

WOMEN'S DENALI / MCKINLEY EXPEDITION

JUNE 3 - JUNE 24, 2027

Alaska Mountaineering School promotes excellence in responsible mountaineering and wilderness travel by educating and guiding others. Our hands-on, you-do-it approach leads to successful outcomes. We want you to be able to repeat the skills you learned without supervision. The rope safety systems involved with crevasse rescue are best introduced in a classroom setting before getting on a glacier.



WOMEN'S DENALI / MCKINLEY EXPEDITION

Thank you for your interest in Alaska Mountaineering School's Women's Denali Expedition. AMS is thrilled to offer this expedition! Part of what makes this group special is that it will be a small team of six female climbers with three female guides. This is a rare and excellent opportunity for climbers to work together for 22 days with the common goal of climbing to the top of North America with a supportive affinity group.



2025 Women's Team on the Summit - 50 years after the first all-female ascent of the Mountain!

Climbing Denali is a sustained, difficult challenge, no matter how you slice it. The remote wilderness is serious, and the weather is extreme. This also provides unparalleled beauty and commitment, which is part of what makes climbing in the Alaska Range a lifetime achievement for climbers worldwide.

SPECIFICATIONS

- Route, West Buttress. 20,310' / 6,190m
- Advanced (Alaska Grade II)
- June 3 - June 24, 2027 - 22 days
- 6 climbers: 3 guides
- \$13,200 per climber

WHAT THIS EXPEDITION IS

Please carefully read our [Denali, West Buttress Expedition Details](#) found on [our website](#). This all-female team will follow our standard expedition plan. We welcome all who identify as female to apply to join this team.

This expedition provides:

- An opportunity to support personal achievements in a collaborative context.
- Strong female leadership, organization, and communication throughout the climb.
- Opportunity to communicate with your guides in advance about gear, training, and mindset.
- Careful screening of all participants in advance is necessary to build a team with common goals, mindsets, fitness levels, and experience.
- Teamwork: everyone is required to contribute each day with the physical and mental work of the climb.
- Supportive teammates and leaders.
- Additional training time to review Denali-specific ropework skills in Talkeetna, before our flight to the Kahiltna Glacier.



Descending from the summit, All Women's Team, 2025

WHAT THIS EXPEDITION IS NOT

- The time to learn mountaineering, winter camping, or snowshoeing for the first time.
- There are no porters to assist. We will be carrying all of our equipment: food, fuel, backpacks, and sleds will be heavy— up to 70 pounds at times— throughout the climb. Be prepared to dig deep both mentally and physically.
- This is not a space to process sexism and its repercussions. We aim to keep our focus on the day-to-day mountain climbing experience. Your guides are excellent at what they do, but are not mental health professionals.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications will be considered as they are received. The deadline for applying is November 2, 2026, with final decisions made by November 16, 2026.

For questions, contact AMS at 907-733-1016 or email info@climbalaska.org.

- Complete and return via e-mail to info@climbalaska.org the AMS [Expedition Application](#). There is a \$50 application fee. Each applicant will have a Zoom meeting with Colby Coombs, AMS Director.
- In your email, please provide an answer to the following question: ***Why do you want to join our All Women Denali Expedition?***

AMS Admissions staff and the Guide team will review all applications and make the final selections.

- Accepted participants will be contacted with details on how to pay a non-refundable deposit of \$ 3,000.00.
- Purchase trip insurance: AMS will send you a link. Insurance covers you if you have to cancel before the climb for nearly any reason. Pre-expedition injuries and illnesses do happen.
- AMS staff will send you an acceptance package with helpful information and forms to read, sign, and return. You will also receive two E-books to help prepare you for this climb.
- AMS is always available to answer any questions you may have.



AMS Women's Team Guides, Morgan, Nadine and Michelle, 2025.

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