



GASHERBRUM IV EXPEDITION

7,925 m · NW Ridge Route

EXPEDITION PACKING LIST

Concordia Region · Baltoro Glacier · Karakoram, Pakistan

Base Camp food and tent are provided by the expedition service. All weights per person unless noted as team item. ★ marks critical non-negotiable items.

IMPORTANT: Gasherbrum IV is the most technically demanding objective in the 14Adventure portfolio. Despite sitting 75m below the 8,000m threshold, its summit altitude, extreme Karakoram west wind exposure, and sustained technical rock and ice climbing above 7,000m make the gear demands heavier than several 8,000m peaks. Read this list in full — the hardware section in particular is substantially different from any glacier-focused expedition.

EXPEDITION OVERVIEW

Peak	Gasherbrum IV — 7,925m. One of the most difficult peaks in the Karakoram.
Route	Askole → Baltoro Glacier → Concordia → Gasherbrum BC (~4,900m) → C1 (~5,900m) → C2 (~6,500m) → C3 (~7,200m) → Summit Push via NW Ridge
Duration	45–55 days total including approach and exit
Max Altitude	7,925m summit. C3 at ~7,200m. Multiple nights above 6,500m.
Technical Level	HIGH — sustained technical rock (up to 5.10/UIAA VI) and ice (WI3–4) above 7,000m. The hardest standard route in the 14Adventure portfolio. More technical than K2 Abruzzi Spur.
O2 Bottles	2–4 per person. Most recent successful ascents used O2 above 7,500m. A genuine no-O2 ascent requires prior 8,000m summit without O2.
Key Hazards	Technical rock and ice above 7,000m in extreme cold. Serac fall from upper face. Karakoram west wind (among the strongest at any high-altitude objective). Route finding on mixed terrain in cloud. Rockfall on NW Ridge.
Historical Context	First ascent: Walter Bonatti and Carlo Mauri, August 6, 1958 — widely regarded as one of the greatest ascents in mountaineering history. The peak was not summited again for 27 years. Fewer than 20 successful ascents in history.
Permit	Ministry of Tourism climbing permit + CKNP environmental fee. Alpine Club of Pakistan briefing required. Arranged by 14Adventure.
Porter Limit	25 kg to BC Expedition duffel weighed at Askole

1. CLOTHING & LAYERING SYSTEM

Down suit **MUST** be tested with technical harness, summit mitts, and goggles on before travel. For G4 specifically: verify gear loops remain accessible when wearing the suit with harness fitted — rock sections above C2 require live rack access. Items marked BC are left at Base Camp.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
Base Layer Top ×2	Merino wool or Polartec Power Dry, lightweight. No cotton under any circumstances. Moisture management is critical during technical climbing sections above C2 where overheating and rapid cooling are constant risks.	~300g	Climbing
Base Layer Bottom ×2	Merino or synthetic. Same principle as top.	~250g	Climbing
Heavyweight Base Layer Top	Icebreaker 260 or Polartec 100 fleece. For sleeping at high camps and cold rest periods at C2 and above.	~300g	Climbing
Mid-Layer Fleece Jacket	Polartec 200/300 weight. Patagonia R2 or similar. Primary warmth layer at camp every evening.	~400g	Climbing



Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
Light Down Jacket	800+ fill, packable. Arc'teryx Cerium LT or Rab Microlight Alpine. BC comfort and high camp rest periods.	~350g	Climbing
★ High-Altitude Down Suit	800–850 fill minimum. Feathered Friends Arete or TNF L6. G4's summit altitude (7,925m) and extreme Karakoram west wind exposure make this non-negotiable. MUST be tested with harness fitted over the suit before travel — the harness must remain accessible for rock sections above C2. Test dexterity with summit mitts on all buckles and zips. Do not downgrade fill specification.	~1,400g	Climbing
★ Hardshell Jacket	Gore-Tex Pro 3-layer. Arc'teryx Alpha SV or equivalent. Worn over suit in storms and on exposed upper face. Hood must seal over expedition balaclava with goggles on.	~500g	Climbing
★ Hardshell Bib Pants	Gore-Tex Pro bib preferred over standard pants. Prevents snow ingress at waist in high winds. Bib design essential above C1.	~450g	Climbing
Softshell Pants	Limited usefulness on G4. The NW Ridge is steep technical rock and ice — not broad glacier terrain. Useful at BC and C1 only. Most teams leave softshell pants at BC from C2 upward.	~350g	BC
Thin Balaclava	Merino or Polartec. Full face coverage. Daily use from C1 upward.	~80g	Climbing
Expedition Balaclava	Fleece-lined with wind protection. OR Ninjaclava or equivalent. Summit push and all high camps.	~120g	Climbing
Beanie	Wool or fleece. BC and lower approach only.	~100g	BC
Liner Gloves	Merino or thin fleece. For dexterity tasks including rock moves above C2 — critical for grip on technical sections.	~80g	Climbing
Mid-Layer Gloves	Insulated waterproof. BD Midweight or Rab Phantom Contact. Primary working glove on approach and lower route. Must allow sufficient dexterity for clipping protection on rock sections.	~150g	Climbing
★ Summit Mitts	Down expedition mitts. OR Alti Mitts or BD Mercury Mitts. ATTACH WRIST LEASH — dropped gloves cause frostbite. Non-negotiable above C2. Must be practiced going on and off one-handed.	~250g	Climbing
Neck Gaiter	Fleece or merino. All camps throughout expedition.	~80g	Climbing
Underwear ×4	Merino wool only. Hand-washable and odour-resistant over a 50-day expedition.	~200g	Climbing
BC Casual Clothes	T-shirts ×2, trekking pants. Leave at BC throughout.	~500g	BC

2. FOOTWEAR

Boot choice is critical on G4. The NW Ridge has significant rock sections above C2 where boot sensitivity and grip matter. A rock-capable high-altitude boot is preferred over a pure glacier boot. Approach shoes are a G4-specific requirement.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ High-Altitude Boot — rock-capable	G4 demands a boot that is crampon-compatible AND adequate for rock climbing in extreme cold. La Sportiva Trango Ice Cube GTX or Scarpa Mont Blanc Pro GTX preferred — better sensitivity for rock sections above C2 than standard glacier boots. La Sportiva G2 Evo is acceptable but the rock sections on the NW Ridge are substantial enough to warrant a rock-oriented high-altitude boot. Must be thoroughly broken in before departure.	~2,200g/pair	Climbing
★ Down Camp Booties	Western Mountaineering Altitude or Rab Expedition Booties. Essential inside tent at all high camps — frostbite prevention during long rest periods at C2 and C3.	~200g	Climbing
Approach Shoes — sticky sole	La Sportiva TX4 or Scarpa Crux. For non-crampon rock sections on lower NW Ridge and BC moraine in warm conditions. Also carried in summit pack for deployment on the technical rock band above C2 where crampon use is impractical.	~600g	Climbing
Trekking Boots	La Sportiva Trango Tech or equivalent. For the Baltoro approach to BC only. Swap to high-altitude boots at G4 BC.	~1,200g	BC



Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
Camp Sandals / Crocs	Lightweight. BC morale item. Not carried above BC.	~300g	BC
Extra Insoles	Superfeet or custom foam. Adds warmth and fit optimisation in high-altitude boots on long high camp days.	~100g	Climbing
River Crossing Shoes	Lower Baltoro approach has wade crossings. Old trainers or lightweight water shoes. Do NOT cross glacial streams in trekking boots.	~200g	Approach

3. CLIMBING HARDWARE & TECHNICAL GEAR

Hardware is where G4 diverges most dramatically from any glacier-focused expedition. A full lead climbing rack, two types of ice tool, a rock rescue system, and 3 ropes are required. Budget 3–4 kg more hardware weight than a standard 8,000m glacier peak. Do not cut corners here — the technical sections above C2 are where accidents happen.

