



Kilimanjaro 8 Day Machame Route

DAY 1 ARRIVE AFRICA –Transfer & Overnight at Impala Hotel OR Equivalent

On arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport, you are met by a member of your guide team and transferred by road to your hotel in Arusha. After a long day of travel, we enjoy a quick meal before retiring.

Transfer Time - 50 min

Meals - Dinner

Accommodation – Impala Hotel FB

The Impala Hotel is located in Arusha, at the foot of Mount Meru adjacent to a quite residential area in the suburbs of Arusha just one kilometre from town centre and 30 minutes drive from Kilimanjaro International Airport. The hotel offers 160 well-furnished rooms which includes; 10 junior suites, 20 executive suites and 10 deluxe suites, all with en-suite bathrooms and 21 inch colour TV. The rooms are spacious, well ventilated and are specially designed to make you comfortable. There is a direct dial telephone facility and room-to-room connection. www.impalahotel.com

Additional Suggested Rest Day: - Overnight at the Impala Hotel OR Equivalent – ADDITIONAL COST

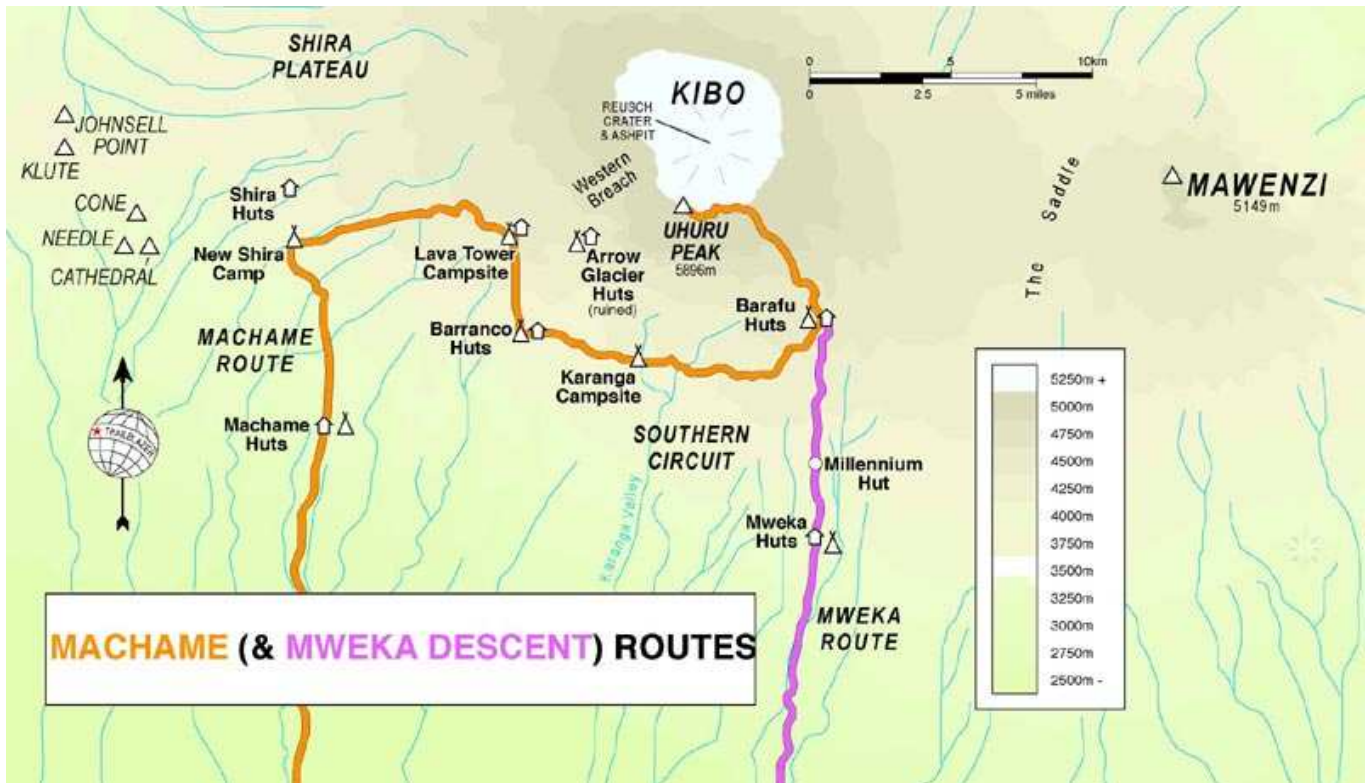
It is suggested to add an additional rest day in Arusha to help adjust to the new time zone and get over jet lag. This is an additional cost of \$60US per person but well worth it. Adding this extra day makes it a 9 day tour.

