

ITINERARY Rafiki Thabo Kilimanjaro Trek and Safari 18th- 31st August 2023

Day 1 – 18/08/23 – Arrival Tanzania - Airport pick-up - Drop off at hotel

You will be picked up by the staff Kilimanjaro Brothers Staff from Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) and driven to your accommodation in Moshi. Participants will be given a short briefing for the climb the next day. Kits and the necessary equipment will be checked as well.



Meals: Dinner
Accommodation:
Moshi [Kiliwounder Hotel](#)

Day 2 - 19/08/23 - Marangu Gate (1860m) – Mandara hut (2715m)

Hiking time: 5hrs • Distance: Approximately 8.1 km • Habitat: Montane forest

Morning equipment check, Brief for climb and rest.

The drive from Moshi to the Kilimanjaro National Park gate takes about 50 minutes. The journey passes through the village of Marangu, which is located on the lower slopes of the mountain. Once you reach the park gate, all hikers are requested to sign in at the Park office and make their final preparations for the climb. Porters will be seen arranging and loading their packs, containing the food, water, cooking gas as well as most of your equipment.

From the park gate, we ascend on a cleared ridge trail through the rain forest where you will see most of Kilimanjaro's animals. An alternative and more scenic parallel forest trail branches off to the left a few minutes after the gate. This trail follows the edge of a stream through the undergrowth and offers you the option to rejoin the main trail either after 1.5 hours hiking, or 1 hour before Mandara hut where you will spend the night.

Mandara hut consists of a group of wooden A-framed huts in a forest clearing. Each hut features 6-8 sleeping bunks with solar generated lighting. The total capacity of the camp is 60 climbers. Water is piped into the camp from springs above and there are flush toilets behind the main hut.

Meals: B,L,D
Accommodation: Mandara hut

Day 3 - 20/08/23 - Mandara hut (2715m) – Horombo hut (3705m)

Hiking time: 6hours •Distance: Approximately 11.6 km •Habitat: Moorland

From Mandara hut, the trail passes through a short stretch of forest, skirts the base of the Maundi Crater and then emerges into a transition from rain forest to moorland. It is well worth a short detour to scramble up the rim of the Maundi Crater for your first impressive view of the Kibo Crater. On a clear day, Kibo will glimmer in the distance, with sightings of majestic glaciers in the morning sun.

Once you are in the open moorland, you will get the chance to see some of Kilimanjaro's most spectacular plants – the endemic giant lobelia which grows up to 3 m in height and the giant groundsel (Senecia Kilimanjari), which can reach heights of 5m. After about 6 hours trek from here, you reach the Horombo hut for your accommodation.

Meals: B,L,D

Accommodation: Horombo Hut

Day 4 - 21/08/23 - Horombo hut (3705m) – Acclimatization day

Horombo hut is a village of huts perched on a small plateau, with buildings similar to Mandara with a capacity of 120 climbers! Horombo is normally bustling with hikers, guides and porters, with an atmosphere of adventure and excitement. You will meet both ascending and descending hikers here. This extra day and night at Horombo is for additional acclimatization. A hike towards the Mawenzi hut, passing the Zebra Rocks on the way (about 3 hours up and 1,5 hours down) is strongly recommended.

Meals: B,L,D

Accommodation: Horombo Hut

Day 5 - 22/08/23 - Horombo hut (3705m) – Kibo hut (4730m)

Hiking time: 6hours •Distance: Approximately 9.6 km •Habitat: Alpine desert

After breakfast, we continue our ascent into the Alpine desert habitat. From Horombo, there are two trails to the "Saddle" (which refers to the area located between the peaks of Mawenzi and Kibo). There is an upper route (right hand fork) and lower route (left hand fork) to choose from. The upper route should be very familiar, as you will have climbed most of it the previous day towards Mawenzi hut. This section is very stony and eroded.

