



MT. RAINIER 14,410' 4,392m • EMMONS SEMINAR





An RMI team approaches the Inter Glacier. Linden Mallory 📷

📷 Seth Waterfall Camp on the Inter Glacier.

An RMI rope team navigates the Emmons Glacier. Seth Waterfall 📷

📷 Jon Mancuso An RMI rope team walks along Mt. Rainier's Crater Rim.

Mt. Rainier

Location: Cascades, Washington State

Route: Emmons Glacier

Trip Length: 6 Days

Seasons: June - July

Difficulty: \ \ \ *

Type: Mountaineering

Distance: ~16 miles (26 kilometers)

Elevations: 4,280' to 14,410' (1,305m - 4,392m)

*Three Ice Axe Trips travel to elevations over 10,000' and usually involve glacier travel and carrying packs up to 60 lbs.



Mt. Rainier Emmons Seminar

RMI's Expedition Skills Seminar - Emmons is a six-day instructional mountaineering course with a summit attempt on Mt. Rainier via the Emmons Glacier route.

See why RMI continues to set the standard in mountain guiding excellence:

- 2 days of foundational skills training and 4 days of extensive practical training while climbing the largest glacier in the contiguous U.S.: Mt. Rainier's Emmons Glacier.
- An expedition-style climb allows us to establish successive tented camps as we ascend the mountain in preparation for our summit bid.
- Develop strong technical skills and gain foundational mountaineering experience.



Climbers on the Emmons Glacier at sunrise. Seth Waterfall



An RMI team on the Emmons Glacier. Bryan Hendrick

Our Expedition Skills Seminar on the Emmons route climbs a classic Mt. Rainier route with emphasis on developing mountaineering skills. After a Technical Training Day and a Mountaineering Day School, we ascend the Emmons route, using the mountain's terrain to learn mountaineering skills such as snow & ice anchors, crevasse rescue, ice climbing, fixed line travel, belaying and other technical skills, before making a summit attempt from our high camp at Camp Schurman.

Utilizing a less traveled route on the northeastern side of Mt. Rainier, our Expedition Skills Seminar – Emmons captures the best aspects of summer climbing on Mt. Rainier's far-flung glaciers. The Emmons Glacier route is truly an endurance climb, beginning on the forested Glacier Basin Trail and ending on the glacier-capped summit of Mt. Rainier.

Our Expedition Skills Seminars are comprehensive training courses designed to educate climbers to the mountaineering skills needed to tackle the world's greatest peaks. Successful completion of the Expedition Skill Seminar - Emmons will make you eligible for many of our expeditions around the world, including McKinley, and provides you with a foundation for other major glaciated mountains.

Columbia Crest (14,410' / 4,392m)

Mt. Rainier Expedition Skills Seminar - Emmons Itinerary

Day 1: TECHNICAL TRAINING DAY, ASHFORD • 1,750' (533m)

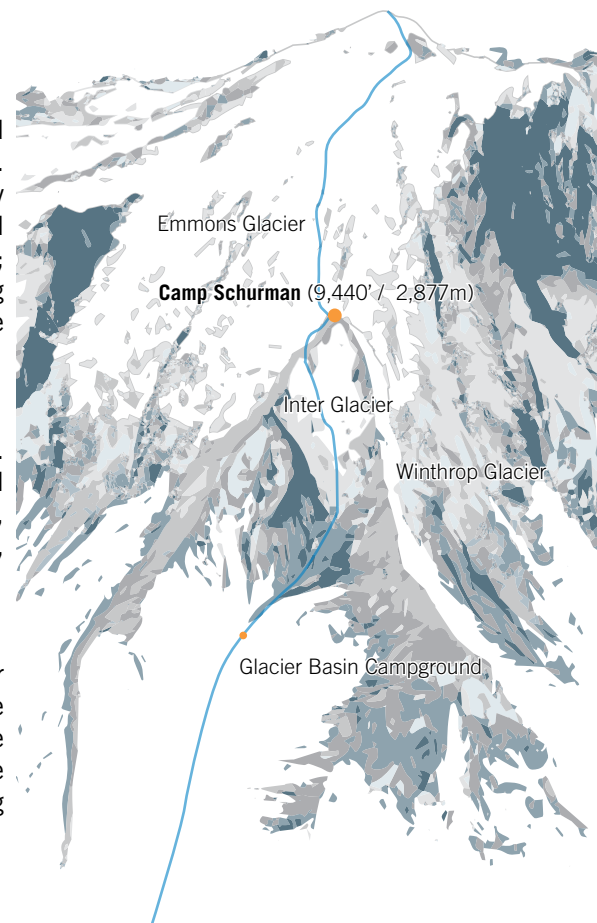
We begin our Technical Training Day with a welcome and introduction of team members and guides. Throughout the day, the guides provide a focused introduction to a variety of topics. These include a detailed equipment discussion and gear check; an introduction to safety practices such as use of helmets, harnesses, and avalanche transceivers; route planning and preparation, instruction regarding Leave No Trace practices and environmental considerations; and a discussion/demonstration of knots, anchors and the first steps toward understanding crevasse rescue. These skills prepare us for our adventure on Mt. Rainier and increase the likelihood of a safe, successful ascent of the mountain.

