



MACHAME ROUTE

7 Day
Itinerary



7 DAY MACHAME ITINERARY

MACHAME ROUTE

The Machame Route, also commonly referred to as the “Whiskey” route, is the most popular route on Kilimanjaro. Many hikers choose the Machame route due to its breathtaking scenery, its level of difficulty, and shorter route itineraries.

Machame offers stunning views of the summit throughout the whole trip. Starting from Machame Gate, you will take a whimsical trip through the rainforest. Then, traverse along the open vista southern circuit before summiting from Barafu Camp.

Unlike other routes, Machame offers shorter itineraries allotted for climbing.

Therefore, this route is best for people seeking a challenge, those with some high altitude experience, or those traveling on a budget.

Kopa Tours® offers Machame as either a seven day or six day climb. Those feeling apprehensive or lacking high altitude experience typically opt for the 7 day itinerary, as it provides an extra essential day for acclimatization to the high altitude.

MAP

Elevation Graph



Climate Zones of Kilimanjaro:

Cultivation Rainforest Heather and Moorland Alpine Desert Arctic



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DAY 1

MACHAME GATE TO MACHAME CAMP

We will drive from Springlands Hotel to the Machame Gate, which takes about 45 minutes. Our hike begins at the gate. From here, we will walk through the dense rain forest to Machame Camp.



DAY 2

MACHAME CAMP TO SHIRA 2 CAMP

Already, you leave the rain forest behind and climb a rocky ridge into the moorlands. You reach the Shira Plateau and are now well above the clouds (11,000 ft). After taking in the view, you will ascend another 1,500 to camp.



DAY 3

SHIRA 2 CAMP TO BARRANCO CAMP

You hike a gradual ridge to Lava Tower, a 300 ft tall volcanic rock formation at 15,000 ft. From here, enjoy lunch and then descend back down to 13,000 ft through the Senecio Forest to Barranco Camp.



DAY 4

BARRANCO CAMP TO KARANGA CAMP

You begin your morning scrambling up the 900 ft vertical, yet nontechnical Barranco wall. Then, you will venture through valleys and make one more climb to Karanga camp. Spend the afternoon resting and acclimatizing.



DAY 5

KARANGA TO BARAFU CAMP

You depart Karanga camp and reach a junction that connects with the Mweka trail. You will continue up a rocky section to Barafu Camp. Now, you can see the summit straight ahead. Rest up for your midnight summit attempt.



DAY 6 PART 1

BARAFU CAMP TO UHURU PEAK

You start your ascent at midnight to reach Stella Point (18,900 ft) in time for an amazing sunrise. The trail is steep and full of switchbacks over loose volcanic scree. From here, continue 1 more hour to Uhuru Peak - the highest point in Africa!



DAY 6 PART 2

UHURU PEAK TO MWEKA CAMP

From Uhuru, descend to Barafu Camp - gather your belongings, rest and continue on to Mweka Camp. The trail is rocky and can be hard on the knees; trekking poles are advised. At night, let your incredible journey settle in.



DAY 7

MWEKA CAMP TO MWEKA GATE

On your last day, enjoy the fresh breakfast from the village! Pack up and remember to bring your hiking poles as the trail can be muddy and wet in the rain forest. Back at lower elevation, receive your summit certificates!

