7 Days Kilimanjaro Climb Via Machame 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, briefing, and gear checks. We will also arrange for you to hire any equipment you may need.

Day 1- Machame Gate to Machame Hut

Elevation: 1800m/5940ft to 2900m/9570ft

Distance: 11 km

Hiking time: 5-6 hours

Vegetation Zone: Rainforest.

The drive will pick you up up from Hotel to Machame Gate which will take 45 minutes. Here you will pass through villages located on the lower slopes of the Mountain.

Day 2- Machame Hut to Shira Camp

Elevation: 2900m/9870ft to 3750m/12375ft

Distance: 5 km

Hiking time: 4-6 hours

Vegetation Zone: Moorland

This is the shortest day. After breakfast, the route continues on up through a steep rocky ridge with wide views of the Shira Plateau, Kibo peak, and Mt. Meru as she floats among the cloud.

Day 3- Shira Camp to Lava Tower to Barranco Camp

Elevation: 3750m/12375ft to 3900m/12870ft

Distance: 10 km

Hiking time: 6-7 hours

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert

The morning begins with a long crossing of the plateau as we head east toward Kibo. As we continue, our direction changes to the South East towards the Lava Tower. This will take 3-4 hours to reach Lava Tower (4600m/15180ft) Packed lunches or Hot lunches are served at the Tower, this is a very important area for acclimatization and will help your body prepare for summit day. After that, we now continue down to the Barranco Camp which we take 2 hours, here we rest, enjoy dinner, and overnight

Day 4- Barranco to Karanga Camp

Elevation: 3900m/12870ft to 3930m/1269ft

Distance: 6 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Moorland

The day starts by descending into the start of the Great Barranco, a huge ravine, and then take a steep exit up the Great Barranco Wall to the top, here you will have a view of Heim Glacier, some spectacular views of Kilimanjaro and will be above the clouds. The trail then winds up and down in the Karanga Valley to your night.

Day 5- Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp

Elevation: 3930m/12969ft to 4670m/15411ft

Distance: 4 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert

After a good breakfast, we start our walk to Barafu camp, across desolate scree slopes with no vegetation around, steep walk to Barafu. After a hot lunch at the camp, the remainder of the day is spent resting as we prepare for the final ascent before an early night summit walk. The Camp usually offers stunning views of the Kibo and Mawenzi peaks.

Day 6- Barafu to Uhuru Peak to Mweka Camp

Elevation: 4670m/15411ft- 5895m/19453ft to 3100m/10230ft

Distance: 19 km

Hiking time: 15 hours

Vegetation: Alpine Desert/Arctic to Moorland

This is your special day when your dream comes true, your guide will wake you around 23:00 for tea and biscuits, Summit will begin through a steep over loose volcanic scree with some well-graded switchbacks and a slow but steady pace will lead us towards Stella Point on the crater rim (5696m/18800ft) for about 5 to 6 hours.

After a short rest, you will continue hiking for about 1 hour to Uhuru Peak (5895m). Here you will have a short time to take photographs around the summit. The Barafu campsite descent is fast. After lunch, we proceed to descend through the moorland to reach the final Mweka Campsite for dinner and overnight for the last day on the mountain.

Day 7 – Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate

Elevation: 3100m/10230ft to 1700m/5610ft

Distance: 10 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Rainforest

This is another big day which your staff will sing and dance for you. After all, the descent will be on a well-maintained trail through the lovely rain forest with many birds, tall trees, flowers, and many interesting things. Our route will end at Mweka Gate which will require all hikers to sign out and receive certificates of completion. Driver from Hilbas tours will drive back Hotel, on the way back you will pass through coffee and banana farms around Mweka village.

Departure or onwards travel

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