Day 2: MOUNTAINEERING DAY SCHOOL, PARADISE • 5,600' - 6,400' (1,707 - 1,951m)

The Mountaineering Day School is spent training in the field on the lower slopes of Mt. Rainier. Climbers are introduced to many skills, from the basic techniques of efficient mountain travel (rest-stepping and pressure breathing), to various safety practices including use of helmets, harnesses, and avalanche transceivers, cramponing, roped travel, ice axe arrest practice, anchors and running belays, fixed line travel, and the basics of crevasse rescue.

Day 3: APPROACH TO CAMP 1 • 6,000' - 8,000' (1,829 - 2,438m)

We make the 3.3 mile hike, passing through beautiful mature forests, to Glacier Basin, or ascend a bit further to the base of Mt. Rainier's Inter Glacier, to establish camp. As we move towards camp, we work on the foundational skills that make us more efficient and capable climbers, including pressure breathing and using the rest step, dressing appropriately for the weather and workload, kicking steps and climbing in balance on snow, and efficient pacing that allows us to climb comfortably.





Day 5: CLIMB TO CAMP SCHURMAN • 9,440' (2,877m)

We ascend the Inter Glacier and climb over the flanks of Steamboat Prow onto the heavily crevassed Emmons Glacier as we move to our high camp, Camp Schurman, 9,440'. At Camp Schurman, we have a great arena to practice additional skills, such as proper placement of snow and ice anchors, crevasse rescue simulations, and ice climbing. In the afternoon we prepare for the summit bid.

Day 5: SUMMIT DAY • 14,410' (4,392m)

Today we put it all together and make our attempt on the summit. The Emmons-Winthrop Glacier route climbs the northern edge of the largest glacier in the lower 48 states, the Emmons Glacier. The spectacular 35-degree central ramp of the glacier offers a route by which we access the crevassed slopes of the upper mountain. We thread our way through these immense crevasses toward the summit of Mt. Rainier!

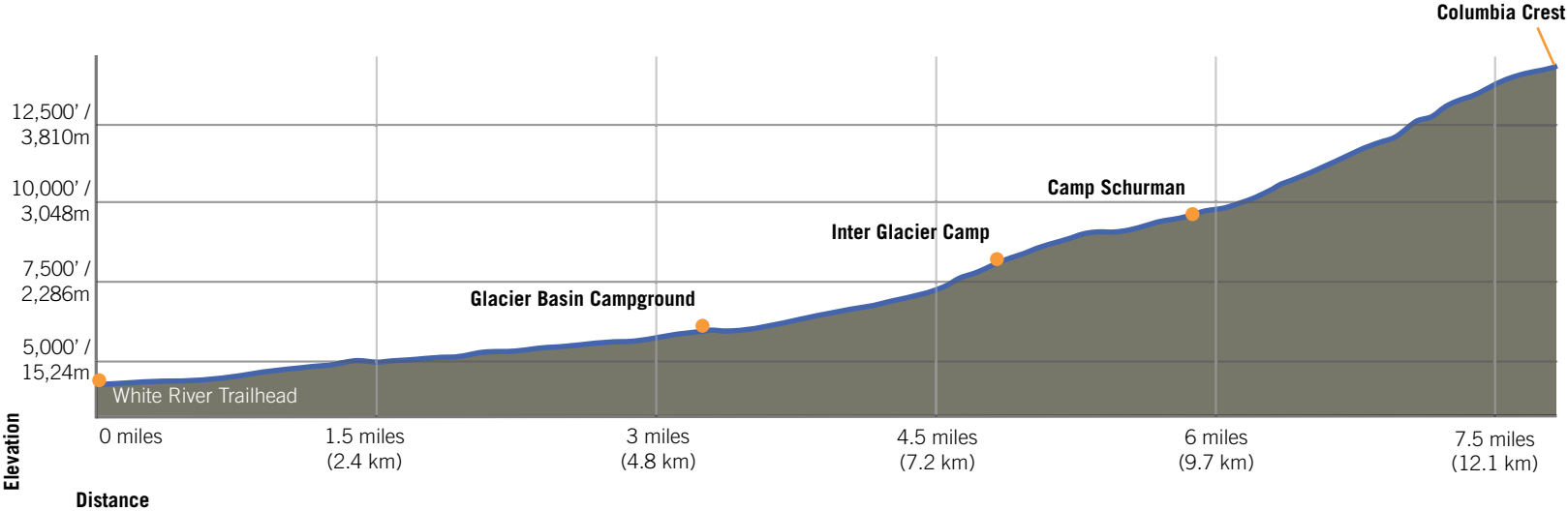
At 14,410 feet, Mt. Rainier is the highest point in Washington. The summit is spectacular with panoramic views from the Pacific to the eastern side of the Cascades when the weather is clear. A large crater dominates the summit, with steam rising out of the cavernous summit vents and the bare ground near the summit is often warm to the touch.

