

Aconcagua Itinerary

Day 1	<p>Fly to Mendoza and overnight in hotel</p> <p>On arrival into Mendoza Airport you will be met and transferred to our hotel. A free day to rest after the flight. Evening group meal.</p>
Day 2	<p>Mendoza to Los Penitentes.</p> <p>After getting our permits to climb Aconcagua we then drive for about four hours to Penitentes, a small ski resort near to the entrance of the Horcones Valley. Here we will sort out our kit, splitting it into two loads, one of high altitude gear to go straight to Base Camp, and one to stay with you for the acclimatisation camp at Confluencia. We spend our final night in a hotel before the trekking begins in the morning.</p>
Day 3	<p>Trek to Confluencia (3,395m)</p> <p>Today we walk to the campsite at Confluencia, following the big valley flanked by impressive scree slopes. Here you will also get your first views of Aconcagua. We spend two nights here in large fixed tents.</p> <p>Trekking time 3-4 hours Altitude gain: 440m.</p>
Day 4	<p>Acclimatisation trek to Plaza Francia (4,000m)</p> <p>Today, we will take a acclimatisation trek into the Inferior Rio Horcones Valley to Plaza Francia (4,000m) and then back to camp at Confluencia (3,395m) adhering to the gold rules of acclimatisation to climb high and sleep low.</p> <p>Trekking time 4-6 hours Altitude gain: 605m.</p>
Day 5	<p>Trek to Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m)</p> <p>Today we will leave to make our way to Plaza de Mulas, Base Camp (4,365m) which is a reasonable distance away. The first half of the trek is a gentle walk until the valley splits and becomes steeper before you reach Base Camp.</p> <p>In base camp, you will meet the local staff, extra guides, cooks and camp assistants, who will be looking after you on the mountain.</p> <p>Trekking time 6-8 hours Altitude gain: 970m.</p>
Day 6	<p>Rest day in Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m)</p> <p>We will take today as a rest day at Base Camp to acclimatise further before our first steps on the mountain tomorrow. It is an opportunity to take a small walk, play cards, drink tea and get to know the area.</p>

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<p>Day 7</p>	<p>Climb to Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m), return to Base Camp (4,365m). Today we will leave after breakfast to climb to Canada Place, Camp 1, which is on a spur protruding from the west flank of the mountainside. When we arrive at Canada place we will drop off some supplies and then descend back to Base Camp for the night. Trekking time 4-6 hours Altitude gain: 635m.</p>
<p>Day 8</p>	<p>Rest day in Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m) We will take today as a rest day at Base Camp</p>
<p>Day 9</p>	<p>Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m) to Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m) We will retrace our steps today to Camp 1, Canada Place (5,000) where we will stay the night, which is a great place to see and photograph the sunset. Trekking time 3-4 hours Altitude gain: 635m.</p>
<p>Day 10</p>	<p>Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m) to Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m) and return to Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m) Today you will leave Camp 1 (5,000) after an early breakfast you head up to Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m). Passing a huge scree field, that descends from where the Canaleta, opens out. Onto a rising traverse, where you continue till you find the large flat area of Camp 2, Nido de Condores where we will drop off some supplies before descend back to Base Camp for the night. Trekking time 5-7 hours Altitude gain: 559m, Altitude lost on descent: 1,194m</p>
<p>Day 11</p>	<p>Rest day in Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m) We will take today as a rest day at Base Camp</p>
<p>Day 12</p>	<p>Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m) to Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m) This time you leave base camp to begin moving up the mountain for your summit attempt! Retracing our footsteps to Canada Place, Camp 1. Having been here and higher already, you should settle readily to this altitude and awake well-rested, ready to move onto the higher camps. Trekking time 2-4 hours Altitude gain: 635m.</p>
<p>Day 13</p>	<p>Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m) to Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m) Retracing our footsteps from Canada Place, Camp 1 (5,000m) to Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m). This time you should find it much easier as you have acclimatised to the altitude. We will spend the next 2 nights here. Trekking time 3-4 hours Altitude gain: 559m.</p>

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Day 14	<p>Rest day in Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m)</p> <p>We will take today as a rest day at Camp 2 to acclimatise further before we make our way to Colera Camp 3, tomorrow. There may also be a possibility to take a small hike and gain some additional altitude.</p>
Day 15	<p>Nido de Condores, Camp 2 (5,559m) to Colera Camp, Camp 3 (5,993m)</p> <p>Today we will make our way to Berlin Huts, which are now derelict. We will be camping on a plateau at our Camp 3, Colera Camp just 300m away. From here, you have an excellent view of the mountain.</p> <p>Trekking time 3-5 hours Altitude gain: 434m.</p>
Day 16	<p>Summit Day – 3 Day Window (6,959m)</p> <p>We have a window of 3 days to make an attempt for the summit. We wake early and leave at 5/6am. Travelling through rock, scree and over snow patches we will arrive at the Independencia Hut at 6,377m. Then we will cross the grand traverse at the head of the scree field to the bottom of the Canaleta. A climb up this leads us to the summit ridge. We will see fabulous views straight down Aconcagua's South face and across the entire Andes mountains .</p> <p>After we celebrate reaching the summit, we will descend to Camp 3, Colera Camp.</p> <p>Trekking time 10 hours Altitude gain: 966m.</p>
Day 17-18	<p>Reserve Days for Summit attempts</p>
Day 19	<p>Colera Camp, Camp 3 (5,993m) to Plaza de Mulas Base Camp (4,365m)</p> <p>Today we will make a rapid descent down scree slopes to base camp. We will be down by early afternoon, which gives plenty of time for a shower and to prepare our kit bags for the mules and our day packs for the long trek out tomorrow. Our final night's dinner on the mountain.</p> <p>Trekking time 3-4 hours Altitude lost on descent: 1,628m.</p>
Day 20	<p>Return to Mendoza and celebration dinner</p> <p>Today you trek back through the Horcones Valley to Penitentes, where the transport meets us to take us back to Mendoza and our hotel for showers and a celebratory meal.</p>
Day 21	<p>Transfer to airport & trip ends</p> <p>Today we say our goodbyes and you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight.</p>

Please Note: Every effort will be made to adhere to the above itinerary, but as this is adventure travel in a high altitude mountain region, we cannot always guarantee it. Weather conditions and the health of team members can all affect the plan. Your Expedition Leader and our local team will do their best to ensure that the trip runs according to plan, and cheerfulness in the face of adversity is an asset in the mountains!