

Canada West Mountain School - www.themountainschool.com

MOUNTAINEERING COURSE EQUIPMENT LIST

Basic personal equipment
□ Boots: Mountaineering boots, or sturdy backpacking boots. Plastic mountaineering boots are acceptable but heavier.
☐ Crampons: General mountaineering crampons. Ensure they are adjusted properly to your boots before the trip.
☐ Backpack: An internal frame backpack with a capacity of 60-80 litres will allow you to carry all your gear.
Outerwear jacket: An outer layer waterproof/breathable shell with hood (Gore-tex, etc.). Non-insulated is best.
Outerwear pants: waterproof/breathable shell, non-insulated. Full zips are ideal for venting and ease of on/off with boots on
Personal clothing layers: layering works well, no cotton. Below is a suggested guideline, personal preference will affect choices.
- Base layer for top and bottom (1 each)
- mid-weight softshell climbing pants (Arcteryx Gamma, MEC Ferrata, etc)
- lightweight sweater/mid layer for top
- Softshell jacket
- Insulated jacket with hood, synthetic or down. Weight depends on temperatures and weather conditions
- 2 pairs socks & 2 pairs underwear
Gloves: warm mountaineering or ski gloves with removable liners. Bring 1pair, plus 1 pair extra liners, or 2 pair of gloves.
Gaiters: ensure they fit over your mountaineering boots
Toque/warm hat: wool or fleece
Hat with sun visor: baseball cap, etc.
□ Sunglasses: must have 100% UV blockage and ideally provide full protection with wrap-around style, or side shields
☐ Ski goggles: optional, useful if there is a snowstorm or very windy
Headlamp: small size with extra batteries
Water bottle/hydration system: 1 litre minimum, 2 litres is ideal. For hydration/hose systems use insulated hoses to reduce freezing
Small thermos: optional, but very nice to have a hot drink during the field days!
Compass & map: pack maps in waterproof bag. Contact your Guide/CWMS Office for map # in advance
Lightweight camp shoes: Optional, yet really nice for around camp after a day in the mountain boots
Knife: Small folding style knife or multi-tool
Personal kit: (toothbrush, toilet paper, foot-care supplies, candles, etc.) Keep kit to a minimum and bring only essentials
Sunscreen: Minimum 30 spf
Insect repellant
Note pad and pencil: optional
☐ Hiking pole(s): Optional yet useful for the approach and descent to/from your base camp
Camping Equipment (we encourage participants to share communal (**starred) items such as tents, stove, food, etc to save on weight)
Sleeping bag: Synthetic or Down, rated to at least –5 degrees Celsius (unless current conditions require a colder rating)
Sleeping pad: Therma-rest style inflatable, or closed cell foam (Ensolite style)
☐ Eating utensils: cup, bowl, spoon
** Food as required: Please consult with your Guide/CWMS Office staff in advance if you need assistance in planning
** 2-3 person tents: as necessary, suitable for winter conditions
** Gas stoves: include matches/lighter, basic stove-specific repair items, small platform or base for the stove
** Cooking sets: bring pot sizes that are appropriate to the meals and groups size
<u>Fechnical Equipment</u> Please let your Guide/CWMS office know in advance if you require any of the following:
☐ Ice Axe: General Mountaineering ax 60-70 cms length
Climbing seat harness: CE approved climbing harness
Climbing Helmets: CE approved climbing helmet
Carabiners: 3 locking and 2 non-locking
☐ Belay device (1): ideally a device that can be used for descending and belaying such as a Black Diamond "ATC"
\Box 7mm accessory climbing cord: 2 x 5 metre length, and 1 x 1.75 metre length; used for rope rescue and personal climbing systems
Sewn webbing climbing sling (120 cm, full strength of 20+ kN's): Used for personal climbing systems and anchors
× 1

Please discuss this list with your Guide/Instructor, or with our office staff in advance, to make sure you are prepared for the field session. If you **need to purchase or rent equipment**, make sure to contact stores well in advance to ensure that what you require is available!