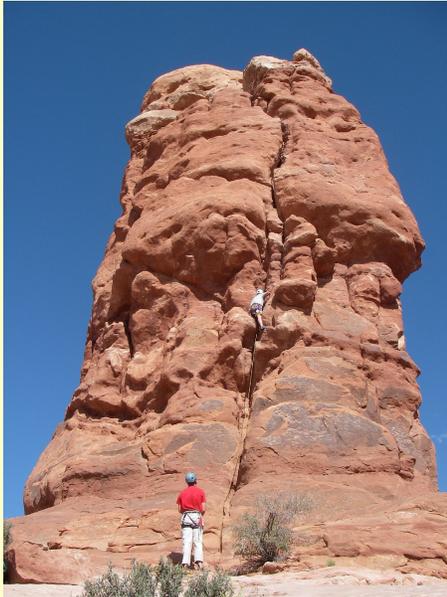




## OWL ROCK TOWER - **ARCHES**



**Rating:** 5.8

**Length:** 1-2 hours

**Gear:** See description.

**Maps:** The Windows Section, UT

**Season:** Any, although summers can be hot.

**Waypoints:**

Trailhead

12S 626023mE 4284153mN

N38° 41' 49" W109° 33' 03"

Owl Rock

12S 626146mE 4284170mN

N38° 41' 50" W109° 32' 58"

Bullwinkle Rock

12S 626250mE 4283961mN

N38° 41' 43" W109° 32' 54"

## Hype

THE tower to do in Arches National Park, Owl Rock likely sees more traffic than most of the other routes in the park combined. On some weekends, I've seen several groups lined up at the base waiting their turn.

Why the appeal? The climbing is fun, and the views spectacular. Though the route climbs a crack, the climbing is more reminiscent of jug-like big hold gym climbing than traditional hand and foot crack climbing. For the rating, it is surprisingly steep, but also surprisingly positive climbing.

This is a route I've done a few times, and never tire of. I know it has been many peoples first desert tower and makes a good one.

**Tags:** *climb, intermediate, access: paved*

## Trailhead

From the Arches National Park entrance and visitor center, follow the main park road about 9.2 mile to a signed junction to The Windows Section. Go right here, toward The Windows Section, for 1.1 miles to a pullout on the left. This is the Owl Rock pullout, and the trailhead.

## Route

**Rack:** A set of cams to a Black Diamond #3 and a set of hexes are what I recommend, or two sets of cams if you don't want to be old school and use hexes. (#1 and #2 Black Diamond cams are key. A single set of cams with doubles in #1 to #3 would be adequate for most comfortable at the grade.) **A #4 is optional, but useful in my opinion.**

**Rope:** A 60 m ( 197 ft. ) rope will get you down in one rappel.

The route climbs the obvious west crack that faces the parking lot. Once at the top, down climb 10' to the anchor just below the summit for the rappel. A single 60 m ( 197 ft. ) rope will get you all the way down from this anchor.

