



# Kilimanjaro Climb for SHE

July 1 - 11, 2017

Rongai Crater Route • 8 Days Climbing

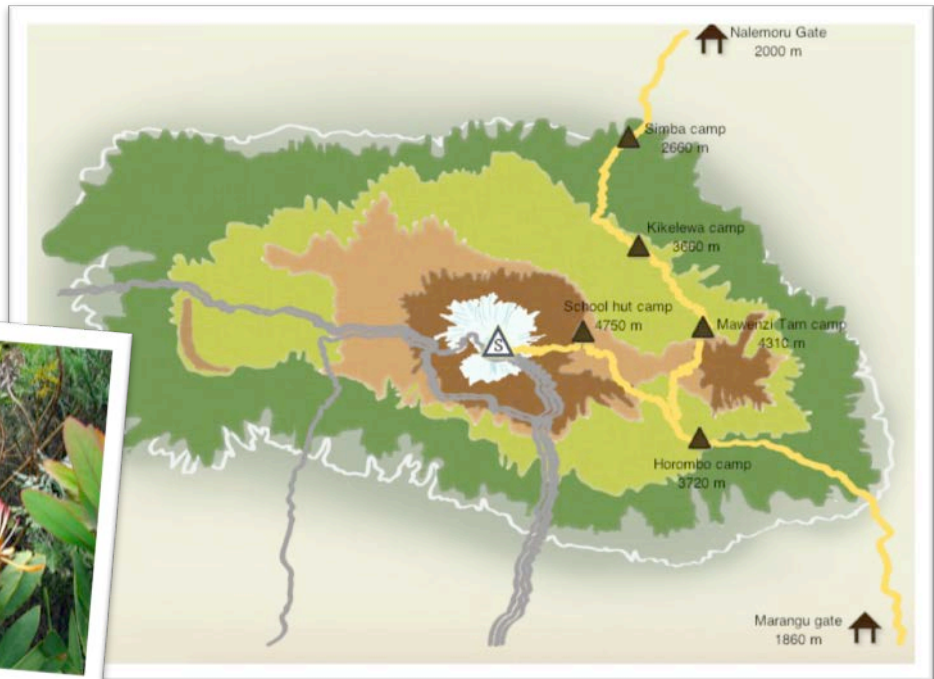


## Summary

Starting from the drier north side of Kilimanjaro at the village of Nalemoru near the Kenya border, this less traveled trail allows discriminating trekkers to distance themselves from the busier routes on the lower elevations, offers a great variety of fabulous vistas that most climbers never get to see. The route passes through lush farmland and pine and cypress forests before ascending into the rainforest where you may see troupes of black and white colobus monkeys. In the higher moorland zone enjoy views of the Kenyan plains rich with game. The final ascent passes the Hans Meyer Cave and reaches the crater rim at Gillman's Point. After the overnight camped in the soft sand of the crater, we have a sunrise climb to Uhuru Peak before descending toward the southeast and incredible views of Mawenzi, Kilimanjaro's remnant volcanic cone.

"Good guides,  
great food  
and good  
equipment."

Jim G.



## Itinerary overview

- Jul 1:** Arrival/Mbahe Village Farm Cottages
- Jul 2:** Mbahe Village Farm Cottages (6,000')
- Jul 3:** Nalemoru Gate (6,560') to Simba Camp (8,730'), 4.1 miles
- Jul 4:** Simba Camp (8,730') to Kikelewa Camp (12,010'), 7.2 miles
- Jul 5:** Kikelewa Camp (12,010') to Mawenzi Tarn Camp (14,150'), 3.2 miles
- Jul 6:** Mawenzi Tarn Camp (14,150') to Horombo

- Camp (12,200'), 5.0 miles
- Jul 7:** Horombo Camp (12,200') to School Hut Camp (15,750'), 6.7 miles
- Jul 8:** School Hut Camp (15,750') to Crater Camp (18,800'), 3.9 miles
- Jul 9:** Crater Camp (18,800') to Uhuru Peak (19,340') to Horombo Camp (12,200'), 8.9 miles
- Jul 10:** Horombo Camp (12,200') to Marangu Gate (6,100') to Mbahe Farm House (6,000'), 13.8 miles
- Jul 11:** Mbahe Village Farm Cottages/Departure



