

KILIMANJARO CLIMB

Tanzania



Marangu Route (7 day hut-based trek)

The Marangu Route is a five day trek and is the easiest and shortest route to Kilimanjaro's summit. The trail approaches from the south side of Mawenzi and passes near Maundi Crater, before heading up to the moonscapes. The final push to the top takes you to Gillman's Point and onto Uhuru at 5895 m for sunrise. This package includes a pre and post night in a Moshi hotel and mountain hut accommodation.





Cost includes:

- services of English speaking guide and local porters and cooking crew
- two nights pre and post accommodation in a standard hotel in Moshi, basic shared dorm mountain huts
- meals as listed
- water during trek (excludes day one)
- all park fees and government taxes

Cost excludes:

- safari pass of USD400 per person. The pass must be paid in USD cash to the tour leader upon commencement of the trek. This cost is separate and in addition to the tour price, which is paid before travel. The Safari Pass covers park entries and some local expenses along the way when payment goes directly to the supplier. The price of a pass is dependent on year of travel.
- Kilimanjaro Climb tip which is given to your crew on your final night in USD cash- suggested tip is amount is USD250 - 300 per person
- visas and international flights
- international airport taxes if applicable
- drinks, dining rooms tips, portorage
- personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature

B - breakfast

L - lunch

D - dinner

Moshi to Moshi

Accommodation: dorm style huts and 3 star hotel

Departs: daily

Tour code: MARNGU

Itinerary overview:

Day 1: Tanzania, Moshi - local hotel

Day 2: Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Climb - Mandara Huts

Day 3: Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Climb - Horombo Huts

Day 4: Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Climb - Kibo Huts

Day 5: Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Climb - Horombo Huts

Day 6: Tanzania, Moshi - local hotel

Day 7: Tanzania, Moshi - ends

Our 12 day Summit and Safari tour combines this Marangu Route climb with a six night Tanzanian safari. After climbing Mount Kilimanjaro set off on safari to see Tanzania's highlights, including the national parks of Lake Manyara and the Serengeti, followed by a safari in the Ngorongoro Crater, home to 25,000 animals. Alternatively, after your Kilimanjaro climb add on our 12 day Safari and Spice tour, which combines Tanzania's wildlife highlights with four nights on the idyllic island paradise of Zanzibar.

Kilimanjaro trek - Marangu Route

Often considered the easiest trek, the Marangu route is one of the most popular routes used to reach the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak. The Marangu route is used by almost 40% of all climbers and includes accommodation in comfortable mountain huts with solar power lighting. The route is classified as a moderate trek and suits adventurers who are not overly experienced climbers.

Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro, affectionately known as 'Kili', is Africa's highest mountain at 5895 metres. Kili is also the world's highest free-standing mountain, with its towering snow-capped, symmetrical cone a well-recognised African image. A world heritage site, the entire mountain is designated a national park covering an area of some 755 sq km, consisting of vast areas of montane forest with unique moorland flora and alpine desert at higher altitudes. Climbing Kili is the adventure of a lifetime for many visitors to Tanzania. As the highest 'walkable' mountain in the world, the trek is not a technical climb but is, nevertheless, a serious challenge. The mountain consists of three extinct volcanoes - Kibo, Mawenzi and Shira. Kibo is the tallest, with its summit named Uhuru the destination for trekkers ascending Mount Kilimanjaro.

Kilimanjaro climbs are usually packaged with a night pre and post climb to allow trekkers to attend a briefing and to make use of the storage and hire facilities in Moshi. All treks are guided by local guides, cooks and porters, who carry a nominated amount of luggage for each trekker, along with assisting with cooking meals and organising accommodation whether it be erecting tents for camping treks or accommodation in the mountain huts scattered at overnight stops across the mountain.

A safari pass of USD400 per person is applicable to this trek. This is paid in USD cash to the tour leader upon commencement of the trek. This cost is separate and in addition to the tour price, which is paid before travel. The Safari Pass covers park entries and some local expenses along the way when payment goes directly to the supplier. The price of a pass is dependent on year of travel.

The Marangu Route

The Marangu route takes five days to complete approaching from the south-east side of the mountain and is the easiest and shortest route to Kilimanjaro's summit. The trail approaches from the south side of Mawenzi and passes near two viewpoints at Maundi Crater, before heading up through rainforests and moorland to heathland and moonscape at a higher elevation. The final push to the top takes you to famous Gillman's Point and onto Uhuru at 5895 metres for the sunrise.

