



Pequeño Alpamayo 5425m

Pequeño Alpamayo is among the favorite peaks under the 6000m limit which can be climbed within 2 days from La Paz. The climb takes place in the Condoriri Valley where you'll hike among Lamas and camp on the shores of the beautiful Chiar Khota lagoon. Here follows a brief description of a climb following the normal route:

Day 1: Your mountain guide picks you up at the hotel around 8:30 a.m. Once you checked your gear, the transfer to La Rinconada will take approximately 3 hours and ends at 4500m altitude among Lamas and your Mules. After an hour long hike and 200m altitude difference, you will reach Chiar Khota lagoon and set camp on either sides.

For people who have no experience crossing glaciated terrain with crampons and ice axe, we suggest they take the afternoon for practice on the nearby glacier. Your mountain guide will teach you all the basic skills, with which you will feel much more secure during the ascent on the following day. The glacier is a 45 minutes' walk from the base camp.

The Base camp is really beautiful and rather comfortable as flat lawn offers good camp sites. Locals installed bathrooms which are usually clean. We count with a kitchen/dining tent to enjoy tea and dinner protected from the wind.

Day 2: The summit day, you may leave the camp as early as 2 a.m. Once at the glacier at 4875m, it will take you 2 extra hours to the col between pico Tarija and Huallomen (5275m). From there it is less than an hour to reach pico Tarija 5375m, your first summit of the day. We try to reach this first objective around sunrise. From there you will have to down scramble a little more than 100m altitude to start the actual ascent of Pequeño Alpamayo. Following the eastern ridge has 2 steeper section. The first and longer one is 50° steep, and approx 100m long. After a short flatter section, a second 55° steep, 50m long section awaits you before you reach the summit at 5425m altitude from where you have beautiful sights onto the Yungas cloud forest, the Amazon basin and the west face of Huayna Potosi. Overall the route is graded AD (quite difficult). You will be back into base camp at 11 a.m. Back at the parking at 13h30 and back in La Paz around 5p.m.



climbers on top of pico Tarija at dawn with Pequeño Alpamayo awaiting them on the right

Day 0: For people who have more time, we suggest they climb cerro Austria, which is a high altitude hike finishing at 5310m. The summit has an excellent position within the Condoriri massif to offer spectacular views on the surrounding peaks. This extra day has the advantage to spend one more night in camp and get you used to altitude.

NB: there are many options for interesting climbs from the same base camp:

Cabeza del Condor 5680m AD+, Ala Izquierda 5550m D, Piramide Blanca 5250m direct route D, Huallomen – British route TD, and many more. It is thus worth to stay a little longer and take profit of this cozy base camp.

On the following website there are topos of the region:

<http://www.boliviACLimbinginfo.org/cordillera-real/central/condoriri-area/>

You can get a daily updated rather accurate weather forecast at the following address:

<http://www.mountain-forecast.com/peaks/Condoriri>

Included in our prices (*) is the technical climbing gear. We expect you to have a headlamp and warm cloths, a sleeping bag and sleeping pads for the night(s) in tent (that we provide). There is no problem in renting those items, but we charge for it separately as most people bring them along.

Summit day gear list from foot to head:

- Crampons *
- warm mountaineering boots *
- 2 pair of warm socks
- long thermic underpants
- Impermeable overpants
- Harness *
- 2 carabiners *
- prussik corde *
- Ice axe *
- inner gloves
- warm gloves (evtl. mitten)
- long sleeved thermic under wear
- polar fleece jacket
- down jacket
- hard shell jacket
- 35L backpack
- 2L liquid container
- several buffs
- warm hat
- headlamp
- helmet *



Prices are per person in USD \$ currency

2 days

minimal number of days for climbing Pequeño Alpamayo

1 person 675
2 persons 400
3 persons 400
4 persons 350

3 days

With ascent of cerro Austria while acclimatizing the first day or 1 satellite summit nearby

1 person 850
2 persons 525
3 persons 525
4 persons 450

4 days

with up to 2 additional climbs such as piramide blanca or Condoriri

1 person 1000
2 persons 625
3 persons 625
4 persons 550

5 days

with up to 3 other climbs such as cerro Austria, piramide blanca or Cabezza del Condor or Ala Izquierda

1 person 1150
2 persons 725
3 persons 750
4 persons 650

These prices includes private transport, an UIAGM/IFMGA certified mountain guide (rope teams of max 2 clients per guide), meals, cook, cooking tent, camping fees, 1 mule per person and the mentioned climbing equipment.



Base camp with Chiar Khota lagoon and Condoriri mountain in the background