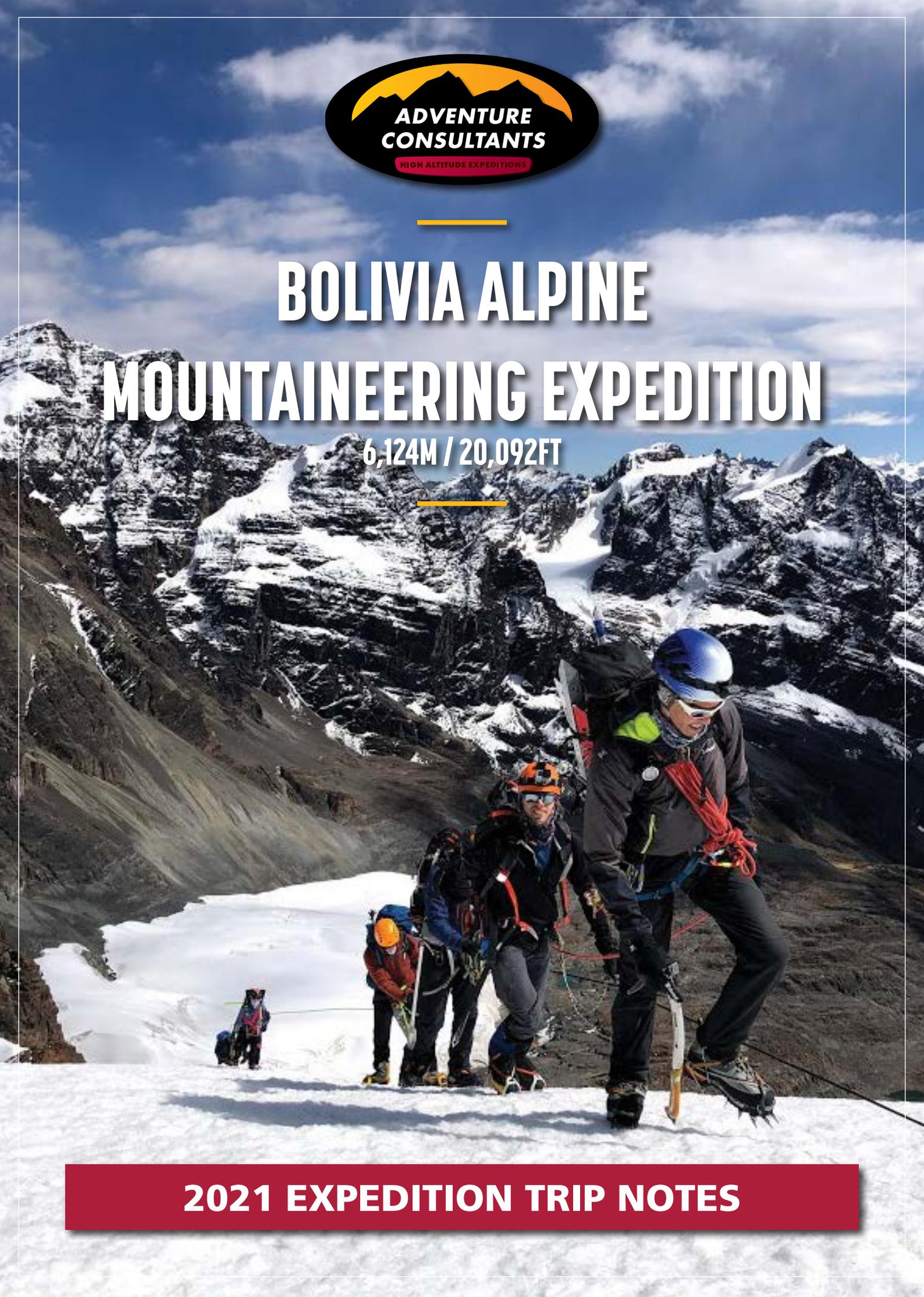


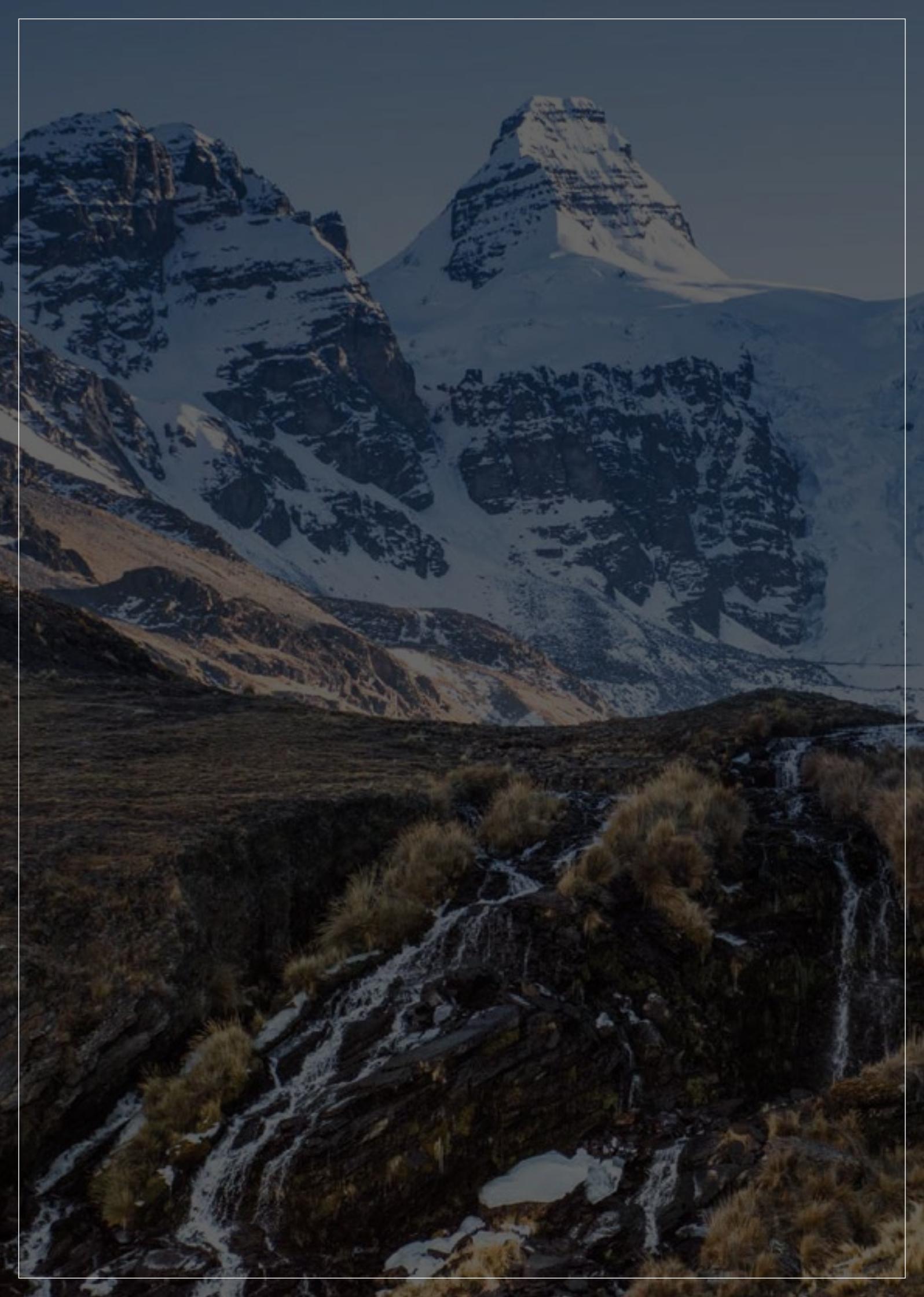


BOLIVIA ALPINE MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION

6,124M / 20,092FT



2021 EXPEDITION TRIP NOTES





BOLIVIA ALPINE MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION TRIP NOTES

2021 EXPEDITION DETAILS

Dates: June 6–19, 2021

Illimani Add-on Dates: June 20–25, 2021

Duration: 14 or 20 days

Departure: ex La Paz, Bolivia

Price: US\$3,500

Illimani Add On from US\$1,500

▲ Climb in the spectacular Cordillera Real. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz

Combining the perfect blend of Bolivia—iconic tourist destinations, epic hiking trails, climbing instruction and high altitude mountaineering—the Bolivia Alpine Mountaineering Expedition really has it all!

Bolivia's Cordillera Real contains a plethora of excellent high altitude climbing opportunities! Our Bolivia Alpine Mountaineering expedition takes the best of these and combines them into an itinerary that slowly acclimatises you while providing a stimulating experience exploring local iconic tourist spots, trekking and climbing in the famous Condoriri Lake District and culminating in an ascent of the remote Chachacomani (6,124m/20,091ft).

