



## 7 Days Kilimanjaro Climb Machame Route Experience

Free cancellation up to 7 day(s) prior departure, after which the tour cancellation policy applies.

- **Activities:**
  - Mountaineering
  - Trekking and Hiking
- **Travel Style:** Luxury
- **Guiding Type:** Live Guide/Instructor
- **Activities:**
  - English
  - Spanish
  - Italian
  - French
- **Tour Vibe:** Active
- **Guiding Type:** Live Guide/Instructor
- **Recommended For:**
  - Couple
  - Family/Kids
  - For Art Lovers

- LGBTQ
- Senior
- Solo
- Women
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Youth
- **Country:**
  - Africa
  - Tanzania
- **Routes:**
  - Mount Kilimanjaro National Park
- **Pickup:** Kilimanjaro International Airport;

From: 12:00 AM  
To: 12:00 AM

- **Drop-off:** Kilimanjaro International Airport;

From: 12:00 AM  
To: 12:00 AM

- **Age Range:** 11 - 90 (Years Old)
- **Tour Highlights:**

Known as the “Whiskey” route, the Machame route is now the most popular route on the mountain. Compared with Marangu, the days on Machame are longer and the walks are steeper. [The Machame route](#) is considered a difficult route, and is better suited for more adventurous folks and those with some hiking or backpacking experience. The route begins from the south, then heads east, traversing underneath Kilimanjaro’s southern ice field before summiting. The minimum number of days required for this route is six days, although seven days is recommended. The Machame route is scenically beautiful and varied. However, due to the heavy crowds, it loses some of its splendor.

- **Tour Introduction:**

Known as the “Whiskey” route, the Machame route is now the most popular route on the mountain. Compared with Marangu, the days on Machame are longer and the walks are steeper. [The Machame route](#) is considered a difficult route, and is better suited for more adventurous folks and those with some hiking or backpacking experience. The route begins from the south, then heads east, traversing underneath Kilimanjaro’s southern ice field before summiting. The minimum number of days required for this route is six days, although seven days is recommended. The Machame route is scenically beautiful and varied. However, due to the heavy crowds, it loses some of its splendor.

- **Itinerary:**
  - Day 1: **DAY 1: MACHAME GATE TO MACHAME CAMP**

We depart Arusha for Machame Gate, which takes about 2 hours, where you will complete entry formalities. Then drive to the Machame trailhead. Upon arrival at trailhead, we begin hiking through undisturbed forest which winds to the first camp site. Lunch on route. • Elevation: 5,380 ft to 9,350 ft • Distance: 11 km/7 miles • Hiking Time: 5-7 hours • Habitat: Rain Forest The drive from Moshi to the Machame Gate takes about 50 minutes. We'll pass through the village of Machame which is situated on the lower slopes of the mountain region. Leaving behind the park gate, we'll walk through the dense rain forest up the ridges until we reach the Machame Camp.

◦ Day 2: **DAY 2: MACHAME CAMP TO SHIRA 2 CAMP**

We continue on the trail leading out of the rain forest and into a savannah of tall grasses, heather and volcanic rock draped with lichen beards. As we ascend through the lush rolling hills and cross several streams, we reach the Shira Ridge before dropping gently down to Shira 1 Camp. Here we catch our first glimpse of Kibo across the plateau. Lunch on route either hot lunch or packed lunch. • Elevation: 9,350 ft to 12,500 ft • Distance: 5 km/3 miles • Hiking Time: 4-6 hours • Habitat: Heath We leave the glades of the rain forest and continue on an ascending path up to a steep, rocky ridge. On the Shira Plateau, we pass through heather and open moorlands, then cross a large river gorge to Shira 2 Camp.

◦ Day 3: **DAY 3: SHIRA 2 CAMP TO LAVA TOWER**

• Elevation: 12,500 ft to 15,190 ft • Distance: 7 km/4 miles • Hiking Time: 4-5 hours • Habitat: Alpine Desert Lava Tower to Barranco Camp • Elevation: 15,190 ft to 13,044 ft • Distance: 3 km/2 miles • Hiking Time: 2-3 hours • Habitat: Alpine Desert We continue to the east up a ridge and then head southeast towards the Lava Tower – a 300 ft tall volcanic rock formation. Through the Senecio Forest, we descend down to Barranco Camp to an altitudinal level of 13,000 ft. Even if you start and end at the same altitude, it is very beneficial for acclimatization.

