m

2

3

4

5

Yak Slabs

1



NW to NNE panorama from Yumisamdong hot springs, 4650m

## 1 Yak Slabs

Single pitch climbing, see next page.

## 2 Pang Ri hiking ascent

From Yumisamdong hot springs, cross the valley floor, and then either hike over the following moraines or along a stream immediately to their south. Ascend the slopes of the mountain to reach its summit.

Pang Ri can also be climbed in a round trip, a scenic two to three day trek past lakes and with fantastic views of glaciers and icy peaks. After the moraines, follow uphill any of the two valleys along its base, both leading around Pang Ri to a wide col west of its summit. From the col, hike up over gentle slopes to the highest point.

## 3 Within Thin Air

UIAA IV-, turn page for topo.

## 4 Supernorama

UIAA V-, turn page for topo.

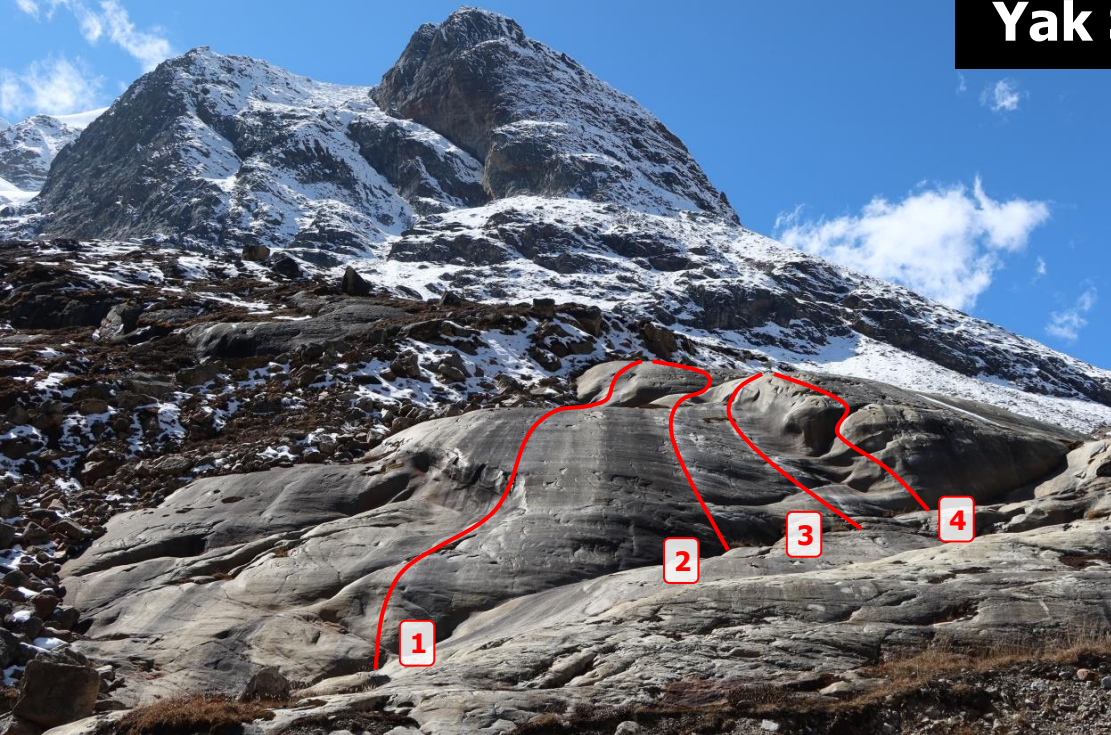
## 5 Lapchungten hiking ascent

Ascend the slopes immediately to the northeast of Yumisamdong hot springs. They finally lean back rather abruptly, followed by a long, broad ridge leading constantly up to its highest point Lapchungten, which is separated from the seemingly endless continuation of ridges and peaks further northeast by a col.

For logistic support with the necessary paperwork, etc., agencies like Namgyal Treks & Tours, [www.namgyaltreks.com](http://www.namgyaltreks.com), offer their assistance. Due to satellite orientation restrictions, the heights in the Yumisamdong section of this brochure are only of limited accuracy.



# Yak Slabs



The Yak Slabs, right at the valley bottom, ...

... offer glacier polished, super solid granite climbs.

