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## AMAZING EXPERIENCE! The 2010 Ecuador Leadership Expedition

*Introductory: No experience necessary; good physical fitness a must.*



**Cotopaxi Summit**

Where is the best place to truly learn about leadership? Wapiti has teamed up with Earth Treks to put together a very special adventure. In 2000, Earth Treks teamed up with the Wharton School of Business to explore alternatives to their traditional methods of teaching leadership. This led to expeditions with Earth Treks to Kilimanjaro and Mount Cotopaxi for their MBA students. Now, in partnership with Wapiti, an outdoor adventure company that specializes in corporate development, we are offering these same programs to a select group of corporate leaders. This will be a life changing experience that is truly OXYGEN INSPIRED!

**Why Ecuador?** Ecuador is perhaps the best place in the world to develop high altitude mountaineering skills. It is also a great place to develop leadership and high performance teaming skills. On this skills development expedition, we will be ascending Mount Cotopaxi (19,348 feet / 5,897 meters), Ecuador's second highest peak. Standing above several smaller peaks, it is one of the most beautiful and awe-inspiring mountains in the world. Cotopaxi is also the world's highest active volcano, last erupting in 1942 (geologists don't predict any eruptions to take place during our trip). Based in the climber's hut at 15,700 feet, we will spend a day developing the requisite mountaineering skills. Once ready, we will depart at midnight for the summit. The route winds through a complex system of crevasses, crossing small snow bridges and climbing exposed slopes. Be prepared for bitter cold and a long, challenging climb. Summiting, hopefully at dawn, is an incredible accomplishment, rewarded by magnificent views and a well-deserved feeling of pride.

On this special trip, you will learn **HIGH ALTITUDE LEADERSHIP SKILLS**. This leadership development and introduction to mountaineering course is the perfect opportunity for you to satisfy your dream of climbing a gigantic glaciated mountain while preparing yourself for the leadership challenges you will face in your life. In addition, Ecuador is a country rich in culture. We will be based in the colonial capital, Quito, where we will tour its beautiful cathedrals and fantastic restaurants during our expedition. This is a "don't miss" life changing experience.

Wapiti Adventures, LLC, [www.wapiti.com](http://www.wapiti.com) has partnered with Earth Treks on adventures that are customized specifically with the corporate executive in mind. Wapiti works with corporate executives and their teams to deliver experiences that create breakthroughs that are both personal and professional. Earth Treks has led well over 200 expeditions since 1992 and goes to great lengths in the selection of our guides, most of whom have guided expeditions on 3 or 4 continents. Leader of this expedition, Chris Warner, is the president of Earth Treks, and one of this expedition's senior mountain guides, is the co-author of **High Altitude Leadership**, published in October, 2008. Chris works with Fortune 500 companies, the intelligence community, and business schools, exploring the role of leadership and high performance teaming. In his spare time he leads expeditions to the world's tallest and most feared peaks (K2, Everest, Lhotse and many more). All of our senior guides are seasoned experiential educators, who have worked with the ET model of leadership development for many years. The Wapiti team will also be involved in the trip and will ensure all participants are taken care of.



[www.wapiti.com](http://www.wapiti.com) Wapiti Adventures, LLC **Oxygen inspired thinking** <sup>SM</sup>

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411 West Orchard Avenue Ballwin, MO 63011 636.230.3310

"In my opinion, the reason that our partnership with Chris and Earth Treks has succeeded is that Chris is an educator and an outdoor leader. *I have heard him tell multiple groups of students that he is passionate and committed to enabling them to achieve their personal best, and he uses a combination of anecdotes, coaching, challenges, and modeled behavior to propel students to achieve at very high levels.* Chris has succeeded as a field-based expedition leader, a featured speaker in the Wharton Leadership Lectures series (for MBA students), a featured speaker in the Wharton Leadership Conference (for executives), an interview and case study subject, and an author."

Jeff Klein: Director, Wharton Graduate Leadership Program and Wharton Leadership Ventures



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## Daily Itinerary

- Day 1:** Depart the USA and arrive in Quito, Ecuador in the evening. Transfer to our hotel. We stay in a small, family-run, hotel that is located in the center of the city.
- Day 2:** Teams will form on this introductory day, with the focus on establishing group goals and setting individual expectations. In the afternoon the team will prepare for the next day's climb.
- Day 3:** Our training begins with an ascent of Mt. Pichincha, a 15,500-foot volcano that rises above Quito. This is a very rewarding climb, preparing both our bodies and our minds for the Cotopaxi climb. In the evening we will return to our hotel in Quito.
- Day 4:** Explore Quito, visiting the cathedrals and historic sites of "Old Quito." Pack for the trip to Cotopaxi.
- Day 5:** Travel to the climber's hut on Cotopaxi (15,744 feet). We will drive to within an hour of the hut and then backpack the last leg, with our gear.
- Day 6:** Skill development on the glaciers of Cotopaxi. We'll practice rope handling, glacier travel, and snow climbing skills. Prepare for a midnight departure for the summit.
- Day 7:** Starting at midnight, we will climb to the summit of Cotopaxi (19,348 feet), hopefully summiting at dawn. We will be rewarded with awe-inspiring views of the surrounding peaks and the crater of this glaciated volcano. After descending to the hut, we will pack up and travel to a small mountain lodge.
- Day 8:** We will spend the morning at the lodge, analyzing our team's experience, before heading back to Quito. Teams will meet for a final dinner.
- Day 9:** Upon complete "**Oxygen Inspiration**", Depart Quito for USA.

*For more information or to make your reservation, please contact  
Kevin Miquelon – [Kevin@wapiti.com](mailto:Kevin@wapiti.com) or 314-753-3644*



**Rime Ice collected during the climb**



**Descending off of the summit**