



## **Mount Everest 2007**

### **Expedition Notes**

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**During the spring season of 2007 Adventure Consultants will operate its thirteenth expedition to Mount Everest via the South Col from Nepal.**

The objective of the expedition is to make a safe and successful ascent of the mountain and for everyone to return safely to base camp.

If you have a desire to stand on the highest summit in the world, this is an exciting opportunity and Adventure Consultants can provide you with an excellent chance of achieving that goal. We believe the ascent should be made in the best style possible, a philosophy that has seen us help our expedition members achieve many successful ascents.

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### **The Adventure Consultants Everest Team**

#### **Logistics**

The 2007 expedition is being organised by Guy Cotter, the director of Adventure Consultants and a veteran of 13 years of Everest expedition guiding and organisation. Guy, along with his operations and logistics team at the head office in New Zealand, provide the highest level of backup and support to the climbing team to maximize your chances of success.

#### **The Expedition Leader**

The expedition leader for the 2007 expedition is also Guy Cotter, AC Director. Guy has had vast experience in New Zealand, Antarctica and the Himalayas and has led over 21 expeditions around the globe including three ascents of Mt Everest and completing the Seven Summits. He is an IFMGA qualified mountain and ski guide with 29 years mountaineering experience. He has also summited the 8000m peaks Makalu, Gasherbrum II and Cho Oyu.

#### **Expedition Guides**

Guy will be assisted by senior AC guides; Mike Roberts and Mark Sedon. Mike is an IFMGA International Guide from New Zealand. He currently lives in Alaska and his experience is vast. He has summited Mount Everest and led expeditions to Aconcagua in South America, McKinley in Alaska, Vinson Massif in Antarctica, Gasherbrum I & II in Pakistan, Cho Oyu in Tibet and Muztagh Ata in Western

China. He has also managed to fit in 14 seasons mountain and ski guiding in the Southern Alps of New Zealand, 10 seasons in Antarctica as a Field Leader / Guide to the USA Antarctic Program, has worked as a Professional Ski Patroller / Avalanche Forecaster and is a qualified Physiotherapist.

Add Mike's calm and welcoming personality, and attention to detail to the picture and you have a very personable and experienced Guide.

Assisting Guy and Mike is Mark Sedon. Mark is another of our senior Kiwi guides based in Wanaka. He works as an international mountain guide for Adventure Consultants and also as our expedition planner. He has traveled the world extensively, from ski patrolling in Utah, Europe, Japan and Canada, to big wall climbing in Yosemite, Zion and Australia. Mark has led and guided several successful expeditions to Nepal including 3 trips to Ama Dablam, Cho Oyu, Lobuche East, Island Peak and Mera Peak. He has also guided the volcanoes in Ecuador, Aconcagua in Argentina, Denali in Alaska and most recently on our Antarctic Peninsula yacht based ski and climbing expedition. He also runs many of our winter ski and snowboard courses and often sneaks out of the office to heliski guide and run avalanche courses during the winter months. He is a qualified IFMGA climbing and ski guide.

You will find the Adventure Consultants mountain guides companionable and strong expedition leaders with considerable power and willingness to see you achieve your goals. The number of guides is determined by the team size but the normal ratio of guides to members is 1:3.

## Sherpas

Our Sherpa team has dozens of Everest summits between them. Ang Dorjee Sherpa is the Climbing Sirdar, and brings an impressive 10 Everest summits to the team, as well as ascents of four other 8000m peaks. His group of climbing Sherpas are enthusiastic, motivated and regarded as the strongest and most cohesive group of Sherpas on Mt Everest. We have worked with this group for 12 years and they are an integral part of the Adventure Consultants Team.

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## What it takes to climb Mount Everest

The South Col route on Mount Everest is not a technically difficult climb nor is it the "Yak Route" some non-Everest climbers have termed it. What the photographs do not show are the difficulties of operating at these extreme altitudes. It is a physically demanding ascent, requiring enormous determination. An expedition to Everest is not a place for those who will give up when the going gets uncomfortable or strenuous.

The outcome of the expedition will be determined by two broad groups of factors. The first are environmental (weather and snow conditions, etc) and these are beyond our control. The second, the logistical and organisational requirements and the preparation of the expedition members, entirely rests with us.



During our eleven previous seasons on Mount Everest we have observed many other expeditions attempting to climb the mountain. Many try to emulate our strategies without committing to the level of resources that we provide. We believe the success of an expedition is often determined by factors that are planned well in advance of the outset of the actual climbing.



We recognise that no amount of finely tuned organisation will guarantee anyone the summit of Mount Everest. However, we do believe that our experience, combined with your enthusiasm and determination, will provide you with the best possible chance of standing on top of the world. Our track record on Everest is unmatched.

