



9 DAYS

TANZANIA · MOUNTAIN TREKKING

Kilimanjaro Northern Circuit: 9-Day Climb

The longest route on Kilimanjaro: nine days that start in the west, circle the quiet northern slopes and give the most time to adjust to altitude.

DURATION

9 days

DESTINATIONS

1

TRIP STYLE

Mountain Trekking

AT A GLANCE

Experience Overview

The Northern Circuit is the newest route on Kilimanjaro and the longest. It follows the Lemosho trail across the Shira Plateau for three days, and then, where every other route turns south towards Barranco, it turns north.

For the next three days you walk around the back of the mountain at about 4,000 m, through open alpine desert with views over Kenya's Amboseli plains. Very few groups come this way. Camps at Moir Hut, Buffalo and Third Cave are small and quiet, and each day's height gain is modest.

That long traverse at a steady altitude is what makes the route so effective. You approach summit night having spent six nights above 3,500 m, more than on any other itinerary. The summit climb starts from School Hut on the eastern side and reaches the rim at Gilman's Point. You descend to the south by Mweka, having walked almost all the way around the mountain.

Good for: anyone who has the time and wants the highest chance of reaching the top, walkers who value solitude, and older or more cautious climbers. It costs more because of the extra days of park fees and crew wages.

DURATION

9 days

DESTINATION

Tanzania

TRIP STYLE

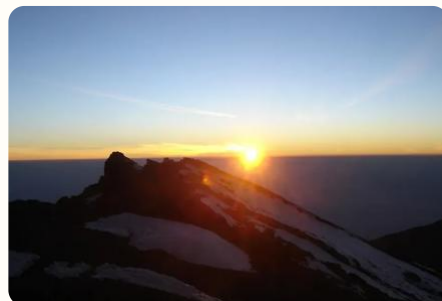
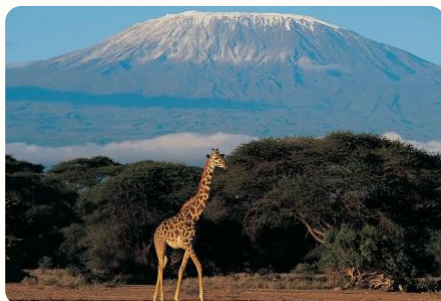
Mountain Trekking

DESTINATIONS

Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

Highlights

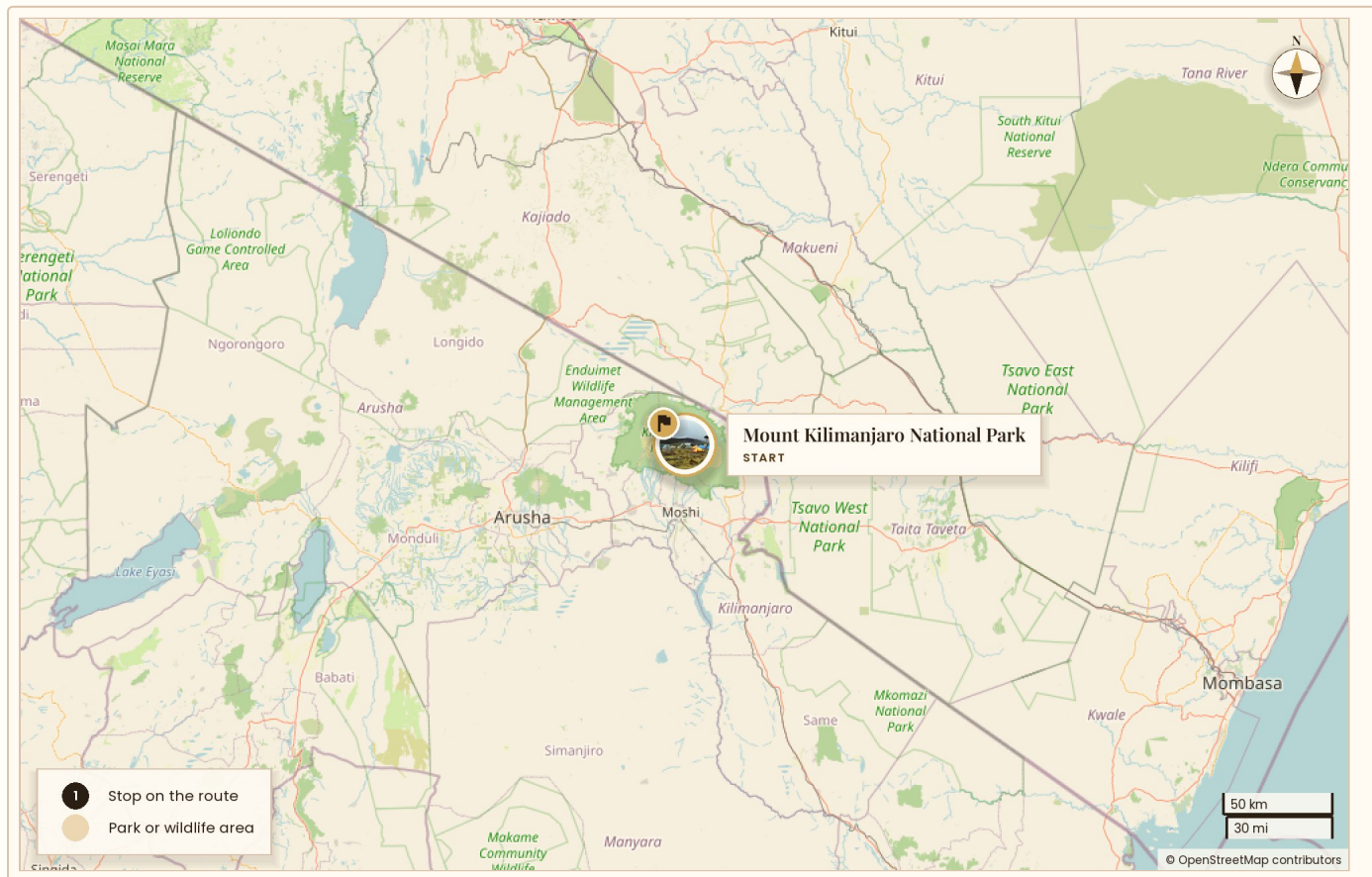
- The longest route, with the most time to acclimatise
- Views over Kenya's Amboseli plains
- Summit from School Hut by Gilman's Point
- Three days on the rarely visited northern slopes
- Shira Plateau crossing and lunch at Lava Tower
- A near-complete circuit of Kilimanjaro