With an optional add-on ascent to climb the Cordillera Real's highest peak, Illimani (6,462m/21,201ft), this expedition gives climbers a challenging yet achievable introduction into the world of high altitude mountaineering. An ideal expedition for your first steps into expedition climbing, or to simply enjoy the variety of trekking and climbing that the Cordillera Real has to offer.

HOW THE EXPEDITION OPERATES

The views across the Cordillera Real are spectacular as we fly into the city of La Paz. At a height of 3,640m/11,942, the city sits as high as many of the

world's mountains and boasts the title of the highest administrative capital in the world. We're met at the airport and as we drive into the city we see the peak of Illimani standing tall on the skyline, its snow covered slopes in stark contrast to the busy streets of La Paz.

We meet our guide at the hotel and he undertakes an expedition briefing and gear check. We're able to answer last minute questions and get to meet the rest of the team. We're all excited about the days ahead and enjoy dinner together at one of the nearby restaurants.

After breakfast we meet in the hotel lobby for our tour of La Paz. The tour allows us to familiarise ourselves with the city and some of the history of the area, and as our guide explains, also gives our bodies time to adjust to the altitude before we head into the mountains. We visit historical landmarks including Plaza Murillo and the San Francisco Church before heading to the Witches Market, where a few of us purchase colourful Bolivian souvenirs. We finish the tour with a stop at Mirador Killi Killi, with its spectacular city views across the plateau to the surrounding mountains. It leaves us eager to get moving closer!



▲ Roping up on steep terrain. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz

We leave the bustling city behind us the next morning and drive 3½ hours to the lakeside town of Copacabana (3,841m/12,601ft) nestled on the shores of Lake Titicaca. We stretch our legs and wander the streets of the town, taking in its unique atmosphere and red-roofed buildings before making our way to our traditional lakeside accommodation on the edge of town.

The following morning, we board a boat to take us across the lake to Isla de Sol or Sun Island. The rocky island is criss-crossed with hiking trails and is home to over 80 archaeological sites dating back to the ancient Inca civilisations and beyond. We spend the day hiking and exploring some of the island's highlights, including the Escalera del Inca, a beautiful Incan staircase leading to a spring once believed to prolong youth.

We arrive back at Copacabana tired after a long day in the sun, but the hiking was just a taster, and tomorrow the adventure starts in earnest as we begin the trek to Condoriri Base Camp (4,600m/15,000ft). We depart early in the morning and drive to the trailhead, it's only a short 2-hour hike to the Base Camp, but the jump in altitude is significant, so we take our time, enjoying the scenery and spotting alpacas and llama as we hike. We are accompanied by some mules who help transport our group and personal equipment, we only carry small packs with those items we need throughout the day. Once at Base Camp we help set up camp and enjoy a delicious barbecue for dinner!

We wake the next morning and prepare to climb our first peak, Pico Austria (5,320m/17,454ft). We walk through the alpine vegetation that finally gives way

to the rocky slopes of the mountain, and we reach the summit in time to get views of the nearby Condoriri ('Head of the Condor', its neighbouring peaks the wings, 5,648m/18,530ft). We stay a few minutes on the summit, taking photos and allowing our bodies time to acclimatise to the height. We return to the base camp, feeling good that we all exceed the 5,000m mark with few complaints!

The following day is dedicated to skills training. Most of the group is new to mountaineering, so we spend the morning starting with the basic skills. After lunch we head to the nearby Tarija Glacier and practice those techniques on the ice. By the end of the day everyone is feeling confident on their feet and ready to tackle our next objective Pequeño Alpmayo (5,410m/17,749ft).

It's the first alpine start for most of the group and it takes us a while to get organised, but by 3.00am we're off and making our way by torchlight back towards the Tarija Glacier. Initially we climb across moderate-angled snow slopes to Tarija peak before climbing down a short rocky section onto Pequeño Alpmayo. We follow the snow-covered West-Southwest ridge all the way to its pyramid shaped summit. Elated, we snap photos on the summit before returning via the same route to curl up in our tents at Base Camp. We return the next day to La Paz, it's a welcome respite. We spend the afternoon resting, sorting out our gear and doing laundry!

