



KILIMANJARO NATIONAL PARK

The roof of Africa



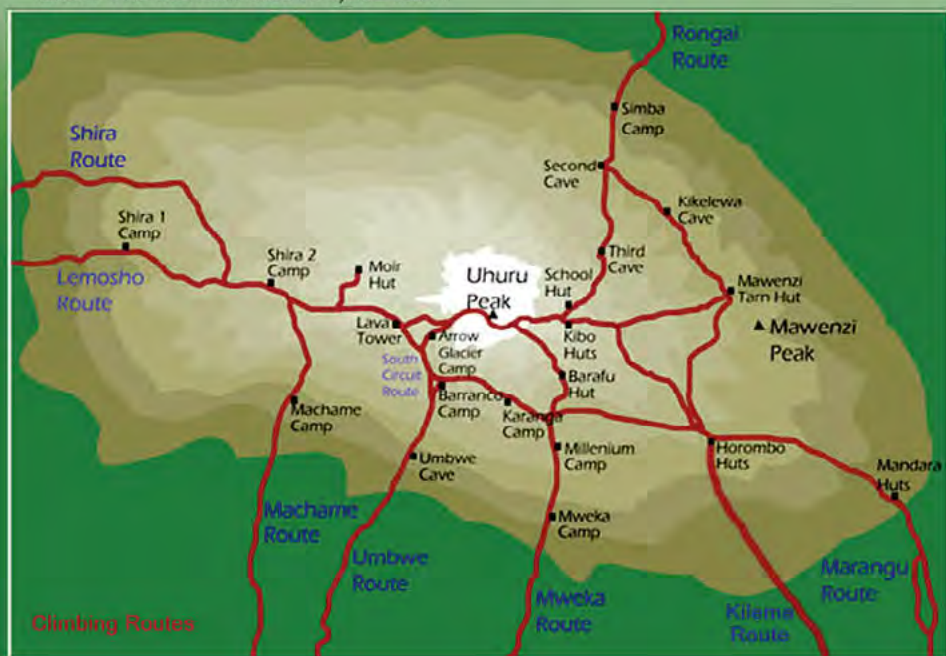
Welcome to the Park!

You are now on the foot of the highest mountain in Africa, snow capped and world's highest free standing volcanic mountain; the Kilimanjaro. Climbing to the top which is far up into the sky is a lifetime experience that no one can forget. The park offers a range of tourism activities including mountain climbing, paragliding, mountain cycling, crater camping, mawenzi peak technical climb, shira plateau day visit and nature walk in montane forest. We are delighted to serve you during your visit in this Magical Place.

Thank you!

Park History

The park was gazetted in 1973, officially opened for tourism in 1977, declared as World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987 and Natural Wonder of Africa in 2013. The current size is 1,712 Km².



Getting there

The park can be accessed by road or flight via Kilimanjaro International Airport – about 45 km to the west. Marangu gate is the Park Headquarters and one of the ascending routes is located 41 km from Moshi town and 86 km from Kilimanjaro International Airport. The other seven gates of Rongai, Machame, Londorosi, Lemosho, Kilema, Mweka and Umbwe are located around the mountain base and can be reached by road.



Climate

There are two rainy seasons in a year mainly influenced by the prevailing trade winds. The short rainy period is from October to November and the wet season is from March to May during which it rains around the mountain base and snow accumulates on its peak. The dry season is from late June to September and from December to early March during which the nights are cool and the days completely clear and thus provides good climbing conditions.



Attractions

The Park is endowed with a diverse variety of attractions ranging from terrestrial wilderness to permanent glaciers on the mountain peaks.

Three Peaks

Kibo, the highest peak [5,895m] is covered by snow throughout the year though located near the equator and to many climbers, conquering this peak is an adventure of their lifetime. Mawenzi [5,149m] is rugged and opened for technical climb. Shira [3,962m] is the oldest peak that collapsed and forms a shira plateau with outstanding scenic beauty on the mountain habited with several kinds of migratory large mammals such as buffaloes, elephants and elands.





- **Montane Forest**

A wide band of exceptionally beautiful montane forest encircles the whole of Kilimanjaro from about 1800 – 2800m. The forest zone is worth a visit even if you are not climbing to the peaks. The present nature trails in particular take you through this forest belt. This belt supports several plant species, including endemic ones like *Impatiens kilimanjari*.

