THE SOUL OF TANZANIA
by UNLIMITED EXPEDITIONS

Machame Route

DURATION

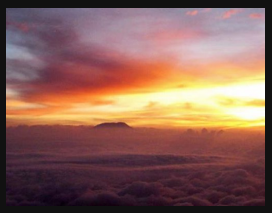
6 days / 5 nights

WHERE

Tanzania

www.souloftanzania.com

Summary



Machame Route

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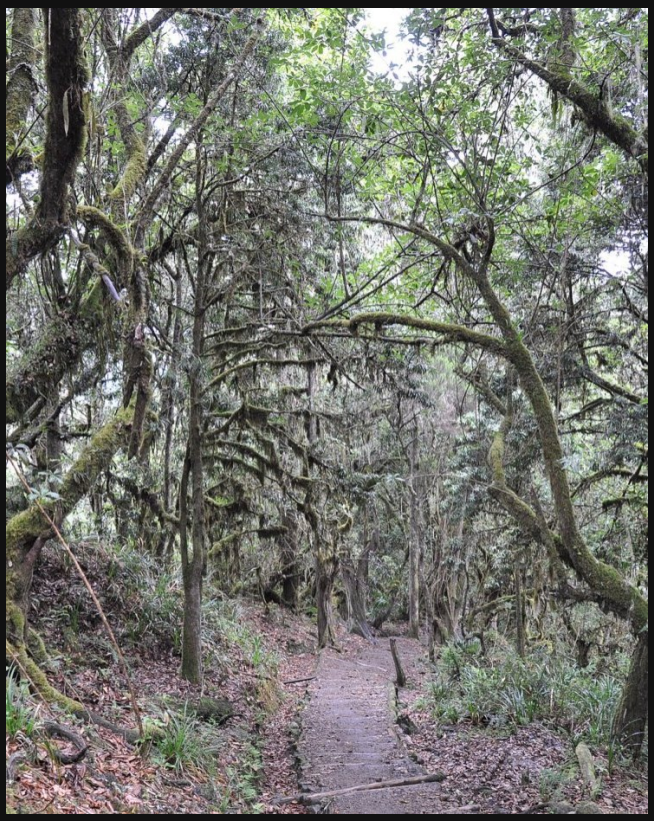
Day by Day

Days	Main Destination	Meal Plan
Day 1	Machame Gate	Full board on safari
Day 2	Machame Camp	Full board on safari
Day 3	Lava Tower	Full board on safari
Day 4	Barranco	Full board on safari
Day 5	Uhuru Peak	Full board on safari
Day 6	Millennium	Full board on safari

Accommodation is chosen together with you: every night on this itinerary can be a lodge, a tented camp or a hotel, at the level of comfort you prefer.

Trekking From Machame Gates to Machame Camp

A guide and a mountain support crew will arrive at the hotel in the morning in order to meet you and hold a quick briefing, after which you will travel by vehicle to Kilimanjaro National Park's entrance: Machame Gate (1,800 m). After the quick formality of acquiring climbing permits and registering with the search and rescue service, the group will start trekking up to Machame Camp (3,010 m). The trekking route includes passage through the rainforest (where tropical showers are highly probable), so we recommend you take not only spare clothes, but also your raincoats. This will be your first day at this altitude, so it is strongly recommended you heed the following instructions from this point on: - Abstain from consuming alcohol and caffeine - Drink over 4 liters of bottled water daily (little by little, frequently) - Take a Diamox pill to help alleviate symptoms of altitude sickness. Most mountain climbers take Diamox in the morning, before they start their ascent, in order to reduce discomfort associated with altitude sickness. We recommend you consult your doctor prior to the trip in case of potential allergies. At night you may experience discomfort associated with acclimatization to the high altitude: because of a reduction in your waking breathing pattern, your body gets less oxygen than during the day. Taking altitude into account, you may therefore start feeling sick and have a headache. Pay attention to your own body and tell your guide if you start feeling any symptoms of altitude sickness.



