



Kilimanjaro – 10 Day Rongai Route Tour

Tentative Itinerary

Depart Canada

DAY 1: Arrive Africa - Transfer & Overnight at the Snow Crest Hotel or equivalent

The Rongai route ascends Kilimanjaro from the north-eastern side of the mountain, along the border between Tanzania and Kenya. This route retains a sense of unspoiled wilderness and offers a different perspective on Kilimanjaro by approaching it from the north. The Rongai route use the scree summing path from Kibo hut to Gilman's point and descend via the Marangu route.

HIGHEND TREKKS, our affiliate in Africa, is owned and guided by JOHN KARIUKI. He is an experienced and competent guide and along with his team of dedicated, passionate, sociable and experienced staff will make your holiday a dream come true.

Snow Crest Hotel is located along the Arusha – Moshi Highway at Kwangulelo Area in Arusha, Tanzania. The Hotel is approximately 10 minutes (7Km) drive from the Arusha City and 30 minutes (45Km) from Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO). The Hotel has a splendid view of lush banana plantations that blends with a whispering breeze to create a stillness of utter relaxation. It's locality makes it a Gate – way centre to the famous Tanzania National Parks on this northern circuit. <http://www.snowcresthôtel.com>

DAY 2: Acclimatization Day: ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

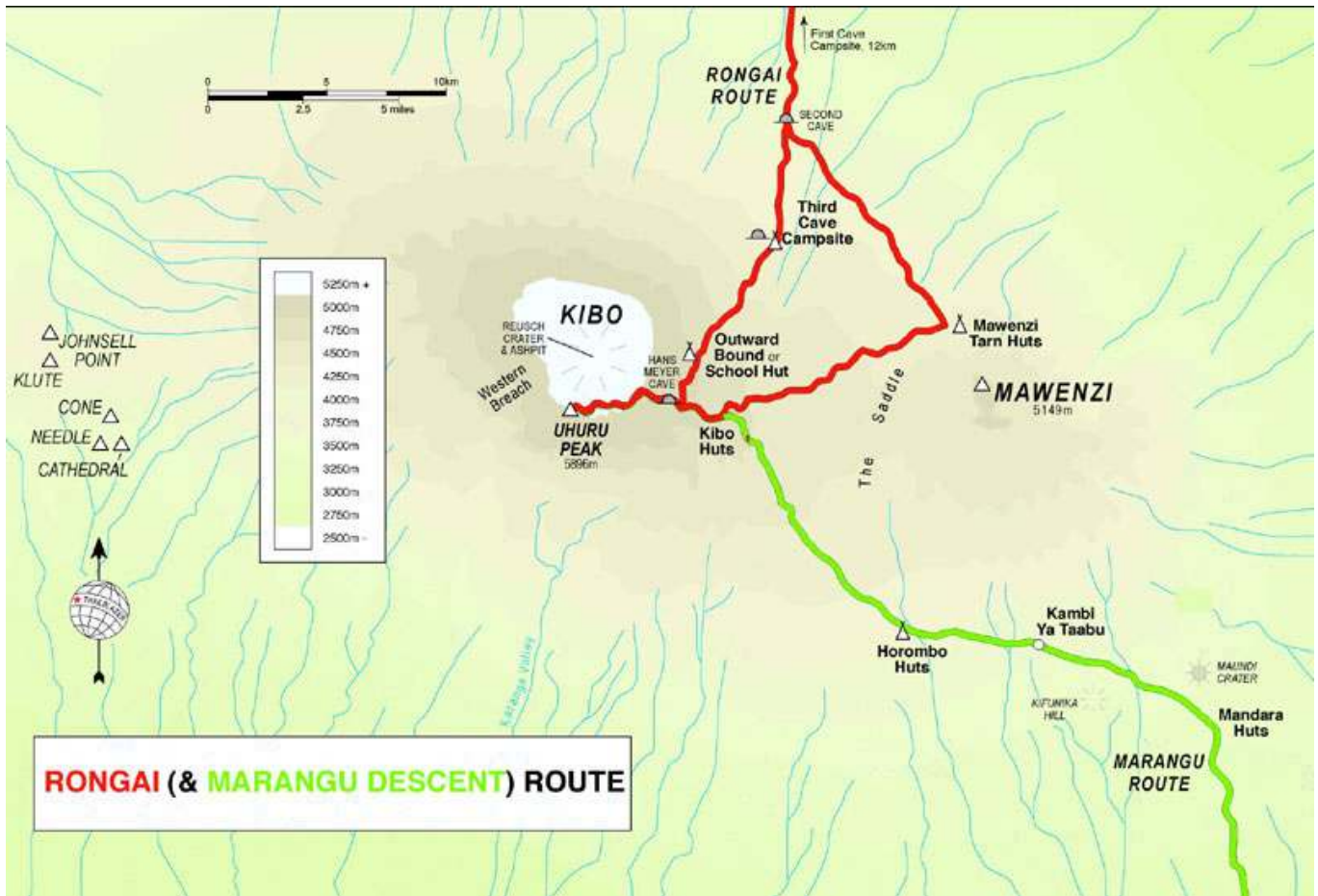
A day to acclimatize to the time zone, on this day we recommend our clients to go to Arusha National Park on safari. Nothing strenuous but a chance to enjoy game while driving in the National Park with picnic lunch boxes from the Snow Crest Hotel. Return to your hotel. Breakfast & lunch included.

