

Maasai Wanderings



MOUNTAIN HIGH: KILIMANJARO

- 15 Day Machame Route & Luxury Wildlife Safari -

* Arusha * Tarangire * Serengeti * Ngorongoro Crater *

Machame Route

The Machame Route (also known as the Whiskey Route) is the 2nd most popular route to Kibo. It is a beautifully scenic route commencing with rain forests and onto the dry area of Shira Plateau, the Barranco area with its senecios (mountain cactus) and "Breakfast Wall", the exquisite Karanga Valley with its water streams and finally the rocky and inhospitable Barafu - last stop before you make your midnight dash for the top of Kibo.

Day One

Arrive into Arusha arrival point. Meet and transfer to accommodation followed by pre-trek briefing and equipment check

Karama Lodge (Dinner)

Day Two

Hike: 9.2km, 5-6 hours

Altitude: 1820m-3020m

We set off for the transfer to Machame and complete the registration formalities as the guides organise the porters and luggage. We set off for an easy first hour along a 4WD track and then it gets steeper as we head into our lunch rest stop. After lunch the track gets steeper, there is the sounds of a stream to the right and you will need to take care of your step as areas can be muddy. A couple of hours after lunch, the green hut of Machame comes into view.

Machame Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Three

Hike: 6km, 5-6 hours

Altitude: 3020m-3830m

The climbing gets steeper again today, and although a shorter distance, the path is rocky and dusty. The route becomes quite bare and the first of the giant senecios come into view - we step slowly in order to optimise our acclimatisation

Shira Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Four

Hike: 10.4km, 5-6 hours

Altitude: 3830m-4580m-3900m

The first part of the day is littered with boulders and rocks and slowly swings uphill. We reach Lava Tower for lunch and then literally descend into camp; taking care with our step because the path is dusty and rocky.

Barranco Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Five

Hike: 5.1km, 3-4 hours

Altitude: 3900m-4100m

Immediately on the outskirts of the camp we across a small stream before being faced with the sheer wall of Barranco - infamously known as 'Breakfast!' It takes just over an hour of scrambling up the steep climb but the views are breathtaking and it is a thrilling experience. You will be able to see far below where our camp was and the porters as they pack it up. We then fall into a rhythm of ascending and descending a series of ridges as we cross our last water point and arrive into the green valley of Karanga.

Karanga Valley Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Six

Hike: 3.5km, 3-4 hours

Altitude: 4100m-4330m

The route today is short and steep, as we enter a barren landscape of boulders and shattered rocks. We come to a point along the route which is a fork: up to Barafu and down to Mweka. At this stage we choose up and approx half an hour we reach camp; sheer cliffs and large rocks. Today is an early dinner and early bed - although you will find it difficult to actually sleep, rest your body in preparation for the midnight assault on the summit. This is probably the hardest physical your body will do in its life.

Barafu Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Seven

Hike: 17.5km, 12-15 hours

Altitude: 4330m-5896m-3040m

Summit day and headlamps must be ready!

The first hour or so is rocky and you must step carefully and then you will turn right and enter a snow-covered area from where you can see the glaciers above. On a moonlit night you can switch off your headlamp and walk in the moon light - a wonderful experience. After about 2 hours the steepness will start to set in. From now on, the struggle is mental as well as physical. You may need to rest every 15 minutes: one leg in front of the other, your mouth will be dry and you will start to feel the cold. Near Stella Point the lava field is like loose sand. You step up and slide back. Most climbers reach Stella point after about 5 hours or so. After a quick rest, it's on to Uhuru Peak just as the sun appears over Mawenzi. **And then you are there!** But please be prepared for an aftershock - the way down is a steep, rigorous route via Stella Point down the mountain to Barafu where we will stop for brunch. (Many hikers are unprepared for this 2-hour ordeal down the slippery slope of scree) At Barafu you can take a good rest before tackling the rest of the way down. It is time to relax and think about your experiences of the past week.

The way down to Mweka camp is a comfortable walk but rather dusty.

Mweka Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Eight

Hike: 8.8km, 3-4 hours

Altitude: 3040m-1620m

Final opportunities to take pictures of your Maasai Wanderings Mountain Team - and on a clear morning, Kibo will loom large in the distance. We will also deal with the issue of tipping (ask for suggested guidelines if you are unsure) and the team will send you off on your final stretch with our farewell 'Kili Song'. We set off down the last stage of the trek: some parts of the walk are very steep downhill and other stretches are very slippery so please be careful. Upon reaching the gate, we carry out sign-out formalities, the team load up the vehicles and the guides will present you with your certificates and then we are off for the transfer to Arusha.

At the lodge its time to take a warm shower, have a

quick nap and get some laundry done. We have also organised for a **full body massage** to assist your body in adapting back to normal after your strenuous adventures.

Karama Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Nine

After breakfast, we join an optional walking town and craft market tour - helps to keep your muscles loose after 'Kili'. We come to the lodge for lunch and resting and an option of further holistic therapies: yoga, reflexology, reiki or another massage.

Karama Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Ten

After breakfast - its time to get WILD with a safari adventure. We set off to the west into the Great Rift Valley system and Tarangire National Park.

We partake in game driving and picnic lunch before continuing onto our camp late afternoon. Tarangire is famous for its high concentration of elephants, as well as birdlife and antelope population. It is a great introductory park for your adventures.

