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Company: Mohakin Travel  
Comfort Street  
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Nanyuki – Kenya

## Rongai Rout – 9 Days

 <b>People</b>	Min. 1 – max. 12
 <b>Fitness level</b>	Able to hike 10 km / 6,2 miles a time
 <b>Level of difficulty</b>	Level 2 of 6 - easy
 <b>Meeting point</b>	We'll pick you up at Kilimanjaro International Airport. It will depend if you will spend the night at the hotel in Moshi or in Rongai Gate. Where trekking begins the following day.
 <b>Availability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ January through mid-March</li><li>○ Mid-June through October</li><li>○ December</li><li>○ look at our Tour Calendar on Website - mohakintravel.com</li></ul>
 <b>Duration</b>	9 days inclusive 2 days at hotel
 <b>Trek From - To</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Trek begins: Rongai Gate</li><li>○ Trek ends: Marangu Gate</li></ul>
 <b>Max. Altitude</b>	5,895 m / 19,341 ft
 <b>Tour Start &amp; End</b>	Kilimanjaro International Airport or Hotel In Tanzania
 <b>Drive Times</b>	Drive times are estimated times. Because of the traffic, location of the accommodations, and several other factors, actual drive times may vary. Driving distances are approximate and do not account for exact places.
 <b>About your guide</b>	All of our guides have extensive experience and training, certification, and knowledge of the area and all of the routes. You'll be in great hands from top to bottom and by the end of the trip, you'll be sad to say goodbye! Depending on the number of hikers, there will be generally 1 guide for every 2 people and 3 porters per person.
 <b>Meals</b>	On all of our tours, all of our meals are freshly prepared on the mountain by our talented chef, so when we arrive to camp after a long day of hiking, we have a delicious hot meal waiting for us. Please note: we can accommodate any dietary needs, so please let us know what your meal requirements are and we will be sure to have our chef whip you up something yummy!



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## Tour Description

The Rongai route ascends Kilimanjaro from the northeastern side of the mountain and is normally accessed from Kenya through the Loitokitok border crossing into Tanzania. It offers a unique and quality traverse of Kilimanjaro, approaching the peak by a remote track on the Kenyan side of the massif and reaching the summit (5896m) via the high altitude desert of the “Saddle” then descending on the Tanzania side through the Mweka trail. This route retains a sense of unspoiled wilderness and offers a totally different perspective of Kilimanjaro. Rongai Route is also apparently the easiest Mount Kilimanjaro trekking option with fairly gentle gradients and shorter daily trekking phases.

Trip tips: Accommodation on the trek is camping throughout in roomy mountain tents shared by two people. Guides leading the trek always walk along with the climbers and closely monitor the trekker’s adjustment to altitude. All your equipment will be carried by local porters on the mountain, you only carry a day-pack with personal gear. When camping on our trips you will not have to participate in camp chores. We buy fresh produce locally and to ensure good standards of hygiene all food is prepared by our own staff and can cater for special dietary requirements and there are no extra food-kitty payments.

### Day 1 - Arrival and Airport Pickup – Kilimanjaro

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 950 m / 3,120 ft
- ⇒ **Distance:** 42.2 km / 26.2 miles
- ⇒ **Drive Time:** 1 – 1.5 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Town/ Municipality / County

You will be picked up at the airport.

You will be transferred to Hotel in Nairobi where you will check-in in one of the best hotels in Nairobi Town.

Have lunch, after be ready to sort out your hiking gears to reduce chances of inconvenience.

Dinner and breakfast at the hotel.

### Day 2 - Moshi – Rongai Gate – 1st Rongai Cave

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 950 m / 3,120 ft – 1,950 m / 6,398 ft – 2,834 m / 9,300 ft
- ⇒ **Distance:** Treck 8 km / 5 miles / by car 93 km / 58 miles (2hr 30min hrs drive)
- ⇒ **Trekking Time:** 3 – 4 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Rain forest

We drive from Moshi to Marangu Gate for permits before taking a short transfer to the Rongai Gate trailhead. The path winds through corn and potato fields and then climbs gently through the forest which is home to a variety of wildlife, including the black and white colobus monkey.



