Mera Peak with Alpine Ascents and Guide Vernon Tejas

All questions to Gordon Janow – Director of Programs gjanow@alpineascents.com

Join guiding legend Vern Tejas on this classic ascent of Nepal’s Mera peak. An outstanding climb for the advanced beginner (graduate of 6 day school or the like) and a chance to climb above 21,00 feet. This superb ascent takes us right through the Khumbu region (famed Everest region of Nepal), with some wonderful views of the major peaks in the area including Everest, Lhotse and Ama Dablam. As a much less frequented trail than the Everest base camp route, we cross a spectacular pass into the almost uninhabited Hinku Valley, and trek northwards to approach Mera Peak, the highest trekking peak in Nepal at 21,247ft. Whether you want to attempt the summit or just go alone for the trek, you will feel as though you have taken part in a real Himalayan expedition. Those who opt for trek only can reach up to 18,000 feet.

*The logistics of the trip were well-organized. The Sherpa support was fantastic - food was clean, tents/equipment carried and assembled, friendly. The route selected is the classic Everest trek, and you will see all the big peaks - Everest, Lhotse, Nuptse, Makalu, Ama Dablam etc. Itinerary built in enough time to acclimate well. High summit day success rate - while observing safety The Alpine Ascents group was, by far, the most upscale group in the Khumbu. Endurance is the key to succeeding, regardless of who you ultimately choose. I recommend Alpine Ascents (with whom I had climbed with on Kilimanjaro and in their 6-Day training course) because I want to focus on the beautiful scenery, friendships with the group, and the cultural exploration. I highly recommend Alpine Ascents for this, or any other climb.* - Island Peak Climber
April 18: Depart USA  
April 19: Arrive KTM (hotel and airport transfer)  
April 20: Peak permit procedure, sightseeing in Kathmandu valley’s major places, welcome dinner.  
April 21: Early morning fly to Lukla, start trek to Chutange  
April 22: Walk around 4200m. hill for acclimatization  
April 23: Chutanga-Thuli Kharka 4300m.  
April 24: Thuli kharka- Mosom Kharka 3700m.  
April 25: Mosom kharka- Thangnak 4350m.  
April 26: Thangnak- restday for altitude  
April 27: Thangnak- Khare 5000m.  
April 28: Khare- Mera La 5400m.  
April 29: Mera LA- High Camp 5800m.  
April 30/May 1: SUMMIT DAY, a day spare for bad weather/illness etc.  
May 2 – May 6: Walk back to Lukla via Zatr Teng  
May 7: Fly to Kathmandu, transfer to hotel, farewell dinner  
May 8: Free day at KTM -sightseeing tour  
May 9: Depart for home country
Dates: April 18 - May 9, 2017
Pricing: $6,750.00

- Price based on 4-5 climbers
- Minimum 4 climbers
- 10% price reduction at 6 climbers or more

Price Includes
Transportation to and from airport in Kathmandu
Hotels and breakfasts in Kathmandu
Welcome dinner
Round-trip flight to Lukla
All group camp supplies, such as tents, stoves, etc.
All group climbing gear
All meals while trekking
Park fees and trekking permits
Sherpa, porters and guides

Price Does Not Include
$25 Wire Transfer Fee (If Applicable)
International round-trip air fare USA-Nepal
Meals in Kathmandu
Alcoholic beverages and bottled drinks
Personal gear
Excess baggage charges and airport taxes
All expenses incurred in the event of early departure ( evac fees, transport, extra hotel nights, etc)
Personal items

Please note that climbers have been delayed in Lukla awaiting return to KTM. At times helicopters can fly when planes cannot. Helicopter cost is approximately $400 paid by the trekker
Charges incurred as a result of delays beyond the control of Alpine Ascents

Mera Peak Cancellation/Refund Policy
Note: Alpine Ascents International highly recommends trip cancellation insurance for all expeditions. Due to the nature and heavy costs of government and operator permits, Alpine Ascents International must adhere to a stringent refund policy.
Each deposit, regardless of amount, includes a $200.00 non-refundable registration fee.
Full refunds, less registration fee, will be provided 120 days prior to course, trek and/or expedition date.
50% refunds will be provided 90-119 days prior to course, trek and/or expedition date.
No refunds will be provided 89 days prior to course, trek and/or expedition date.
All refund requests must be made in writing and be received in our office within the deadlines stated above.
All balances are due 120 days prior to departure date unless otherwise specified.
Participants whose balances are not received by the 120-day deadline as stated above, risk forfeiture of their place on the expedition.

