



RAPID | O₂



KORDILLERA-COTOPAXI RAPID O2 CLIMB

HIGH ALTITUDE. ADVANCED SUPPORT.

Private oxygen-assisted expedition to 5,897 m / 19,347 ft

5897 METERS

Designed for climbers with limited time, not limited standards.

Integrated oxygen support / SpO2 + HR + temperature monitoring / dedicated two-person mountain team

DURATION

6 DAYS

5 nights

RAPID O2

425 L / 12 H

2.6 kg complete system

SUMMIT

5,897 M

19,347 ft

Kordillera-Cotopaxi Rapid O2 Climb

6 DAYS

This six-day private expedition is built around one objective: reach Cotopaxi's summit with more physiologic reserve, without turning a short itinerary into a gamble. The program combines progressive altitude exposure, dedicated guiding, continuous field monitoring, and a compact supplemental-oxygen system designed specifically for movement at altitude.

WHY OXYGEN CHANGES THE EQUATION

Early acclimatization is driven largely by ventilatory, fluid-balance and cardiovascular responses; meaningful expansion of red-cell mass takes longer. Rapid O2 does not replace acclimatization. It reduces hypoxemia and physiologic strain during the climb, while the itinerary still provides controlled altitude exposure and two nights above 3,600 m.

GROUP

MAX 6

private departure

TEAM

1 + 1

lead guide + assistant

MONITORING

SpO2 + HR + TEMP

altitude + system status

OXYGEN

425 L

~12 h support

SYSTEM MASS

2.6 KG

cylinder + regulator + delivery

SEASON

2 WINDOWS

Dec-Jan / Jun-Sep



SMALL ENOUGH TO DISAPPEAR INTO THE CLIMB.

The current Rapid O2 configuration uses an on-demand nasal-cannula system with automatic altitude compensation. The cylinder, regulator and delivery system are carried compactly; the climber is not encumbered by a conventional external Himalayan oxygen rig.

INVESTMENT / USD \$5,897 PER PERSON



SIX DAYS. ONE CLEAN ARC.

Quito -> Rucu Pichincha -> Cotopaxi National Park -> Summit -> Papallacta

01	ARRIVE / QUITO Private transfer · briefing · medical baseline Hotel in Quito	2,850 m
02	ACCLIMATIZE / RUCU PICHINCHA Cueva del Oso · first exposure above 4,000 m Hotel in Quito	4,300 m
03	FIT / TEST / SLEEP HIGH Ilinizas gear + Rapid O2 check Hacienda Los Mortiños	3,600 m
04	REHEARSE / COTOPAXI N.P. High páramo · final system rehearsal Tambopaxi Lodge	3,750 m
05	SUMMIT COTOPAXI Staggered start · summit · Papallacta Termas de Papallacta	5,897 m
06	RECOVER / RETURN Breakfast · transfer to airport —	—

THE OBJECTIVE IS NOT TO MAKE THE MOUNTAIN EASY.
THE OBJECTIVE IS TO ARRIVE HIGHER WITH MORE RESERVE.

DAY
1

Arrival in Quito

Private transfer · intake briefing · medical baseline

You are met at Mariscal Sucre International Airport and driven privately into Quito. The afternoon is deliberately quiet. At 2,850 m / 9,350 ft, useful acclimatization begins immediately; a gentle walk around the hotel neighborhood is enough.

That evening, the expedition leader reviews the route, oxygen system, safety protocol and turnaround discipline. A physician-designed screening records resting SpO₂, heart rate, temperature and blood pressure to establish your baseline for the mountain.

ALTITUDE

2,850 m / 9,350 ft

MEALS

—

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel in Quito

DAY
2

Acclimatization — Cueva del Oso

Rucu Pichincha · controlled exposure above 4,000 m

The TelefériQo lifts you to Cruz Loma at 4,050 m / 13,287 ft. From there you walk the ridgeline toward Cueva del Oso, a rock shelter on Rucu Pichincha with Quito spread out below.