The South Col route from Nepal offers the only good chance of success for most climbers. Recent increases in royalty fees by the Nepalese government have created a large disparity between the costs of Everest expeditions from Nepal and Tibet. Consequently, quite a few climbers have opted for a try from the North side.

We only climb via the South Col route from Nepal as the routes from the North are technically more difficult, especially high on the mountain.

Guided expeditions on the North side of Everest have a low success rate when compared to the South Col route. Climbing Everest from Tibet provides little or no chance of success for the average climber and for most will turn into the world's most expensive trekking holiday! Look at the page listing our successes if you are in any doubt about which route to try.

We only climb on Everest during the spring season because the weather becomes progressively warmer and the winter winds have already scoured away much of the snow, which significantly reduces the snow avalanche hazard.

Conversely, the autumn season has a much higher snowfall and climbers attempting the summit during this period often run into the early winter winds. As a result, the rate of success for expeditions during the autumn season is generally quite low.

By the time you arrive at the base camp, at the foot of the Khumbu Icefall, a route will already be established with ropes and ladders through to Camp 1. Our strong Sherpa team will be busily involved in ferrying loads of equipment up the mountain. After a few days acclimatisation at base camp, you will climb through the Icefall to Camp 1 and rest there for a day. The following day you will continue up the more gentle slopes of the Western Cwm to Camp 2 to rest and acclimatise for several more days. A day-climb up the Lhotse Face towards Camp 3 will complete this first foray before returning to base camp. During this time the guides and Sherpa climbers will be establishing the higher camps and stocking these with bottled oxygen for the summit climb.



The second trip on to the mountain will involve sleeping one or two nights at Camp 3 for acclimatisation before returning to base camp for a rest period.

The most likely time for our summit climb will be between 15 and 25 May (*previous summit dates 10 May '90, 12 May '92, 10 May '93, 9 May '94, 10 May 1996, 23 May 1997, 15 May 2000, 16 May 2002, 18 May 2003, 27 May 2004*). We will climb through the established camps with lightweight packs and climb to Camp 4 on the South Col. All climbers will be sleeping on bottled oxygen before setting out for the summit, carrying only very lightweight Russian oxygen bottles. Sherpas and Western guides will accompany all members during the summit climb.

The expedition will be organised in such a way to allow members to concentrate largely on their own health and performance, without the burden of load carrying or dealing with logistics. A doctor, who is experienced in high altitude medicine, will be resident at base camp throughout the expedition to monitor your acclimatisation and provide for your health care.

Ample resources will be on call to support each and every climber, not just the first team or fittest members. Remember, this is an expedition led by guides who have already climbed Mount Everest and whose job it is to look after your interests. This should not be confused with a "professionally led" expedition where often you may be buying a place in a team with fewer support services and led by climbers who are attempting the summit primarily for themselves.

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### **The level of climbing skills required**

There is no definite measure for assessing the required skill level to climb Mount Everest so we like to discuss this on an individual basis. However, there are some broad guidelines that can be applied from the outset.

A successful team member will have been visiting the mountains for at least five seasons and made ascents of peaks up to 18-20,000 ft (5,500 - 6,000 metres). It is quite common for members to have previously climbed Mount McKinley in Alaska, Aconcagua in South America and various Mexican volcanoes as training for Everest.

He/she will be familiar with crevasse travel techniques and have a good overall standard of fitness.

Age itself is no barrier. To date we have succeeded on Everest with members aged from 25 to 56 years of age.

A fierce determination and a burning desire to climb the mountain are essential prerequisites for this expedition. The guides and other expedition staff will provide the leadership, tactics and overall decision-making required during the climb but you will still have to physically put one foot in front of the other to make it to the top and back.

We recommend that prospective members undertake another expedition with us before attempting Mt Everest. Your ability to reach Everest's summit may be dictated by your understanding of how your body responds to very high altitude and ascending other, less demanding, peaks at high altitude will increase your confidence and enhance your judgement during that summit day on Everest. For example, Cho Oyu from Tibet is an excellent venue to learn about the problems of extreme high altitude, without the time or financial commitment that Everest requires.

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### **Team membership**

The team will have a **maximum size of three guides and nine members.**

The base camp will be staffed by a medical doctor, base camp manager and Sherpa kitchen crew, totalling approximately seven people.

A team of between six and twelve climbing Sherpas will carry loads and support the summit climb. Adventure Consultants have always had a ratio of one Sherpa team member or guide per climbing team member on summit day.

A Sherpa cook will occupy Camp 2 in the Western Cwm for the duration of the expedition.

