



## MOUNTAIN TRIP

P.O. Box 658  
Ophir, CO 81426

T 970.369.1153  
F 303.496.0998

info@mountaintrip.com

www.MountainTrip.com

## The Registration Process

Thanks for considering Mountain Trip. Your interest in our expedition is the first step in a journey that we will take together and we want you to feel as prepared as possible every step of the way. To help with that goal we would like to walk you through our application and registration process and introduce you to some of the voices that you will have conversations with when you call our office.

### Is This the Right Trip for Me?

This is a hugely important question to ask yourself. We encourage all of our climbers to call our office and speak with our staff to help you better answer it. Climbing big mountains requires a combination of physical preparedness, mental, psychological and emotional fortitude, and proficiency in certain technical skills. Although technically a vacation, this sort of vacation requires a heightened sense of self-awareness. You must be honest and open with your self-assessments and communicate freely with your guides. Your ability and willingness to follow through with all of the above will enable us to better help you achieve your alpine dreams.

You will ultimately need to make the decision as to whether or not a given expedition is appropriate for you at any given time. We will provide you with the requisite information to better help you with your decision making process and we will be honest with you if we feel that a given climb is not a good choice for you at this time. We want you to succeed and we will give you many of the tools to do so, but your fitness and health are largely beyond our scope of control, so please be honest with yourself and with us when we discuss having you join an expedition.

### Paperwork

To secure a position on one of our teams, we require paperwork specific to that trip be completed and returned to us. Please read the information within our registration packet carefully, complete the forms and mail or fax them back to us.

### Expedition Fee Schedule

A **deposit** is also required in order for us to confirm your place on one of our teams. We have numerous pre-trip financial obligations for each expedition including contracting guides, arranging flights, insurance, food, etc. Therefore a portion of your deposit is non-refundable. Please also note that should you submit a deposit before providing us your registration paperwork, the act of submitting that deposit construes your acceptance of all of that expedition's Fee Schedule, Refund and Cancellation Policy. *We highly recommend trip cancellation insurance for all of our expeditions*, and we have some strategies we can offer you that will minimize your financial exposure in the months before your climb. Please refer to our attached insurance information or contact us for details.

**Final balances are typically due 120 days before your Meeting Date for the climb.** We will send you an invoice prior to the due date, but please be timely and remit your payment on schedule.

## **Our Colorado Office Staff**

**Todd Rutledge** is one of the two owners of Mountain Trip. He can answer almost any question you might have about Mountain Trip or climbing in the big, cold mountains and can help you decide if a given trip is appropriate for you.

**Bill Allen** is the other owner of Mountain Trip. Bill handles much of the logistics of our international programs and he is the one you should ask for if you have specific questions about our Everest program.

**Laura Duncan** is our office manager and generally keeps us organized and on the right track, working three days a week in our office. She has a wealth of knowledge gained from years of being in and around the guiding industry and can answer most of your questions.

**Lisa Rutledge** is a former river guide and splits her time each week between the Mountain Trip office and working at the Telluride, CO public school. Her focus in our office is on all things financial, so she will be your main point of contact for billing.

**Dave Gruss** is a long-time friend who guided in Alaska, the US Northwest and South America for many years with a couple other guide services. He is our next-door neighbor and we are happy to have his depth of experience in the office a few days each week to help answer questions about how to prepare for and what to expect on our trips.

## **An Overview of an Expedition Experience with Mountain Trip**

**The Decision and Commitment Phase:** Oftentimes, a climber will approach us six months to a year before a given expedition. We love to talk to our climbers and typically spend a lot of time on the phone with each one of them. At some point, after we collectively decide that the trip is an appropriate one for the climber, we collect all the requisite paperwork and the deposit for the climb.

**The Preparation Phase:** At this point, we will provide you with an up to date equipment list and information about your climb. We encourage all our climbers to use our office staff as a resource while preparing for your climb. We will provide you with additional information, including tips and advice from our guides in a series of emails in the months prior to your Meeting Date. You should focus on your training for the climb and on acquiring any needed equipment. Don't wait until the last minute to find the right gear, as some of the cold-weather gear you might need becomes less available in the spring and summer months.

