



## Kilimanjaro Climb Rongai Route

With its gentle gradient and sense of unspoilt wilderness, the Rongai Route approaches Kilimanjaro from the north and is less crowded than the most popular trails. Trek through farmlands, forest and alpine moorlands as you approach the beautiful summit cone. This route allows an extra day for acclimatisation under the imposing spires of Mawenzi, before the arduous final ascent. The final climb begins in darkness but the reward is an incomparable dawn vista over the sweeping East African plains.



8 days/7 nights

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Marangu

There will be a trip briefing this afternoon/evening. You will be required to bring your passport, insurance details and your air ticket details. The briefing will cover all aspects of your trip and will include the distribution of any hired equipment you have booked.

#### Day 2: Rongai Forest

After completing the necessary registration formalities, you will be transferred by road to Nale Moru (1,950m) to begin your climb on the wilderness route. The first day is only a half-day walk on a small path that winds through farmland and pine plantations. It is a consistent but gentle climb through attractive forest that shelters a variety of wildlife. You will reach your first overnight stop by late afternoon at the edge of the moorland zone (2,600m).

Approximately 3-4 hours of walking.

Meals: B, L, D

#### Day 3: Kikelewa Moorland

The morning walk is a steady ascent up to 'Second Cave' (3,450m) with superb views of the Eastern icefields on the rim of Kibo, the youngest and highest of the three volcanoes that form the entire mountain. After lunch, you will leave the main trail and strike out across the moorland on a smaller path towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi, the second of Kilimanjaro's volcanoes. Your campsite, which you will reach in the late afternoon, is in a sheltered valley near Kikelewa Caves (3,600m).

Approximately 6-7 hours of walking.

Meals: B, L, D

#### Day 4: Mawenzi

A steep climb up grassy slopes is rewarded by superb panoramas of the Kenyan plains to the north. You will leave the vegetation behind close to Mawenzi Tarn (4,330m), spectacularly situated in a cirque beneath the towering cliffs of Mawenzi. The afternoon will be free to rest or to explore the surrounding area as an aid to acclimatisation.

Approximately 3-4 hours of walking.

Meals: B, L, D

#### Day 5: Kibo



You will leave your campsite to cross the lunar desert of the 'Saddle' between Mawenzi and Kibo to reach Kibo campsite (4,700m) at the bottom of the Kibo Crater wall by early afternoon. The remainder of the day is spent resting in preparation for the final ascent before a very early night.

Approximately 5-6 hours of walking.

Meals: B, L, D

#### **Day 6: Uhuru Peak**

You will start the final, and by far the steepest and most demanding part of the climb by torchlight at around midnight. It will be extremely cold as you walk very slowly in darkness on a switchback trail through loose volcanic scree to reach the Crater rim at Gillman's Point (5,685m). You will rest there for a short time to enjoy the spectacular sunrise over Mawenzi. Those who are still feeling strong can make the three hour round trip along the snow-covered rim to the true summit of Uhuru Peak (5,895m), passing close to the spectacular glaciers and ice cliffs that still occupy most of the summit area. The descent to Kibo Hut (4,700m) is surprisingly fast and, after some refreshments and rest, you will continue descending to reach your final campsite at Horombo (3,7250m). This is an extremely long and hard day, with between 11 and 15 hours of walking at high altitude.

Meals: B, L, D

#### **Day 7: Marangu**

A sustained descent with wide views across the moorland takes you into the lovely forest around Mandara (2,700m), the first stopping place on the Marangu route. The trail continues through semi-tropical vegetation to the national park gate at Marangu (1,830m). You will be leaving the local staff to return to your hotel in Marangu by mid-afternoon for a well-deserved rest and a much needed shower and beer!

Approximately 5-6 hours of walking.

Meals: B, L

#### **Day 8: Departure**

Depending on the time of your return flight, the day can be spent resting in the hotel garden or exploring the village for souvenirs. There is a highly recommended but optional village walk that explores Marangu for half a day. This village is a fascinating mixture of small but fertile coffee and banana farms, friendly Chagga people, and some beautiful scenery with waterfalls and magnificent views.

Meals: B

## Details

#### **Group Size:**

Maximum 16

#### **2019 Departures:**

July: 11 (full moon departure)

August: 03, 31

September: 09 (full moon departure), 28

October: 08 (full moon departure), 19

November: 02

December: 07 (full moon departure)

#### **2019 Pricing:**

From CA\$3,985 per person (double)

From CA\$4,498 per person (twin)

#### **Trip Code:**

009390 - W20

## INCLUDED

- All breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners
- All accommodation
- All transport and listed activities
- Tour leader throughout



- Kilimanjaro Park Fee

### NOT INCLUDED

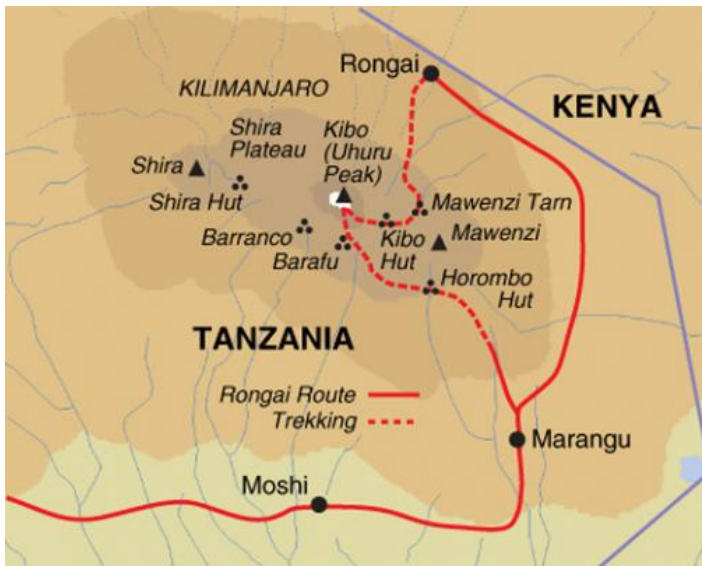
- Flights to/from destination
- Travel Insurance
- Visa fees
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities

### TOUR NOTES

This trip requires a good level of fitness with previous experience in trekking longer hours and various terrains.

*Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.*

### ROUTE MAP



### Contact

#### Winnipeg

164 Marion Street  
Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
R2H 0T4  
Phone: 204.949.0199  
Fax: 204.949.0188  
Toll Free: 800.661.3830

#### Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service)  
11733 95th St. NW  
Edmonton, AB, Canada  
T5G 1M1  
Phone: 780.477.3561  
Fax: 780.477.9871  
Toll Free: 800.661.8906



©The Great Canadian Travel Group Ltd.

Prices listed on our website are stated in Canadian Dollars unless otherwise indicated. Tour details, inclusions and prices were valid at the time of publication but are subject to change without notice due to currency fluctuations, tax increases and at the discretion of the supplier(s). Current prices will be re-quoted for you at the time of booking. By air, land or sea, we can take you anywhere – contact us for your quote today!