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### Day 3 - Rongai Cave- 2nd Cave – Kikelewa Cave

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 2,834 m / 9,300 ft – 3,444 m / 11,300 ft – 3,600 m / 11,811 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking Distance:** 12 km / 7.5 miles
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 7 – 8 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Heath

We begin this morning with a steady incline up to Second Cave. We continue trekking through moorland, leaving the main trail for a smaller path towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi, before finally arriving at Kikelewa Cave for the night.

### Day 4 - Kikelewa Cave – Mawenzi Tarn Camp

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 3,600 m / 11,811 ft – 4,315 m / 14,160 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking Distance:** 5 km / 3.1 miles
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 3 – 4 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Alpine Desert

The hike today is short and steep up a grassy slope. Views of the wilderness area are stunning. As we exit the heath zone and emerge into the Alpine Desert zone, the landscape changes dramatically. Our camp is situated beneath the jagged spires of Mawenzi, at Mawenzi Tarn. The remainder of the day can be spent relaxing or exploring the area.

### Day 5 - Mawenzi Tarn – Mawenzi Ridge – Mawenzi Tarn

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 4,315 m / 14,160 ft – 4,389 m / 14,400 ft – 4,315 m / 14,160 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking Distance:** 4 km / 2.5 miles
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 3 – 4 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Alpine desert

We continue to the east up a ridge and then head southeast towards the Lava Tower – a 300 ft tall volcanic rock formation. Then we divert from the main trail to Moir Hut, a little used site on the base of Lent Hills. A variety of walks are available on Lent Hills making this an excellent acclimatization opportunity. Shira Plateau is one of the highest plateaus on earth.



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## Day 6 - Mawenzi Tarn – Kibo Hut

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 4,315 m / 14,160 ft – 4,703 m / 15,430 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking Distance:** 8 km / 5 miles
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 5 – 6 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Alpine desert

We climb gradually, then cross the lunar desert of the “Saddle” between Mawenzi and Kibo. Our camp, Kibo Hut, sits at the bottom of the Kibo crater wall. Once here we rest, enjoy an early dinner to prepare for the summit day.

## Day 7 - Kibo Hut – Uhuru Peak – Horombo Hut

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 4,703 m / 15,430 ft – 5,895 m / 19,341 ft – 3,734 m / 12,250 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking Distance:** 22 km / 13.7 miles
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 12 – 13 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Arctic and Heath

Very early in the morning (around midnight), we begin our push to the summit. This is the most mentally and physically challenging portion of the trek. The wind and cold at this elevation and time of day can be extreme. We ascend in the darkness for several hours while taking frequent, but short, breaks. At Gilman’s point (18,600 ft), you will be rewarded with the most magnificent sunrise you are ever likely to see coming over Mawenzi Peak. Finally, we arrive at Uhuru Peak- the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro and the continent of Africa.

After spending a few moments taking in the plains of Africa and your accomplishment, we descend to Horombo Hut. Later in the evening, we enjoy our last dinner on the mountain and a well-earned sleep.

## Day 8 - Horombo Hut – Marangu Gate

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 3,734 m / 12,250 ft – 1,843 m / 6,046 ft
- ⇒ **Hiking / Driving Distance:** 20 km / 12.4 miles hiking / 38 km / 24 miles (1 hr) by car
- ⇒ **Hiking Time:** 5 – 7 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Rain forest

On our last day, we have a long trek mostly downhill through the tropical rainforest. Once at the park headquarters at Marangu gate, we collect our summit certificates. A vehicle will meet us here and drive us back to the hotel in Moshi.



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## Day 9 - Exiting Moshi hotel to Kilimanjaro Airport or for further safari

- ⇒ **Elevation:** 950 m / 3,120 ft
- ⇒ **Distance:** 422 km / 262 miles
- ⇒ **Drive Time:** 1 – 1.5 hours
- ⇒ **Habitat:** Town / Municipality

After Break First Check and make sure as you leave the hotel that everything is in good condition and intact. Get ready to be driven back to the Airport or embark on other safaris in Tanzania or Kenya with an unforgettable safari experience with us.

