

## **CLIMBING SAFETY & OUTFITTERS**

## **SAFETY FIRST!**

Whether a newbie or an experienced climber, everyone should know the rules and guidelines that'll keep your climbing trip fun, safe, and full of great memories.

- Pack carefully. Along with your harness, rope, belay device, and climbing shoes, you should have water, a first aid kit, and extra quickdraws. Make a list based on your climbing site, and work with your belay buddy to make sure that you'll have everything you need.
- Check conditions before you head out. Weather in Southwest Idaho can change rapidly, so check the forecast and make sure you're prepared for anything.
- Do a gear check. Make sure that everything is in good condition and working properly especially locking carabiners. Put on a helmet and make sure it's secure.
- Check your harness. Make sure you and your belay buddy's buckles are double backed.
   And double-check those knots!
- Communicate. Make sure that you and your belayer are both familiar with commands and replies. Practice a few times if you feel uncertain.
- Have a plan for the top. How long is the route?
  What equipment will you need? Will your lead
  be setting up a top rope, rappelling or being
  belayed down, and so forth? What's the plan if
  something goes wrong? Take the right supplies
  to build a solid anchor.
- Watch where you put your hands. Like many western states, Idaho is home to venomous rattlesnakes. Keep your eyes and ears open, especially on hot days when the snakes like to sun themselves on rocks.
- If you are a first-time climber, don't set off into the wilderness! Go to a climbing gym to get the training and practice you need from a certified instructor.

## **ASK THE LOCALS**

Need gear, guidebooks, and beta? Swing by...

- IDAHO MOUNTAIN TOURING Boise
- GRAVITY SPORTS McCall

where their expert staff will be able to advise you about what equipment and information you'll need for your climbing destination.

Weather's bad? No worries. In Boise, check out...

- · ASANA GYM
- VERTICAL VIEW
- THE COMMONS

to get your indoor climbing fix and chat local climbing with their experienced crew.



