



**Book any dates in 2017 - Mount Kilimanjaro - Welcome to the Top of Africa!**



**10 night itinerary using the Lemosho Route with 8 days & 7 nights on Kilimanjaro**

**Day 1** - Welcome to Tanzania, East Africa! After clearing customs and collecting your luggage proceed to the exit where your driver will be anxiously waiting for you with a welcome sign with your last name on it. You will be transferred to the [Mount Meru](#) Hotel in Arusha which is around a 60-70 minute drive depending on traffic.

Lodging: [Mount Meru Hotel](#)

Meals: At Leisure

Day 2 - Today you will sleep in, enjoy a wonderful buffet breakfast at the hotel. We will take a day trip over to Arusha National Park where we will see some wildlife, have a picnic lunch and do a short hike to slowly start acclimating to the altitude. We will have a welcome dinner this evening and a pre climb meeting so everyone is ready to go in the morning. The guides will assess your hike today to better consult the ideal starting point for your climb. This is done to best prepare you and your group to have the best chance to reach the summit.

Lodging: [Mount Meru Hotel](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 3 - This morning we will wake up with a renewed sense about where we are and where we are going as our bodies will have adjusted to our time change and new climate. We will depart Arusha Mount Meru Hotel after breakfast then drive to Londorossi Gate, which takes about 4 hours, where you will complete entry formalities. For anyone that has extra clothing, bags etc... we will be able to leave them behind at my Arusha office and pick them back up after the Climb. Then drive to the Lemosho trailhead (another hour to reach the trailhead). Upon arrival at trailhead, we eat lunch, then commence through undisturbed forest which winds to the first camp site. Our accommodations we will mobile tents specifically used on the mountain. Our movement will be outlined each day as such so you know exactly what to expect as far as the hours, distance and altitude change.

- Londorossi Gate to Forest Camp
- Elevation (ft): 7,800ft to 9,500ft
- Distance: 6 km
- Hiking Time:3-4 hours
- Habitat: Rain Forest

Day 4 - This morning we will have a hot breakfast prepared by our chef before hitting the trail. 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.



- Forest Camp to Shira Camp 1
- Elevation (ft): 9,500ft to 11,500ft
  - Distance: 8 km
  - Hiking Time 5-6 hours
  - Habitat: Moorland

Day 5 - After breakfast we will begin the day with a gentle walk east toward Kibo's glaciated peak, across the plateau which leads to Shira 2 camp on moorland meadows by a stream. Then we continue to Moir Hut, a little used site on the base of Lent Hills. A variety of walks are available on Lent Hills making this an excellent acclimatization opportunity. Shira is one of the highest plateaus on earth and we will discover quite a bit of it on today's trek.

- Shira Camp 1 to Shira 2 to Moir Hut
- Elevation (ft): 11,500ft to 13,800 ft
  - Distance: 14 km
  - Hiking Time: 5-7 hours
  - Habitat: Moorland

Day 6 - After breakfast we will slowly ascend from the Shira Plateau and 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 the same elevation as when you started, this day is very important for acclimatization and will help your body prepare for summit day.*

- Moir Hut to Lava Tower to Barranco Camp
- Elevation (ft): 13,800ft to 13,000ft
  - Distance: 7 km
  - Hiking Time: 4-6 hours
  - Habitat: Semi Desert

Day 7 - After breakfast, we leave Barranco Camp and continue on a





steep ridge passing the Barranco Wall, to the Karanga Valley campsite. This is a short day meant for acclimatization.

- Barranco Camp to Karanga Camp
- Elevation (ft): 13,000ft to 13,100ft
  - Distance: 5km
- Hiking Time: 4-5 hours
- Habitat: Alpine Desert

Day 8 - 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.

- Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp
- Elevation (ft): 13,100ft to 14890ft
  - Distance: 4 km
- Hiking Time: 4-5 hours
- Habitat: Alpine Desert





Day 9 - Your final ascent will commence between 11:00PM to 1:00AM and this will be set by your lead guide. You will need to be fully layered up with your warmest clothing as the early morning temps can dip well below zero not to mention any winds that are quite common at these altitudes. You continue your 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. You are free to stop when needed and walking at a snails pace or as we say "Pole Pole" will ensure your summit success. It is not a race by any means and the ultimate goal is to reach Uhuru Peak.

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. We take a celebratory photo of us all and enjoy the moment before heading down. 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.

- Barafu Camp to Summit to Mweka Hut
- Elevation (ft): 14,800ft to 19,341ft (and down to 10,000ft)
- Distance: 3.5 km ascent / 12 km descent
- Hiking Time: 7-8 hours ascent / 4-6 hours descent (average times)
- Habitat: Arctic

Day 10 - 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). Your transfer will be waiting for you to drive you back to Arusha Mount Meru Hotel for overnight.

- Mweka Camp to Arusha Mount Meru Hotel
- Elevation (ft): 10,000ft to 5,400ft
- Distance: 10 km
- Hiking Time: 3-4 hours
- Habitat: Rain Forest

<b>10 Night Package Cost</b>
\$3789.00 per person

*Package Includes all of the following:*

- 3 Nights hotel at Mount Meru, 7 nights camping on the Mountain.
- ALL meals for all nights on Mountain and B&B for the pre and post nights.
- Spring fed all natural boiled water during the climb.
- Fully trained and professional hiking crew for just your group with porters, chef/ cooking staff and lead guides of more than 30-40+ total crewman. This varies based on group size.
- Mattress pad and mountain tent (your responsible to bring a sleeping bag or we can rent you one)
- All Park and Mountain fees.
- All transfers for airport to hotel, hotel to Mountain, Mountain to Hotel, Hotel to Airport
- Day trip to Arusha National Park for acclimation hike, lunch and safari.
- Welcome Dinner and Pre Hike Q&A at my partners personal home with your lead guide(s).
- Professional consulting services provided by Gerling Safaris.
- Click link to explore our affiliate company for gear list, safety measures, preparation list and acclimation facts [Kilimanjaro Climb](#) (This will serve as your actual packing list check list.)

*What is NOT included:*

- International Airfare to Tanzania (Gerling Safaris can assist)
- Travel Insurance (Gerling Safaris can assist) Will give you price once everything is finalized and we have total cost.
- Tanzania Visa (\$100 can be attained upon arrival)
- Tips for your guide and camping staff (I will give you a suggested amount for each.)

*Vaccines Required:*

- Yellow Fever for anyone flying through any African Country prior to arriving into Tanzania. If your flying through Europe then directly to Tanzania you DO NOT NEED the Vaccine. Malaria pills are highly recommended.



Payments need to be made by check payable to Gerling Travel. If you want to pay by credit card there will be a 3% surcharge.

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As the owner of Gerling Safaris I can say I have climbed and summited Kilimanjaro which was a great feat for me as I am not a hiker by trade but a lover of all things Africa. I can offer you a personal experience which is KEY for a climb of this magnitude I feel. There are several things I learned that will be great advice for a future climber. I can also say that our guides and crew are the best out there hands down. I will put my crew up against ANY mountain crew on Kilimanjaro when it comes to safety, experience, knowledge, skill, meal preparations, respect and a passion for what they do. I will personally speak to each and every client that wants to climb Kili and do everything I can to assist and consult you.

For anyone interested in staying after the Climb and doing a Safari and/or extension to Zanzibar Island please let me know and we will provide options for you. Our goal is to offer a 4 night safari and/or a 3 night Zanzibar Beach experience. I will see how many climbers want to do what so we can get the best pricing available.