Three to four hours above 4,000 m provides a useful ventilatory and physiologic acclimatization stimulus and, equally important, lets the guide observe pace, movement under load, SpO₂, heart rate and temperature. It is not presented as an instant red-cell-mass adaptation; those hematologic changes take longer.

ALTITUDE

4,300 m / 14,100 ft

DISTANCE

~7 km

DURATION

4-5 h

MEALS

B · BL

LODGING

Hotel in Quito

DAY
3

Mountain gear

Ilinizas Mountain Lodge · Haci

Drive south along the Avenue of the Volcanoes to El Chaupi. At the Ilinizas Mountain Lodge, your technical equipment and Rapid O2 system are collected, fitted and checked. Cylinder pressure, regulator function, cannula, batteries and spares are logged; boots, crampons, ice axe, harness, helmet and outer layers are fitted individually.

You continue to Hacienda Los Mortiños in El Pedregal. Sleeping at 3,600 m is a deliberate acclimatization step before the summit sequence.

ALTITUDE

3,600 m / 11,811 ft

MEALS

B · D

ACCOMMODATION

Hacienda Los Mortiños

DAY
4

Cotopaxi National Park — Tambopaxi

High páramo · full system rehearsal

A short drive enters Cotopaxi National Park and reaches Tambopaxi. You walk the high páramo with your assigned two-person mountain team — Lead Guide and Mountain Assistant — at an unhurried pace, with repeat SpO2, heart-rate and temperature checkpoints.

The complete Rapid O2 sequence is then rehearsed with gloves on: cannula placement, system start-up, pressure check, battery status and contingency procedures. Your individual oxygen plan is confirmed against the SpO2, heart-rate, temperature and pace response observed across the previous days. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m.; final briefing and medical check follow, with lights out by 8:00 p.m.

ALTITUDE

3,750 m / 12,303 ft

DURATION

4-5 h

MEALS

B · BL · D

ACCOMMODATION

Tambopaxi Lodge



DAY 5 / SUMMIT COTOPAXI

5,897 m / 19,347 ft · 12-14 km · 9-11 h

A private transfer from Tambopaxi reaches the 4,600 m trailhead, followed by the walk to José Ribas Refuge. Rope teams depart on a staggered schedule, each climber with a dedicated ASEGUIM-certified Lead Guide and one Mountain Assistant. Rapid O₂ support is used according to the individual plan, via nasal cannula and on-demand delivery with automatic altitude compensation. SpO₂, heart rate and temperature are checked at defined physiologic checkpoints throughout the climb.

23:00

D4

PRIVATE TRANSFER

Trailhead

4,600 m**00:15-01:15**

D5

STAGGERED START

José Ribas Refuge

4,864 m**03:00****GLACIER / ROPE UP**

Glacier entry

~5,100 m**06:00-07:15****SUMMIT**

Cotopaxi

5,897 m**08:00****ABSOLUTE TURNAROUND**

No exceptions

—

10:30**RETURN TO REFUGE**

José Ribas Refuge

4,864 m**AFTERNOON****DESCENT / PAPALLACTA**

Thermal springs

3,300 m

TURNAROUND DISCIPLINE

8:00 a.m. is absolute. If your rope team has not reached the summit, it descends. The decision belongs to the Lead Guide. Rapid O₂ adds reserve; it does not justify extending a climb beyond the guide's safety decision.

DAY
6

Return home

Papallacta · private transfer to Mariscal Sucre International Airport

After an unhurried breakfast and, if time allows, a final hour in the thermal pools, you transfer privately to the airport. You leave with a summit certificate and the complete record of your ascent: altitude profile, SpO₂, heart rate and temperature checkpoints, Rapid O₂ system settings/status and elapsed times.

YOUR CLIMB, RECORDED

ALTITUDE

profile + checkpoints

SpO₂

trend through ascent

HEART RATE

response under load

TEMP

thermal response

SYSTEM

status + settings

TIME

elapsed segments

A physiologic baseline for your next objective — including Chimborazo.

WHAT THE SYSTEM ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE



From behind: essentially a normal small mountaineering pack.



