



CARSTENZ PYRAMID

4,884M / 16,023FT

A high-altitude climber is shown in the center of the page, ascending a dark, craggy rock face. The climber is wearing a bright blue jacket, a blue helmet with a GoPro camera mounted on the front, and yellow climbing gloves. A large blue backpack is visible on their back. The climber is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. Ropes and climbing gear are visible around the climber.

2025 EXPEDITION TRIP NOTES





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2025 EXPEDITION DETAILS

Dates: Trip 1: February 24 to March 6
Trip 2: August 4–14
Trip 3: October 20–30

Duration: 11 days

Departure: ex Bali, Indonesia

Price: US\$26,900 per person

▲ Classic limestone rock on Carstensz. Photo: Mike Roberts

In 2025 Adventure Consultants plan to lead several expeditions to Carstensz Pyramid—located in the heart of the Jayawijaya Mountain Range in the Indonesian territory of Irian Jaya, which is now called Western Papua.

This chain of limestone mountains spans the equatorial island of Papua from Irian Jaya or Western Papua (formerly Dutch New Guinea) in the west, through to Papua New Guinea in the east. At 4,884m/16,023ft, it is the highest peak in Australasia and one of the most remote of the 'Seven Summits'.

The mountain was first climbed in the 1960s by an expedition led by Heinrich Harrer, of the Eiger North Wall fame, along with New Zealand author and climber, Philip Temple.

Carstensz appears as a mysterious and relatively unvisited climbing objective, flanked with glaciers and rising like a shark's fin out of the midst of the jungle.

This expedition has the attributes of a classic rock climb combined with a rare cultural experience. It is a journey of discovery and achievement, and most likely your best chance of experiencing this part of the world and standing on the summit of this exotic peak.

THE ROUTE

We will climb the mountain via the North Face, in a long day from the base of the peak to the summit and back. The guides will attach fixed rope to the most difficult sections of the route to enable quick access to the summit ridge and a rapid descent afterwards.

Some of the terrain can be climbed without ropes and is little more than scrambling, but other sections will require the ropes fixed over technical rock slabs. In addition, some parts of the razorback summit ridge, while technically straightforward, are very exposed and there is even a three-wire bridge to negotiate.

The mountain is coarse limestone, which provides excellent friction for climbing boots but can be particularly rough on ungloved hands. The route is suitable for climbers of modest experience as long as they have some recent fixed rope experience or are prepared to undertake some training prior to departure.



Interesting and sometimes technical climbing. Photo: Mike Roberts



At the base of Carstensz Pyramid. Photo: Mike Roberts



Carstensz Pyramid Base Camp. Photo: Mike Roberts

ACCESS TO THE MOUNTAIN

The approach to the mountain involves flying from Denpasar (Bali) to the town of Timika (or if logistics dictate, via Nabire) in Western Papua. We fly by helicopter directly to our Base Camp at 4,200m/13,000ft. We rest and acclimatise over 3 days/ nights before attempting the climb to the summit of this elusive peak. The Base Camp is at a very high elevation to fly to, but our options are otherwise limited for access. Helicopter access will enable us to avoid many days of difficult jungle trekking and arrive fresh and ready for the climb.

Following the climb, we helicopter back out directly from Base Camp back to Timika and onwards to Bali, culminating in a short 11-day fly in/fly out adventure.

Please be aware that many companies offer expeditions and will promise to 'smuggle' you through the Freeport Mine, or get a permit to travel through the mine. These methods are illegal at best or dangerous, and sometimes a combination of both. We encourage you to consider carefully your selected operator as many people have been detained by the mine for 10 or 12 days only then to have to walk out for another four days.

TEAM SIZE

The team will have a minimum size of 3 members and 1 Adventure Consultants guide (plus local guides), and a maximum size of 7 members and 2 mountain guides (plus local guides).

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ITINERARY

Following is an ideal itinerary for our 2025 Carstensz Pyramid Expeditions:

Day 1	Arrive Denpasar (Bali). Expedition briefing and gear checks.
Day 2	Day in Bali, gear checks and contingency for lost baggage recovery. Depart for Timika in the evening or early the next morning.
Day 3	Arrive in Timika, Western Papua. Overnight in hotel.



On the summit of Carstenz Pyramid. Photo: Mike Roberts

- Day 4 Early morning helicopter flight to Carstenz Pyramid Base Camp (4,200m/13,000ft).
- Day 5 Acclimatisation day.
- Day 6 Acclimatisation day.
- Day 7 Summit climb on Carstenz Pyramid and return to Base Camp.
- Day 8 Spare summit day or hike to Glacier near East Carstenz Peak.
- Day 9 Fly from Base Camp to Timika.
- Day 10 Contingency day for flight delays.
- Day 11 Flight back to Denpasar, Bali. Trip ends.

NOTE: Due to the intricacies of operating in Indonesia the itinerary may change at any time. We will use the best option available which may require trekking into the mountain if necessary.

THE ADVANTAGES OF CLIMBING WITH ADVENTURE CONSULTANTS

Adventure Consultants is renowned for the quality of its service and strategy applied to high altitude expedition climbing. Our reputation is attributed to meticulous planning and experienced logistics

coordination. We have a philosophy of investing in every expedition to offer our climbers the best possible chance of success.

