

## TOUR ITINERARY

### CLIMB KILIMANJARO: 12 DAY NORTHERN CIRCUIT VIA CRATER CAMP

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#### DAY 1. ARRIVAL

Arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO), where you will meet an Altezza Travel representative, and transfer to the hotel under the rate. The hotel will provide all the essentials for a comfortable stay: cozy rooms, hot water, polite staff, a swimming pool, and Internet access. In the evening there will be a briefing with our managers, who will also make sure you are ready to begin the climb.

**Note:**

Check-in starts at 2:00 PM.

#### DAY 2. TREKKING FROM LONDOROSI GATE TO MTI MKUBWA CAMP

A guide and a mountain support crew will arrive at the hotel in the morning in order to meet you and hold another briefing, after which you will travel by vehicle (roughly 3–4 hours) to Kilimanjaro National Park's western entrance: Londorossi Gate (2,200 m). After the quick formality of acquiring climbing permits and registering with the search and rescue service, the group will start trekking to the first camp on your route – Mti Mkubwa Camp (2,780 m). Taking rain covers (raincoats or ponchos) with you is important, because the trek lies through the dense tropical forest, where torrential rains are frequent.

By the time you reach the camp, our professional mountain crew will prepare everything necessary, put tents and cook lunch for you. After having lunch you will complete an acclimatization hike up to 300 m towards Shira 1 Camp and go back to Mti Mkubwa, where hot dinner will be served for you.

**Note:**

The acclimatization hike is an easy trek with a slight gain in altitude done in order to speed up the acclimatization process. You should take the acclimatization hikes very seriously. They help increase your chances of successfully summiting Kilimanjaro and save you from the consequences of altitude sickness.

**This will be your first day at this altitude, so it is strongly recommended you heed the following instructions from this point on:**

- Abstain from consuming alcohol and caffeine
- Drink over 4 liters of bottled water daily (little by little, frequently)
- Take a Diamox pill to help alleviate symptoms of altitude sickness. Most mountain climbers take Diamox in the morning, before they start their ascent, in order to reduce discomfort associated with altitude sickness. We recommend you consult your doctor prior to the trip in case of potential allergies.

At night you may experience discomfort associated with acclimatization to the high altitude: because of a reduction in your waking breathing pattern, your body gets less oxygen than during the day. Taking altitude into account, you may therefore start feeling sick and have a headache. Pay attention to your own body and tell your guide if you start feeling any symptoms of altitude sickness.

#### **Trekking from Londorossi Gate to Mti Mkubwa Camp:**

**Change in Elevation:** Londorossi Gate (2,200 m) – Mti Mkubwa Camp (2,780 m)

**Hiking distance:** 6 km

**Hiking time:** 3-4 hours

#### **Acclimatization hike:**

**Change in Elevation:** Mti Mkubwa Camp (2,780 m) – Set point (3,095 m)

**Hiking distance:** 2 km

**Hiking time:** 1 hour

### DAY 3. TREKKING FROM MTI MKUBWA CAMP TO SHIRA 1 CAMP

An early wakeup, breakfast, and a gradual trek upwards until 3,500 meters; at that point for the first time you will be able to see stunning views of Shira Plateau and Kibo Volcano.

On the whole, the passage from Mti Mkubwa Camp to the second high-altitude Shira 1 Camp (3,505 m) is rather easy and takes about 5-6 hours. This will allow you to start the acclimatization process gradually, which is a mainstay of good trekking. When you reach the camp, your team of specialists will cook you lunch and you will have the chance to rest in your tent or walk around the nearby area.

**Change in Elevation:** Mti Mkubwa Camp (2,780 m) — Shira 1 Camp (3,505 m)

**Hiking distance:** 5 km

**Hiking time:** 5–6 hours

### DAY 4. TREKKING FROM SHIRA 1 CAMP TO SHIRA 2 CAMP

Departing from Shira 1 Camp (3,505 m) and a light trekking towards the second high altitude camp: Shira 2 Camp (3,900 m). This trek is not difficult and you will be able to enjoy spectacular views of Africa and the unique flora of Kilimanjaro and the surrounding area. Shira 2 Camp is the best place on the trip to see Mount Meru (the fifth summit of Africa), weather permitting.