## Important Details

### Gear list

#### Bags

- 65-75 liter rucksack (for a porter to carry your main gear) with cover
- 35-45 liter day sack (for you to carry each day)
- Dry bags of different sizes for clothes, sleeping bag and so on.

#### Shell

- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Waterproof gaiters
- Umbrella (optional)

#### Warmth

- Warm jacket – could be fleece or down jacket, potentially ski jacket. Make sure you can put the waterproof jacket over the top.
- 2 or 3 Fleece tops or hiking shirts/sweatshirts
- 2 or 3 base layers or T-shirts
- Pair of trekking trousers and shorts
- Leggings or thermal bottoms or running tights
- Several sets of underwear – cotton best avoided. Sports bras and cycling shorts are good.

#### Extremities

- Warm hat and a buff or scarf
- Sun hat
- Warm gloves or mitts, and thin liner gloves are also useful

#### Feet

- Several pairs of good quality trekking socks
- Waterproof trekking boots
- Trainers or flip flops/sandals

#### Sleeping

- 3-4 season sleeping bag (comfort -5degC or lower)
- Sleeping bag liner cotton/fleece/silk (optional)
- Stuff sack for sleeping bag
- Thick foam mat or self-inflating mat (like a Thermo-A-Rest)

#### Personal

- Sunglasses
- Walking Poles
- Some favorite snack bars



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- Head torch
- Power pack for charging phones etc
- Wash kit – no showers on the mountain but you can have a bucket wash
- Papers – passport, money, insurance
- 2 water bottles
- Flask for hot drinks – useful on summit night
- Earplugs
- Wet wipes, tissues
- Anti-bacterial hand gel

#### First AID suggestions

- Paracetamol – temperature, colds
- Painkiller – headaches, very good for altitude related symptoms
- Antiseptic wipes and a few plasters and tape, antiseptic cream
- Blister Plasters
- Oral rehydration Sachets
- Sunblock and lip salve
- Knee/Ankle Support
- Personal Medications eg anti-malaria tablets, inhalers, anti-histamine

## Included in the price

- ✓ Full organization of Mohakin Travel from / to Nairobi Airport
- ✓ Airport pick-up and drop-off
- ✓ All transfers, excursions and sightseeing according to the program
- ✓ Full board during the trekking tour / climbing tour / safari
- ✓ Boiled water, black tea, coffee and powdered milk for the ascents
- ✓ Transportation to and from the hotel and trailhead
- ✓ Accommodation in Mountain Tents (2-man tent, 4-season tent, mess tent, kitchen tent, chairs and tables)
- ✓ Sleeping mat
- ✓ Support team (certified guides, porters, and cooks)
- ✓ Guides, cook and porters and their payment
- ✓ Experienced English speaking Kenyan guide
- ✓ All park and camp fees for the tour
- ✓ Preparatory talk on the phone (WhatsApp)

## NOT Included in the price

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Visa
- ✗ Tips for the support team
- ✗ Sleeping bags and other personal gear
- ✗ Rental gear
- ✗ Lunch and dinner at the hotel
- ✗ Single supplement in Hotel
- ✗ Drinks and snacks
- ✗ You must have your own Personal insurance - also in the case of emergency, we can organize for the airlifting
- ✗ Climbing Guide (only for Batian & Nelion Peak) which is 500 \$ for whole climbing process
- ✗ Climbing equipment (only for Batian & Nelion Peak), which is 50 \$ per person



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## Terms and Conditions

*Reservations:* A deposit of 35% is required at the time of booking and the balance at least before the tour begins or full payment/part payment before treks or safaris arranged on short notice. Although special payment can be made direct with the office.

*Cancellation:* Any monies paid will be refunded less 35% of the cost and any cost levied by hotels or any additional food expenses. Rates: Includes all expenses in respect of vehicles or drives as per itinerary/general information. Also includes meals on safari and entrance fees to National parks/Game reserves.

*Transportation:* Cars, minibuses, 4WD's, coaches or trucks will be provided according to the route and number of clients. The right is reserved to employ the services of sub-contractors as appropriate. English speaking driver/guide are provided.