**The Climb!** We will officially commence our expedition on the Meeting Date for your climb. You should have a clear understanding of the services that we will provide and realistic expectations of the challenges of the expedition. Hopefully, you can let go of the pressures of work and home and fully enjoy your experience in the mountains.

**Post-Trip Follow Up:** We are constantly evolving and doing our best to improve our service to our climbers, so we will follow up with you via phone or email and would genuinely appreciate your candor and honesty about your experience with Mountain Trip.

**Thanks for choosing Mountain Trip!  
We don't take such trust lightly and will work hard to earn it over the coming months.**



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## **EXPEDITION REGISTRATION PACKET**

Thank you for applying to Mountain Trip to provide you with mountain guiding services. The process of applying for a position on an expedition requires that you sign several documents, consisting of the following pages:

1. This cover page
2. Application (Personal Information)
3. General Agreement Concerning Services to be Provided and Responsibilities of Team Members
4. Fee Schedule, Refund and Cancellation Policy
5. Medical Information
6. All Alaska trip participants must read and sign the Visitor's Acknowledgement of Risks. For all other trips please read and sign the page titled FOR ALL EXPEDITIONS OUTSIDE OF ALASKA.

To secure a position on one of our teams, you must read all of these documents, provide the necessary information, and return them to us with a deposit for the expedition. Copies of these documents are also available on our website. Please feel free to contact us with any questions about the application process. If you are filling out these documents electronically, please note that all fields in red are required.

### **General Disclosures, Disclaimers and Agreements**

1. You understand that before you will be accepted on this expedition you will be signing a Release Form or an Acknowledgement of Risk, which releases you and your family from any right to sue Mountain Trip for injury, death or loss of property.
2. We are not travel agents and are not providing travel services. We are recommending travel agents for you to use who have experience booking travel to the far reaches of the world where our company works, however we cannot accept liability for any of your travel. Travel to and from the expedition is incidental to the expedition.
3. All documents you sign are incorporated herein by reference.
4. The terms of this agreement and all other agreements shall continue and be in effect after the expedition has ended. All changes or alterations to this document must be in writing and approved by both parties. No changes to the face of any document are valid.
5. Even though you have been accepted on to the expedition, Mountain Trip and the trip leader may at any time remove you from the expedition for reasons including: your health and safety, the team's health and safety or for failing to follow expedition rules or any government or government agency laws, rules or regulations.
6. Each of the accompanying documents contains important information that you need to read and understand. You agree to the terms and assume the risks set forth in the documentation, website and other information that Mountain Trip has provided, including the relinquishment of legal rights in the various documents.

**Initial Here**



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**EXPEDITION APPLICATION - PERSONAL INFORMATION FORM**

EXPEDITION: \_\_\_\_\_ TRIP MEETING DAY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PREFERRED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE or PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ HT. \_\_\_\_\_ WT. \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: DAY \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSPORT INFORMATION (if joining us on trips outside your country of residence)**

Passport number: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Issue: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Issue: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please include a photocopy or scan of your passport ID pages**

Where did you hear about Mountain Trip? \_\_\_\_\_

**CLIMBING EXPERIENCE:**

Have you climbed with us before?    Y    N

If yes, please describe where, when and with whom:

Have you climbed with other guide services?      Y      N

If yes, please describe where, when and with whom:

**Do you have experience with the following:**

Glacier Travel? \_\_\_\_ Winter Camping? \_\_\_\_ Carrying a heavy pack? \_\_\_\_

Rock climbing? \_\_\_\_ Ice Climbing? \_\_\_\_ What is your longest trip in the field? \_\_\_\_ days

Have you used: Ascenders \_\_\_\_ Crampons \_\_\_\_ Ice Axe \_\_\_\_

**Please elaborate if you checked any of the above activities:**

**CLIMBING EXPERIENCE:** Please briefly describe any further experience you may have that has helped prepare you for your intended expedition.

What are your long-term climbing goals?

**PHYSICAL FITNESS:** Please describe your current weekly training routine and your preferred outdoor recreation: (skiing, running, cycling...):

**FOOD PREFERENCES:** Every effort will be made to avoid food allergies, and in most cases we can also accommodate your preferences, so please let us know your dislikes, allergies, etc:



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### **General Agreement Concerning Services to be Provided And Responsibilities of Team Members**

You are registering for an expedition with Mountain Trip. This page is intended to help make sure you understand the services we are providing and the services you are responsible for.

