



CARSTENSZ PYRAMID EXPEDITION

DURATION: 11 DAYS

LOCATION: INDONESIA

SKILL LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

ALPENGLOW



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Expedition Details

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LOCATION: INDONESIA

SKILL LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

SEASON: FALL

DIFFICULTY LEVEL DESCRIPTION:

Intermediate - Technical climbing experience is recommended. This expedition requires good physical fitness, specifically an ability to move in rugged terrain for long days. Alpenglow can happily provide physical and technical training programs to prepare for this introductory expedition.

PREREQUISITES:

Team members must have multi-pitch climbing experience following up to 5.8.



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Expedition Introduction

Why Climb Carstensz?

Climb one of the 7 summits and the tallest peak in Oceania.

Located on the remote Island of West Papua, the Carstensz Pyramid is a mesmerizing limestone peak that rises high above the dense jungle below. Topping out at 16,024' (4,884m) above sea level, the Carstensz Pyramid is the tallest peak in Oceania.

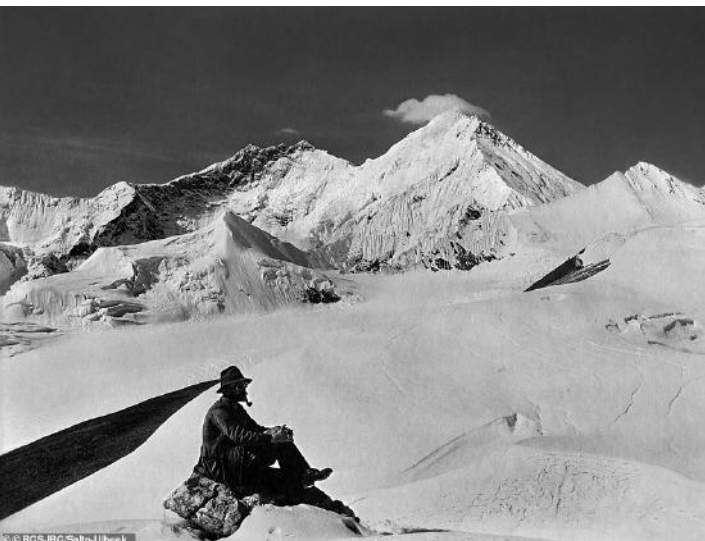
Boasting the most technical rock climbing of the 7 summits, Carstensz is a one of a kind objective that will take you to the far reaches of the globe to summit one of the most exotic peaks on the planet.

Our local logistics team and guides have worked extensively in high alpine environments around the world, and provide the most premium logistics available.



ROUTE CHOICE

Following the “Harrer” route up the North Face of the peak, we’ll have 500m of rock climbing until we crest the summit ridge, where we will traverse to the summit. The climbing is a mix of scrambling and technical climbing up to 5.8, with some fixed lines placed in the more technical areas.



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Known locally as “Pancake Jaya” or “Victory Peak” in Indonesian, the English name for the peak comes from the Dutch explorer Jan Carstensz who was the first European to spot the peak.

The peak was first summited by a westerner in 1962, with Heinrich Harrer climbing the same route that we will climb to its summit.



About Alpenglow Expeditions

Alpenglow creates and fosters a community of climbers prepared to achieve their dreams in the world's greatest mountain ranges.



About the Company

Alpenglow Expeditions is an AMGA accredited business, and prides itself on working with guides who uphold and exemplify the highest standard in the profession of mountain guiding.

Led by IFMGA mountain guide Adrian Ballinger, Alpenglow focuses on creating expeditions that reflect our high standards in mountain guiding by providing precision logistics, cutting edge technology, and thoughtful itineraries that combine for successful climbs.

History of Alpenglow Expeditions

Founded in 2004 by IFGMA mountain guide Adrian Ballinger, Alpenglow Expeditions began as a boutique guide service that focused on high altitude climbing. In those 15 years we've expanded our offerings, both internationally and in the United States. We are now proud to offer courses and expeditions ranging from a climbers first experience on the Tahoe Via Ferrata, to basic backcountry education for those interested in exploring winter landscapes, to climbing the world's highest mountain for those on the Road to Everest.