Per person unless noted as team item.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ Crampons	12-point. Petzl Lynx or Grivel G12 New-Matic. Verify binding compatibility with boots before expedition. Required from C1 throughout. Must be compatible with your rock-capable high-altitude boot choice.	~620g	Climbing
★ Ice Axe — approach and lower route	60–65cm general mountaineering axe. BD Venom or Petzl Sum'tec. 1 per person. Used for approach and lower NW Ridge sections below C2.	~460g	Climbing
★ Technical Ice Tool — upper route	BD Cobra or Petzl Ergo. 1 per person. Required for WI3–4 ice sections above C2 on the upper NW Ridge and summit face. This is not a walking peak above C2 — a walking axe alone is insufficient for the technical ice encountered.	~400g	Climbing
★ Harness	Low bulk — must fit over down suit. BD Couloir or Petzl Altitude. CRITICAL for G4: verify harness allows access to gear loops when wearing down suit and summit mitts — the rock sections above C2 require live rack access. Test the complete system before travel.	~290g	Climbing
Ascenders / Jumars	Petzl Basic. 1 pair per person. For fixed lines between camps. On G4 may also be used during active climbing on steep fixed sections — ensure compatibility with both glacier ropes and technical ropes.	~300g	Climbing
Locking Carabiners	Petzl Am'D or BD RockLock. 8–10 per person. Rock climbing and anchor building on the NW Ridge requires more carabiners than glacier climbing. Include HMS/pear-shaped for belay anchors.	~500g	Climbing
Non-Locking Carabiners	Standard D-shape. 6–8 per person. Fixed line progression and protection clipping.	~400g	Climbing
★ Rock Protection Rack (team)	Full climbing rack for the NW Ridge rock sections: 6–8 cams (BD C4 0.3–3), 4–5 nuts (assorted), 4–6 pitons (angle and horizontal assorted). This is non-negotiable for safe climbing above C2. No other standard Pakistan high-altitude route requires a lead climbing rack.	~2,200g (team)	Climbing
Slings — 60cm and 120cm	4 × 60cm + 2 × 120cm per person. For rock anchor building, thread runners, and horn placements on the NW Ridge.	~300g	Climbing
Prusik Cord	6mm. Two lengths: ~120cm and ~60cm per person. Self-rescue and fixed line backup.	~100g	Climbing
Belay / Rappel Device	Petzl Reverso or BD ATC Guide. Descent rappels on technical sections.	~90g	Climbing
★ Helmet	Lightest viable. Petzl Sirocco or BD Vapor. Rockfall on the NW Ridge is serious and frequent. Non-negotiable from BC.	~170g	Climbing
★ Ropes	2 × 60m 8.5mm dry-treated ropes for fixing technical sections, PLUS 1 × 50m 7mm tag line for hauling and retrieval. Teams also carry 200–300m of 7mm fixed line for camp connections on the NW Ridge — this is separate from the climbing ropes.	~6,000g (team)	Climbing



Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
Ice Screws — team	8–10 screws per team. G4's upper ice sections are genuine alpine ice, not compacted glacier snow. Mix: 16cm × 4, 13cm × 4, 21cm × 2. Petzl Laser Speed Light.	~800g (team)	Climbing
Snow Pickets — team	4–6 pickets. For tent anchoring on mixed terrain above C2 and snow anchor building on the upper face.	~700g (team)	Climbing
★ Avalanche Beacon	Mammut Barryvox or Pieps DSP. 1 per person mandatory — not one per team. G4's upper face has significant serac exposure. Every climber carries a beacon personally.	~250g	Climbing
★ Avalanche Probe + Shovel	1 set per 2 climbers. Serac debris and avalanche risk on the approach glacier and below C2 justifies high coverage density.	~600g (shared)	Climbing
Wand Markers ×40	For route marking on the upper NW Ridge in cloud or whiteout. Place every 25–30m on ascent. G4's mixed terrain becomes a serious navigation problem in storm.	~300g (team)	Climbing
Progress Capture Pulleys (team)	Petzl Micro Traxion or Tibloc × 2 per team. For self-rescue haul system on technical sections if a climber is injured above C2.	~120g (team)	Climbing
Trekking Poles	Carbon, collapsible. 1 pair. For Baltoro approach and lower slopes only — not used on technical upper route.	~480g	Climbing
★ Headlamp	Petzl NAO+ or BD Spot 400. LITHIUM BATTERIES ONLY — alkaline fail at -20°C. Carry spare set. Early summit starts from C3 require reliable headlamp performance in extreme cold.	~200g	Climbing
Backup Headlamp	BD Spot or Petzl e+Lite. Essential backup on long technical days.	~90g	Climbing
Repair Kit (team)	Duct tape, gear patches, pole repair sleeve, spare cord. 1 per team.	~200g (team)	Climbing

4. SLEEPING & CAMP GEAR

G4's high camps are among the most wind-exposed in the Karakoram. A Hilleberg Jannu and a -40°C sleeping bag are not over-specification — they are the minimum correct specification for C3. Extra tent anchors are a non-negotiable addition on this peak.

BC tent provided by expedition service. High camp tents are the team's responsibility.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ High Camp Tent	Hilleberg Jannu strongly preferred — no exceptions at C2 and above. G4's high camps are among the most exposed in the Karakoram. C3 at ~7,200m on the NW Ridge is fully exposed to west wind. Multiple expeditions have lost tents at C2 and C3. Bring extra guylines and double-stake all anchor points. 1 tent per 2 climbers minimum.	~1,300g/share	Climbing
★ Sleeping Bag — Upper Camps (C2 and above)	-40°C comfort rated minimum. Feathered Friends Snowbunting EX or Western Mountaineering Puma GWS. G4's combination of summit altitude and extreme west wind exposure makes manufacturer ratings optimistic by 5–8°C. Do not use a -30°C bag above C1. This is the correct specification — do not downgrade.	~1,360g	Climbing
★ Sleeping Bag — Lower Camps (C1)	-20°C comfort rated. Rab Neutrino 600 or WM Ultralite. For C1 rotations and approach camps. Leave at C1 on summit push and deploy upper bag from C2 throughout.	~950g	Climbing
Sleeping Pad — NeoAir XTherm	Therm-a-Rest. R-value 6.9. Critical thermal isolation from tent floor. Some teams use two pads at C3 for additional insulation.	~430g	Climbing
Foam Pad (backup)	Therm-a-Rest Z Lite half section. Backup insulation and sit pad at camp.	~200g	Climbing
★ Stove — MSR Reactor	Wind-resistant, efficient snow melt. 1 per tent minimum. Pre-warm fuel canister inside sleeping bag before every use — cold canisters lose significant output at altitude.	~350g/share	Climbing
Fuel Canisters — MSR IsoPro 450g	Isobutane-propane. Budget 1.5 canisters per person per 2 days above BC. G4's multi-day summit pushes and long C3 stays burn	~3,375g	Climbing



Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
	more fuel than simpler routes. Carry more than your calculation suggests.		
★ Tent Anchors — deadman and rock pitons	6 deadman snow anchors per tent PLUS 4 rock pitons (assorted) for tent pitches on rocky ledges above C2. The difference between a tent that survives a Karakoram storm and one that doesn't is anchor quality.	~600g (team)	Climbing
Cookpot — Titanium 2L	1 per tent, shared.	~200g/share	Climbing
★ Thermos 1L	Wide-mouth vacuum insulated. Pre-fill at each camp. On G4 the technical belay sections mean climbers spend significant time stationary — a hot flask during belay sessions is not optional.	~350g	Climbing
Water Bottles ×2	1L wide-mouth Nalgene hard plastic only. Soft bottles crack in extreme cold. Keep one inside down suit on technical sections above C2.	~300g	Climbing
Spork — Titanium		~20g	Climbing