DAY 3: Acclimatization Day: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK ONE DAY SAFARI

An additional day to accustom to the new time zone, we take a full day safari tour in the beautiful Tarangire National Park. The park runs along the line of the Tarangire River and is mainly made up of low-lying hills on the Great Rift Valley floor. Both the river and the swamps act like a magnet for wild animals, during Tanzania's dry season. The Tarangire National Park is reputed to contain some of the largest elephant herds in Africa. Return to your hotel. Breakfast & lunch included.



Rongai Route with Marangu Descent



DAY 4: - Arusha to Simba Camp

Elevation: 1950m to 2650m

Hiking Time: 3.5 hours

From either Arusha town or Moshi drive anti-clockwise around the base of Kili massif for about 4hrs to Tarekea village, to get to Naremoru or Rongai Park gate. After check-in formalities you walk through lush plantations of maize, interspersed with pine and cypress samplings. Higher up the trees thin and give way to open moorland and wild flowers. Soon you reach Simba camp with stunning views of Kibo to your right and jagged Mawenzi on the left.



DAY 5: - Simba Camp to Third Cave

Elevation: 2650m to 3900m

Hiking Time: 5 - 6 hours

From Simba Camp you climb mostly gently on a narrow path through the moorland, with some open views over Kenya to the north. Within 3hrs the path passes the first cave and after 20 minutes further you reach the 2nd cave. The path to 3rd cave is rocky at first but not too steep followed by softer ground and then large boulders, with views of Kibo and Mawenzi. You will reach the camp after a few hours.

DAY 6: - Third Cave to Mawenzi Tarn Camp

Elevation: 3900m to 4300m

Hiking Time: 3 - 4 hours

A short but steep climb up grassy slopes offers superb views of this wilderness area. The vegetation zone ends shortly before you reach your next camp at Mawenzi Tarn spectacularly situated beneath the towering spires of Mawenzi. Spend the afternoon acclimatizing and exploring the area.

DAY 7: - Mawenzi Tarn Camp to Kibo Camp

Elevation: 4300m to 4700m

Hiking Time: 5 hours

It is good to make an early start so that your body can have time to rest and recover for the midnight departure to the summit. About half-way through the hike the path divides. The main route continues to Kibo camp.

DAY 8: - Kibo Camp to the Summit - Uhuru Peak - Horombo Hut

Elevation: 4700m to 5895m

Hiking Time: 6-10 hours

Wake up around midnight and the first half of the ascent is on steep, winding rocky path; maintain a slow steady rhythmic pace. Pass Hans Meyer cave at 5150m and proceed to Gilman's point. From Gilman's point it takes 1 ½ hrs to the summit, although the gradients are gentler and the terrain easier. Within no time you get to the summit and the view is stunning! Afterwards descend to Kibo camp for breakfast and later to Horombo hut for overnight.

DAY 9: Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate

Elevation (m): 3700m to 1900m

Hiking Time: 6-8 hours

Make an early start to your descent, the views are stunningly amazing. The walk is relatively easy and after 3 ½ hrs you reach the Mandara huts and after a brief rest continue your descent to Marangu gate and park HQ for Check -out and transfer to your hotel in Arusha town for a well deserved shower and rest. Snowcrest Hotel including breakfast.

Day 10: Depart for North America or Consider a 5 Day Safari.

Transfers back to Kilimanjaro Airport for your flight back to North America.

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