Maramboi Luxury Tented Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Eleven

We transfer to the Serengeti today via the Ngorongoro viewpoint. We pass through Maasai grazing lands and family bomas. Once we enter the Ndutu area and onto Naabi Hill, we can begin game driving all the way to our camp.

Simiyu Luxury Tented Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Twelve

We spend the day with a picnic lunch exploring the Serengeti - the most amazingly broad eco-system. In the months of the Wildebeest Migration, the game viewing is spectacular with predator activity abound. But at an time the Serengeti can put on a wildlife show to remember.

Simiyu Luxury Tented Camp (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Thirteen

An early departure allows us to enter Ngorongoro Crater floor for a day of game driving. This World Heritage listed area is a 'fish bowl' of wildlife with approximately 120 species of mammals and variety of habitats. This is truly a Wonder of the World that we can marvel at as we see the steep walls surrounding us, like an oasis in Africa!

Ngorongoro Farmhouse (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Fourteen

A walking tour of the gardens and coffee plantation at the Farmhouse is a great way to round off our safari and then we continue onto E Unoto Maasai Retreat for lunch before continuing onto Arusha. There is a safari de-brief before a casual evening of fine food and company.

Karama Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Fifteen

Transfer to Arusha departure point for journey beyond... (Breakfast)

OPTIONAL EXTRA ACTIVITIES

Additional Therapy Sessions

US\$60 per hour / session

Massage, Reiki, Yoga and other holistic therapies

Hot Air Balloon Safari (Serengeti)

US\$479 per person

One hour balloon ride over the Serengeti Plains followed by Champagne Breakfast

Swahili Cooking Classes

US\$50 per person

Join Mama Nas for a cooking lesson, Swahili style...and ensuing feast!

Tinga Tinga Art Classes

US\$50 per person

Local Tinga Tinga artists can show you how to create this famous style of Tanzanian painting.

Dancing & Drumming Classes

US\$80 per person

Get your hips moving and feel the rhythm of Africa.

Traditional Healer Visit

US\$200 per vehicle (up to 4)

We enter the world of traditional beliefs with a visit into the spiritual world of Tanzania

Canoeing / Coffee Plantation

US\$80 per person

Spend a day exploring the history of coffee with the Meru tribe; picking, drying, roasting and grinding. After a traditional lunch, we go to Lake Duluti for a canoeing adventure in this very natural setting.

Night Game Driving in Lake Manyara

US\$145 per person

The difference in animal behaviours is really like night & day! This includes a Bush Dinner

Additional 4x4 or Boat Safari at Saadani

US\$50 per person

There is one boat ride and one 4x4 game drive included in your safari package, but this indicates the pricing for additional exploration

Additional Days on Safari

POA

Sometimes you simply want more time in the wilderness...

Additional Days on Zanzibar

POA

When you are not ready to leave so soon...

Let Us Know Other Ideas That You Have

POA

Just let us know if you have unique ideas of your own - we will endeavour to provide the activity:

***Maasai style weddings *** Corporate Incentives
*** Charity Climbs *** Real Tribal Experiences ***

Terms & Conditions

Pre-trip information & Accommodations

All payments are to be made, including the initial deposit, by direct deposit into the company bank account OR as per your agent's directions. Upon confirmation of funds being received, you will be issued with a receipt and re-issued with the updated itinerary invoice for your referral.

All hotels, lodges and luxury camps are all of 3-5 star quality, based on what is the best available at the time of booking that suits the purpose of the itinerary. In smaller villages, we use the best accommodation available. All accommodations have private amenities, swimming pools and restaurants/bars; among other facilities.

The campsites indicated in the Mt Kilimanjaro itineraries are subject to change based on, at times, unpredictable mountain weather conditions.

The campsites indicated in the Bush Camp Adventure itineraries are subject to change based on availability, although the next best alternative is offered.

Inclusions:

All excursions, transfers, entrance fees, camping fees and meals as indicated in the itinerary
Experienced English/French-speaking professional guides (or possibly other language as requested)
Excellent quality accommodations; based on service, location and ambience

Exclusions:

All meals not specified in the itineraries
Items of a personal nature
Tips and gratuities
Optional activities not previously reserved with prior payment

Booking Information & Conditions

For a reservation to be held on any itinerary, a deposit of US\$500 per person per itinerary is required. The balances of payments are due 60 days prior to arrival in Tanzania.

All travellers receive pre-trip information, complete itinerary and on-demand pre-travel advice, via email directly with our offices for any last minute or personal queries.

All information included in this brochure was correct at the time of printing and in the event of a particular accommodation being unavailable upon booking, accommodation of a similar or higher standard will be substituted.

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations made 20 days or less, prior to departure of tour/safari, a cancellation fee of 25% of the cancelled person/s's portion will be applicable.

All cancellations made 21 to 30 days, prior to departure of tour/safari, a cancellation fee of \$200 per person will be applicable plus funds return fees

Cancellations made 31+ days prior to departure of tour/safari, a cancellation of US\$100 will be applicable plus funds return fees

Why travel with Maasai Wanderings?

Maasai Wanderings is a family-run company of safari and mountain professionals based in Arusha, Tanzania. We offer standard itineraries as well as tailor made tours to provide our clients with a unique experience that ensures each adventure is individually complete. By joining Maasai Wanderings, you are personally delivered into the heart of Tanzania for your adventure of a lifetime.

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