

Kilimanjaro Challenge



Comfort Level: Classic / Budget

7 day Kilimanjaro Machame Route with Karanga Valley

Acclimatisation

Arusha * Kilimanjaro (Machame/Mweka)

Often called the "Whiskey Route" this is a scenically beautiful trail, longer and much gentler than Umbwe or Marangu (the "Coca Cola Route"). Our itinerary provides valuable acclimatisation by having extra, but shorter walking days during the trek.

Day 1 Arusha-Machame Hike: 8.2 km 1840m-3022m 5-6 hours

From Arusha drive to the Machame Park gate, then a gentle climb up through the original montane forest, carpeted with unique "busy lizzie" flowers, begonias and ferns. First camp amongst the giant heather at 3,000m. Ascent of 1,182m and 5-6 hours walking.

MACHAME CAMP (Lunch, Dinner)

Day 2 Machame—Shira Hike: 5 km 3022m-3830m 5-6 hours

Emerge from the giant heather zone and hike through fine open moorland to camp by the Shira Cave at 3,840m. Herds of eland up here (& occasional lion!) and there are fascinating geological features in the old volcanic caldera which can be viewed during a half hour optional walk in the afternoon. Ascent 808m and 5-6 hours walking.

SHIRA CAMP (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Highlights

Trek on the world's highest free-standing mountain

Trek on the tallest peak in Africa

Enjoy 7 days on Kilimanjaro, with built in acclimatization with optimal chance of summit success

Join our weekly scheduled group departure, OR enjoy the solace of your own private trek

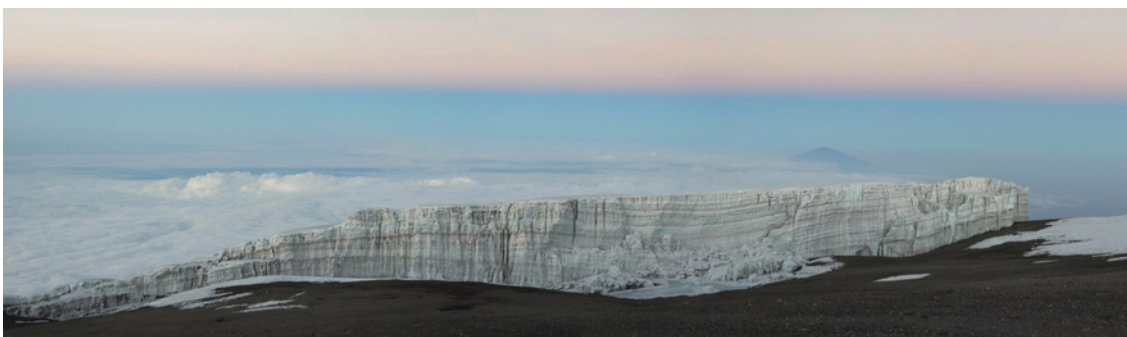
The treks are lead by our very own mountain teams, employed full time and with many years of guiding experience on Kilimanjaro

Swahili Proverb

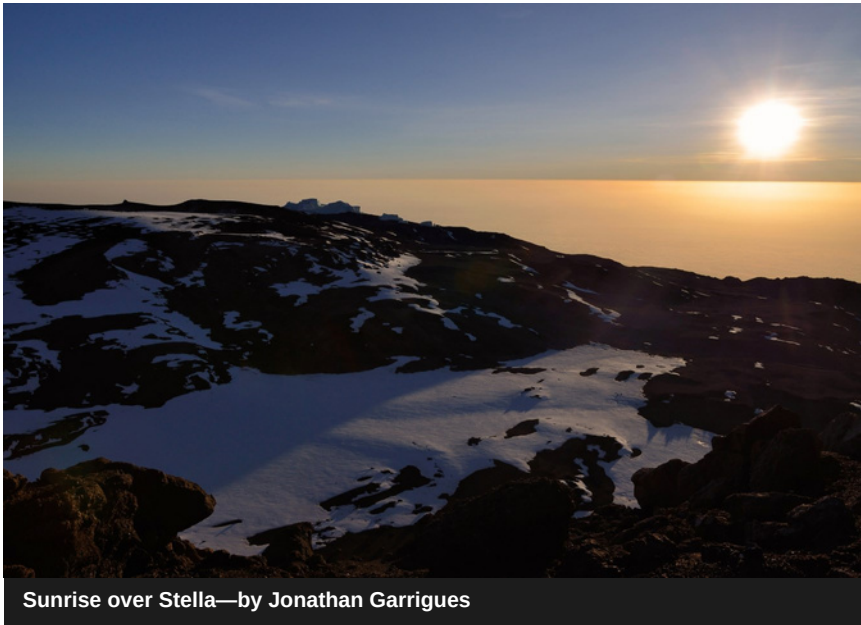
**Mambo mazuri
hayataki**

haraka

'Good things
should not be
hastened'



The Glaciers of Kibo—by Jonathan Garrigues



Sunrise over Stella—by Jonathan Garrigues

“EvEry mountain top is within reach if you just kEEp climbing.”
— Barry Finlay, Kilimanjaro and Beyond

Day 3 Shira—Barranco Hike: 10.4 km 3830m-3900m 7-8 hours

From Shira, climb towards the main peak Kibo, with the western glaciers clearly visible across the rugged high-altitude desert of volcanic rocks and boulders. Skirting around its base and under the imposing Western Breach, descend into the sheltered Barranco Valley for mid-way camp at 3,900m. 7-8 hours walking and only 70m total ascent - but having climbed higher and dropping back down assists acclimatisation.

