

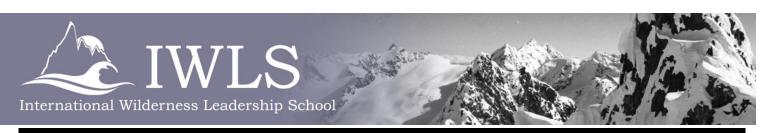
Aconcagua Mountaineering Course Equipment List

The weather on Aconcagua can be volatile and clothing systems need to be capable of meeting the demands of an ever-changing environment. A layering system, which allows articles of clothing to be added or subtracted as the weather changes, has proven most versatile. The clothing items listed below should layer together to provide appropriate insulation in the most demanding conditions. Because it may snow or rain, materials used in clothing should keep you warm even if they are wet. Synthetics such as polypropylene, Capilene, Synchilla, fleece, and pile are best, wool will also work. Cotton, with the exception of a t-shirt for the sun, is unacceptable. It is also a good idea to test out your gear before you arrive in Argentina. Please make sure you have everything you need as it can be very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain most of these items in South America.

Upper Body Layers
Upper body layers are some of the most important components of a good layering system. They should be comfortable,
lightweight and breathable. Cotton is unacceptable, except for a sun shirt while hiking on warm days.

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Equipment	Quantity	\overline{V}	Comments	Rental					
			One silk weight and one heavy weight top made of synthetic						
			material that can be layered together to increase warmth. A light-						
			colored silk weight (white/tan/light blue, etc.) is a good idea because						
Base Layers	2		it will decrease the amount of solar radiation (warmth) that your	-					
			shirt absorbs. Conversely, your mid-weight base-layers should be						
			darker so that they do absorb the sun's warmth. Mountain Hardwear						
			makes good lightweight, wicking base layers.						
			To be worn as a sun shirt while hiking at lower elevations. Synthetic						
Tee Shirt	1		fabric is the way to go, and can double as a bandana or extra sun	-					
			protection under a baseball cap.						
	1		To be worn over the base layers and should be synthetic or wool (a						
Medium Weight Top			soft shell is an acceptable substitute). Both Black Diamond and	-					
			Mountain Hardwear offer great mid-weight layers.						
	1		To be worn over the base layers and medium weight top and should						
Heavy Weight Top		1	1		be synthetic or wool. Both Black Diamond and Mountain Hardwear	-			
			make nice thick layers.						
			A good expedition down parka will be your best friend on cold						
Synthetic/Down Parka	1		nights and summit morning. It should easily fit over all layers.	VEC					
	1		Mountain Hardwear makes a high quality goose down parka.	YES					
Outer Wear			A jacket made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex						
	1		is vital for keeping you warm and dry. It needs to fit over all layers.	-					
			Mountain Hardwear shells are breathable, dry, and windproof.						





Lower Body Layers						
Lower body layers should be versatile and easy to change into and out of under changing weather conditions.						
Equipment	Quantity	N	Comments	Rental		
Base Layers	2		One silk weight and one heavy weight bottom layer made of synthetic material that can be layered together to increase warmth.	-		
Underwear	2-4 pairs		Synthetic briefs and underwear will keep you comfortable and hygienic during high output. Plan on bringing one pair per 4-6 days of use.	-		
Fleece or Synthetic Pants	1		These should be either fleece or synthetic down. If the pants have side zips, it will make your life a lot easier by allowing you to layer without removing your foot wear. We recommend the Mountain Hardwear Compressor Pant or the Black Diamond Stance Belay Pant.	-		
Shorts or Lightweight Pants	1		These are optional, but are nice to wear at lower elevations, in town, or as additional layering options. Cotton is unacceptable; synthetic will dry faster and be more comfortable for long periods of wear. A light softshell pant could work as well. Mountain Hardwear makes great pants.	-		
Outer Wear	1		Pants made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex are vital for keeping you warm and dry. They need to fit over all layers and should have side zips. Mountain Hardwear shell pants and bibs work great.	-		

Head, Neck, Hands & Feet

Keeping your extremities warm & dry is crucial. We lose a massive percentage of body heat through our heads, and our hands and feet are the most susceptible to inconveniences like frostbite and trench-foot. Developing a system that works for your specific needs takes time; this guide is a good place to start.