#### **Transportation is incidental**

The main purpose of becoming a team member is to join us on an expedition in the mountains. As such any transportation we provide or that you may contract for on your own is incidental to the trip. We suggest that you make sure you have time built into your itinerary for delays.

#### **Transportation to and from your destination**

We will designate a specific Meeting Day for your expedition. Transportation to the meeting point on your Meeting Day is to be provided by you. You must arrive in time to be ready to participate in a team meeting at the appointed time on the Meeting Day for your expedition. Expedition climbing is very dynamic and we will provide you with a recommendation as to when you should book your flights to and from your destination. We suggest you book a ticket that allows you to change your flight with little effort or cost.

#### **Lodging off the mountain**

For all Denali and International expeditions, Mountain Trip will provide lodging for the night before your Meeting Day and for the night of your Meeting day at a local hotel or Bed and Breakfast. Any additional lodging is your responsibility. Don't worry about booking a room after your expedition. We generally don't know how long we'll be in the mountains, and we can help arrange lodging when we return to "civilization." Expeditions outside the US include one night's lodging post-expedition.

#### **Mountain Trip will provide the following services:**

Two nights lodging before your expedition (for Denali and International trips only)

All food and group gear while in the mountains.

Our experienced guides

\*\*You are responsible for any extraordinary transportation needs

Alaska courses and climbs include round-trip scheduled group transportation between Anchorage and Talkeetna, and all scheduled glacier flights.

International climbs include airport transfers and one night lodging after the expedition.

#### **Responsibilities of Team Members**

You are ultimately responsible for your own well-being, including making all necessary preparations to ensure good health and physical conditioning. You are responsible for understanding the conditions that may exist on the climb and choosing a climb that is appropriate for your abilities and interests. You are responsible for having knowledge of all pre-departure information and for assembling the appropriate clothing and equipment for your climb. While on the expedition, team members are responsible to maintain basic levels of hygiene and to conduct themselves respectfully with other team members and members of the local population. If a guide feels that a team member is putting other members' health or safety at risk, the guide has the discretion to remove a team member from an expedition. Use our office staff and your lead guide as pre-trip resources to ensure that all your questions are answered. Travel insurance may help recoup expenses if you need to leave an expedition due to an illness.

Airline Responsibility Passenger/Airline contracts are in effect while team members are on board any aircraft contracted for use in the expedition.

Signature

Date

I acknowledge that signing this form electronically under the Federal (15 U.S.C. §§ 7001) and Colorado (C.R.S. 24-71-101) Electronic signature act is the same as signing the form in writing



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### Fee Schedule, Refund and Cancellation Policy

Mountain Trip recognizes how difficult and disappointing it can be for climbers who must cancel expeditions which they have planned for a long time. Team members must also recognize that, due to the nature of planning expeditions and dealing with governmental permits and regulations, Mountain Trip also accrues significant expenses in the months prior to expedition departure dates. We must therefore adhere to a strict refund policy for all climbers. **We strongly recommend trip cancellation and travel insurance for all expeditions.** U.S. and Canadian residents should contact us for more information regarding travel insurance. Our refund and cancellation policy is outlined below; however, as noted, certain trips may require specific policies that supersede those listed below.

