

## The Machame Route Itinerary

### Trek Overview

One of the most popular routes on Kilimanjaro the Machame Route is one of the most scenic places in Africa. With a moderate difficult, the route is perfect for anyone looking for an adventure and a challenge.

### Trekking Schedule

#### **Day 1: Depart Ireland for Tanzania.**

Either early morning or late afternoon flight will depend on when you arrive in Kilimanjaro Airport Tanzania.

#### **Day 2: Arrive in Tanzania.**

After immigration procedures we meet our driver and Transfer to Moshi Hotel. Here we will relax before a Trek Briefing, dinner and bed.

#### **Day 3: Day 1 on Kilimanjaro**

After breakfast, check out from Hotel, leaving any luggage you may wish to leave behind in storage, and transfer by road to Machame Gate to start your climb.

After Registering on Kilimanjaro at the Rangers office, you will start your trek.

Machame Gate is at the South Western edge of the National park.

The first section of the trek/climb is at low altitude and is a walk through the Rain Forest, your trek is approx 10km in Distance and will take between 5 to 7 hours depending on the speed of your group. Your destination today is Machame Camp 2835 m asl. As for each day on Kilimanjaro, all food, water, and tents etc. will be supplied by Venture 2 Adventures.

#### **Day 4: Day 2 on Kilimanjaro**

Machame Camp to Shira 2 Camp

After Breakfast and issue of water, you will carry on trekking through the last part of the rain forest. You will emerge from the forest onto the upper Heath land with tall wild Heathers. The path will become noticeably rockier than the previous day.

Your route will take you over the Shira Plateau where you can see Kilimanjaro's Western Breach. At this point you are on the opposite side of the mountain to Marangu.

You will keep trekking until you reach Shira 2 Camp 3840 m asl. The total distance walked today is 6 km and takes approx 6 to 7 hours.

### **Day 5: Day 3 on Kilimanjaro**

Shira 2 to Lava Tower to Barranco camp.

After breakfast and issue of water, you will trek towards the East. As you trek along, you will notice the landscape starting to get more barren and extremely dry and dusty. Here, you are on the edge of the Alpine desert. You will also have stunning views of Mt Meru, a neighbouring mountain. After a couple of hours trekking, you will reach the Lava Tower 4630 m asl. This is a formation of rock that was created when Kilimanjaro was an active volcano. From here you will descend to Barranco Camp 3950 m asl.

This is a challenging day, gaining altitude and then descending even though the trekking time is quite short.

Distance covered approx 5 km and walking time is approx 5 to 6 hours.

### **Day 6: Day 4 on Kilimanjaro**

Barranco to Karanga camp

After breakfast and daily issue of water, you will climb the Barranco wall. This is a rock formation that you will scramble, climb and walk up. It makes a welcome change from constant trekking and when you reach the plateau at the top the views are absolutely stunning. From here you will descend into the karanga valley eventually climbing a small ridge into Karanga camp 3995 m asl. Distance is approx 4 km and the trek time is approx 4 to 5 hours.

### **Day 7: Day 5 on Kilimanjaro**

Karanga to Barafu Camp

After breakfast and daily issue of water, you start your trek to Barafu Camp. The landscape is extremely barren. Sun screen is a definite must and regardless of the weather you would be advised to cover up all exposed areas of skin. This section of the climb is prone to wind of varying strength and can cause serious wind burn on exposed skin. The distance today is approx 4 to 5 km, trek time approx 4 hours again depending on speed of group. When you reach Barafu Camp 4600m asl, you will be fed and watered and encouraged to rest up as you have an adventurous night ahead of you. You can read a book, snooze and conserve energy etc. At approx 11pm, you will be woken with tea, water, and snacks. You will then form up in a line and then at midnight be prepared to move.

### **Day 8: Day 6 on Kilimanjaro**

Barafu to Stellars Point to Uhuru Peak to Barafu to Mweka Camp

At Midnight you depart from Barafu Camp. As you leave the camp you pass through a small boulder field and then on to a gravel surface which continues quite steeply until you reach Stellars point.

Here you will take a small break, as you will have been climbing for approx 5 hours and it will be cold. After the break, you will proceed to trek up onto UHURU Peak 5895m asl. Congratulations, you are now at the Highest point in Africa, the Roof of Africa! Take heaps of photos and take a good look at the Glaciers etc. We don't spend too long here as it is not good to stay at that altitude in the cold. We then start our descent to Stellars point and sunglasses are a must as you will be facing directly into the sun. We then descend rapidly to Barafu camp and we should be back here no later than 10.30 am. We have a short rest, lunch etc., before beginning the descent to Mweka camp. This should only take approx 3 hours or so.

We camp overnight at Mweka Camp 3100 m asl.

### **Day 9: Day 7 on Kilimanjaro**

Mweka camp to Mweka Gate to hotel

After Breakfast and daily issue of water, be prepared for an early morning sing song and we have our issuing of tips ceremony. This is a personal thank you from us the trekkers to the guides and porters and cooks for looking after us, and when you see how we are looked after on the mountain you will see why we do this.

We then start our descent to Mweka Gate. This should take only 3 hours at a leisurely pace through the Rain Forest. At Mweka Gate, we sign out of the National Park and collect our Certificates on successful completion of the climb.

We then transfer by road to our Hotel, collect our bags that we had left in storage, get our room keys and a welcome shower before a relaxing evening and dinner.

**Day 10:** After breakfast, you will transfer to the airport for your onward destination, whether it is back home or a safari etc.

End of trip

### **Included in the Trek Price**

- Transfer from Kilimanjaro Airport to Hotel
- Hotel on a B&B Basis pps
- Transfer by Road to Kilimanjaro National Park Machame Gate
- All permits etc. for your climb
- All Vat charged by Tanzanian Govt
- All food and Water on climb
- All guides, Porters and Cook on climb
- Certification on successfully completing your climb
- Return to Hotel for one night in Moshi on a B&B Basis pps
- Transfer to Airport on Morning/Afternoon of your departure
- Trek Technical T Shirt
- Woolly Hat

- Training climbs before your departure for Africa

### **Not Included in the Trek Price**

- Transport to Dublin Airport
- Entry Visa to Tanzania
- Inoculations/ vaccinations
- Spending money
- Souvenirs you may purchase
- Dinner when in Moshi
- Tips to guides and porters
- Any excursions safari's etc. booked outside of Venture 2 Adventures
- Travel Insurance

### **Cost**

Venture 2 Adventures offers the most competitive prices. Once you pay your deposit your price is locked in and there will be no hidden or additional costs. Contact Graham and the team for more information.

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