



 **Caucasus**

 **Elbrus (5642m)**

Elbrus climb by Classic route, 8 days. Standard-comfort service.

Group

6-10

Duration

Days 8 / Nights 7

Price range

\$ 2 050



Trip overview

Mineralny Vody - Terskol - Elbrus (5642m) - Terskol - Mineralny Vody



Why go there?

Mount Elbrus, a prominent peak in the Caucasus mountain range, is one of the most iconic and sought-after mountains in the world. Here are the main highlights of Mount Elbrus:

1. Highest Peak in Europe

- Elbrus is the tallest mountain in Europe, standing at **5,642 meters (18,510 feet)** above sea level, earning its place as one of the **Seven Summits**.

2. Dual Summits

- Elbrus has two summits:
 - The **Western Summit** (5,642 meters), the higher of the two.
 - The **Eastern Summit** (5,621 meters).
- Both are dormant volcanic domes.

3. A Dormant Volcano

- Mount Elbrus is a dormant stratovolcano. Its last eruption occurred around **50 AD**, and its volcanic origins give the mountain its distinctive rounded shape.

4. Relatively Accessible

- Despite its height, Elbrus is considered one of the more accessible of the Seven Summits due to its **non-technical climbing routes**.
- The **normal route (south side)** features a cable car and chair lift that can take climbers to 3,800 meters.

5. Stunning Glaciers

- Elbrus is covered by **22 glaciers**, feeding into the rivers of the Caucasus region and creating spectacular icy landscapes.

6. Rich Mountaineering History

- The first ascent of the Eastern Summit was made in **1829** by Kabardian guide Kilar Khashirov. The Western Summit was first climbed in **1874** by a British team.

7. Cultural and Mythological Significance

- Elbrus has deep ties to Caucasian mythology and Russian folklore. It is considered sacred in local traditions and symbolizes strength and endurance.

8. Challenging Weather Conditions

- The mountain is known for its **extremely unpredictable weather**, including high winds and sudden temperature drops, making it a test of endurance.

9. Training Ground for Climbers

- Elbrus is a popular training ground for mountaineers preparing for higher-altitude climbs like those in the Himalayas.

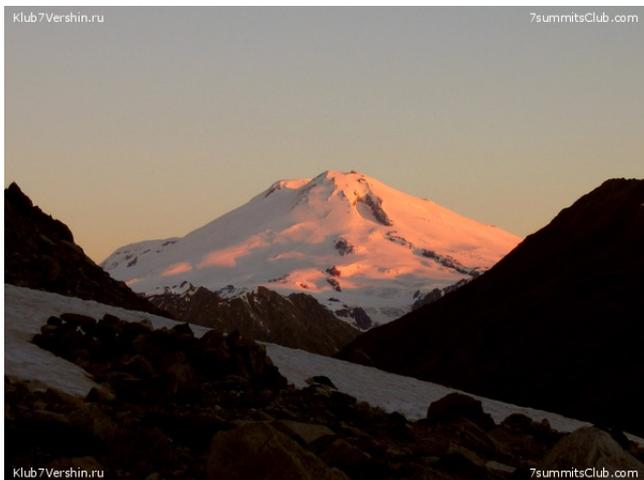
10. Breathtaking Scenery

- The views from the mountain include vast panoramas of the **Caucasus Mountains**, dramatic ridges, and the surrounding high-altitude plains.

Elbrus offers a unique mix of adventure, natural beauty, and cultural richness, making it a bucket-list destination for climbers and adventurers worldwide.



Itinerary



Day 1

Arrival at Mineral Vody airport (MRV). Bus transfer to the Baksan Valley (2,5-3h). Hotel accommodation.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please plan your arrival at Mineral Vody before 1:00 PM. If you arrive much later, you should be prepared to pay 100 USD for an individual car transfer.



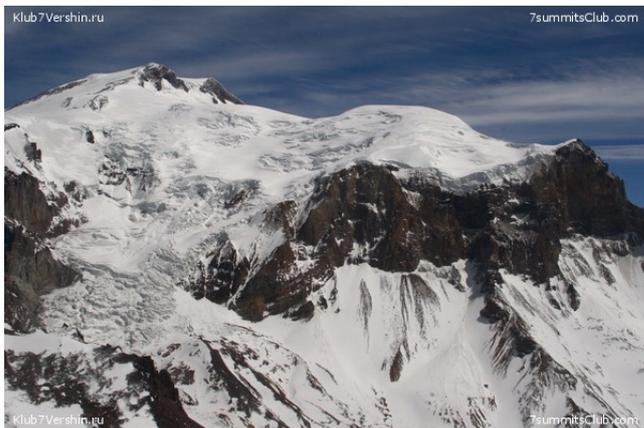
Day 2

In the morning, we go for the acclimatization hike from Cheget Glade up to the "Ai" cafe. After hike, we return back to the hotel. Gear check up and go to the rental office to get missed and needed gear.



