

## Climber sets out for last in big peaks challenge

A Westcountry mountaineer is about to embark on the final and most dangerous leg of a lifelong quest to summit the highest peaks of all seven continents.

Lee Farmer, from Torquay, is packing his bags for a four-week expedition to climb the 6,194m (20,320ft) peak of Denali, the highest mountain in North America.

The snow-packed peak sits in the heart of Alaska and is subject to winds of 100mph and temperatures of -40C.

Mr Farmer, who is now based in West Berkshire, has already achieved a lifelong ambition when he became only the 180th Briton to summit Everest two years ago.

But he said that is often regarded by experienced climbers as "good training" for Denali, whose name means "the high one."

The professional explorer, who attended Torquay Grammar School, will be undertaking the task on June 6 along with five others.

He said: "This place is even colder than Antarctica, primarily because of the strength of the wind. It has a high death toll, and most of them occur when descending."

The explorer has already conquered the other six summits of Aconcagua (South America), Everest (Asia), Kilimanjaro (Africa), Vinson (Antarctica), Elbrus (Europe) and Kosciuszko (Australia).

Follow him on Twitter: @Summitprince or on his blog [www.2011denali.com](http://www.2011denali.com)



Lee Farmer is about to leave for his bid to summit the last of the highest peaks on all seven continents – Denali