



Kilimanjaro

Scheduled Expeditions

Expedition Notes

Dates in 2012:

Trip #1: January 8 - 20

Trip #2: January 22 – Feb 3

Trip #3: June 24 - July 6

Trip #4: July 8 - 20

Trip #5: August 26 - September 7

Trip #6: September 9 – 21

Private departures and 'full service' luxury trek options also available.

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The highest point in Africa, Kilimanjaro is a romantic destination and perhaps one of the best known mountains of the world. Immortalised by Ernest Hemingway in his book 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro', the peak to this day elicits emotions of travel and adventure. The Adventure Consultants expedition to Kilimanjaro captures some of that intrigue on this entrancing journey with a non-technical climb of this great peak with expansive views across Africa and of diverse flora and landscapes.



The climb of Kilimanjaro can be followed by a Safari through the wonders of the Serengeti, Rift valley and Ngorongoro crater, where the variety of wildlife will completely captivate you.

Being the highest point in Africa, the summit of Kili, as it's known, is at 5,895m or 19,340ft, one of the Seven Summits – the highest peak on each of earth's seven continents.

Kilimanjaro is like an island, surrounded by the hot and dry plains of Africa. It amazes all with its widely contrasting vegetation; from rain forest to moorlands to its towering cliffs and glaciers. Kilimanjaro is the highest free standing mountain in the world. It is a dormant volcano and lies 400km south of the Equator, just inside Tanzania's border with Kenya.

We climb the mountain by the picturesque Machame Route which traverses several of the scenic micro-environments found at the different elevations on the mountain.

The route and how the expedition will operate

Like most dormant volcanoes, the slopes on Kilimanjaro are mostly of reasonably low angle with occasional steeper sections, none of which are more famous than the Breach Wall - a towering cliff of snow and ice descending dramatically from the summit slopes.

Our route of ascent, via the Machame route, is incredibly varied in its topography and plant life. Each day we ascend through the various climatic zones, each with unique and different views and highlights. What is initially lush rainforest, thins to become alpine heather that allows views to the surrounding scenery and the upper mountain that is often bathed in a soft glow in the warm morning and evening light. Then we enter the alpine moorland with a cornucopia of weird and exotic plants. Nowhere is this more pronounced than on your arrival into Barranco camp, home to a large stand of Senecio Kilimanjari, a tree whose form appears to have been the brainchild of Dr Seuss! The upper mountain features varied volcanic terrain that in places has a tortured appearance, the result of heated lava explosions and resultant flows that have long since cooled. But it is the summit day that amazes most. Remnant glaciers are scattered around the summit crater looking like giant icebergs after the tide has gone. Close to the top of the mountain, the route takes you close to some of the summit glaciers that glisten in the morning light. Soft hues massage the sky as dawn highlights the layers in the stratosphere. It is a view to behold as you take those final steps to the summit – the goal barely tangible up to that point – yet finally achieved. The reality and significance of the moment is unique to each and every one of us and becomes a moment that is your own to hold on to forever.

The climb itself is little more than trekking on well-formed tracks and the camps are at sites established by the Tanzanian National Park Service. At each camp there are Rangers in residence, usually living in small huts, and hence each camp is named with 'hut' after the name of the camp.



Each day we climb for 4-6 hours between camps. Our final summit day begins in the early hours of the morning to reveal a magnificent sunrise and panoramic wonder from the summit. The climb to the summit is strenuous due to the altitude and is a long way, but it is appropriate for people who have a sense of adventure and want to see the warm glow of the dawn spread across the African plains!

Porters, cooks and local guides accompany the group allowing you to enjoy the experience and focus on the climb. Your Adventure Consultants guides will assist you with the climb be there to assist you during the climb.

No trip to Africa is complete without experiencing a Safari and as Tanzania has some of the most incredible animal populations on the continent, we highly recommend that after the climb you sit back and enjoy the Safari experience!

The Expedition Guides and Staff

The expedition guides on our Kilimanjaro ascents are local Tanzanian guides who originate from the regions surrounding the mountain. They are very experienced guides with multiple ascents of Kilimanjaro (ie 100+ times) and are specifically trained in guiding techniques. Each guide holds guiding certifications and wilderness medical qualifications. Our group of guides have all been personally selected due to their personal attributes as they are both courteous and caring whilst being good leaders.

Each expedition has a cook, a waiter, a camp manager and a group of porters to carry the loads required for your trip. The cook is trained in 'western style' cooking and hygienic techniques to ensure your health and wellbeing during your ascent. On top of that, the food we provide is excellent! The number of porters on your trip is dependent on the size of the group. Adventure Consultants is a supporting member of the Porter Protection Society, a group that oversees the welfare of porters around the world. This ensures the porters are well clothed, fed and accommodated during the expedition. There are some operators who will exploit their porters and deny them these necessities in order to offer cheaper pricing on their trips.