- All expeditions require a deposit to secure a spot on the team. Your submission of a deposit constitutes your acceptance of this Fee Schedule, Refund and Cancellation Policy.
- All deposits for expeditions include a non-refundable administration fee (We highly recommend that you consider Trip Cancellation Insurance to protect the administration fee, if not the entire cost of your climb).
  - **Denali & private Alaska trips requires a \$1500 deposit (\$750 administration fee).**
  - **Mount Vinson requires a \$7000 deposit (\$1500 administration fee).**
  - **Carstensz requires an \$8000 deposit (\$1500 administration fee).**
  - **Aconcagua requires a \$1000 deposit (\$500 administration fee).**
  - **Alaska Range courses require a \$750 deposit (\$250 administration fee).**
- Final payments for expeditions must be received 120 days prior to the Meeting Day.
- Failure to pay expedition fees by the date they are due constitutes cancellation of your spot on the team and forfeiture of your deposit.
- Any cancellation 120+ days before your Meeting Day will be refunded in full, less the administration fee.
- If you cancel 120-90 days before your Meeting Day, you are eligible for a refund of 50% of any monies paid, less the deposit.
- No refunds will be provided for cancellations occurring within the last 89 days prior to an expedition.
- All requests for refunds must be made in writing and received in our Colorado office.
- If you register for a climb within 90 days of the Meeting Date, expedition fees will be due in full to secure your spot on the team.
- Mountain Trip reserves the right to cancel an expedition prior to the departure date for any reason. In such an event, all monies collected by Mountain Trip from team members for that expedition shall be promptly refunded. This is the extent of our financial liability.
- North Side of Denali and some private expeditions are subject to additional terms and conditions that supersede those stated above.

**I agree to the above stated Fee Schedule, Refund and Cancellation Policy.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Please print your full name**

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## **CONFIDENTIAL Medical Information Form**

**The information provided to Mountain Trip on this form is provided for three purposes.**

- 1. We may need the information on this form if you suffer an illness or injury on the expedition.**
- 2. We want you to see a physician and have your physician's approval before undertaking the expedition. We will not made decisions concerning your health or fitness to under- take that trip. That is a decision between you, your spouse and your physician.**
- 3. While we have no intention to release any of this information, please recognize that you are waiving your rights under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and any state HIPAA laws. We may need to share your medical information if you suffer an illness or injury on the trip.**

Full Legal Name:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Height:

Weight:

Blood Type:

Please list any major operations, accidents or illnesses you have had in the past five years:

Do you have or have you ever had any of the following:

Allergies/Anaphlyaxis	Y	N
Heart Disease	Y	N
Diabetes	Y	N
Asthma	Y	N
Seizures	Y	N
Depression or other mental illness	Y	N
Are you pregnant (at time of trip)?	Y	N

Please give full details if you answered yes to any of the above:

Do you take medication for any of the above? If yes, please explain:





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**Visitor’s Acknowledgement of Risk (for ALL ALASKA TRIPS)**

In consideration of the services of Mountain Trip International LLC their officers, agents, employees, and stockholders, and all other persons or entities associated with those businesses (hereinafter collectively referred to as “MTI”) I agree as follows:

Although MTI has taken reasonable steps to provide me with appropriate equipment and skilled guides so I can enjoy an activity for which I may not be skilled, MTI has informed me that this activity is not without risk. Certain risks are inherent in each activity and cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the activity. These inherent risks are some of the same elements that contribute to the unique character of this activity and can be the cause of loss or damage to my equipment, or accidental injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma or death. MTI does not want to frighten me or reduce my enthusiasm for this activity, but believes it is important for me to know in advance what to expect and to be informed of the inherent risks.

The following describes some, but not all, of those risks: the hazards of walking on uneven terrain and slips and falls; being struck by rockfall, icefall or other objects dislodged or thrown from above; the use of climbing ropes and equipment; the forces of nature, including lightning, weather changes and avalanche; the risks of falling off the rock, mountain or into a crevasse; the risks of exposure to insect bites; the risk of altitude and cold including hypothermia, frostbite, acute mountain sickness, cerebral and pulmonary edema; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity. Additional dangers may include the hazard of traveling in the third world such as accidents or illness in remote places without access to adequate emergency medical facilities, war, terrorism, political unrest and other forces.

I am aware that activities with MTI entail risks of injury or death to any participant. I understand the description of these inherent risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated inherent risks may result in injury or death. I agree to assume and accept full responsibility for the inherent risks identified herein and those inherent risks not specifically identified. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, no one is forcing me to participate, and I elect to participate in spite of and with full knowledge of the inherent risks.

I acknowledge that engaging in this activity may require a degree of skill and knowledge different than other activities and that I have responsibilities as a participant. I acknowledge that the staff of MTI has been available to more fully explain to me the nature and physical demands of this activity and the inherent risks, hazards, and dangers associated with this activity.

