



*"... When Prometheus was chained to the rocks of the Caucasus, set out his old enemy Dragon to destroy the hero. But it was told: not to be Prometheus at the mercy of Dragon. And was turned Dragon into the stone on the slopes of Kazbek and became Dragon Rocks..."*

MOUNTAINEERING & CLIMBING ASSOCIATION of GEORGIA

CLUB MOUNTAIN TRAVELLER

On behalf of the Mountaineering & Climbing Association of Georgia the Club Mountain Traveller (CMT) is pleased to invite the young members of the UIAA Associations to the international youth "Mountaineering School" in Georgia.

**Date:**

23 – 30 July (exact dates may be changed by 1-2 days depending on flight availability but any changes will be displayed as soon as possible)

**Place:** Kazbek Gorge Mountains– Georgia

**Accommodation:** Tents

**Food:** Full board and lunch bag for ascent. Bring extra mountain snacks such as sweets, energy bars etc.

- Management:** Experienced instructors from the Mountaineering & Climbing Association of Georgia
- Participants:** Young people aged 16 years and over. If under 18 to be accompanied by a qualified Federation Leader. Parental consent must be obtained for under 18's by the sending Federation who is responsible for the young participant.
- Costs:** 230 EUR for 8 days for the entire program, payment on arrival. For those who wish a bank transfer is possible
- Equipment:** Mountain clothes for high altitude, cold and windy weather including: mountain boots, sleeping bag, ice axe, helmet, harness, crampons, sun glasses, gloves, hat, navigation equipment/GPS etc. camera, personal first aid kit, waterproofs. **Contact us if you need more advice** on equipment and you can, also, ask your Mountaineering Federations advice.
- Meeting point:** July th Tbilisi, in front of Wendy's 31/13 on Rustaveli Avenue, 1200 local time in front of Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel (exact dates may be changed in 1-2 days depending on flight availability in July **2019**).
- Departure:** 30 July 2019 Tbilisi
- Registration term:** Ending 30 July **2019**

## KAZBEK GORGE MOUNTAINS

GEORGIA, 23 – 30 July 2019

## K

azbek (5047m), one of the highest and beautiful peaks in the Caucasus, is situated in the eastern part of the central Caucasus, in Georgia. The Mount Kazbek Region contains itself a lot of summits over 4000 meters and is one of the most important mountaineering and trekking areas in the Caucasus. Mt. Kazbek is also known as "Mkinvartsveri"- by its Georgian name. The first ascent on Kazbek was fulfilled in 1868 by D. Freshfield. The summit Kazbek represents a surprising number of ancient legends and sights. Approximately at the altitude 3800 m. on an 80 m rocky wall in a cave there is an ancient monastery Betlemi (**Vifleem**). Under the ancient Georgian annals "Kartlis Skhovreba", this monastery holds stonehouse relics and church treasures. According to information, sacred Josef, who rose to the monastery, presented queen Irakli a tablet of stone from the house of Abraham. In ancient centuries the monks climbed up the weighed ferrous circuit. The ancient legend described by famous Georgian poet Ilia Chavchavadze in a known poet and connected to the monastery: A falling shepherdess of the sacred monk sheltered there after having lost the path - and as punishment for the fall, by god's will the monastery on the summit Kazbek was set up. One other ancient legend of the rocks of Kazbek relates to Prometheus and his arrest. The old enemy, Dragon, heard about it and was set to pay with the hero, but was converted into a rock and formed **Dragon's Rocks** deposited at the altitude of 4800 m in a large 1 km horseshoe. By main ornament Khevi (the gorge Darial) and its numeral is a monastery **Sacred Trinity** – on Georgian Sameba, where one time there was a Cross of sacred Nino. The monastery is picturesque placed against a background of Kazbek, is directly above the town of Kazbegi, at an altitude of approximately 3900m. There is a modern small church.



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The way from Tbilisi to Kazbegi Region lies through the beautiful Aragvi Valley and Jvari Pass (2380m). This trip takes 3,5 hours. After we get to a small town Kazbegi (1700m) we begin our ascent up to

Camp 1 (2950m). This is a delightful trek across the alpine pastures leading us to the Gergeti Glacier. From the campsite we pass a moraine and continue our trek crossing the glacier. We reach the high mountain refuge - Meteorological station (3600m), situated on the south slopes of Mount Kazbek.

Kazbek is a diverse landscape for both the climber and from a tourist point of view. The classic path to the summit is estimated Grade 2-d category of complexity and is fine for those who are making an ascent of a 5,000m peak for the first time. It is recommended that all participants should have experienced an ascent of up to 4 000 m before, and that they are well acclimatized before this event. Directly from the meteorological station to the summit there is an ice-stepped route of Grade 3-d category of complexity. In winter 2003 the members of Club Mountain Traveller made the first ascent of a Grade 5 category route on **Dragon's Rocks** wall.

