

Mt. Rainier Ascent – Kautz Glacier

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Meeting Time and Location: 7pm on the night before the trip at the Ramada Inn in SeaTac, Washington (close to the Seattle-Tacoma airport)

Day 0 – The group will meet at 7 in the evening on the day before the trip starts at the hotel. At this time, the guides will complete a thorough gear check and hand out any group equipment that needs to be distributed.

Day 1 – The team will leave the hotel at 7 in the morning and drive to Ashford, Washington, just outside of Mount Rainier National Park. There is a small gear shop in Ashford for last minute purchases.

We will then drive to the Paradise parking lot within Mt. Rainier National Park and hike in to our first camp. We will cross the lower Nisqually Glacier and work our way up onto the arm beneath the Kautz Glacier. The team will then establish a camp somewhere between 7,200 and 7,700 feet.

Day 2 – We wake, pack camp, and cross the Nisqually glacier in the morning. We will then ascend the western edge of the Wilson Glacier and camp beneath Camp Hazard at 10,700 feet, in position for our summit bid via the Kautz Glacier.

Day 3 – We wake up early and begin our climb to the summit. The climb begins with a rappel down onto the Kautz Glacier. From there, we will ascend a short and steep icy headwall. After the headwall, the climbing eases to the summit at 14,411 feet.

Day 4 – On the last day of the trip, we will wake early again, pack up camp and hike out. The descent back to Paradise takes approximately 6 hours. Once we are down, we will go out for a late lunch and then drop you back off at the hotel.