6 Days Kilimanjaro Climb Via Rongai Route

Arrived in Tanzania

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) where you will meet Hilbas representatives, be picked up and transferred to the hotel for hot showers, comfortable beds, a briefing, and gear checks. We will also arrange for you to hire any equipment you may need.

Day 1- Rongai Gate to Simba Camp

Elevation: 1900m/6270ft to 2626m/8665ft

Distance: 8 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours.

Vegetation Zone: Rainforest

The driver will pick you up from the Hotel at Marangu Gate, where registration takes place, while guides and porters prepare equipment. After that, the driver will transfer you again to Rongai Gate/Nalemuru which will take about 3 hours.

Lunch will be on the way to the gate or at the gate before starting your climb. Your hike will start from the Nalemuru village, the small winding path crosses maize, beans, and potatoes fields before entering the pine forest and then climbs gently through a forest, here is home to a variety of wildlife, including the Black and White colobus and Blue monkeys, Baboons as well as different species of flowers. This is the head tent route. Dinner will be served in your mess tent and you will camp in the Moorland area

Day 2- Simba Camp to Second Cave to Kikelelwa Camp

Elevation: 2626m/8665ft to 3600m/11880ft to 3450m/11385ft

Distance: 12 km

Hiking time: 6-7 hours.

Vegetation Zone: Moorland

After breakfast, we will continue hiking slowly through the moorland to the second cave, where you will have your lunch. After lunch, we will hike very slowly and head southeast across up and down on the small path in the moorland. We will head towards Mawenzi's peak. Our campsite is in a sheltered valley.

Day 3- Kikelelwa Camp to Mawenzi Tarn Hut

Elevation: 3600m/11880ft to 4300m/14190ft

Distance: 5 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours.

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert

This is another short day but a steep hike up grassy slopes. At the top, you will have magnificent views from a different angle of the National Park and Mawenzi Peak. You will arrive at Mawenzi Tarn Hut in time for lunch and then have the whole afternoon to explore the surrounding area and acclimatize.

Day 4- Mawenzi Tarn Hut to Kibo Hut

Elevation: 4300m/14190ft to 4720m/15576ft

Distance: 10 km

Hiking time: 5-6 hours.

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert

After breakfast, we will continue west through the Saddle and Lunner desert which is formed between the peak of Kibo and Mawenzi. It will take 5 or 6 hours to reach Kibo Hut. Sometimes you will have to pack lunch and stop on the way for lunch or a hot lunch at Kibo Hut. However, it depends on your speed. The route is dry but provides a spectacular view of the mountains. At Kibo Hut you will be served an early dinner then go to bed.

Day 5- Kibo Hut to Uhuru Peak to Horombo Hut

Elevation: 4720m/15576ft to 5895m/19453ft to 3720m/12276ft

Distance: 21 km

Hiking time: 13-15 hours

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert/Arctic zone/Moorland.

This is your special day when your dream comes true, your guide will wake you up around 11:00 pm for tea and biscuits, Summit will begin at midnight, we follow a switchback path up to a volcanic scree slope, passing William Point (5000m/15000 ft) to Hans Meyer Cave (5200m/17000 ft), after a short break we proceed to Gillman's point (5681m), which is located on the crater rim.

A bit further around the crater, we reach our goal, Uhuru Peak (5895m/19453ft), the roof of Africa. You'll have a short time to take photos at the summit. Descending to Kibo Hut is fast. After lunch, other refreshments. Continue to the Horombo huts. You'll enjoy your last dinner on the mountain in the evening despite your exhaustion.

Day 6- Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate

Elevation: 3720m/12276ft to 2720m/8976ft

Distance: 19 km

Hiking time: 7-8 hours

Vegetation Zone: Moorland/Rainforest.

This is another big day, and after early breakfast, will start descending passing through Mandara Hut before reaching the Marangu gate. We will cross through the moorland to the rainforest where you can spot many birds, tall trees, flowers, and many interesting things. Our route will end at Marangu Gate which will require all hikers to sign out in order to receive certificates of completion. A driver from Hilbas tours will drive back to Hotel. On the way back you will pass through coffee and banana farms around Marangu villages.

Departure or onwards travel

After an early breakfast, transfer to Safari or Kilimanjaro airport for your home departure flight.