Equipment	Quantity	\square	Comments	Rental
Warm-Hat	2		Should be made of synthetic material or wool, cotton is unacceptable. Should layer underneath a climbing helmet. Mountain Hardwear has a wide selection of warm hats.	-
Sun-Hat	1		The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection). The more protection your cap offers from the sun, the better.	-
Balaclava or Neoprene Face Mask	1		Used to protect the face from wind/snow, and can be a real life- saver under stormy conditions. Mountain Hardwear has a great series of face masks and balaclavas.	-
Goggles	1		Double lens models with vents work best. <u>POC</u> makes some great goggles.	-
Sunglasses	2		Dark lenses with good side protection are a must. The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection off of the water/snow/ice) and can cause permanent eye damage.	1
Light Weight Gloves	1		Windstopper fleece works best. Work gloves with a water proof palm are nice to have along when dexterity is more important than warmth. 'Dura-Therm' or like models (synthetic glove with rubber	-

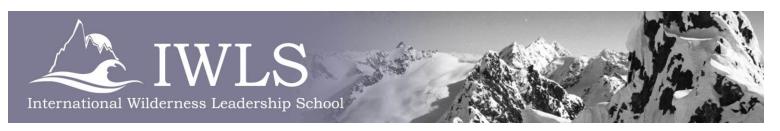
		palm & fingers) work well, just ensure you find the warmest model	
		available. Mountain Hardwear and Black Diamond make great	
		gloves.	
Heavy Weight		Removable shell is a must. These should be warm, water-proof and	
Gloves/Mitts	1	breathable, with removable liners for easy drying.	-
GIOVES/IVIILIS		Black Diamond and Mountain Hardwear offer nice thick gloves.	
Expedition Down		These should have a removable liner and a waterproof shell. Both	
Mitts	1	Black Diamond and Mountain Hardwear have durable expedition	-
Witts		mitts.	
Socks	3-4	These should be synthetic or wool. Having a mix of light and heavy	
SUCKS	3-4	weight socks is nice to adjust to variable weather.	_
		Plastic boots with a removable liner work best because they are	
Mountaineering		easy to dry out and extremely warm. They also need to be fully	
Boots	1	crampon compatible. <u>Koflach</u> , <u>Scarpa</u> or <u>La Sportiva</u> all make	YES
Doors		good boots. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major	
		purchases.	
		These should fit over your mountaineering boots, and are used to	
Gaiters	1	keep water/snow/rocks out. They should be tall and water/abrasion	_
Gancis	1	resistant. Both <u>Black Diamond</u> and <u>Mountain Hardwear</u> make great	_
		gaiters.	

Technical Hardware

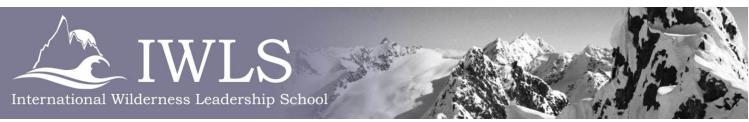
For technical gear we recommend <u>Black Diamond</u>. We run their equipment on every mountain trip we operate, and find it to be among the best in the industry. For tents and sleeping bags we recommend <u>Mountain Hardwear</u>.

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Equipment	Quantity	\square	Comments	Rental
Backpack	1		Should have a capacity of at least 5,000 cubic inches (or 80 liters), and should be comfortable with 60 lbs. of weight. Mountain Hardwear and Black Diamond packs are versatile and rugged. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major purchases.	YES
Trekking poles	1		Lightweight and adjustable length work best. Snow baskets are a must. Black Diamond poles are a great fit.	YES
Lightweight Harness	1		Should fit over all layers and be comfortable when wearing a pack. Adjustable leg loops are best. The <u>Alpine Bod</u> harness is an ideal harness for mountaineering.	Provided
Crampons	1		Light weight, sturdy, and easily adjustable are best. The <u>Black</u> <u>Diamond</u> Sabretooth works well.	Provided
Ice Axe	1		Should be light weight. The Raven is a classic.	Provided
Helmet	1		Should be light weight and rated for rock climbing/mountaineering. The BD <u>Vector or Half Dome</u> are great options.	Provided
Large Duffel	1		Used for transporting gear in en route to trip locale. 'Cordura' or other heavy duty nylon duffel bags are burly and handle large loads with ease. 6000 cubic inches (100 liters) or larger are best. Mountain Hardwear and Black Diamond make tough expedition duffel bags.	-





