

# Mount Kilimanjaro

It seemed impossible but you did it.

A big thank you to Wil Smith of Deeper Africa for preparing me on this unforgettable adventure and to our guide Emanuel for guiding us safely to the top. The climb felt like a metaphor for life. You have support around you, obstacles in your path, but in the end, only you can get yourself to the top.

- Lucy Minde, summited August 2024

[wil@deeperafrica.com](mailto:wil@deeperafrica.com)

DEEPER AFRICA





I have traveled to Africa over the years. My excitement and hopes for Mt. Kilimanjaro were high. Deeper Africa, with its compassionate crew and attention to detail made this the trip of a lifetime. I felt safe and cared for at every step. At each day's end, finding our camp set up with pristine tents and delicious food waiting for us is a memory I will forever cherish. I can still hear the crew laughing and singing as we started each morning after coffee and breakfast.

- Ann Valentine, summited on July 4, 2023

# Northern Traverse: a Peak Experience

## Deeper Africa's Private Group Adventure

Kilimanjaro - Africa's highest peak and the world's tallest freestanding mountain. The magnificent view, so few will ever see, brings a powerful sense of accomplishment. You are ready. It was the training, coaching, sound advice and the best of gear. Above it all you discovered the strength within.

### Duration:

- 12 Days - 11 Nights

### Transportation:

- Hiking
- 4 Wheel Drive

### Included Activities:

- Summit Africa's Highest Peak
- Hiking
- Camping

Our number one priority is getting you to the top—safely, sanely, and with style. What we will NOT do is follow the crowd, cut costs, cut corners, or rush you up the mountain regardless of risk or toll. Our take on Kilimanjaro: climb it right or don't climb it at all. As our name implies, there is depth to our method.

Our Northern Traverse is for anyone adventurous enough to leave the beaten path, bold enough to meet a challenge, and thoughtful enough to choose the right guide, follow the right path, and take the time and care that this mountain deserves.



# Trip Overview



## Day 1: Arrive-Overnight at Training Camp

If you are climbing with us, you will arrive well coached, fully briefed and in good physical condition. Still, there is no substitute for a tune-up on the mountain itself. We begin at mile-high Simba Farm on the mountain's shoulder. Here you can stretch out, shake the jetlag, and take your bearings. Professional mountaineers know there are three keys for adjusting to high altitude: extra time at altitude, nourishment and hydration, plus sleeping a little lower than you have climbed before (climb-high-sleep-low).