Refreshed from the previous afternoon relaxing, the team piles into our van, ready for the 4-hour drive to our next objective, the remote peak Chachacomani (6,124m/20,092ft). Excitement brews as we drive closer



▲ Illimani from La Paz. Photo: François Schollaert Paz

and see Chachacomani and its neighbouring peak Chearoco (6,127m/20,102ft) standing head and shoulders above the Altiplano and their surrounding peaks.

Again, at the trailhead we're met by mulas to help transport our equipment to Base Camp, and we follow a trail alongside the Rio Keka Jahuirra river along an immense valley carved out long ago by glaciers. Our Base Camp is located on the river flats near the head of the valley. The next morning we move to High Camp, the trail from here becomes too rough for the mules, so we utilise porters to assist carrying some of the heavier group equipment. Our packs are full with our personal gear and our anticipation is high, can we really push through and climb a 6,000m peak?

The climb to High Camp takes us away from the main river, up across glacial moraine towards the slopes of Chachacomani and the edge of its glacier. At around 5,500m/18,044ft, High Camp is higher than our last climb! The weather looks favourable for a summit tomorrow, so we all have dinner and head straight to our sleeping bags, hoping to catch some sleep before our next alpine start.

Our guide wakes us early, we dress, have a quick breakfast, and get moving. The team is more organised this time around and we head out into the torchlight

by 2.00am, initially scrambling across moraine but soon reaching the edge of the glacier and donning our crampons. The night is still, but cold, and the sound of our crampons crunching on the glacial ice is all we hear as everyone concentrates on the task ahead.

Dawn brings spectacular purple and pink colours across the sky. We start to see views behind us as we stop to refuel, and ahead, the summit looms large. We've weaved our way around crevasses and around onto the north east side of the mountain. From here the route takes us up the NE face of the mountain and before long, we take our final steps onto the summit.

The views from the summit stretch across the whole Cordillera Real, overlooking Lake Titicaca and the Altiplano. It's a real reward after a long climb! We spend some time on the summit before descending via the same route to High Camp, where we stop for a late lunch. We continue onto Base Camp where dinner and a good night's sleep await!

It is hard to crawl out of the sleeping bag the next morning, but the thought of a long hot shower in La Paz soon sees everyone on the trail and making our way back. For some of the team, they'll rest and head on to climb Illimani (6,462m/21,201ft), the highest peak in the Cordillera Real, while others depart for home.

ILLIMANI ASCENT ADD ON

Make the most of your acclimatisation with an additional ascent of Illimani, the highest peak in the Cordillera Real (6,462m/21,201ft). Overlooking the city of La Paz, Illimani is easily climbed in a short 6-day itinerary following your Bolivia Alpine Mountaineering programme.

PREREQUISITE EXPERIENCE

To climb in Bolivia you need to be physically fit, have a strong mental stamina and be capable of strenuous exercise for several days carrying a moderate pack.

Climbing at altitude affects people differently; most climbers notice a lower performance rate than normal. Our climbing days are mostly short to accommodate this and vital rest days are usually welcomed! Our graduated acclimatisation program allows you to progressively consolidate your fitness.

ITINERARY

Dates: June 6–19, 2021

Illimani Add On Dates: June 20–25, 2021

Day 1	Arrive La Paz and overnight at hotel
Day 2	La Paz exploration and city tour
Day 3	Depart La Paz for the town of Copacabana on the edge of Lake Titicaca
Day 4	Explore Sun Island on Lake Titicaca
Day 5	Transfer to Condoriri Base Camp (4,600m/15,000ft)
Day 6	Ascend Pico Austria (5,320m.17,454ft), 3 hours
Day 7	Glacier training day
Day 8	Pequeño Alpamayo summit (5,410m/17,749ft)
Day 9	Return to La Paz
Day 10	Transfer from La Paz to Chachacomani town, trek to Base Camp (2–3 hours)
Day 11	Climb to Chachacomani High Camp (4–5 hours)
Day 12	Chachacomani Summit (6,124m/20,092ft), return to Base Camp
Day 13	Back to La Paz
Day 14	Rest day or depart for home



▲ Exploring Sun Island. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ Scrambling over rock to High Camp. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ The final approach to Chachacomani. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz

ILLIMANI ASCENT ADD ON ITINERARY

Day 15	Drive La Paz to Pinaya town, trek to Illimani Base Camp (4,572m/15,000ft)
Day 16	Trek Base Camp to Nido de Condores or High Camp (5,486m/18,000ft)
Day 17	Illimani summit day, return to High Camp
Day 18	Trek back to Pinaya, return to La Paz
Day 19	Rest or contingency day
Day 20	Trip ends, depart for home.

