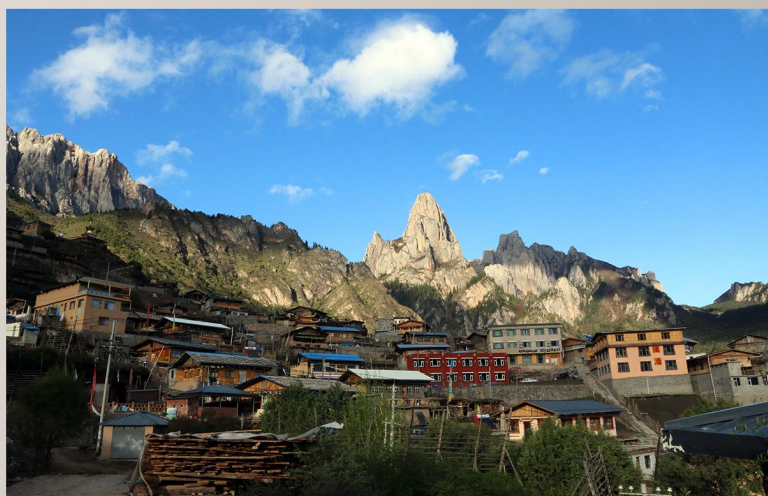


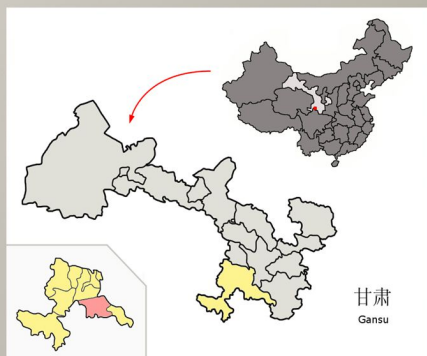
# ROCK CLIMBING IN ZHAGANA



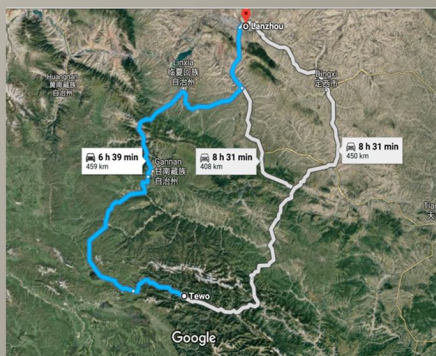
**ZHAGANA** (扎尕那) IS A SMALL, HIGH ALTITUDE (3000 MAMSL) VILLAGE LOCATED IN IN DIEBU COUNTY IN WESTERN PART OF GANSU PROVINCE. THIS TRULY STUNNING PLACE IS ALMOST ENTIRELY RESIDENT BY TIBETAN MINORITY. IT IS STILL NOT VERY COMMON TO MEET TOURISTS IN THE AREA WHICH MAKE IS TO A PLACE LIKE A FAIRYLAND OF TIBETAN VILLAGE HIDDEN DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS. IN THE CLOSE BY LOCATION TO THE VILLAGE THERE IS NUMBER OF STEAP, ROCKY LIMESTONE WALLS UP TO EVEN 800M HIGH STILL WAITING FOR THE FIRST CLIMBERS TO CONCURE THEM.

## GETING TO:

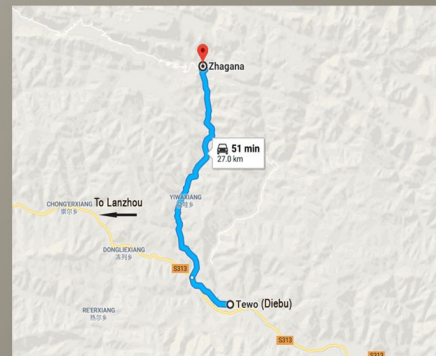
FLY TO LANZHOU (兰州) FROM MANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS. FROM LANZHOU SOUTH BUS STATION (兰州汽车南站) TAKE A BUS TO DIEBU (CHINESE-迭部, ENGLISH-TEWO). THERE ARE THREE BUSSES EVERY DAY AT 8:40, 9:40 AND 10:20 AND THE TRIP TAKES AROUND 8 AND COST AROUND 130 RMB (460KM). FROM DIEBU THERE IS ONLY 26KM TO ZHAGANA VILLAGE. YOU CAN FIND TRANSPORT AT THE BUS STATION IN DIEBU OR ON THE MAIN STREET. THE PRIVATE TAXI SHOULD OFFER TRANSPORT FOR AROUND 100 RMB ONE WAY FOR THE WHOLE CAR.



DIEBU (PINK) WITHIN GANNAN PREFECTURE (YELLOW) WITHIN GANSU (GREY)