The recommended lower route (left hand fork) is much easier and nearly an hour shorter, and it also passes the last watering point at 4130m. You will have to fill your water bottles with all the water you will need until your return to Horombo hut in two night's time (unless you are willing to buy Mineral water at Kibo hut).

Situated in the barren Alpine desert is Kibo hut, a stone built block house which has bunk beds for 60 climbers, but no streams with water nearby. It is however possible to buy mineral water and soft drinks at the camp office. There are platform toilets behind the hut.

The summit is now a further 1195m up and you will make your final ascent the same night. Prepare your equipment, ski-stick and thermal clothing for your summit bid. This should include the replacement of your headlamp and camera batteries and make sure you have a spare set available as well. To prevent freezing, it will be wise to carry your water in a thermal flask.

Meals: B,L,D

Accommodation: Kibo Hut

Day 6 - 23/08/23 - Kibo hut (4730m) – Uhuru Peak (5895m) – Horombo hut (3705m)

Hiking time: 7 to 8 hours to reach Uhuru Peak | 6 to 8 hours to descend to Horombo

Distance: Approximately 5.4km ascent and 15 km descent •Habitat: Stone scree and ice-capped summit

You will rise around 23h20, and after some tea and biscuits you shuffle off into the night, and this is where the going really gets tough. The first section of the trail consists of a rocky path to the Hans Meyer Cave (5150m) and also offers a good resting spot. The path then zigzags up to Gillman's point (5681m), which is located on the crater rim. This section is very steep with a lot of stone scree, requiring great physical and mental effort. This is probably the most demanding section of the entire route. Do the Kili shuffle and move slowly.

From Gillmans Point, you will normally encounter snow all the way up to Uhuru peak (5895m), the highest point in Africa. Weather conditions on the summit will determine how long you will be able to spend, taking photographs, before the 3 hour descent back to Kibo hut. After a short rest, you gather all your gear you left behind for the ascent and head down to Horombo hut (3 hours) for your overnight. The return to Horombo hut will seem surprisingly fast compared to the ascent. The total time spent walking on this day is around 14 hours, so be prepared for a very tough day. Later in the evening, you will have your last dinner on the mountain and have your well-earned sleep.

Meals: B,L,D

Accommodation: Horombo Hut

Day 7 - 24/08/23 - Horombo hut (3705m) – Marangu Gate (1860m)

Hiking time: 6 hours •Distance: Approximately 19.7 km

After breakfast, you continue your descent (6 hours), passing the Mandara hut, down to the Marangu gate. At Marangu gate, you will receive your summit certificates. Those climbers who reached Gillman's Point (5685m) are issued with green certificates and those who reached Uhuru

Peak (5895m), receive gold certificates. You now drive back to Moshi/ Arusha for a long overdue hot shower, dinner and celebration.

Meals: B,L,D

Accommodation: Moshi [Kiliwounder Hotel](#)

Day 8 – 25/08/23 – Kilimanjaro back to hotel

Day 9 – 26/08/23 – Rest days and afternoon Media, interview, waterfall, coffer tour & Hotspring tour

DAY 10 – 27/08/23 - Arusha – Tarangire National Park Safari

In the morning after breakfast your driver guide will be there ready to start your journey toward Tarangire National Park, which will take about 2hours. The park has a beautiful view and landscape covered with its savannah vegetation such as baobab trees and acacia trees. The Tarangire river is a heart of the park especially during the dry season as most of the animals concentrate along the river for water and green pastures. Predators such as lions, cheetahs, and leopards use this as an opportunity to get its prey. The park is famous to spot the oldest and giant African elephants, Masai giraffes, herds of buffaloes, wildebeest, zebras, waterbucks' warthogs and many other species. The park also has more than 500 species of bird life including ostrich and many others. You will have lunch at the picnic area and continue with game drive until evening when you will drive to karatu overnight. On your way to the lodge you stop at Lake Manyara Viewpoint to enjoy an incredible view of the lake and its surroundings.

