

AIR FORCE



OUTDOOR RECREATION

# ICE CLIMBING



United States Air Force Academy  
Outdoor Recreation Center | Bldg 5136

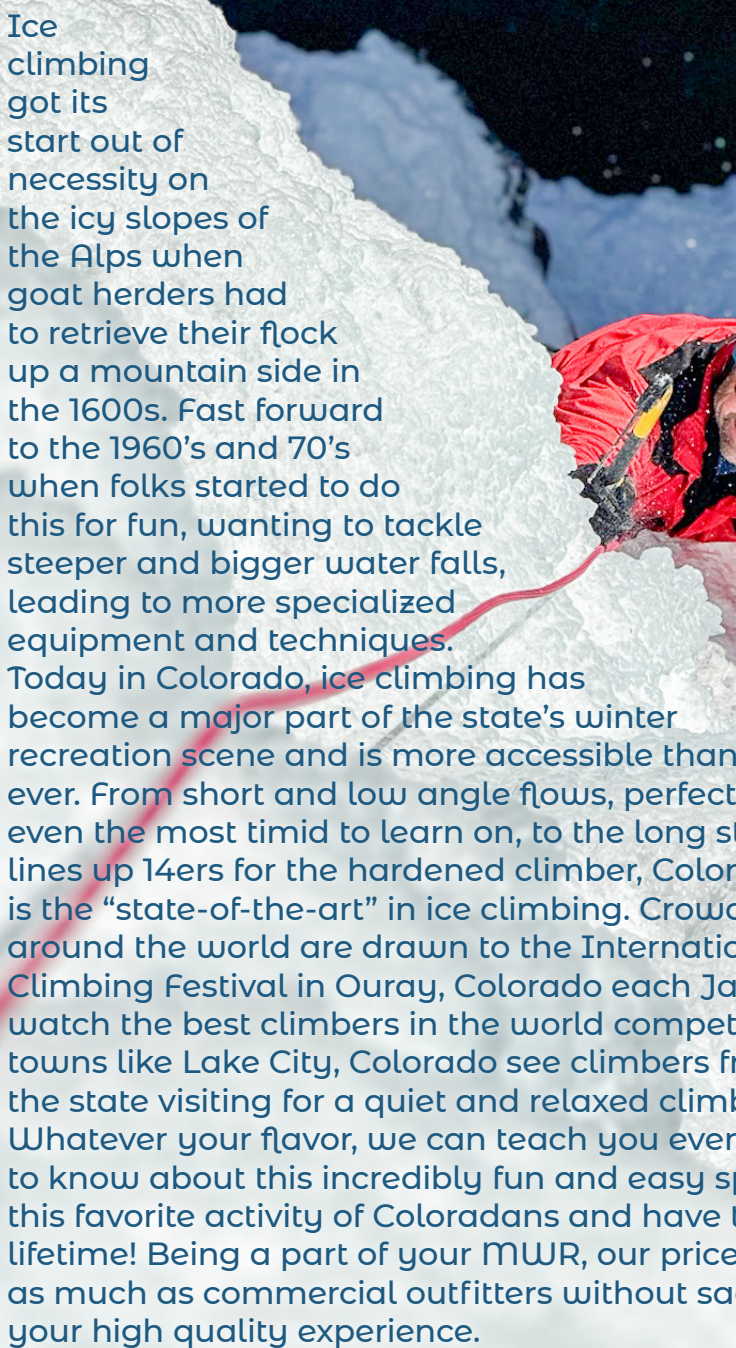
**719-333-4753/4356**



**SCAN HERE**

for prices, ski shop services,  
winter rental equipment,  
ODR activities and more.





