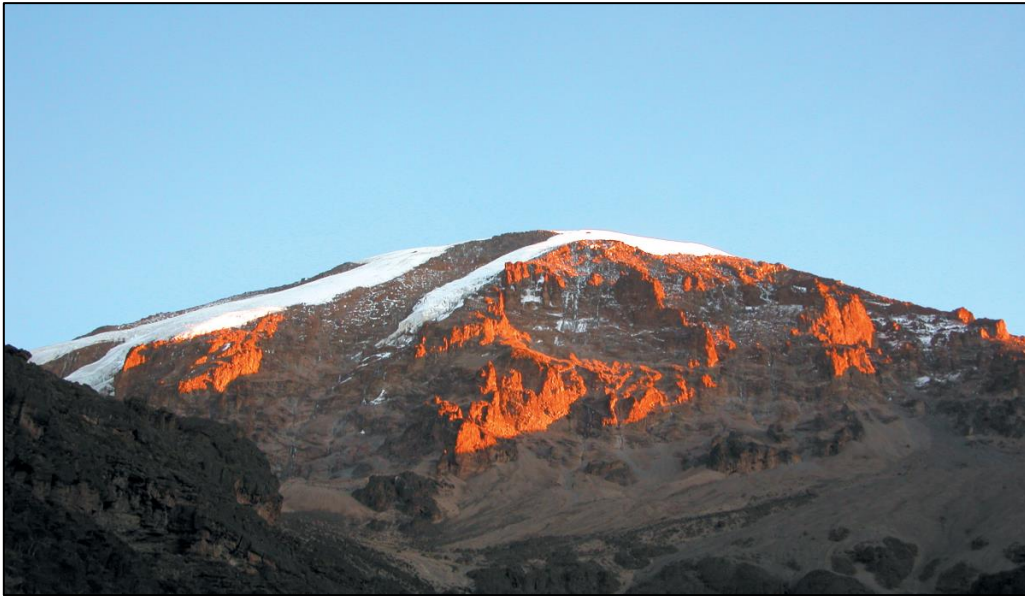


## KILIMANJARO RONGAI ROUTE OPEN GROUP CLIMB

Rongai6 via Mawenzi Tarn with Second Cave



**Day 01 Arrive Arusha (1 night, Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort) D**

You will be met on arrival at the airport and transferred to Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort for one night (half-board).

Kilimanjaro Mountain Lodge is tucked deep in the lush green banana and coffee plantations of Kyalla Village, in Marangu West, right on the slopes of Kilimanjaro. This is a mountaineers' hotel with essential facilities for Kili trekkers: warm rooms with showers, good food and a garden with swimming pool.

This evening there will be a climb briefing covering kit, camping arrangements, and what to expect on the mountain (climate, altitude etc), as well as tomorrow's transfer times. This is a good chance to ask any questions you may have about the coming climb, particularly any concerns regarding kit.

**Day 02 Start of the 6 Day Rongai Route B, L, D**

After completing the necessary registration formalities at Marangu National Park gate, we transfer to the Rongai trailhead on Kilimanjaro's northern slopes. The climb begins in the village of Nale Moru (1,950m), as we follow a small path that winds through fields of maize and potatoes before entering pine forest (the dry forest on Kilimanjaro's northern slopes is quite different to the lush rainforest on Kilimanjaro's wetter southern foothills).

The track soon starts to climb, consistently but gently, through attractive forest that shelters a variety of wildlife, including the beautiful Kilimanjaro Colobus monkey (distinguishable by their long 'cape' of white hair and flowing white tail). The forest begins to thin out as we approach our

camp, **First Cave**, at the edge of the moorland zone (2,650m) with dramatic views over the Kenyan plains. [3-4 hours walking; 6.5kms distance; 700m height gain]



## Day 03 To Kikelewa Caves

B, L, D

This morning's walk is a steady ascent up to the '**Second Cave**' (3,450m), with time to enjoy the superb views of Kibo and the Eastern icefields on the crater rim along the way. After lunch, we leave the main trail and strike out across the moorland on a less-trodden path towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi. **Kikelewa Camp** (3,675m) sits in a sheltered valley of giant senecios, near the Kikelewa Caves. [6-7 hours walking; 9kms distance; 950m height gain]

## Day 04 To Mawenzi Tarn

B, L, D

A short but steep climb up grassy slopes is rewarded by superb all-round views and a tangible sense of wilderness. The vegetation becomes increasingly sparse as we approach our next camp at **Mawenzi Tarn** (4,330m), 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; 5kms distance; 655m height gain]



## Day 05 To Kibo Camp

B, L, D

We cross the lunar desert of the 'Saddle' between Mawenzi and Kibo Peaks to reach **Kibo campsite** (4,715m) at the bottom of the Kibo crater wall. The remainder of the day is spent

resting in preparation for the final ascent, which begins early tomorrow morning! [5-6 hours walking; 9kms; 385m altitude gain]

## Day 06 To Kilimanjaro's Summit B, L, D

We will start the final, and by far the steepest and most demanding part of the climb, by torchlight at around 1am. We plod very slowly in the darkness on a switchback trail through loose volcanic scree to reach the crater rim at Gillman's Point (5,685m). We aim to reach Gilman's in time to watch the sunrise over Mawenzi. After a short rest and a chance to admire the view, those who are still feeling strong can make the three hour round trip to Uhuru Peak (5,895m), passing close to the spectacular glaciers and ice cliffs that still occupy much of Kilimanjaro's summit area.



The descent to Kibo (4,700m) is surprisingly fast after the long ascent climb. After some refreshment, we continue the descent to reach our final campsite at **Horombo** (3,720m). [11-15 hours walking; 5kms ascent/15kms descent; 1195m height gain/ 2195m descent]

## Day 07 Descend mountain (1 night, Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort) B, L, D

A steady descent takes us down through moorland to **Mandara Hut** (2,700m.), the first stopping place along the Marangu route. We then continue descending through lush rainforest on a good trail to the Marangu Gate. [5-6 hours walking; 20kms distance; 1840m descent]

Transfer to Kilimanjaro Mountain Resort, Marangu for a well-earned hot shower, dinner and rest!

## Day 08 Int'l departure / extend with safari or beach add-on B

Morning at leisure until your scheduled transfer to the airport for your homeward flight/onward transfer.

If flying out this evening, we can arrange for a day room and lunch at your lodge (at additional cost).



## Climb rates and booking information

For climb rates, please see our [Kilimanjaro price guide](#). Alternatively, [contact us](#) directly for a quote. We arrange both private and open group climbs on Kilimanjaro and Meru.

### 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 £600 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 bonded with ABTOT, the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust, under membership number 5453.
- ❖ 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.

## One of the many references you will find on our website

*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.*