Backpacking and Climbing: Lake Tahoe, California

May 17-25th, 2016

Includes two nights of hotels, camping, and all meals
$750.00

Trip Overview

Come join us on a journey to the largest alpine lake in North America. With its clear water surrounded by the majestic Sierra Nevada mountains, jaw-dropping vistas, and gorgeous sunsets, Lake Tahoe is an alpine paradise. The area offers climbing for all ability levels with breathtaking views of the lake and mountains. We will also hike along a portion of the famous Pacific Crest Trail, which runs from Canada to Mexico on the West Coast. Through this experience you will gain backcountry living, climbing, and backpacking skills.

General Schedule of Trip

May 17th: Fly independently to Reno, shuttle to South Lake Tahoe, stay at Basecamp hotel
May 18th: Shuttle to trailhead, climb at Eagle Creek Canyon
May 19th: Continue climbing
May 20th-24th: Hiking on the Pacific Crest Trail
May 24th: Hike out, shuttle back to South Lake Tahoe, stay at Basecamp Hotel, Final dinner
May 25th: Return home or continue traveling on your own

Facilitators

This program will be facilitated by Ally Siegel and Annie Lewis. A senior Biology major, Ally has traveled to climb in Yosemite, Spain, and Joshua Tree. She has lead previous Grab trips including, hiking in Cumberland Island. Ally is also a four time champion in ping-pong. Annie, a senior Environmental Studies major, has lead previous GRAB Expeditions including backpacking in British Columbia, hiking in the Smokey Mountains, and ice climbing in New Hampshire. She is currently the proud world record holder of the largest garden gnome collection.

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Registration and Payment: Register online at www.gettysburg.edu/grab. A $150 non-refundable deposit is due at time of registration to secure a place on the trip of your choice. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, e-checks or cash. The final payment will be required at least 60 days prior the trip departure date. To register, please fill out the online form or call the GRAB Office at 717.337.6313 to register over the phone.

Not Included in the Price: Hospitalization, individual evacuation costs, insurance, meals in destination cities prior to and at the conclusion of the trip, souvenirs, alcohol, or other personal expenses incurred outside the scope of the trip. We DO NOT include airfare in the pricing of our trips. We want to give participants the opportunity to have flexibility in their travel arrangements. Some people will have frequent flyer miles, many people will be traveling from various destinations, while others may already be at the site location or decide to extend their trip once our expedition has concluded.

The Hiking: Hiking distance will vary from 5-7 miles per day, but the average time spent hiking will range from 4-7 hours. This includes time for lunch & breaks, appreciating the sites, general conversation, and determining our route.

The Climbing: We will primarily climb at the 90 foot wall in Eagle Creek Canyon where there is top roping ranging from 5.6 to 5.11b.

Group Size: The trip consists of two facilitators from the Office of Experiential Education and up to ten participants from the Gettysburg College community; students, employees and families, and alumni of the college are all welcome.

Transportation: You are responsible for your own flights to and from Reno, and for your transportation from the airport to the hotel in South Lake Tahoe and back to the airport at the end of the program. All other ground transportation will be arranged and provided, including shuttles to and from the trail. If you plan to travel further following the trip, you are responsible for those logistics as well.

Accommodations and Meals: Accommodations are provided the first and last night of the trip at a hotel in South Lake Tahoe. All meals from your arrival in South Lake Tahoe through dinner on the 25th will be provided.

Weather: Spring weather in Lake Tahoe varies from highs of mid 60s to lows of 30. There is a possibility snow. The last GRAB trip to Lake Tahoe experienced snow on the ground when they arrived.

Physical Preparation: The trip is a combination of backpacking and climbing. To get the most out of outdoor climbing it is helpful to try it beforehand, either indoors or outdoors. Head over to the DEN or sign up for a GRAB climbing trip to try the sport out beforehand. Hiking days will be staggered between longer and shorter distances. While some may begin the trek without training and be fine, there’s no harm in being prepared. The terrain is mostly mountain trails. You should base your preparation on your personal needs. If you can, get out and walk, run, bike, or move any way you like to accustom yourself to the level of movement necessary for this trip. Any activity will help make the experience more enjoyable.

Health and Medical & Release of Liability: We require each participant to fill out medical/liability forms for Gettysburg College and for any contracted services who request similar documentation. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Cancellation of Trips: We reserve the right to cancel trips due to lack of participants, State Department warnings, or natural occurrences that may be potentially hazardous. If you cancel the trip more than 60 days before the departure date, you will receive a full refund minus the $150 deposit. If cancellation occurs 45 -60 days prior to the departure date a 50% refund is available. If cancellation occurs 21 - 44 days prior to the trip a 25% refund will be available. There will be no refunds for cancellations made within 21 days of the expedition.