Ice climbing got its start out of necessity on the icy slopes of the Alps when goat herders had to retrieve their flock up a mountain side in the 1600s. Fast forward to the 1960's and 70's when folks started to do this for fun, wanting to tackle steeper and bigger water falls, leading to more specialized equipment and techniques. Today in Colorado, ice climbing has become a major part of the state's winter recreation scene and is more accessible than ever. From short and low angle flows, perfect even the most timid to learn on, to the long st lines up 14ers for the hardened climber, Colorado is the "state-of-the-art" in ice climbing. Crowds around the world are drawn to the International Climbing Festival in Ouray, Colorado each January to watch the best climbers in the world compete. In towns like Lake City, Colorado see climbers from all over the state visiting for a quiet and relaxed climb. Whatever your flavor, we can teach you everything you need to know about this incredibly fun and easy sport. Join this favorite activity of Coloradans and have it for your lifetime! Being a part of your MWR, our prices are as low as commercial outfitters without sacrificing your high quality experience.

## TRIP SCHEDULE 2025

### DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### 2026

### JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### FEBRUARY

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### MARCH

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

[INTRO TO ICE CLIMBING](#)

[INTERMEDIATE](#)

[LAKE CITY WEEKEND TRIP](#)

[OURAY WEEKEND TRIP](#)

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## Our Ice Climbing Guides

USAFA is proud to have indisputably the most experienced and highest trained staff in all of military MWR. We don't contract our trips out to other outfitters because we are one! We make sure our guides are consistently at the forefront of guide training and avalanche education in the industry, often exceeding the standard for the commercial industry. As a center for excellence, USAFA OAP only hires the highest quality staff and provides nationally and internationally accredited training for our guides and our guests. Guiding in and around avalanche terrain and ice terrain is a complex and difficult job. Each Lead USAFA ice climbing guide is a certified AMGA Single Pitch Instructor or IFMGA Mountain Guide, has taken minimum avalanche safety training through AIARE Rec Level 2, has at least four seasons of experience leading groups in ice climbing terrain, is certified as a Wilderness First Responder (WFR) or in Wilderness First Aid (WFA), and has been through an extensive training and evaluation process to vet their guide quality. Our guides are exceptional educators, they are patient and excited to share their craft with you. They are lifelong backcountry professionals and are committed to delivering an incredible experience while prioritizing group safety. By ensuring our guides are thoroughly qualified, we can confidently say your trip will be of the highest quality. Your only disappointment will come from going back to normal life!

# GEAR UP





## AMGA Training Standard

The American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) is the only internationally recognized mountain guide training organization in the United States.

A member of the International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations (IFMGA), the AMGA offers the most robust and highest standard of education in this industry, requiring years of experience, course work, and examination to gain accreditation as a mountain professional. Our guides undergo AMGA training in many mountain disciplines, and our AMGA Certified Single Pitch Instructors and trained guides are constantly refreshed through inhouse continuing education and mentorship. For more information on the extensive training our guides pursue, visit [www.amga.com](http://www.amga.com)



## OAP Volunteers Wanted

If you are interested in volunteering your time to help us with biking, climbing, hiking, or any other trips we offer, give us a call and we will tell you how to become an official OAP volunteer!

## Intro to Ice Climbing

**Dec 20 | Jan 3 | Feb 14 | Mar 7 | 7am and return between 3pm and 5pm (location dependent).** Learn how to climb epic frozen flows, how to safely use ice climbing equipment, and how to belay your partners. Don't miss out on this unique, easy, and extremely fun part of the Colorado outdoor scene! For more information, and mid-week and custom dates availability, email us at [usafaoap@gmail.com](mailto:usafaoap@gmail.com).

Price does not include guide gratuity. Minimum participation is three people, max is six.

**Minors must be accompanied by an adult 18+.**

**Ages 9+ | \$109/person**

## Intermediate/Advanced Ice Climbing

**Dec 13 | Mar 28 | 7am and return 5pm (location dependent).**

If you have climbed before or have taken one of our beginner classes and are ready for something a little more advanced, email us at [usafaoap@gmail.com](mailto:usafaoap@gmail.com) to set up a private course. We will take you to our intermediate/advanced site and go over vertical ice, ice anchors, and anything else you are interested in learning. Refer to our website for more information.

