

12-DAY KILIMANJARO CLIMB AND SAFARI

12-Day Kilimanjaro Climb and Safari

Travel Hype Adventures • June 12, 2026

DURATION

12 Days / 11 Nights

Machame Route + Northern Circuit Safari

TRIP STYLE

Kilimanjaro Climb & Safari

Private Trek and Guided Lodge Safari

KEY DESTINATIONS

Kilimanjaro, Tarangire, Serengeti, Ngorongoro

Tanzania Northern Circuit

BEST FOR

American Travelers

Bucket-List Adventure

Overview

This 12-day Kilimanjaro climb and safari package is designed for American travelers who want to combine Africa's most iconic mountain with Tanzania's most famous wildlife destinations in one trip. The itinerary starts with a 7-day Machame Route climb, one of the best choices for acclimatization and overall summit success, then continues with a classic northern Tanzania safari through Tarangire, Serengeti, and Ngorongoro Crater. It is a strong option for couples, friends, families with active adults, or private groups from the United States looking for a once-in-a-lifetime adventure in clear, professional US English.

Highlights

- 12-day Tanzania adventure combining a 7-day Kilimanjaro climb with a classic wildlife safari
- Machame Route chosen for strong acclimatization and a higher summit success rate than shorter routes
- Summit Uhuru Peak at 19,341 feet on Africa's highest mountain
- Private airport transfers and English-speaking mountain and safari teams throughout the trip
- Game drives in Tarangire National Park, Serengeti National Park, and Ngorongoro Crater
- See elephants, big cats, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, and more in Tanzania's top safari parks
- Camping on Kilimanjaro followed by lodge stays during the safari for comfort and recovery
- Well-balanced itinerary designed for US travelers who want one major East Africa trip

Inclusions & Exclusions

INCLUSIONS

- Private airport transfers on arrival and departure
- 2 hotel nights before and after the climb/safari as shown in the itinerary
- Professional English-speaking Kilimanjaro guide, assistant guides, cook, and porters
- All Kilimanjaro park fees, camping fees, rescue fees, and crew fees
- Quality mountain tents, dining tent, table, chairs, and standard camping equipment
- All meals during the climb and safari as indicated in the itinerary
- Safe drinking water on the mountain and bottled water during safari game drives
- Private 4x4 safari vehicle with pop-up roof and professional driver-guide
- Tarangire National Park entry fees
- Serengeti National Park entry fees
- Ngorongoro Conservation Area fees and crater service fees
- Lodge accommodation during the safari
- Pre-climb briefing and basic climb safety checks
- Emergency oxygen and standard first-aid support on the mountain

EXCLUSIONS

- International airfare from the United States or other departure country
- US domestic flights and pre-trip hotel arrangements outside this itinerary
- Tanzania visa and passport costs
- Travel insurance and high-altitude evacuation insurance
- Tips for mountain crew, safari guide, and hotel staff
- Personal trekking gear such as boots, clothing layers, sleeping bag, and trekking poles
- Alcoholic drinks, soft drinks, and snacks not listed in the itinerary
- Laundry, souvenirs, and personal expenses
- Optional activities or itinerary extensions such as Zanzibar beach stay

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport

Accommodation: Hotel in Moshi

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport, where your driver will meet you and transfer you to your hotel in Moshi. After check-in, you can rest from the long international journey and prepare for the adventure ahead. Later, meet your mountain team for a detailed briefing, gear check, and final climb preparation.

ACCOMMODATION Hotel in Moshi	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 2 **Machame Gate to Machame Camp**

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Machame Camp

After breakfast, drive to Machame Gate for registration and the official start of your Kilimanjaro climb. Trek through dense rainforest with giant trees, moss-covered trails, and possible sightings of monkeys and birds. Reach Machame Camp in the afternoon, where dinner is served and your first night on the mountain begins.

ACCOMMODATION Machame Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 3 **Machame Camp to Shira Camp**

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Shira Camp

Leave the rainforest behind and climb into the moorland zone, where the landscape opens up with broad views and striking volcanic scenery. The trail becomes steeper in sections, but the pace stays controlled to support acclimatization. Arrive at Shira Camp and enjoy your first wide-angle views of the mountain.

ACCOMMODATION Shira Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 4 **Shira Camp to Barranco Camp via Lava Tower**

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Barranco Camp

Today is a key acclimatization day. Hike steadily up toward Lava Tower, then descend to Barranco Camp, following the important climb-high, sleep-low approach that helps many trekkers adjust to altitude. The scenery changes dramatically, with giant groundsels, rocky slopes, and wide mountain views.

