

# Mount Kilimanjaro Trek

## 23 June to 2 July 2011



Registration fee: £250  
Sponsorship Target: £3750

Kilimanjaro is one of Africa's most magnificent sights, and at 5895m it is her highest peak. It is the tallest freestanding volcano in the world .

We will be ascending by the Rongai route, which retains a sense of untouched wilderness lost on the crowded Marangu and Machame trails. It has a relatively gentle gradient and short daily stages as it winds its way from the starting point just south of the Kenya-Tanzania border. We pass through attractive farmland and delightful forest to several other climatic zones, adding considerable interest to the trek. There are magnificent views over the Amboseli Plains and genuine possibilities for wildlife viewing.

### Day 1 London – Nairobi

Depart London on overnight flight to Nairobi.

### Day 2 Nairobi – Marangu

Transfer flight to Mount Kilimanjaro Airport. Overland transfer to hotel in Marangu On arrival we will meet our guides, have our trek briefing and prepare for the challenge ahead.

### Day 3 Naremoru Gate 1950m - Simba Camp 2650m

Early start for a 3-4 hour drive to Rongai. Upon arrival we will meet our guides and porters, and complete the park formalities. Our ascent begins from Naremoru Gate (1950m), and we trek through farmers fields and the forest zone. It is a 3-4hour trek and 700m climb. There is a good chance to see the colourful Colobus monkeys on route; and if the weather is clear, we should get good late afternoon views across Tsavo in Kenya.

### Day 4 Simba Camp 2650m - Kikelewa Camp 3678m

We leave Simba Camp and climb mostly on a narrow path through the moorland. As we climb, the trees become sparser and later disappear; even the heather starts to shrink at higher altitudes. We trek up approx 3hrs to a lava tube where we break for lunch. After lunch a 3 hour traverse to Kikelewa Cave – a pretty campsite just over 3600m. Approx 6 hours trekking, 1000m climb.

### Day 5 Kikelewa Camp 3678m - Mawenzi Tarn 4295m

A steeper trek to Mawenzi tarn Hut at 4295m, 4-5 hours, 600m climb arriving for lunch. It's a pretty campsite, set in moraines in a glaciated valley with good views of the jagged peaks of Mawenzi above us. In the afternoon we will have a short acclimatisation walk to a higher altitude and then back down to camp.

### Day 6 Mawenzi Tarn 4295m - Kibo 4700m

Early start for a 5 hour trek to either School Hut or Kibo Huts (camping nearby). It's a slow 5 –6 hour trek across "the Saddle" – an alpine desert between the volcanic peaks of Mawenzi and Kibo. Upon arrival at 4700m, we will rest and prepare for the summit day.

### Day 7 Kibo 4700m – Gilman's Point 5680m – Uhuru Peak 5895m – Kibo 4700m – Horombo Camp 3700m

We get up shortly after midnight and climb for about 6 hrs to Gilman's point (5680m) on the rim of the volcanic crater for sunrise. If the day is clear there are spectacular views over the savannah plains with the possibility of seeing Mt Kenya some 360km away. We then continue around the crater rim for a further 2 hrs for the final push to Uhuru Peak (5895m) – Africa's highest point. We go down the way we came, to Gillman's then onto Kibo and then continue our descent on the Marangu route to Horombo Huts (3700m) This will take 4 1/2 to 7 hrs.

### Day 8 Horombo 3700m - Marangu Park Gates 1900m

Descend to Marangu Gates before transferring to Moshi for our gala dinner to celebrate our achievements.

### Day 9 Transfer to Mount Kilimanjaro Airport for an overnight flight back to the UK via Nairobi



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\* Costs are calculated on a sliding scale dependent on the number of people taking part.  
\* Airport taxes are not included in the cost, these are currently approx £200 per person.