



DETAILED ITINERARY.

MOUNT KILIMANJARO TREKKING.

MACHAME ROUTE.

TREKKING HIGHLIGHTS.

Day 1 – Springland Hotel - Moshi
Day 2 – Machame Camp
Day 3 - Shira Camp
Day 4 - Barranco Camp
Day 5 – Barafu Camp
Day 6 – Mweka Camp
Day 7 – Descent and departure.

Machame route is the most beautiful route for climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro. All your equipments and supplies are portered and a cook prepares your meals. Where accommodation on the Marangu route is in huts, the Machame route offers strictly tents only. The Machame route is also referred to as the 'Whisky Route' (whereas the Marangu route is known as the 'Coca Cola Route') and it is better suited to the slightly more adventurous hiker, however rewarding him/her with a scenic splendor such as not seen on the Marangu route. There is an added benefit to this route, as you are afforded the most valuable commodity on the mountain and that is acclimatization. The Machame route takes you high to Lava Tower (4,630 m) on day 3 and brings you down by nearly 700m for an overnight at Baranco Camp hence making you more familiar to the altitude and climate. The Machame is additionally more personalised in service and trek as huge crowds are mostly avoided.

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL IN ARUSHA THEN TO MOSHI - SPRINGLANDS HOTEL.

Arrive at Kilimanjaro Int. Airport in Tanzania. Pick up at airport and drive to Moshi.

Overnight at Springlands Hotel, Moshi - bed and breakfast.

DAY 2 - MACHAME GATE (1,490M) TO MACHAME CAMP (2,980M) ; HIKING TIME - 7 HRS ; DISTANCE 18 KMS; HABITAT - MONTANE FOREST.

After breakfast drive to Kilimanjaro National Park at the Machame gate. Register and begin climb. You will receive a lunch pack and you can also buy mineral water in the village. Hike through the rain forest to Machame Hut at about 10,000 feet. Your porters will have arrived at the campsite before you and will have erected your tent on your arrival. In the evening the porters will boil drinking water and the cook will prepare dinner. Dinner and overnight.

Overnight at Machame Camp - fullboard.

DAY 3 - MACHAME CAMP (2,980M) TO SHIRA CAMP (3,840M); HIKING TIME - 6 HRS; DISTANCE - 9 KMS; HABITAT - MOORLAND.

After an early breakfast you climb an hour or so to the top of the forest and then for 2 hours at a gentler gradient through the moorland zone. After a short lunch and rest, you continue up a rocky ridge onto the Shira Plateau. By now you will be able to see an easterly direction, the Western Breach with its stunning glaciers. You are now due to West of Kibo and after a short hike you will reach the Shira campsite at 3840m.

Rest, dinner and overnight at the Shira Hut camp site.

Overnight at Shira Camp - fullboard.

DAY 4 - SHIRA CAMP (3,840M) TO LAVA TOWER (4,630M) TO BARRANCO CAMP (3950M); HIKING TIME - 7 HRS; DISTANCE - 15 KMS; HABITAT: SEMI DESERT.

Continue East and then South East to the landscape surrounding the Lava Tower where you reach after about 5 hours trekking. Lunch is served in the designated area before ascending the rocky scree path to Lava Tower called 'The Sharks Tooth', definitely the toughest day so far. After lunch you descend again by almost 680m to the Barranco Camping area and after reaching the high altitude of 4600m at Lava Tower, the true acclimatization benefit of this day becomes clear. This descent to Barranco Camp takes about 2 hours and offers great opportunities to take some beautiful photographs of the Western Breach and Breach Wall. The camp is situated in the valley below breach and Great Barranco Wall, which should provide you with a memorable sunset while you wait for the preparation of your dinner.

Overnight at Barranco Camp.

DAY 5 - BARRANCO CAMP (3950M) TO BARAFU CAMP (4550M); HIKING TIME - 7 HRS; DISTANCE - 13 KMS; HABITAT - ALPINE DESERT.

After spending a night at the Great Barranco Wall (a very imposing sight at first), you make your way up this awesome looking obstacle, which in the end normally turns out easier than what you anticipated. Topping out just below Heim Glacier, you now appreciate just how beautiful Kilimanjaro really is. The route then heads down through Karanga Valley over intervening ridges and valleys, and then joins up with Mweka route. This is the preferred route down from the summit, so remember it. After an hour, you will be at Barafu Camp. Barafu is the Swahili word for 'ice'. The summit is now a further 1345m up and you will make the final ascent the same night. Prepare your equipment, ski stick and thermal clothing for the summit attempt. This should include replacement of your batteries for the headlamp/camera. To prevent your water from freezing it would be wiser to carry it in a thermal flask. Go to bed at around 19:00hrs and try to get some precious sleep.

Overnight at Barafu Camp - fullboard.

DAY 6 - BARAFU CAMP (4550M) TO UHURU PEAK (5895M) TO MWEKA (3100M); HIKING TIME - 8 HRS TO UHURU PEAK AND 7/8 HRS TO MWEKA; DISTANCE - 7KM ASCENT AND 23KMS DESCENT; HABITAT - STONE SCREE AND ICE CAPPED SUMMIT.

You will arise around 23:30hrs and after some tea and biscuits you continue into the night. You will head in a northwestern direction and ascend through heavy scree towards Stella Point on the crater rim. At Stella Point (5685m) you will stop for a short rest and will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise (weather permitting) you are ever likely to see. From Stella Point you will normally encounter snow all the way on your 2 hours ascent to Uhuru Peak. The time you will spend on the summit will depend on the weather conditions. Enjoy your accomplishment and a day to remember for the rest of your life. The walk back to Barafu from the summit takes 3 hours. Here you will have a well earned but short rest and collect the rest of your gear, before heading down to Mweka Hut (3100m).

Overnight at Mweka Camp - fullboard.

DAY 7 – DECENT AND DEPARTURE.

After an early and well-deserved breakfast it is a short 3 hour scenic hike back to the park gate. You will then drive to Moshi, then further to Arusha and depart to your next destination.

COST:

USD 1,177.- PER PERSON.

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT – USD 66.-

Cost includes-

- All vehicle transfers
- Park entrance fees
- All camping fees for the climb
- Guides, assistant guides, porter and cook
- All meals on the mountain including eating utensils
- Certificate of successful completion
- Government taxes

Cost excludes-

- Tips for guides and porters
- International and regional flights and taxes
- Personal health insurance
- In-house equipment: rental facility
- Visas
- Toiletries

End of Itinerary.

REQUIRED GEAR.

This is also available for rental at Moshi.

1. Sleeping bag.
2. Thick Sweater
3. Full rain suit
4. Rain suit pants
5. Duffel bag
6. Day pack rucksack
7. Long gaiters
8. Walking stick
9. Flashlight
10. Balaclava
11. Gloves
12. Mountain boots.

Travel Connections wishes you all a successful mountain climb.

Should you require further details, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards,

Felix Koskei.
Managing Director.

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