## 1 Grazing Grounds

UIAA VI, 32m, Gaby Lappe, 01.11.2019. Fully bolted, 11 quick-draws required. Bolt and mortar types: Austrialpin glue-in bolts 75mm, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar. Route length 32m, mind this when lowering or abseiling!

## 2 The Yak Track

UIAA IV, 26m, Kai Maluck, 01.11.2019. Fully bolted, 12 quick-draws required. Bolt and mortar types: Stubai/Fischer anchor FBN II 10/10 A4 with Stubai Protect 10mm hanger, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.

## 3 Yakline

UIAA IV-, 24m, Clemens Pischel, 01.11.2019. Fully bolted, 9 quick-draws required. Bolt and mortar types: Stubai/Fischer anchor FBN II 10/10 A4 with Stubai Protect 10mm hanger, Austrialpin

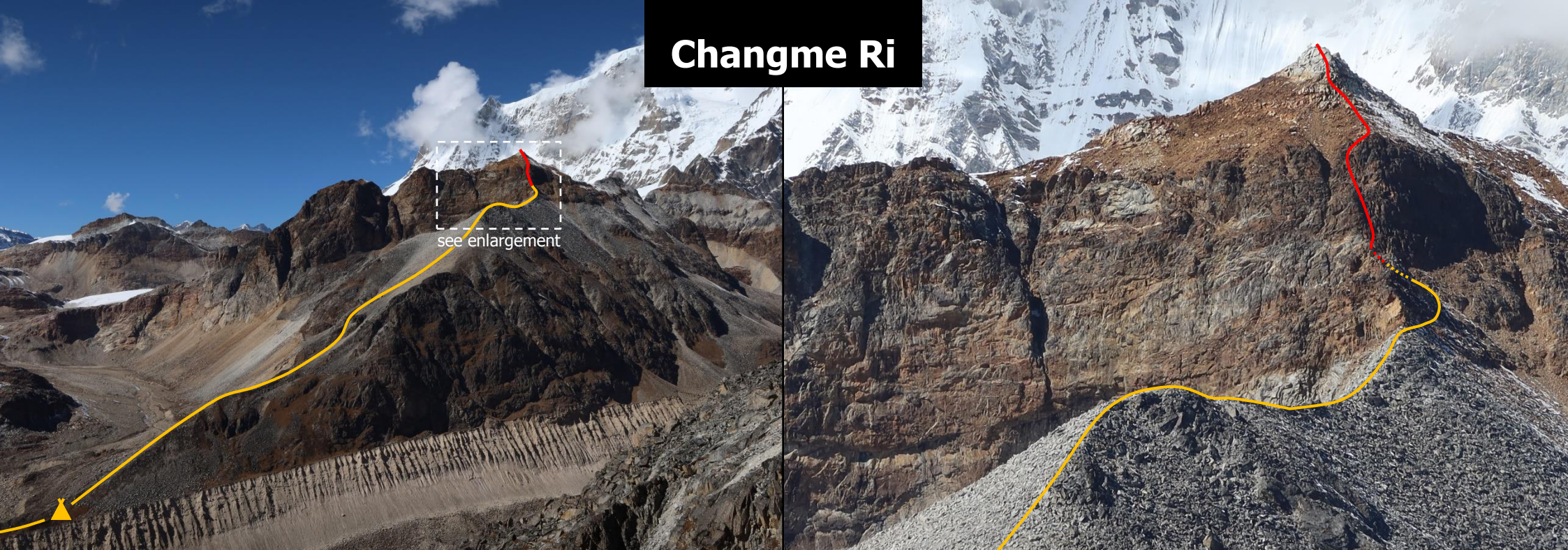
glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.

## 4 Right Nak

UIAA V, 22m, Gaby Lappe, Kai Maluck and Clemens Pischel, 01.11.2019. Fully bolted, 7 quickdraws required. Bolt and mortar types: Austrialpin glue-in bolts 75mm, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.



# Changme Ri



Changme Ri (5550m) from SE

» Within Thin Air «

## Within Thin Air

UIAA IV-, mainly III, Kai Maluck and Clemens Pischel, 03.11.2019. Loose rock, no pitons or bolts.

**Access:** From Yumisamdong hot springs, cross the valley floor, and then either hike over the following moraines or along a stream immediately to their south. After the moraines, a little stream leads uphill and north, along the foot of Pang Ri. Where it starts turning west, a meadow offers a comfortable and scenic place to camp. Climb the crest of the moraines leading northwest, and the following scree slopes to a prominent, bright ridge. At its uppermost reaches, brown rock leads further up, which is avoided by a short descent and traverse north. Reascend the steep slopes behind up to their highest point.

