

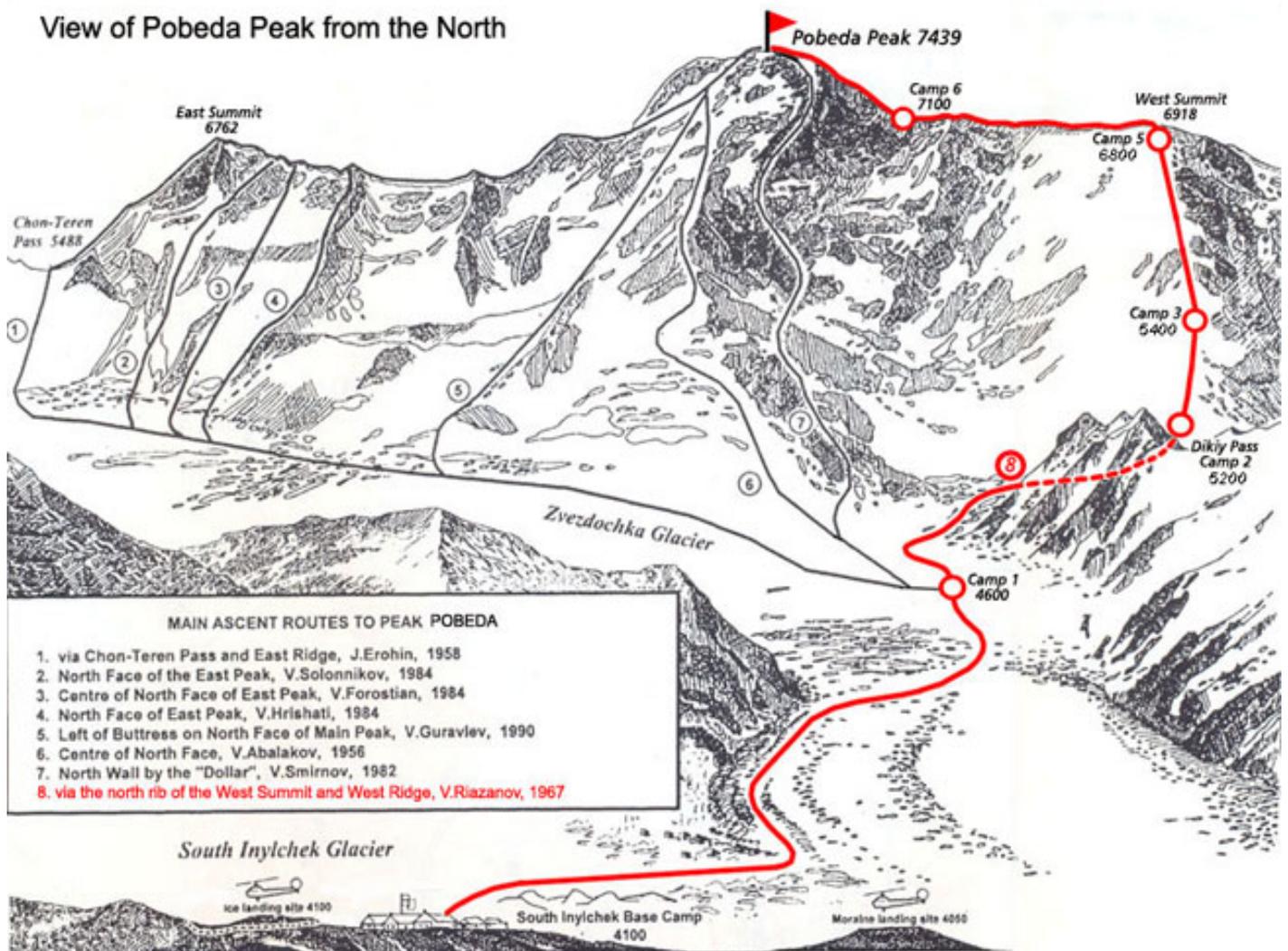


## Pobeda Peak 7439m



### EXPEDITION OVERVIEW

Peak Pobeda is regarded as the toughest of the five snow leopard summits and lies opposite Khan Tengri on the South Inylchek Glacier. It is the most northerly 7000m peak in the world, isolated and difficult and forms the border with China. It is climbed via five or six camps and would challenge any 8000m for its harshness



