

## 6 DAYS MACHAME ROUTE

### TOUR DETAILS:

- For those who only have six days to climb Kilimanjaro, the Machame route is the best choice because of its acclimatization profile.
- Compared to other six day routes, the Machame route exposes the climber to higher elevations quicker (day three) which kickstarts the body's adaptation to altitude.
- However, this route requires that a person be in good shape to be able to tackle the challenging elevation gains and losses.
- The six day Machame variation is a difficult route. In particular, day four combined with day five makes for a very hard schedule.



### Itinerary (Day by Day):

**Arrival:** Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport, you will be met and transferred for overnight accommodation. Your head guide will meet you for your briefing, gear check and arrange for you to hire any equipment you may need.





## Day 1: Machame Gate – Machame Camp

Departing from Arusha and our driver will take you through the Village of Machame to the Kilimanjaro National Park Gate. We will patiently wait for our permits to be issued while watching the hustle and bustle of operations as many crews prepare for the journey ahead. Enjoy the beautiful rainforest scenery and windy trails while your guide tells you about the local flora and fauna and natural wildlife. At these lower elevations, the trail can be muddy and quite slippery. We highly recommend gaiters and trekking poles here.

Elevation: 5,400ft to 9,400ft

Distance: 11 km

Hiking Time: 5-7 hours

Accommodation: Machame Camp

Meals Plan: Lunch, Dinner

Habitat: Rain forest



## Day 2: Machame Camp – Shira Cave

Once again the second day involves a steepish trek as we leave the forest behind and plow through the heath and moorland – Kilimanjaro's second vegetation zone. (There are four or so vegetation zones on the mountain, which is why some people say that the climb is going through four seasons in four days.) During today, and fairly early on, we will also catch our first glimpse of Kibo, Kilimanjaro's famed, snowy summit – and our ultimate destination. Mount Meru, Kilimanjaro's nearest neighbor, is also visible during today's trek





You will notice, too, that we will be setting a deliberately slow pace from today onwards, to help everyone acclimatize to the thinning air. Our final destination on this second day is the Shira Cave Campsite (aka New Shira Campsite), with views up the plateau towards Kibo as well as westwards towards Kili's little-known third summit, John sells Point. As with every campsite on the route, your tent will be erected and snacks will be served upon arrival, followed by the main meal later in the evening.

Elevation: 9,911ft to 12,595ft

Distance: 6 km

Hiking Time: 4-6 hours

Accommodation: Shira Cave Campsite

Meals Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Habitat: Moorland



### **Day 3: Shira Cave– Barranco Camp**

Your third day on the mountain can be split into two parts: a climb to Mawenzi Ridge, followed by a return to Horombo Hut. The reason for this is that it's in keeping with the 'climb high, sleep low' strategy which helps your body to acclimatize properly to the increased elevation. This part of the day's trek sees you climb from Horombo Hut up into the heath zone of Kilimanjaro. The turning point of the climb comes when you reach the horseshoe-shaped Mawenzi ridge. When you reach Mawenzi ridge you spend some time there taking in the breathtaking views before heading back down to Horombo Hut for another night. As already mentioned, climbing high and then sleeping low is an important acclimatization strategy.

Elevation: 12,595ft to 13,077ft

Distance: 11 km

Hiking Time: 6-8 hours

Accommodation: Barranco Campsite

Meals Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Habitat: Semi Desert



## Day 4: Barranco Camp – Barafu Camp Via Karanga Camp

After breakfast, we leave Barranco and continue on a steep ridge passing the Barranco Wall, to the Karanga Valley campsite. Then, we leave Karanga and hit the junction which connects with the Mweka Trail. We continue up to the Barafu Hut. At this point, you have completed the South Circuit, which offers views of the summit from many different angles. Here we make camp, rest, enjoy dinner, and prepare for the summit day. The two peaks of Mawenzi and Kibo are to be seen from this position.

Elevation: 13,000ft to 15,000ft

Distance: 9 km

Hiking Time: 8-10 hours

Accommodation: Barafu Camp

Meals Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Habitat: Alpine Desert



## Day 5: Barafu Camp– Uhuru Peak – Mweka Camp

Very early in the morning (midnight to 2 am), we continue our way to the summit between the Rebmann and Ratzel glaciers. You head in a northwesterly direction and ascend through heavy scree towards Stella Point on the crater rim. This is the most mentally and physically challenging portion of the trek. At Stella Point (18,600 ft), you will stop for a short rest and will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise you are ever likely to see (weather permitting). From Stella Point, you may encounter snow on your 1-hour ascent to the summit. At Uhuru Peak, you have





reached the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa. Faster hikers will see the sunrise from the summit.

From the summit, we now make our descent continuing straight down to the Mweka Hut camp site, stopping at Barafu for lunch. You will want gaiters and trekking poles for the loose gravel going down. Mweka Camp is situated in the upper forest and mist or rain can be expected in the late afternoon. Later in the evening, we enjoy our last dinner on the mountain and a well-earned sleep. After reaching the summit, you descend to Horombo Hut for the night. Having hiked for about 12 to 15 hours, you'll fall asleep immediately, trust us!

