

Tanzania: Hiking & safari

Kilimanjaro

The highest peak of Africa

- Machame route -

Starting our ascent from the south-western side, we follow the well known Machame Route - one of the most scenic and popular trails to Kilimanjaro's summit. This nine-day itinerary allows for extra acclimatization, significantly improving your chances of a successful climb. The route winds through lush rainforest and open Alpine moorland, offering dramatic shifts in landscape. While the additional days help with altitude adjustment, make no mistake: this is still a demanding trek. Transport to and from the mountain is provided, and during the climb, you'll stay in tented camps as part of this 'Basic' style adventure.

DAY 01: ARRIVAL IN TANZANIA

- Activity: Transfer to hotel
- Distance: 55 km / 1 hr
- Meal: Bed & breakfast

- Stay: Stella Maris Lodge

Welcome to Tanzania! After landing at Kilimanjaro Airport, you'll meet us and be transferred to your hotel in Arusha. Settle in at **Stella Maris Lodge** and relax. your African journey is just beginning. Our representative will give you a final briefing.

DAY 02: KILIMANJARO: MACHAME GATE

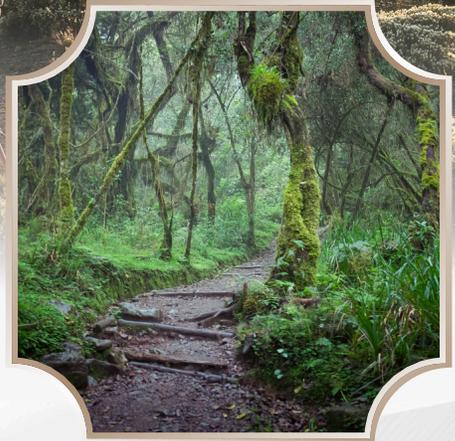
- Activity: Hiking
- Hiking time: 5 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 1800 to 3000 m
- Stay: Machame Camp

After breakfast, transfer to Machame Gate (1,800 m) for registration. Begin the trek through lush rainforest, with chances of spotting blue monkeys or black-and-white colobus monkeys. Reach Machame Camp in the late afternoon.

DAY 03: MACHAME CAMP SHIRA CAVE CAMP

- Activity: Hiking
- Hiking time: 4.5 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 3000 to 3800 m
- Stay: Tented Camp at Shira Cave

Trek out of the forest and into moorland. You'll pass rocky ridges and enjoy views of Kibo and Mount Meru in the distance. Reach Shira Cave Camp, located on a high plateau.



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Kilimanjaro:

Machame route

DAY 04: SHIRA CAVE - LAVA TOWER - BARRANCO CAMP

- Hiking time: 7 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 3800 to 4627 m

(via Lava tower, then down to 3900m)

- Stay: Tented Camp at Barranco Camp

A crucial acclimatization day. Ascend to the dramatic Lava Tower at 4,627 m, then descend to Barranco Camp nestled below the Barranco Wall. Notes: "Climb high, sleep low" strategy helps your body adjust to altitude.

DAY 05: BARRANCO CAMP - KARANGA CAMP

- Hiking time: 4.5 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 3900 to 4035 m

- Stay: Tented Camp at Karanga Camp

Scramble up the steep Barranco Wall, then enjoy a gentler hike over glacial valleys and rocky slopes. Reach Karanga Camp in time for lunch and rest. Notes: The wall may look intimidating but is safe and manageable with support from guides.

DAY 06: KARANGA CAMP - BARAFU CAMP

- Hiking time: 4 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 4035 to 4680 m

- Stay: Tented Camp at Barafu Camp

A short but steep ascent through alpine desert brings you to Barafu Camp, your base before the summit push. Early dinner and rest are vital.

Notes: Prepare gear for the summit push tonight (starts just after midnight).

DAY 07: SUMMIT - UHURU PEAK -

- Hiking time: 13 hrs
- Meal: Full board
- Altitude: 4680 to 5895 m

- Stay: Tented Camp at Mweka

Start around midnight for the summit attempt. Trek through scree and switchbacks to Stella Point (5,756 m), then continue to Uhuru Peak (5,895 m) – the highest point in Africa. After photos and celebration, descend to Mweka Camp.

Notes: This is the most physically demanding day, but also the most rewarding.



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Tanzanian wildlife

DAY 08: MWEKA CAMP – MWEKA GATE – ARUSHA

- Hiking time: 3 hrs
- Meal: Bed & breakfast
- Altitude: 3100 to 1600 m

- Stay: Arusha Planet Lodge

Final descent through lush forest to Mweka Gate. Collect your summit certificates, say goodbye to the mountain team, and transfer back to Arusha.

Notes: Time to shower, relax, and celebrate your achievement.

DAY 09: FREE DAY IN ARUSHA

- Activity: Leisure
- Meal: Bed & breakfast
- Stay: Arusha Planet Lodge

Rest day in Arusha to recover.

Optional activities: local market visits, coffee farm tour, or relax by the lodge pool.

Notes: This buffer day allows you to rest before flying to the coast.

DAY 10: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

- Activity: Safari game drive
- Meal: Full board

- Stay: Lodge near Ngorongoro crater

After breakfast, drive to Tarangire National Park (2.5 hrs). Enjoy a game drive through one of Tanzania's most scenic parks, famous for its massive elephant herds and iconic baobab trees.

In the late afternoon, proceed toward the Ngorongoro Highlands.

DAY 11: NGORONGORO CRATER TOUR

- Meal: Full board
- Stay: Arusha Planet Lodge

Descend into the Ngorongoro Crater, a UNESCO-listed wildlife haven and natural wonder. Spot the "Big Five" and countless other species in this unique ecosystem. After lunch, drive back to Arusha in the late afternoon.

DAY 12: DEPARTURE

Check out by 10:00 AM. Transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your onward flight.