After reaching the summit, we descend back to Camp Schurman. The descent typically requires half the amount of time of the ascent but requires significant effort as we retrace our route down the mountain. The duration of the climb depends on many variables including snow conditions, the time of the year, the route conditions, the weather, and temperature among others. It is a long and challenging, but rewarding day!

Day 6: DESCENT

On the final day of the program we descend to the trailhead and return to Rainier BaseCamp in Ashford. After all the gear is unpacked, we gather as a team to celebrate our adventure.

Mt. Rainier Expedition Skills Seminar - Emmons Elevation Profile



EXPLORE THE CLIMBING ROUTE:

Visit the Itinerary Page to explore the climbing route: www.rmguides.com/mt-rainier/emmons-expedition-skills-seminar/



THE RMI DIFFERENCE

An RMI team on the summit of Mt. Rainier. Jon Mancuso 📷

The Mountain Guides at RMI have a reputation as top guides in the United States. RMI Guides participated in some of America's first ventures into the far reaches of the Himalaya. Years of expedition guiding and climbing around the world have built a core of consummate professional guides. Our guides are celebrated teachers and trainers, known for their leadership as well as their character. They possess the compassion, enthusiasm and ability to empower others and inspire them forward. Such qualities may only be found in people at the top of their profession. Despite their vast experience, RMI Guides still remember their own first steps into the mountains, and enjoy helping other climbers reach new heights. With 45 years of guiding experience, RMI is the leading guide service on Mt. Rainier and our exceptional focus to detail, our unparalleled level of climber attention, and our genuine excitement for these adventures make our climbs truly memorable.

Safety has always been RMI's top priority and we strive to create the safest mountain experience possible. RMI's experienced team of guides focus on leading a fun and successful climb without compromising safety. We apply the same standards of safety we bring to Alaska and the Himalayas to our climbs of Rainier. Our guides are trained, experienced, and certified by rigorous American standards in wilderness and high altitude medicine, avalanche training, and Leave No Trace techniques. We have spent considerable time in the mountains and know how to do so safely and comfortably. We use RMI's own climbing equipment brought from the U.S., ensuring that our expedition standards of safety, quality, and reliability are met. Careful planning, precise ascent profiles, daily weather forecasts, and diligent attention are taken as we venture to high altitudes. Comprehensive medical kits, rescue equipment, and radio and communication equipment are carried with the team throughout the trip.

ABOUT RMI EXPEDITIONS

Rainier Mountaineering, Inc. was established in 1969 and is one of America's oldest and most-trusted guide services. Founded by the legendary Lou Whittaker and staffed by the most experienced and talented guides in America, RMI has built a four-decade long legacy of safe, successful, and enjoyable mountaineering adventures. We are the largest guide service on Mt. Rainier and Mt. McKinley and leaders in guiding climbs and treks around the globe. Our years of leading mountain adventures give us the experience and knowledge to lead the best possible trips. We work hard to live up to our reputation as leaders. Experience matters in the mountains, and that is exactly what we have gained over the last 40 years. There is no substitute for the years of expedition guiding around the world.

RMI is an American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) accredited guide service. The AMGA Accreditation Program provides quality assurance and peer evaluation which focus on the international standards for guided climbing, mountaineering, and skiing. The program was developed by professional guides and climbing instructors who are leaders in the outdoor industry. Accreditation provides a consistent and meaningful standard by which to judge the reliability and professionalism of a climbing service. The accreditation process examines core elements of a guiding service, including, operating guidelines; access; permits; insurance; employment and business practices; and, guide training. Having an accredited program informs the general public and land managers that the program utilizes guides who are certified, and that all guides in the program have received formal training appropriate to the terrain over which they guide.

For more information on RMI's History and Philosophy please visit: www.rmiguides.com

An RMI Team on Mt. Rainier. Jon Mancuso 





RMI'S RESPONSIBLE CLIMBING

We are privileged to have a business opportunity that operates within the fragile alpine environment. With this opportunity comes the responsibility of being a good steward of the resource. We know that as guides we serve as ambassadors to the wild and rugged landscapes through which we journey while we introduce fellow climbers to the mountains which we call home. Therefore, we keenly feel the responsibility to care for these places, preserving them for those that will follow in our footsteps.

Our Leave No Trace (LNT) outdoor ethic is held in the very highest regard. We guide and climb with the idea that protecting, conserving, and preserving the resources are critical, both for our own programs and for others who follow. By arming our climbers with the right knowledge, education and training, we can responsibly protect the resource while climbing as a team on the mountain. We will take all reasonable and adequate precautions to minimize damage to all natural and cultural resources.

We understand that human decisions and actions can have impacts on mountainous environments just as equally as those places can have an impact on our spirits. Hence we contribute towards social initiatives and environmental efforts. In addition to promoting education and involvement with the local guides we work with on our international climbs, we support local endeavors in those areas.

For more information on RMI's Responsible Climbing please visit: www.rmiguide.com/about/responsible-climbing



RMI Expeditions is Outside
Magazine's 2014 **Best Outfitter**

www.rmiguides.com

1.888.892.5462

info@rmiguides.com

RMI Expeditions © 2014

Join us on...