BARRANCO CAMP (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 4 Barranco—Karanga Hike: 5.1km 3900m-4100m 3-4 hours

Up the steep Barranco Wall with some sections of very easy scrambling and drop down again to the Karanga Valley. This is a short walking day, around 3 hours, and again you climb about 300m but drop back down again to around 4,100m. There’s an optional further acclimatisation hike in afternoon up onto the scree below the glaciers.

KARANGA VALLEY CAMP (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 5 Karanga—Barafu Hike: 3.5km 4100m-4330m 3-4 hours

Up to a new camp about 100m above Barafu Hut perched high on a rocky bluff at 4,330m. Fantastic views across to Mawenzi peak, and a bit less to climb tomorrow morning! This is another short walking day, about 4 hours with a 230m height gain, and time for a good rest in the afternoon immediately before the hard summit day.

BARAFU CAMP (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)



KILIMANJARO

We've designed our mountain treks to give the very best chance of reaching the summits, maximum appreciation of the spectacular scenery and wildlife, and an insight into the natural history and cultures of the environments and peoples we meet. Our African guides and staff are all experts on the mountains and we enjoy an excellent relationship with them, built up over many years working together. Moreover our travel arrangements are based on fair-traded principles to ensure that significant benefits from our visits remain with local people.

Trekkers arriving from low level to climb Kilimanjaro often suffer from altitude sickness if they do not acclimatise properly (lack of fitness is rarely a big problem). Therefore on Kilimanjaro we use the Machame Route. It's longer than the Marangu ascent and therefore means 2 more days on the mountain (and more expense), but it's less crowded, an easier climb, much more scenic and, based on our records of the last 5 years, you have a better than 96% chance of making the summit.

You do not need to be super fit for this trek but you should get out for some longish hikes before the trip - or, jog for three or four kilometres a couple of times a week to get a basic level of fitness. That will enable you to enjoy the trek much more. We work on a fair-traded policy where we employ only qualified local staff and pay them above average rates and we do not compromise on vehicles, park fees, equipment and services.



The Kilimanjaro Night Sky & The Success—by Jonathan Garrigues

Day 6 Barafu—Summit—Mweka

Hike: 17.4 km

4330m-5895m-3075m

13-15 hours

A bracing 1am start to climb the steep frozen scree. This is unavoidable on any route but we aim to reach Stella Point on the crater rim for sunrise - another 40 mins and you're at the highest point on the continent, usually in warm sunshine. We return on the Mweka descent route. Walking time 7 hours and 1,300m ascent to the summit, 6-8 hours and 2,800m descent to our camp in a clearing amongst the giant heather at Mweka. This is a long and hard day - you'll feel tired but absolutely ecstatic after you've done it.

MWEKA CAMP (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 7 Mweka—Arusha Hike: 8.8km 3075m-1645m 3-4 hours

A 4-5 hours descent through the forest to Mweka Gate to collect our certificates and meet our vehicle. Return to Arusha, arriving early to mid afternoon.

(Breakfast, Lunch)



(twin share, minimum 2 people travelling)

Notes: Discounts for children (min 10yrs) and larger groups are applicable—please ask your travel consultant for more information

Price quoted includes: All transport - 4WD Land Rovers or safari vehicles , accommodation as detailed - 3 person tents shared by two people when camping, Camping equipment (except sleeping bags), Services of guides and porters, All National Park entrance and camp site fees, All food - breakfasts, packed lunches and evening meals, Donations and payments to local community project

Prices quoted exclude: International flights, Travel and personal accident insurance, Visa, passport, vaccinations, medicines, Tips, Expenditure on personal bar bills (including all additional drinks) drinks, souvenirs, personal items , Optional excursions/activities not detailed in itinerary, Any additional services requested

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Private Toilet & Shower Hire

For an additional surcharge, we can provide a portable chemical toilet and standing bucket showers in tented areas. Please ask your travel consultant for more information.

Safari Extensions

The adventure is still not enough? Travel west into the game-filled national parks of the northern safari circuit. There are endless options for individuals and groups alike. Please ask your travel consultant for more information.

Zanzibar Extensions

The ultimate way to round off a challenging adventure like Kilimanjaro—enjoy the beach, Spice Tours, Snorkelling, Diving, Safari Blue, Swimming with Dolphins At Kizimkazi. Please ask your travel consultant for more information.

Accommodation & Transfers

This itinerary is trek only, therefore allowing you to request the exact transfers and accommodation pre- & post-trek that you desire. Accommodation options range from simple budget rooms to luxurious rooms with a view. It all depends on what your preferences are. Please ask your travel consultant for more information.

Customized Itineraries

All itineraries can be customized further to suit your exact trekking needs. Please ask your travel consultant for more information.

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‘Respect and protect the natural environment. Instead of looking for just "stunning views", look for the richness of another culture and way of life’.

Responsible Tourism

The Long Walk Home—by Jonathan Garrigues