TANZANIA

Your route

Where the journey takes you, from the first day to the last.



Mount Kilimanjaro National Park Days 1–9



Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

DAYS 1–9 · START

Overnight: Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps

9 DAYS

Day by day

Your journey through Tanzania, one day at a time.



DAY 01

Londorossi Gate to Mti Mkubwa Camp (2,650 m)

After your night in Moshi you drive to Londorossi Gate to register and continue to the Lemosho trailhead. A three-hour walk through rainforest brings you to Mti Mkubwa Camp.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 02

Mti Mkubwa to Shira 1 Camp (3,610 m)

Climb out of the forest through heather and over the Shira Ridge onto the plateau. Five to six hours.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 03

Shira 1 to Shira 2 Camp (3,850 m)

A gentle walk of three to four hours across the Shira Plateau, with time for a side trip to the Shira Cathedral viewpoint.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 04

Shira 2 to Lava Tower (4,600 m) and Moir Hut (4,200 m)

Walk up to Lava Tower for lunch and acclimatisation, then leave the main trail and head north to Moir Hut, a little-used camp at the foot of the Lent Hills. Six to seven hours.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 05

Moir Hut to Buffalo Camp (4,020 m)

A steep climb out of the Moir valley, with an optional detour to the top of the Lent Hills, then a traverse across the northern slopes with open views into Kenya. Five to seven hours.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 06

Buffalo Camp to Third Cave (3,870 m)

The path continues east over the Buffalo Ridge and through increasingly bare country to Third Cave. Five to six hours. By now most climbers feel well adapted.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 07

Third Cave to School Hut (4,750 m)

A steady climb of four to five hours onto the Saddle and up to School Hut. Rest and prepare for the summit.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 08

Summit: Uhuru Peak (5,895 m), descend to Mweka Camp (3,100 m)

Start around midnight, joining the path from Kibo Hut and climbing to Gilman's Point, then along the rim past Stella Point to Uhuru Peak. Descend by Barafu to Mweka Camp. Up to fifteen hours.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

OVERNIGHT Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps



DAY 09

Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate (1,640 m)

Three hours down through rainforest to the gate for certificates and the drive back to Moshi.

DESTINATION Mount Kilimanjaro National Park

AFRICAN QUEEN ADVENTURES

Where you stay

Lodges and camps chosen for their setting, comfort and service. (or similar, depending on availability)



Kilimanjaro Mountain Camps

DAY 1-8 · MOUNTAIN CAMP · MOUNTAIN STAY

Our crew sets up camp at the official park campsites along your route: sleeping tents with mattresses, a dining tent with table and chairs, and hot meals cooked on the mountain. Wa...

Sleeping tents and mattresses · Dining tent · Warm washing water

KILIMANJARO NORTHERN CIRCUIT: 9-DAY CLIMB

Inclusions & Exclusions

Included

- All KINAPA park fees
- KINAPA-licensed lead guide and assistants
- Porters and private camp chef
- Premium camping equipment (4-season tents, thick sleeping mats)
- All meals on the mountain
- Purified drinking water
- Daily pulse oximetry and health monitoring
- Summit certificate
- Airport transfers
- Pre-trek hotel night in Moshi

Not included

- International flights
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance (mandatory)
- Personal climbing gear
- Gratuities for mountain crew
- Personal snacks and extras



KILIMANJARO NORTHERN CIRCUIT: 9-DAY CLIMB

Make this journey yours

Every itinerary can be changed: dates, pace, lodges and the parks you visit. Tell us how you like to travel and we will shape this trip around you.

[PLAN MY SAFARI](#)

[VIEW THIS TRIP ONLINE](#)

TALK TO US

+255 789 883 040

WHATSAPP

+255 789 883 040

EMAIL

info@africanqueenadventures.com

Your Gateway to Extraordinary African Safaris

AFRICANQUEENADVENTURES.COM