

CATHEDRAL PEAK 3005m

PEAK HIGH

Mountaineering



Duration: 2 days

Venue: Central Natal Drakensberg

General Information

This trek starts from the Nature Conservation office at Cathedral Peak wilderness area, elevation 1300m. The route follows a good path to the foot of the main peak, and then ascends the final few hundred meters to the summit, via a short scramble section.

Cathedral Peak can in fact be climbed in one day, but most people prefer to break it into one and a half days by having an over night stop at "Sherman's" Cave, which is located 2 hours from the starting point, but it is possible to camp in tents further up the peak. It is also possible to stay at one of two hotels near the start of the walk. These are the Cathedral Peak Hotel and the Ndidima Camp. Both are up-market establishments. Staying in a hotel means doing the entire peak in one day.

The Route

The entire route is a moderate hike, taking about 10 hours of actual walking and is on steep paths all the way. Only day-packs are carried from the over night camp to the summit and back. The scramble section is not particularly difficult, however the guide often uses a rope on this section, especially if it is wet.

When to visit

This trek can be done at anytime of the year. It must be noted that June to September are the colder months with night temperatures often below freezing. Snowfalls can also occur. During the southern African summer the mountains receive afternoon thundershowers and high daytime temperatures. However, cold, wet and windy weather can be encountered at anytime of year!

Guided Trekking

Peak High offers this trek at any time of the year. No set dates are used as each trip is individually put together. Parties could consist of one to as many as ten people, in a group.

Unless porters are used, clients are required to carry their own backpacks, equipment and provisions for a 2-day round trip. Peak High can provide all communal equipment including stoves, pots, tents, cutlery, food and maps. Extra items such as sleeping bags can be hired for a nominal fee.

Peak High offers a personal door-to-door service including airport transfers to and from Durban. If flying from overseas, all flights land either at Johannesburg or Cape Town from where a connection must be caught to Durban or Pietermaritzburg. All guiding and climbing is done by a professional, certified guide.



What to bring

Clients need to bring the usual personal items, including breathable shell clothing, polar fleeces, large backpack, hiking boots, hat, gloves, flash-light, water-bottle, sun cream etc.



About Peak High Mountaineering and Gavin:

Peak High Mountaineering is owned by **Gavin Raubenheimer** and has been operating since 1992. The business is registered with Tourism KwaZulu-Natal as a Tour Operator. Gavin Raubenheimer is a certified Mountaineering Instructor (M.I.A.) endorsed by the Mountain Development Trust of SA and the U.I.A.A. He is a NOF National Mountaineering, Cultural and Nature Guide (NOF level 4). Gavin is a past President of the KwaZulu-Natal Section of the Mountain Club of SA. He has been involved in mountain rescue since 1992 and since 2005 has been the Convener of Mountain Rescue in the province. He is sponsored by **first Ascent** outdoor clothing company and by **RAM Mountaineering**.

For more information and bookings contact:

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Also view the Peak High web site at <http://www.peakhigh.co.za>