

# KILIMANJARO

ADULT CLIMB + SAFARI

AUGUST 10-23, 2023







“Because everyone  
needs a little  
adventure”



## TRIP OF A LIFETIME

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The “Roof of Africa,” the highest free-standing mountain in the world, and one of the iconic “7 Summits.” Kilimanjaro has been luring climbers, explorers, photographers, and writers since the mid 1800’s. Hemingway pondered and scribed from its shadow on the plains below and has since enticed many into the mystery and magic of East Africa. For years, Moondance has led successful summits to Uhuru Peak along the Machame route but this time, we’re going in style. This August, join Hayes Hitchens and Moondance Adventures for a seven-day climb up Kilimanjaro’s varied and vibrant slopes via the Machame route. You’ll ascend through multiple ecosystems, acclimate in comfortable mountaineering tents at night, and celebrate new (and old) friendships as you make your way to 19,340’ with skilled mountain guides to help ensure your summit success.



## THE REWARD

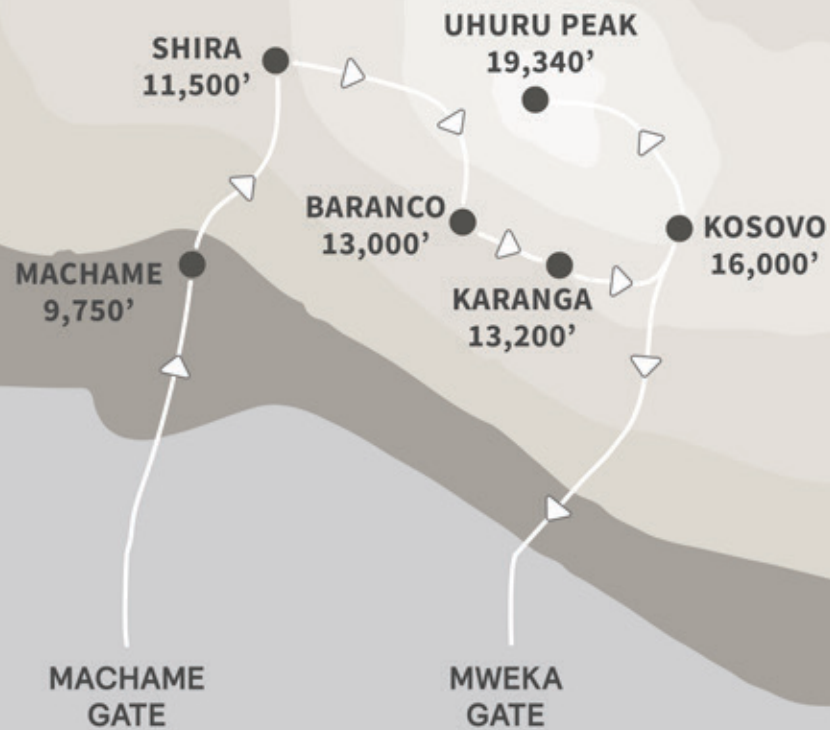
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After standing atop the highest point in Africa, descend to the grassy plains for a world-class wildlife safari in the Serengeti. With private guides, set off on early morning game drives tracking the big five. You'll kick up your feet and enjoy classic sundowners, peering across the African plains for herds of Buffalo and prides of Lion. We've crafted this trip to ensure the right balance of challenge and comfort. You'll be away from the crowds and in the company of experts who will show you the Tanzanian road less traveled.

After years of designing trips for young folks, we have fine-tuned one of our finest offerings, and opened this limited opportunity to share the magic of East Africa.

We hope you'll join us.





## HIGHLIGHTS

- At 19,340', Kilimanjaro is the world's tallest free-standing mountain
  - Carefully planned route allowing you time to acclimatize
    - Hike through 5 different climate zones
- Climb with experienced guides with multiple ascents of Kilimanjaro
  - Support team of porters that carry all of your personal gear
- VIP accommodations – spacious tents with cots and down sleeping bags provided
  - Following climb, embark on a wildlife safari in the Serengeti
    - Private luxury accommodations during safari



## DAY 1-2

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Welcome to Arusha! You will be met by your guides and transferred to your hotel for the next two nights. Get settled in as we begin to prepare for our journey together. On day 2 you will be briefed by your guides and begin preparing for the climb.