5. SAFETY & COMMUNICATION

O2 planning and fixed line logistics are the two variables that most frequently determine success on G4. Both require early coordination with your guiding service. The rock rescue kit is non-negotiable — helicopter rescue above C2 is not possible on this route.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ O2 Mask & Regulator	Topout system. Test mask seal with hood, goggles and summit mitts on before expedition. G4 sits at 7,925m — below the 8,000m threshold but physiological demands are comparable to an 8,000m peak due to sustained technical climbing effort at extreme altitude. Plan for O2 use above 7,500m.	~450g	Climbing
★ O2 Bottles — quantity	2–4 bottles per person. Most recent successful G4 ascents have used O2 above 7,500m. A genuine no-O2 ascent of G4 requires prior 8,000m summit without O2. Do not plan zero O2 unless your team has demonstrated high-altitude performance at this level. Pre-position at C3 via load carry. Summit Oxygen or Poisk cylinders, ~3.2 kg each full.	~6–13 kg	Climbing
★ Fixed Line — team supply	400–500m of 8mm fixed line for team use between camps on technical NW Ridge sections. Separate from climbing ropes. Fixed line establishment is the key logistical bottleneck on G4 and requires multiple load carry days. Plan with your guiding service before departure.	~8–10 kg (team)	Climbing
★ Rock Rescue Kit (team)	Required because G4 involves technical rock climbing on the upper mountain. Kit: 2 × progress capture pulleys (Petzl Micro Traxion), 1 × 30m 7mm haul line per team, 2 × prussik loops per person. Enables self-rescue if a climber is injured above C2 where helicopter evacuation is not possible.	~500g (team)	Climbing
★ Garmin inReach Mini 2	Two-way satellite communicator with SOS. 1 per person. No cell signal after Askole. Non-negotiable.	~100g	Climbing
VHF Radio	Motorola or Baofeng handheld. 1 per person. BC to high camp communication.	~200g	Climbing
Satellite Phone (team)	Iridium 9555. 1 per team. BC coordination, weather updates, and emergency.	~200g	BC
Pulse Oximeter (team)	Nonin or Masimo. Monitor SpO2 nightly above 6,000m. Flags AMS before symptoms become serious.	~60g	Climbing
★ Personal First Aid Kit	Dexamethasone 8mg injection + oral (HACE), Nifedipine (HAPE), Ibuprofen, Diamox (AMS prevention), rehydration sachets, wound closure, antiseptic. Review all protocols with expedition doctor before departure.	~500g	Climbing
Gamow Bag (team)	Portable altitude chamber. 1 per team. Store at BC for severe altitude illness cases.	~700g/share	BC