Inside: compact cylinder and regulator protected within the pack.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ASEGUIM-certified Lead Guide dedicated to each climber on Days 4 and 5.
- One Mountain Assistant per climber for equipment, water, insulation and oxygen support.
- Expedition Leader supervising the operation as a whole.
- One dedicated 425 L Rapid O₂ primary cylinder per climber; shared reserve oxygen and spare delivery components.
- On-demand nasal-cannula delivery with automatic altitude compensation.
- Rapid O₂ field log with SpO₂, heart rate and temperature checkpoints throughout the ascent.
- Two nights in Quito; one night each at Hacienda Los Mortiños, Tambopaxi Lodge and Termas de Papallacta, with meals as listed.
- Private ground transportation throughout, including both airport transfers.
- TelefériQo access and guided acclimatization on Rucu Pichincha.
- Individually fitted technical gear: double boots, crampons, ice axe, harness, helmet and outer shell layers.
- National park entry fees and climbing permits.
- SpO₂, heart rate and temperature monitoring at defined checkpoints.
- Summit Re-attempt Guarantee (conditions below).

NOT INCLUDED

International flights and departure taxes · travel and medical insurance (mandatory) · single-occupancy supplement USD \$650 · personal base layers, gloves, glacier glasses and socks · formal glacier school (available separately) · extra meals/drinks in cities · alcohol · tips and personal expenses.

SUMMIT RE-ATTEMPT GUARANTEE

If weather, glacier conditions, park closure or a guide safety decision prevents the summit, the climber may return the following season once with the program fee waived; airfare is not included. The guarantee does not apply to voluntary withdrawal or failure to comply with the medical/safety protocol.



OXYGEN SUPPORT. JUDGMENT FIRST.

MEDICAL CLEARANCE

Physician-signed fitness clearance and medical questionnaire are required at least 30 days before departure. Cardiovascular and respiratory history, blood pressure, baseline SpO₂, temperature and previous altitude illness are reviewed before approval.

PHYSICAL CONDITION

Participants should be able to walk 6-8 hours with roughly 1,000 m of elevation gain. Previous trekking experience is expected; prior crampon and roped-glacier experience is strongly preferred. Formal glacier school can be arranged separately.

AUTONOMOUS DESCENT

You must be capable of descending safely without oxygen from any point on the route. Rapid O₂ is supplemental support, not a life-support system on which safe descent depends.

CONDITIONS + CONTINGENCY

All climbs remain subject to weather, glacier, volcanic and park conditions. A contingency day can be added on request. If Cotopaxi closes, relocation to Cayambe or Chimborazo is considered only where permits, conditions, logistics and guide judgment make the alternative appropriate.

RAPID O₂ IS MANAGED TO KEEP SpO₂ AROUND 90% THROUGHOUT THE ASCENT.

Weather, glacier, volcanic and route hazards still require conservative mountain judgment.

THE CLIMB, BY ALTITUDE.

THE PROFILE

The itinerary deliberately moves up, down and back up again. The goal is repeated controlled exposure without exhausting the climber before summit night.

