

summit stated as circa 6446 meters may be the one marked as 6504 meters in Argentine maps.

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ARGENTINE AND CHILEAN PATAGONIA

Torres del Paine National Park, Rules and Regulations. Officially, a special foreigners-only climbing fee of \$100 must be paid at the administration office when one enters Torres del Paine National Park. However, we would warn our readers that strong anti-climber (Chileans included) sentiments have been reported, with some climbers having their climbing gear impounded until they agree to pay a \$850 "entrance" fee.

Cuerno Norte, East Face, Fist Full of Dollars. British climbers Louise Thomas, Mike Turner, Martin Doyle and Ollie Sanders made the first ascent of the 800-meter east face, an overhanging face that yielded 20 pitches at a grade of up to A3+. Beginning on December 21, the team pushed their route for a total of 16 days, summitting onto the shale bands of the tower January 9. They reported consistently demanding aid climbing and much loose rock. It was the first climb to be achieved from the Pingo Valley. The route name refers to the peak fee imposed on climbers by Chilean park authorities. (*High Mountain Sports* July 1995.)

Cuerno Principale, East Face. The still-unattempted east face of Cuerno Principale (2450 meters) was the target of a German team from Neu Ulm. Because of dangerous stonefall in the central part, the route was climbed by the 650-meter left side. Most of the 18-pitch route followed a series of cracks, half-way closed by a huge overhang. It joins the south ridge and the easy first ascent route. The ascent involved long sections at a standard of Alpine 7+ and A3. They found the climbing superb and the atmosphere wild and remote. According to the party members, there are further challenging route possibilities on the east face, which is quite convenient to climbing because it is protected against the western winds.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Taternik, Poland*

Cuerno Principal, Variant to Line of First Ascent. Alexandra Schultheis, Michael Cross, and I traveled to Chilean Patagonia for a week-long stay in Towers of Paine National Park. During our visit we attempted a new rock route on the the highest of the Cuerno group, Cuerno Principal. An unexpected boat ride across Lago Pehoe saved at least a day's approach with pack horses and put us at the base of the peak on the same day we left Puerto