### Participation Statement

Adventure Peaks recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

### Adventure Travel – Accuracy of Itinerary

Although it is our intention to operate this itinerary as printed, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of flight schedules, climatic conditions, limitations of infrastructure or other operational factors. As a consequence, the order or location of overnight stops and the duration of the day may vary from those outlined. You should be aware that some events are beyond our control and we would ask for

## HISTORY

Pobeda Peak (7439 m) was geographically discovered in 1943, and was not successfully climbed until 1956, following tragic ends to many of previous attempts. Following V. Abalakov's initial ascent, an expedition led by I.Erokhin in 1956 was the first to climb it via the Chon-Teren Glacier and in 1970 A.Ryabukhin's expedition managed the first complete traverse of the mountain from east to west. Pobeda. It is an extreme peak with unpredictable weather.

## THE ROUTE

Peak Pobeda is regarded as the toughest of the five snow leopard summits and is approached from the South Inylchek via the normal route (established by D. Medzmariashvili in 1961) up Dikiy Pass (5200m) and West Pobeda Peak (6918m) to the true summit at 7439m.

From South Inylchek Base Camp (3995 m) it is a 15 km approach along the Zviozdochka Glacier to reach the northern wall of Pobeda Peak. where Camp 1 (4600m) is set up (5-8hrs)

Camp 2 (5200m) we ascend the snow Couloir (30-40 degrees) and a 20m ice wall to reach Dikiy Pass (5200m). Some fixed lines available on the more difficult sections. Tents or use snow caves (3-5hrs)

Camp 3 (5400m or 5800m) easy snow slopes lead up the ridge to 5800m. Tents or use snow caves (3-5hrs)

Camp 4 (6800m-6900m) A route of mixed climbing up the ridge over snow and rock with some steep sections, including the black rock triangle. Alternative camps are available at 6400m and 6600m. It is normal to set camp on the South side of the ridge for protection from the bitterly cold winds that generally blow in from the West.

Camp 5 (7100m) From the west summit we traverse a broad committing 3-4km corniced snow ridge, that separates China and Kyrgyzstan to camp 5 in a big hollow (4-6hrs)

Summit Day – involves mixed climbing at 20-40 degrees to reach the summit dome (4-8hrs), descend as far as possible depending on time and conditions.

The Peak will have some fixed lines in place, although of variable quality and it must be treated with care and caution. The summit provides a spectacular panoramic view of the Tien Shan and China with Khan Tengri dominating the Northern views without doubt this makes this a prized international summit equal to an 8000 metre peak.

## CLIMBING DAYS

The Tien Shan does not have the infrastructure of Nepal and its Sherpas, cooks and porters, so this is very much a hands-on expedition and we share the load carrying. Most days will tend to start early between five and six (not a problem as it is usual to go to bed fairly early!) and we can expect some days to be long.

## OUTLINE ITINERARY

KEY to inclusions (H-hotel, C-Camping, B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner/evening meal)

Day 1-2 International Flight to Bishkek. Early morning arrival in Bishkek, transfer to Karakol. (H on night 2, B).  
Day 3 Transfer to Maidadir and short acclimatisation walk. (C,B,L,D).  
Day 4 Helicopter to Pobeda BC. Or additional acclimatisation walk (C,B,L,D).  
Day 5-6 Acclimatisation and organising equipment/loads  
Day 7 Acclimatisation walk and final preparations  
Day 8 Load carry to camp 1 and ascent of Dikiy Peak  
Day 9 Rest Day  
Day 10 Move to Camp 1 (4600m)  
Day 11 Ascent to camp 2 (5200m)  
Day 12 Ascent to Camp 3 (5400-5800m)  
Day 13 Ascent to 6400m or higher, return to camp 3  
Day 14 Descent to BC  
Day 15-16 Rest Days  
Day 17-20 Ascent to camp 4  
Day 21 Traverse to Camp 5  
Day 22-24 Potential Summit Days  
Day 25-26 Descent  
Day 27 Helicopter and drive to Karakol (H,B)  
Day 28 Spare helicopter weather day  
Day 29 Transfer to Bishkek. (H,B)  
Day 30 Return international flight.