Elevation: 15,300ft to 19,345ft (and down to 10,000ft)

Distance: 5 km ascent / 12 km descent

Hiking Time: 7-8 hours ascent / 4-6 hours descent

Accommodation: Mweka Camp

Meals Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Habitat: Arctic



## Day 6: Mweka Camp – Mweka Gate

It's just a couple of hours further now from the campsite to Mweka Gate (1633m), where those who made it to the summit or Stella Point will collect their certificates. A car will be waiting to take you back to your hotel.

Elevation: 10,000ft to 5,400ft

Distance: 10 km

Hiking Time: 3-4 hours

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals Plan: Breakfast, Lunch

Habitat: Rain forest



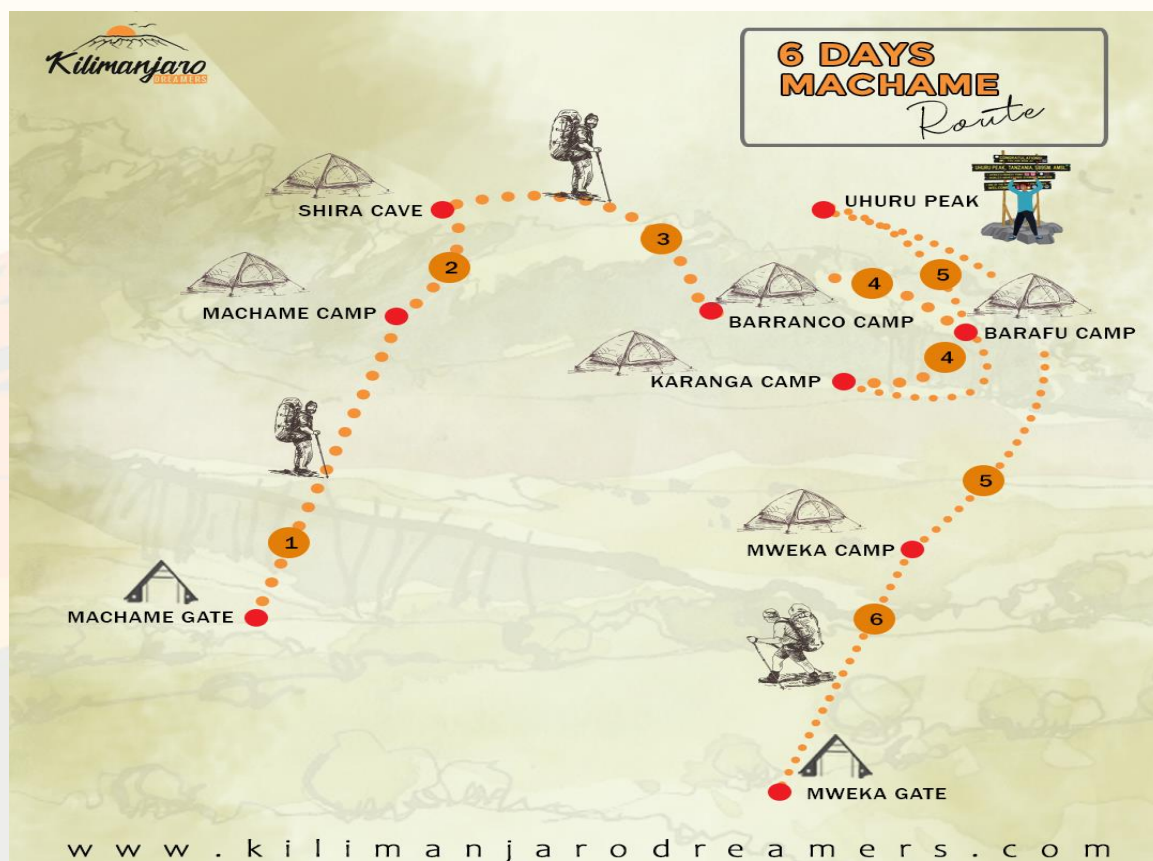
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**Departure:** After a much-needed night's rest we will bid you goodbye. If you have arranged airport transfers with us or a safari / Zanzibar trip, we will collect you from the hotel for your onward journey...

6 Days Machame Route + 2 Days In A Hotel	Price
1 Pax	USD2,925
2 Pax	USD2,239
3 Pax	USD2,100
4 Pax	USD1,867
5 Pax	USD1,856
6 Pax	USD1,744
7 Pax	USD1,720
8 Pax	USD1,710





## Included

- Pick-Up And Drop-Off From Airport
- Meet And Greet Service
- All Park Fees Collected By The Kilimanjaro National Park
- 2 Nights In The Hotel
- All Meals on The Hike
- Hiking and Safety Equipment
- Personal Gear Rentals Kilimanjaro Gear List | Kilimanjaro Dreamers
- Mountain Guide And Porters
- Transportation



## Excluded

- Airline Tickets
- Visa Fee
- Lunch And Dinner At The Hotel (Before And After The Ascent)
- Tips For The Mountain Crew (200–250 USD Per Person)
- Mountaineering Insurance
- Medical (Medications, Vaccines, Tests,...)