

Climb Kilimanjaro - Lemosho Route - 8 Day Itinerary

DAY 1: Elevation: 2385m to 2780m, Distance: 7 kms, Hiking Time: 3-4 hours, Habitat: Mountain Forest

LONDOROSI GATE TO MTI MKUBWA FOREST CAMP

Drive from your Hotel towards the western side of Kilimanjaro where we sign in at Londorosi Gate and get a permit to start our climb. We will drive again for 45minutes (11KM), to the trail ahead where we will find our climbing crew ready and waiting to start our climbing. Our cook will prepare a hot lunch for you before we start our ascent along the Forest Trail to Mti Mkubwa (Big Tree Campsite).

DAY 2: Elevation: 2780m to 3500m, Distance: 12 kms, Hiking Time: 6-7 hours, Habitat: Heather & Moorland

MTI MKUBWA TO SHIRA 1

This morning we ascend to Shira Camp which is located in the heather zone along the Shira Caldera. The hike will take about 2 hours before we are out of the forest zone and into the heather zone. Here we stop for a hot lunch then continue on to the Shira Ridge and camp in the SHIRA CALDERA with its dramatic views of Kibo.

The land here looks like savanna grassland with a beautiful view of heather bushes which grow into the "colony" form to resist the cold weather as well as wind.

In a clear night you can see dramatic views of star which occupies the whole sky. Sometimes you will hear Jackal barking at night as well as seeing some animal signs of Buffalo, Eland, ServaServile and others during the hike.

The trek gets steeper as you go on this day.

DAY 3: Elevation 3500m to 3900m, Distance: 8 Kms, Hiking Time: 5-6 Hours

SHIRA I CAMP TO SHIRA II CAMP (via Shira Cathedral)

We will hike across Shira Caldera towards the Western side of the Kibo. Camping at Shira is a unique opportunity. If the weather permits you will have wonderful views!

This zone is the only place you can see the higher altitude plants such as the Ground cell/ Giant Senecio. As you get up this far, you will find that most of the plants cannot compete with the weather.

DAY 4: Elevation: 3900m to 4600 to 3950m, Distance: 15 kms, Hiking Time: 6-7 Hours, Habitat: Semi Desert

SHIRA II CAMP VIA LAVA TOWER TO BARRANCO CAMP

From Shira Plateau we will continue trekking East, towards the Lava Tower 4640m for a hot lunch and acclimatization. This will be our toughest day so far and you may feel the altitude. After taking some photographs of the Western Breach, we will descend again by almost 680m to the Barranco Camp, which takes about 2 hours.

The camp is situated in a valley below the Great Barranco Wall which should provide you with a memorable sunset while you wait for your dinner.

DAY 5: Elevation: 3950m to 4050m, Distance: 5 Kms, Hiking Time: 3.5 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert

BARRANCO CAMP TO KARANGA CAMP

After breakfast we leave Barranco Camp for Karanga. The day begins with an hour and a half scramble up the Barranco wall, in some places you may have to use your hands to pull your body up.

After reaching the top, we hike through fairly level terrain before making a short but steep descent into the Karanga Valley. The camp is above the Valley. This day is very short and the terrain has many ups and down sections.

DAY 6: Evaluation: 4050m to 4600m, Distance: 4 kms, Hiking Time: 2-3 hours, Habitat: Alpine Desert

KARANGA CAMP TO BARAFU CAMP

From here we continue to Barafu Hut. You have now completed the southern circuit, which offer views of the summit from many different angles. At camp we can rest, enjoy dinner and prepare for the summit at night. The two peaks, Mawenzi and Kibo should clearly be seen from this position.

DAY 7: Elevation: 4600m to 5895m (3000M), Distance & Hiking Time: 5 Kms: (6-7 hours ascent), 12kms (5 hours Descent), Habitat: Stone Scree & Ice-capped Summit

BARAFU TO SUMMIT TO MWEKA HUT CAMP

You will be woken at 23:00 and start dressing for the summit, 23:30 get some quick breakfast (Normally Oat porridge, some fruit, tea, biscuits and toasted bread). At midnight we will start our trek into the cold night air towards the summit "Uhuru Peak". The summit trek can divided into 3 sections:

The first section of the trail consists of a less rocky path up to 5,000M. The path then zig zags up to Stella Point 5780M which is located on the crater rim; this section is long, very steep with a lot of scree, requiring great physical and mental effort.

At Stella point we will be rewarded with most magnificent sunrise you'll be ever likely to see! After a short rest we will be walking in the snow for probably the next 45 minutes to 1 hour until you reach the summit. The climb is gradual and not very difficult; the altitude however can make it more challenging. It can be very cold at night at these sections, but it will be quite warm by the end of the hiking day.

Upon reaching Uhuru, we take some photos before beginning the descent to Mweka hut camp via Barafu base camp. On the way down from Uhuru you will enjoy breathtaking views of the mountain, crater, clouds and glaciers.

At Barafu camp we will take a short rest, eat brunch, you will have another 2 hrs to go before reaching Millennium camp for tonight.

DAY 8: Elevation: 3790m to 1630m, Distance: 8 kms, Hiking Time: 5-6 Hours, Habitat:

Heather & Mountain Forest

MILLENNIUM CAMP (HIGH CAMP) TO MWEKA GATE

After breakfast, we finish the trek with a descent to Mweka gate to receive your summit certificate.

The vehicle will be waiting for us at the Mweka gate to take us back to Arusha via Moshi town for lunch.