About Alpenglow Expeditions



Founder — Adrian Ballinger

Adrian Ballinger founded Alpenglow Expeditions in 2004 envisioning a more holistic climbing experience for his clients than the status quo.

Adrian is the only American who has skied two 8,000 meter peaks, was the first person to ski Manaslu, the 8th tallest mountain in the world, and in 2011 became the first person to summit three 8,000 meter peaks in only 3 weeks (Everest twice and Lhotse once).

Adrian holds both an AMGA and IFMGA guide's certifications and has achieved more than 10 summits of 8,000 meter peaks (including 6 summits of Mt. Everest).



Partner / Chief Guide — Logan Talbott

Logan has been guiding professionally for over a decade in the disciplines of Rock, Alpine and Ski Mountaineering. When not out guiding, Logan spends time in the office helping the team with the day-to-day operations of the business. From one day ascents of El Capitan to big Alpine climbs in the Himalaya, or from ski descents on Denali to backyard ski tours in Lake Tahoe, he can't help but smile when out running around the hills.

Logan is an AMGA/IFMGA mountain guide, an Avalanche course leader with AIARE, as well as a wilderness EMT. In addition to guiding, Logan has extensive experience in mountain rescue, having worked for rescue teams in both Yosemite and Denali National Parks, and volunteering locally for Tahoe Nordic SAR.

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE, LOCAL PARTNERS

We partner with local logistics companies in each country and region that we operate in. Often we have partnerships that have been with us since the beginning of Alpenglow. Whenever we bring on a new operator we have vetted them thoroughly to insure their reliability and quality. Our local and regional logistics partners are the backbone of our in-country logistics and help us achieve the success that we're known for.



After 15 years of guiding expeditions all over the world, including more than a dozen 8,000-meter peak expeditions, we have refined and distilled the climbing process to maximize safety, health, success, and enjoyment.

The Alpenglow Difference

2:1 Maximum Guide to Climber Ratio

Adrian is a IFMGA qualified mountain guide and is one of the best in the business, drawing upon years spent guiding in the mountains to give you the best experience possible.

