

# Majestic Kilimanjaro Treks & Safaris



## Climb Kilimanjaro - Machame Route - 7 Day Itinerary

### **DAY 1: Elevation (m): 1800m to 3000m, Distance: 11km, Time: 5-7hours, Habitat: Montane Forest. MACHAME GATE TO MACHAME CAMP**

We pick you up from your Hotel and drive to the Mount Kilimanjaro National Park Gate . Once there, we sign in and get permits at the Park office then start the climb. Today we walk through rain forest on a winding trail up a ridge to Machame Camp where we will camp overnight. You will stop for your hot lunch along the way.

### **DAY 2: Elevation (m): 3000m to 3850m, Distance: 9km, Time: 4-6 hours, Habitat: Moorland. MACHAME CAMP TO SHIRA CAMP**

We continue our trek, crossing a small valley and up to a steep rocky ridge, covered with heath. Our route now turns west onto a river gorge. We stop overnight at the Shira campsite.

### **DAY 3: Elevation (m): 3850m to 4600m to 3950m, Distance: 12 km, Time: 6-7 hours, Habitat: Semi-desert. SHIRA CAMP VIA LAVA TOWER TO BARRANCO CAMP**

This is a very important day for acclimatisation and will help your body prepare for summit day. We will ascend to Lava Tower at 4600m and take our hot lunch there to acclimatise. Following this we descend to spend the night at Barranco campsite.

### **DAY 4: Elevation (m): 3950m to 4600m, Distance: 13km, Time: 6-7 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert BARRANCO CAMP TO KARANGA CAMP**

We start this day with a short scramble to the top of the Great Barranco Wall. Most people actually find this scramble quite fun. We then cross over scree ridges to the Karanga Valley (3930m) beneath the icefalls of the Heim, Kersten and Decken Glaciers. We will stay overnight at Karanga campsite.

### **DAY 5: Elevation (m): 3930m to 4600m, Distance: 6kms, Hiking Time: 3 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert KARANGA CAMP TO BARAFU CAMP**

From here we connect with the Mweka descent Trail and continue up to the Barafu Hut (summit base camp). You have now completed the Southern Circuit, which offers views of the summit from many different angles.

### **DAY 6: Elevation (m): 4600m to 5895m (and down to 3100m) , Distance: 7km ascent / 23km descent , Time: 6- 8 hours ascent / 7-8 hours descent, Habitat: Stone scree and ice-capped summit. BARAFU CAMP TO SUMMIT TO MWEKA HUT**

At midnight we start our trek to the summit and trek through heavy scree towards Stella Point on the crater rim. This is the most mentally and physically challenging part of the trek. We take a zig-zag path in order to ease the degree of the slope and to ensure our feet don't slide backward on the scree. At Stella Point (5732m), we will stop for a short rest and will be rewarded with a magnificent sunrise (weather permitting). From Stella Point there is a final 30 - 45 minute walk to Uhuru Peak (5895m) which is easier than the trek up to Stella Point. Along this last walk you will see spectacular glaciers and the view can be something you will always remember.

At Uhuru Peak you will have reached the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa. It can be very cold at night at these elevations, but it will be quite warm by the end of the hiking day.

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After taking photos from the summit, we start our descent down to the Mweka Hut camp site, via Barafu for lunch. Trekking poles will be needed for the loose gravel going down to Mweka Camp (3100m). Later in the evening, we will enjoy our last dinner and sleep on the mountain.

**DAY 7: Elevation (m): 3100m to 1800m, Distance: 8 km, Time: 3-4 hours, Habitat: Montane Forest.**  
**LAST DAY - MWEKA CAMP TO HOTEL**

We descend down to the Mweka Park Gate as our final park exit point. Once we leave the park we will stop for lunch and you will receive your summit certificates.