

8 Days Shira Route

Day 1: Arrival in Tanzania

The Shira Plateau Western Breach is the best non-technical route on the mountain and our summit day is only a 1-2 hour hike from our last camp. This seldom traveled route requires no technical experience, only that you be in great physical shape and have the desire to stand on the roof of Africa. Standout-Adventures takes pride in providing gourmet food and comfortable camps throughout the climb, and porters will carry your equipment. All of these factors combine to maintain our high success rate--98%. After the climb we descend to the comforts of the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge set among the beautiful Coffee garden. The hotel has 139 rooms including: 30 chalets with 60 rooms, 72 rooms in the main building, 7 presidential suites.

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Accommodating up to 350 guests, all rooms have spacious en suite bathrooms, telephones and most of them have Jacuzzis. The luxury rooms comprise of spacious beds, with some rooms having a magnificent view of both Mt Meru and Mt Kilimanjaro. All the rooms have mini bars, satellite TV's, tea/coffee making facilities, safe deposit lockers. Some rooms can comfortably accommodate disabled guests and are close to the reception and public areas.



Day 2: ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

A day to acclimatize to the time zone, on this day we recommend our clients to go to Arusha National Park, for a guarder walk by game rangers. Nothing strenuous by a chance to enjoy game while walking in the National Park with picnic lunch boxes from Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge. Back to your lodge for dinner and overnight

Day 3: Montane Forest

Altitude - 7,000-9,000 feet Hiking Time: 3-6 hours

After a short drive through the beautiful grasslands and scattered Masai villages we will arrive at the forest edge of the National Park. From here we will walk a few hours through the undisturbed lush jungle to our camp for the night. Our Tanzanian guides will share their knowledge of the local ecology as you walk through the fantastic plants and trees, hear birds, and see other exotic wildlife. With luck you will be able to see Colobus monkeys and signs of elephants on your walk to camp. Upon arriving at camp, you will find your tent set up as well as hot tea and snacks waiting for you in the dining tent. You may relax or go on a short hike before dinner.

Day 4: Shira Plateau - West Side

Altitude- 11,500 feet Hiking Time: 6-8 hrs

Upon waking, your Tanzanian guides will greet you at your tent with tea and hot water to wash with before enjoying breakfast. We will take our time walking through the forest, which enables us to acclimatize comfortably and spot the plentiful game and bird life while enjoying the views down canyon through breaks in the jungle. Today's hike will take us through the Montane Forest and the Hagenia Zone. We will point out the unique environmental differences that characterize these separate equatorial zones.

Day 5: Fischer Camp

Altitude 12,300 feet; Hiking Time: 3-6 hours

It will take us roughly three hours to hike across the Shira Plateau and then one hour up the western slope of the Kibo Massif. Our Camp will be at about 12,300 feet, in the upper Heath Zone. This camp has a plaque dedicated to Scott



Fischer, friend and founder of Mountain Madness. In the 1980's, Wes Krause and Scott Fischer pioneered the Shira Plateau route on Kilimanjaro which we travel. The views of the mountain at sunset and sunrise are truly spectacular.

Day 6: Barranco Camp

Altitude- 13,000feet Hiking Time: 6 hours

Today we will hike to camp 3. The route will take us up to 14,000 feet just below Lava Tower and then back down to our camp in the Great Barranco Valley. The views of the Great Breach Wall are better from this camp than anywhere on the mountain.

Day 7: Barafu Camp

Altitude- 15,500feet Hiking Time: 6 hours

Our route today climbs out of the Barranco Valley and ascends to over 14,000 feet. We then traverse under the glaciers of the southern slopes of Kilimanjaro. As we traverse we will have close-up views of all of the mountain's Southern Glaciers. We then descend into Karanga Valley before beginning our 1,600 foot ascent to Barafu Hut.

Day 8: Summit Crater Camp

Altitude 18,500 feet; Hiking time 7-10 hours

Today we climb up the Western Breach non-technical climbing route for about seven hours to the edge of the crater floor. There will be time to explore the inner crater before moving to our high camp on the crater floor. It is common to find snow along this section of the route. Our high camp will be situated adjacent to a spectacular glacier and the summit merely a short hike away! The rest of the day will be spent drinking lots of liquids and enjoying another fabulous sunset dinner.

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