◦ Day 4: **DAY 4: BARRANCO CAMP TO KARANGA CAMP**

• Elevation: 13,044 ft to 13,106 ft • Distance: 5 km/3 miles • Hiking Time: 4-5 hours • Habitat: Alpine Desert We begin the day by descending into a ravine to the base of the Great Barranco Wall. Then the climbing of a non-technical but steep 900 ft long cliff begins. As we descend down, we cross a series of hills and valleys until we reach the Karanga Valley. Another steep climb will lead us to Karanga Camp. This will be a shorter day which is meant to acclimatize your body properly.

◦ Day 5: **DAY 5: KARANGA CAMP TO BARAFU CAMP**

• Elevation: 13,106 ft to 15,331 ft • Distance: 4 km/2 miles • Hiking Time: 4-5 hours • Habitat: Alpine Desert We leave Karanga and hit the junction which connects with the Mweka Trail. This point marks the completion of the southern circuit. It offers mesmerizing view of the summit from multiple angles. Here, we'll be making our camp and rest for the rest of the day and have dinner to prepare for the upcoming summit day. Viewable from this position are two peaks, namely, Mawenzi and Kibo.

◦ Day 6: **DAY 6: BARAFU CAMP TO UHURU PEAK**

• Elevation: 15,331 ft to 19,341 ft • Distance: 5 km/3 miles • Hiking Time: 7-8 hours • Habitat: Arctic Uhuru Peak to Mweka Camp • Elevation: 19,341 ft to 10,065 ft • Distance: 12 km/7 miles • Hiking Time: 4-6 hours • Habitat: Rain Forest Very early in the morning (around midnight), we begin our push to the summit. This is the most mentally and physically challenging portion of the trek. The wind and cold at this elevation and time of day can be extreme. We ascend in the darkness for several hours while taking frequent, but short, breaks. Near Stella Point (18,900 ft), you will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise you are ever likely to see coming over Mawenzi Peak. Finally, we arrive at Uhuru Peak- the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa. From the summit, we now make our descent continuing straight down to the Mweka Hut camp site, stopping at Barafu for lunch. The trail is very rocky and can be quite hard on the knees; trekking poles are helpful. 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 7: **DAY 7: MWEKA CAMP TO MWEKA GATE**

• Elevation: 10,065 ft to 5,380 ft • Distance: 10 km/6 miles • Hiking Time: 3-4 hours • Habitat: Rain Forest On our last day, we continue the descent to Mweka Gate and collect the summit certificates. At lower elevations, it can be wet and muddy. From the gate, we continue another hour to Mweka Village. A vehicle will meet us at Mweka Village to drive us back to the hotel in Arusha Accommodation: <https://karibuheritagehouse.co.tz/>

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

Location	Nights	Type	Property Name	Rating	Occupancy
Arusha	2	Hotel	Karibu Heritage House	3 Star	Private

• **Flights**

• **Pickup & Drop-Off**

- Airport Transfer

• **Guide**

• **Meals**

- Halal
- Jain
- Kosher
- Meat
- Vegan
- Vegetarian

• **Insurance**

- **Transport**
  - Jeep & 4WD
- **Extra Services**

## WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- **Other Excluded:**

### Covid Safety

### New Standard Operating Procedures

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism released National Standard Operating Procedures for management of the COVID-19 threat. The comprehensive seven page document detailed the rules put in place to continue operations while at the same time protecting visitors.

Some of the items included in the procedures include:

- thermal screening for arriving passengers
- all contact surfaces are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis
- staff members must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when attending to guests and servicing guest areas
- hand washing and sanitizing facilities must be provided to guests and staff
- staff members should maintain a distance from one another and from guests

Our staff on Mount Kilimanjaro are required to take extra precautions when packing, transporting, and preparing food and equipment for climbers. PPE will be worn by staff when interacting with guests. The number of staff who interact with guests and the frequency of those interactions will also be limited accordingly this we are doing training for all Signature's staff.

***Signature Safari is fully operational at this time. We have put reasonable and practical safety measures in place.***

As long as our clients feel comfortable to travel here, we are prepared to serve them. We believe that the new standard operating procedures will be effective in minimizing the risk of infections on the mountain and during safari.

For clients who would like to follow social distancing with other climbers, we offer single tents on the mountain and single rooms on safari or in town. Meals can also be eaten in the sleeping tent versus the community mess tent if desired. Hopefully your question on Can I Climb Kilimanjaro? is clearly briefed answered.