**In spite of the technical ease of its classic route, Kazbek is a serious mountain.** Although not a great deal of advanced mountaineering experience is required for the ascent on Kazbek, you will need to be familiar with the basic use of crampons and ice axes and you should be in physically fit. We have only a few days for acclimatization before we ascend the summit. We do not do any rock climbing, although the final sections of the mountain will be climbed on icy slopes at about 20-30 degrees and the ropes will be fixed for more safety and ease of climbing. **Please note that helicopter rescue is not always possible on Kazbek. Participants must have accident, rescue and repatriation insurance cover which is valid for Georgia and for mountaineering up to 6,000m. You will be asked for a copy on arrival. We recommend third party liability insurance and travel insurance in addition.**

## **Programme:**

### 1<sup>st</sup> day

Arrival of the participants at the Tbilisi. About place and time will be exact agreement with participants before expedition start.

The participants from Tbilisi arrive in the settlement Kazbek and travel through the Aragvi Valley and Jvari Pass (3.5 – 4 hrs) to reach a small town Kazbegi (1700m).

### 2<sup>nd</sup> day:

The participants climb up to the first camp approximately 2700m height.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> day

Ascent of the participants to base camp at 3800m height.

### 4<sup>th</sup> day

Acclimatization trek to 4 200 m. It is possible for those who wish to ascend Ortsveri (1-st category of complexity) to do so. Descend to meteorostation.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> day

Day of rest and preparation before ascent. It is possible for those who wish to visit the high-mountainous remote monastery "Betlemi" at approximately 3 900 m height. Depending on the condition of the members of expedition, this day we will ascend to 4 300 m and set up our high altitude camp on the glacier, before any possible storms, observing appropriate safety rules.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> day

Summit day.

Depending on weather conditions the rearrangement of 5-th and 6-th days is possible.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> day

Descent from base camp to the settlement Kazbek and trip to Tbilisi. Those who wish can leave though the Georgia- Russia border.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> day

Departure.

- Please note that a location map and further meeting information will be provided on registration.
- If your federations have any questions about the programme please let us know
- Please leave adequate time to receive a VISA

### **How to organize the meet**

**Mission statement:** our purpose is to organise a joint international youth mountaineering camp. The Georgian Mountaineering Federation (MCAG) is your host and we welcome young mountaineers from international Federations coming to this camp to try Mt Kazbek with friendship, mutual respect and mutual understanding.

Most importantly, the main purpose is to have a safe ascent and for all participants to return home healthy as when they left – or more so. The second purpose is to create a friendly atmosphere of mutual understanding and mutual respect, a situation where all care about each other, help each other and put personal interests in the background. Third is to make a successful ascent.

### Logistics:

We aim to agree on the style of the ascent and on details such as teams climbing together, food shopping so everyone has their preferred foods on the mountain etc. Food will be bought together and menus made in advance, and who will be doing the cooking.

Preparation of equipment and the ascent organisation depends on the level, qualification and experience of participants. If you are keen to have an active planning role please do take part. Otherwise you will just need to be happy with your teams' decision on the mountain. Remember, please, that decision on ascent safety rules is on organisers.

**There will be a daily opportunity to discuss options, be briefed and debriefed.**

## REGISTRATION FORM

### KAZBEK GORGE MOUNTAINS GEORGIA

**July, 23 th to 30 of July 2019.**

**FEDERATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

### PARTICIPANT:

Name and Family Name		Sex	
Date of Birth		Email	
Address			

Telephone		Fax	
Mobile telephone			
Emergency home contact number			
Passport number		Period of validity	
Date of issuing and city			
Please indicate your language preferences.			
Spoken languages	1.	2.	
Special diets: <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Eat variety <input type="checkbox"/> allergies and intolerances <input type="checkbox"/> special diet			
Details:			
Do you have any Special medical needs or allergies that we should be aware of?			
Name and telephone numbers of a person we can contact in the event of an emergency			
Participant climbing experience, level and skills:			

**If you have more participants, please use another copy of this form.**

**Place, date and time of arrival and transport, which you plan to use (and number of train or flight) :**

**Insurance:** Participants should have a collective or individual insurance policy, which guarantees covering the expenses of the rescue operations if an accident happens to them in Georgia. In addition third party liability, accident and travel insurance should be acquired. Please bring a copy of your insurance with you. Name of the insurance company:

Policy number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participants applying for a UIAA Global Youth Summit event also acknowledge and accept that:**

- **Safety is a primary concern at UIAA Global Youth Summit Events, but as with all the forms of climbing/mountaineering there is a danger of personal injury or death. The participant must strictly follow the rules given by the leaders.**

- **Participants at UIAA Global Youth Summit events, and their parents if younger than 18, accept the risks of participation and are responsible for their own actions, which should take account of relevant circumstances such as changing weather conditions.**

- **To take part it is necessary to be medically fit to do the activity and have valid liability and accident insurance which is valid in the country of the event and which covers rescue and repatriation. Please bring a copy of your insurance with you to show the organizers. The alcohol consumption by the young people is forbidden during the camp.**

**The candidate participation must be approved and confirmed by his country Mountain Federation with the Federation's stamp and Federation's President**

**Signature (or authorized representative signature)**

**Stamp****Signature****Signed Participant :** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Parents or participant if over 18)****Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, surname, telephone, fax and e- mail **of the person to contact:**

**Please send by mail ( [zkutch@yahoo.com](mailto:zkutch@yahoo.com)) this registration form through**

**before ending 01 july 2019.**