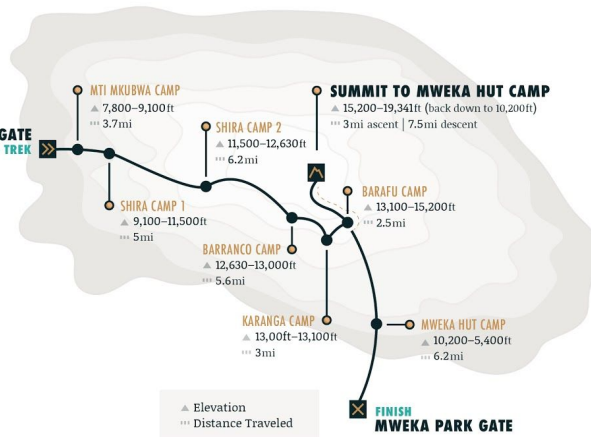
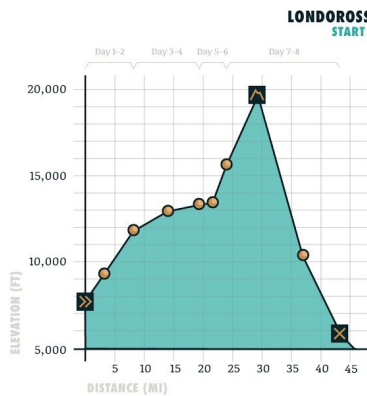


*8-Day Lemosho Route*

**KILIMANJARO**



*Kilimanjaro 8-day Lemosho Route*

**TRIP ITINERARY**

With fewer than 10 percent of climbers on this trail and the potential to see a variety of wildlife through dense jungle, Lemosho is our favorite way to enter the mountain. At 72 km (almost 45 miles), the longer route allows for more thorough acclimatization and a higher success rate to the summit. The trail passes through five ecosystems, from dense forest and heather up through alpine desert and the glorious summit.

Explore the many variations in landscape and climate on the way up the mountain and spend time capturing breath-taking photos of your surroundings as you move from jungle, to high desert, to snowy terrain on one of the more exciting routes on the mountain, but still manageable by the average adventurer.





## Schedule

### DAY 1

#### *Arrive Moshi*

Welcome to Moshi- the more quaint, laid-back of the small towns sitting at the base of the famed Mount Kilimanjaro! Upon arrival in Kilimanjaro International airport you will be met by our Embark representatives, who will provide transportation to your hotel. No activities are planned for the day. You are free to explore picturesque downtown Moshi.

### DAY 2

#### *Free in Moshi. Overnight in hotel*

Morning pre-trip discussion, introduction with trekking guide and gear/bag check. In the afternoon you are free to explore some more or do last-minute shopping for the trek.

### DAY 3

#### *Londorossi Gate to Mti Mkubwa*

**Elevation (ft)** 7,800ft to 9,500ft

**Distance** 4mi

**Hiking Time** 3-4 hours

**Habitat** Rain Forest

Depart Moshi for Londorossi Gate, which takes about 4 hours, where you will complete entry formalities. With flora and fauna heavier and richer here than on any other route through the thick rainforest, the Lemosho Route cuts through underbrush that is so untouched it at times grows right across the narrow trail. After three to four hours, we'll reach our camp, Mti Mkubwa, which means "Big Tree" in Kiswahili.



## DAY 4

### *Mti Mkubwa to Shira Camp 1*

**Elevation (ft)** 9,000ft to 11,500ft

**Distance** 5mi

**Hiking Time** 5-6 hours

**Habitat** Moorland

We continue on the trail leading out of the forest and into a savannah of tall grasses, heather, and volcanic rock draped with lichen beards. As we ascend through the lush rolling hills and cross several streams, we reach the Shira Ridge before dropping gently down to Shira 1 camp. The view of Kibo from across the plateau is amazing.

## DAY 5

### *Shira Camp 1 to Shira Camp 2*

**Elevation (ft)** 11,500ft to 12,630 ft

**Distance** 6mi

**Hiking Time** 4-5 hours

**Habitat** Moorland

After breakfast we head east across the Shira Plateau and past the Shira Cathedral to Shira Camp. Shira is one of the highest plateaus on earth. It is about a four-hour hike to camp. On the way we pass the first of many Giant Senecios, some of Kilimanjaro's otherworldly massive plants.

## DAY 6

### *Shira Camp Two to Barranco Camp*

**Elevation (ft)** 12,630ft to 13,000ft

**Distance** 9mi

**Hiking Time** 6-8 hours

**Habitat** Semi Desert

From the Shira Plateau, we continue to the east up a ridge, passing the junction towards the peak of Kibo. As we continue, our direction changes to the South East towards the Lava Tower, called the

"Shark's Tooth." Shortly after the tower, we come to the second junction, which brings us up to the Arrow Glacier at an altitude of 16,000ft. We now continue down to the Barranco Hut at an altitude of 13,000ft. Here we rest, enjoy dinner, and overnight. Although you end the day at almost the same elevation as when you started, this day is very important for acclimatization and will help your body prepare for summit day.

## DAY 7

### *Barranco Camp to Karanga Camp*

**Elevation (ft)** 13,000ft to 13,100ft

**Distance** 2mi

**Hiking Time** 4-5 hours

**Habitat** Alpine Desert

After breakfast, we leave Barranco and continue on a steep ridge passing the Barranco Wall, to the Karanga Valley campsite. This is a short day meant for Acclimatization.

## DAY 8

### *Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp*

**Elevation (ft)** 13,100ft to 15,300ft

**Distance** 3mi

**Hiking Time** 4-5 hours

**Habitat** Alpine Desert

After breakfast, 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.





## DAY 9

*Barafu Camp to Summit to Mweka Hut*

**Elevation (ft)** 15,300ft to 19,341ft (and down to 10,000ft)

**Distance** 3mi ascent / 7mi descent

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

**Habitat** Arctic

Very early in the morning (midnight to 2am), 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 all the way 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.

## DAY 10

*Mweka Camp to Gate*

**Elevation (ft)** 10,000ft to 5,400ft

**Distance** 6mi

**Hiking Time** 3-4 hours

**Habitat** Rain Forest

After breakfast, we continue the descent down to the Mweka Park Gate to receive your summit certificates. At lower elevations, it can be wet and muddy. Gaiters and trekking poles will help. Shorts and t-shirts will probably be plenty to wear (keep rain gear and warmer clothing handy).

## DAY 11

Departure for airport for international flight home or add-on safari (if participating in a safari; please make sure to book your international flight home in the evening).