When you arrive to camp you will have lunch, and after a two-hour rest everyone will complete an acclimatization hike towards Lava Tower Camp that features a 300-meter gain in altitude.

#### Trekking from Shira 1 Camp to Shira 2 Camp:

**Change in Elevation:** Shira 1 Camp (3,505 m) — Shira 2 Camp (3,810 m)

**Hiking distance:** 7 km

**Hiking time:** 3–4 hours

#### Acclimatization hike:

**Change in Elevation:** Shira 2 Camp (3,810 m) — Destination point en route to Lava Tower (4,110 m)

**Hiking distance:** 2 km

**Hiking time:** 1–2 hours

### DAY 5. TREKKING FROM SHIRA 2 CAMP TO LAVA TOWER AND DESCENT TO MOIR HUT

After breakfast you leave Shira 2 Camp (3,810 m) and start trekking for the day towards the route's key feature: Lava Tower (4,630 m). This section of the route has a lot of highs and lows that end in a camp at over 4,600 meters. It will be hard, and you may encounter some discomfort, but in order to successfully acclimate to the altitude you have to spend at least 1-2 hours here, so this is where lunch will be offered.

After lunch you will trek a little higher, after which there is a gradual descent to Moir Hut. This camp is located on the way to the northern part of Kilimanjaro.

#### Note:

If one or more participants feel sick, the group may refrain from passing the Lava Tower and adjust the route, following instead the road for porters. In this case you will not reach an altitude of 4,630 meters, getting up only to a maximum of 4,400 meters.

**Change in Elevation:** Shira 2 Camp (3,810 m) — Lava Tower (4,630 m) — Moir Hut (4,200 m)

**Hiking distance:** 14 km

**Hiking time:** 5–7 hours

### DAY 6. TREKKING FROM MOIR HUT TO BUFFALO CAMP

On this day you will have a rather long but at the same time easy trek. After a short steep climb out of Moir Valley you will start going around the northern slope of Kilimanjaro, and just like on the way to Lava Tower

the path will be full of highs and lows, without any steep gains in altitude. This route passes close to the border with Kenya, so you will be treated to amazing views of the Tsavo and Amboseli Valleys.

**Change in Elevation:** Moir Hut (4,200 m) — Buffalo Camp (4,020 m)

**Hiking distance:** 12 km

**Hiking time:** 5–7 hours

### **DAY 7. TREKKING FROM BUFFALO CAMP TO 3<sup>rd</sup> CAVE CAMP**

You will finish trekking up the northern slope of Kilimanjaro and stop for the night in 3<sup>rd</sup> Cave Camp, where the route will meet up with the traditional Rongai route. On this day the trekking will be shorter than on the day before, and by this time your body will already have become completely acclimated to an altitude of 4,000 meters, which will contribute to your general feelings of well-being.

**Change in Elevation:** Buffalo Camp (4,020 m) — 3<sup>rd</sup> Cave Camp (3,870 m)

**Hiking distance:** 8 km

**Hiking time:** 4–6 hours

### **DAY 8. TREKKING FROM 3<sup>rd</sup> CAVE CAMP TO SCHOOL HUT**

On this day you will be trekking to the School Hut Summit Camp (4,750 m). The actual trekking is not very hard, so remember to just choose an appropriate pace in order to keep your strength up for the next day. When you reach the camp, we recommend you sleep well, avoid strenuous activity and drink as many fluids as you can, because tomorrow you will manage the trekking to the crater.