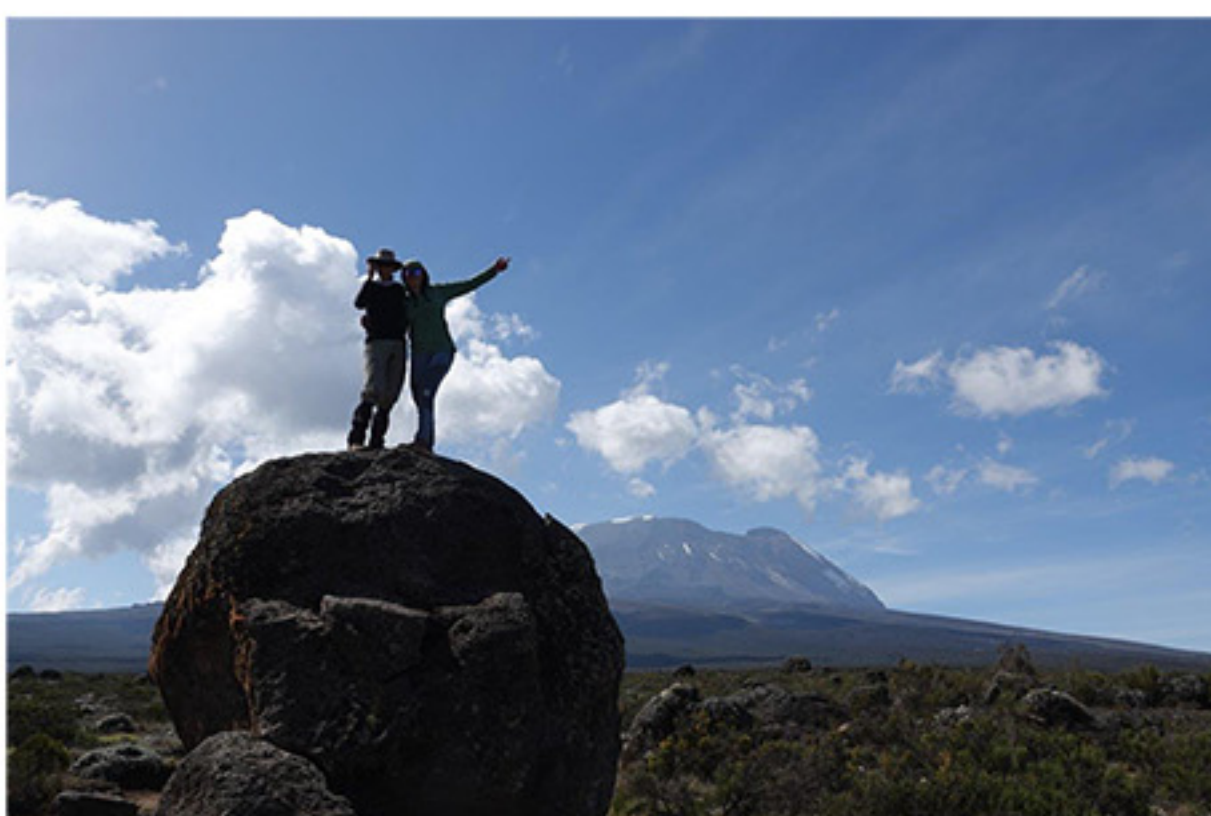
## Day 2: The Big Tree Acclimation Day

This is our first day of altitude acclimation: climb-high, sleep-low, and move slow. After breakfast, drive to Lemosho, then hike through the rainforest to just over 9,000 ft above sea level. Along the way you'll learn the tips, tricks, and secrets of high-altitude trekking. Most people pitch their first camp here at 9,000 feet then struggle to 11,500 feet the next day. We do it differently by returning to our comfortable campfire at 5,200 ft then driving to a higher trailhead the next morning after climbing high and sleeping low.



## Day 3: The High Plateau

After breakfast and a gear check, leave Simba Farm and drive with gear and crew on a rugged road to our trailhead above the tree line. Here we have a full view of Kilimanjaro's Western Breach. A moderate hike across the high plateau takes us to Shira I Camp where our team will have camp set up with food on the table. Here at 11,500 feet, the view in every direction is breathtaking.



## Day 4: Cathedral Point-Shira II

After breakfast we begin hiking across mostly level ground, the remnants of an ancient lava lake. A slight detour over entertaining rock scrambles takes us to Cathedral Point, for a wild and dramatic view. Overnight at the scenic Shira II Camp. This day's altitude gain is a little over 1,000 feet.



# Trip Overview



## Day 5: Moir Hut

Hike northward to Moir Hut Campsite at the base of the Lent Hills. The Hills are named after German geologist Dr. Carl Lent who traversed the mountain's North side in March 1894. Moir Camp is less than 1000 feet above our last camp. An evening hike upward into the Lent hills and back is worthwhile for both scenery and altitude acclimation.



## Day 6: The Eland – Pofu Camp

After a steep climb out of Moir Hut Valley the hike levels out with slight decline to Pofu Camp on the mountain's North side. Here are endless views over Kenya to the North. Often this path rises over a sea of clouds below with blue and sunny skies above. Today is a climb-high-sleep-low day. Pofu Camp is about 400 ft lower than the night before, for a big boost of altitude adjustment. The eland is the largest of antelopes and they sometimes graze on the plateau. Its Swahili name is Pofu.



