



SUMMIT FOR SOMEONE with Big City Mountaineers

An adventure fundraising program supporting BCM's mission to provide transformative experiences through nature for youth from disinvested communities.

Trip Itinerary 2022

Trip: Mt. Hood, via the South Side/Pearly Gates

Location: Government Camp, Oregon // The Cascade Mountains

Dates: June 21-22, 2022

Guided by: Timberline Mountain Guides

Overview

Mt. Hood is the highest peak in Oregon, a massive stratovolcano that towers over Portland and the Columbia River. Mt. Hood has it all, moderate routes for the entry level climber, or difficult test piece climbs that challenge any climber.



Itinerary

Day 1: Orientation and Steep Snow Climbing Course

After meeting your group and your guide, you can expect to spend a few minutes sorting and issuing gear, fitting boots and crampons, and going through logistics for the climb. If after reviewing the equipment list you still have questions about what to wear or bring on the climb, this is the time to ask, so please bring all your gear with you. During this session, your guide will brief you on the current mountain and route conditions, weather, and the schedule for the rest of the climb.

Once everyone in your group has all the gear they need and all the pre-climb logistics have been sorted, you'll head out to begin the Steep Snow Climbing Course. Usually this involves just a short hike from the lodge, but you'll want to come prepared for a day out on the snow. If the weather is fair, you often won't need to bring all the layers you're planning on climbing in, but you will need waterproof shells, gloves, food, water and all of the technical climbing equipment for the climb. Please arrive at the office prepared for the day's weather.

This course usually takes until early afternoon and covers everything you'll need to know to climb the mountain. Topics include footwork in mountain boots, crampon and ice axe techniques, rope systems, and self-arrest.

Please note that, as the Two-Day Summit Program is not an overnight program, you will need to make arrangements for accommodations the night before your climb. Keep in mind that Timberline Lodge is a popular destination for travelers throughout the world, and it is often completely booked well before the summer climbing season begins.

Day 2: Climb Day

Your guide will let you know on Day 1 when and where you will meet the snowcat to begin your climb. Typically, you'll meet at the Climbers' Register at the lower entrance to the Wy'East Day Lodge sometime between 1:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. Once you've been through a final gear check, you'll board the snowcat. The ride will transport you up to 7,000 feet – cutting about an hour off the beginning of your day. From there, you'll have to shoulder your pack and head up the mountain. Usually we'll climb the South Side route and attempt the summit via one of many popular variations including the Old Chute and The Pearly Gates. Generally, you can expect to take about five to six hours on the way up, and three to four on the way down, making for a typical day of about eight to ten hours round-trip from Timberline Lodge. Any ascent of the South Side routes will include climbing on non-technical terrain as well as on steeper slopes of snow and possibly rock or ice. It is important to realize that there is no guarantee of summiting Mount Hood. Climbers in open group programs can be turned around for any reason, including but not limited to weather, mountain hazards, fitness, or to maintain the maximum climber-to-guide ratio of 3:1.

Once you've completed your descent to Timberline Lodge, we ask that you return promptly to the Timberline Mountain Guides' office to de-issue any gear you may have rented. If you feel that you've had an exceptional experience, it is customary to tip your guide.

Meal Planning

Please plan to bring your own food for all meals and snacks during this program; meals are not provided by the guides. We recommend bringing items that are high in calories and/or protein and that you will genuinely enjoy while out on the trail. Possibilities include: energy/meal bars, candy bars, cold pizza, sandwiches or wraps, nut butter pouches, and trail mix.

Transportation and Lodging

Timberline Ski Resort is located on the south side of Mt. Hood in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Without traffic or inclement weather, it should take approximately 1hr 30mins from Portland or the Portland airport and approximately 2hrs 30mins from Bend or the Bend/Redmond airport. For those traveling to Oregon to climb Mt. Hood, we recommend flying into Portland as it is the closest major city to the mountain.

About the Guides

The quality of the instruction we offer, and the strength of our organization rests on our top-notch staff of guides. They are friendly instructors and talented climbers who all share a common passion for sharing mountain experiences with enthusiastic guests. Our guide service is an officially accredited program of the American Mountain Guides Association, and all of TMG's guides have received professional training through the American Mountain Guides Association and wilderness-based medical training. We are dedicated to professional training and to raising the bar for mountain guiding standards in America.

You can learn more about Timberline Mountain Guides at: www.timberlinemtguides.com