- **Birds and Animals**

The park harbors more than 179 bird species inhabit the different vegetation zones. At high altitudes, the White Necked Raven, Lammergeier and Alpine Chat are common. The mountain also inhabits 140 species of mammals; 7 primates, 25 carnivores, 25 antelopes and 24 species of bat. Hikers may see various animals including the Black and White Colobus Monkey, Blue monkey, Forest Duikers and small mammals like *Myosorex zinkii* which is endemic to Mt. Kilimanjaro.





- **Zonation of Vegetation**

Five eco-climatic zones take you to the equivalent of a trip from the equator to the arctic in a brief tour. As one climbs Kilimanjaro, vegetation and weather changes in response to the changing elevation from montane forest, heath and moorland, alpine desert and the summit zone (arctic). The mountain peak is covered by snow all year-round.

- **Kifinika Cultural Site**

This is a sacred site along Marangu route that is used by the local Chagga people. Historically, the site was used for cultural rituals.



- **Maundi Crater**

Located just 15 minutes' walk past Mandara huts on the Marangu route the crater provides a panoramic view of Lakes Chala, Jipe and Nyumba ya Mungu, all of which derive their water from the majestic Kilimanjaro.

- **Lauwo waterfall**

This waterfall is located 2.8 kms from Marangu gate. It provides a spectacular experience while enjoying walking inside the thick montane forest.



- **Lake Chala**

Lake Chala is located about 30 minutes' drive from Himo town. Although situated outside the Park, the lake is an important geological link to the park. This deep fresh water lake can be visited prior to, or after climbing the mountain.

Tourist activities

- **Mountain Hiking**

Climbing to Kibo peak takes 5 – 9 days depending on the route. Seven mountain trails can take a climber to the mountain peak, each route offering different attractions and challenges.

- **Mountain Cycling**

On two wheels tourist has a chance of cycling to the roof of Africa. There are two routes which are used for cycling, one for summit bound visitors (Kilema route) and second one for non-summit visitors (Shira plateau).



- **Crater Camping**

Camping in the crater provides unique visitors' night experience. While at the crater tourists can visit the unique bench-shaped like glaciers, the formation that can only be found at Mount Kilimanjaro.



- **Paragliding**

Tourists can fly from the top of Mount Kilimanjaro and may use parachutes or wingsuits while undertaking this activity.

- **Mawenzi Technical Climbing**

Mawenzi is the second highest peak on Mount Kilimanjaro. Technical climbers can hike the present seven sub-peaks while enjoying the view of cliffs, complexity of gullies and rock faces.

- **Non summit tourism activities** includes, visit to the water falls, walking on nature trails, visiting Maundi crater and cultural sites such as Kifinika [in the park] and cultural camps in the villages around.

Available tourist facilities

- **Huts:** The park provides huts accommodation for mountain climbers using Marangu route at Mandara, Horombo and Kibo mountain stations.
- **Camping:** There are professionally designated camping sites with toilet facilities on the wilderness routes of Rongai, Mweka, Umbwe, Machame, Lemosho, Kilema and Londorosi. Also rescue services for the sick and injured including first aid and radio communications are available in all mountain stations.





Park Rules and Regulations

Please do not:

- Enter the park without a valid permit;
- Litter;
- Block other visitors access, disturb or the animals they are watching;
- Exceed the speed limit of 50k.p.h;
- Take pets, plant seeds or fire arms into the park;
- Uproot, pick, cut or damage or be in possession of any part of the plant from the park;
- Kill, harass, disturb or feed any wild animals in the park;
- Feed animals;
- Ignite wildfires;
- Erect, mark or remove any signboard in the park;
- Enter or leave the park at points other than the official entry/exit gates stipulated in your permit;
- Push yourself to go if your body is exhausted or if you have extreme mountain sickness;
- Hike and camp at undesignated trail and campsites;
- Take children under 10 years of age above 3700m above sea level;
- Exceed 25kgs of luggage to porters (including their belongings) during the climb.

Visit and support!

Visit and experience the beauty of this amazing park. You can support the park and the surrounding communities by visiting and contribute to conservation projects.

Thank you!



For further informatioo contact:

Commanding Officer

Kilimanjaro National Park

P. O. Box 96

Marangu, Moshi - Tanzania

Tel: +255-27-2756602

E-mail: kinapa@tanzaniaparks.go.tz

Instagram: [mountkilimanjaro_national_park](https://www.instagram.com/mountkilimanjaro_national_park)

Website: www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz

