

# LEMOSHO ROUTE ITINERARY - 8 days

## Kilimanjaro Airport to Moshi

A brief 40 minutes from Kilimanjaro International Airport, and bypassing magnificent views of Kilimanjaro, Moshi is a small, clean town at the railhead from Dar es Salaam - distance from Arusha, Tanzania's second town is only 72km/45 miles. Moshi offers the visitor some of the best coffee in Tanzania, bustling markets and colourful street vendors. At the hotel you will be briefed prior to your climb. We offer very pleasant mid-range to luxury hotels within walking distance of town centers.

Total Distance from airport to Moshi: 41km/25.2miles; to Arusha: 58km/36miles.

Accommodation: 3-4 star based on bed and breakfast

## Day 1

### Moshi town to Londorossi Gate then to first Camp

Depart Moshi town after breakfast for Londorossi Gate (approximately 3.5 hours); entrance to Kilimanjaro National Park (Kinapa); drive to the starting point for Lemosho trail; trek to the first camp site; trekking distance/time: 6 km/4 miles, 3-4 hours.

Final Elevation: 2,895m/9,498 ft

Terrain: Forest trail

## DAY 2

### First Camp to Shira 1 Camp

Departing first camp we continue on the trail leading out of the rainforest and into the heather and volcanic rock draped with lichen beards, distance: 8 km/ 5miles trekking time 5-6 hours. Trekking along the Shira Ridge with spectacular views across the plateau where we finally drop down to Shira 1 Camp. Here we catch our first glimpse of Mt. Kili in the clear evening air (weather permitting!).

Final Elevation: 3,505m/11,500 ft

Terrain: Heathland

## DAY 3

### Shira 1 Camp to Moir Hut

Now we explore the Shira Plateau for a full day. It is a gentle walk east on moorland meadows towards Shira 2 Camp, distance: 11 km/ 7 miles; trekking time: 5-7 hours. As we climb only 2000 ft this is an ideal opportunity for acclimatization. Shira Plateau is one of the highest plateaus on earth.

Final Elevation: 4,206m/13,800 ft

Terrain: Alpine Tundra

## DAY 4

### Moir Hut to Lava Tower then to Barranco Camp

We begin by climbing southeast towards the Lava Tower – a 300 ft tall volcanic rock formation, elevation: 15,190 ft; distance: 10 km/6 miles; total trekking time: 6-8 hours with slow going. Descending down to Barranco Camp from the Lava Tower, this represents an ideal acclimatization opportunity before, following the adage - climb high, sleep low! For 8-day climbers to the next camp, Karanga it is almost the same altitude, making the final ascent less challenging.

Final Elevation: 3,983m/13,066 ft

Terrain: Alpine Desert

## DAY 5

### Barranco Camp to Karanga Camp

Here you descend into a ravine where the Great Barranco Wall rises steeply to 900 ft. We trek along the wall and then down again into the Karanga Valley with a final climb to the next camp - Karanga - distance: 5 km/3 miles; trekking time: 4-5 hours; going: slow. The descent will assist you with acclimatization.

Final Elevation: 3,995m/13,106 ft

Terrain: Alpine Desert

## DAY 6

### Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp

We leave Karanga and hit the junction which connects with the Mweka Trail. We continue up to the rocky section to Barafu Hut - distance: 4 km/2 miles; trekking time: 4-5 hours; going: slow. Here we make camp again - Barafu Camp where you get some rest and an early bite to eat before your final ascent, starting in the early hours of the morning.

Final Elevation: 4,673m/15,331 ft

Terrain: Arctic Desert

## DAY 7

### Barafu Camp to Uhuru Peak then to Mweka Camp

In the early hours of the morning (just after midnight), you begin your final ascent. Here the going is very slow on a terrain of soft shale and rocky outcrops. Here also you will feel the

effects of altitude sickness - distance: 5 km/3 miles; going: very slow (pole, pole - pronounced polay in Swahili); trekking time: 7-8 hours.

On Stella Point (18,900 ft) the sun will rise over Mawenzi peak. As you are now above the clouds this is the most magnificent sunrise you might ever see. We continue a short distance to the summit - Uhuru Peak. From here we begin our descent to Mweka Hut camp site. At Mweka Camp you will be fed a welcome dinner and fall into a well-earned sleep.

Uhuru Elevation: 5,895m/19,341 ft

Terrain: Arctic Desert

Final Elevation: 3,068m/10,065 ft

Terrain: Arctic Desert to Rainforest

## DAY 8

### Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate and back to hotel

Continuing our descent to Mweka Gate you pick up your Kilimanjaro certificates - distance: 10 km/6 miles; trekking time: 3-4 hours. A short distance now to Mweka Village and the drive back to Moshi.