Day 3

Bus transfer to Azau car cable station (2356m). From there we are going to our high hut (3800m) via gondola. We leave our belongings in the hut and hike to the famous Refuge 11 (4100m). Here we will spend couple of hours for training on how to walk in crampons on snow, using ropes and walking in ropes as a team. After training we go back to our hut for the night.



Day 4

Acclimatization hike to Pastukhov Rocks (4750m).
Night in the hut.



Day 5

Rest day and preparation for the summit. Dinner and night in the hut.



Day 6

Summit day. The starting time depends on the forecast. Normally it is about midnight or a bit later. In case we want to take a lift by a Snow Cat, we board it right at our hut. Two altitude points are offered: to 4800m and to 5100m. This service cannot be possibly included in the price because we never know in advance who will buy it and who will not. The overall time of the climb is 10-11hr and cannot be longer than 14hr. It is the safety deadline than cannot be questioned and disputed with the guide. Normally on this day we do not stay in the hut and descent straight to our hotel in the valley. However, that is not the case if we are too late for the cable car service. In that case, we spend the night in the hut.



Day 7

Reserve day. Will be used if on Day 6 the ascent has not taken place due to the bad weather. After the ascent we go down to the hotel. Or we spend there the whole day if the ascent took place on Day 6. Celebration and award ceremony in the evening.



Day 8

Breakfast in the hotel. Then we check out and go in a bus back to Mineralny Vody airport. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** This group transfer will be scheduled for afternoon, so please, plan your flight to Moscow after 18.00.



Dates

2025:

April **27** - May **04** (Leuan Atabiev)
May **04** - May **11** (Leuan Atabiev)
May **11** - May **18** (Leuan Atabiev)
May **18** - May **25** (Leuan Atabiev)
May **25** - June **01** (Leuan Atabiev)
June **01** - June **08** (Leuan Atabiev)
June **08** - June **15** (Leuan Atabiev)
June **15** - June **22** (Leuan Atabiev)
June **22** - June **29** (Leuan Atabiev)
June **29** - July **06** (Leuan Atabiev)
July **06** - July **13** (Leuan Atabiev)
July **13** - July **20** (Alexander Dorozhukov)
July **20** - July **27** (Alexander Dorozhukov)
July **27** - August **03** (Dmitry Semenov)
August **03** - August **10** (Dmitry Semenov)
August **10** - August **17** (Leuan Atabiev)
August **17** - August **24** (Leuan Atabiev)
August **24** - August **31** (Leuan Atabiev)
August **31** - September **07** (Leuan Atabiev)
September **07** - September **14** (Leuan Atabiev)



Price includes

- All land transportation
- All meals
- Hotel Accomodation (4 nights, double occupancy)
- Accomodation in our special huts on Elbrus (4 nights)
- All group climbing gear
- All meals while trekking
- All hut fees
- Park fees, trekking permits
- Elbrus Cable Cars
- Luggage storage while climbing
- Visa Invitation if needed
- One English speaking guide and extra guides on the summit day. Ratio 1:2 (1guide per 2 climbers)
- 7 Summits Club long sleeve shirt, fleece jacket, buff and small foldable backpack
- 7 Summits Club medal and certificate for climbing Elbrus



Price does not include

- International and domestic flights
- Moscow services
- Russian Visas
- Single room supplement (hotels only)
- Individual car transfers
- Personal gear and personal gear rentals
- Required trip insurance policy (for trip cancellation, interruption, rescue & evacuation, medical treatment, etc.)
- Personal guides for summit day
- Snow Cat service on summit day. (This must be paid in cash in Rubles, though, if need be, your guides can assist in case you only have currency. The price for a Snow Cat depends on the height and day rate. The overall snow cat ride (up to 5000 and back to 3800 m) is about 26000 rub, which is approximately \$300)
- Services of the assistant guides on reserve day (Day 7). If the first summit attempt (Day 6) took place but was aborted, the work of the assistant guides on Day 7 should be paid in cash on the spot (except for the case of totally bad weather on Day 6)
- Any changes incurred as a result of delays beyond the control of 7 Summits Club
- Tips and gratuities
- Any changes in the program initiated by a client