On the Zviozdochka Glacier looking towards Pobeda

## ESSENTIAL PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

This is a tough mountain. You should be confident on Scottish Grade 3 (Alpine AD+D) ground, and have some previous experience of alpine terrain and altitude to at least 6000m Alternatively you might wish to do the Tien Shan Peaks, Peak Lenin or Peak Communism expedition where this stunning region is accessible to those who have climbed at Scottish grade I/II or the Alpine Tien Shan for those who have completed a winter skills/mountaineering course.

It is important that participants have a high level of fitness and, where possible, you are encouraged to attend some of the pre-expedition meets.

## WHAT TO CARRY

You will need a rucksack with at least 60-80 Litre capacity to enable both personal and group equipment to be carried to the high camps.

## BASE CAMPS/ CATERING ARRANGEMENTS

We have Base Camp services which will consist of our own tents and a large communal tent for eating and socialising. Food is prepared for us by our local cook, it is basic but plentiful. Snack food for the hill is purchased locally and will consist of such things as chocolate, cereal bars, jelly, dried fruit, nuts, cheese and salami. You can suggest other items! Cooked food higher on the hill will be a combination of boil-in-the-bag, freeze dried packs, pasta, soup and supplementary snacks.



(Pre expedition shopping at the bazar in Karakol)

## HOTELS

Most are of an ex-Soviet era that tend to be functional with rattling pipes and décor of a patchy nature. They are, however, comfortable and the best available!



(Helicopter landing at Base Camp)

## IMPORTANT – The small print

If you book this expedition to the Tien Shan you must be aware the helicopter flights to and from the mountains can be delayed due to the weather, please be patient.

## MISSED INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

We allow one extra day in the itinerary for bad weather. If you are delayed longer (unusual) we can re-book your international flight but additional costs will normally be incurred. Tickets can be changed according to availability and the class of ticket, you may need to upgrade and be flexible on your return date. All additional payments would need to be paid in Bishkek (card payments accepted). If you are unable to accept this, please do not book this expedition.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS

The best weather in the Tien Shan tends to be from Mid-July to the end of August; a fairly short summer! Conditions tend to be quite fair, dry and stable, with winds high on the mountain and snow late in the day. Daytime temperatures are pleasantly warm in the valleys (20-30°C) whilst cool to very cold (especially with wind chill) high on the peaks. Night-time temperatures are cold to very cold (possibly as low as minus 20°C) and you should make sure you have a very warm sleeping bag, a down jacket and good quality mitts.

## HEALTH

All our leaders hold first aid certificates and carry a fully equipped first aid kit for medical emergencies. You should bring your own supplies of plasters, blister prevention pads (compeed), paracetamol, throat lozengers etc. and any medication you are taking. Consult your GP or a vaccine specialist for professional advice or visit the website [www.fitfortravel.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.scot.nhs.uk) Non spring bottled water should never be drunk without first sterilizing with, chlorine tablets or by boiling.

## INSURANCE

Insurance which covers mountain rescue, helicopter evacuation and medical expenses is essential. We will require a copy of your insurance prior to departure

## RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

All rubbish is removed from the mountains by us/you.

## EQUIPMENT

A detailed equipment list is provided on booking. Specialist items such as sleeping bags & down jackets can be hired or purchased with 15% discount from our shop.

## BAGGAGE

For your own comfort, travel light. Normally airlines restrict baggage to 20/23kg and the helicopter flight 15kg, but you will be wearing boots and one set of mountaineering clothes. Some items can be left at the hotel for your return. A suitable kit bag is provided but important items should also be packed in plastic bags. You will be required to transport 4 kg of group gear/food in your international baggage.