Includes transportation, equipment, and guide. Price does not include guide gratuity. Minimum participation is two people, max is six. **Ages 18+ | \$185/person**

## Lake City Ice Climbing Weekends

**Jan 16 - 18 | Mar 21 - 23.** Enjoy this long weekend of ice climbing fun in the secluded town of Lake City, Colorado! Lake City is home to four 14ers, some amazing backcountry ice flows, and their own in-town ice park boasting dozens of climbs for all abilities. Avoiding the crowds that Ouray draws, this ice park is an incredible place to learn to climb or work on advanced techniques if you are already experienced! Each year we rent a large, comfy house in town and spend the weekend going between incredible climbing in the park, and relaxing evenings by the fire. You can even climb by night under the colors of lit up ice



flows! This popular annual trip is sure to impress and is a must-do while in Colorado! Includes transportation, lodging, home cooked meals, all necessary gear, and OAP AMGA Certified Guides. **Minors must be accompanied by an adult 18+. Ages 16+ | \$499/person**

## Ouray Ice Climbing Weekend

**Feb 6 - 8.** Don't miss this once in a lifetime experience in the town of Ouray, Colorado! Enjoy a fun-filled weekend learning to ice climb, dining out in this quaint and beautiful mountain town, and relaxing in local hot springs at your leisure. Refer to our website for more information., or email us at [usafaoap@gmail.com](mailto:usafaoap@gmail.com). Includes all climbing equipment, transportation, guides, and lodging. Meals, guide gratuity, and hot springs are not included in the price, however military discounted admission to the hot springs is offered there. **Minors must be accompanied by an adult 18+. Ages 16+ | \$489/person**

## Payment Plan Option

For any of our bigger trips that are two or three days long, we offer a payment plan option. You can pay a down deposit of 50% of the program cost and then two payments for the remaining balance, one due two months prior to trip date, and the other due one month prior. **Example:** \$499/person. You pay a \$249 down deposit, then two payments of \$125 leading up to the trip.

## Custom Trips/Activities

Email [usafaoap@gmail.com](mailto:usafaoap@gmail.com) to schedule a custom trip/activity for just your group! One ID card holder may sponsor up to five guests. Save money with larger groups, set your own schedule and customize your own activity! Some activities may need to be planned far in advance, others may only require a week or so. Our guides are some of the best in the industry and are working hard to give you the experience of a lifetime! Your gratuity is very much appreciated and can be accepted as cash, venmo or paypal.



**TO THE TOP**

## OAP CANCELLATION POLICY

- » Full payment for all trips is due at time of registration.
- » All trips are subject to cancellation due to unsafe weather or conditions outside of our control. In this event, the trip may be rescheduled, or you may opt for a refund minus irretrievable deposits. In the case of cancellation due to insufficient participation, a full refund will be issued.
- » Cancellations within 7 days of the single-day activity start date will NOT be refunded or rescheduled unless otherwise stated.
- » Cancellations within 30 days of a multi-day activity start date will NOT be refunded unless someone takes your place on the activity. Any refunds issued in this case will result in a service fee of 10% of the total price for the activity.
- » Cancellations 30 days or more before a multiday activity start date are refundable in full unless otherwise stated.
- » Refunds may be given within 30 days of the activity when a medical emergency or military TDY/PCS orders prohibit participation. A dated and signed doctor's note or signed orders must be presented within 72hrs of the document issue date in order to receive a refund in these cases. If a refund is given for a multi-day trip in this instance, OAP will retain a service fee of 10% of the total price for the activity. No refunds will be given in these cases after 30 days from the trip start date.
- » "No Shows" are non-refundable and will not be rescheduled.



**NOTICE:** A High Risk Activities Worksheet (AF 4391) is required to participate in ANY high risk activity, for ALL Active Duty Personnel. It is required to be completed by Active Duty Personnel before they participate in most of our Outdoor Rec Adventure Programs. This responsibility lies solely on the Active Duty participant.