We employ strong and specialised Expedition leaders and support staff, who are some of the most pre-eminent in the industry. We pride ourselves on operating with small teams and the best back-up and support available. This includes nutritious and ample quantities of food, comfortable base camp facilities, reliable communications systems and the necessary medical back up.

Many of our expedition members come to us because they have seen us in action on a previous trip and decide to opt for our level of service and proven experience. Others return because they know we do our very best to make expeditions safe and successful.

VISAS

Expedition members must secure a normal tourist visa for Indonesia for the duration of the expedition either before entering the country or for some nationalities at the border as they enter. All of the special permits for travelling in Western Papua will be obtained by Adventure Consultants.



▲ Plaque on the summit of Carstensz. Photo: Mike Roberts



▲ A team pauses while traversing the summit ridge. Photo: Steve Moffat



▲ Crossing the three-wire bridge. Photo: Mike Roberts

COMMUNICATIONS

The expedition will be equipped with portable Thuraya satellite phone systems for the duration of the expedition in order to provide reliable email and voice communication globally for business, media or personal use. Limited satellite phone time can be purchased at the rate of US\$3.00 per minute. Please contact our office for details.

EQUIPMENT LIST & REFERENCE NOTES

Expedition members will be sent a list detailing all the necessary clothing and equipment to be individually provided, contained within a set of Expedition Reference Notes with all the details for the trip.

These notes provide extensive information on everything from suggestions of what type of camera to bring to training advice for your expedition preparation.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION & INSURANCE

Expedition members will be provided with a medical questionnaire and asked to visit their family physician to receive a full medical examination. This information will be sighted only by our Medical Advisor and treated with full confidentiality. Advice on immunisations will be provided at this time. We also require members to have rescue insurance and we will consult with individual team members as to your insurance needs and solutions for coverage.

DOCUMENTATION & PHOTOGRAPHS

Expedition members will be required to provide a scan of their passport biodata page, their climbing résumé outlining their climbing experience, and provide a digital passport photograph.

EXPEDITION FEE

The cost of the expedition, ex Bali, Indonesia, is US\$26,900.



▲ Fly in and out of Base Camp by helicopter. Photo: Mike Roberts

This is an inclusive cost and covers the following:

- **All flights from Denpasar (Bali) to Western Papua and return**
- Return helicopter flights between Timika and Base Camp
- Accommodation (twin share) ex Bali
- All meals after departing Timika and before arriving back in Timika
- Tents and group climbing equipment
- All expedition organisational requirements
- All climbing permits
- All supplies necessary to make a strong and safe bid for the summit
- All expedition staff including qualified Western Mountain Guide(s) and local support staff
- Up to two nights' accommodation and meals in Papua prior to the climb and one night following the climb (in case of delay)
- Transport of 20kg personal equipment from Timika to Base Camp and return by helicopter

The expedition fee **does not** include the following:

- International air travel to and from Denpasar, Indonesia
- Indonesian tourist visa charges and airport taxes
- Personal clothing and equipment
- Personal travel insurance, trip cancellation insurance and medical / security evacuation insurance
- Any rescue costs or costs of early departure from the expedition
- Customary gratuities to local expedition staff and guides
- Personal domestic excess baggage costs
- Hotel accommodation and meals in Bali
- Accommodation in Papua, beyond the 3 nights included
- Costs for delays that are beyond the control of the expedition

PAYMENT DETAILS

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

Bank of New Zealand
Offshore Branch
42 Willis Street
Spark Central
Wellington
New Zealand

for the account of Adventure Consultants Limited

Account Number: 1000-594771-0000

Account Type: US Dollars

Swift Address: BKNZ NZ22



▲ Snow can be encountered on the route. Photo: Mike Roberts



▲ A cause for celebration! Photo: Mike Roberts

NOTE: All bank transfer charges are for the remitter's account.

We can also accept your deposit and balance payment by credit card (Visa, Mastercard and Amex) plus a 3% card charge.

DEPOSIT

A non-refundable deposit of US\$5,000 is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

BALANCE

The balance is payable 90 days prior to the start date.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

An expedition member may cancel their participation on the following basis:

- a) Cancellations outside of 90 days will result in the loss of the trip deposit.
- b) For cancellations made within 90 days of the trip commencement date, we reserve the right to retain 50% of the balance payment.
- c) For cancellations within 60 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.

We strongly recommend you take out trip cancellation insurance via your travel agent if you wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical or personal reasons.

HOW TO JOIN THIS EXPEDITION

If you would like to join a Carstenz Pyramid expedition, please complete our online booking form and forward your deposit payment at <https://adventureconsultants.com/expeditions/seven-summits/carstenz-pyramid#DepartureBookingBlock>.

CONTACT US

If you require more information, please contact us at:

Adventure Consultants Ltd
5/12 Frederick Street
PO Box 739
Wanaka, 9343
New Zealand

Phone: +64 3 443 8711

Email: info@adventure.co.nz

Website: www.adventureconsultants.com





▲ Negotiating the three wire bridge. Photo: Mike Roberts



Adventure Consultants is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants is a supporter of the dZi Foundation in Nepal for their 'Revitalise a Village' programmes.

Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

