



## SWS Mountain Guides

210 East Lake St.

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Phone: 888.797.6867 / Fax: 877.797.6867

### **Mt. Whitney Summer Ascent 14,505 ft. via Cottonwood Pass – Pacific Crest Trail & John Muir Trail**

Summer Ascent of the Highest Peak in the Lower 48 States  
Eastern Sierra Nevada, Lone Pine, CA



**General Description:** SWS Mountain Guides on a six-day guided backpacking adventure into the heart of the Sierra Nevada high country. Including a Summit hike to the top **Mt. Whitney** at 14,505 feet, Mt. Whitney is the highest peak in the lower 48 states and as such is a great climb from the backside or west side of Mt. Whitney. Our adventure is a great extended backpacking hike for the beginning or intermediate backpacker who wants to climb this peak via an adventurous 6-day hike. Fantastic views plus many other peaks in the Sierra from high points along the trail. Our route is a classic 6- day adventure getting away from it all and avoiding the crowds. Spend time hiking each day and enjoying the quiet backcountry of the Sierra. We will work our way to Crabtree Meadows where we will make camp for a day hike to the summit of Mt. Whitney via the John Muir Trail. Returning to our camp in Crabtree Meadows making our way back to the trailhead at Horseshoe Meadows. Space is limited up 10 clients with a guide to client ratio of 1 to 5/6. Permits and permit fees included. Book early, permits can be limited on Mt. Whitney during the summer. Give us a call if you have any questions.

**Location:** Sequoia/ Kings Canyon National Parks, Mt. Whitney, Eastern Sierra Nevada

**Meeting Location:** SWS Office in Lone Pine, CA. at the base of Mt. Whitney

#### **Itinerary:**

**Day 1:** Meet at the SWS Mountain Guides Office in Lone Pine at 8:00 am, after a full pack check and issuing of gear for the hike. We will head off to the Cottonwood Pass Trailhead out of Horseshoe Meadows, a 30-minute drive.

We will have a short day of hiking to get acclimatized to the altitude and spend sometime relaxing by Chicken Springs Lake. 5 miles/ 1,500 elevation gain.



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**Day 2:** Chicken Spring Lake to Rock Creek Crossing: 10.75 miles / 650 ft Elevation Gain / 1,900 ft elevation loss

**Day 3:** Rock Creek Crossing to Guitar Lake: 10.5 miles / 2,990 ft. / Option to Hike to Mt. Whitney from Crabtree Meadows

**Day 4:** Guitar Lake to Summit of Mt. Whitney and down to Crabtree Meadows – Approx: 14.5 miles / 3,456 ft.

**Day 5:** Crabtree Meadows to Rock Creek Lake 11.5 miles / Elevation Gain 2,100 ft.

**Day 6:** Rock Creek Lake back to Horseshoe Meadows 11.5 miles / Elevation Gain 1,465 ft.

**Total Mileage and Elevation Gain:** 6 days: 63.7 miles 11,925 ft.

**PLEASE NOTE** - This is a best-case scenario. This itinerary is subject to adjustment at the guide's discretion and is dependent on mountain conditions, and other factors we cannot anticipate.

**Food:** Group breakfast(s), Lunches, and dinner(s), along with hot beverages included. Please bring your own favorite, high-calorie, high-carbohydrate snacks or powdered sports drinks – watch the weight.

**Level:** Beginner to Intermediate Hikers. Participants should be in **very good to excellent** physical condition. Previous extended hiking or trekking experience is recommended. Questions give us a call!

**Dates 2021:** See website - [www.swsmountainguides.com](http://www.swsmountainguides.com)

*Additional Dates: Available with 3 or more - regular prices or by private arrangement*

**Cost:** See website - [www.swsmountainguides.com](http://www.swsmountainguides.com)

**Deposit:** 50% non-refundable deposit per person to reserve your space / Balance Due 30 day before trip departure.

**Includes:** Professional instruction/guide, breakfast(s), Lunches, and dinner(s), group camping equipment including tents, stoves, cooking pots, water filters, bear containers, permits, and permit fees including Mt. Whitney permit reservations. Backpacks & sleeping bags are available for rent.

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