Travel to Serengeti Serena Lodge.

Dinner and overnight at [Serengeti Serena Lodge](#)



DAY 11 – 28/08/23 – Serengeti Safari

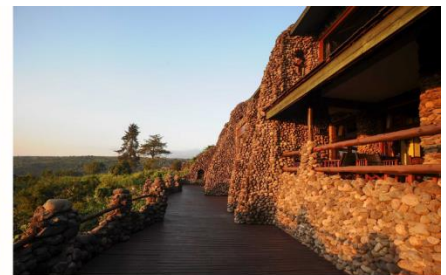
Today you will spend the whole day on a game drive in the Serengeti ecosystem. The area is well reserved and has a quiet environment with limited vehicles. On your game drive you will feel the true African environment with more private time game with no interruption. At lunch time you go back to the lodge for a hot lunch, the rest for a while before you go for an evening game drive around Soronera and Grumeti river. In the evening you will enjoy sundowner at the lodge private game area.

Dinner and overnight at [Serengeti Kubukubu Luxury Tented camp](#)



DAY 12 – 29/08/23 – Serengeti Safari – Ngorongoro Conservation Safari

Today you will work up early in the morning for an early game drive. You will venture to various places for some time before you return for a heavy breakfast in the lodge. After late breakfast you start your game on route toward central Serengeti then Naabi gate to exit Serengeti and head to Ngorongoro Conservation for an overnight. On the way you can enjoy the visit of incredible Maasai tribe that lives in Ngorongoro in a good bond with wildlife at Crater rim



Dinner and overnight at [Ngorongoro Serena Lodge](#)

DAY 13 – 30/08/23 – Ngorongoro Crater – Arusha Town

After breakfast we will descend 600meter down the crater for an incredible game drive. Here you will be surprised with its weather in which the crater rim is cold and clouded while its crater flow is hot and sunny with a large number of wildlife concentration. Ngorongoro conservation is enriched with Buffaloes, Elephants, wildebeest, Zebras, Hippos, Black Rhino, gazelles, impalas, hyenas, warthogs and so many others. The park also is blessed with birds such as flamingos and mash eagles and so many other species.



In the afternoon you will have lunch at a picnic and after lunch you will have game drive on route toward the exit route and finally quit the park drive to Arusha.

Accommodation: [Arusha Mount Meru Hotel](#)

DAY 14 – 31/08/23 - Depart Tanzania

Today you may have a plan to fly home or have a flight to Zanzibar, our vehicle will be ready to take you to the airport at perfect time to catch your flight.

Itinerary created by <https://www.kilimanjarobrothers.com/> in collaboration with Bob Bhanja on behalf of Rafiki Thabo Foundation.

Please see next page for what is included/excluded in the package.

Please note that small amendments to the itinerary may be required, but no substantial changes will be made.

Included / excluded Kilimanjaro Trek

| Included | Not included |
|---|---|
| Park fees | International flights (from/to home) |
| All activities (unless labeled as optional) | Additional accommodation before and at the end of the tour |
| All accommodation as stated in the itinerary | Tips |
| A professional driver/guide | Personal items (souvenirs, travel insurance, visa fees, etc.) |
| All transportation (unless labeled as optional) | Government imposed increase of taxes and/or park fees |
| All Taxes/VAT | Alcohol drinks |
| Airport transfer | Rescue Fee |
| All Meals (as specified in the day-by-day | Climbing Gear |
| Camping Equipment | Sleeping Bag |
| Porterage | |

Included Safari

| Included | |
|--|--|
| All mentioned activities | Mineral water |
| Hotel accommodation | Overnight accommodation according to the itinerary |
| All national park fees | Drop off from Kilimanjaro or Arushal airport. |
| Flying Doctors insurance (AMREF) during the safari | Professional, English-speaking guide |
| Lodge safari according to the itinerary | Transportation in a 4x4 New safari vehicle |
| Meals according to the itinerary | |