



9 DAY KILIMANJARO CLIMB – RONGAI ROUTE

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Trip Duration: 9 days

Trip Difficulty: 

Destination: Tanzania

Begins in: Moshi

Activities: 



INCLUDED

- 2 nights hotel before/after climb
- Ground transportation
- National Park permits, camping/hut fees, rescue fees & Value Added Tax (VAT)
- Expert guide, assistant guides, cook & porters
- Bottled oxygen
- Private toilet
- Four season, 3 person double occupancy tent
- 1.5" sleeping pad
- All meals on the mountain
- Breakfast at hotel

EXCLUDED

- Airfare
- Lunch/dinner at hotel
- Beverages at hotel
- Personal gear & equipment
- Tips

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Ultimate Expeditions®

PH: (702) 570-4983

FAX: (702) 570-4986

Info@UltimateExpeditions.com

www.UltimateExpeditions.com

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Itinerary

DAY 1 Rongai Gate to Rongai Cave

Rongai Gate to Rongai Cave
Elevation: 6,398 ft to 9,300 ft
Distance: 8 km
Hiking Time: 3-4 hours
Habitat: Rain Forest

We drive from Moshi to Marangu Gate for permits before taking a short transfer to the Rongai Gate trailhead. The path winds through corn and potato fields and then climbs gently through the forest which is home to a variety of wildlife, including the black and white colobus monkey.

DAY 2 Rongai Cave to Second Cave

Elevation: 9,300 ft to 11,300 ft
Distance: 6 km
Hiking Time: 3-4 hours
Habitat: Heath

Second Cave to Kikelewa Cave
Elevation: 11,300 ft to 11,811 ft
Distance: 6 km
Hiking Time: 3-4 hours
Habitat: Heath

DAY 3 Kikelewa Cave to Mawenzi Tarn

Elevation: 11,811 ft to 14,160 ft
Distance: 5 km
Hiking Time: 3-4 hours
Habitat: Alpine Desert

The hike today is short and steep up a grassy slope. Views of the wilderness area are stunning. As we exit the heath zone and emerge into the Alpine Desert zone, the landscape changes dramatically. Our camp is situated beneath the jagged spires of Mawenzi, at Mawenzi Tarn. The remainder of the day can be spent relaxing or exploring the area.



DAY 4 Mawenzi Tarn to Mawenzi Ridge

Elevation (ft): 14,160 ft -14,400 ft

Distance: 2 km

Hiking Time: 1-2 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

Mawenzi Ridge to Mawenzi Tarn

Elevation (ft): 14,400 ft -14,160 ft

Distance: 2 km

Hiking Time: 1-2 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

This is an extra day meant for acclimatization and can be spent day hiking on Mawenzi Ridge. The unique landscape offers motivating views of Kibo and Mawenzi. After spending a few moments exploring the area we head back to Mawenzi Tarn for camp.

DAY 5 Marwenzi Tarn to Kibo Hut

Elevation (ft): 14,160 ft to 15,430 ft

Distance: 8 km

Hiking Time: 5-6 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

We climb gradually, then cross the lunar desert of the "Saddle" between Mawenzi and Kibo. Our camp, Kibo Hut, sits at the bottom of the Kibo crater wall. Once here we rest, enjoy an early dinner to prepare for the summit day.

DAY 6 Kibo Hut to Uhuru Peak

Elevation (ft): 15,430 ft to 19,341 ft

Distance: 6 km

Hiking Time: 6-8 hours

Habitat: Arctic

Uhuru Peak to Horombo Hut

Elevation (ft): 19,341 ft to 12,250 ft

Distance: 16 km

Hiking Time: 4-5 hours

Habitat: Heath

Very early in the morning (around midnight), we begin our push to the summit. This is the most mentally and physically challenging portion of the trek. The wind and cold at this elevation and time of day can be extreme. We ascend in the darkness for several hours while taking frequent, but short, breaks. At Gilman's point (18,600 ft), you will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise you are ever likely to see coming over Mawenzi Peak. Finally, we arrive at Uhuru Peak- the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa.

After spending a few moments taking in the plains of Africa and your accomplishment, we descend to Horombo Hut. Later in the evening, we enjoy our last dinner on the mountain and a well-earned sleep.

DAY 7 Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate

Elevation (ft): 12,205 ft to 6,046 ft

Distance: 20 km

Hiking Time: 5-7 hours

Habitat: Rain Forest

On our last day, we have a long trek mostly downhill through the tropical rainforest. Once at the park headquarters at Marangu gate, we collect our summit certificates. A vehicle will meet us here and drive us back to the hotel in Moshi.

TANZANIA

Best Time to Visit

Tanzania enjoys a temperate climate and is a year-round destination. However, temperatures on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater and Mount Kilimanjaro drop dramatically at night, particularly June - August. If you are planning to climb Kilimanjaro, it is best during the warm dry months of January and February. April and May tend to be the wettest months, June and July are the coolest, and August and September are the driest. The best time for safari is from May – October, however, December to February the wildebeest gather in the Serengeti region and the great migration begins to move north.

Temperature

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Average High (F)	92	92	90	85	79	78
Average Low (F)	64	64	66	67	65	62

Month	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average High (F)	78	80	83	88	89	90
Average Low (F)	60	60	60	62	64	64

Entry Requirements

All visitors must obtain a visa, except nationals of the East African Community, Hong Kong, Macao, Rwanda, Romania and Commonwealth countries (**excluding** Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa and United Kingdom). You also need a valid passport with at least six months prior to expiration, an onward or return ticket and proof of sufficient funds to support yourself while in the country. It is recommended that US citizens obtain their visas upon arrival, at Kilimanjaro International Airport.

Vaccinations

Hepatitis A or immune globulin (IG), Hepatitis B, and Typhoid are recommended for all travelers. Tetanus-diphtheria and measles as needed boosters. Rabies - pre-exposure vaccination if you will have extended unprotected outdoor exposure.

Yellow fever is not recommended for most travelers. The government requires proof of yellow fever vaccination upon arrival if you are traveling from a country with risk of yellow fever ([Countries with risk of yellow fever virus.](#))

Talk to your health-care provider about how to prevent malaria while traveling. You may need to take prescription medicine before, during, and after your trip to prevent malaria.



Travel Advisories

Make two photocopies of valuables such as your passport, tickets, visas and travelers' cheques. Keep one copy with you in a separate place to the original and leave another copy with someone at home.

Be sure to inform your credit card company as well as your bank you will travel internationally into Africa. This will eliminate any credit card holds for fraudulent activity.

Currency

Carrying cash, an ATM or credit card that can be used for cash advances in case of emergency is advisable. The best places to exchange money are at bureau de change, which are fast, have longer hours and often give slightly better rates than banks. Local currency is Tanzania Shillings (TSh), however national parks entry fees must be paid in US dollars by non-residents. Better hotels, lodges, and camps will accept credit cards; however it is advised to withdraw cash when visiting remote areas and villages. Note that US dollars older than 2001 will not be accepted by most places in East Africa. Traveler's Checks have become nearly impossible to cash in most all banks in Tanzania. Only hotels will accept checks from their guests, but at a far lesser rate than hard currency.

Government

The government framework of Tanzania is that of a unitary presidential democratic republic, whereby the President of Tanzania is both head of state and head of government, and of a multi-party system.

Religion

30% of Mainland Tanzania's population is Christian, 35% Muslim and 35% indigenous; Zanzibar is 99% Muslim.