**Change in Elevation:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Cave Camp (3,870 m) — School Hut (4,750 m)

**Hiking distance:** 5 km

**Hiking time:** 4–5 hours

### **DAY 9. TREKKING FROM SCHOOL HUT TO CRATER CAMP**

This day will be one of the toughest on your route. The cooks will make a warm breakfast for you to reinforce your energy. Reaching the crater rim requires much dedication. Reaching the crater, you will be astonished by the ancient glaciers and snow. If you want, you may further climb to the Ash Pit (it takes some 90 minutes), or leave this exploit for the next day. It is very cold at the campsite, and the possibility of snowing during the night is high. If you are in the crater, you are among the few who did it. Warm dinner and supper will energize you, but try reducing your physical activities to the utmost.

**Elevations:** School Hut (4,750 m) — Crater Camp (5,700 m)

**Trekking distance:** 5 km

**Duration of trekking:** 4-6 hours

### **DAY 10. TREKKING FROM CRATER CAMP TO UHURU PEAK, AND DOWN TO MILLENNIUM CAMP**

Waking up around 5:30 you will have a rich, nutritional breakfast and enter the darkness. The chances that you will be striding in the snow are very big. Technically, this leg of your journey is not difficult, but high altitude is really a challenge. A guide will accompany each couple of the climbers. He will monitor your stamina and health. Within two hours you will reach the Uhuru Peak, where you will see one of the most amazing sunrises. Summit time depends on the weather conditions, but do not stay there for long – starting again may be very difficult because of coldness and fatigue.

Then, you will start descending to Millennium Camp through Barafu.

**Elevations:** Crater Camp (5,700 m) – Uhuru Peak (5,895 m) – Millennium Camp (3,820 m)

**Trekking distance:** 16 km  
**Duration of trekking:** 5–6 hours

### DAY 11. DESCENT FROM MILLENNIUM CAMP TO MWEKA GATE

The camp is situated in a tropical rainforest. When you wake up, you will feel relief from the reduction of the height and the satisfaction of reaching the summit. After a warm breakfast, you will head for the park's exit: Mweka Gate (1,650 m). After your descent the whole group will gather to congratulate you, followed by offering you a chance to share your opinions on the climb in the guestbook. Lastly, we will present you with your commemorative certificates in our office and provide you a transfer back to the hotel.

**Change in Elevation:** Millennium Camp (3,820 m) — Mweka Gate (1,650 m)

**Hiking distance:** 12 km

**Hiking time:** 4–5 hours

### DAY 12. DEPARTURE

Rest in the hotel and transfer to the airport.

**Note:**

Hotel check-out is at 11:00 AM. In case you need a late check-out because of an evening flight, there is the option to extend your hotel stay for an extra fee.

## CLASSIC RATE

### HOTELS UNDER THE CLASSIC RATE:

Accommodation	Hotel	Link to the hotel's website
Accommodation prior to the climb	Ashanti Lodge	<a href="http://www.ashanti-lodge.com">www.ashanti-lodge.com</a>
Accommodation after the climb	Ashanti Lodge	<a href="http://www.ashanti-lodge.com">www.ashanti-lodge.com</a>

### TOUR PRICE FOR THE CLASSIC RATE

1 person	2 ppl	3 ppl	4 ppl	5 ppl	6 ppl and more
<b>4,265 USD</b> per person	<b>3,851 USD</b> per person	<b>3,767 USD</b> per person	<b>3,708 USD</b> per person	<b>3,649 USD</b> per person	<b>3,605 USD</b> per person

### THE CLASSIC RATE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Meeting at Kilimanjaro International Airport;
- Transfer to the hotel — Ashanti Lodge in Moshi\*;
- Accommodation prior to the climb (including breakfast; sharing a twin room);
- Transfer to the trail head;
- Professional mountain crew. All guides have "Wilderness First Responder" and "Wilderness First Aid" certificates, along with over 7 years of experience in climbing. Each participant will be provided with a porter (who can carry up to 15 kg of personal baggage);

- Kilimanjaro National Park permits;
- Kilimanjaro National Park rescue fees;
- Camping/hut fees;
- 3 square meals daily. The menu includes different soups, garnishes, several types of fish and meat, fresh fruit and vegetables; vegetarian options are available upon request;
- Modern The North Face VE-25 tents\*\*;
- Oxygen systems and pulse oximeters;
- First aid kit;
- Warm and comfortable sleeping pads (2 inches thick);
- Group equipment (dining tent, table, chairs, crockery and cutlery);
- Meeting the group at the National Park exit and transfer to the hotel;
- Accommodation after the climb (including breakfast; sharing a twin room);
- International certificates for a successful ascent;
- Return transfer to Kilimanjaro airport.

