



Summer Mountaineering Course

Equipment List

A full range of conditions and temperatures can be expected in the New Zealand mountains and participants need to be suitably equipped with suitable clothing, eyewear and safety equipment. Your guide will do a comprehensive check of your gear at the start of the course to ensure it is in good working order and fit for purpose and there will be the opportunity to purchase or hire gear that is not deemed suitable.

If there is anything you don't have or have any questions, please get [in contact](#) with us. There is further gear advice available in our [Knowledge Base](#).

Body

- Base layer top and bottoms (merino or polypro, no cotton)
- Mid-layer top (fleece or windproof)
- Insulating jacket (synthetic or hydrophobic down fill)
- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Softshell climbing or trekking trousers

Head/Face/Hands

- Sunhat or cap
- Warm hat & neck gaiter (eg Buff®)
- Category 4 (glacier-rated) Sunglasses
- Goggles
- Lightweight gloves (eg work gloves)
- Warm climbing gloves

Feet

- Mountaineering boots: Full shank November/December (eg La Sportiva Nepal Evos®) or ¼ shank from January onwards (eg La Sportiva Karakorum®)*
- Snow gaiters*

Overnight

- 2-season sleeping bag and liner
- Head torch and spare batteries
- Personal toiletries (blister kit & personal medication)
- Hut shoes

Accessories

- Backpack, around 50-litre capacity, with ice axe attachments and the ability to carry overnight gear*
- Water bottles (1.5 to 2 litres capacity, recommend one wide-mouth bottle)
- Small container of sunblock & lippy

Technical gear and safety (Can be provided)

- Ice axe and hammer
- Boot crampons
- Climbing/ mountaineering helmet
- Harness
- Long (120cm) and short (60cm) prusik loops
- 120cm length sling
- Belay device (eg Black Diamond ATC Guide®)
- 4-6 carabiners
- Ice screw
- Snowshoes (if required)

Recommended

- Progress Capture Pulley (eg Petzl Microtraxion®)
- Spare change of clothes and towel (for nights at Unwin Lodge)

* Available to hire: \$20 per item per day

What to Expect

The high mountain huts of the Aoraki/Mount Cook region are accessed by helicopter. They are remote, basic huts. There is no reliable phone reception but they do have charging facilities for small electronic devices. The huts are equipped with mattresses, crockery and cookware.

All equipment and food will be carried from the helicopter landing to the hut. For some of the huts, this involves a short uphill hike so everything must fit in backpacks. At the end of the trip, you may walk down the glacier with all your equipment to be picked up by the helicopter.

If there is a delay getting into the mountains, or the trip has to exit early, the course will be based at NZAC Unwin Lodge in Mount Cook village. Local rock climbing and accessible venues will be utilised to continue with the instruction.

Preparation

If you need accommodation in Wānaka the night before and after the trip, shared and private rooms are available for clients in our Kea Lodge which is adjacent to the WMG Base.

Unless otherwise agreed, trips start at the WMG Base at 8:30 on the first day of the trip where there is off-street car parking and luggage storage available. It is also possible to arrange to be picked up from accommodation in town.

Course Resources

Course resources can be downloaded from our [Downloads](#) page.

Insurance

WMG fees do not include insurance for personal circumstances (including but not limited to travel, injury, medical, and equipment).

We strongly recommend you obtain:

- Travel insurance to cover you in the event of a trip cancellation by either you or us, for trip changes, or for medical emergencies to cover you for your personal health needs;
- Personal and third-party insurance is required to cover damage or loss of equipment and property.

We do not accept liability, responsibility, or any expenses for insurance-related costs incurred by participants in preparation for or participation in our trips and courses.

