

Maasai Wanderings

2012

"9 Day: Kilimanjaro Challenge " Machame Route

Machame:

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

Ahadi Lodge

Dinner

Day Two

Hike: 9.2km Altitude: 1820m-3020m 5-6 hours

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 Altitude: 3020m-3830m 5-6 hours

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

Shira Camp

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day Four

Hike: 10.4km Altitude: 3830m-4580m-3900m 5-6 hours

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 Altitude: 3900m-4100m 3-4 hours

Immediately on the outskirts of the camp we cross 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 Altitude: 4100m-4330m 3-4 hours

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 Altitude: 4330m-5896m-3040m 12-15 hours

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 Altitude: 3040m-1620m 3-4 hours

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, a quick nap and get some laundry done.

Ahadi Lodge

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day Nine

Transfer to Arusha departure point for journey beyond...

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Terms & Conditions

Pre-trip information & Accommodations

All payments are to be made, including the initial deposit, by direct deposit into the company bank account. Upon confirmation of funds being received, you will be issued updated itinerary invoice indicating monies paid. We will also send through all the pre-departure information including kit lists, contact information, etc.

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.

Inclusions/Exclusions

Inclusions:

- All excursions, transfers, entrance fees, camping fees and meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Experienced English-speaking professional guides/drivers
- Good quality accommodations

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 42 days (6 weeks) prior to arrival in Tanzania.**

All travelers 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.

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.



**P.O. BOX 14035, ARUSHA
TANZANIA**

**TALA NO: 0218 (2009),
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO: 52503,
TIN NO: 103-622-999**