## DAY 3

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Today we will drive through vast coffee and banana farms to Kilimanjaro National Park's Machame Gate (5,905 ft.). Here we will begin our climb through lush rainforest on our way to Machame Camp (9,842 ft.) where Uhuru Peak is known to break through the clouds and show its face to climbers for the first time.

Distance: 7 miles

Elevation change: +3,937 ft. (net)

Walking time: 5-6 hours

## DAY 4

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Today begins by ascending a steep ridge up and out of the clouds into the giant heather climate zone. We will stop for lunch at the aptly named Picnic Rock then continue to the edge of the Shira Plateau to watch the sun set over the jagged spires that encircle the plateau. The sunrises and sunsets at Shira Camp (12,467 ft.) are second to none.

Distance: 3 miles

Elevation change: +3,625 ft. (net)

Walking time: 4-5 hours







## DAY 5

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We will sip coffee and tea as the sun rises before hitting the trail to Barranco Camp (12,795 ft.). Today's gentle ascent into the moorland climate zone allows for trekkers to take in sweeping panoramas every step of the way. We will stop for lunch at Lava Tower (15,091 ft.) and dine among giant phonotephrite columns. After lunch we will descend to Barranco Camp nestled below the famed Arrow Glacier.

Distance: 6.2 miles

Elevation change: +2,624 ft. (net: +328 ft.)

Walking time: 6-7 hours

## DAY 6

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Today we will take on the most exciting obstacle yet: the Barranco Wall. Upon first glance the wall looks impassable, but there is a path cleverly carved into the rock that makes the ~1,000 ft. scramble "a piece of watermelon". We will have brunch atop the wall then continue on through groves of giant lobelia trees to Karanga Camp (13,123 ft.). At Karanga we will take a short acclimatization hike to a nearby overlook for afternoon tea, then settle in for the night.

Distance: 3 miles

Elevation change: +328 ft. (net)

Walking time: 4-5 hours



## DAY 7

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Today we will reach our summit-bid base camp: Kosovo Camp (16,006 ft.). On our way up to Kosovo, we will enter the final and highest climate zone: the high alpine desert (also known as moonscape). Many climbers on Kili use Barafu Camp (15,091 ft.) as base camp, but staying at Kosovo reduces ascent time on summit day and increases the likelihood of a successful summit. Upon reaching Kosovo we will get our first views of Kilimanjaro's twin peak: Mawenzi (16,893 ft.).

Distance: 5 miles

Walking time: 4-5 hours

Elevation change: +2,883 ft. (net)

## DAY 8

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Today is the day. We will rise before the sun and set our sights on the crater rim of the highest free-standing mountain in the world. We will ascend a steep compacted scree field assisted by headlamps and traditional Tanzanian climbing songs being belted by guides and visiting climbers alike. We will time our ascent so we can watch the sun rise at Stella Point (18,815 ft.) before continuing along the crater rim to Uhuru Peak (19,341 ft.). We will bask in our accomplishment (and take plenty of photos) before descending to Mweka Camp (9,842 ft.) to stay for the night.

Distance: 3 miles ascending, 7 miles descending

Walking time: 6-7 hours ascending, 6-7 hours descending

Elevation change: +3,335 ft. ascent, -9,499 ft. descent (net: -6,164 ft.)





## DAY 9

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Today is our final day on the mountain. The last day will be a leisurely descent through verdant rainforest to Mweka Gate (5,380 ft.), where we will log our climb with the Tanzanian National Park Service and bid adieu to our support team of guides and porters. We will have plenty of time to look back at Kilimanjaro and marvel at our accomplishment on the drive back to Arusha.