## Itinerary Detail

### Jul 1: Arrival/Mbahe Village Farm Cottages

Your trip leader will pick you up upon arrival at the Kilimanjaro International Airport and bring you to Mbahe Village, located in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro, approximately 2 hours from the airport. Accommodations are in SENE's private cottages at Simon Mtuy's Mbahe Village Farm.

### Jul 2: Mbahe Village Farm Cottages

You have the morning to rest and relax. Enjoy delicious "homebrew" coffee, grown and roasted on the farm, and meals made with fruits and vegetables from the garden. Your trip leader will provide a climb orientation and equipment check. This is also a day to take a guided tour around Mbahe Village, the Mtuy family farm, and to swim in the river and waterfall running through Simon's land. We all gather together for dinner to discuss final details and anticipate the start of the climb tomorrow. B,L,D.

### Jul 3: Nalemoru Gate to Simba Camp

After breakfast we drive in a counterclockwise direction around the eastern flank of Kilimanjaro through Chagga villages that cling to the mountain slope, up to the border with Kenya before turning in to the Nalemoru Gate. Here you will meet your other guides and mountain crew and enter the Kilimanjaro National Park. We begin our climb by walking a few hours through cultivated land and timber farms before entering the cool and verdant montane forest. We soon reach the moorland zone, where our first night's camp is located. B,L,D.

### Jul 4: Simba Camp to Kikelewa Camp

The 3 hour morning climb today takes us through open moorland to the second cave camp, where we will stop for lunch. On the way, you will have spectacular views of both Kibo and Mawenzi peaks as we hike in a southwesterly direction with a dry riverbed on our left and through lizard country of bare rocks and long grasses. We may see many signs of animal life – their tracks, trails, and droppings. Bird life is also abundant and we should be able to spot the white-necked raven, alpine chat, and streaky seed-eater. After lunch we turn directly toward the jagged peak of Mawenzi and into the Kikelewa Valley to our campsite near a set of small grottoes. B,L,D.

### Jul 5: Kikelewa Camp to Mawenzi Tarn Camp

Today's hike starts gently before rising on a short but steep climb through a forest of senecios and into the highland desert zone. As we ascend we encounter huge boulders and the vegetation noticeably thins as low heathers, groundsel, and the helichrysum flower dominate. We will have the afternoon to explore the spectacular setting of our camp, replete with towers, barrancos (high bluffs), and the tarn (mountain lake) just below Mawenzi, by which our campsite sits. B,L,D.

### Jul 6: Mawenzi Tarn Camp to Horombo Camp

A switchback climb just above the tarn takes us alongside the North Corrie (glaciated valley) and up to the saddle on this moderate acclimatization hike. Crossing toward the south, we get a magnificent close-up view of the spiky and crag-ridden Mawenzi Peak. Once a popular and extremely technical rock climb, Mawenzi is now closed due to the danger of rock falls. Beyond the high ridge of the saddle and after a short descent we reach the Zebra Rocks, followed thereafter by our camp at Horombo. We have dropped more than 2,000 feet in order to gain the rejuvenating benefits of sleeping at lower elevation for a night. B,L,D.

**Jul 7: Horombo Camp to School Hut Camp**

We start with a steep climb before crossing the great Maua River, which is just a small mountain stream at this elevation. The vegetation noticeably thins and we ascend to the saddle, the low flat area between Kibo Peak to the west and Mawenzi Peak to the east. The saddle is barren and windswept – a true alpine desert landscape. Our guides keep your spirits up with their expert knowledge of the mountain, good humor, and stories of climbs past; they also continue to encourage you to drink plenty of water and snack heartily to maintain your energy. We bypass the busy Kibo huts and continue northeast for another 45 minutes to the higher School Hut Camp. After an early dinner we have a summit briefing and prepare our equipment before resting. At midnight, ideally under the stars and a brightly shining moon, we begin the final ascent to Uhuru Peak. B,L,D.