## **Tour Cancellation Policy**

Free cancellation up to 7 day(s) prior departure, Or traveler will pay 20 % of the tour amount

Tour Cancellation Policy Free cancellation up to 45 day(s) prior departure, Or traveler will pay 20 % of the tour amount

New Standard Operating Procedures The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism released National Standard Operating Procedures for management of the COVID-19 threat. The comprehensive seven page document detailed the rules put in place to continue operations while at the same time protecting visitors. Some of the items included in the procedures include: thermal screening for arriving passengers all contact surfaces are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis staff members must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when attending to guests and servicing guest areas hand washing and sanitizing facilities must be provided to guests and staff staff members should maintain a distance from one another and from guests Our staff on Mount Kilimanjaro are required to take extra precautions when packing, transporting, and preparing food and equipment for climbers. PPE will be worn by staff when interacting with guests. The number of staff who interact with guests and the frequency of those interactions will also be limited accordingly this we are doing training fo all Signature's staff. Signature Safari is fully operational at this time. We have put reasonable and practical safety measures in place. As long as our clients feel comfortable to travel here, we are prepared to serve them. We believe that the new standard operating procedures will be effective in minimizing the risk of infections on the mountain and during safari. For clients who would like to follow social distancing with other climbers, we offer single tents on the mountain and single rooms on safari or in town. Meals can also be eaten in the sleeping tent versus the community mess tent if desired. Hopefully your question on Can I Climb Kilimanjaro? is cleary briefed answered.

## **Good To Know**

No safari would be complete without a glimpse of a few of the "Big Five" or the chance to see some lesser-known, but equally fascinating animals. Fortunately, Tanzania doesn't disappoint. Home to the Great Wildebeest Migration, each year, Tanzania sees millions of animals make their way across the land in search of water and fresh pasture. Wildebeest, zebra, and gazelle make the arduous journey, and brave the raging Mara River filled with waiting crocodiles.

## **FAQs**

### **FAQ**

#### **Q What is the climate like in Tanzania?**

Summer: September to April. Temperature: 20°C to 30°C.

Winter: May to August. Temperature: 19°C to 25°C.

Rainfall: April-May (long rains) and November to mid-December (short rains).

### **Q Do we need a tourist visa to enter Tanzania?**

A A valid visa is required for travel to Tanzania. A passport with a minimum validity of 6 months prior to expiry is required. A single-entry visa is valid for 3 months from the date of issue. Visas-on-arrival are available at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) for US\$50. (For U.S. Citizens, the cost is US\$100 for a multiple entry visa.) However, it is advised that visitors travelling from a country where visa services are available should obtain a visa prior to arrival in order to avoid potential delays at the airport.

### **Q What currency should we bring to spend in Tanzania?**

The Tanzanian Shilling is the currency of Tanzania. The exchange rate is roughly 1 USD = 1600 TZS. Credit cards are not widely accepted. However, USD is accepted in most of the 3 places visited by tourists. Please note that US bills printed before 2003 are not accepted in Tanzania, as there was a large amount of illegal processing of dollar bills in the country.

### **Q What are the vaccination requirements to enter Tanzania?**

Yellow Fever inoculation is mandatory for visitors transiting through South America, West, Central and East Africa (e.g. Kenya) and visitors to [Zanzibar](#). Otherwise, there is no mandatory inoculation required to enter the country. Precautions for malaria are always recommended. Please consult a travel clinic physician for additional recommendations.

### **Q What voltage is used in Tanzania? Can we charge our cameras and phones while on safari?**

The standard voltage throughout Tanzania is 220-240V, 50Hz. The primary socket type is the "Type G" grounded 3-prong British BS-1363. Most camps and lodges have outlets available for charging cameras and mobile phones. Our safari vehicles are also equipped with electrical outlets. SIM cards can be easily purchased for mobile phones and internet usage. Many camps and lodges also have wireless connectivity available at an additional cost.

### **Q How much should we tip?**

Although not mandatory, tips are highly welcomed to show appreciation. The suggested amount is US\$15-20/day for a safari guide or a mountain guide, US\$10-15/day for a cook or assistant guides, and US\$8-10/day for porters. Please note that this is only a suggestion. We recommend our clients to tip according to how they feel after the service has been delivered. Whether you wish to tip more, tip less, or not to tip at all, it's entirely up to you!

### **Q What should we pack for safari?**



Comfortable clothing, wind/rain coat, light jacket/sweater, socks & underwear, walking shoes & sandals. Mosquito repellent with DEET (Most camps/lodges already have mosquito nets set up over the bed.) hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, camera, spare batteries, spare memory cards, converter, binoculars, tissue, wet wipes, hand sanitizer. Personal first aid kit, medicine (in case of cold, stomach upset, headache)

**Q Do you have recommendations for safari clothing?**

Wear light-weight, natural clothes that are comfortable. Avoid colours such as black and blue as they might attract tsetse flies. Bring a waterproof layer or wind jacket for evenings/early mornings.