## Day 7: The Cave

Another slightly downhill walk leads to Third Cave Camp by mid-afternoon. This camp, even lower than the last camp, provides another restful boost of altitude adjustment. We get here early and relax as tomorrow we start gaining altitude again. On the sunny side of the mountain, this is often a good place to break out the bathing tent for a refreshing hot shower.



## Day 8: Craggy Mawenzi Peak.

Hike up to the saddle between Kilimanjaro's main peak Kibo and its craggy companion peak to the East. This afternoon's altitude acclimation involves a hike to almost 15,000 feet then back to Mawenzi Tarn Campsite at 14,200 feet with another day of climbing-high and sleeping low, you get stronger every day. This beautiful and quiet campsite is one of our favorites.

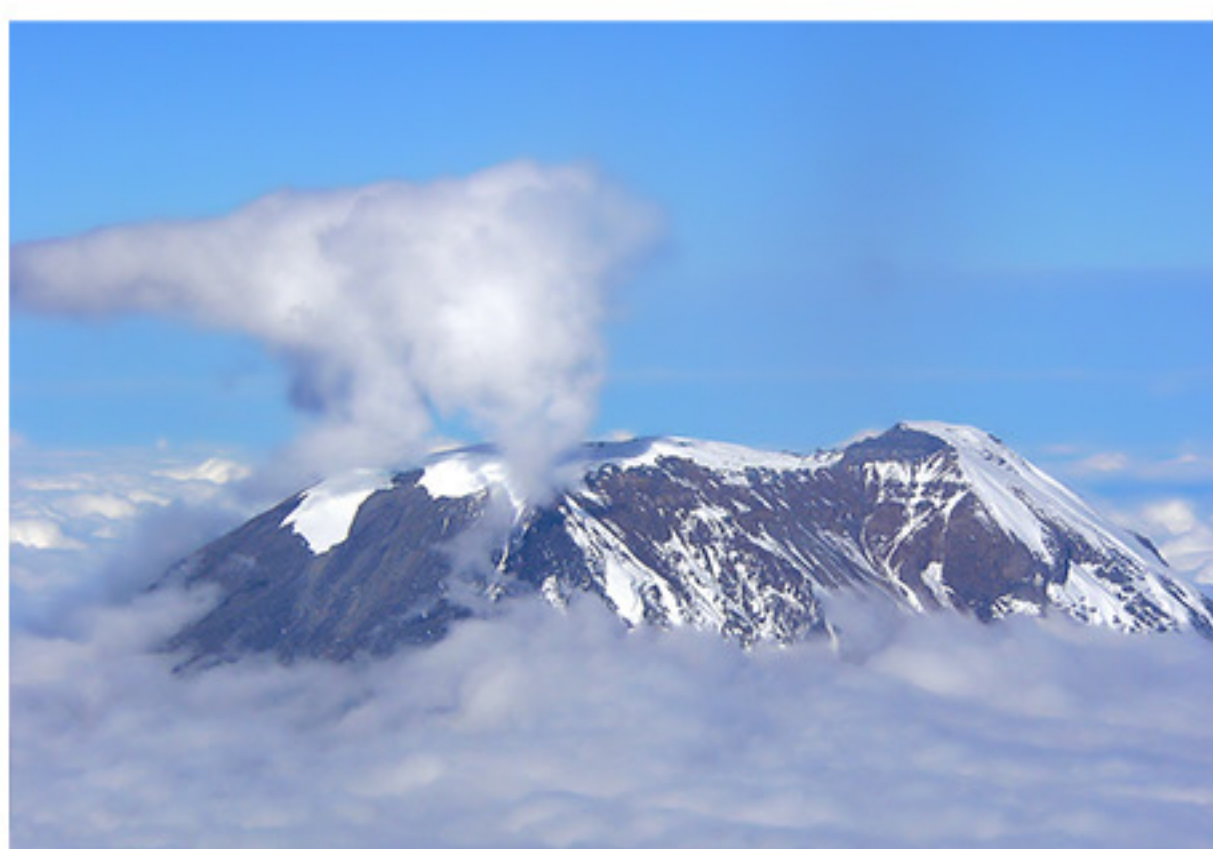


# Trip Overview



## Day 9 Almost there – School Hut Camp

Here our extra days of acclimatizing truly pay off. We cross the saddle and ascend to School Hut Camp at 15,479 ft. The old hut was once a shelter for Outward Bound trekkers out of Kenya. Built in the 1950s, this battered but sturdy relic still serves as a crew shelter and kitchen. The terrain here is remarkably rugged with epic views in all directions.



## Day 10: Now you are Ready

Now is the hardest day of this journey, but by now you are ready. After Midnight the steepest part begins. At a very slow pace we ease up the incline reaching the crater rim at daybreak. As the sun rises, an hours walk along the rim takes you to the highest point in Africa. After summit photos, and a sigh of relief, it's a long day's hike all downhill to Millennium Camp your final camp on the mountain.



## Day 11: The Finale

Descend through the rain forest and celebrate the finish. At the exit gate the rangers will certify your success and present a certificate. Then a short drive takes you to the lodge for a celebratory hot shower, a pool, beverages and delicious food. Day room or overnight at Kilimakyaro Mountain Lodge.

My son and I had the great fortune to summit Kilimanjaro through the services of Deeper Africa in August 2023. Wil has a gift of engaging you on the pros and cons of itineraries and with his wealth of knowledge guides you to the best options. For me the most important aspect was avoiding the crowds, and reaching the summit. We were successful in both! There were other groups that we came across where clearly their guides were pushing their clients as fast as possible to reach the top. Needless to say, those groups did not succeed. I wholeheartedly recommend Wil and the team at Deeper Africa!

