

1 South Chuyski Range, Altai Republic

	No star	1	2	3
Mod to S	0	0	1	0
HS to HVS	1	1	0	0
E1 to E3	0	0	0	0
E4 and up	0	0	0	0

One of the most under-developed ranges in the Altai Mountains, it is nonetheless currently rated as one of Siberia's premier single-pitch climbing venues.

Access

No known access issues, although take care if local Yak population are mating.

Approach

From Barnaul, drive south for c.12 hours along the M-52. After an overnight stop in Kurai, a further 4 hours in a 4x4 will bring you to the valley floor. Parking is rarely a problem here. A 10km walk in reaches the lake, turn left and the crag is on the slopes of Irbistu.

Conditions

Best climbing is during the middle of the summer when the crag and valley are not filled with deep snow. Sun from early morning to mid-afternoon, although if the day turns sour the journey home is long and hard, so pick a nice day!

Central Earth

1 Karashah Corner HS 4b

10m. Climb the dirty corner, moving out onto the left hand face before finishing up the narrowing crack above. Named after the Russian word for OK, because it probably deserves little more praise than that.

FA. George Cave 22.08.2012

2 Karohshi Corner S 4a

8m. Bask in the enjoyment of your first taste of solid rock in the Altai. A lovely corner with plenty of solid gear, Karohshi is a literal translation of the Russian word for good.

FA. Clay Conlon 22.08.2012

3 Brunel's Choss VS 4c

8m. Despite the name, a remarkably choss free route. Pull through the overhanging on a mixture of solid and dubious holds. Sustained whilst it lasts, but soon over.

FA. George Cave 22.08.2012

Descent →

Central Earth

The crag is so called as it lies almost as far from the coast in all directions as it possible to be on the planet. The routes are well protected once you have learnt to negotiate the extensive piles of loose rock. Limited options in the higher grades.



Clay Conlon praying the rock won't crumble around him on Karohshi Corner (S) - page 1 - at Central Earth. Photo: Greg Annandale