

Climb Itinerary for Rongai7 via Mawenzi Tarn with Second Cave

Sat 12 Sep Fly Heathrow four, London to Kilimanjaro overnight

Sun 13 Sep 1 night, Ilboru Safari Lodge, Kilimanjaro, Standard Room, Half Board

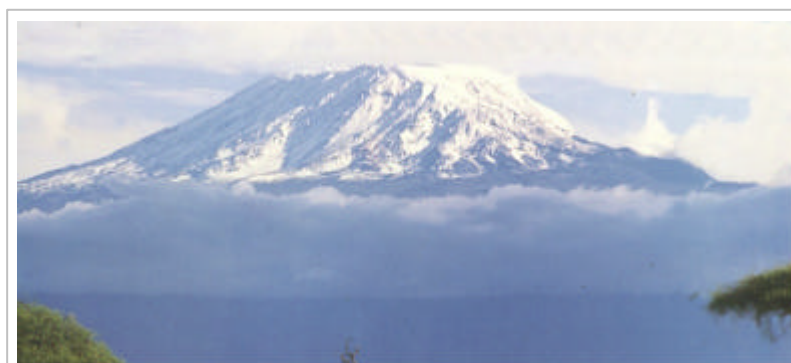
On arrival at the airport, you will be met by a driver/guide who will transfer you to Ilboru Safari Lodge, where you will be staying this evening. Dinner included.



At Ilboru Safari Lodge Relax under the shade of well-placed trees in the gardens with the landscape dazzling your senses with vibrant colours accompanied by the sweet melodies of Tropical Bou Bou, Ibis and several other birds.

The lower main gardens provide the ideal spot for Cocktail and Barbeque parties as well as for group discussions or workshops.

The lodge setting has been designed to match the traditional surroundings without compromising international quality services. The rooms are situated in rondavels set in traditional style that is uniquely African, each with two self-contained large rooms. Delightful in the extra space, every room is significantly larger than the normal standard found in similar tourist hotels and lodges, with twin beds and a balcony which provide picturesque views to the well kept grounds. There are 30 rooms in total of which some may be converted to cater for four VIP suites or family accommodation. They are tastefully decorated with traditional design themes. Each is appointed with native art and furniture. All rooms have telephones and private balconies with vistas of quiet, meticulously maintained gardens.



Mon 14 Sep Start of the 7 Day Rongai Route, Kilimanjaro, Full Board

After completing the necessary registration formalities at Marangu National Park gate, we transfer by Landrover to Rongai. The climb begins from the attractive wooden village of Nale Moru (1,950 m.) on a small path that winds through fields of maize and potatoes before entering pine forest. The track then starts to climb consistently, but gently through attractive forest that shelters a variety of wildlife, including the beautiful Kilimanjaro Colobus monkey. These monkeys are black with a long 'cape' of white hair and a flowing white tail. The forest begins to thin out and the first camp is at the edge of the moorland zone (2,600 m.) with extensive views over the Kenyan plains.

[3-4 hours walking]

Tue 15 Sep Kilimanjaro Climb

This is only a morning walk up to the campsite at **'Second Cave' (3,450 m.)**. The walk is a steady ascent with superb views of Kibo and the Eastern icefields on the crater rim. The afternoon can be spend enjoying the view over the Kenyan plains or doing a short acclimatisation walk up towards Third Cave. [3-4 hours walking]

Wed 16 Sep Kilimanjaro Climb

We now leave the main trail and strike out across the moorland on a smaller path towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi. Our campsite is in a sheltered valley with giant senecios near **Kikelewa Caves (3.600 m.)** After lunch, there is time to explore the valley or to rest. [3-4 hours walking]



Thu 17 Sep Kilimanjaro Climb

A short but steep climb up grassy slopes is rewarded by superb all round views and a tangible sense of wilderness. We leave vegetation behind shortly before reaching the next camp at **Mawenzi Tarn (4,330 m.)**, spectacularly situated in a cirque directly beneath the towering spires of Mawenzi. The afternoon will be free to rest or explore the surrounding area as an aid to acclimatisation. [3-4 hours walking]

Fri 18 Sep Kilimanjaro Climb



We cross the lunar desert of the ‘Saddle’ between Mawenzi and Kibo to reach **Kibo campsite** (4,700 m.) at the bottom of the Kibo crater wall. The remainder of the day is spent resting in preparation for the final ascent before a very early night! [5-6 hours walking]

Sat 19 Sep Kilimanjaro Climb

We will start the final, and by far the steepest and most demanding, part of the climb by torchlight around 1 a.m. We plod very slowly in the darkness on a switchback trail through loose volcanic scree to reach the crater rim at Gillman’s Point (5,685 m.) We 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 to Uhuru Peak (5,896 m.), passing close to the spectacular glaciers and ice cliffs that still occupy most of the summit area. The descent to Kibo (4,700 m.) is surprisingly fast and, after some refreshment, we continue the descent to reach our final campsite at **Horombo** (3,720 m.). [11-15 hours walking]

Continued...



Sun 20 Sep 1 night, Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort, Standard Room, Bed & Breakfast

A steady descent takes us down through moorland to **Mandara** Hut (2,700m.), the first stopping place at the Marangu route. We then continue descending through lovely lush forest on a good path to the National Park gate at Marangu (1,830 m.). [5-6 hours walking]. Transfer to Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort for a welcome hot shower and overnight stay.

Mon 21 Sep Return Home or continue to Zanzibar

This morning after breakfast either continue with safari or flight to Zanzibar. Or have a relaxing morning and transfer in the late afternoon to Kilimanjaro Airport in time for your flight home. Lunch and dinner to your own account.

Tue 22 Sep Arrive UK

Your flight arrives Heathrow 4 at 0645hrs. AM. End of Services.



We wish you a wonderful trekking holiday to the Roof of Africa.
“Safari njema” or “Have a great journey” as they say in Tanzania.