

## Mount Everest

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The tallest mountain in the world is Mount Everest. It is located on the border of Tibet and China. Mount Everest is 29,035 feet tall. The mountain is over 60 million years old and growing. It grows .25 inches per year and is covered with heavy snow all year. The weather on Everest is extreme. There are high winds and very cold temperatures year round. The warmest time of the year is in May when the winds calm. This is called the summit window and many climbers attempt to reach the summit. Sir Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa were the first to reach the summit in 1953. A Sherpa is a local man that helps the climber with supplies and equipment. It takes many days of climbing to reach the top. The air at the top of Everest is very thin and lacks oxygen. Climbers and Sherpas must use oxygen to reach the summit. Each year many people attempt the summit, some are successful and some lose their life trying to climb the highest mountain in the world.