I certify that I am fully capable of participating in this activity. Therefore, I assume and accept full responsibility for myself, including all minor children in my care, custody, and control, for bodily injury, death or loss of personal property and expenses as a result of those inherent risks and dangers identified herein and those inherent risks and dangers not specifically identified, and as a result of my negligence in participating in this activity.

I have carefully read, clearly understood and accepted the terms and conditions stated herein and acknowledge that this agreement shall be effective and binding upon myself, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate and for all members of my family, including minor children.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian if Participant is under 18 years of age

I acknowledge that signing this form electronically under the Federal (15 U.S.C. §§ 7001) and Colorado (C.R.S. 24-71-101) Electronic signature act is the same as signing the form in writing



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### PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In consideration of Mountain Trip International, LLC, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "MTI"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge MTI, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that mountaineering entails known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

**The risks include, among other things:** the hazards of walking on uneven terrain and slips and falls; being struck by rock- fall, icelfall or other objects dislodged or thrown from above; the use of climbing ropes and equipment; the forces of nature, including lightning, weather changes and avalanche; the risks of falling off the rock, mountain or into a crevasse; the risks of exposure to insect bites; the risk of altitude and cold including hypothermia, frostbite, acute mountain sickness, cerebral and pulmonary edema; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity. Additional dangers may include the hazard of traveling in the third world such as accidents or illness in remote places without access to adequate emergency medical facilities, war, terrorism, political unrest and other forces.

Furthermore, MTI employees have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather or other environmental conditions. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless MTI from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of MTI's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of MTI.**

4. Should MTI or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.

6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against MTI, I agree to do so solely in the state of Colorado, and I further agree that the substantive law of Colorado shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining document shall remain in full force and effect.

**By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against MTI on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.**

**I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.**

Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## TRAVEL INSURANCE

### **Mountain Trip HIGHLY recommends travel insurance for all of our expeditions.**

Even though Denali National Park does not require evacuation insurance, and will not charge you for such services, having a Medical/Evacuation policy could help you return home should you require higher level care at the time and might provide you with medical coverage that your personal health care might not provide. Climbing big mountains requires a huge commitment of time, fitness and finances. Protect your investment by insuring your climb with a Cancellation Policy.

### **US and Canadian residents:**

Many of our climbers have had good luck with policies from Travelguard. We've found them to offer climbers very good coverage at reasonable rates. Insurance laws vary dramatically from state to state and country to country. Clicking the following link will allow climbers in some areas (such as Canada) to obtain additional coverage that you cannot get booking directly through Travelguard yourself:

[http://www.travelguard.com/agentlink.asp?ta\\_arc=151014&pcode=ATPROP&agencyemail=info@mountaintrip.com](http://www.travelguard.com/agentlink.asp?ta_arc=151014&pcode=ATPROP&agencyemail=info@mountaintrip.com)

### **International climbers:**

You will need to look locally for trip cancellation insurance. A good worldwide option for rescue insurance would be through IHI in the Netherlands: [www.IHI.com](http://www.IHI.com)

The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) is an option for UK residents:

<http://www.thebmc.co.uk/modules/insurance/Policies.aspx>

Please let us know of your policy # after you purchase it, so we can provide quick assistance in the event you need to use your coverage.

### **Insurance strategies to consider**

Travelguard provides additional coverage such as a "Pre-existing Condition Rider" if you purchase your policy within 15 days of making your initial deposit for your trip.

*You can increase the amount of coverage as you go.* Therefore, we recommend that you purchase only enough coverage to protect your current financial exposure. This means that you might initially only purchase coverage for your deposit and then increase your coverage as you purchase your plane tickets and make your final payment for your climb. You can do this easily online. This will keep the price of your policy down. As you invest more into your trip, you can cover those expenses as they arise.

Most climbers will find that Travelguard's *Adventure Travel Protection Plan (ATPP)* is the best option. If you are most concerned with the optional "*Cancel for any reason*" upgrade, you might consider the *My Travelguard* or *Ready 2 Travel* plan, either of which can be made to include the same coverages as the ATPP, but will cover 75% of your trip expenditures, rather than the 50% covered by the ATPP.

Hopefully, you'll not need to use your coverage, but it will provide peace of mind to have it in place.