Machame Gate

Trekking From Machame Camp to Shira Camp

After breakfast you will start trekking up to the second high-altitude camp, Shira Camp (3,845 m). On this day you will emerge from the rainforest and for the first time be able to see stunning views of the Shira Plateau laid out in front of you. Physically speaking, the trekking is not very difficult, but you may feel the changes in altitude, so pay attention to your body and remember that choosing the proper pace is extremely important for good trekking. When you reach the camp, you will have lunch and some rest, after which the group will go on an acclimatization hike towards Lava Tower Camp with a 300-meter gain in altitude. Back down at Shira Camp you will be served a hot dinner.

The acclimatization hike is an easy trek with a slight gain in altitude done in order to speed up the acclimatization process. You should take the acclimatization hikes very seriously. They help increase your chances of successfully summiting Kilimanjaro and save you from the consequences of altitude sickness.

Machame Camp

Trekking From Shira Camp to the Lava Tower and Descent to Barranco Camp

After breakfast you will leave Shira Camp (3,845 m) and start your way to the key point of the route: Lava Tower (4,630 m). This section of the route has a lot of ascents and descents that end in a camp at over 4,600 meters. It might be difficult, and you may feel some discomfort, but in order to successfully acclimate to the altitude you have to spend at least 1-2 hours here, so this is where lunch will be. Then you will descend to Barranco Camp (3,960 m). Here you can see the famous Barranco Wall, impressive in both its massive size and steepness! Next day you will be climbing it, but don't worry: it features a very simple hiking trail.

If one or more participants feel sick, the group may refrain from passing the Lava Tower and adjust the route, following instead the road for porters. In this case you will not reach an altitude of 4,630 meters, getting up only to a maximum of 4,400 meters.

Lava Tower

Trekking From Barranco Camp to Barafu Camp

Early wakeup, breakfast and the start of summiting Barranco Wall (we recommend you leave the camp as early as possible to avoid crowds of the other groups). Hiking up the gorge wall is not difficult and only takes around an hour. After the climb you can have a rest and take photos in front of the Kibo volcano. Then you start a more difficult hike to Karanga Camp, which features numerous ascents and descents during the route, but don't worry: our guides are experts at choosing an optimal pace for the group. After reaching the camp you will be offered warm lunch. After a couple of hours you will have to complete ascend to Barafu Camp (4,640 m) where you will be served a hot dinner. It is better to spend the remainder of the day resting and sleeping before night summiting.

Barranco

Ascent to Uhuru Peak and Descent to Millennium Camp

Departure from Barafu Camp (4,640 m) at night and the start of summiting Kilimanjaro: Uhuru Peak (5,895 m). Technically the climb is relatively simple; however, the most challenging part is the high altitude. Each pair of climbers will get a personal guide for the entire ascent to monitor your physical and mental conditions. After your successful ascent to Uhuru Peak, you can descend to the nearest glacier if desired. Then you will return to Barafu Camp and after a 2-hour rest continue your descent to Millennium Camp (3,820 m).

Don't forget that 90% of all accidents occur during the descent, including all broken arms and legs. Please pay attention to your feet, as there is a high risk of damaging your toenails.

Uhuru Peak

Descent From Millennium Camp to Mweka Gate

The camp is situated in a tropical rainforest. When you wake up, you will feel relief from the reduction of the height and the satisfaction of reaching the summit. After a warm breakfast, you will head for the park's exit: Mweka Gate (1,650 m). After your descent the whole group will gather to congratulate you, followed by offering you a chance to share your opinions on the climb in the guestbook. Lastly, we will present you with your commemorative certificates in our office and provide you a transfer back to the hotel.

Millennium

What's included in your journey

INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE

- Transfers from and to Kilimanjaro International Airport
- All park entrance, rescue and camping fees
- Professional mountain guides, cooks and porters
- All meals on the mountain and drinking water
- Tents and sleeping mattresses
- Accommodation before and after the climb
- Oxygen and a pulse oximeter for daily health checks
- Certificate for a successful ascent

NOT INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE

- International flights
- Visa fees
- Meals outside the tour, unless stated otherwise
- Rental of personal gear
- Tips for the mountain crew (200–250 USD per person)
- Mountaineering insurance

Soul of Tanzania

Soul of Tanzania is shaped by decades of safari expertise and an unwavering commitment to flexibility, dedication and personal service.

A safari should not be a list of animals to tick off. There is beauty in the small details and there are rewards to collect when you are patient.

This will not be just a journey through East Africa, but an invitation to truly feel it.

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Contact us

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