Majestic Kilimanjaro Treks & Safaris



Climb Kilimanjaro - Umbwe Route - 5 or 6 Day Itinerary

DAY 1: Elevation (m): 1600m to 2900m, Distance: 11km, Time: approx 6 hours, Habitat: Montane Forest.

UMBWE GATE TO UMBWE CAVE CAMP

We pick you up at your hotel and drive to Umbwe Park Gate. Here we register before starting our trek. We will walk up small winding mostly unkempt paths through rainforest and along the Umbwe river to Umbwe Cave Camp at 2,900m for our first overnight stop. You will stop for your HOT LUNCH along the way each day.

DAY 2: Elevation (m): 2940m to 3970m, Distance: 6km, Time: 4-5 hours, Habitat: Montane Forest. UMBWE CAMP TO BARRANCO CAMP

This morning the forest ends shortly after we leave camp and you will see the sheer wall of the Western Breach and the Great Barranco appearing. We will camp at Barranco camp tonight, 3,970m high.

DAY 3: Elevation (m): 3970m to 3930m, Distance: 7 km, Hiking Time: approx 4 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert.

BARRANCO CAMPTO KARANGA CAMP

Today starts with a short, scramble, to the top of the Great Barranco Wall. We then traverse over scree to the Karanga Valley (3930m) beneath the icefalls of the Heim, Kersten and Decken Glaciers. 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, altitude 3,930m.

DAY 4: Elevation (m): 3930m to 4600m, Distance: 6kms, Hiking Time: 3 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert.

KARANGA CAMP TO BARAFU CAMP

We leave campsite in the morning to meet the junction that connects with the Mweka descent Trail. We continue up to the Barafu Hut and this completes the Southern Circuit. At this point, weather permitting, you will see stunning views of the summit from different angles and the two peaks of Mawenzi and Kibo . At camp, you will rest, and prepare for the summit night.

DAY 5: 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 SUMMITTO 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 spectular 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.

After taking photos from the summit, we start our descent down to the Mweka Hut camp site 3,100m, via Barafu for lunch.

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5 Day Climb Note:

If you are doing Umbwe route as 5 day climb, you will continue to trek the remaining 8km down to Mweka Park Gate and then be driven back to your hotel where you will receive your summit certificate.

6 Day Climb Note:

On the 6 day climb, we camp at Mweka Hut Camp site for a final night's sleep on the mountain.

DAY 6: Elevation (m): 3100m to 1800m, Distance: 8 km, Time: 3-4 hours, Habitat: Montane Forest. MWEKA CAMP TO HOTEL

We depart after breakfast descending the final 8kms to Mweka Park Gate. Once we leave the park we will stop for lunch and you will receive your summit certificates.