\* Basic tour package price includes sharing a twin room. If you need a single bed accommodation only, you should contact a manager a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the start of the tour.

\*\* During the climb you will share a tent with 1-2 other climbers, depending on the number of participants. If you need an individual tent, please, contact our manager.

**THE CLASSIC RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Airline tickets;
- Visa fee;
- Lunch and dinner at the hotel (before and after the ascent);
- Personal gear rentals;
- Tips for the mountain crew (200–250 USD per person);
- Mountaineering insurance.

## PREMIUM RATE

**HOTELS UNDER THE PREMIUM RATE:**

Accommodation	Hotel	Link to the hotel's website
Accommodation prior to the climb	Legendary Lodge	<a href="http://www.classic-portfolio.com">www.classic-portfolio.com</a>
Accommodation after the climb	Legendary Lodge	<a href="http://www.classic-portfolio.com">www.classic-portfolio.com</a>

**CLIMB PRICE UNDER THE PREMIUM RATE:**

1 person	2 ppl	3 ppl	4 ppl	5 ppl	6 ppl and more
7,234 USD per person	6,051 USD per person	5,917 USD per person	5,785 USD per person	5,654 USD per person	5,512 USD per person

**THE PREMIUM RATE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING (IN ADDITION TO THE CLASSIC RATE):**

- Accommodations at Legendary Lodge before and after the climb (3 meals daily; sharing a twin room) in Arusha;
- Expanded ration, which means a wider choice of products in the mountains;
- The North Face sleeping bags (comfort  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  / extreme  $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$ );
- Iridium 9575 Extreme satellite phone. Uninterrupted contact with our support team;
- Portable toilet and shower;
- Mountaineering insurance up to 6,000 meters by World Nomads;
- Flight insurance by AMREF Flying Doctors.

**THE PREMIUM RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Airline tickets;
- Visa fee;
- Personal gear rentals;
- Tips for the mountain crew (250–300 USD per person).

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THE CLIMB****KIT LIST:**

- Small backpack (20–40 liters) for your daily necessities;
- Large duffel bag for your belongings, which will be carried by a porter (80–120 liters);
- Sleeping bag (designed for up to  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ );
- Rain poncho, a water-proof covering for your backpack;
- Hiking boots with a water-repellent layer and good protector;
- Gym shoes for the first days of the climb and to change at the camp;
- Hiking pants for the first days of the climb (2 pairs);
- Waterproof pants;
- Warm ski pants (designed for  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ );
- T-shirts, long sleeve shirts (4–5 pieces);
- Soft-shell or fleece jacket;
- Windproof jacket;
- Insulated jacket for  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  is an absolute necessity for the final ascent to the summit;
- Thermal underwear for active sports (preferably 2 pairs);
- Light trekking gloves;
- Mittens/gloves designed for  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the final ascent to the summit;
- Hiking socks (4–5 pairs);
- Gaiters for protection against dust/snow;
- Cap/panama hat/hat to protect your face and neck against the equatorial sun;
- Fleece hat;
- Balaclava for wind protection during the final summit ascent;
- Alpine sunglasses or goggles (don't take cheap Chinese sunglasses);

- Headlamp + extra batteries;
- Trekking poles;
- Water flasks (2 liters in total); the flask may be substituted by a water bladder installed in your backpack;
- SPF 40-50+ sunblock;
- Lip balm;
- Towel, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush;
- Personal medication in case of a chronic disease;
- Snacks and energy bars, chocolate and nuts.

## OUR CONTACT DETAILS:

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For your convenience our website also features online chat support. Our managers are always happy to answer your questions!