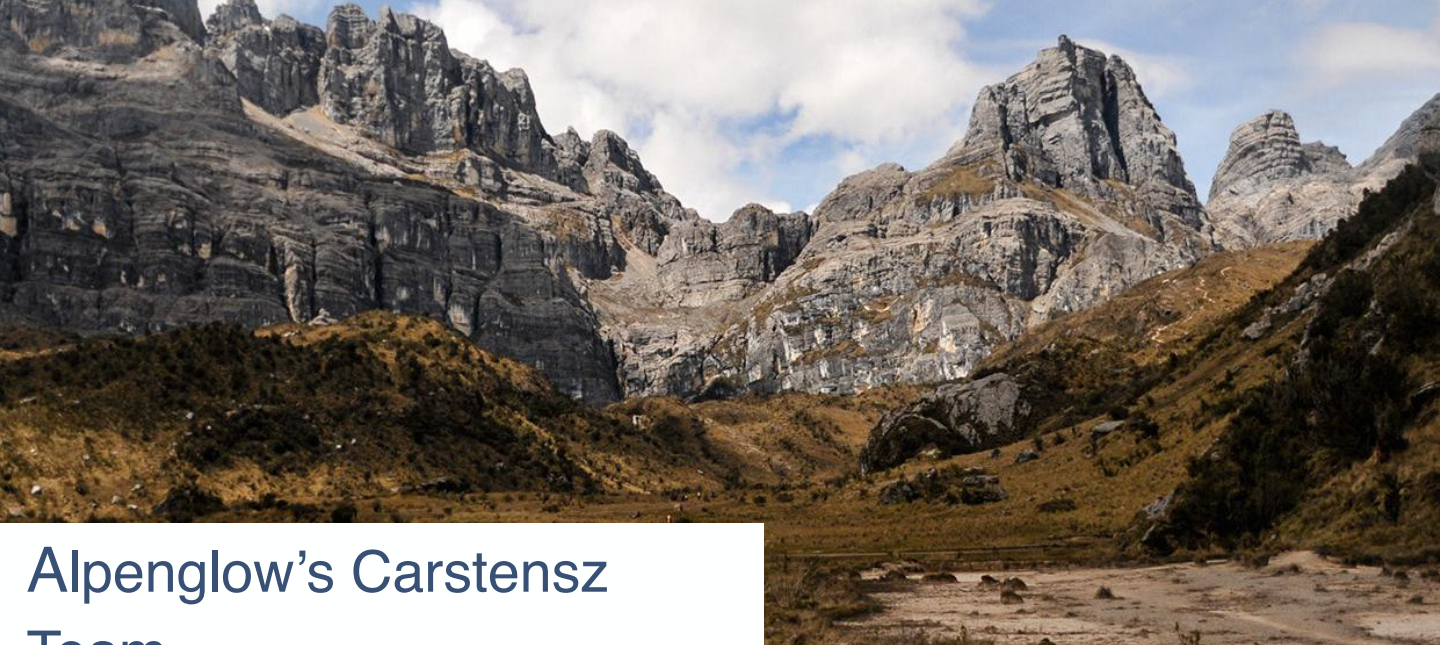
Expedition Doctor on Call

Dr. Monica Piris, has been on fourteen 8,000-meter peak expeditions and is a huge asset to our team. She is in daily communication with our teams during the entirety of the expedition and is available for client consultation at any time.

Premium Logistics

Working with our local team to organize logistics for the trip, our climb provides a higher level of service above any other. From our guides, to our expedition logistics are unrivaled and will leave you wishing for nothing.

We work with a local team to help organize the complicated logistics involved with climbing Carstensz. They are incredible and we're lucky to have them on our team.



Alpenglow's Carstensz Team

Alpenglow's Logistics

Alpenglow Expeditions' logistics, guiding, Base Camp staff, food, and equipment are of the absolute highest level possible.

Our small group size will allow us to adapt to changing conditions and weather far more easily than many commercial teams. The comforts of our Base Camp, our fresh and nutritious food, and our experienced team will make for efficient climbing and a smooth expedition.

Local Logistics Team

For our Carstensz expedition, Alpenglow has partnered with the premier logistics operator to provide base camp infrastructure, food and base camp staff.

Alpenglow's Guides

Alpenglow offers an exceptional level of competency, safety, and comfort on Carstensz expeditions. Our guides are all AMGA/IFMGA certified rock guides and are some of the best in the world, offering the highest level of professionalism and experience out there.

Alpenglow is an IFMGA/AMGA accredited business and has been mountain guiding all over the world since 2004. Our guide teams will do their utmost to help our team succeed while keeping us safe, making critical decisions throughout the expedition to help the team accomplish our goals.

TEAM MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

While many downplay the difficulty and hazards of climbing Carstensz, Alpenglow maintains a deep respect for the nature of this mountain and you will never find us underestimating its potential dangers. While we will be climbing with a very experienced team, we will do our utmost to mitigate risk and run a safe expedition.



Route Description + Itinerary

Our journey to the summit of the tallest peak in Oceania starts in Bali. After arriving in Indonesia, we'll spend the first day organizing gear and resting from the long day of travel. From Bali, we'll take a flight to the city of Timika on the Island of Western Papua. After arriving in Timika, we'll re-pack and make sure that we are all dialed in for the coming expedition.

Weather permitting, we'll take a helicopter to the Carstensz base camp the following morning. Upon arriving in the yellow valley we'll put up base camp and settle in. This will also be the first of our two day acclimatization period as we prepare for our summit bid.

After two days of acclimatizing, we'll be ready to push for the summit. An early start and a short trek from base camp will see us at the foot of the Carstensz Pyramid. The route follows a series of gullies with technical climbing up to 5.8 as we work our way up the North face of the peak. There is about 500 meters of solid rock climbing before reaching the summit ridge.

