

ČESKÁ EXPEDICE CZECH EXPEDITION **MAKALU 2020**



8485
MAKALU
czech expedition 2020

EXPEDITION MEMBERS:

(after long time of Czechoslovak history of Himalayan expeditions there are once again two female climbers within the expedition members, who will also try to reach the summit without supplementary oxygen and without Sherpas)

Jan Trávníček, Miroslava Jirková, Marek Novotný, Aleš Bílek, Petr Jan Juračka, Jan Koukol, Petr Kalina, Lukáš Jasenský, Pavel Málek, Barbora Boyer, Vivian Boyer, Martin Mazal, Radek Maráček

Many of these climbers have already experiences from at least one of the 8000er peaks. For example, Marek Novotný has already climbed several of them including solo ascents. On the other hand, Petr Juračka is an excellent photographer and cameraman, so be ready for gorgeous photo- and video-footages.

After long time we put together another big expedition, that will follow the tradition of Czechoslovak Himalayan ascents from the past century. With state of the art equipment and gear, each member of the expedition will have a chance to try to reach the summit of Makalu. Teamwork and team spirit will be essential for this tough 8000er mountain. The ascent will be carried via "normal route" that was for the first time successfully accomplished by two French climbers back in 1955. The normal route follows the North-west ridge up to North Col (Makalu La) located between Makalu and Kangchungtse summits and continues via North Face to the main summit.

The expedition will be done by fair-means, hence, without supplementary oxygen and without high-altitude porters. We will follow the expedition style with gradual setting up of high-altitude camps, that allows our appropriate acclimatization.

The expedition leader is one of the Czech most experienced Himalayan climbers **Honza "Tráva" Trávníček**, who already summited five 8000er including probably the two most difficult and dangerous of them - Annapurna and K2. Honza also led an atypical expedition to Cho Oyu, where a team of experienced climbers accompanied blind climber Jan Říha. Honza's climbing- and at the same time life- partner is Miroslava Jirková. Both of them obtained the fair-play award for a human life rescue during the ascent of Manaslu back in 2015.

The name "Makalu" has most probably its roots in the Sanskrit word Maha-Kala that means Big Black and it is one of the by-names of one of the most important Hindu gods - Shiva.

Makalu is with its 8485 m the 5th highest mountain in the world. It is located approximately 20 km east of Mount Everest on the border between Nepal and Tibet Autonomous Region, China. Makalu is an isolated mountain with distinctive pyramid shape accompanied by two auxiliary peaks Kangchungtse (7678 m) and Chomo Lonzo (7804 m).





The first successful ascent was performed by Lionel Terray and Jean Couzy on 15th of May 1955 via North Face and north-west ridge. Both were members of a French expedition led by Jean Franco.

The French team already unsuccessfully attempted to reach the summit in 1954. Makalu is considered one of the most difficult mountains in the world due to its steep pitches and knife-edged ridges that are completely open to the nature elements.



CZECH CLIMBING HISTORY ON MAKALU

In 1973 the first Czechoslovak expedition set off for Makalu. They decided to climb the massive south-west pillar in order to reach the south summit and from that follow south-east ridge towards main summit. The 19 members-expedition was led by Ivan Gálfy. During the ascension attempt above 5th high-altitude camp one member of the expedition Jan Kounický unhappily slipped in relatively simple terrain while he was trying to fix a malfunction of his oxygen regulator. After falling nearly 100 meters from altitude of 8000 m he remained severely injured. The desperate rescue mission to save his life unfortunately didn't succeed. He died 5 days later in the tent. It was the very same tent for which he dug the snow platform few days ago. At that time, he was unaware that he was digging his own grave. His sad destiny inspired the Czechoslovak tv movie "Carry your own grave to the mountain" (1979).

Three years later, the first ascent via south-west pillar was finalized by Slovak climber Milan Kriššák and Czech climber Karel Schubert together with a member of a Spanish expedition Jose Camprubi. This route hasn't been repeated till today. During the descent Karel Schubert tragically dies.

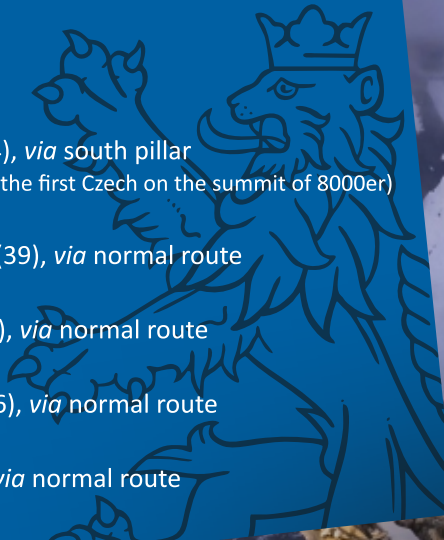
1976 - Karel Schubert (34), *via* south pillar
(died during descent, the first Czech on the summit of 8000er)

1993 - Leopold Sulovský (39), *via* normal route

1998 - Josef Šimůnek (33), *via* normal route

1998 - Soňa Boštíková (26), *via* normal route

2008 - Radek Jaroš (44), *via* normal route



Honza „Tráva” Trávníček

► Ama Dablam Expedition 2019

filmmaking and climbing expedition -
reached altitude 6300 m

► Manaslu Expedition 2018

with Miri Jirková reached altitude of 7600 m,
where they have to end up the ascent due to bad
weather conditions

► Cho Oyu Expedition 2016

summit of Cho Oyu (8201 m) reached on 7th of October,
blind climber Honza Říha reached altitude of 7500 m

► Manaslu Expedition 2015

with Miri Jirková reached the last high-altitude camp at 7400
m, where they organized the rescue mission of a French climber
– both were awarded by the Czech Olympic committee with the
Fair-play award

► K2 Expedition 2014

summit of K2 (8611 m) reached on July 26th together with Radek Jaroš

► South America Expedition 2013

reached summits: Nevado Chopicalqui 6354 m, Huascaran 6768 m and
Chimborazo 6268 m (somewhere under the summit)

► Annapurna Expedition 2012

summit of Annapurna (8091 m) reached on 6th of May together with Radek Jaroš

► Manaslu Expedition 2011

summit of Manaslu (8163 m) reached on April 24th

► Gasherbrum Expedition 2009

summit of Gasherbrum (8068 m) reached on 3rd of June

► Bolivia, Cordillera 2005

Huana Potosí (6088 m)

► Tajikistan, Pamir 2003

Pik Korschenewskaja (7106 m), reached altitude 7000 m

► Nepal, Himalayas 2000

Parchamo Peak (6237 m),
reached altitude 6000 m



- traveler and mountain climber from Pilsen (CZ)
- geodesist, teacher and organizer of sport and cultural events
- enthusiast for any kind of sport discipline
- director and co-organizer of Škoda Bike Marathon and administrator of climbing centrum in Pilsen (TJ-Loko)
- active member of "Čistý sport" movement, vegetarian for over 20 years
- executive head of Summit Drive company (climbing courses, team building, mountain events of any kind)



COOPERATION

There is a large scale of cooperation options for our sponsors. Everything is based on individual requirements and preferences. You can take for granted our personal presence during the events organized for your company.



MAIN POINTS OF COOPERATION:

LECTURES AND TALKS

It is possible to arrange a lecture or talk for your co-workers or clients after the return from an expedition. The talk can be focused (according to the client preferences) on different aspects (motivation, cooperation, training, danger in the mountains, etc.). It can serve as an enrichment of your staff trainings or as a bonus for your long-term clients. The atmosphere is always friendly and relaxed and there is an open discussion and chance to try mountaineering gear afterwards.

TV PRESENTATION

Particular parts of the whole expedition are presented as short inputs in sport shows and educational programs. According to the technical possibilities we broadcast pictures followed by direct phone calls from BC via satellite telephone for BBV sports news. Many talks and discussions with expedition members completed with photos and videos are broadcasted after the return from expedition on ČT and other statewide TV stations (TV Nova, TV Prima). We prepare movie material with hq resolution that is shown during our lectures and eventually also on TV. Our movies became attractive for Czech and international festivals.

LECTURES AND COURSES

We are able to arrange climbing courses or a teambuilding lectures for our sponsorship companies, their clients or family members. We organize talks and discussions with focus on our previous expeditions (K2, Annapurna, Gasherbrum, Manaslu, Cho Oyu). Additionally, we can organize talks together with Radek Jaroš and other mountaineers as well as to stream mountaineering movies or videos from our climbs. Extensive lecturing about sport training, healthy diet, motivation, risk assessment, traveling and climbing not only for schools is taking place during the whole year. During such events I set promotion advertisements of my sponsors on the stage and I integrate short dynamic video from the expedition showing my sponsors logos. There is a possibility to put a company banner in the presentation hall and to distribute fliers during our talks and lectures.

RADIO PRESENTATION

Before every expedition there are radio shows on ČRo1 and other media partners. During the expedition live-streams are mediated by satellite telephone and internet from the Base camp and broadcasted by ČRo1 Radiožurnál and other radio stations.

INTERNET

The expedition is also presented on regular basis on the most followed Czech server www.iDnes.cz. The sponsorship companies are introduced on www.honzatratvnick.cz website, which also serve as an information source for journalists. If requested, we would be more than happy to share all expedition news directly to our sponsors company websites. There is a possibility of placing an advertisement banner of your company on the expedition website. The most up-to-date news and photos from expedition are also uploaded to my FB profile and Instagram.

OTHERS

We organize press conferences with the presence of our sponsors before setting off and after returning from every expedition. We prepare photographic and film material for commercial use from every expedition and regularly publish calendars, posters, postcards and similar items. We participate in presenting of large-scale activities and products of our sponsorship companies. Each sponsor will receive a DVD with an expedition film.



PRESS RELEASES

Articles are sent to the ČTK news agency on a regular basis. The course of the expedition is monitored by daily press supported by current news. Articles about the expedition are published in the reputable magazines like Koktejl, Reflex, diverse daily newspapers and technical journals (Montana, Lidé a Hory, Dobrodruh, Outdoor, Everest, Sport, etc.)



In case of interest
in collaboration with our expedition,
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