Gear list
For this expedition we will be using the Island Peak Gear List:

Training
For this expedition we will be using the Island Peak Training Regimen:
http://alpineascents.com/island-peak-train.php
Vern is known for Denali's first solo winter ascent, the first solo of Mt. Vinson (Antarctica's highest), first winter ascent of Mt. Logan (Canada's highest) and as lead guide for Col. Norman Vaughan's first ascent of Mt. Vaughan in remote Antarctica. In 2000, Vern was named one of Alaska's top 50 Athletes of the Century by Sports Illustrated and in 2012 was inducted into the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame. In addition to his fame in the extreme environments of Alaska, Greenland and Antarctica, Vernon's success in guiding people to the summit is simply remarkable. Along with guiding numerous high altitude expeditions, Vern is a ten time sumitee of Everest and an avid adventure racer finishing 10th in 1999 and 13th in 2001 in the Eco-Challenge Race. Vern's guided ascents are an extremely unique blend of his dynamic spirit, climbing expertise and guiding savvy, known throughout the guiding community. Recently Vern had outstanding success Mt. Vinson, Last Degree-South Pole, Denali, Elbrus (Europe's highest) and has guided many of our Everest expeditions this century. He has guided Vinson more than anyone. Notable among his accomplishments on the Seven Summits, Vern climbed and guided all 7 in 134 days (the current speed record), he has climbed all 7 at least 10 times. He also completed all 7 twice within one year. Vern is also the only person in the world to have completed "The Seventy Summits," and first to guide Seven Summits and North and South Poles. With a guitar in hand and a smile on his face, Vernon treats everyone to the remarkable experience of life.

Significant Ascents
- First person to climb Seven Summits 10 times
- Mt Everest (10 guided summit ascents)
- Denali (54 guided, 1st solo winter ascent, 1st paraglider descent, 14:50 speed ascent)
- Elbrus (34 guided & speed 3:20 ascent from hut)
- Aconcagua (25 guided & 8:02 speed ascent)
- Carstensz Pyramid (3 Guided, via Jungle route)
- Vinson (36 guided & personal, 1st solo ascent, 10:20 speed ascent, 1st paraglide descent)
- Kilimanjaro (15 guided & 10:45 speed ascent)
- Greenland (world's northernmost mountain)
- Mt. Hunter (first winter ascent), Alaska
- Mt. Logan (first winter ascent), Canada
- Mt. Blanc (3 guided & personal), Rainier (2 guided)
- Cho-oyu (1 guided)
- Chimborazo, Matterhorn, Kinabalu, Cotopaxi

Significant Explorations
- 1st Traverse of Wrangell-St. Elias Range
- Ski Mt. Guide Shackleton Traverse x 2
- First Wheeled Crossing of Antarctica
- Ski Guide Last Degree to South Pole x 2
- Ski Guide Last Degree to North Pole
- Scout Overland Traverse to South Pole
- Kayak Guide Greece, Santorini and Crete

Awards & Recognition
- Alaska Sports Hall of Fame
- Life member American Alpine Club
- Alaskan of the Year Governor's Award
- Sports Illustrated Top 50 Athletes Alaska
- Eco-Challenge finisher 10th & 13th place
- NPS Denali Pro Pin for Rescue
- "Cover Boy" Alaska Magazine
- 15 year member USHPA (Paragliding)
- Producer "Strummit from Summit" CD
- Host for Food Network's "Tasting Alaska"
- Talent ESPN TV special "Surviving Denali"

Certifications
- Wilderness First Responder / CPR (8 times)
- 20 year member AK Mountain Rescue
- Avalanche Level I
- Talent for National Geographic "Ultimate Survival Alaska"