- Laurie Lincoln, summited August 2023





# Why Join Us?

## Decades of Mountaineering & Safari Know How

We've been guiding and climbing in Africa for over twenty years. Our guides and leaders are the best in class with multiple decades of training and experience. Our mountain guides have hundreds of summits on Kilimanjaro. Trained in outdoor leadership and certified as Wilderness Medical Responders, "Woofers", not only do they keep you safe and healthy, but they also create the memorable and transformative experience of a lifetime.

We have personally scouted and selected the best trail for its beauty, quietude, and its safe and sane accessibility to the summit. Our approach is expertly designed so even one living at sea level can acclimatize to the altitude (19,340 ft) for a successful and enjoyable summit.

It's not our style to follow the crowds. We always look for fresh new ways to make each new climb better than the last. We are a small group-big-experience outfitter.



# Season Recommendations

**Best:** December through February: (Few if any crowded camps and trails) – better chance of snow)

**Better:** September through October: (Less chance of crowded camps and trails – dry and stable weather)

**Good:** June through August: It can be crowded at a few camps where trails join. Otherwise, the north side is always the less traveled and more exotic way.





# Pricing

## Solo Travelers Welcome: No Single Supplement

Price per person, *inclusive of all park fees, rescue fees, and local taxes:*

From: \$8,250 USD

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## Custom Departures - Choose Your Own Dates

### Included in the Price:

- Expert leadership of our veteran lead guide and assistant guide
- Porters to carry all of your gear excepting your personal daypack
- Roomy heavy duty 3-person mountain tents (for double or singles)
- All lodging as in the itinerary
- All meals and safe drinking water-private cook
- Dining and warming tent
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks
- Hot drinks
- All group camping and cooking equipment
- All land transportation and airport transfers
- All park and entrance fees
- Private portable showers
- Private portable toilettes
- Advanced first aid and safety gear-emergency oxygen
- Unlimited predeparture-coaching, encouraging, and question answering

### Excluded from the Price:

- International travel
- Visas and passports
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities



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