**Jul 8: School Hut Camp to to Crater Camp**

Today we slowly wind our way up from School Hut to the rim of the crater by the afternoon. Hiking this section during the day gives us magnificent views of Mawenzi, Kilimanjaro's second highest peak at 16,890 feet. From the rim we will descend across the arctic moonscape of the wide crater floor to the Crater Camp, set in soft sand near the indigo streaked Furtwangler Glacier. B,L,D.

**Jul 9: Crater Camp to Uhuru Peak to Horombo Camp**

After an early breakfast we make the final ascent to Uhuru Peak, reaching the 19,340 foot summit of Kilimanjaro by 8 a.m. At this early hour, before the clouds close in, you will have spectacular views of Africa in all directions. After a brief stay for photos, hugs, and high fives, we descend 2 to 3 hours to School Hut for lunch and rest before continuing on the Marangu route to the camp site at Horombo, more than 7,000 feet below the summit! Eat, share your experiences of the climb, and sleep soundly. Congratulations, you touched the Roof of Africa! B,L,D.

**Jul 10: Horombo Camp to Marangu Gate to Mbahe Farm House**

Enjoy the descent through the thick montane forest on Kilimanjaro's southern flank as we hike 4 hours and drop more than 6,000 feet to the exit at Marangu Gate, encountering legions of climbers beginning their ascent. We will collect our certificates of achievement at the gate and take the final short walk through Chagga farmland back to SENE's Mbahe Village Farm. Enjoy a hot shower and a celebration dinner in the evening with the whole team. B,L,D.

**Jul 11: Mbahe Village Farm Cottages/Departure**

Rest and relaxation day at the farm. Optional activities include light hiking, swimming, exploring the village and local school, visiting with the neighbors, drumming, tasting homemade banana beer, or shopping in Moshi Town. For those returning home you will be transferred to the Kilimanjaro International Airport to catch your flight. Those heading out on safari or to Zanzibar will continue your exciting African adventure. B,L.

**Climb for SHE:** \$3,950 (per person, double occupancy)  
**If 4-7 climbers:** \$3,555 (10% discount)  
**If 8-11 climbers:** \$3,358 (15% discount)  
**If 12-14 climbers:** \$3,160 (20% discount)  
Single supplement: \$425

**Includes:**

- All accommodations
- All meals as indicated (B,L,D)
- All drinks at Mbahe
- On climb, filtered water (by Katadyn Expedition® filter) and coffee, teas, cocoa
- Services of trip leader, climbing guides, and mountain crew
- Kilimanjaro National Park entrance, camping, and rescue fees, including supplemental crater camp fee
- All camping equipment (excluding sleeping bag and pad)
- Portable private toilet with bio-degradable waste system (Cleanwaste®) at all camps
- Gamow bag (portable hyperbaric chamber) and supplemental oxygen
- Transfers to/from Kilimanjaro International Airport and to/from park entrance/exit gates
- Guided Mbahe Village walking tour

**Does not include:**

Tips and gratuities to leaders, guides, crew, or other staff; additional accommodations and meals made necessary by airline schedule changes, inability to complete the climb, finishing a climb before the scheduled completion date, or other factors; pre-trip expenses such as immunizations, travel insurance, passports, and visas; international airfare; airport departure taxes; and any expenses of a personal nature such as souvenirs and laundry.

**Important Note Regarding Crater Camp Use:**

The crater camp overnight is dependent on sufficient water for all uses. Available water varies daily and is not known until reaching camp. The camping decision is made by the trip leader. Melting of snow and ice from glaciers is no longer allowed for water. If water is insufficient, camping in crater will not be allowed and an additional night at School Hut Camp is provided. No refunds can be given for a missed night at crater camp.

Photo Credits: Van Grotenhuis, Sara Wiener, Andrew King D4 production