Itinerary: 9 day (climb) + 4 day (safari) programme.

Machame-Barafu Route

Day 1: Arrive Kilimanjaro International Airport in Tanzania. Transfer to Arusha and stay in Arusha Safari Lodge. Evening team meal.

Day 2: Relax, sort gear, recover from jet lag and explore Arusha.

Day 3: Drive to the Machame gate of the National Park. The trail begins from here, winding up through the lush tropical forests and out onto heather moorland. Overnight at Machame Camp. (3000m)

Day 4: Trek to Shira Plateau, walk through open moorlands. Overnight at Shira Cave Camp. (3840m)

Day 5: A long trek to Barranco Camp. This camp lies in a sheltered area below the spectacular cliffs of the Breach Wall. The Breach Wall, the dome of Uhuru and the edge of the Heim Glacier dominate the head of the valley. Overnight at Barranco Camp. (3900m)

Day 6: Trek to Karanga Camp via the Barranco wall. Huge glaciers and cliffs can be seen which mark this part of the mountain. Overnight Karanga Camp. (4200m)

Day 7: A short day takes us to Barafu Camp(4600m) which is the top camp and staging point for the summit bid later tonight.

Day 8: At midnight the climb begins up the steep scree slopes to reach Stella Point. From here we walk steadily up the ridge and around the crater to reach Uhuru Peak at 5895m. From the summit we descend to overnight at Mweka Hut (3000m).

Day 9: Covering the last section of the mountain, the trek continues down through the forests to the gate. Here we must leave behind our friendly local staff who have worked so hard to make our trip

enjoyable and successful. Together, they sing local songs describing the folk lore around their mystical mountain and spiritual homeland. Reluctantly we say our goodbyes and board our vehicles that transport us to the airport for departure. For those catching an evening flight it is the end of the journey, but for those staying on for a well-earned safari, your vehicle will take you to Arusha and the hotel where a shower and a real bed await! If you are not departing until the following day and are not continuing on the safari we can book you an extra night at the hotel and arrange an airport transfer to suit. If you have limited time, but are interested in seeing some of the wildlife, a half day safari in nearby Tarangire or Arusha National Parks is highly recommended.

4 Day Safari Itinerary

Day 10: Fly from Arusha to the Serengeti, Seronera Airport, arriving by late morning. Picnic lunch upon arrival then an afternoon game-drive in the Serengeti. The Serengeti is the largest of all the national parks in Tanzania, famous for both its migratory and resident animal population. Stay overnight at deluxe tented camp.

Day 11: Full day exploring the Serengeti. Stay overnight at deluxe tented camp, discuss with your guide as to doing an optional night game drive.

Day 12: Drive to Ngorongoro, game drive en route - picnic lunch and visit Olduvai Museum (archaeological site "cradle of mankind"). Afternoon game drive on the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater, maximum 6 hours allowed on the crater floor. This 100 square mile natural amphitheatre is host to an astonishing array of wildlife and you may see everything from elephant and lion, and if you're lucky, the near-extinct black rhino, all amongst large herds of zebra and wildebeest. Stay overnight at *Ngorongoro Farmhouse*.



Day 13: A dawn start to descend into the Ngorongoro Crater for a game drive crater tour. A picnic lunch will be taken in the crater before returning to Arusha in the afternoon and transfer to Kilimanjaro Airport for an evening departure flight. If departing the following day we can book you an extra night(s) at the hotel and an airport transfer to suit.

The Expedition Fee

The cost of the Kilimanjaro Expedition is **US\$3,900** per person ex Arusha, Tanzania. Optional (but highly recommended!) 4-Day Safari; **US\$1,550 each**, total **US\$5,450**.

The expedition fee *includes*:

- Adventure Consultants Tanzanian qualified mountain guide and local staff
- All expedition organisational requirements

- Comprehensive reference notes - information package to aid trip planning and equipment
- Hotel in Arusha within expedition dates, based on shared rooms (single room supplement available for extra fee) including dinner and breakfast (day 1,2 on climb and day 9 if on safari).
- All lodging and food while on the trek / climb (also on optional Safari)
- Group climbing equipment, all meals and snacks, tents and fuel in Kilimanjaro region
- Transport to and from the National Park
- Porters, drivers, park fees and climbing permits

The expedition fee *does not include*;

