



## Everest Education Expedition Milestones

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*Note of caution: this is a general outline and is highly fluid; dates are subject to change due to weather, health and innumerable unseen factors; once at base camp, the sequence and/or target dates will most certainly change; the departure date from Kathmandu could also change depending on weather on Everest and the timing of summit attempts*

### Southeast Ridge Team:

- Leave Bozeman on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (Bozeman to San Francisco to LA to Bangkok to Kathmandu)
- Arrival in Kathmandu on March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Flight to Lukla (March 24)
- Multi-day trek (~10 days) to Everest Base Camp (March 24 to April 3)
  - Trekking along the Dudh Koshi River gorge with one night at Monjo, entrance to Sagarmatha National Park (March 24)
  - Namche Bazaar (March 25)
  - Phortse (March 26-27)
  - Pangboche (March 28)
  - Pheriche (March 29)
  - Lobuche (March 30-31)
  - Gorak Shep – base station for our GPS measurement campaign (April 1)
  - **Everest Base Camp – EBC** (April 2 or 3)
- April 3-4: arrival and settling into base camp at the bottom of the Khumbu icefall (elevation 17,700 ft.)
- April 4-15: acclimating to altitude by exploring the geology of “lesser peaks” and other points of geologic interest in the Everest area
- April 16: first crossing of the Khumbu icefall to Camp I (19,900 ft.) at the top of the icefall, and probably retreating to base camp the next day
- April 16 through May 1: multiple trips through the Khumbu icefall to acclimate at Camps I and II in the Western Cwm of the Khumbu Glacier; Camp II is “Advanced Base Camp,” or ABC, at an elevation of 21,300 ft.
- Early May: R & R at EBC before the actual summit campaign begins; Sherpas typically retreat to their villages for a few days to see family during this time

- May 5: climb through the Khumbu icefall to Camp II (ABC) in the Western Cwm, in preparation for moving up higher on the mountain (two nights)
- May 7: first arrival at Camp III on a small ledge on the Lhotse headwall (24,500 ft.)
- May 8: first traverse of the lower Yellow Band and Geneva Spur from Camp III to the South Col, on which Camp IV is located at 26,000 ft. (Camp III is in the “death zone” of high altitude on Everest); climbers only have a maximum of 2-3 days at Camp IV
- May 8-9-10: climbers leave in the middle of the night for the first summit attempt via the Southeast Ridge from the South Col; landmarks on the Southeast Ridge route include:
  - The Balcony, a small ledge at 27,600 ft.
  - South Summit at 28,700 ft. – dawn breaks to the east
  - Cornice traverse (the most exposed section of the climb, where a misstep to the left would send a climber tumbling down 8,000 ft. on the SW Face into the Western Cwm, while a misstep to the right would send a climber tumbling down 10,000 ft. on the Kangshung Face into Tibet)
  - Hillary Step at 28,740 ft.
  - **The summit of Everest at 29,035 ft. – to be re-measured by Trimble© GPS equipment on this expedition**
  - The Southeast Ridge team with Dr. Lageson plans to meet Conrad Anker and Cory Richards on the summit as they emerge from the West Ridge route – depending on multiple variables
- Remainder of May: other members of the SE Ridge team make their bid for the summit
- June 1: departure from base camp to Lukla and Kathmandu