Once we make the ridge, we'll start traversing as we make our way towards the summit. This section is pretty straight forward, with some awesome exposure and a Tyrollean traverse across a gully.

After making our way across the razorback ridge, we'll arrive at the summit of the Carstensz Pyramid. Standing at 16,024' (4,884m), the summit of this incredible peak rewards our climb with stunning views of Western Papua. We'll celebrate having summited one of the coveted "7-summits", and start to work our way back down to base camp.

Summiting the Carstensz Pyramid is an incredible accomplishment that takes effort, patience, luck, and skill. After fifteen years of guiding around the world, the Alpenglows team has created the best infrastructure available to support your attempt on the tallest peak in Oceania.



Carstensz Pyramid

Summit

16,024' / 4,884m



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Trailhead

14,727' / 4,489m



Daily Itinerary Overview

DAY 0 — Arriving into Bali by the afternoon/evening, this “day zero” sets the team up for the start of the trip.

Activity. Arrive in Bali, Indonesia
Sleeping Elevation. 100’
Lodging. Hotel in Bali
Meals. None

DAY 1 — Welcome to Bali! We’ll spend the day organizing gear and resting from the long travel day.

Activity. Rest and Organize in Bali
Sleeping Elevation. 100’
Lodging. Hotel in Bali
Meals. Breakfast

DAY 2 — Today we’ll fly to the remote Island of Western Papua. Arriving in the city of Timika in the morning, we’ll spend the rest of the day making sure that our gear is all dialed for the helicopter flight to Carstensz base camp the next morning.

Activity. Fly to Timika/Organize gear
Moving Hours. 4 hours
Sleeping Elevation. 100’
Lodging. Hotel in Timika
Meals. Breakfast

DAY 3 — From Timika, a short helicopter flight will see us arrive at the foot of Oceania’s tallest peak. We’ll set up base camp while we start to acclimatize at 13,780’ (4,200m).

Activity. Fly to Base Camp
Moving Hours. 40 min
Elevation Gain/Loss. +13,600’
Sleeping Elevation. 13,780’
Lodging. Base Camp
Meals. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Daily Itinerary Overview

DAY 4 — We'll spend the day resting and finishing our acclimatization as we prepare for our summit bid the following day.

Activity. Acclimatize/Rest
Sleeping Elevation. 13,780'
Lodging. Base Camp
Meals. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 5 - Summit Bid Starting bright and early, we'll make our way from base camp to the start of the "Harrer" route on the North face of the Carstensz Pyramid. 500m of rock climbing and scrambling will see us make the summit ridge. From the ridge, an exposed traverse will take us to the summit of the Carstensz Pyramid.

Activity. Summit Carstensz Pyramid
Distance Covered. 1-2 miles
Moving Hours. 10-12 hours
Elevation Gain/Loss. +/- 2,244'
Sleeping Elevation. 13,780'
Lodging. Base Camp
Meals. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAYS 6-8 — We've built in some extra days in case of weather delays etc. If we don't need these day's, we'll head out of base camp and back to Timika and onto Bali.

Activity. Extra weather days

DAY 9 — Today we'll take a helicopter flight back to Timika, and either overnight in Timika or connect through to Bali to depart for home.

Activity. Fly to Timika/Bali
Moving Hours. 1-4 hours
Elevation Gain/Loss. -13,600'
Sleeping Elevation. 100'
Lodging. Hotel in Bali
Meals. Breakfast

DAY 10 — We'll spend the day in Bali, either having arrived the night before or taking a short fly there this morning.

Activity. Extra day in Bali
Sleeping Elevation. 100'
Lodging. Hotel in Bali
Meals. Breakfast

DAY 11 — Depart from Indonesia for home

Activity. Fly home.

Travel Details

FLIGHTS

Climbers should schedule flights to land in Bali, Indonesia on day 0 of the itinerary. Climbers will meet their guides and transport to our first hotel will be arranged. Flights into Timika are handled by the Alpenglow logistics team and are included in pricing.

If you do not have a travel agent, we recommend using [kayak.com](https://www.kayak.com) as a primary source for finding low-fare airfares.

