

5 Days

Kilimanjaro – Marangu Route

Marangu Route, Kilimanjaro

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Duration: 5 Nights / 6 Days

Tour Type: Trekking

Languages: English

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Overview

The 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 offers accommodation in huts at every point you spend your night with solar lights and comfortable beds. Bathrooms and running water are available at the two lower huts.

Itinerary

[Day 1: Marangu Gate \(1,800m/5,905ft\) to Mandara Hut \(2,743m/9,000ft\)](#)

✓ **Elevation Gain: 915 meters, 3,000 feet**

Leave Moshi at 8am for Marangu Gate. After completing gate registration, begin your Kilimanjaro trek. Walk along a narrow trail through the rainforest of Kilimanjaro for most of the hike. Eat a picnic lunch at Kisambioni, day one's halfway point. After lunch continue walking through the rainforest until reaching Mandara Hut. Relax for the rest of the day or take a short walk to Maundi Crater. The views to the east over Taveta and to the northwest to Mawenzi Peak are stunning on a clear day, making the short hike well worth the effort. The A-frame Mandara Huts can accommodate up to seventy people and consist of several sleeping huts and a dining area. All of Marangu's huts have beds with mattresses.

[Day 2: Mandara Hut \(2,743m/9,000ft\) to Horombo Hut \(3,720m/12,200ft\)](#)

✓ **Elevation Gain: 977 meters, 3,200 feet**

After breakfast, leave Mandara Hut and Kilimanjaro's forests for Horombo Hut. Most of the day's hike will be

through Kilimanjaro's moorland, a rocky landscape with desert-like plants. Eat a picnic lunch at Kambi ya Taabu before continuing to Horombo Hut. If the weather is clear, enjoy beautiful views of Mawenzi and Kibo peaks. Arrive at Horombo Hut at around 3pm and spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing. Although extremely busy, the Horombo Huts are considered to be the nicest on Kilimanjaro. The small, A-frame buildings can accommodate up to eight people each and provide lodging for hikers ascending, descending and acclimatizing. Horombo can accommodate up to one hundred hikers and many more porters, cooks and guides.

[Day 3: Horombo Hut \(3,720m/12,200ft\) to Kibo Hut \(4,750m/15,580ft\)](#)

✓ **Elevation Gain:** 1,030 meters, 3,380 feet

Leave Horombo Hut after breakfast to hike through the moorland and alpine desert of Kilimanjaro's upper altitudes. After hiking for about an hour arrive at Maua River, a small mountain stream. After Maua, the terrain becomes flatter and the vegetation begins to disappear. Break for lunch at Middle Red Hill. After lunch, continue on a steady incline for another two hours through Kilimanjaro's Saddle. Although the environment on the way to Kibo is a bleak desert with little vegetation, you will see many stunning views of Kibo and Mawenzi peaks. Reach Kibo Hut around 3pm to rest and prepare for your midnight climb.

[Day 4 : Kibo Hut \(4,750m/15,580ft\) to Summit \(5,895m/19,340ft\) to Horombo Hut \(3,720m/12,200ft\)](#)

✓ **Elevation Gain:** 1,145 meters, 3,760 feet

✓ **Elevation Loss:** 2,175 meters, 7,140 feet

Around midnight, awake for the final ascent to Uhuru Peak, the roof of Africa. The hike begins with a demanding five hour hike to Gillman's Point on the crater rim. Although this is considered to be the easiest of the three crater ascent paths, it is still extremely difficult. The first major rest stop, William's Point, lies at 5000 meters and is approximately a two hour hike Kibo Hut. Continue on for thirty minutes before beginning the rocky switchbacks that will continue to Gillman's Point (5,681 meters).

The hike from Gilman's to Uhuru Peak is a gradual climb and as far as hikes go, not very difficult. The altitude, however, makes the hike long and tiring. The crater rim hike takes approximately two hours. Upon reaching Uhuru, take photos of your guide and group at the peak before beginning the descent to Horombo Hut.

On the way down from the summit, you will see all of the magnificent views you could not see on the way up. Stop for a short break and snacks at Kibo Hut before continuing on to Horombo Hut. Reach Horombo Hut in the afternoon and enjoy your last night on the mountain.

[Day 5: Horombo Hut \(3,720m/12,200ft\) to Marangu Gate \(1,800m/5,905ft\)](#)

✓ **Elevation Loss:** 1,920 meters, 6,295 feet

After breakfast, finish the trek with a descent to Marangu Gate. Your last hike on Kilimanjaro is a beautiful one, passing through Kilimanjaro's cloud forest. Watch your step during the descent, as the trail can be slippery. Our vehicles will be waiting at Marangu Gate to take you back to Moshi for Hot shower and Champagne/Kilimanjaro Beer Celebrations.

Included

✓ Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation in Moshi Town

✓ Full board accommodation on the mountain

- ✓ All park fees
- ✓ Hut fees
- ✓ Oxygen cylinder – only for emergency
- ✓ English speaking guide
- ✓ Mountain crew (cook and porters)
- ✓ First aid kit and pulse oximeter
- ✓ Bottled drinking
- ✓ Mentioned transfers

Excluded

- ✗ Sleeping bags
- ✗ Gratuities
- ✗ Beverage
- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Flight
- ✗ Laundry
- ✗ All meals and drinks in Moshi town