

KILIMANJARO SUMMIT CLIMB

Northern Circuit Itinerary

A wilderness route passing around the remote North Flank. This exceptional route circumnavigates the Kilimanjaro massif at altitude before heading to the summit via Stella Point.



Day 0 Fly Heathrow to Kilimanjaro

Day 01 1 night, Onsea House, Standard Room

HB



Arrive Dar es Salaam International Airport on your own BA flights. Here you will be met after customs clearance by a representative of Coastal Aviation. They will escort you to the domestic terminal and the waiting area for your 0900hrs flight to Kilimanjaro International. Here you will be met by a driver who will transfer you (40mins) to Onsea House, near Arusha, where you will be staying the first night.

Onsea House is located on the

outskirts of Arusha on a steep hill – great preparation for Kilimanjaro! – with impressive views towards the imposing Mount Meru.

Your Financial Protection



The guest house is reputed to be among the best places to stay in and around Arusha. It is owner-managed, and both the food and accommodation are excellent.

The lush gardens house a floodlit swimming pool, outdoor jacuzzi and bar and provide the perfect spot to relax. Cuisine is top rate and makes use of the superb range of fresh vegetables and fruits from the Arusha area. Onsea is booked Half Board.

This evening, or at breakfast tomorrow, you will have a climb briefing during which you will be introduced to your support team, and given your transfer times, tipping information, and of course a chance to ask your questions about the upcoming climb.

Onsea is one of the best hotels in the Arusha area. Please contact our office if you wish to discuss alternatives.

Day 02 Start of the 9 Day North Circuit, Kilimanjaro

FBA

The itinerary below gives a nine day climb via Shira Plateau, the northern flank, Gilmans Point and Uhuru Point. The descent is via the scenic, wilderness Mweka Route.

After orientation and a thorough kit check, we will register at Londorossi Gate (*please ensure that you send us your passport number and date of birth before the tour starts.*) It is then a short drive towards the Lemosho Glades, where we begin our trek through the rainforest to camp 1 at Big Tree (9200ft/2800mts).

This is an exciting wilderness route, which we use to avoid the overcrowding common on the Machame Route. Our trek today will take us along a little-used track starting at the beautiful Lemosho Glades. In places the vegetation is so undisturbed by humans that it grows right across the narrow track. Flora and fauna are richer here than on other more popular routes through the rain forest.

Day 03 To Shira Caldera, Kilimanjaro

FBA

A full day's trek with a height gain of over 2000 ft./600mts, taking us to a lunch stop at a beautiful valley just outside the Shira Crater at around 10,000 ft./3050mts. After lunch we head up a long ridge before dropping down into the Shira Caldera – a high altitude desert plateau rarely visited by man.

Shira is the third of Kilimanjaro's volcanic cones. It is filled with lava flow from Kibo, its rim eroded and blasted away by weather and volcanic action.

Today you can expect to get your first close views of Kibo - the dramatic summit cone of Kilimanjaro.

Camp at Shira One (11500ft/3500mts.)







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Day 04 To Shira Hut, Kilimanjaro

FBA

Depart camp early for a two to three hour trek east across Shira Plateau, via Simba Camp (12200ft./3720mts.) to our camp on the eastern slopes of Shira. The camp is located at Shira Hut (11500ft/3500mts.), about an hour's walk from Simba. *Optional and recommended early AM start for those wanting to try the acclimatizing trek to Shira Cathedral (12200ft. /3720mts.). The views from the top of this ridge are very special. Those with vertigo should take care.*

Day 05 To Moir Hut via Lava Tower, Kilimanjaro

FBA



Today we begin to divert from the standard trail and head to the North West flank of Kilimanjaro, a zone that very few people visit. Your destination is Moir Hut (13780ft. /4200mts.) – a well-located refuge hut built here by the Sheffield University Mountaineering club.

Though it has over the years been blasted by wind and rain, Moir Hut forms a basic shelter for the support team; you will camp in tents as normal.