VISAS

Indonesia visas are required and can be acquired in-country. Contact our team for recommendations. We recommend CIBT for your visa needs.

Please confirm your itinerary with Alpenglow Expeditions before purchasing





Accommodations

No matter where we travel, Alpenglow strives to stay in safe, clean and comfortable accommodations. Our tents are always in good shape and are replaced regularly.

IN-TOWN

For our two nights in Bali we stay in a luxury hotel. We utilize this time to recharge our batteries from the lengthy international travel. While in Timika we stay in the best hotel available to us.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

If you prefer a single room while we are in hotels, please let us know as soon as possible. There will be an additional cost associated for this. Single supplement tents are available in base camp, however double occupancy tents are required for all camps on the mountain.

ON-MOUNTAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

Base camp life includes a 3 person personal tent for you and another team member. Alpenglow's base camp infrastructure includes a dining tent complete with a lounge area that is made as comfortable as possible with heaters, plush chairs, and cushy rugs.



General Trip Information

FOOD

Fresh, healthy and nutritious food is both imported from the U.S. and purchased from local markets in Timika to provide the best options to our team. Our western trained base camp cooks work around the clock to provide hearty meals that are both pleasing to the palate and filled with calories to replenish our depleted bodies.

MOUNTAIN TRAINING

Carstensz is obviously a large physical undertaking, and climbers who are joining our teams should have a deep understanding of what it takes to train for a mountain like this. For a personalized training schedule, please reach out to our in-house trainer:
lynette@alpenglowexpeditions.com.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

All of our expeditions and treks are physically demanding. Regardless of the skill level or experience needed, it is essential that you arrive in good physical shape, and prepared to handle extreme conditions, including cold, heat, and long tiring days. Alpenglow Expeditions, LLC and its guides reserve the right to remove any member of our trips at any time if we do not believe they are ready for the rigors of the trip.

You are responsible for your own medications, inoculations, and deciding whether you are physically able to participate in an Alpenglow Expeditions trip. You should discuss your participation in this trip, and the dangers involved, with your physician.

On Mountain Medicine

Our guides are certified in wilderness medicine, CPR, and are experienced in client care in remote high altitude locations. However, Alpenglow Expeditions, LLC is not a medical facility and Alpenglow Expeditions, LLC assumes no liability regarding medical care.

INCLUSIONS

The cost of your trip includes your land costs (*excluding in-town meals*). This includes:

- Double occupancy lodging while in town, according to itinerary.
- Meals on the mountain
- Group camping and climbing equipment
- Base camp and mountain infrastructure
- Scheduled transportation while in the countries we are visiting
- Certified guides

CANCELLATION POLICY

View our cancellation policy online at alpenglowexpeditions.com.

INSURANCE

We require that all participants carry rescue insurance and health insurance. Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Your policy numbers must be provided to us prior to leaving the USA.

EXCLUSIONS

The cost of your trip does not include:

- Flights to/from the city where the expedition begins
- Additional nights in hotel outside of the itinerary, this includes but is not limited to extra hotel nights due to an early summit bid and early departure from the mountain.
- Airport taxes
- Visas
- In-town meals
- Immunizations
- Tips for guides or local staff
- Travel, rescue, or any other type of insurance
- Hospitalization or evacuation costs
- Single supplement room charges
- Excess baggage charges
- Alcohol
- Antigen/PCR Covid test cost
- Other personal expenses
- Airport transportation for early arrival/late departures outside of scheduled itinerary

*** The costs of delays or changes to itinerary that are beyond the control of Alpenglow Expeditions or its agents are not included.*





Expedition of a Lifetime

Summit success is only achievable with your hard work and perseverance, and of course the right team of people around you.

We think of ourselves as your partner in dreaming, planning, climbing and celebrating. Our entire team from Adrian, guides, support personnel and logistics partners are excited to have you along for the expedition of a lifetime.

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**BOOKING +
INQUIRES**

For booking details, questions, or more information please call or email us:

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info@alpenglowexpeditions.com



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This expedition is operated by Adrian Ballinger, IFMGA Mountain Guide.

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