

## Mt. Makalu

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### Mt. Makalu Latest News

The Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has successfully scaled Mt. Makalu — the world's fifth highest peak, the China-border guarding force said recently.

### About Mt. Makalu

- It is the **fifth highest mountain** in the world, standing at **8,485 meters** (27,838 ft) above sea level.
- It is located in the **Mahalangur range of the Nepal Himalayas** on the **border between Nepal and Tibet**.
- It lies 14 miles (23 km) **southeast of Mount Everest**.
- The mountain lies in the **Makalu Barun National Park** and is known for its perfect **pyramid shape with four sharp ridges**.
- **Makalu I and Makalu II** are the two notable **subsidiary peaks** of Makalu lying 3 km north-northwest of the main summit.
- **At the base** of Mt. Makalu, there lies a natural wonder: **the Barun Valley**.

- This valley facilitates stunning **elevated waterfalls falling inside** the **deep gorges, diverse species of flora and fauna** with rich cultures of **ethnic communities** like **Sherpa and Kirat**.
- Makalu is one of the **harder eight-thousanders** and is considered one of the **most difficult mountains in the world to climb**.
  - Makalu expeditions are difficult because the mountain is notorious for its **steep pitches and knife-edged ridges** that make the climbing Makalu very open to the elements.
  - The **final ascent of the summit** pyramid **involves technical rock climbing**.
  - Mt. Makalu was **first summited on 15 May 1955 by a French team** including Lionel Terray and Jean Couzy, led by Jean Franco, two years after the first ascent of Everest (the highest mountain in the world).

**Source:** TH

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