

8 Days Shira route

About Shira route.

This route approaches Kilimanjaro from the west and is nearly identical to the Lemosho Route. In fact, Shira was the original Lemosho route in this western side of the mountain. While Lemosho starts at Londorossi Gate and treks through the rain forest to Shira 1 Camp, the Shira route bypasses this segment by using a vehicle to transport climbers to Shira Gate, located near the Shira Ridge.

On the first day on the mountain, climbers begin their hike from 3,400 msl and end at Shira One Campsite; 3,500msl the remainder of the route is follows the southern circuit route, traversing beneath the Southern ice fields before summiting from Barafu or Western Breach Route.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival; Picked up by our guide from Kilimanjaro Airport and take you to your selected lodge in Arusha, Later you will meet the Welcome Adventure operation team. They brief you more about the trip, share tips and safety information and thoroughly check your gear to see if you got everything you need.

Day 2: Arusha - Londorosi Gate to Shira One Campsite

Drive from Arusha to the trailhead to Londorosi gate for registration. Following this you will board a vehicle again and drive further up to Moram gate. You trek through the moorland and heather vegetation heading to the east crossing ridges and valley as well as a long flat distance to Shira One campsite.

Elevation: 1200m to 1830m to 3500msl

Distance: 18km

Hiking Time: 3 hours

Habitat: Montane forest to moorland and heath vegetation

Day 3: Shira One campsite to Shira 2 campsite

This day you will trek to east across Shira plateau visiting Cathedral Peak (3850m) for acclimatization. At this peak you will have great views of both Mt. Meru and Kibo Peak and other many spectacular special features then continue walk to Shira Two camp where meal and overnight will take place.



Elevation: 3500m to 3800msl

Distance: 7km

Hiking time: 5-6 hours.

Habitat: Moorland and rock.

Day 4 :Shira 2 campsite to Barranco campsite

This is long but important acclimatization day. You will have an early breakfast then continue trekking east to a junction leading to Lava tower rock 4600m for acclimatization after you will continue to Barranco hut camp for supper and overnight.

Elevation: 3800m to 3950msl

Distance: 13km

Hiking time: 7-8 hours

Habitat: Moorland

Day 5: Barranco campsite to Karanga campsite

Today is short day walk. In the morning you will start climbing Barranco wall and reach 4200m for acclimatization and continue crossing ridges and valleys to Karanga campsite for a hot lunch. After lunch you will have a bit of rest and get another acclimatization of trekking up the scree slopes towards the Southern ice field then after you will return to the camp for supper and overnight

Elevation: 3950m to 3900msl

Distance: 6 km

Hiking time: 4-5 hours

Habitat: Moorland

Day 6: Karanga campsite to Barafu campsite

Today trek up to the Barafu ridge campsite is tough because of altitude. The walk take few hours because of short distance but is steep which need slowly walk so to avoid tiredness. You will completely walk across alpine desert with strong and cold winds blows from the ever closer Kibo peak and its ice. You will have an early dinner at 1700hrs then rest until midnight when we you commence your push for the summit.

Elevation: 3900m to 4620msl

Distance: 8 km.

Hiking time: 3-4 hours.

Habitat: Alpine Desert.



Day 7: Barafu hut campsite to Uhuru peak to Mweka hut campsite

Wake at midnight to a light breakfast and then prepare for your summit ascent. The goal is to climb before dawn so that you can reach Uhuru Peak shortly before or after sunrise. Leave to the peak at 12: 00AM, switchback up steep scree or possibly snow, and reach Stella Point on the crater rim at 5,861 m/18,640 ft between 4 and 5 AM. At this point you will be having the views of the fabled crater and its icecaps facing you. Then after 1 hour of hiking along the Kibo crater rim near the celebrated snows takes you to Kilimanjaro true summit, Uhuru Peak here you will spend some times for taking photos. After your summit activities done, you will descend back to the Barafu Huts campsite, for lunch, rest, collect your belongings, and continue down through moorland and heath zone to Mweka Huts campsite. Dinner and overnight at Mweka hut campsite.

Elevation: 4620m to 5895m to 3100msl

Distance: 15km

Hiking time: 10 to 12 hours

Habitat: Desert and ice.

Day 8: Mweka hut campsite to Mweka gate

After breakfast, today is your last day on the mountain so you will descend down to Mweka park gate walking across Montane forest this descent will take 3-4 hours. Then here at the gate you will sign out and get ready to board the vehicle ready for the transfer back to the hotel in Arusha for your certificate presentation celebration.

Elevation: 3100m to 1700msl

Distance: 9km

Descending time: 3-4 hours

Habitat: Montane forest.

Day 9: fly back home to join your family and friends.

End of the tour in Tanzania.