DAY 2 ACCLIMATIZATION DAY: ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

A day to acclimatize to the time zone, on this day we recommend our clients to go to Arusha National Park, for a guarder walk by game rangers. Nothing strenuous by a chance to enjoy game while walking in the National Park with picnic lunch boxes from the Impala Hotel. Back to your hotel for dinner and overnight



Machame Route with Mweka Descent



DAY 3 -- MACHAME GATE TO MACHAME CAMP

Elevation (m): 1830m to 3100m

Distance: 18km

Hiking Time: 5-7 hours

Habitat: Montane Forest

The drive to the gate of Mount Kilimanjaro National Park. The journey passes through the village of Machame, which is located on the lower slopes of the mountain.

We now leave the park gate and walk through the rain forest on a winding trail up a ridge. Lower down, the trail can be muddy and slippery. Gaiters and trekking poles are a good idea here. We continue a short distance until we reach the Machame Camp.



DAY 4: MACHAME CAMP TO SHIRA CAMP

Elevation (m): 3100m to 3840m

Distance: 9km

Walking Time: 4-6 hours

Habitat: Moorland

After breakfast, we leave the glades of the rain forest and continue on an ascending path, crossing the little valley walking along a steep rocky ridge, covered with heather, until the ridge ends. The route now turns west onto a river gorge. Time for rest, dinner, and overnight at the Shira campsite.

DAY 5: SHIRA CAMP TO LAVA TOWER TO BARRANCO CAMP

Elevation (m): 3840m to 4630m to 3950m

Distance: 15 km

Walking Time: 5-7 hours

Habitat: Semi-desert

From the Shira Plateau, we continue to the east up a ridge, passing the junction towards the peak of Kibo. As we continue, our direction changes to the South East towards the Lava Tower, called the "Shark's Tooth." Shortly after the tower, we come to the second junction which brings us up to the Arrow Glacier at an altitude of 4876m / 15,997 ft. We now continue down to the Barranco Hut at an altitude of 3860m / 12,664. Here we rest, enjoy dinner, and overnight. Although you end the day at the same elevation as when you started, this day is very important for acclimatization and will help your body prepare for summit day.

DAY 6--- BARRANCO CAMP TO BARAFU CAMP

Elevation (m): 3950m to 4700m

Distance: 13 km

Hiking Time: 8 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

After breakfast, we leave Barranco and continue on a steep ridge up the Barranco Wall, through the Karanga Valley (lunch at 4200m / 13, 779 ft), and the junction which connects with the Mweka Trail. We continue up to the Barafu Hut. You have completed the South Circuit, which offers views of the summit from many different angles. Here we make camp, rest, enjoy dinner, and prepare for the summit day. The two peaks of Mawenzi and Kibo are to be seen from this position.



DAY 7: BARAFU TO SUMMIT / MWEKA CAMP

Elevation (m): 4700m to 5895m to 3100m

Distance: 7 km Ascent 23 km Descent

Hiking Time: 16 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

Very early in the morning (midnight to 2am), we continue our way to the summit between the Rebmann and Ratzel glaciers. You head in a northwesterly direction and ascend through heavy scree towards Stella Point on the crater rim. This is the most mentally and physically challenging portion of the trek. At Stella Point (5685m / 18,652 ft), you will stop for a short rest and will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise you are ever likely to see (weather permitting). From Stella Point, you may encounter snow all the way on your 1-hour ascent to the summit. At Uhuru Peak, you have reached the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa. Faster hikers will see the sunrise from the summit. It can be very cold at night at these elevations, but it will be quite warm by the end of the hiking day. You will want clothing for both extremes with you. From the summit, we now make our descent continuing straight down to the Mweka Hut camp site, stopping at Barafu for lunch. You will want gaiters and trekking poles for the loose gravel going down. Mweka Camp is situated in the upper forest and mist or rain can be expected in the late afternoon.

Later in the evening, we enjoy our last dinner on the mountain and a well-earned sleep.

DAY 8: MWEKA CAMP – MWEKA GATE

Elevation (m): 3100m to 1980m

Distance: 15 km

Hiking Time: 4-5 hours

Habitat: Forest

After breakfast, we continue the descent down to the Mweka Park Gate to receive your summit certificates. At lower elevations, it can be wet and muddy. Gaiters and trekking poles will help. Shorts and t-shirts will probably be plenty to wear (keep rain gear and warmer clothing handy).

From the gate, continue another hour to Mweka Village. A vehicle will meet you at Mweka village to drive you back to your hotel (**additional cost**).