

MARANGU ROUTE – TREKKING KILIMANJARO

<p>Description</p>	<p>The Marangu Route is the easiest and shortest route to Kilimanjaro’s summit. This is the only route on Kilimanjaro with the comforts of solar-powered sleeping huts and comfortable beds at every camp. The huts are communal, and each bunk has a sponge mattress and pillow. There are 60 beds at both Mandara and Kibo Huts and 120 beds at Horombo Hut. Bathrooms and running water are available at the two lower huts. Basic men’s and ladies’ latrines are available at the last camp. All climbing groups, often from several countries around the world, share meals in dining huts providing a jovial and energetic atmosphere. This route is usually done in 5 days, but you can do it in 6 days for better acclimatization. You can spend your extra day resting at Horombo or climbing to a basecamp below Kibo’s sub peak Mawenzi.</p>
<p>ITINERARY</p>	
<p>Day 1 Moshi (915 m/3,000 ft)</p>	<p>Arrive at the Kilimanjaro or Dar es Salaam International Airport. You will be met by To Africa Tours and Safaris representative at the airport and transferred to the Springlands Hotel or similar hotel in Moshi for your overnight. You can start your trek any day of the year!</p>
<p>Day 2 Moshi (915 m/3,000 ft) to Marangu Gate (1,830 m/6,000 ft) to Mandara Huts (2,740 m/9,000 ft) 7 km, 4-5 hours Montane Forest</p>	<p>After breakfast and a briefing from your guide, leave Moshi at 9 AM, drive for 45 minutes to the Marangu Gate on the eastern side of Kilimanjaro, register with the national park, and begin hiking at 10:30 AM. In the rainforest, look for towering Eucalyptus trees, bird life, and Colubus monkeys. At these lower elevations, it can be wet and muddy, so gaiters and trekking poles will help. Shorts and t-shirts should be sufficient, but keep your rain gear and warmer clothing handy. Stop halfway for lunch, and reach the Mandara Huts at 2 or 3 PM. Unpack, rest, and have some tea or coffee. A 15 minute side trip to Maundi Crater is a good way to see the surroundings including Northern Tanzania and Kenya. Dinner is served during the early evening at 7 PM. Bathrooms with running water are available.</p>
<p>Day 3 Mandara Huts (2,740 m/9,000 ft) to Horombo Huts (3,690 m/12,100 ft) 11 km, 6-8 hours Heathland</p>	<p>Wake to a 7:30 AM breakfast, and pack for your next trek. Break camp by 8:30 AM, hike for an hour through rainforest glades, then follow an ascending path through heathland where you can look for giant lobelias and groundsels. Continue up into open moorlands where small shrubs are the main vegetation. Stop halfway for lunch, where you can enjoy amazing views of Mawenzi. Arrive at the Horombo Huts by 3 PM, where you can see Kibo’s summit. Rest, unpack, and prepare for dinner. Bathrooms with running water are available. You may start to feel the effects of altitude here, and to aid your acclimatization, you can choose to spend an extra day resting at Horombo or</p>

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	climbing to a basecamp below Kibo's sub peak Mawenzi.
<p>Day 4 Horombo Huts (3,690 m/12,100 ft) to Kibo Huts (4,695 m/15,400 ft) 10 km, 6-8 hours Alpine Desert</p>	<p>Wake to breakfast as usual, but if you wake early you can get some great photos of the sunrise. The first part of the day's hike climbs through the dwindling heathland that blends into a moonscape as you enter the sweeping saddle connecting Mawenzi and Kibo. When you stop for lunch, and later when you cross this surprisingly large saddle, you can examine the summit climb up Kibo that you will be starting in just a few hours. Be careful to notice any signs of altitude sickness. There is no running water at the Kibo Huts.</p>
<p>Day 5 - Summit Day! Kibo Huts (4,695 m/15,400 ft) to Uhuru Peak (5,895 m/19,340 ft) to Horombo Huts (3,690 m/12,100 ft) 4 km up, 14 km down 10-15 hours Alpine Desert</p>	<p>Wake at midnight to a light breakfast, then prepare for your summit ascent. The goal is to climb before dawn so that you can reach Uhuru Peak shortly after sunrise. Leave at 1 AM, switchback up steep scree or possibly snow, and reach Gilman's Point on the crater rim at 5,861 m/18,640 ft between 5 and 7 AM. Here, views of the fabled crater and its icecaps greet you. Another 2 hours of hiking along the crater rim near the celebrated snows takes you to Kilimanjaro's true summit, Uhuru Peak, by 9 AM. This is Africa's highest point, and you would have to travel more than 3,000 miles toward the Himalayas to find a higher peak! Be sure to have your picture taken at the summit to show your friends. After your summit stay, descend back to the Kibo Huts, have lunch, rest, collect your things, and re cross the saddle to the Horombo Huts. Eat dinner and get some well-deserved sleep!</p> <p>You do the beginning of this climb in the dark with headlamps or flashlights. It will be very cold until you start descending, so you will need all of your warm layers. This is, by far, the most difficult part of the trek. Slowly slowly, or, "pole pole," and an optimistic attitude will get you there!</p>
<p>Day 6 Horombo Huts (3,690 m/12,100 ft) to Marangu Gate (1,830 m/6,000 ft) to Moshi (890 m/2,920 ft) 18 km, 5-7 hours</p>	<p>Wake as usual, pack, and descend through the moorland to the Mandara Huts. Have lunch there then continue your triumphant recession down through lush forest to the park gate, which you should reach around 2 or 3 PM. Remember to tip your guides, cooks, and porters, since you will be leaving them here. A vehicle will take you back to the Springlands Hotel or similar hotel in Moshi, where it is definitely time for celebration!</p>
<p>Moshi</p>	<p>Depart for the airport or other destinations in Tanzania or Kenya. A trip to the beaches at Zanzibar is a good way to recuperate. We can arrange many reasonably priced trips and safaris around Moshi and the Kilimanjaro region.</p>
<p>Extra Day for Acclimatization Highly recommended</p>	<p>You can add an extra day at the Horombo Huts (3,690 m/12,100 ft). You can spend a full day and a second night at Horombo. On this day, you can either rest at the huts or take a stroll up to the Mawenzi basecamp then return to the Horombo Huts. This extra day will help your acclimatization, and further your understanding of the mountain's weather and altitude. After your pause,</p>

