



Patagonia Gorra Blanca Expedition Itinerary

Program Details

Introduction: The goal of this expedition is to climb Gorra Blanca (9547 ft / 2900 m), which is located near “Marconi Pass”, at the entrance of the Patagonian Ice Field.

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Program Characteristics:

- Long walks of 6 to 10 hours
- Each climber carries their own personal equipment (~65 lbs)
- Moderate to big gains in elevation (up to 6000 ft in gain)

Program Cost Inclusions & Exclusions:

Includes: Four Season Tents; Cooking Equipment, Fuel, Stoves and Expedition Meals; Snowshoes; Glacier Equipment: Crampons, Harness, Ropes, Shovel, etc.; Sledge/Sled; Communications Device (inReach/VHF Radio); Expedition First Aid Kit; Transfer El Chaltén-Río Eléctrico.

Excludes: Airfare; personal equipment; meals in cities; Transportation from El Calafate to El Chaltén; Lodging in El Chaltén; Porters (available upon request); Alcoholic Drinks; Gratuities; Personal Travel and Rescue Insurance.



Itinerary

Day 1: Begin Trekking

This is the first scheduled day of the program. Transfer from El Chaltén to Río Eléctrico and start trekking. It takes about 8 hours to get to “Laguna de los 14” campsite at the foot of the Gorra Blanca glacier. The first 2 hours of the trek are in the lenga forest, and along the rocky terrain around Lago Electrico. There are also two river crossings during this trek, over the Pollone River and Electrico river. To get across the second river you will utilize a harness and cable zipline to get across the river.

- Accommodations: Laguna de los 14 Camp
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 2: Trek to Paso Marconi (5085 ft / 1550 m)

The second day will be spent trekking to Paso Marconi (5085 ft), around 6 - 8 hours. This day is the crux of the trip as we'll need good weather to reach the pass. Weather permitting, you will see stunning views of Fitz Roy, Piergiorgio, and Gorra Blanca, our main objective. After the camp area, there are some steep rocky passages before reaching the glacier. Once we make it to the glacier, we will start using cramps, ropes, and sleds to continue to the Gorra Blanca refuge.

- Accommodations: Refugio Eduardo García Soto
- Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Gorra Blanca Summit Attempt (9547 ft / 2900 m)

The third day (depending on the weather) will be our summit attempt day for Gorra Blanca (9547 ft) by the normal route (NW ridge). We will ascend ice slopes with an average angle of 30 to 40 degrees, and then a short steeper section for the final push to the summit. If the weather is clear, we'll be able to see expansive views of the Ice Field, the Cordon Gaea, Volcano Lautaro, Fitz Roy, Cerro Torre, and others. After summiting, we'll head back to the refuge. Overall this is about a 10 hour day with a gain of 4000 ft (1300 m).

- Accommodations: Refugio Eduardo García Soto
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Gorra Blanca Summit Attempt Contingency Day (9547 ft / 2900 m)

This day is built into the itinerary as a contingency day for our Gorra Blanca summit attempt.

- Accommodations: Refugio Eduardo García Soto
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Hike Out

The fifth and final day is spent hiking out from Marconi Pass back to Lago Eléctrico. Transfer from Rio Eléctrico to El Chaltén. This will be the end of the services.

- Accommodations: On your own
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch