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Keeping Tanzania Original for You

Trained Tour Leader & Outdoor Specialist

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Mount Kilimanjaro Lemosho Route - 8 days, 7 nights

Lemosho route is one of the longest and most scenic routes of Mount Kilimanjaro. It is considered one of the most beautiful. It is also one of the best routes for acclimatization due to the length of the climb and it has a high success rate of climbers making it to the "Roof of Africa" as you take more days at a slower pace. It is a well favoured route due to a great balance of low traffic and scenic views.

The route approaches Mount Kilimanjaro from the west, beginning with a long drive from Moshi to Londorossi Gate. From there, the first two days are spent trekking through rainforest to Shira Ridge. This route offers variety as it meets up with 2 of the other routes on the mountain. The first is Shira route where the Lemosho route passes part of this route and crosses the Shira Plateau on the way to the summit. There may even be opportunities to spot some wildlife in the forest zone and Shira Plateau, if we are lucky! On the fourth day we join the Machame route around Lava Tower. The hike goes down to Barranco valley and we ascend to the Great Barranco wall. The descent is made via the Mweka route.

Day 1: Welcome on arrival and transfer to Arusha town

Our Original Tanzania Guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel in Arusha; taking approximately 1 hour. **Overnight stay at Onsea House or African Tulip B&B basis.**

Day 2: Starting point (2,300m) to Mti Mkubwa (2,750m)

Trekking Time: 3 hours | Distance: 7 km | Altitude Gain: 450m

After driving 3.5 hours from Arusha you will reach Londorossi Gate (1,800m) where we will complete National Park registration formalities. After registration you will be driven to the starting point of your trek at 2,350m. The first day is a shorter walk through stretches of untamed, dense, ever-changing Rain forest, trekking to your first camp Mti Mkubwa Camp (2750m) where you will enjoy your first mountain supper!





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Day 3: Mti Mkubwa (2,750m) to Shira Camp 2 (3,840m)

Trekking Time: 7-8 hours | Distance: 12 km | Altitude Gain: 1090m

The trail continues and heads towards Shira camp1, bringing you out of the forest to giant heather moorland zone and up steep ridges leading to the Shira Plateau.

From here you will be able to take in the stunning views Kilimanjaro has to offer, including Mount Meru in the west with its breath-taking sunsets. After several streams are crossed we continue over the Shira Ridge (3,600m) then gently downwards to Shira camp1. The trail continues to Shira Camp2 (3,810m) passing across the Shira Plateau on the moorland zone and more open area, you will have the best scenic views of the landscape of the mountain.

Day 4: Shira camp2 (3,840m) to Barranco camp (3,950m) via lava tower

Trekking Time: 6-7 hours / Distance: 11km / Altitude Gain: 110m

Today Lemosho route meets the Machame route before approaching Lava Tower. The trail to Barranco Camp, taking 6 – 7 hours, is truly beautiful and starts with a gentle incline towards Kibo. You will reach a ridge marked by a rock named the Shark's Tooth (4,400m) and go south, crossing shallow valleys to Lava Tower (4,600m). We will gradually descend to Barranco Camp with its great views of the icy Western Breach and the Barranco Wall, better known as the 'Breakfast Wall'. This is an acclimatisation day following the 'walking high, sleeping low' rule of mountaineering.

Day 5: Barranco Camp (3,950m) to Karanga Camp (3,930m)

Trekking Time: 4 – 5 hours / Distance: 5km / Altitude Gain: 200m, Altitude loss: 220m

The day starts with a not too technical trek up Barranco Wall (200m High) which, although steep, only requires hand-and-feet climbing for a few stretches. The top of the 'Breakfast Wall' has attractive vistas of Kibo and the surrounding landscape. We will then follow the trail with many up and down sections across small streams and then cross the Karanga River to the Karanga campsite (3,930m). This is another short day of trekking to assist with acclimatization.





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Day 6: Karanga Camp (3,930m) to Barafu Camp (4,600m)

Trekking Time: 2- 4 hours / Distance: 4km / Altitude Gain: 770m

The sixth day starts by following the path up and across a rocky zone with views of the mountains' Southern Glaciers. Continuing our eastward traverse to Barafu Camp we meet the crossroads with the Mweka route. A further hour's climb up a steep and rocky Lava Ridge will bring us to Barafu Camp (4,681m). You have completed the South Circuit of the mountain and from here you will be able to view the summit from a number of different angles.

The terrain at Barafu Camp is inhospitable and has very little vegetation; it often snows at this point and in the rainy season can be blanketed. We will set up camp, rest and enjoy a hearty meal before heading to bed – the summit is just a further 1,295m, which we will start to attempt at midnight.

Day 7: Barafu Camp (4,600m) to Summit (5,895m) (midnight start) descent to Mweka Camp (3,100m)

Trekking Time: 6 – 7 hours / Distance: 5km / Altitude Gain: 1295m

Waking up at 23.00hrs you will have a light snack and hot drink before starting your 5km trek to the summit. This is the most exhausting day of your climb with an overall trekking time of approximately 16 hours. This section of your climb is the coldest with temperatures ranging from -5°C to -10°C. We will head North West; following the trail up an increasingly steep valley on the edge of scree fields you will pass the Rebmann and Ratzel glaciers towards Stella Point (5,672m). You are now on the southern rim of Kibo, where you will have spectacular views as the sun rises. Just a further hour's climb will bring you to Uhuru Peak (5,895m). Congratulations! You have reached the highest point of Mount Kilimanjaro, the 'Roof of Africa'. You will be surrounded by awe-inspiring ice cliffs and magnificent views of Mawenzi peak and beyond.

Summit (5,895m) to Mweka Camp (3,100m)

Trekking Time: 5 – 6 hours / Distance 9km / Altitude loss: 2795

We will start our descent to Stella Point and then get back on the trail to Barafu Camp where you will have a short rest before heading to Mweka Camp (3,100m), it is a 9km trek and en-route you will be able to take in the spectacular views of the plains of Kilimanjaro. This is not a difficult route, taking just 4 – 5 hours, the trail takes you down a rocky scree path (remember to go 'Pole Pole') through moorland and then into beautiful forest habitat. We will share our last meal on Mount Kilimanjaro and you will have a very well deserved sleep.





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Day 8: Mweka Camp (3,100m) to Mweka Gate (1,800m)

Trekking Time: 4 – 5 hours / Distance: 10km / Altitude Loss: 1300m

You will start your day with breakfast and then singing and celebrations with your porters before descending 1,300m to Mweka Gate, considered an easy day's climb with it taking just a few hours to get to the gate.

On arrival at Mweka Gate you will receive your Summit Certificate for you to take home and remember one of the biggest adventures you can experience. From here you will be transferred back to your hotel for a refreshing hot shower, dinner and perhaps a Kilimanjaro beer! Full board accommodation at Onsea house or The African Tulip, Arusha.

Price Includes:

- Park Fees for Mount Kilimanjaro
- Camping fees
- Park Rescue Fees
- Airport welcome and transfer on arrival
- Lead Guide, assistant guide, cook and porters
- Full briefing to set you up for your challenge, including full kit / equipment / clothing check
- Food & Water during entire Kilimanjaro trek
- Tent accommodation, mattresses and all camping equipment
- Accommodation before and after trek
- Transport to and from the starting gate
- First Aid Supplies
- Pulse Oximeter
- Oxygen Tank
- A Welcoming and Supportive Original Tanzania Team!

Not included:

- Tip for the crew - made at your discretion
- Travel or Health Insurance
- Visa for entry to Tanzania