Distance: 6 miles

Walking time: 4 hours

Elevation change: -4,462 ft. (net)

## DAY 10-12

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After a good night's sleep, we will hop on a flight from Arusha into the Serengeti. You will spend the next three days celebrating your accomplishments while searching for the Big Five (Lion, Cape Buffalo, Leopard, Rhinoceros, African Elephant). Wake up each day with panoramic views of the plains and embark on two daily safaris.

## DAY 13

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Today you are transferred to the nearest airstrip to catch a scheduled charter flight to Kilimanjaro International Airport to begin your journey home.







## FOOD

On the mountain 3 full meals will be prepared for you every day, as well as afternoon tea and snacks before dinner. Being nourished on the mountain is of the utmost importance and our support team spares no effort or expense to ensure that you are well fed.

Our cook crew will prepare fresh vegetables, fruit, grains, proteins, dairy products, and dairy alternatives to properly fuel your body and mind as you make your way up (and down) the mountain. We will make sure your plate stays piled high with food you will love – so bring your appetite!



## ACCOMMODATIONS

We will be staying in a variety of accommodations throughout our time together. While on the trek up Kilimanjaro we stay in tents that are fully outfitted with a cot and set up each day for you by our team of porters along with a dining tent, etc.

Then, explore the Serengeti National Park and take in the sights, smells, and dust trails of the “Big Five”. We will explore the Serengeti venturing through this wild stretch of Africa now by vehicle. Here you will have a private bedroom and washroom to relax after exciting days seeking out the Big Five.







## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Our gateway city will be **Arusha, Tanzania**. You should plan to depart the US on August 10th, 2023 and arrive in Arusha on August 11th, 2023. You can make travel arrangements through our partnered travel agency, or book on your own. Once you have registered you will receive more detailed flight information.

**Arrive in Arusha (Mt. Kilimanjaro- JRO): August 11th**

**Depart from Arusha (Mt. Kilimanjaro- JRO): August 22nd**

\*Tanzanian Visas are issued on arrival and facilitated by our local representative.

## HEALTH INFORMATION

Moondance cannot require or recommend any specific vaccinations or immunizations, however, you can refer to the CDC and your doctor for the most up to date information about the areas we will be traveling in. Upon registration we will provide you with more detailed information.

## WEATHER

You will experience a wide variety of climates while in Africa, you should expect highs in the 70s and lows in the 30s. We will provide you a Clothing + Equipment List that will cover any anticipated weather conditions you may experience. While on safari you should expect warm temperatures, and on the mountain it can dip below freezing, especially at night.



# INCLUSIONS

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### KILIMANJARO CLIMB

- All park concession + conservation fees
- Experienced Tanzanian guides, drivers, porters, and camp staff
- Three nights at the Gran Melia Lodge near Arusha - after the climb, before the safari.
- Experienced local mountain guides
- All group gear (Tents, cooking equipment, 8,000 meter down parkas),
- Lodging and accommodations throughout
- All meals and drinks (*alcoholic drinks excluded*)
- All scheduled group transportation

### SAFARI

- All concessions + conservation park fees
- Experienced Tanzanian guide, rangers, chef, and staff
- Luxury accommodations at the Four Seasons Serengeti Lodge
- Multiple daily game drives with private ranger & safari vehicle
- All meals and drinks, including alcoholic beverages  
*\*select wines from a reserve list excluded*
- Scheduled charter flight to and from the Serengeti

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare to and from Tanzania
- Airport departure taxes
- Visa Fees
- Immunizations
- Baggage Fees
- Gratuity to African porters + Safari Staff (approx \$400/ person)
- Personal clothing + equipment
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Pre- and post-trip arrangements if arriving or departing outside of scheduled itinerary
- Laundry, spa services, or beverages from reserve list
- Items of personal nature







# TRIP DETAILS

**Dates**

August 10-23, 2023

**Deposit**

\$1,000 investment due at time of registration

\$10,700 per person

[Register Here](#)