SAMPLE QUOTE

Issued 26 November 2026

Day Kilimanjaro Machame Route

Kilimanjaro, Northern Zone, Tanzania, Moshi, Tanzania

Duration	Group size	Destination	Tour type
7Days	**1 – 2 travellers**	**Mount Kilimanjaro National Park**	**Mountain Trekking**

Indicative price

Traveller	Price per person
Adult	**$2,500**
Child	**$1,750**
Children aged 4 and under	**Free**
Example: 2 adults	**$5,000**

Based on the prices currently listed on our website. Your final price depends on your dates, group size and any changes you ask for, and is confirmed by our team before you pay anything.

Itinerary

Arusha to Machame Gate, Trek to Machame Camp

The adventure begins with breakfast in Arusha before your mountain team collects you and your luggage for the drive toward Machame on Kilimanjaro’s southern side. As the road rises toward the mountain, farms and village life give way to greener slopes. At the entrance gate, your guide handles park registration while the porters distribute equipment and prepare loads for the trek.

Once walking begins, the trail enters rich tropical forest. The air is often humid; branches and ferns crowd the path, and the ground can be slippery after rainfall. Rather than racing through this first stage, you settle into an unhurried pace and get used to walking with trekking poles and a daypack. Your guide sets a manageable rhythm and schedules rest and lunch breaks according to your group.

Watch for birds and, when fortunate, monkeys high in the trees. In wet weather the forest feels misty and atmospheric, making waterproof layers and properly fitted boots especially important. As you gain altitude, the tree cover gradually changes and temperatures can fall noticeably.

At Machame Camp, your support team will help you settle into your sleeping tents. The evening is a chance to change into dry clothes, enjoy a warm meal, refill water and check in with your guide about how you are adjusting. Sleep early: the next day climbs farther toward the plateau

Machame Camp to Shira Camp

After breakfast, leave the forest behind and follow a trail that steadily climbs onto more open terrain. Trees give way to heather, grasses and hardy mountain plants, and you begin to see how quickly Kilimanjaro changes character with altitude. The route includes rocky sections that may require careful foot placement, especially if the weather is damp.

As the trail approaches the Shira Plateau, there are increasingly broad views across the mountain and, on clear days, toward the Western Breach. Your team will maintain a steady, conservative pace. The climbing may not feel technically difficult, but thinner air can make ordinary uphill walking more tiring than at lower elevations.

Lunch and short breaks provide time to take photographs and adjust clothing. The open plateau is exposed to sun, wind and sudden shifts in cloud cover, so keep a warm layer and rain shell accessible even if the morning starts clear.

Arrive at Shira Camp with time to recover before dinner. The night can be very cold. Your guide may check oxygen saturation and discuss symptoms, but decisions should be based on the overall clinical picture rather than a single number. Rest, eat, drink sensibly and tell the guide promptly about persistent headache, nausea or unusual fatigue.

Shira Camp via Lava Tower to Barranco Camp

Today is an important acclimatization stage and one of the most visually memorable sections of the Machame Route. The trail crosses a rugged landscape where vegetation becomes sparse and volcanic rock dominates. You move gradually toward Lava Tower, a dramatic landmark high above the greener slopes.

As you climb, the altitude becomes more noticeable. The group should keep a pace at which breathing remains controlled, with regular stops to rest and assess how everyone feels. Weather can change quickly in this exposed environment, and a bright morning may turn windy or cloudy by midday.

Near Lava Tower, your team may pause for lunch if conditions allow. The day’s route then descends toward Barranco Valley. This is the well-known climb-high, sleep-low section: although you temporarily reach a higher elevation, you spend the night lower down. Your brochure incorrectly described the descent as 6,800 metres; this draft corrects that obvious unit/typing error but the exact measured elevation change should be checked.

The descent reveals a changing landscape of giant groundsels and the steep rock face of the Barranco Wall. Once at camp, take time to rest and prepare for the following day’s scramble. Your guide should assess every climber for altitude symptoms before the evening meal.

Barranco Camp to Karanga Camp

The morning begins beneath the impressive Barranco Wall. From camp the rock face can appear daunting, but the established trekking route uses a series of steep steps and short hands-on scrambling sections rather than technical mountaineering. Your guide will help manage the pace and spacing of the group, particularly where the path is narrow or crowded.