6. NUTRITION & HYDRATION

G4's technical climbing sections generate higher caloric demand than moderate glacier routes. Budget more food per day than you would for Broad Peak or GII. Force feeding on schedule above 7,000m regardless of appetite is essential — caloric deficit at this altitude impairs judgement and physical performance.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ Instant Soup / Broth	Chicken bouillon or ramen packets. The single most consistently tolerated food at extreme altitude. Bring significantly more than planned — above 7,000m it is often the only food climbers can manage.	~400g	Climbing
Instant Oatmeal ×10–12	Individual high-calorie packets. Breakfast at all high camps.	~480g	Climbing
High-Calorie Bars ×25–28	Clif Bars, Larabars, or RX Bars. Budget ~2–3 per day for 10–12 days above BC. G4 expeditions spend more days above BC than simpler routes due to technical load-carry days and weather holds. Chocolate and nut flavors best tolerated. Store in inner pocket against body heat — they freeze solid otherwise.	~1,400g	Climbing
Freeze-Dried Meals ×12–14	Mountain House or equivalent. Potato and rice-based meals best tolerated at extreme altitude. One per night above C1. More high camp nights than simpler routes.	~1,680g	Climbing
Nuts & Dried Fruit	High caloric density. Store in inner pocket to prevent freezing. No preparation required during technical sections.	~500g	Climbing
★ Energy Gels ×15–18	Gu Roctane or Maurten. G4's sustained technical climbing burns more calories per hour than moderate-angle glacier routes. Store warm — they freeze solid and become unusable. Pre-position several in inner suit pocket for summit push.	~500g	Climbing
Hard Candy / Glucose Tablets	Quick energy on long technical sections. Keep in outer pocket accessible with mitts on.	~200g	Climbing
Electrolyte Powder ×25 servings	Nuun or Skratch Labs. Add to warm water throughout. Dehydration accelerates fatigue on technical climbing sections.	~250g	Climbing
Coffee / Tea / Hot Chocolate	Morale critical at high camps. Bring more than planned. Hot drinks during belay sessions are a significant thermal aid.	~300g	Climbing
★ Insulated Bottle Setup	Wide-mouth Nalgene in insulated sleeve. No hydration bladder systems above C1 — tubes freeze. Keep one bottle inside down suit during active climbing above C2.	—	Climbing

7. PERSONAL ITEMS & MISCELLANEOUS

Hand care is a G4-specific addition that no other standard peak requires. Cold rock on the NW Ridge above C2 destroys skin rapidly. Do not overlook this section.

Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
★ Sunscreen SPF 50+	La Roche-Posay Anthelios or Neutrogena Ultra Sheer. 3 tubes minimum. Apply every 2 hours on glacier — UV reflection at altitude is extreme. Apply under O2 mask strap areas.	~300g	Climbing
★ Lip Balm SPF 50	4–6 sticks. Consumed and lost faster than expected. Lips crack severely at altitude and on cold rock sections.	~75g	Climbing
★ Glacier Glasses — Cat 4	Full side shields. Julbo Sherpa or Cebe Shaman. Photokeratitis risk is severe. Never remove on glacier regardless of cloud cover.	~60g	Climbing
★ Summit Goggles	Photochromic or S3/S4 lens. Oakley Airbrake MX or Smith I/O Mag. Critical for G4's exposed upper face in Karakoram west wind.	~200g	Climbing
★ Rock Climbing Hand Care	G4-specific essential. Rock sections above C2 require ungloved or lightly gloved hands at times. Cold rock degrades skin rapidly. Pack: O'Keeffe's Working Hands cream, Leukotape for cracked skin, zinc oxide tape for fingertips. Multiple G4 veterans cite this as a critical overlooked item.	~100g	Climbing



Item	Specification & Notes	Weight	Used For
Camera	Sony RX100 VII or GoPro Hero 12. Keep in inner chest pocket — batteries fail in cold. G4's views of the Gasherbrum massif from the NW Ridge are extraordinary.	~300g	Climbing
Spare Camera Batteries ×4	Store against body heat. Batteries fail below -20°C.	~200g	Climbing
Power Bank 20,000mAh	Anker or equivalent. Sleep with it in sleeping bag at high camp. No charging above BC.	~440g	Climbing
Solar Panel 20–30W (BC only)	GoalZero or similar. Stays at BC throughout. A 50-day expedition demands solar for sustainable electronics charging.	~600g	BC
★ Pee Bottle	Wide-mouth, clearly labelled differently from water bottle. Tent exit at night is a frostbite risk at all high camps above C1.	~100g	Climbing
Sleeping Earplugs — foam	Wind noise at G4's exposed high camps is severe. Critical for sleep quality and recovery between technical climbing days.	~10g	Climbing
Hand Sanitizer	GI illness ends expeditions. BC hygiene applies throughout.	~100g	BC
Eye Drops — lubricating	Dry, high UV environment. Rock sections create additional dust and debris exposure.	~50g	Climbing
Pencil + Small Notebook	Pencil only — pens freeze solid at altitude.	~50g	Climbing
Dry Bags / Stuff Sacks ×4	Multiple sizes. Organisation and waterproofing inside porter duffel and summit pack.	~150g	Climbing
Personal Medications	Diamox, Ibuprofen, Acetaminophen, personal prescriptions. Discuss full protocol with expedition doctor before departure.	~200g	Climbing
WAG Bags / CMC ×6–8	Human waste management required above snowline. CKNP strictly enforces this on Baltoro. Budget 1 per day above BC for the full expedition duration.	~150g	Climbing

