

MEXICO VOLCANOES

NORTH AMERICA | IXTACCIHUATL 17,338' | ORIZABA 18,491'



Last steps to the summit of Orizaba (18,491')

CLIMB THE MEXICO VOLCANOES WITH IMG

IMG has been leading expeditions to Mexico since 1976 and they have always been a favorite and a great way to bump up your personal altitude record. It would be difficult to find a guide service with more experience climbing in Mexico. This trip only requires you to break away from work for one week. You can sharpen or acquire new skills while enjoying some Mexican sunshine and seeing another area of the world. All put together, this makes for a great climbing vacation.

We sincerely feel that this is one of the best run Mexico Volcanoes programs available. Experience, leadership and relationships make the difference in our programs.

THE CLIMBS

This nine-day trip to Mexico is great as a first high-altitude experience, ascending the 8th (Ixtaccihuatl) and 3rd (Orizaba^a) highest peaks in North America! Basic climbing experience, such as a climb of Mt. Rainier, would be excellent training for the trip. Each team member needs to be familiar with ice axe arrest, basic cramponing and rope team travel. Each climber also needs to be in excellent physical condition, since climbing to altitudes approaching 19,000 feet is never easy.

Ixtaccihuatl (17,338') is known as the "sleeping lady" and is climbed via the normal "Ridge of the Sun" route, over the feet, knees, stomach and onto the breasts (the top!). Orizaba (18,491') will be climbed via the Jamapa Glacier.

In addition to the climbs, you'll get to experience a variety of Mexican hospitality with overnights in Mexico City, Amecameca, the old Spanish colonial city of Puebla, and with our friends in the country town of Tlachichuca.

THE GUIDES

An IMG Senior Guide leads each of these programs and is joined by some of the finest and most experienced local Guides from Mexico.

SCHEDULE

Classic Mexico Volcanoes Program
January 21-29, 2024

LAND COST

Classic Program \$4300*
Single Supplement \$300

PRE-REQ'S

Previous mountaineering experience including ice axe arrest, cramponing and rope team travel are required.

QUICK LINKS

[Mexico Volcanoes Program Itinerary](#)
[Gear List](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

CONTACT US

(360) 569-2609 Ext. 1
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REGISTER

- [IMG Application Package](#)
- Application Fee \$1500
- Passport copy

Non-refundable application fee applies to program fees. **Balance of all fees are due 120 days prior to trip departure.** Please refer to application package for payment instructions. Program fees are quoted in US dollars. All fees and payments are non-refundable and non-transferable. Payments must be received by IMG on or before the due dates. Bank wire instructions are provided on request.

THE ITINERARY

Here's a look at the schedule (itinerary is approximate and may be subject to change):

Day	Date	Ixtaccihuatl & Orizaba Itinerary
Day 01	Jan 21	Arrive in Mexico City (elevation about 7,300') and transfer to the Hotel Maria Christina. We'll have a group meeting in the lobby at 7:00 pm followed by dinner at a local restaurant.
Day 02	Jan 22	Morning departure for our first objective, Ixtaccihuatl. We'll take our first acclimatization hike and then spend the night at a hotel in Amecameca (8,100') at the foot of the mountain.
Day 03	Jan 23	Drive up to Cortez Pass (11,100') for a second acclimatization hike, taking in the amazing views of Popocatepetl (sometimes still smoking). Overnight near the Pass in hut or tents.
Day 04	Jan 24	A third day of acclimatization hiking to nearly 14,000 feet, then back to the Pass for the afternoon to rest and prepare for an "alpine start" (in the dark!) the following day.
Day 05	Jan 25	Summit day on Ixtaccihuatl (17,338') and descend back to the Pass. Then, load up and drive to the city of Puebla (6,900'). It's a long but rewarding day.
Day 06	Jan 26	Drive to Tlachichuca (9,500'). Afternoon in Tlachichuca to rest and prepare for Orizaba.
Day 07	Jan 27	Morning drive up a rugged 4x4 road with our local jeep drivers to Piedre Grande (14,000') at the base of Orizaba, where we stay in hut or tents. Prepare for an "alpine start" the next morning.
Day 08	Jan 28	Summit day on Orizaba and descend to Piedre Grande. The jeeps will meet us in the late afternoon and take us back down to Tlachichuca for our dinner celebration and overnight.
Day 09	Jan 29	We will return to Mexico City and will drop you at the international airport by noon for your flights back home.



Descending the "knees" on Ixtaccihuatl back to Cortez Pass, with Popocatepetl in the background

THE DEAL:

Here is what is included and not included in your land cost fee.

Included

- IMG Leadership & local guides
- Group climbing equipment
- Double occupancy in 4-star hotel for dates indicated in itinerary
- Shared accommodations in huts and/or tents while climbing
- Group transportation in-country as indicated in itinerary
- All meals for the trip during the published itinerary with the exception of snacks while climbing
- Permit fees and park entrance fees
- Tip pool for local guides and staff
- IMG buff

Not Included

- International airfare/tax/baggage fee
- Taxi to/from airport
- Single supplement accommodations in hotels
- Snacks while climbing
- Alcoholic beverages and personal sundries
- [Personal gear/climbing equipment](#)
- Travel Insurance
- Covid tests (if required for travel)
- Any Covid-related expense resulting in delays or quarantine
- Evacuation, hospital, or medical costs
- Optional but customary guide gratuities

THE ODDS & ENDS:

Single Supplement

Accommodations are based on double occupancy. If you would like a single room in the hotel, this is available for an additional \$300. If we cannot pair you with a roommate, you will be charged the single supplement fee.

Travel Insurance

[Travel Insurance](#) is required, minimum evacuation and medical expense coverage. Trip cancellation/interruption coverage is strongly suggested due to our no-refund policy.

Flights

On Day 1, it will normally take you about 30 minutes by taxi from the airport to the hotel. Please arrive in time to join the team for the 7pm meeting, followed by dinner. On Day 9, we will drop you off at the airport before noon for your afternoon departure flight. If you wish to remain longer, there are many hotels near the airport. For best service and support, we recommend that you work with a knowledgeable travel agent that can assist you quickly should you need help while traveling.

Passport & Visa

A valid passport with at least 6 months of validity is required, with extra blank pages available for visa stamps. Currently no visa is required to enter Mexico for visits less than 90 days. Familiarize yourself with Travel Advisories and entry requirements available on the [U.S. State Department](#) website.

Immunizations

IMG recommends that you be fully vaccinated for Covid-19. Currently Mexico does not require proof of vaccination or Covid testing to enter. These requirements may change, so check with your airline, the [CDC website](#), and the [US Embassy in Mexico](#) for the most up to date requirements and recommendations.

QUESTIONS?

Questions about the trip? [Email](#) or call (360) 569-2609