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KILIMANJARO (5895m) - TANZANIA

Introduction

Situated south of the equator in Tanzania at 19,340 feet (5895m), 'Kili' is Africa's highest mountain and the highest "free standing" mountain in the world, where huge permanent glaciers flow down from the summit.

Spectacular views and beautiful ice formations are the reward for the successful trekker, as well as the satisfaction of topping out on this mighty peak of Africa. One of the 'Seven Summits', being the highest mountain on each of the seven continents.

Who's it for ?

Any reasonably fit person who enjoys walking can reach the summit of Kilimanjaro through a programme of acclimatisation. Our itinerary over 10 days is well designed to give you the best chance of acclimatising and successfully reaching the summit.

Our Route

We have chosen the **Machame route** which offers us distinct advantages to the other routes on the mountain. This is far less travelled and wilderness based route. Most of the 15,000 annual attempts on Kili are made by the more direct Marangu and other routes. It offers us a safer and better acclimatisation schedule than other routes.

Safety & Success

Most routes are taken over 4-5 days resulting in poor acclimatisation and low overall success rates (avg 40%). Our 7 day ascent provides the ideal acclimatisation schedule. Also our High Camp is below 16,000ft. Many other routes require a last camp above 17,000ft, going against the ethos of '*Climb High & Sleep Low*'.

Our Guides

All our trips are run by UK qualified & experienced Guides who hold International Mountain Leader or UIAGM guides awards.

Day 1. Depart UK for Kilimanjaro on an overnight flight.

Day 2. Upon arrival we transfer to a hotel in Moshi where we relax after our long flight. Today you'll meet the guides, go through a trek briefing and sort out our kit.

Day 3. A short drive to Machame gate, where we meet our crew of porters and start our climb! The first day of the route climbs steadily through magnificent forest where we camp at Machame camp, 3100m.

Day 4. Our route continues out of the forest as we make our ascent along a steep ridge on to the shira plateau giving panoramic views of Mt Meru rising high above the clouds. Here we camp at the Shira hut 3800m.

Day 5. Today we head east towards Kibo as the landscape changes a great deal, we make our way to the Lava tower crossing the Western Breach then finally descending to the Barranco Hut 3900m. The day has been spent at high altitude so we sleep low to avoid altitude sickness and allow our bodies to acclimatise.

Day 6. We start with a short scramble to the top of the Barranco Wall, it's a rock scramble and extremely rewarding. We then traverse over scree and ridges below the Heim, Kersten and Decken Glaciers to the Karranga Valley at 4000m which is our last water stop. After climbing out of the Karranga Valley the route ascends a ridge to the Barafu Hut at 4600m.

Day 7. Summit day !. A long day ahead of us, an early start by torch light is needed for the ascent to the rim of Kibo Crater and the Glaciers. You will be climbing scree for 5-6hrs as you gain incredible height. We hope to be on the crater rim at Stella Point 5750m as the first rays of sun light hit us and enjoy sunrise over Mawenzi where the spectacular views of the ice cliffs are just breathtaking. We've made it! Those who are still feeling strong can make the two hour round trip along the crater rim to Uhuru Peak (5896m) the roof of Africa. After a short rest for some breakfast we continue to descend down to Millennium Camp (3800m).

Day 8. A gentle trek takes us down through the rainforest to the Mweka Gate (1650m) through coffee and banana farms to Mweka village. From here we drive back to the hotel in Moshi where you can treat yourself to a welcome shower (and a cold beer or two!).

Day 9. Free morning, allowing you to explore Moshi with its markets, and time to relax with your fellow achievers. We return to the hotel mid afternoon in time to transfer to the airport for our international flight home. Lunch and dinner not provided.

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Trekking Info

This trek is graded tough and is a challenging high altitude trek. However the main challenge lies in the altitude. This is why we have chosen the Machame route for better acclimatisation. The terrain varied with trekking through forest paths, open moorland and rocky scree.

Our porters will be carrying your main luggage, all camping equipment and our food and water. You will be required to carry a small daypack for your personal items during the day.



Weather

March and April can be very wet in the rainforest with January and February the hottest months. Above the cloudline, days are usually warm and very pleasant with temperatures often above 20°C. However at night temperatures can get very cold, often as low as -20°C at our highest camp site. Daily weather on the mountain tends to be clear mornings with afternoon cloud building up which often clears early evening to allow some remarkable sunsets.

Accommodation

Accommodation on arrival and end of trip in the Moshi hotel is on B&B basis. All accommodation during the trek itself is in tents on a full board basis. Breakfast & evening meals are taken in the communal mess tent. Packed lunches are supplied for the day.

Trip Costs

Up to date costs for our trips to Kilimanjaro, please refer to our website or contact us.

All our trips include:

Flights London to Tanzania

2 nights hotel on B&B basis in Moshi

All transport to/from airport

Park entry fees

Porters & guides fees

Accommodation (tented) and meals on the trek.

Not included:

Personal insurance (you must be insured against emergency repatriation and medical expenses abroad for your chosen activity). *Personal insurance can be arranged. Please contact us for information.*

Booking Security

All our overseas trips are booked through our travel partner Strachan Sports Travel providing ATOL bonding and ABTA & IATA quality membership.

Raising Money for Charity

For many, the experience of having achieved a major summit while raising money for a charity, enhances your experience and overall achievement. In addition your chosen charity will benefit greatly from both the money and raised profile.

As part of our booking packs, we include sponsorship forms and can assist you in planning your fundraising. If you don't have a charity in mind, we can give you information on the charities that we work with and their causes.

How to Book

Please complete our booking form and return with your deposit. On confirming your booking we will send you confirmation and receipt of the booking. The full balance is then paid 6 weeks before departure.

Further information can be found:-

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