8 Days Kilimanjaro Climb Via Lemosho 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- Londorosi Gate to Mti Mkubwa

Elevation: 2,360m/7788ft to 2,820m/9306ft

Distance: 6 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Rainforest

The driver will pick you up from the Hotel to Londorosi Gate, which takes 4 hours, where you will complete entry formalities, then drive again through varied farmland with open views over the plains to reach the start point where you will have lunch before starting your walk. As you walk through tropical rainforests, you may see the footprints of animals like elephants, buffalo, etc. Dinner will be served at Mti Mkubwa Camp.

Day 2- Mti Mkubwa Camp to Shira 1 Camp

Elevation: 2,820m/9,306ft to 3,600m/11,880ft

Distance: 7 km

Hiking Time: 5-6 hours

Vegetation Zone: Health/Moorland

After early breakfast, we continue to leave the rainforest behind and pass through moorland, heather and across several streams, we reach Shira ridge, enjoying the views of Shira plateau and Mt Meru before descending to Shira 1 camp for overnight.

Day 3- Shira 1 Camp to Shira 2 Camp

Elevation: 3600m/11880ft to 3840m/12672ft

Distance: 11

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Heather/Moorland

This is a short day. After breakfast, we walk through the moorland to explore the Shira Plateau volcanic rock formations. We ascend to the summit of Shira Cathedral (3962 m) for acclimation, and views of Mt Meru if it is a clear day before reaching Shira 2 for lunch, dinner and overnight.

Day 4- Shira 2 Camp to Laval Tower to Barranco Camp

Elevation: 3840m/38403ft to 3900m/12870ft

Distance: 11 km

Hiking time: 6-7 hours

Vegetation Zone: Moorland

This is another long day. After breakfast, we continue east up a ridge, passing the junction toward Kibo peak before changing direction to the South East toward the Laval Tower (4600m/15180ft). Hot or packed lunches are served at the Tower. This is a very helpful area for acclimatization and will help your body prepare for summit day. After that, we continue down to Barranco Camp where we take 2 hours. Here we rest, enjoy dinner, and overnight.

Day 5- Barranco Camp 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 taking a steep exit up the Great Barranco Wall to the top. Here you will see Heim Glacier, Kilimanjaro and above the clouds. The trail then winds up and down to Karanga Valley for lunch dinner and overnight.

Day 6- Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp

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

Distance: 4 km

Hiking time: 3-4 hours

Vegetation Zone: Alpine Desert

After having breakfast, we start our walk to Barafu camp. Across the rock scree slopes with no vegetation around, a 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. This is before an early night summit walk. The camp usually offers stunning views of the Kibo and Mawenzi peaks.

Day 7 – Barafu Camp 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 8 – 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 that your staff will sing and dance for you. After all, the descent will be on a well-maintained trail through tropical rainforests 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. A driver from Hilbas tours will drive back to 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.