

## Route Overview

The **Rongai Route** approaches Kilimanjaro from the northern side, near the Kenyan border. It is the only route starting from this direction, offering a quieter and less crowded experience. The trail is drier than other routes, with unique views of the mountain and the chance to spot wildlife. Though considered easier in terms of terrain, the shorter 5-day itinerary provides limited acclimatization, making it more challenging for altitude adjustment.

- **Duration:** 5 days / 4 nights
- **Difficulty:** Moderate to challenging (shorter acclimatization period)
- **Accommodation:** Tented camps only
- **Best for:** Climbers seeking a quieter, less crowded route with gradual slopes

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

### Day 1: Rongai Gate → Simba Camp

Your trek begins at **Rongai Gate** (1,950m). After registration, you hike through farmland and pine forest. The trail is gentle, with occasional views of Kenya's plains. By evening, you arrive at **Simba Camp** (2,600m), where tents are set up and dinner is served.

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### Day 2: Simba Camp → Second Cave Camp

The trail ascends steadily through moorland. Vegetation changes to alpine shrubs, and views of Kibo Peak become clearer. By afternoon, you reach **Second Cave Camp** (3,450m), a scenic spot with wide views of the mountain.

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### **Day 3: Second Cave Camp → Kibo Hut**

Today's trek crosses the alpine desert. The air is dry, and the landscape barren yet striking. The trail is long but gradual, leading to **Kibo Hut** (4,700m), located at the foot of Kibo crater. Dinner is early, and climbers rest before the midnight summit attempt.

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### **Day 4: Kibo Hut → Uhuru Peak → Horombo Hut**

Summit night begins at midnight. With headlamps glowing, you ascend slowly in freezing air. The climb is steep and demanding, but as dawn breaks, you reach **Gilman's Point** (5,681m), then continue to **Uhuru Peak** (5,895m), the highest point in Africa. The sunrise over the glaciers is unforgettable. After celebrations, you descend back to **Horombo Hut** (3,720m) for a well-earned rest.

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### **Day 5: Horombo Hut → Marangu Gate**

The final descent takes you back through moorland and rainforest. At **Marangu Gate** (1,800m), climbers receive official summit certificates. Guides and porters celebrate with you, marking the end of your Kilimanjaro adventure.

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*At the end of your descent, you'll gather with your guides and porters to celebrate your achievement and receive your official summit certificate — a proud reminder that you've conquered Kilimanjaro. After hugs, photos, and heartfelt goodbyes, we'll transfer you back to your hotel in Moshi or Arusha. There, a hot shower, a soft bed, and a delicious celebration meal await — the perfect way to relax, reflect, and enjoy the memories of your incredible journey.*

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## ✓ Inclusions

- **Professional guides & crew** – Certified, English-speaking guides, assistant guides, porters, and cooks.
- **Park fees & permits** – Entry fees, camping/hut fees, rescue fees, and government VAT.
- **Camping or hut accommodation** – High-quality tents (4-season) or huts on the Marangu Route.
- **Meals & water** – Freshly prepared hot meals daily, clean drinking water, tea/coffee, and snacks.
- **Group equipment** – Dining tent, kitchen tent, cooking utensils, sleeping pads, and medical kit with oxygen.
- **Daily health monitoring** – Pulse oximeter checks, altitude assessments, and emergency protocols.
- **Airport transfers** – Round-trip transfers between Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) and hotel in Moshi/Arusha.
- **Hotel stays before & after trek** – Typically 2 nights (1 before, 1 after climb).

## ✗ Exclusions

- **International flights** – Airfare to/from Tanzania.
- **Visa fees** – Tourist visa (varies by nationality).
- **Travel insurance** – Must cover high-altitude trekking and emergency evacuation.
- **Personal trekking gear** – Boots, sleeping bag, insulated clothing, rain gear, backpack, trekking poles.
- **Tips for guides & porters** – Standard practice, a key income source for staff.
- **Personal expenses** – Souvenirs, drinks, laundry, optional activities.
- **Extra hotel nights** – Beyond the standard 2 nights included.