- Personal clothing and equipment
- Entry Visa for Tanzanian and/or Kenya
- Airport transfers – typically US\$50 for a taxi to US\$120 for a Landcruiser vehicle which can be shared between team members arriving/departing at similar times
- Lunches in Arusha
- Travel insurance including trip cancellation and medical evacuation or any rescue costs
- Any costs associated with early departure from the expedition
- International round trip travel costs into and out of Tanzania and/or Kenya (recommend travel via KLM Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro Airport for arrival/departure in evenings)
- Extra Hotel nights if departing day after trip finishes rather than evening of same day (ie. evening of day 9 on climb or evening of day 13 if doing safari)
- Spending on personal items such as gifts etc
- International travel vaccinations
- Excess baggage charges and airport taxes
- Bottled beverages
- Tips and Gratuity (members to contribute \$150 to \$350 each to tip pool for local staff, we will advise you of amounts depending on final group size)

Contact us for the cost of a **Private Kilimanjaro Expedition** with dates to suit you - suitable for individuals or for groups. The price of US\$5,450 each including the safari, applies for groups of four people.

We are specialists in providing **Luxury trek options** on Kilimanjaro and safaris. Our Luxury trek option is led by experienced western mountain guides who have considerable Himalayan experience including ascents to the summit of Mount Everest. Our services include a variety of options for 5 star lodging in Arusha and on safari. You can elect to include large 'stand up' sleeping tents on the mountain with comfortable camp beds, heated dining tent, bottled mineral water, showers and additional guide staff for your group. While this is too much for seasoned mountaineers we have found that those who are new to the mountains enjoy the additional creature comforts.

Visas

All foreigners from non-Commonwealth countries are required to have a valid visa unless their countries have agreements with Tanzania, under which the visa requirement is waived. Check for updates before travelling. Visas can be obtained on arrival for most nationalities. The cost is US\$100 for Americans and US\$55 for others.

Equipment List

Adventure Consultants will supply all group gear (e.g. tents, tables and chairs, stoves, utensils etc) whilst expedition members are to provide their own personal clothing, day pack, duffel bag, footwear and sleeping bag. An equipment list will be provided to expedition members upon confirmation of your participation.

Safety Communications and Insurance

To safeguard members of the expedition we will be carrying a satellite telephone. We require expedition members to carry additional insurance for evacuation and repatriation as well as normal travel medical expenses. Contact us for expedition insurance advice.

Deposit

A non-refundable deposit of US\$500 is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

Balance

The balance of **US\$3,400** (or **US\$4,950** if doing the safari) is payable 90 days prior to the expedition start date.

Payments

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

Bank of New Zealand
Offshore Branch
1 Willis Street, Wellington
New Zealand

for the account of **Adventure Consultants Limited**
Account # **1000-594771-0000**
Account Type: **US Dollars**

We can accept your **deposit payment** and **balance payment** by credit card – Visa, Mastercard or Amex.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

Once you have paid your deposit your trip is confirmed, subject to payment of the balance of fees owing 90 days prior to your trip commencement date. An expedition trek member may then cancel his/her participation on the following basis:

- Cancellations outside of 90 days will result in the loss of the trip deposit.
 - For cancellations made within 89 - 60 days of the trip commencement date we reserve the right to retain 50% of the full fee.
 - For cancellations within 59 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.
 - We strongly recommend you take out trip cancellation insurance via your travel agent.
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Team Membership

The team will have a **minimum size of 4 members and 1 qualified Tanzanian guide with local assistant guides** and a **maximum size of 12 members**.

Note: If there are just two or three of you please enquire for pricing. We can arrange departures on dates to suit groups of all sizes.

Food

The food on our Kilimanjaro climbs is exceptionally good - we place emphasis on providing nutritious meals and a good supply of snack food throughout the trip. Please inform us if you have any special dietary requirements.

Medical Questionnaire

Expedition members will be provided with a medical questionnaire and may also be asked to visit their family physician to receive a full medical examination. This information will be sighted only by Adventure Consultants' doctor and treated with full confidentiality. Advice on immunisations will be provided at this time.

Documentation and photographs

Expedition trek members will need to provide a copy of their passport bio-data page. Passport photos are not required.

How to join this expedition

If you would like to join the expedition please contact us for an **expedition application form** or use our online booking form <http://www.adventureconsultants.com/adventure/BookingForm/> .

If you require more information please contact us at;

Adventure Consultants Ltd
PO Box 739
58 McDougall St
Lake Wanaka 9343
New Zealand

Email: info@adventure.co.nz
Web: www.adventureconsultants.com
Phone: + 64 3 443 8711
Fax: + 64 3 443 8733



Adventure Consultants – is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and is a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

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