



Savannah to Summit - 8 day Lemosho Trail plus 3 nights' luxury tented safari camp

In addition to our favoured **8 day Lemosho trail** itinerary, this itinerary includes 3 nights at the breathtaking **Ndarakwai Camp**, on the lower slopes of Kilimanjaro and very close to Lemosho Gate – the start point of your Kilimanjaro climb. This itinerary is perfect for climbers who have limited time available but would still like to experience the African bush in classic safari style, engage with Maasai and learn something of their amazing cultural heritage, and see some fantastic wildlife. Your stay at Ndarakwai includes full board, a selection of wines and spirits, and all activities (excluding scenic flight).

About Ndarakwai

Ndarakwai Ranch is over 11,000 acres (4500 hectares) in area and located in Siha District, on the slopes of Western Kilimanjaro. This privately owned ranch, started in 1995 as an experiment in self-sustaining conservation, preserves a variety of habitats that are home to over 70 mammal species, and 350 bird species (at last count).

Ndarakwai is an important part of the Amboseli / Ngasurai eco-system and helps to preserve vital seasonal elephant routes. Many species (lesser kudu, Grants gazelle, warthogs, impala, wildebeest, giraffe, waterbuck, bushbuck, hyena, etc), are permanent residents on the ranch, while others (eland, zebra, buffalo, elephant, cheetah, etc) use Ndarakwai seasonally.

Facilities include 15 spacious en suite tents with thatched roofs, a large dining / bar / lounge area next to the river, and a spacious pavilion for meetings, workshops, pre-climb briefings etc.

Ndarakwai Camp offers an intimate relaxed atmosphere and the perfect environment to prepare you for Kilimanjaro. **Guided full or half day walks** up to elevations of around 2,400 metres offer opportunity for pre-climb acclimatisation and the chance to recharge and regenerate after long-haul international flights. You can also visit a local Maasai village or simply relax at the camp. The 'tree house' where you can watch game at the waterhole, is an activity in itself with an ever changing wildlife cast. Evening or early morning game drives in open vehicles present the best opportunity to see a variety of wildlife in true African safari style. Scenic flights over Kilimanjaro and Mt Meru are also available, departing from the nearby airstrip, with advance booking. www.ndarakwai.com



Full Itinerary

Day 1

Ndarakwai

You will be met at the airport and transferred directly to Ndarakwai. Those arriving early can book activities for this day. Here you meet your trip leader for the expedition with a full trip briefing in the evening and a check of gears. Supper and overnight at Ndarakwai Camp.

Day 2

NDARAKWAI

This morning we will have an optional acclimatisation bush walk reaching altitude of approximately 2,000-2,400 metres. You will return to camp in time for late lunch and then be able to have an afternoon's game drive or visit to Maasai boma. In the evening you have the opportunity for a night game drive. Supper and overnight at the Ndarakwai Camp.

Day 3

NDARAKWAI

This morning we will have an opportunity for another acclimatisation bush walk. You will return to camp in time for lunch and then have an afternoon free to relax or enjoy optional activities. In the evening you have the opportunity for another night game drive or rest in preparation for tomorrow's first day of the climb. Supper and overnight at the Ndarakwai Camp.

Day 4

FOREST

After a relaxed breakfast we set out in vehicles to the starting point of the Lemosho trail. Here you meet the rest of your crew and set off at a leisurely pace into montane forest. Lunch is taken on the trail and camp is reached mid afternoon. Overnight Forest Camp.

Day 5

SHIRA 1

From the forested slopes of Lemosho you ascend through Podocarpus and Juniper forest and break out of the forest on to the heath zone and the Shira Plateau. Lunch is taken on the trail and you arrive in camp mid afternoon. Overnight Shira 1 Camp .

Day 6

SHIRA 2

After yesterday's relatively long hike and significant altitude gain, today is a short day and you arrive in Shira 2 camp in time for lunch. A good day for further acclimatisation with the option of an afternoon walks with your guides. Overnight Shira 2 Camp.

Day 7

BARRANCO

Today is a walk high sleep low day. You ascend into alpine desert and those that are feeling strong can head up to Lava Tower before descending to Barranco camp. Lunch is taken as a picnic lunch on route. This is long day but a great acclimatisation day! Overnight Barranco Camp.

Day 8

KARANGA VALLEY

Today is a relatively long day to Karanga camp. The selection of Karanga camp is important for adequate acclimatisation and in the late afternoon you arrive in camp. Sunsets here are spectacular with views of the glacial valleys and ice fields above you. Overnight Karanga Camp

Day 9

BARAFU

Today is another half day ascending to Barafu camp. Once again lunch is taken in camp allowing plenty of time to relax before the summit bid. Desolate alpine winds are often experienced at this camp and yet in the evening splendid views of Mawenzi volcano are the norm. Barafu Camp is your starting point for your bid to the summit.

Day 10

Barafu to SUMMIT descending to Millenium High Camp

Most people depart just before midnight for the final summit bid. Patience and persistence is the name of game to reach the summit and by dawn as the first rays of light start to appear, most arrive near the rim. Ascending via Stella Point affords a relatively short final section to Uhuru peak, the Roof of Africa! After the summit your goal is to descend to Millenium High camp. Overnight at Millenium High Camp.

Day 11

RETURN TO ARUSHA – OVERNIGHT AT OUTPOST LODGE

The final descent takes you through the lower heath section that eventually turns into rainforest. Your time on Kilimanjaro ends at Mweka Gate where your vehicle will be waiting to transfer you back to Outpost Lodge, Arusha. You may now relax, take a hot shower or even relax by the pool! Enjoy a wonderful celebration dinner!

Day 12

ARUSHA/DEPART

You will be privately transferred to Kilimanjaro or Arusha airports for your departure or connect with optional excursions to National Parks, Ngorongoro Crater, or Zanzibar.

Our all inclusive prices include the following:

- pick up at Kilimanjaro Airport and transfer to Ndarakwai
- 3 night's accommodation before your climb - full board including game activities
- 1 night's accommodation after your climb – bed and breakfast*
- all climb costs, salaries, food, park entry fees, etc
- all transfers to the mountain and back to your Arusha hotel again
- transfers back to Kilimanjaro Airport for your return flights
- AMREF emergency evacuation pre-registration

*Accommodation is on B&B basis in our standard range hotels, usually at Outpost Lodge or an equivalent standard. If you wish to upgrade to either a mid-range or luxury option a surcharge is payable.

Tipping: Our price does not include tips from climbers and tour leaders to your guide and supporting mountain staff. As we have discounted the cost of your climb heavily the tips are a vitally important part of the team's remuneration. We recommend your clients budget \$230-300 (10-15%) for gratuities. We ask that these are paid directly to the chief guide. Individual tipping is highly variable and climbers do not always appreciate the true input of staff into the success of the expedition. Some porters work very hard behind the scenes and make a valuable contribution often only understood by colleagues and the chief guide. Tips are distributed by the chief guide according to a system that is understood and agreed by all at the outset of the climb.