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### **Itinerary**      **Following is an ideal itinerary for our Everest Expedition**

March 30	Arrive Kathmandu, Nepal
April 1	Fly to Lukla
April 2 - 11	Trek to Base Camp
April 12 – May 3	Establish camps and acclimatise
May 4 - 11	Rest Period
May 12 - 25	Summit Climb period
May 26 - 27	Clean up and depart Base Camp
June 1	Fly from Lukla back to Kathmandu
June 2	Depart Kathmandu

Our permit for climbing Mt Everest allows us to stay on the mountain into June. We suggest that you keep your homeward flight open dated and flexible so that we can extend into the latter part of May for a summit attempt if need be. We have June 2 as the probable finish date for departing from Kathmandu.

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### **Visas**

Expedition members will need to arrange their own entry visa into Nepal. This can be organised by a Nepalese Embassy or Consular office in your own country or at Kathmandu Airport on arrival in Nepal. Once in Kathmandu, the expedition's agent will extend the visa for the duration of your stay in Nepal and provide a trekking permit to match.

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### **The Expedition Fee**

**The cost of the expedition, ex Kathmandu, is \$ US 60,000.** This is an inclusive cost and covers the following:

- 1:1 Sherpa Ratio on summit day
- Bottled oxygen, including 4 bottles on summit day
- Nepalese government royalty fees
- All expedition organisational requirements
- All climbing and trekking permits
- Air transport in Nepal
- All team equipment
- All expedition staff including Sherpa support

- All food whilst away from Kathmandu
- All supplies necessary to make a safe and strong bid for the summit
- Medical services
- Base Camp e-mail and satellite phone facilities

The expedition fee **does not** include the following:

- Air travel to and from Nepal
  - Hotel accommodation and meals in Kathmandu
  - Nepalese airport entry visa
  - Personal clothing and equipment
  - Personal Insurance
  - Actual satellite phone and e-mails costs
  - Gratuities
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### **Payments**

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

**Bank of New Zealand  
Offshore Branch  
Wellington  
New Zealand**

for the account of

**Adventure Consultants Limited**  
Account # 1000-594771-0000

The corresponding USA bank of the Bank of New Zealand are **Citibank**.

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### **Deposit**

**A non-refundable deposit** of \$ US 15,000 is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

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### **Balance**

The balance of \$ US 45,000 is payable in two instalments of \$ US 22,500.

The first on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2006 and the second on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

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## **Cancellation & Refund Policy**

An expedition member may cancel his/her participation on the following basis:

- A prior to 20 January 2007 then on the basis of a full refund of the 20 October 2006 payment
- a) after 20 January 2007 but before departure to the mountain from Kathmandu then on the basis of no refund of any monies paid.

*Team members should take out private insurance if they wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical or personal reasons.*

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## **Marketing**

While the official name of the expedition will remain the "Adventure Consultants Everest Expedition 2007", you can for personal marketing purposes use another name if it will assist you in any way. You will also be completely free to enter into personal agreements with sponsors or supporters if you choose.

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## **Communications**

The expedition will be equipped with portable INMARSAT-RBGan and Thuraya satellite phone systems at the base camp in order to provide reliable email and voice communication globally for business, media or personal use. Satellite time can be purchased at the rate of US\$3.00 per minute or per email. Our broadband satellite e-mail system will be available once the expedition is at Base Camp.

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## **Endorsement**

Expedition members no longer need to provide an endorsement letter from their national climbing organisation for expeditions in Nepal.

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## **Equipment list and Reference Notes**

Expedition members will be sent a list detailing all necessary clothing and equipment to be individually provided, contained within a set of Expedition Reference notes with all the details for the trip.

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## **Medical Examination**

Expedition members will be provided with a medical questionnaire by the expedition doctor and asked to visit their family physician to receive a full medical examination. This information will be sighted only by the expedition doctor and treated with full confidentiality. Advice on immunisations will be provided at this time.

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## Passport Photographs

Expedition members will need to provide 6 passport-size photographs for various climbing and trekking permits.

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## The advantages of climbing with us

Adventure Consultants is renowned for the quality of its service and strategy applied to high altitude expedition climbing. Our reputation is attributed to meticulous planning and experienced logistics coordination. We have a philosophy of investing in every expedition to offer our climbers the best possible chance of success.

We employ strong and specialized Expedition leaders and Sherpa staff, who are some of the most pre-eminent in the industry. We pride ourselves on operating with small teams, the best back-up and support available. This includes nutritious and ample quantities of food, comfortable base camp facilities, reliable communications systems and the necessary medical back up.

Many of our expedition members come to us because they have seen us in action on a previous trip and decide to opt for our level of service and proven experience. Others return because they know we do our very best to make expeditions safe and successful.

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## How to join this expedition

If you would like to join the expedition please request an Expedition Application Form and forward along with your climbing résumé and the deposit. If you require more information please contact us at:

### **Adventure Consultants Ltd**

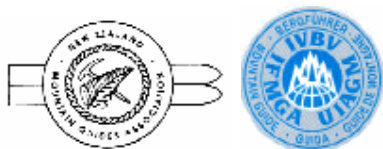
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Adventure Consultants – is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

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