



## **6 Days Kilimanjaro Climb Umbwe route.**

Climb itinerary.

### **Day 1; Umbwe Gate 1800– Bivouac Camp 2940msl.**

Habitat: Montane forest

Hiking time: 5 hours

After an early breakfast at your hotel, you will be picked up from your lodge and driven to the Umbwe Gate. Here you buy cookies, sodas and receive a packed lunch. At this time, the porters will be organizing and pack the belongings for the hike while you and your guide is doing the registration to allow to enter in the park. You will then begin your ascent into the rainforest. During this section of the hike, you should expect rain, mud, and fog. Also, be on the lookout for wildlife, including different types of monkeys! About halfway up the trail you will have a lunch break and you will reach the Bivouac Camp 2940msl in the late afternoon or early evening. The porters and chef, who were ahead of you have already set up your tents, boil drinking water, and prepare snacks for your arrival. After washing up, a hot dinner will be served. Overnight at Bivouac Camp.

### **Day 2; Bivouac Camp 2940m – Barranco Camp 3950msl**

Hiking time 6 hours

Habitat: Moorland

After an early morning breakfast, you will start your ascent leaving the rain forest and entering the heathland moorland vegetation. In the moorland, you will spot exotic plants, including giant lobelia and groundsel. As you ascent, the trail provides a spectacular view of Mt. Kilimanjaro. The trail then flattens then descends into the Barranco Valley until you reach Barranco Camp. At this campsite, you will be next to a stream and have a spectacular view of the Western Breach and the Great Barranco Wall in the East. Similar to the first night, your tents will be set up prior to arriving at camp and the porters will prepare drinking and washing water for you. You will enjoy evening snacks then dinner prepared by our chef. Be prepared for a cold night as temperatures drop below freezing at this exposed camp. Overnight at Barranco Camp.

**Day 3;**BarrancoCamp 3950m – Lava Tower 4630m – Arrow Glacier Camp 4800msl

Habitat: Moorland/Semi desert.

Following an early morning breakfast, you will leave the moorland environment and enter the semi desert and rocky landscape. After 5 hours of hiking east, you will be come face to face with the Lava Tower 4630msl. Packed lunches are served at the Tower and hikers have the option of climbing the massive Lava Tower weather permitting. At this point of the hike, it is normal for hikers to start feeling the effects from the altitude including headaches and shortness of breath.

After eating lunch at Lava Tower, hikers will scramble up the steep Class 2 trail to the Arrow Glacier Camp 4800msl. Vegetation at Arrow Glacier is sparse and hikers are surrounded by stone scree. Snacks, dinner, and washing water will be provided, as hikers stay warm in their tents at this camp.

**Day 4;** Arrow Glacier 4800m – Crater 5700msl

Hiking time: 5 hours

Habitat: Stone scree and ice-capped glacier.

After an early morning breakfast, hikers will continue to scramble up the Class 2 trail on rocks. During the rainy season, an ice ax and crampons are required due to icy conditions. Hikers slowly ascend up the Western Breach to the Crater (5700m). Upon reaching the top of the crater, you will be amazed by the Northern Ice fields of Kilimanjaro with the Furtwangler Glacier directly in front of you. At the campsite, you have the option of completing a day hike to the infamous Ash Pit (1.5 hour) of Mt. Kilimanjaro. The ash pit is 340m across and 120m deep. After hiking, you will enjoy a warm dinner and be one of the few and fortunate hikers to stay at the inner, snow-covered crater of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

**Day 5;** Summit

Crater 5700m – Uhuru Peak 5895m – Mweka 3100msl.

Hiking time: 2 hours to Uhuru and 7-8 hours to Mweka

Distance: About 7 kilometer ascent and 23 kilometer descent

Habitat: Stone scree and ice-capped summit

Your guide will wake you around 0400 for tea and biscuits. You will then begin your summit attempt. During the ascent, many hikers feel that this is the most mentally and physically challenging part of the climb. For about 2 hours, you will hike on a snow-covered trail to Uhuru Peak 5895msl. Reaching the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro is a lifetime accomplishment! You will be able to spend a short time on the summit taking photographs and drinking tea before the descent to Barafu begins. The hike down to Barafu Camp takes about 3 hours.

At camp, you will rest and enjoy a hot lunch in the sun. After eating, you will continue descending down to Mweka Hut (3100m). The Mweka Trail will lead you through the scree and rocks to the moorland and eventually into the rain forest. Mweka Camp (3100m) is located in the upper rain forest, so fog and rain should be expected. You will have a dinner, wash, and rest soundly at camp.

#### **Day 6; Mweka Camp 3100m - Mweka Gate 1980msl**

Hiking time: 3 hours

Distance: About 15 kilometers

Habitat: Forest

Following a well-deserved breakfast, your staff will have a big celebration full of dancing and singing. It is here on the mountain that you will present your tips to the guide, assistant guides, chef(s), and porters. After celebrating, you will descend for three hours back to Mweka Gate. The National Park requires all hikers to sign their names to receive certificates of completion. Hikers who reached Stella Point (5685m) receive green certificates and hikers who reached Uhuru Peak (5895m) receive gold certificates. After receiving certificates, hikers will descend into the Mweka village for 1 hour 3 km. You will be served a hot lunch then you will drive back to Arusha, Wow! What an expedition! Time to reward yourself after a heavy trek.

End of the tour in Tanzania.