Due to its relatively easy access, the Marangu Route is the most popular and has the best facilities. This is the only route with the comforts of solar-powered sleeping huts and comfortable beds at every camp. The huts are communal, with each bunk having a foam mattress and pillow. There are 60 beds at both Mandara and Kibo huts and 120 beds at Horombo hut. Mealtimes are often shared with other groups from all over the world, providing lively and energetic conversation. Bathrooms and running water are available at the lower two huts and basic latrines are available at Kibo Camp. Soft drinks, bottle water and even beer are available for purchase at some of the huts.

Your meals are prepared by a cook, while porters carry all your equipment and supplies. Your guides, cook and porters are all employed from the Kilimanjaro area. These people are best adapted to the conditions of the mountain and it allows us to support local communities and families with regular employment.





Whilst it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary. Please therefore treat the following as a guide only.

Day 1: Moshi - 910 m

Today you are free to arrive in Moshi at any time. Check in is after 12:00pm. Upon check-in at the hotel you will be told the time of your trek briefing which is usually 6.00 pm (this is sometimes arranged for the morning on day two). The hotel has a hire centre which rents items such as down jackets and sleeping bags for reasonable prices. You also need to pack a limited amount of gear into a bag which is easy for the porters to carry, with the remainder of your luggage stored in a locker at the hotel for the duration of your trek.

With a population of 150,000, Moshi is home to the Chagga and Maasai peoples and is a typical Tanzanian town. There are markets to wander around and a small array of cafes and restaurants from which you can watch Tanzanian life go by. The town is situated on the southern slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro and on a clear day there are views of Kilimanjaro from some of its rooftop cafes. **Local Moshi hotel – twin share room.**

Day 2: Trek 7 km to Mandara Hut at 2740 m - duration 4-5 hours

After breakfast we leave Moshi and drive 45 minutes to Marangu Gate on the eastern side of the mountain. We begin our trek here by walking through forests with tall eucalyptus trees. The forest is home to a range of birdlife and colobus monkeys which can be seen jumping through the canopy. It can be muddy, so trekking poles and gaiters may help. After a stop for lunch we may have time to detour to Maundi Crater, which offers beautiful views across the surrounding region, including across to southern Kenya. We aim to reach Mandara Huts, our first camp in the late afternoon. Our porters and cook arrive at camp before us to start setting up and preparing dinner. **Mandara Huts - dorm room in mountain hut (BLD).**

Mandara Huts

Mandara Huts are a group of comfortable 'A' frame wooden huts. The largest cabin has a downstairs dining area and an upstairs dormitory and mattresses. Smaller huts sleep eight persons. The total capacity is 60 persons. Water is piped onto the site from a spring above and there are flush toilets behind the main cabin.

Day 3: Trek 11 km to Horombo Huts at 3700 m - duration 6-8 hours

We rise early and continue our trek after breakfast, hiking through rainforest glades. We follow an ascending path up through unique mountain heathland on the slopes of the Mawenzi massif consisting of giant lobelias and groundsel vegetation, some which reach over three metres high. Continuing on, we enter the area of low shrubs and moorlands where we have lunch. Although a long and quite strenuous walk, there are amazing views of Mawenzi from the moorland and by the time we reach our huts we have views of Kibo itself. We arrive at Horombo Huts mid-afternoon where there is time to rest before dinner. **Horombo Huts – dorm room in mountain hut (BLD).**

Please note: You may start to feel the effects of altitude sickness on this day. To aid your acclimatisation you can pre-book an extra day at Horombo. On your acclimatisation day you can choose to either rest or take a day walk to a basecamp below the lesser peak Mawenzi. An acclimatisation day must be pre-booked at the time of booking your trek.

Kilimanjaro trek - Marangu Route

Horombo Huts

The buildings here are similar to Mandara Hut, but the huts have double the capacity at 120 persons. Water is piped from the stream behind the huts. There are platform toilets south east of the main hut, about 80 m down the slope and flush toilets have been built within the complex of small huts.

