



## SWS Mountain Guides

210 East Lake St.

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Phone: 888.797.6867 / Fax: 877.797.6867

### Palisades Traverse The Palisades, Sierra Nevada California



**General Description:** The Palisades Traverse is one of the prize objectives of any Sierra Nevada mountain climber. Starting from the south end of the Palisades group the objective is to climb the ridge connecting all 5 of the 14,000 foot peaks. Thunderbolt Peak (14,003 ft.), Starlight Peak (14,200 ft.), North Palisade (14,242 ft.), Polemonium Peak (14,080 ft.) and Mt. Sill (14,153 ft.).

**Location:** South Lake Trailhead. Bishop, California. Eastern Sierra Nevada

**Itinerary:** After meeting at 8:00 am on the first day we will hike into the backcountry over Bishop Pass and enter Sequoia National Park. From the top of the pass we will cut cross country over Thunderbolt Pass from where we can establish our basecamp and review necessary skills.

The climb itself starts from the South end of the Palisades on Thunderbolt Peak and then working our way North covering a variety of terrain from 3rd class to 5.6 with optional pitches up to 5.9. Transitions may include down climb, lowering and rappelling multiple pitches. All of this brings the group to our final summit at Mt. Sill. From there we descend back the Palisade Basin over the shoulder of Peak 13,962.

**An objective of this size typically requires at least one open bivy on the route above 13,000ft.**

**PLEASE NOTE** - This is a best-case scenario. This itinerary is subject to change at the guide's discretion and is dependent upon mountain conditions, group experience/expectations, and other factors we cannot anticipate.



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**Food:** Group breakfast(s), dinner(s), and hot beverages are included. Please bring your own favorite, high-calorie, high-carbohydrate lunches and snacks. Examples: bagels, cheese, dried fruit, trail mix, Clif bars, chocolate, etc.

**Prerequisites:** Previous mountaineering experience required and a good candidate should be in excellent physical condition. Additionally, one must know the following skills to participate in this course: Good knowledge of belay techniques, understand and have experience repelling, be able to climb at least a 5.7 rock rating, basic knots, basic backpacking skills. The better shape you are in the more enjoyable the climb will be for you as well! This is a serious course for advanced climbers. We reserve the right to leave any client we deem not sufficiently prepared for this course back at camp!!

**Level:** Advanced. Participants should be in **excellent physical condition**. Our backpacks will weigh >30 pounds. Give us a call if you have any questions.

Custom Dates – 4 days recommended - give us a call 888.797.6867

(Guide to client ratio is 1:2 / Group size limited to 4).

**Includes:** Professional instruction/guide, breakfast(s), dinner(s), helmets, harness, group-climbing equipment including ropes and safety equipment, group camping equipment including tents and stoves, permits, and permit fees. For more details about equipment please see our equipment list for this course.

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