

Meru-Kilimanjaro Combo Climb Itinerary

Possible flight programme. We also offer BA flights but you should then expect a night in Nairobi.

Flight	Date	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Airline
KQ101		LHR	NBO	1900	0630+1	Kenya Airways
KQ6724		NBO	JRO	0800	0900	Kenya Airways
KQ6725		JRO	NBO	1930	2030	Kenya Airways
KQ102		NBO	JRO	2345	0545+1	Kenya Airways

Day 0 Fly o/nt to Nairobi

Make your way to London Heathrow Airport in time for your flight to Nairobi and next morning connection to Kilimanjaro.

Day 01 1 night, Ilboru Safari Lodge, Kilimanjaro, Standard Room, HB



Arrive Kilimanjaro approx 1000 hours. You will be met by a driver who will transfer you to Ilboru Safari Lodge, where you will be staying the first night.

Ilboru Safari Lodge is located at the base of the majestic Mt. Meru on the outskirts of Arusha Town. The hotel is an oasis after the bustle of the nearby city. This family property is run by the Van Beurden family a Dutch Tanzania couple. Both have been working in the hotel industry for many years and their service is above all friendly, making for a great atmosphere here. You'll meet lots of Arusha people who have come to see Ilboru as an affordable and friendly place to socialise. The rooms are situated in rondavels set in the traditional style that is uniquely African, each with two self-contained large rooms. The standard is budget. With the extra space, every room is significantly larger than the normal room found in similar tourist hotels and lodges. There are 30 rooms in total. All rooms have telephones and private balconies with vistas of quiet, well maintained gardens. Food is very good for a hotel of this standard. The owner manager is a trained chef from the hotel industry and this is reflected in the great meals. There is a very spacious swimming pool set in the pretty gardens. If you don't want to swim simply lounge beside the pool with a drink. The gardens are spacious and very much an oasis of calm after the bustle of Arusha. There's lots to do from and at Ilboru: running, hiking, boules, golf, shopping in Arusha market, one and half day safaris.

This evening you will have a climb briefing with the group giving you transfer times for the morrow and a chance to ask questions about kit, etc. Ilboru is booked Half Board.



Day 02 Start trek of Mt Meru FBA

After an early breakfast drive (approx 90 mins) to Arusha National Park and the climb start.

Arusha National Park is a gem of varied ecosystems which also boasts spectacular views of Mt. Meru, the crater that gives the region its name. The small national park includes the slopes, summit, and ash cone of Mt. Meru, the Momella Lakes, Ngurdoto Crater, and the lush highland forests that blanket its lower slopes. Game viewing around the Momella Lakes is at a laid-back and quiet pace, and while passing through the forest many visitors stop to search for troupes of colubus monkeys playing in the canopy.



After you drive to the gate, register and commence rainforest trek to Miriakamba Hut, where you will overnight. The forests contain a wealth of birds and other animals, like the beautiful bushbuck easily glimpsed in the glades between the ancient cedar trees, or the black and white colobus monkeys climbing along their branches.

Trek 4 hrs approx. Height 2600 metres/8530feet.

Day 03 Mt. Meru Climb

Continue on steep track up to Saddle Hut (11808ft.). The interesting geology of the area is reflected in the impressive view of the ash cone and the 1,500m cliff face leading to the summit of Mt. Meru Climb Little Meru in the afternoon to help with acclimatisation and to enjoy the views.



Day 04 Mt. Meru Climb

Early AM start to trek to the summit, taking the challenging trail up to and around the rim to the highest point on Meru. Then descend to Saddle Hut for a rest and early lunch. After continue down to Miriakamba Hut for dinner & o/nt – allow approx 2 to 3 hrs for this section of the walk.

Day 05 Off Mountain 1nt Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort, standard twin room, HB



Descend to the gate (3 to 4 hrs). Say goodbye to the Meru climb crew and meet up with your driver who will transfer you (3hrs approx) to Kilimanjaro Mountain Lodge, Marangu, where you will meet other members of the climb party and have your climb briefing, dinner and o/nt.

Kilimanjaro Mountain Lodge is tucked deep in the lush green banana and coffee plantations of Kyalla Village in Marangu West on the slopes of the Kilimanjaro mountain.

This is a mountaineers' hotel with essential facilities for Kili trekkers: warm rooms with showers, good food and a swimming pool for relaxation.

Day 06 Start Kilimanjaro 6 day Rongai Climb

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, **Rongai One**, is at the edge of the moorland zone (2,600 m.) with extensive views over the Kenyan plains.

Day 07 Kilimanjaro Rongai Climb

The morning walk is a steady ascent up to the 'Second Cave' (3,450 m.) with superb views of Kibo and the Eastern icefields on the crater rim. After lunch, we leave the main trail and strike out across the moorland on a smaller path towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi. **Kikelewa campsite** is in a sheltered valley with giant senecios near Kikelewa Caves (3,600 m.) [6-7 hours walking]

Day 08 Kilimanjaro Rongai Climb

A short but steep climb up grassy slopes is rewarded by superb allround 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]



Day 09 Kilimanjaro Rongai Climb

Today 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]

Day 10 Kilimanjaro Rongai Climb



Today 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 **Horombo Camp** (3,720 m.). [11-15 hours walking]

Day 11 Off mountain 1 nt Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort, standard rm, HB

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]

From the gate we drive back to Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort for dinner and o/nt.

Day 12 Day at leisure. Night flight to UK B

Check out after breakfast but continue to use the hotel facilities until your afternoon transfer of approx 2 hrs to Kilimanjaro Airport for your flight to Nairobi and London.

Day 13 Arrive UK

You arrive London Heathrow Four early this morning.

- ❖ Gane and Marshall has been established for twenty years.
- ❖ Gane and Marshall are ATOL bonded. Licence number 3145
- ❖ 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 are members of the Institute of Mountain Medicine.
- ❖ Our associated charity is Community Projects Africa. www.communityprojectsafrica.org