Day 4: Trek 10 km to Kibo Huts at 4750 m - duration 6-8 hours

Rise early this morning and catch views of the sunrise over Kilimanjaro. After breakfast we set off and climb through the dwindling moorland, which blends into a rocky moonscape as you enter the sweeping saddle connecting Mawenzi and Kibo. Stopping for lunch we have great views of the peak and will be able to view our summit route we take early tomorrow morning. This afternoon we cross the surprisingly wide saddle of alpine desert, to the foot of Kibo. This evening's camp does not have running water, so our porter will prepare washing water for us. We will also eat early so you have as much sleep as possible before waking at midnight to begin our ascent towards the summit. At this altitude your guide will keep an eye on signs of altitude sickness. While many people are affected by mild altitude sickness, the guides will advise if symptoms are acute and summit should not be attempted. **Kibo Huts – dorm room in mountain hut (BLD).**

Kibo Huts

Kibo is a stone-built block house with a small dining area and a number of dormitory rooms leading off a main corridor. There are bunk beds and mattresses for about 60 people. There is no water here. Your porters will bring an ample supply from the last water supply above Horombo Hut. Platform toilets are located behind the hut.

Day 5: Summit day: Trek 16 km in total, first to Uhuru Peak at 5895 m, then onto Horombo Huts at 3700 m - duration 15 hours

We wake at midnight to a light snack and leave the camp at 1:00 am for our ascent. Our goal is to climb before dawn so that we reach Uhuru Peak shortly after sunrise. Setting off, we take switchbacks across a large scree slope and reach Gillman's Point on the crater rim at 5861 m between 5:00 and 7:00 am. Here, views of the fabled crater and possible ice caps greet you. After another two to three hours of hiking along the crater rim you reach Kilimanjaro's true summit at Uhuru Peak. This is Africa's highest point at 5895 m. On the summit we enjoy the view of the surrounding plains before our descent back down. It is another seven to eight hours descent back to Horombo, but thankfully it is all downhill. We arrive back at Horombo Huts, eat dinner prepared by our cook and get some well-earned sleep. **Horombo Huts – dorm room in mountain hut (BLD).**

Day 6: Trek 18 km to Marangu Gates at 2700 m - duration 6-7 hours

Today after a hearty breakfast we continue our descent back to the park gate. From the gate it is around an hour's hike along a mud road to Mweka, where we meet our transfer back to Moshi. After freshening up and lunch, successful climbers will be awarded with their trekking certificates. This is the usual place to tip guides and porters (tips can be passed on to the lead guide). The evening is free to relax and repack. **Local Moshi hotel – twin share room (BL).**

Day 7: Moshi:

Your trek package ends after breakfast (please pre-book transfers to Kilimanjaro International Airport or road transfers to Arusha or Nairobi if required). **(B).**





Tipping:

Tipping is a traditional gift given by travellers to your trekking team members when trekking Mount Kilimanjaro. A suggested tip amount of USD250 – 300 per traveller is a recommendation only. Please budget this to pay the climb staff. This is not included in the trip price, nor is it paid to the trek operator. This is usually given as a gift to the team through your guide on the final day of your trek in USD cash.

Important information:

- Trekking is not suitable for children under 12 years of age.
- This pre-prepared travel itinerary is a travel package. It is not a fully guided group tour throughout.
- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the departure point at the time assigned by the operator.
- On completion of the package, flights must be booked taking into consideration the time recommended by the operator.
- Accommodation is on a shared basis as listed. A sleeping bag is required (sleeping bags may be hired in Moshi if required).
- Single supplements are not available on treks as only shared basis accommodation is available.
- An acclimatisation day can be added (own expense) between day 3 and day 4. Please ask for details.
- Transfers may be in a sedan, minibus or coach.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all necessary documentation, including visas and inoculation certificates relating to this tour.
- At times an alternative vehicle type may be used other than those mentioned in the itinerary and inclusion listing.
- At times, the sequence or inclusion of activities may vary due to local conditions, opening hours or non-availability. Timings may also vary due to local conditions including seasonal road and border conditions.
- Prices may vary when booking seasons overlap. Bookings over Christmas, New Year and Easter incur holiday supplements. Please ask for a date-specific quote for travel during these dates.
- Prices for airport taxes, park fees and applicable government taxes and levies may be changed without prior notice. Any change is beyond our control and any increase will be passed on to the client.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- Please refer to our terms and conditions for amendments and cancellation policies if necessary.