



*“Kilimanjaro is a snow-covered mountain 19,710 feet high, and is said to be the highest mountain in Africa. Its western summit is called by the Masai “the House of God”. Close to the western summit there is the dried and frozen carcass of a leopard. No one has explained what the leopard was seeking at that altitude” from The Snows of Kilimanjaro by Ernest Hemingway.*

Fueled by the mystique of the Hemingway story, the diversity of climate zones, active glaciers, and ease of accessibility, Kilimanjaro is one of the world’s signature mountains and draws thousands of hikers each year. At 19,341 feet above sea level it is a test, but one that can be accomplished with good planning and preparation. Moshi Expeditions and Mountaineering has been successfully leading trekkers from all over the world up Kilimanjaro since 1994.

### **Trekking brief - Marangu Route**

Marangu Route is also known as the “Coca Cola” or “tourist” route. It is the easiest and shortest route to the summit. This is also the only route with the comforts of sleeping huts at every campsite with solar lights and comfortable beds. The huts are communal, and the bunks have a sponge mattress and pillow. There are 60 beds at both Mandara and Kibo Huts and 120 beds at Horombo Hut. Bathrooms and running water are available at the two lower huts. Men’s and ladies latrines are available at the last camp but are very basic. All climbing groups, often from several countries around the world, share meals in dining huts providing a jovial and energetic atmosphere. Soft drinks are not allowed for sale on the mountain. This route is usually done on 5 days but we recommend 6 days for better acclimatization. The extra day is spent at Horombo with a walk up to Zebra rocks to help acclimatize.

The overall height difference between Marangu Gate at the National Park entrance and the summit of Uhuru peak is 4100 meters (13,450 ft) with a one way distance of 32 km (20 miles).

### **Trip detail: - MARANGU ROUTE**

*Day 1: Arrival in Tanzania.*

[Kilimanjaro to Moshi 45Km \(27 miles\) 50 Min drive.](#)

[Elevation 800M \(2,624 Ft\)](#)

Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport, you will be picked up by our friendly staff and transported to the hotel booked based on the category chosen. You will spend a night to rest up and rearrange your gear before the trek begins the next day. You will have the opportunity to go over any last minute questions and leave a bag behind with anything you don't need on this trek. Your left-behind gear will be secured at the storage room and will meet you as soon as you back from the mountain.

***Day 2: Start trekking on Marangu route***

Moshi to Marangu Gate 70 Km (43 miles)

Elevation 1800M (5,905 Ft) to Mandara hut 2750M (9,021 ft)

We will depart from your hotel at 8:30 AM to Marangu gate to pickup your permit for trekking. Gate formalities take about 1 1/4 hours. After an introduction to your porters from the Chief Guide, we head out National Park Marangu Gate at 1800 m for an easy walk through the fascinating rain forest to the Mandara Hut at 2750 m.

***Day 3: Mandara Hut to Horombo Hut***

Mandara hut 2750M (9,021 ft.) to Horombo 3780 (12,400 ft.)

Km/miles of walking: 7km (4.43 Miles)

Time: 5 to 6 hours

After breakfast, we ascend through rolling alpine meadows and giant Heather trees. Along this leisurely trail, we can enjoy the flora and views of Mawenzi and Kibo peaks. A packed lunch is served on the way to Horombo Hut (3780m). Finally, dinner and overnight is taken at Horombo Hut.

***Day 4: Acclimatization Day***

Horombo to Mawenzi Hut - Zebra Rocks

We head out early toward Mawenzi Peak. Our goal is Zebra rocks. This will help you as you gain high altitude and test how your body reacts. Later in the afternoon, we come down to Mawenzi Hut.

Remember “Hike high, sleep low”

***Day 5: Horombo Hut to Kibo Hut***

Horombo 3780M (12,285 ft.) to Kibo 4,700M (15,420 ft.)

Km/Miles of walking 6 Km (4 miles)

Time: 5 to 6 Hrs

After a good night's rest, we continue past the cactus-like ground cover and the "last water" stream and move onto the lunar landscape in the Alpine Zone on the saddle between Kibo and Mawenzi. We sleep the night at Kibo Hut at 4700m.

***Day 6: Kibo Hut to the Summit and then down to Horombo hut.***

Kibo 4,700M (15,420 ft.) to Summit 5,895M (19,340 ft.) back to Horombo 3780 (12,285 ft.)

Km/miles of walking 10 km (6 miles)

Time: 14 to 16 hrs

The start for the summit is made in the early hours of the morning in order to reach Gillman Point - (5680 m) before dawn. From Gillman Point, we witness a spectacular and unforgettable sunrise. One more hour of walking and we reach the highest point in Africa, Uhuru Peak at 5895m. The descent is less tiring and the night is spent at Horombo Hut.

***Stage 7: Horombo to Marangu gate***

Horombo hut 3780M (12,285 ft.) to Marangu gate 1800M (5,850 ft.)

Km/miles of walking 4 km (2.5 miles) Ascend and 14 Km descend (8.75 miles)

Time: 5 to 7 Hours

Another half day leisurely walk and we are back at the Park entrance again where you will meet with our gate representative and drive you back to Moshi for a well deserved rest.

***Optional Add-ons for your trip:***

Before or after your trek up Kilimanjaro, you may want to extend your trip. Tanzania is a country with incredible scenery, a rich blend of African and European culture, world-renowned safari's, and idyllic beaches. We can arrange a complete itinerary for you to experience:

**Safari** - Tanzania is a country of history, Great White Hunters and the intrepid explorers of the past. Tanzania, the largest country in East Africa, offers the ultimate exotic adventure in a spectacular world. Legendary names like Serengeti and Ngorongoro present the finest experience of safari.

Tanzania's extensive networks of National Parks protect and conserve an area that affords one of the highest concentrations of wildlife in the world where literally millions of animals eternally roam in search of grassland. A safari with MEM offers the full flavor of the sights and experiences. See and feel the real Africa. Enjoy privacy and freedom in an area with abundant wildlife.

**Zanzibar** - Zanzibar Island is approximately 95 km long and located 35km from the Tanzania mainland. Few countries in the world equal Zanzibar's long white sand beaches. The warm aquamarine waters provide the backdrop for excellent diving and snorkeling. With a history steeped in the slave trade and as an important trading post for cloves and spices, the island is now a popular tourist destination.

Zanzibar's old quarter, Stone Town, is a fascinating maze of narrow streets and alleyways which lead past old houses, mosques, ornate palaces, shops, and bazaars. Many buildings in the Stone Town date from the 15th-century slave boom. A feature of many houses in Stone Town is a brass-studded door and elaborately carved frame. Come experience this unique blend of African, Middle East, and European culture in a spectacular setting!

**Mt Meru** - Mount Meru is an active volcano located just 70 kilometers (44 miles) west of Mount Kilimanjaro. It reaches 4,566 meters (14,978 feet) in height. Mount Meru is the topographic centerpiece of Arusha National Park. Its fertile slopes rise above the surrounding savanna and support a forest that host's diverse wildlife, including nearly 400 species of birds, and also monkeys and leopards. We can add a 3-day trek up Kilimanjaro to help you acclimatize and experience a unique and exhilarating hike.

Contact us and we can arrange your dream vacation!