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	you will continue up to the Kibo Huts on your fourth day for your midnight start to the summit.
Price (2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1135 per person • Extra days on the mountain: \$190/person/day • Low Season: \$50/person discount from April 1 - June 15, and November
Price (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,150 per person • Extra days on the mountain: \$195/person/day • Low Season: \$50/person discount from April 1 - June 15, and November
Price included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All airport transfers • National Park gate fees • Transport from Moshi to starting point on mountain and return to Moshi • Huts or Tents • Certified, experienced, English-speaking guides for all routes • Porters' salaries • Rescue fees (required by the national park) • All meals on the mountain • 2 nights' accommodation in Moshi bed and breakfast, double or triple occupancy • Tents, foam sleeping pads, cooking equipment, and eating utensils • Oximeters are available upon request
Excluded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International flights to Arusha • Tips for guides and porters • Mountain equipment • Some equipment is available for rent • Lunches and dinners at the Springlands Hotel
Cost of additional services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottled oxygen, only for rescue/emergency use \$30 • Gamow bag, per trip \$100 • Extra acclimatization day \$195 • Extra porter, per day \$10 • Single supplement, per trip \$80 • Private toilet, per trip \$100
Reservation	Payment
Email: toafrica@toafricatours.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 20% of the price non-refundable deposit is due at time of reservation

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- Final payment is due 90 days prior to arrival
- We accept all major credit cards, cashier's check, personal checks and e-check.
- Click this link to make payment
<http://www.toafriatours.com/booking.htm>

Tipping Guidelines

Tips for guides and porters on all Kilimanjaro trekking routes

- You will be given an envelope at the Springlands Hotel after your trek for your tip money. You can use U.S. dollars, TZ shillings, or a combination of these.
It helps if you have small bills to tip everyone individually. There is no need to take money on the mountain with you.
- The typical tip is \$15-20/day for guides, \$10-12/day for assistant guides, \$ 5-8 for cooks, \$6-10/day for porters. This is from the whole group, not per hiker.
- Expect porters as follows:
 - 2 porters per hiker on the 5-day Marangu Route (minimum of 4 porters)
 - 3 porters per hiker on a 6 or 7-day trek (minimum of 5 porters)
 - 4 porters per hiker on the 8-day Lemosho Route (minimum of 8 porters)
 - Sometimes extra porters are required based on the weight of your luggage.
- Budget \$200 per hiker for tips for a 6-day trek.
- Gifts: Guides and porters also appreciate your warm clothing, shoes, and packs. You may want to bring some older clothing items for this purpose.
- Celebration: You are also welcome to invite your guides back to the Springlands Hotel for drinks and/or dinner (on you) as a thank-you in addition to their tip.

Expectations

- Tips should not be dependent on whether you summit or not, but rather whether they were professional and had your best interests in mind.
- If your guides and porters have not met your expectations, please inform To Africa Tours representative at the Springlands Hotel immediately, and don't feel obligated to give a tip.
- If they press you for a tip during your trek, inform To Africa Tours representative at Springlands Hotel upon as well, as this is against company policy.

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