**Route:** 1st pitch: From the highest point of the scree slopes, follow a gully for about 5-10m, then leave the gully to its right and continue through the neighbouring face (UIAA III, 25m). 2nd pitch: Climb directly up onto the top of a little pillar, and on to the cliffs behind it (UIAA IV-, mainly III, 20m). 3rd pitch: Straight up, then slightly right over loose debris to finally reach the top of the dark brown rock forming the main cliff (UIAA II, 25m). 4th pitch: Follow a scree ridge of light brown rock to the base of the almost white granite the summit itself consists of (UIAA I, 45m). 5th pitch: Over the bright granite, roughly along the continuing ridge to the top (UIAA III-, 45m).

**Descent:** Climb down south to southwest to reach the light brown scree slopes again. Traverse and descend into a gully immediately south of pitch three and follow it until it is possible to traverse onto the pillar at the top of pitch two. Abseil down over the first two pitches of the climb. Alternatively, enter the glacier to the west of the summit, and follow it all the way down to its end. Continue along its meltwater stream back to the camp.



# Kanchendzonga Zeepai Sacha



A route with a view - up to Kanchenjunga's main summit in the far SW

The south-facing rocks of Supernorama, above 5000m throughout

## Supernorama

UIAA V-, Kai Maluck and Clemens Pischel, 06.11.2019. Sun exposed, with superb panorama, fully bolted.

15 quickdraws and a 60 meter single rope required. Bolt types: Stubai/Fischer anchor FBN II 10/10 A4 with Stubai Protect 10mm hanger (suitable for emergency abseils), Austrialpin chain belay. It may be worth bringing a camera, and maybe a tripod, both the front and back cover photos of this brochure were taken at the start of the route.

Access: From Yumisamdong hot springs, hike up NNW to the cliffs. The start of the climb is on a grassy ledge.

Route: Follow the bolts, all belays are equipped with two bolts and a chain. 1st pitch: UIAA V-, 30m. 2nd pitch: UIAA I, 30m. 3rd pitch: UIAA V-, 8m. 4th pitch: UIAA I, 20m. 5th pitch: UIAA IV-, 15m. 15-20 minutes over boulders and scree to the top (5225m) with its breathtaking views of the surrounding scenery, including Kanchenjunga, the world's third highest mountain.

Descent: Over rocks and scree a little east of the route, down to the belay station above pitch one. From there, abseil back to the start of the climb.



# Sandakphu



Three short, panoramic routes near West Bengal's highest summit

A beautiful place for a first rock climbing experience

## 1 Red Panda Climb

UIAA V+, 10m, Gaby Lappe and Kai Maluck, 13.11.2019. Fully bolted, 4 quickdraws required. Bolt and mortar types: Austrialpin glue-in bolts 75mm, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.

## 2 Mongoose Trail

UIAA V, 10m, Gaby Lappe and Kai Maluck, 13.11.2019. Fully bolted, 4 quickdraws required. Bolt and mortar types: Austrialpin glue-in bolts 75mm, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.

## 3 Jackal Track

UIAA II+, 10m, Gaby Lappe and Kai Maluck, 13.11.2019. Fully bolted, 5 quickdraws required. Bolt and mortar types: Austrialpin glue-in bolts 75mm, Austrialpin glue-in bolts with double ring, Fischer FIS V IN 360 S mortar.

At the moment of printing, the exact regulations for future visitors of the above climbs are still being under discussion. As trekking in the Singalila National Park requires an officially licensed guide anyway, a solution like the one at Darjeeling's Tenzing Rock might be applied, allowing for an additional income for the local guide community. Please check with them, for example at Trek Mate in Darjeeling (trekmatedarj@gmail.com), who also organize standard hiking tours of the Singalila Ridge Trek, including paperwork, car transfers, accomodation, guides, and food.



# Sandakphu

Nuptse  
7861m

Lhotse  
8516m

Everest  
8848m

South Col  
7906m

Makalu  
8485m

Chomolonzo  
7804m

Everest, 8848m

Three Sisters

Jannu (Kumbhakarna), 7711m

Kanchenjunga, 8586m

Simvo, 6811m

Pandim, 6691m



background photo

Sandakphu panorama