## USEFUL TIPS

Just in case your main luggage goes missing en route, it is a good idea to wear your boots on the plane. Most other things can be replaced but comfortable, well worn-in boots are more difficult to replace easily. Important items should be packed in strong plastic bags.

## VISAS AND PERMITS

UK citizens and those of several other countries no longer require a visa. If not a British Citizen, please check with your local Kyrgyzstan Embassy. Passports must be valid for at least six months after the end date of the trip.

## LOCAL COSTS

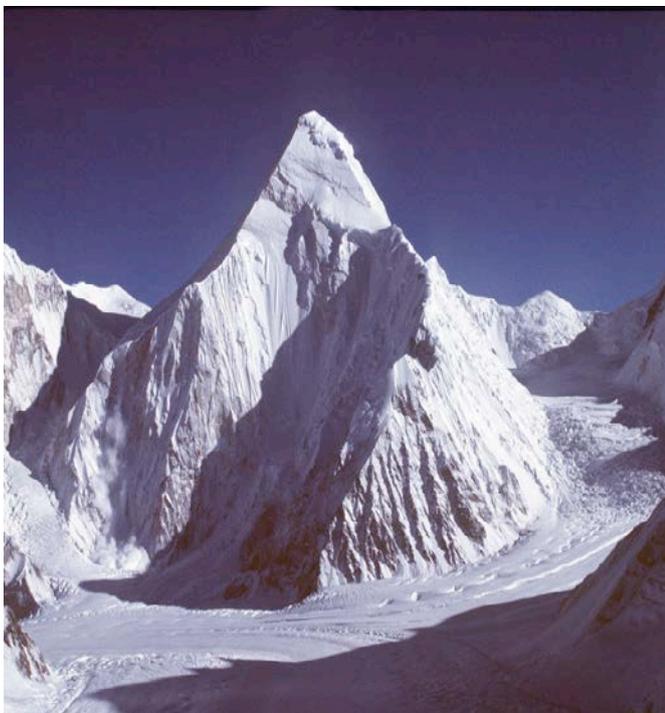
Most meals are inclusive, please see the key above. Individuals are responsible for drinks throughout and hotel meals which gives the flexibility to choose where you eat. In terms of overall spends to cover costs and additional meals etc., consider taking approximately 200euro

## CURRENCY

Take Euros or US dollars as they are widely accepted and can easily be changed into local currency if needed on arrival. The national currency of the Kyrgyz Republic is the Som. It is unlikely you will be able to use Travellers' cheques, credit cards and Sterling. There are some ATMs in Bishkek.

## LANGUAGE AND TIME

Kyrgyz and Russian are the official languages. Time Zone: GMT + 5 hours (GMT + 6 hours from second Sunday in April to last Saturday in September).



(Looking back to Khan Tengri)

## TIPPING

Tipping is generally NOT expected, but is accepted with enormous smiles - quite refreshing! We would recommend around £25 (equiv.) per person for this trip.

## BACKGROUND READING

“World Mountaineering” by Mitchell Beazley

“Forbidden Mountains” by Paola Pozzolini Sicouri



## SNOW LEOPARD CHALLENGE

Pobeda is one of the five Russian Snow Leopards – It started in the old Soviet Union times and became the ultimate challenge for alpinists...to climb all Soviet peaks over 7000 meters; Peak Lenin, Korzhenevskoy, Communism, Khan Tengri and Pobeda. Those who managed to summit the five Central Asian giants were awarded the Snow Leopard Trophy. Today it has been completed by less than six hundred mountaineers, none of them British. Adventure Peaks is offering all five; three peaks are located in the Pamirs and two in the Tien Shan. They can be climbed individually or in combinations.



## EXPEDITION COMBINATIONS

Pobeda can be combined with our Tien Shan Unclimbed expedition, Peak Lenin or Khan Tengri