



## 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.

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### Trip Itinerary 2022

**Trip:** Mt. Whitney, via the Mountaineers Route

**Location:** Lone Pine, California // The Sierra Mountains

**Dates:** June 20-22, 2022

**Guided by:** Sierra Mountaineering International

#### Overview

*At 14,508'/4422m, Mt. Whitney is the highest peak in the contiguous United States. It is also one of the most sought-after mountains in North America. The Mountaineer's Route on Mt. Whitney offers an opportunity for a climb up slopes that range from 25 to 40 degrees. The terrain is over trails and rock with some interspersed 3rd class climbing requiring the use of hands and feet on good quality granite, but the terrain is not considered technical in nature. The first ascent of this route is credited to John Muir in 1873. In addition to being an excellent climb, it is a good time to test and get comfortable with any new equipment you plan to use on future climbs.*



#### Itinerary

Day 1 –

The group meets at the nearby town of Lone Pine on the first day of the trip. We will drive from here to the trailhead at Whitney Portal. We ascend the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek and put in our camp near Upper Boy Scout Lake at 11,300'/3444m. We go to sleep early that evening in preparation for our summit bid the following morning.

Day 2 –

On day two, we wake before sunrise beginning our ascent in the early morning hours when we are treated to a breathtaking sunrise en route. Above our camp we enter the Mountaineer's Route along the north side of Mt. Whitney. The slope angle runs between 25-35 degrees to a notch at approximately 14,100'/4298m. From here we ascend the final 400 feet where the angle steepens to 40 degrees. We will descend back to our high camp that day.

Day 3 –

Day 3 is devoted to descending back to our cars, usually arriving at Whitney Portal by lunchtime.

### **Meal Planning**

Breakfasts and dinners are provided by your guides. For all meals and snacks between breakfast and dinner, please plan to bring your own food. 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**

If you are flying, your choice of airports are LA, Las Vegas, and Reno. The airfares will vary depending on where you are coming from. In addition, Alaska/Horizon Air and United now have daily service into Mammoth Lakes. Rent a car from wherever you fly to and drive to Lone Pine. There are many good motels in Lone Pine and camping is also available at Lone Pine a few miles out of town. A list of lodging and directions to Lone Pine from any airport is available from Sierra Mountaineering International upon request.

### **About the Guides**

The climb is organized by Kurt Wedberg and led by senior guides with Sierra Mountaineering International. SMI senior guides are all Mt. Whitney veterans intimately familiar with the route in conditions year-round. Kurt is a Himalayan veteran who has three successful ascents of Mt. Everest in 1995, 2008, and 2012 and 100+ major expeditions to all seven continents on his resume. He has numerous peak ascents throughout the Sierra Nevada range over the past 30 years. Kurt was also a senior guide on Mt. Rainier from 1991 – 2006 where he amassed 120 ascents of this peak. Kurt is the founder of Sierra Mountaineering International and runs it from his home in Bishop, California along the slopes of the beautiful Eastern Sierra.

You can learn more about Sierra Mountaineering International at: [www.sierramountaineering.com](http://www.sierramountaineering.com)