In the afternoon it is possible to take a guided trek up the nearby Lent Group – a series of wind-eroded parasite cones and ridges from whose upper slopes you can gaze down to the plains of Kenya in the north. You may be lucky and see the elusive and rare Kilimanjaro eland (a long haired antelope) high in these remote uplands. Wear good boots and take waterproofs, water and snacks for this half day trek, and be prepared to scramble on the slopes of the Lent Group (15400ft. /4700mts.). [5-7 hours walking]

Day 06 To Buffalo Camp, North Flank, Kilimanjaro

FBA

We climb out of the Moir Valley and take a short detour to reach the summit of Little Lent Hill at 4,375 metres. After admiring the views we return to the trail and head eastwards around the northern circuit trail. Here the trail passes through a field of rock slabs that clink as they're walked on. The final section of today's walk undulates until reaching the location of Buffalo Camp (4,150m). At the camp you can marvel at the Kenyan plains stretching out far below to the north [4-7 hours walking]









Day 07 To Third Cave, Kilimanjaro

FBA

From Buffalo Camp we climb up to the top of 'Buffalo Ridge', dropping down on the other side to reach Pofu. Nearby there is a small spring and some vegetation.

The trail continues eastwards through a landscape of increasingly sparse vegetation to eventually reach **Third Cave Camp** (3,900m). [5-7 hours walking]

Day 08 To School Hut, Kilimanjaro

FBA

There is a steady ascent to reach the Saddle, a lunar landscape between the peaks of Kibo and Mawenzi. From here we continue upwards and reach **School Hut Campsite** (4,700m) in the early afternoon. The remainder of the afternoon is spent resting and preparing for the summit day. [4-5 hours walking]

Day 09 To the Summit, Kilimanjaro

FBA



We will start our ascent by torchlight at about midnight so that we can be up on the Crater rim by sunrise. The steep climb over loose volcanic scree has some well-graded zig-zags and a slow but steady pace will take us to Gilman's Point (5,685 m) in about five or six hours. We will rest there for a short time to enjoy the sunrise over Mawenzi. The trail leads west along the crater rim to Uhuru Peak (5,896m), passing close to the spectacular glaciers and ice cliffs that still occupy most of the summit area.

We retrace our steps along the crater rim to Stella Point and then descend down through Barafu Camp to reach **Millenium Camp** (3,800 m). [11-15 hours walking]

Day 10 To the Gate via Mweka. Overnight Onsea House

FBA

Walk down across the Alpine moorland to Mweka Gate for a picnic, presentation of certificates and photos. Please note that this is a long walk-off lasting 5 to 6 hours, perhaps even longer if there is rain on the route.)

As the southern flank tends to be wet, it is quite likely that you will encounter wet and very muddy conditions in the rainforest section on this last day. Please be prepared for this and do not expect an easy jaunt back to the gate! Nevertheless, the route is very beautiful and worth the effort.

After a picnic lunch, we drive (approx 2hrs.) to Onsea House for a welcome hot shower, dinner & overnight.







Day 11 Extend with Safari and Beach options or Return Home

Today is spent at leisure at Ilboru Lodge, unless you are continuing onto a safari or beach extension. After lunch (this can be included with shared day room on request), you will be met by our driver for the transfer to Kilimanjaro Airport for your homeward flight.

Safari Add-On

Numerous options for safaris can be arranged to follow your climb. All at affordable prices, from one-day to one-week safaris, camping or lodge, or both.



Zanzibar Add-On

A four night visit to the tropical island of Zanzibar will add £400 upwards to your tour cost. This includes all regional flights, transfers, and half board in a simple East Coast hotel.









Trade and Safety Profile

- ❖ Gane and Marshall, founded in 1991, are licensed under ATOL number 3145
- ❖ Gane and Marshall are members of the Ethical Tour Operators Group under Tourism Concern.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall are members of the Institute of Mountain Medicine.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall are approved partners of IMEC (International Mountain Explorers Connection) working for fair pay and conditions for Kilimanjaro porters and guides.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall fund guide scholarships through the Kilimanjaro Guide Scholarship Foundation.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall actively support the UK registered charity Community Projects Africa funding and managing educational and health projects in East Africa. Ask to see the projects we support near Kilimanjaro.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall have Travel and General tour operator liability insurance and Cork Bays Fisher Catastrophe insurance

One of the very many references you will find on our web site.



I was extremely glad that I chose Gane and Marshall for my long awaited Kilimanjaro attempt. Route selection was excellent giving plenty and much needed time to acclimatise. You dealt extremely promptly and knowledgably with all my questions during the booking and preparation process and your information on training and gear was well informed and invaluable.

Our entire team of porters were friendly and helpful and all the facilities (camping, cooking and hygiene) were as good as could possibly be expected in mountain conditions.

Our guide was well informed and extremely competent; he was as determined as us that we would get to the top and was an enormous help and support.

The arrangements for the whole of our holiday ran smoothly and without worry and at all times we felt that we were in very good hands which made for a truly memorable and enjoyable holiday. Since returning home I have had no hesitation in recommending you to my friends. John Foster and Family



