

## REI Adventures 2009 Top Guides



The REI Adventures Top Guide Award recognizes those trip leaders who consistently exemplify the highest standards of customer service. While we believe that our entire guide team around the world is second to none, we would like to honor those few who go beyond our already high expectations and consistently create a truly unforgettable travel experience for our clients. Annual Top Guide award winners are invited to Seattle each year for a recognition ceremony at the REI Flagship Store and a chance to reconnect with past trip members.

The REI Adventures Top Guides for the 2009 season are:

### Marco Fallas

[Costa Rica: Jungle & Sea Multisport](#)

Marco has been a guide for over sixteen years and guiding REI groups for nine years. Born and raised in Costa Rica, Marco lives with his wife Lety and his two children in the Central Valley suburb of Desamparados. He holds an advanced diploma at the Costa Rica North American Culture Center and has extensive knowledge of nature from Costa Rica's forests to native wildlife. Marco is a passionate environmentalist working for sustainable tourism in Costa Rica. Guests are taken in by his contagious enthusiasm and energy fed by his passion for nature. He is often referred to as the Pura Vida (full of life) guide!



### Jim Gagne

[Mt. Washington Winter Climb](#)

Jim began his climbing career in the White Mountains of New Hampshire over twenty-five years ago. On May 24, 2006 Jim fulfilled a life-long dream and became the first New Hampshire native to climb The Seven Summits. Jim contributes his success in the mountains to his training in the harshest weather in the world at home on Mount Washington. Jim works as a professional firefighter/paramedic, a registered nurse and a mountain guide. Teamwork and leadership are guiding forces in his personal and professional life. Jim receives nothing but top notch ratings from our guests.



### Raul Montes Rodriguez

[Machu Picchu: 10-Day Lodge Trek](#)

[Machu Picchu: 7-Day Lodge Trek](#)

Raul is a Cusco native and Andean Renaissance man. He is a master tour organizer with intimate knowledge of the Andean culture. Raul was a pioneer in bringing mountain bike touring to the Cusco region, has climbed Mount Aconcagua in Argentina (22,841') five times and has been a river rafting guide on the class V Rio Bio Bio in Chile. An excellent outdoorsman and professional mountain guide with more than 20 years of experience leading groups, Raul has an easy-going personality and also enjoys history, geography, travelling, photography, bird watching and good wine.



### Larry Sage

[Death Valley Hiking](#)

[Zion & Bryce Canyon Hiking](#)

[Zion New Year's Adventure](#)

[Sierra Day Hikes - 3 Day](#) and [Sierra Day Hikes - 4 day](#)

