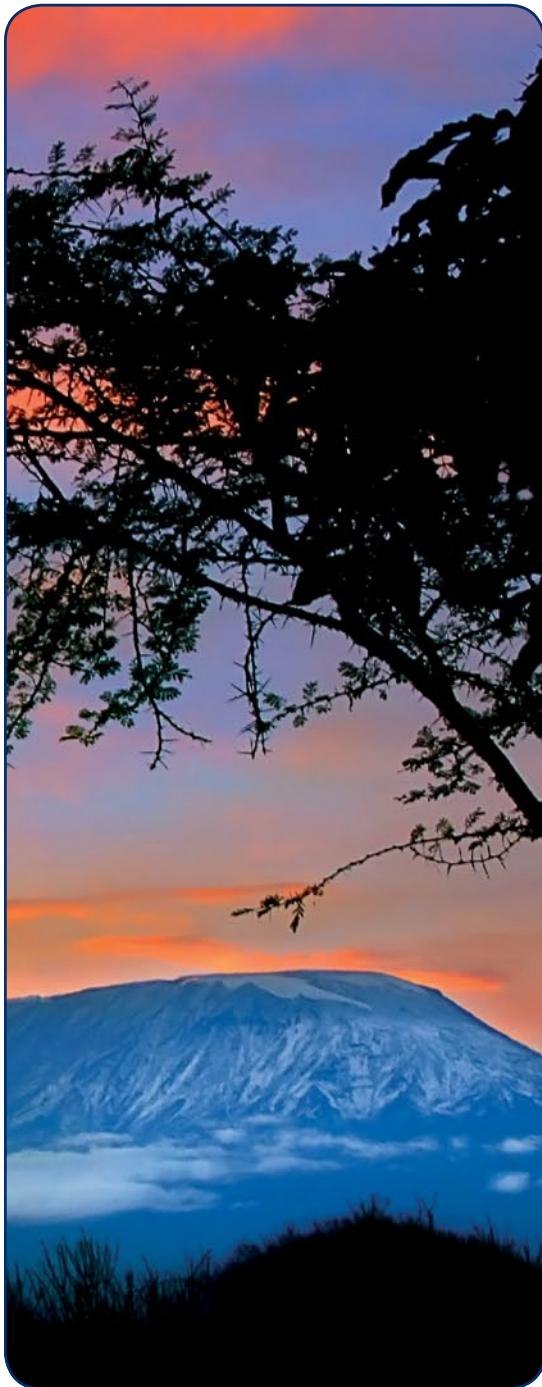


KILIMANJARO SUMMIT CLIMB, TANZANIA



MACHAME ROUTE

Mt Kilimanjaro, at 5,895m, is the largest mountain in Africa and the adventure will aim to take you to the summit. Our adventure will begin on the Southwest Machame route, otherwise known as the Whiskey route, which moves upwards to the Shira Plateaux where you will acclimatise to the altitude as you climb higher.

When you reach Shira Camp 2 on the second day you will have one of the most spectacular sights of Kibo, the snow peaked summit, and if the altitude doesn't take your breath away – the view will! From Shira 2 we will continue along the Southern Flank and we will pass the sights of the Lava Tower, Barranco Wall and on up to the Barafu Route.

Over the course of the challenge you will climb steadily to acclimatise to the altitude to give you the best shot at reaching the summit. The real challenge begins on summit night when we will start our attempt around 10.30pm to begin final leg guided by the stars in the crystal clear sky.

Ideally your aim is to reach Stella Point by dawn before continuing round the summit rim to Uhuru Peak, the highest point in Africa. Undoubtedly one of the hardest day's walking you will have ever experience as you will walk for 12-15 hours at high altitude – however the rewards will stay with you forever.

DAY 1: FLY TO NAIROBI, KENYA

One of the team will meet you at the airport to ensure check-in goes smoothly for you and team and to answer any last minute questions before travelling to Nairobi.

