



Pico Bolivar Climbing

In one of Venezuela's most impressive national parks, Parque Nacional **Sierra Nevada**, you will find the highest peak of the Venezuelan Andes, **Pico Bolivar** with an altitude of 5007 meters above sea level. It is one of the most popular peaks to climb. On the summit you will find a bust of Simon Bolivar, the national hero. It's a real technical climb, and it requires rope, harnesses, carabinas and security helmet all year round. Ice and snow equipment (crampons and ice axes) are a must during the rainy season, when the normal climbing route Weiss gets full of snow.

Find costs under: http://www.kamadac.de/en/pico_bolivar-en.html

Itinerary

Day 1. Merida - Laguna Coromoto

The normal expedition lasts 5 days and follows a "U" shaped route known as La Travesia. We start the hike at one of the entrances to the **Sierra Nevada National Park** in **La Mucuy** at an altitude of 2300 mts. The first day we will enjoy an approximately 5 hours hike through the cloud forest. This is an area of dense vegetation, huge ferns, tall trees, bamboo, streams and rivers. We arrive at Laguna Coromoto (3300mts) where we camp for the night. (- / L / D)

Day 2. Llanos

Today day it's a four hour hike to reach Laguna Verde (3900 mts) at the base of **Pico Humboldt**. The path is more steep and rocky than on the first day and the scenery changes to the typical Paramo vegetation with small plants and many frailejones (Espeletia), a plant with white soft leaves. We camp next to Laguna Verde. (B / L / D)

Day 3. Laguna Timoncito

On this day we leave for the high mountain trek known as La Travesia working our way south towards the base of **Pico Bolivar**. We scramble up a slope of loose rocks and also out of the Paramo region. We camp next to Laguna Timoncito (4700mts). (B / L / D)

Day 4. Summit Bico Bolivar

The fourth day is the big day!! We reach the summit of **Pico Bolivar** (5007mts) after a steep climb that needs all the necessary equipment like rope, harness and helmet (crampons and ice axe during the snow season). (B / L / D)

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Day 5. Back to Merida

The fifth day we return back to **Merida** either by cable car or by a 7-9 hours hike out of the high country. (B / L / -)

Please note, this tour can be done all year long but the best months for climbing are from November to March.

Included

- Transport by jeep to la Mucuy
- Qualified and homologised mountain guide
- Sleeping bags and mattress, climbing harnesses, carabiners, helmets, crampons, kitchen gear and stoves
- Excellent brandmark tents.
- Up to 3 persons only 1 mountain guide, 4 persons or more automatically have 2 guides for Pico Bolivar
- All meals while trekking and climbing.

Not included

- Personal expenses and tips
- National Park entrance fee
- Porter (Equipment and food will be carried by the participants, the weight to carry including personal things is 18-20kg. To reduce the weight, personal porters can be hired on request)
- Arrival to Merida

Packing list

- Passport
- Backpack min. 70Ltr.
- Trekking shoes which can be adjusted to climbing irons
- Sun protection
- Hat or cap with neck protection
- Windproof rain jacket
- Windproof pants
- Thick socks (thermal)
- Fleece jacket
- Sleeping bag -5C
- Isolation mat
- Fleece jogging pants
- Breathable shirts
- Water bottle
- Large and small Plastic bags
- Flashlight
- Batteries.

General Remarks

This is not the only way to do an expedition to Pico Bolivar, but it's definitely the most recommended way to reduce the risk of altitude sickness during the hike and the climb. Other ways to reach Pico Bolivar are via Los Nevados or via the teleferico (cable car). You can combine this tour easily with the **Llanos tour** or with the **Pico Humboldt** mountain climbing. To combine this tour with a tour to **Mt. Roraima**, the **Gran Sabana** or the **Orinoco Delta** we can offer you flights from Merida (Vigia) to Ciudad Bolivar.