As you gain the upper edge of the wall, the reward is a sweeping view back across Barranco Valley and toward parts of the Southern Icefields on clear days. The trail then rises and falls through exposed alpine terrain, crossing smaller valleys on the way to Karanga.

Today is deliberately shorter than many earlier stages. It offers a useful chance to recover and continue acclimatizing before the higher Barafu Camp. You may notice that appetite decreases at altitude; even so, try to eat enough and communicate any problems with your guide.

At Karanga Camp, spend the afternoon taking it easy, checking equipment and adjusting your summit clothing plan. The extra overnight stop is an important difference between this seven-day route and more compressed versions of Machame.

Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp

After breakfast, continue uphill across the stark upper slopes to Barafu Camp. The landscape is now almost entirely rock and scree, with very limited vegetation. Although the day is shorter in distance, the higher altitude often makes walking feel slower and more demanding.

Barafu is the staging point for your summit attempt. The camp is exposed, and winds can be strong. Your team will help establish a secure campsite while your guide briefs you on the night ascent, layering, hydration, headlamp use and what to expect on the descent.

You will typically have an early meal and attempt to sleep before waking late in the evening or around midnight. Prepare your daypack in advance: keep snacks, water, gloves, insulated layers, waterproof shell and headlamp where you can reach them easily in the dark.

This is not a day to push through illness to keep a schedule. New or worsening altitude symptoms must be discussed with your guide; the safer choice may be to stop ascending or descend. The summit attempt is conditional on how the group is feeling and on the mountain’s conditions.

Barafu Camp to Uhuru Peak, Descent to Mweka Camp

The summit attempt normally begins in darkness. After a warm drink and a final equipment check, you leave Barafu under the stars with your headlamp lighting the trail. This is the most strenuous part of the journey: the path rises through loose rock and scree, the air is thin and the temperature may be far below freezing.

Your guide will set a slow, steady rhythm, encouraging short steps and regular checks on the group. As you climb toward Stella Point on the crater rim, the horizon may begin to brighten. Reaching the rim is a milestone in itself, but it is still a demanding traverse to Uhuru Peak, and weather or a climber's condition may make continuing unsafe.

If conditions permit, continue along the crater rim to Uhuru Peak, the highest point in Africa. There may be time for photographs and a brief pause, but prolonged stops at this elevation are rarely comfortable. Your guide will determine how long the group can remain safely.

The descent begins promptly, retracing the route toward Barafu. After a short break and food, continue downhill on the Mweka Trail toward camp. Tired legs, loose ground and fatigue make the return demanding in a different way from the ascent; trekking poles and deliberate foot placement are helpful. By the time you reach Mweka Camp, the air feels thicker and vegetation begins to return.

Celebrate the effort, whether or not every climber reached the summit. The mountain's conditions and individual health always take priority over the goal.

Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate, Return to Arusha

Enjoy breakfast in camp and a final morning with your mountain team. The descent follows a forest trail that can be muddy and slippery, especially after rain. You will pass into increasingly lush vegetation as you lose altitude; the sounds of birds and the warmth of the lower slopes signal the return from the high mountain.

Your guide will help you complete the park exit procedures at Mweka Gate. Where applicable, summit certificates are issued according to the park's current procedures and the highest qualifying point reached. The guide and support team may gather for a farewell moment before you leave the mountain.

After the hike, a vehicle transfers you back to Arusha. The rest of the day is usually reserved for a shower, food and rest. If you have an onward flight, discuss timing with the operations team in advance rather than assuming the descent and road transfer will fit a fixed early departure.

This concludes the seven trekking days on Machame Route. If you wish, you can plan a recovery day in Arusha or add a wildlife safari or Zanzibar extension in a separately confirmed package

What is included

Included

- • Mountain guide and crew services as confirmed in the quotation
- • Mountain camping accommodation and meals during the trek
- • Mountain transport to the trailhead and from the exit gate
- • Park, camping and applicable rescue fees as specified in the quotation
- • Drinking water provision as specified by Operations

Not included

- • International and domestic flights
- • Visa charges, travel and medical insurance
- • Personal trekking clothing and equipment or rental fees
- • Accommodation before or after the trek unless quoted
- • Personal expenses and additional services not listed as included

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Tell us your dates and how many are travelling and we will confirm availability and the final price.

Phone: +255 766 903 485 Email: info@watotowabingwasafaris.com

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