

6 Days

Kilimanjaro – Machame Route

Machame Route, Kilimanjaro

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Duration: 5 Nights / 6 Days

Tour Type: Trekking

Languages: English

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Overview

Machame Route has a nick name “Whiskey Route”, and despite the fact that it is relatively short, it is not easy to climb. It is not technically difficult, but it is pretty strenuous, with many steep trails that require extra strength and physical condition to pass.

But, Machame is very rewarding route, with spectacular sceneries such are Lava Tower, Barranco Wall, Shira Plateau which is why this route is considered the most scenic one.

The route starts at Machame Gate, and thru the beautiful rainforest, heading West around Kibo. There are 6 and 7 day options to trek this route, but note that the shorter one does not include acclimatization day to get used to the high altitude conditions. Machame is also the route where you spend the nights in tents, and requires a lot of strengths to complete. Descend is at Mweka gate.

Itinerary

[Day 1: Moshi-Machame gate-Machame Hut/camp.](#)

In the morning transfer from your hotel to Machame Gate. This will take us one-hour drive. We will pick up the park passes, signing-in and weighing our luggages before heading off to the first camp. The first section of the route climbs steadily and involves real jungle-bashing through magnificent forest. This start is a good introduction to Kilimanjaro and with prime examples of the forest that laces the foot of the mountain though is often wet and muddy underfoot. We will have our Dinner and overnight at Machame camp.(3100m)

✔ **Trekking Time:4-6 hours –Distance:9 km-Altitude Gain is 740**

Day 2: Machame camp-Shira Camp

The route continues on up through the forest until we are at the steep ascent on the Shira Plateau, where there are rewarding views of the mountain. Looking back, you will see Mt. Meru rising high above Arusha town. We camp at Shira caves (3840m). We will have an evening walk of 100m high for altitude acclimatization (Walk high and sleep low).

✔ **Trekking Time:4-6-Distance:9 km-Altitude Gain: 740m**

Day 3: Shira Camp-Baranco Camp

After breakfast we start a day by walking on high moorland, the landscape changes the entire character of the trek. We traverse the southwest side of Kilimanjaro, passing underneath the lava Tower and the final section of the Western Breach and finally reach camp at Barranco camp (3900m). The day has been spent at altitude (up to 4600m), but we have also followed the mountaineering code of 'walk high, sleep low' to avoid altitude sickness.

✔ **Trekking Time: 6-7hours-Distance: 15 km-Altitude Gain:60 m**

Day 4 : Baranco Camp – Barafu Camp

Leave slowly crossing the floor of the great Barranco Valley and up the Barranco wall; continue the trek on the South Circuit path through the Karanga Valley. Then slowly trek (7 hours) to Barafu Hut (4600m). From Barafu you will have excellent views of Kibo and Mawenzi peaks. Barafu Hut is situated on an exposed and dangerous ridge, so it is necessary to familiarise yourself with the terrain before dark. We will have our dinner, rest and prepare for summit night.

✔ **Trekking Time: 7-8 Hours-Distance: 9km-Altitude Gain 800 m**

Day 5: Barafu Camp – Uhuru Peak (Summit)– Mweka/High Camp

We normally start our ascent by torchlight around midnight so that we can be up on the Crater rim by sunrise. The steeply climb over loose volcanic scree has some graded zigzags and a slow but steady pace will take us to Stella point (5735m.), in about 5-6 hours. We will rest there for a short time to enjoy the sunrise over Mawenzi. Those who are still feeling strong can make the 2hours round trip from here along the Crater rim to Uhuru Peak (5895m.), passing close to the spectacular glaciers and ice cliffs that still occupy most of the summit area. The descent to Barafu campsite is surprisingly fast, and after lunch and other refreshments, we continue to descend to reach our final campsite (3100m.) Most of us will be too tired to notice the beauty of the forest surrounding the crowded campsite. (11-14 hours walking)

Day 6: Mweka camp to mweka Gate

After breakfast, finish the trek with a descent to Mweka 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 the lower station of Mweka Gate to take you back to Moshi.

At Mweka Gate gate you sign your name and details in a register book. This is also where successful climbers receive their **summit certificates**. Those climbers who reached Stella Point are issued with green certificates and those who reached Uhuru Peak (5895m), receive **Golden certificates**.

You now drive back to Moshi for a long overdue hot shower, dinner descent bed and 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