

Kilimanjaro Trek

Grade 1

Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain on the African continent. It is the world's highest free standing mountain and one of the largest volcanoes ever to erupt from the earth's crust. It is composed of three extinct volcanoes: Kibo (5896m/ 19,340 ft), Mwenzi (5,149 / 16,896 ft) and Shira (3,962m / 13,000 ft). It is generally accepted as the highest 'walkable' mountain in the world. To summit is a considerable achievement for walkers though it requires no technical climbing skill. It is a long and hard trek which reaches an altitude of 5,896m, for those who do make it to Uhuru Peak are rewarded with stunning views across the African plains. On a clear day it can be seen from more than 160 kilometres away, it's famous peak always vivid, covered in ice and snow.

We do stress, however that if you are not prepared to take to exercise and take regular walks, you are unlikely to make it to the summit. You will be lead by experienced guides and you will notice from the itinerary that we also add an extra day to the standard five day itinerary to ensure maximum acclimatisation and give ourselves the best possible chance of enjoying the magnificent scenery. The National Park statistics indicate that the chance of reaching the summit increases by at least 30% if an extra day is spent by acclimatising. This accommodated trek follows the gentler Marangu route, staying in mountain huts and involves five walking days, plus the extra acclimatising day. The secret of success is going slowly giving everyone the chance of reaching the top. Each day is extremely varied, as we pass through several climatic and vegetation zones en route to the summit. Through Tropical rainforest, moorland and alpine desert to the snow and ice line. Around 5 to 7 hrs is spent walking each day. Except for the day when you attempt the summit, this is a much harder day and you will be expected to walk for about for 12hours.

12 days/11 nights Tour

London- Nairobi- London

DAY1

Depart Thursay morning from London Heathrow airport and arrive in Nairobi late evening. **Overnight Hotel in Nairobi.**

DAY 2

Transfer to shuttle bus to border and onto Moshi. Arrive Moshi and check-in at Hotel Marangu – hopefully catch the first glimpse of the mountain. In the afternoon a debriefing about the climb from the Hotel manager. Following the debriefing there will be an equipment check to ensure that you have all the necessary equipment for the climb

1 nights hotel with breakfast and dinner..

Day 3 -Drive to Marangu Gate: Hike to Mandara Hut.

From the Park entrance the climber's start the climb passing through the tropical rain forest. It is about a 4-hour walk to Mandara Hut 9000ft but we advise people to go very slowly. The forest teems with bird life and colobus and other monkeys may be seen. We should arrive early afternoon so the rest of the day will be used to relax and recheck your equipment.

Day 4 - Mandara hut to Horombo (12,335ft, 3760m)

Rising early you climb to Horombo Hut it is about a 10-mile hike and takes six to eight hours. About half an hour of leaving Mandara Hut, the climbers emerge from the rainforest onto alpine meadow. This is a pretty day with splendid views possible of the peaks and of the plains below the mountain. Giant Lobelian appear at 11,000feet. Overnight Horombo

Day 5 - Additional day at Horombo

Today you will have an additional day to acclimatize. There will be a series of short walk arranged. Overnight at Horombo Hut.

Day 6 Horombo – Kibo Hut

Today the climb continues onto Kibo Hut (15,520ft, 4,730m). The route takes you onto the alpine desert up to the saddle H between the two peaks of Kibo 19,340ft and Mwenzi 17,000ft. Walking along the saddle and up to Kibo can be slow and cold because of the high altitude. Overnight Kibo Hut.

Day 7 - Gillman's Point and Uhuru Point

Rise very early shortly after midnight, very cold, you make the steep climb to Gillman's Point 18,655ft situated on the rim of the crater and watch the dawn break. If you still have the energy continue around the rim of the crater to Uhuru Point 19,342ft the air is variable and the climb will take at least another 2 hours. Spectacular views of glaciers and the surrounding countryside if a clear day. Descend to Horombo Hut for overnight.

Day 8 - Descend to Marangu Hotel

This is the last day of the climb, you will descend the mountain slopes to Marangu Hotel arriving in time for lunch. The balance of the day will be free to rest after the splendid achievement of conquering Mt Kilimanjaro 'the roof of Africa'. Dinner and overnight Marangu.

Day 9 Begin Safari Depart the Marangu Hotel on safari with your driver/guide and private vehicles. Drive to Tarangerie National Park for game drives and a bush lunch. Continue in the late afternoon up the Great Rift Valley escarpment to Luxury hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 10– visit crater Drive to Ngorogoro Conservation Area for game drive and picnic lunch in the crater. Dinner and overnight stay at Ngorogoro Wildlife Lodge

Day 11 –Drive back visit Lake Manyara National Park then onto Arusha – short time shopping, then overnight Arusha

DAY12 –shopping Arusha morning shuttle bus Nairobi, overnight flight to London

Day13- Arrive London

Travelling from London