ROAD FROM LANZHOU TO DIEBU



ROAD FROM DIEBU TO ZHAGANA

## WHERE TO STAY:

ACCOMMODATION IN ZHAGANA IS NOT DIFFICULT TO FIND BUT IT'S A BIT EXPENSIVE FOR A CHINA COUNTRYSIDE VILLAGE. BED IN A HOMESTAY CAN COST BETWEEN 60 AND 150 YUAN. ALMOST EVERY HOUSE OFFERS ROOMS AND SOME BASIC FOOD. IT'S WORTH TO GO FROM DOOR TO DOOR AND CHECK THE ROOM CONDITIONS. IF YOU ARE LUCKY YOU CAN FIND A TRADITIONAL WOODEN ROOM WITH AMAZING VIEW ON ZHAWUDUO MOUNTAIN. IT IS ALSO GOOD IDEA TO CHECK IF THERE IS HOT WATER IN THE SHOWER OR IF THERE IS SHOWER AT ALL. LET'S JUST SAY, THAT LOCAL PEOPLE ARE NOT THE BIGGEST FANS OF LONG, WARM BATHS. THERE IS ONE HOTEL IN THE VILLAGE (BLACK YAK) WITH REALLY NICE ROOMS AND RESTAURANT BUT DOUBLE ROOM WILL COST YOU OVER 300RMB (OR OVER 500RMB IN A HIGH TOURIST SEASON). OUR WHOLE GROUP STAYED IN A HOMESTAY NAMED ADANS JIA WITH REALLY NICE FAMILY OF TIBETANS, THEIR YAK AND VERY PROBLEMATIC SHOWER SITUATION. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND.

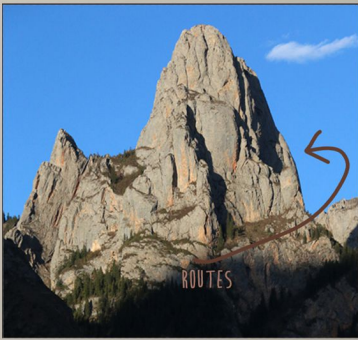
IT'S ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO BUY SOME FOOD (BREAKFASTS, SNACKS AND FRUITS) BEFORE COMING TO ZHAGANA. THERE IS ONLY ONE SMALL SHOPS IN THE VILLAGE WITH BIG CHOICE OF ALCOHOL DRINKS AND NOT MUCH MORE.



IN 2017 GROUP OF INTERNTIONAL CLIMBERS OPENED TWO LINES TO THE TOP OF THE ZHAWUDUO MOUNTAIN. UNTIL NOW (JUNE 2018) THERE ARE THE ONLY EXISTING LINES IN THE AREA.

ROUTES ACCESS:

There is no need of explaining where the Zhawuduo Mountain is located. If you will get to Zhagana, you will see it. Both of the routes are located on the right side of the mountain (looking from the village) around 3 hours walk away from the village. The routes are opened on the shortest possible wall that is leading to the top. It means, that you are looking for the longest possible approach to reach the wall. Starting from the village, pass the gate/entrance where you may be asked to pay small entrance fee (around 10 yuan). For first, around half an hour, follow the main park road after you reach open grassland that you have to cut through to find a mountain path following the river up the stream. Turn left after around two hours of walk when you will have open, steep hill on your left hand side. Follow it up (no path) to the base of the mountain.



WELCOME TO ZHAGANA

Trad, 9 pitches, 300m + scrambling, max 5.10+

FA route of the Zhawuduo peak and first line in Zhagana. Climbed in May 2017 by team Aleksandra Przybysz (Ola), Chuan He (小河) and Garrett Bradley. Line require mostly traditional protection with bolted anchors and single bolts placed on some of the pitches. Many of the pitches have long run-outs and protection is not solid. First Ascent took 5 days with abseiling to the bottom of the wall each night.

P1: 5.10 A0 R (50m FA:小河)

Start at the left crack (yes, the dirty and overgrown one). Continue up 7-8 metrs then traverse to the right crack. Continue straight up to the bolt placed just before small roof feature. Pass it on the right side and climb straight up through loose terrain with poor placements to the ledge where you will find the bolt anchor.

P2: 5.10 R (45m FA:Ola)

Follow the rock weakness for around 18 meters to the ledge where you will find a single bolt. Continue straight up with couple harder face moves and easier terrain to the bolted anchor just above the bush.

P3: 5.10 A1 (35m FA:Garrett)

Straight with 5.8 – 5.9 crack that get progressively steeper to a few 5.10 moves just before and at the start of the roof. Exit the roof on easier moves but exposed with little protection to the bolted anchor on small edge.

P4: 5.10+ A1 R (40m FA:小河)

Real good pitch with two tricky sections. First in the middle of the pitch requires corner climbing with wide steaming while placing gear and second just before the anchor with awkward slab moves.

P5: Scrambling (15m)

Walk up the vegetated ramp approx. 15m to move the belay to upper anchor at the base of the wall.

P6: 5.8 (35m FA:Ola)

Salbby pitch with 'ok' protection. Be aware of the rope drag.

P7: 5.10 (50m FA:Garrett)

Mostly 5.8-5.9 climbing with short sections of harder crack climbing. Anchor is placed on the ledge after traversing left and up after exiting overhanging wide crack.

P8: 5.9 R (30m FA:小河)

From the anchor traverse slightly down and left with no gear placements to the base of the chimney. Continue 5.9 chimney climbing with little gear throughout. Belay from one of the tree-bushes on the top.

P9: Scrambling (100m)

If you are wearing shorts, then walking through that bushes can be the hardest part of the climb.

GATE TO ASGARD

Sport, 10 pitches 220m, max 5.12a

First bolted route in Zhagana (Aleksandra Przybysz, Chuan He, Garrett Bradley, May 2017). High quality climb on good solid rock. You will love it!

- P1: 5.12a 40m 11bolts
- P2: 5.11a 35m 8bolts
- P3: 5.10a 30m 6bolts
- P4: 5.10b 30m 7bolts
- P5: 5.10c 30m 9bolts
- P6: 5.10b 35m 10bolts
- P7: 5.10a 35m 7bolts
- P8: 5.10a 45m 10bolts
- P9: 5.11a 50m 11bolts