TEAM SIZE

The maximum guide to climber ratio is 1:2. The team will have a maximum size of 10 members.

THE ADVANTAGES OF CLIMBING WITH ADVENTURE CONSULTANTS

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 specialised Expedition Leaders and staff, who are some of the most pre-eminent in the industry. We pride ourselves on operating with small teams, the best backup 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.

FOOD

During the expedition, you will enjoy high quality and nourishing food. Please indicate any specific dietary requirements you may have on your application form.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

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



▲ Self arrest training. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ Views from Chachacomani High Camp. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ Enjoy hiking through a variety of terrain. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ Chachacomani. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ On the summit of Pequeño Alkamayo. Photo: Roberto Gomez Salnz

VISAS

Generally, tourist visas for Bolivia are not required for travellers staying less than three months, but please check with your travel agent. Climbing permits are a separate matter dealt with by the expedition agent.

EQUIPMENT LIST

Expedition members will be sent a list detailing all necessary clothing and equipment to be procured. We will correspond with you prior to the trip to answer your queries and ensure you have met all the equipment requirements. Some items are available for rental. Having the correct equipment is key to your performance on summit day and to achieving success.

EXPEDITION FEE

The cost of the Bolivia Alpine Mountaineering Expedition ex La Paz, Bolivia is US\$3,500 per person.

The cost of the Illimani Extension ex La Paz, Bolivia is US\$1,500 per person for groups of 2 or more, or US\$2,600 for 1:1 guide to climber ratio.

This is an inclusive cost and covers the following:

- Mountain guides
- All expedition organisational requirements
- Airport transfers
- Ground transportation
- Hotel accommodation in La Paz (4 nights) and Copacabana (2 nights) on a twin shared basis
- All trek and expedition food ex La Paz
- Tours of La Paz and Sun Island
- Porter support for group and personal equipment in accordance with the equipment list
- Group equipment: stoves, tents, ropes, etc. and all supplies necessary.

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

- Round-trip airfare to La Paz, Bolivia
- Meals (except breakfast) in La Paz
- Personal clothing and equipment
- Personal insurance
- Excess baggage
- Any rescue costs
- Any costs associated with early departure
- Gratuities to guides
- Government and airport taxes

NOTE: All prices subject to change.

PAYMENT DETAILS

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

Bank of New Zealand
Offshore Branch
42 Willis Street
Spark Central
Wellington
New Zealand

for the account of Adventure Consultants Limited

Account Number: 1000-594771-0000

Account Type: US Dollars

Swift Address: BKNZ NZ22

NOTE: All bank transfer charges are for the remitter's account.

We can also accept your payment by credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Amex) plus a 3% credit card fee.

DEPOSIT

A non-refundable deposit of US\$500 is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

BALANCE

The balance is payable 90 days prior to the expedition start date.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

An expedition member may then cancel their participation on the following basis:

- Cancellations outside of 90 days will result in the loss of the trip deposit.
- For cancellations made within 90 days of the trip commencement date we reserve the right to retain 50% of the balance payment fee.
- For cancellations within 60 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.

We strongly recommend you take out trip cancellation insurance via your travel agent if you wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical or personal reasons.

HOW TO JOIN THIS EXPEDITION

If you would like to join our 2021 Bolivia Alpine Mountaineering Expedition, please complete our online application form at <https://www.adventureconsultants.com/expeditions/south-america/bolivia-alpine-mountaineering/book-now> and submit your trip deposit.

CONTACT US

Please contact us if you'd like any further information or assistance in planning your trip:

Adventure Consultants Ltd
PO Box 739, 20 Brownston Street
Wanaka, 9343
New Zealand

Phone: +64 3 443 8711

Freephone from North America: +1 866 757 8722

Email: info@adventure.co.nz

Website: www.adventureconsultants.com



▲ Morning light on the slopes of Chachacomani. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



▲ Sunset from Chachacomani High Camp. Photo: Roberto Gomez Sainz



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 is a supporter of the dZi Foundation in Nepal for their 'Revitalise a Village' programmes.

Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.



All material Copyright © Adventure Consultants Ltd 2020