DAY 2: TRANSFER TO MOSHI

You will transfer overland by bus to Moshi where it will take about 4 hours to reach the Namanga Border. From there it is a further two hours drive to the hotel where you will be welcomed and enjoy a nice lunch, final briefing and kit check before an overnight stay before the trek.

DAY 3: TREK THROUGH THE RAINFOREST (2,980M)

Before the trek starts we will have to register the team at the National Park gates before beginning your ascent where you will enter into the rainforest and have a 5 – 6 hour trek at 1490m up to the Machame camp at 2980m. The flora and fauna are diverse and you will enjoy your first experience on the mountain. You will have a welcome lunch half way through the day's walk. You will reach camp in the late afternoon where you will have your tents ready for you with dinner being prepared for you.

DAY 4: SHIRA PLATEAU (3,840M)

After an early rise and a breakfast to ready you for the day ahead you will set out from the Machame camp where you have a 4-6 hour walk for the day. After the first hour of walking you will clear the top of the forest before progressing through gentle moorland where you will stop for lunch.



Once you have had lunch you continue you up the rocky ridge onto the Shira Plateau where you will get your first good look at Kibo with its stunning glaciers. You will then have a short hike west to Shira Camp 2 where the porters will have your dinner almost ready for you.

DAY 5: SOUTHERN FLANK (3900M)

Today's trek will take around 7 – 9 hours where we will be crossing the Southern flank and gaining altitude by climbing up to the Lava Tower. After lunch we drop down into the Barranco Valley to camp at the base of Barranco Wall, which has some incredible views of Mt Meru and the sea of clouds that the peak pokes through.

DAY 6: BARRANCO WALL AND BARAFU RIDGE (4,600M)

After camping at the foot at the imposing Barranco Wall you will set off by climbing this awesome obstacle, which turns out to be easier than it looks. You will have made good height gain, but more impressively is an even better view of Meru and the surrounding plains. From the top of Barranco we will carry on around into Karanga where we will have a hot lunch to set you up for summit night. After lunch you will have another 3 – 4 hour walk to Barafu Ridge Camp where we will stage our summit attempt from. You will have an early dinner and the rest in preparation for the summit attempt which will later that night.

DAY 7: SUMMIT DAY! (5,895M)

After some restless sleep you will need to rise around 10pm to commence the trek and summit push up the scree slopes to Stella Point. Once you have reached here you will continue walking around the rim to the highest point Uhuru point. As



you walk across the exposed ridges you will find the wind chill will cause the temperature to drop.

You will detect the first signs of the sun around 5.30am after a long night's walk. We should be reaching Stella Point around about dawn and it's a short walk around the crater to the top at Uhuru Peak!

You will have the chance to enjoy the view and take the pictures for posterity before heading back down the scree slopes via Stella Point and Barafu Ridge for a short rest before then descending to Mweka Camp. This is a long day of walking, 15 hours, but it will be well worth the feeling of accomplishment that you will get in return. We will have our final night's camp at Mweka with dinner with a real sense of satisfaction and achievement as you head to the tent one more time.

DAY 8: MWEKA GATE

After a well deserved breakfast it will be a short three hour hike back to the park gate where you will receive your certificate of completion and you can sign the visitors' book. You will then enjoy a hot lunch in Mweka village before being transferred back to Moshi for an overnight stay at a hotel – hot showers and a comfy bed! However not before you join us in a celebration meal and reflect in the glory of the last few memorable days.

DAY 9-15: INDEPENDENT TRAVEL OR EXTENSION ADVENTURES

For the next few days you have the chance to undertake free travel or join us on an extension adventures on safari and a trip to Zanzibar. More details of these trips can be found in My Adventures.

DAY 16: TRAVEL BACK TO THE UK

We will fly back from Nairobi to the UK with tales to tell and new found friends.

NB This itinerary is a general guide to the experience you will have. However we have to consider external factors such as wildlife, unusual weather and the fitness of the group. Whilst we aim to maintain the itinerary as laid out, we reserve the right to change the itinerary for the groups' safety and the decision to make alterations of the itinerary lie with your expedition guide.