Good advice

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- One group transfer from Mineralnye Vody Airport (MRV) to Terskol is included in the price. Please plan your arrival to Mineralny Vody before 1 PM. If you arrive much later, you should be prepared to pay 100 USD for an individual transfer.
- For the same reason plan your return flight from Mineralny Vody to Moscow (on the last day of the trip) after 6PM.
- Most countries need a visa to visit Russia, see https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_Russia for all details. Note that most of Latin American, South African and Israeli citizens do NOT need a visa. If you do not belong to these, we will supply the invitation letter for a tourist visa. This one will be valid for 30 days only.
- Important! All the official information concerning Covid restrictions must be checked with the Russian embassy. As a private company we cannot possibly bear responsibility for any mistakes/misunderstandings in this field.
- Special price for partners- 10% off for groups. Tour leaders's discount is 50% from the site price.
- Extra transfer for 2-3 persons - \$100 per car
- Extra transfer for 4-7 persons - \$200 per car
- Snowmobile drive up to 5100 m - \$300 per person
- SINGLE supplement \$200 per person (4 nights)
- Extra guide (or assisting guide) services during the summit push:
\$300 per guide using a snowmobile drive up to 5100 m
\$400 per guide climbing on foot (from a hut to the summit)



F.A.Q.

Tips guidelines (important information!)

You entrust your life, health, your time and money to the guides. And the guides take this responsibility for you and for the success of the whole trip. They are doing this 24 hours.

Necessary travel papers (documents)

Passport with a valid Russian visa, immigration card, voucher from the Russian tour operator (a part of an invitation letter). See https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_Russia for details, we will supply the requested invitation letter/voucher.

By air and by land



From Moscow to Mineralny Vody you will fly with a Russian air company. Normally it is "Aeroflot", but there might be alternatives. Please plan your arriving to Mineralny Vody before 12:00-1:00pm in order to join our group transfer from the airport to Terskol (departure at 2 PM latest). If you arrive much later, be ready to pay extra for individual transfer (80-100 USD).

For land transfers we have comfortable private buses or minivans. To get to our Refuge we use Elbrus Cable-way; from 3750m to 4600m/5100 on the Elbrus summit we normally take a Snow Cat (not included in the price!).

Accommodation

A hotel in the Baksan Valley.

On Elbrus: our special huts. From 2019 we are using our new hut, which has single beds: no more dangerous and annoying bunk beds with moving neighbors, enough space for your boots, clothes and gear!

Meals

Meals included from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 8.

Staff

An English speaking guide from 7 Summit Club for the whole program and extra guides for the Elbrus summit day (2-3 clients per guide); a cook at the hut.

Health and medical insurance

Health-care on the mountain is limited to the first-aid kit the guide carries. Down in the valley in case of serious health problems the local hospital and your insurance policy are to take over. Your policy must cover climbing to 6000m/20,000ft.

Weather

As on any high mountain a wide range of weather conditions and temperatures should be expected: from freezing-cold nights (down to -5/-10°C, 20-10F), to sizzling hot afternoons if it's still and sunny (especially on the snow); from a calm blue sky to a hurricane slashing your face like a whip. The higher you go, the harsher the conditions. So, the range of your clothes and footwear must comply with any of such possibilities. For details see our gear list below.

Extra expenses

In Caucasus meals are relatively cheap: you can have a decent additional meal with meat and drinks for 8-10 USD.

Internet, phone

Wi-fi access to Internet in each room in our hotel; cell phone works in the Baksan Valley and on Elbrus up to 5000m

Possibility of renting personal equipment

Any climbing gear you can rent in our office in Terskol.

Personal gear

Heavy-weight fleece jacket

Light/medium-weight, synthetic long underwear shirt (polypropylene/capilene)

Water proof / breathable jacket with hood (Gore Tex is strongly recommended)

Long sleeve, light weight shirt for sun protection (preferably synthetic)

Down or synthetic fill jacket with hood, must fit comfortably over your fleece jacket

Fleece pants (full side zips allow ventilation)

Thermal under wear

Wind- waterproof and breathable pants with full length zips

Liner socks - 2-3 pairs

Wool or poly socks (medium-heavy thickness) - 3 pairs

Light weight trekking boots, or strong shoes

Climbing boots, plastic or leather – must be right for step-in crampons

Gaiters

Liner gloves - 2 pairs

Medium weight fleece gloves

Wool or fleece mittens

Wind-stop shell overmittens

Wool or fleece hat

Balaclava

Glacier glasses with side flaps

Extra pair of your normal glasses, or lenses

Climbing gear:

Double climbing boots

Crampons (must fit your climbing boots)

Collapsible ski poles

Down or synthetic sleeping bag good for -10°C/-20°F

Sleeping closed cell foam pad

Rucksack (40-50liters)

Harness

Prussik ropes

Karabiners with screwgate lockers - 3 items

1-1.5 liters thermos

Personal first aid kit

Head torch



Water bottle

Lip balm (spf 25+) and glacier cream (spf 40)

Pocket knife

Favorite snacks



Contact the manager



Write to WhatsApp



Write to Telegram

or by phone

+1 (907) 318-8848