3,600 m

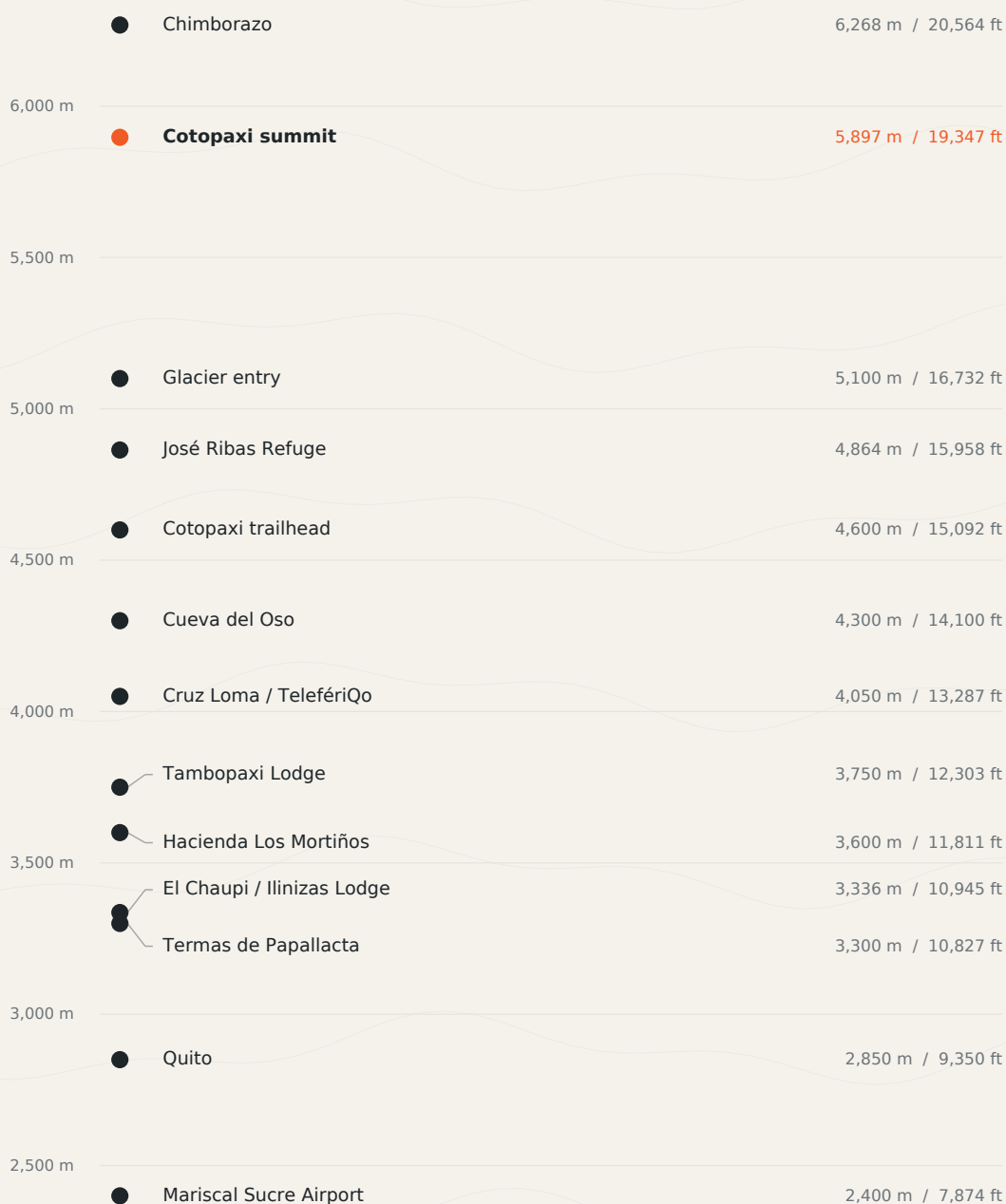
first high sleep

3,750 m

pre-summit sleep

5,897 m

Cotopaxi summit



Markers indicate true elevation; short leader lines separate labels at nearly identical altitudes.



RAPID | O₂



LOCAL EXPERIENCE. GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY.

Kordillera-Cotopaxi Rapid O2 Climb is a partnership between Kordillera and Cotopaxi Travel: field-tested oxygen support, conservative mountain judgment, experienced local guiding and premium logistics - built around one six-day objective.

KORDILLERA

USA BASE OPERATIONS / LAKE TAHOE

info@kordillera.com

kordillera.com

Technology development, medical framework
and Rapid O2 program design.



Cotopaxi Travel
REAL LIFE EXPERIENCES

COTOPAXI TRAVEL

MACHACHI / ECUADOR

+593 98 133 3483 / WhatsApp

cotopaxi-travel.com

YOUR SUMMIT. OUR COMMITMENT.

Advanced oxygen support · dedicated mountain team · SpO2 + HR + temperature monitoring · private logistics

Rapid O2 is actively managed during ascent to maintain SpO2 around 90%, with heart rate and temperature monitored alongside oxygenation. This does not eliminate the risks of acute mountain illness, weather, cold, falls, crevasses, avalanche, volcanic activity or other objective hazards. Oxygen must never be used to justify continued ascent when descent is indicated.