			Sleeping Bag & Pads			
Having a good sleep	Having a good sleep system is essential in the mountains. Down bags are preferred because of the high elevations and					
dry climate of Aconcagua. They are very warm and pack incredibly small.						
Equipment	Quantity	✓	Comments	Rental		
Sleeping bag	1		The bag should have a comfort range rated to -20 Fahrenheit or colder. Down bags have the best weight to warmth ratio. Mountain Hardwear bags work well. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major purchases.	YES		
Sleeping pads	2		A system of one compact inflatable pad (<u>Thermarests</u> work well) and one closed cell foam pad works best to insulate when sleeping on snow.	YES		
			Miscellaneous			
Equipment	Quantity	\overline{A}	Comments	Rental		
Passport	1		You need this to enter Argentina. You should also email yourself a scan and have 3 or 4 copies.	-		
Watch	1		Should have an alarm.	-		
Journal	1		'Rite in the Rain' or similar water resistant paper work best.	-		
Eating Utensils	-		Bowl & Spoon (Lexan or titanium work well), as well as a 14oz mug with a lid for hot drinks.	-		
Headlamp	1		We recommend LED headlamps, because they are lightweight, long-lasting & durable. Bring extra batteries. Black Diamond SPOT or ICON headlamps work great.	-		
Toilet Paper	1		Bring your own in a Ziploc bag.	-		
Personal Med-Kit	1		A personal prescription of a broad-spectrum antibiotic like Ciprofloxacin or Azithromycin is REQUIRED. Your kit should also include ALL personal medications, as well as a stash of Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Band-Aids, and Neosporin. A group Med-Kit will be available for everyone, however bringing a personal kit is mandatory. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call us.	-		
Blister Kit	1		This should include mole skin/foam and cloth athletic tape for personal use.	-		
Lip Balm	1-2		Should have some type of SPF protection.	-		
Sunscreen	4-8oz.		Should be SPF 30 or higher and be waterproof.	-		
Water Bottles	2		Wide mouth 1-liter Lexan bottles ('Nalgene') work best.			
Bottle Insulator	1-2		Closed cell foam insulation to keep your water from freezing.	-		
Bandana or 'Buff'	1		Used for extra sun-protection. Your tee-shirt can be used in place of a bandana if you are trying to shave weight (which is a good thing).	-		
Stuff Sacks	2-4		For organizing your gear inside of your backpack. Consider using compression sacks for both your sleeping bag and clothes to	-		



		maximize usage of space. Sea to Summit makes great waterproof stuff sacks.	
Garbage & Ziploc bags	variety	An invaluable method used to keep your gear dry inside of your pack. (Line your stuff sack with a garbage bag before you stuff your sleeping bag in there.)	-

Optional				
Equipment	Quantity	∇	Comments	Rental
Summit Pack	-		Used on day excursions, should be between 35L - 55L (many people use their big pack for this purpose). Both Mountain Hardwear and Black Diamond offer some great climbing packs in this range.	1
6mm Cord	20 ft.		Additional accessory cord can be used to build anchors.	-
Camp Booties	1 pair		A good pair of synthetic fill camp booties will keep your feet warm and dry after big days in winter environments. Sierra Designs makes a great goose-down version with a rubberized bottom.	-
Hand Warmers	4		A good thing to keep in your pack for those brisk alpine starts.	-
Sleeping Bag Liner	1		For increased warmth.	-
AA and AAA batteries	4 pair		Replacements for both your avalanche beacon but headlamp as well.	-
Pee Bottle	1		1-liter wide-mouth Lexan with a SECURE LID. Nice to have when there is really inclement weather outside.	-
Energy/Candy Bars	0-20		Bring bars that taste good!	-
Moist Towelettes	0-20		This will be as close to a shower as you will get, we recommend one wipe per day.	-
Book	1-2		Leave the 15 pound hardcover at home.	-
Camera	2-4		Digital or Film. If you are buying a digital camera; one with a view finder allows you to take photos when it is too bright to see the screen and helps save batteries. A camera that is compatible with AA's allows you to bring extra batteries that don't cost an arm and a leg. Bring an extra memory card.	-

Additional Information



We use gear from these select companies on every trip we run! Their gear has proven itself again and again on the highest mountains, roughest water, and steepest ice. We endorse these companies because they make gear that is functional and reliable.







We provide the following: tents, group climbing equipment, expedition first aid kits, cooking equipment, and trip food.

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions 1.800.766.3396

