

ANDREAS FØLLESDAL

August 3, 2009

To Whom it May Concern

Letter of Recommendation for Erick P. Ponera

It is our great pleasure to write this unsolicited letter of recommendation for Erick P. Ponera (born August 10, 1985) on the basis of our experiences with him as our guide for a 5-day trek climb from Marangu to Kilimanjaro in June/July 2009. He played a major role in making the trip a superb experience.

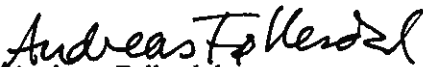
Erick truly lives up to the professional ideal of *'clients' needs always first,* to an exceptional extent. Examples of his attentive compliance with our preferences and his concern for our needs, large and small, include

- His constant attention to our queries, large and small, on matters ranging from botany to swahili, geography to layered clothing;
- His ever-attentive eye to details of comfort that transform such exhausting experiences to superb enjoyment, including: an ever watchful eye to ensure that we remained in contact; a steadying hand in support up the harshest ascents; a song or joke here and a question there when he sensed that we needed relief – or instead needed increased attention to the task at hand;

What we found especially remarkable about Erick's services as a guide is that he combined this acute attention to clients' needs with utter discretion and non-obtrusiveness. Always clearly eager to help, he was permanently on call, yet intruding on our space only when asked.

Erick has excellent command of English, more than enough to serve his clients fully, and to help them understand and cherish the fascinating region and country they visit. We thoroughly enjoyed his vast knowledge of and obvious love for the geographical, cultural and social aspects of the Kilimanjaro region we passed through, - yet he showed remarkable sensitivity in volunteering the appropriate amount of information and views, steering clear of both reticence and chattiness. His commitment to provide professional services was obvious, and we believe this will hold true not only for his obligations as a guide, but for any task where attention to details combined with a healthy portion of humour and politeness are required. His commitment to professionalism and client satisfaction bodes very well for any business venture he would choose to pursue.

We recommend Erick as an obvious outstanding guide for a Kilimanjaro climb, and for a wide range of other tasks requiring people skills and management, without any reservations. Do not hesitate to contact us for further information.


Andreas Føllesdal
Professor of Philosophy
University of Oslo

Ole Frithjof Norheim
Professor of Medical Ethics
University of Bergen