ACCOMMODATION Barranco Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 5 **Barranco Camp to Karanga Camp**

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Karanga Camp

Begin the day by climbing the famous Barranco Wall, a fun and rewarding scramble with excellent views once you reach the top. Continue across ridges and valleys toward Karanga Camp. This is a shorter trekking day, which gives your body more time to recover and adjust before the higher camps.

ACCOMMODATION Karanga Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 6 Karanga Camp to Barafu Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Barafu Camp

Climb steadily to Barafu Camp, the base camp for your summit attempt. The terrain becomes more alpine and exposed, with fewer plants and more open rock. After an early dinner, rest and prepare gear for a late-night start to Uhuru Peak.

ACCOMMODATION Barafu Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 7 Summit Day: Uhuru Peak to Mweka Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Mweka Camp

Wake around midnight and begin the summit push under the stars. Reach Stella Point at sunrise, then continue to Uhuru Peak, the highest point in Africa at 19,341 feet. After summit photos and celebration, descend carefully back to Barafu for a short break, then continue down to Mweka Camp for your final night on the mountain.

ACCOMMODATION Mweka Camp	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 8 Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate, then Transfer to Arusha

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Lodge in Arusha

Descend through the forest to Mweka Gate, where your summit certificates are issued. After saying goodbye to the mountain crew, transfer to Arusha for a hot shower, a comfortable bed, and time to recover. The evening is relaxed before your safari begins the next day.

ACCOMMODATION Lodge in Arusha	ACCOMMODATION —
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Day 9 Arusha to Tarangire National Park

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Safari Lodge near Tarangire/Karatu

After breakfast, drive to Tarangire National Park for your first safari game drive. Tarangire is known for its giant baobab trees, large elephant herds, and excellent wildlife viewing in a less crowded setting. Spend the day exploring the park before heading to your lodge for dinner and overnight.

ACCOMMODATION Safari Lodge near Tarangire/Karatu	ACCOMMODATION —
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Drive to Serengeti National Park

Day 10

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Safari Lodge or Tented Camp in Serengeti

Travel through the highlands and onward toward Serengeti National Park, one of the world's greatest safari destinations. Wildlife viewing begins as you enter the park, and game drives continue on the way to your lodge or camp. Keep an eye out for lions, cheetahs, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, and hyenas.

ACCOMMODATION Safari Lodge or Tented Camp in Serengeti	ACCOMMODATION —
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Serengeti to Ngorongoro Area

Day 11

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Accommodation: Lodge near Ngorongoro/Karatu

Enjoy a morning game drive in Serengeti before departing for the Ngorongoro area. Depending on wildlife movements and road timing, this day combines more animal viewing with a scenic transfer across classic northern Tanzania safari landscapes. Arrive at your lodge near Ngorongoro in time for dinner and a good night's rest.

ACCOMMODATION Lodge near Ngorongoro/Karatu	ACCOMMODATION —
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Ngorongoro Crater Tour and Departure Transfer

Day 12

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Descend into Ngorongoro Crater for a final safari experience in one of Africa's most extraordinary wildlife areas. The crater floor offers a strong chance to see elephants, buffalo, zebras, hippos, lions, and many other species in one day. After the game drive and picnic lunch, transfer to Arusha or Kilimanjaro International Airport for your onward journey.

FAQs

Is this 12-day package a good choice for first-time American travelers to Tanzania?

Yes. This itinerary is a strong option for first-time US travelers because it combines a well-paced Kilimanjaro route with Tanzania's best-known safari parks in one trip. It also includes airport transfers, English-speaking guides, and a logical flow from climb to safari.

Why is the Machame Route used for this Kilimanjaro climb?

The Machame Route is popular because it gives better acclimatization than many shorter routes and offers diverse scenery from rainforest to alpine desert. For many climbers, it is one of the best balances between challenge, beauty, and summit success.

How difficult is the Kilimanjaro part of this trip?

Kilimanjaro is a non-technical climb, but it is physically demanding because of altitude, long hiking days, and summit night. You do not need climbing experience, but you should arrive in good walking condition and prepared for cold, high-altitude conditions.

What kind of accommodation is included after the climb?

After the mountain, the safari section uses lodge or tented lodge accommodation for more comfort and recovery. Exact properties can be adjusted based on your budget, travel season, and preferred level of comfort.

Can this Kilimanjaro and safari package be customized for US travelers?

Yes. Many American travelers add extra hotel nights, upgrade safari lodges, request a private vehicle, or extend the trip with Zanzibar after the safari. The package can also be adapted for couples, families, or small private groups.