WEIGHT SUMMARY

Per person weights. O2 bottles and fixed line excluded from base total — pre-positioned at high camps via load carry.

Category	Weight (per person)	Notes
Clothing & Layering	6–8 kg	<i>Down suit dominates (~1.4 kg). Same -40°C spec as K2 — no reduction for G4's altitude and wind exposure.</i>
Footwear	4–6 kg	<i>High-alt boots ~2.2 kg/pair plus approach shoes ~600g. Rock shoe option adds further weight if carried.</i>
Climbing Hardware	8–10 kg	<i>Significantly heavier than any glacier peak. Full rock rack, technical ice tools, 3 ropes, 8–10 ice screws, rescue kit.</i>
Sleeping & Camp Gear	8–10 kg	<i>-40°C bag + pad + stove share + increased fuel quantity + extra tent anchor kit.</i>
Safety & Comms (excl. O2)	~3.5–4 kg	<i>Rock rescue kit, upgraded avalanche gear, O2 mask. Heaviest safety load in the portfolio.</i>
Nutrition (~10–12 days above BC)	5–7 kg	<i>More high camp days than simpler routes. Higher caloric demand from sustained technical climbing.</i>
Personal & Misc	1.5–2 kg	<i>Camera + power bank + hand care kit.</i>
TOTAL (excl. O2 + fixed line)	~36–47 kg	Heaviest kit in the 14Adventure portfolio — heavier than K2 due to rock rack and technical tools.
O2 bottles (2–4 per person)	+ 6–13 kg	Pre-position at C3. 2 bottles minimum; 4 for full O2 summit push. 1 bottle ≈ 3.2 kg.

CRITICAL EXPEDITION NOTES



	Topic	What Expedition Records Show
1	Historical difficulty	Fewer than 20 successful ascents in history despite decades of attempts. Not summited for 27 years after the first ascent in 1958. Attempting this peak without prior 7,000m+ technical climbing experience is not appropriate.
2	Hardware rationale	The NW Ridge involves sustained technical climbing on rock and ice above 7,000m at temperatures approaching -40°C. Pitons, cams, and technical ice tools are the primary means of progress above C2 — not optional additions.
3	O2 decision	G4 at 7,925m generates physiological stress equivalent to an 8,000m peak due to sustained technical effort. Teams that planned zero O2 have frequently reversed that decision above 7,500m. Plan for O2 use and pre-position at C3.
4	Weather windows	G4's position at the western end of the Gasherbrum massif exposes it directly to Karakoram westerly flow. Summit windows are shorter and more violent than on neighbouring peaks. Multiple expeditions abandoned pushes due to wind in clear sky conditions.
5	Acclimatisation	Standard GII acclimatisation rotations should be completed before committing to G4 summit push. At least one rotation to 7,000m on a less technical peak is strongly recommended.
6	Route finding in storm	G4's upper NW Ridge is complex mixed terrain. In cloud or storm it becomes a serious navigation emergency. Wand markers placed every 25m on ascent are the only reliable navigation tool — do not save weight by reducing wand count.

All medical protocols must be confirmed with your expedition doctor before departure. Rock protection specifications should be reviewed with your lead guide based on current route conditions. O2 and fixed line logistics must be coordinated with 14Adventure before the expedition departs Islamabad.