*Accommodation:* Where possible rooms with a private shower are provided. Single rooms are available at an additional cost but cannot be guaranteed. Hotels/lodges are named as an indication of category and room may be reserved at similar hotels and lodges. Accommodation is specific to client's requirements as budget class, middle class and luxury class is available as per accommodation information.

*Alteration to Tours/treks:* We reserve the right to alter arrangement or cancel the operation of scheduled trek/safari should the circumstance necessitate. We also reserve the right to decline or accept or retain any person as a member of any tour at any time, in which case an equitable amount will be refunded. Prices are based on tariffs and other costs prevailing at the time of printing and are subject to change without notice, but a full explanation will be given.

*Liability:* We do not accept responsibility for personal injury, accident, loss whilst clients are on treks/safari and advise all clients to take out separate insurance cover. Mohakin Travel act only as agents when employing the use of sub-contractors and act as only agents of the passenger/client in all matters relating to Hotel/Lodge Accommodation, tours, transport, etc. and shall not be liable for injury, delay, loss or damage in any manner. The company's liability to passengers carried in its own vehicle is governed by the laws of the country in which the tour takes place and no other country. All claims are subject to jurisdiction of the courts of the country in which the action arises. The company reserves the rights to employ sub-contractors for all parts services.

*NOTE:* All expeditions involve an element of personal risk and times can be hazardous nature, Expedition members must accept this risk, we are not liable for any loss, damage, injury, expense, delay or inconvenience caused to your baggage as a result, whether directly or indirectly, or any matter or whatever nature which is outside our control. All participants are advised to take out an insurance policy to cover personal accidents and medical expenses. We can arrange this at low cost. The guide reserves the right to withdraw participants from treks, safari due to inclement weather, irresponsible behaviors, poor health or any other sound reason the guide gives.

## Quality Guarantee

Mohakin Travel clients can expect the following guarantees to ensure proper service:

- Your guide will introduce himself and your driver, and cover the laid out tour/safari itinerary in advance.
- We will double-check that all gear and supplies are prepared for your custom tour/safari.
- During the tour/safari, we will ensure that your needs are met and you are well cared for.
- We will address any issues that arise out of our control, to give our clients the smoothest and most enjoyable adventure possible.
- We will ensure the drivers /sub-contractors are on time and presentable.
- We will give information about surrounding areas and points of interest.
- Each day, we set time aside to let our clients know what is happening for that day.
- At the end of your tour/safari, we will ask for your feedback to ensure the quality of our service.



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## Health and Safety

Mountains in the world can sometimes be dangerous and hazardous – especially in high altitude. It is therefore important to:

1. Be well equipped
2. Let your expedition leader know your health history
3. Have good communication system
4. Have good basic first aid kit and know how to use it
5. Be able to identify mountain illnesses.

### HOW TO RECOGNISE ALTITUDE RELATED ILLNESS

At high altitudes the amount of oxygen decreases dramatically. This can result in medical urgency that must be a concern to every hiker.

#### **AMS** (Acute Mountain Sickness)

Signs include: Headache, nausea, fatigue, malaise, loss of appetite and difficulty in sleeping.

##### *Treatment*

Slow down, stay in camps, drink water and rest while the body adjusts to the altitude. If symptoms persist after 48 hours descend.

#### **HAPE** (High Altitude Pulmonary Aedema)

Symptoms include: Shortened breath during exercise progressing to shortened breath while resting, a dry cough deteriorating to a frothy sputum, audible gurgling (rales) from the chest area, increased heart and breathing rate.

##### *Treatment*

Descend immediately and seek medical attention. Descending is the treatment. It can progress quickly to a point where the patient cannot walk. It doesn't improve with rest at the same altitude.

#### **HACE** (High Altitude Cerebral Aedema)

Symptoms include:- Ams that progress to severe headaches, loss of co-ordination, slurred speech, irrational behaviour, coma and death.

##### *Treatment*

Descend immediately, Hace can quickly progress to lethal stage.

#### Prevention of AMS, HAPE and HACE

Allow 2 nights at 10,000ft or at higher nuts at around 14,000ft Before proceeding higher, increase fluid intake to 4-6 liters per day. Avoid extreme physical exertion and eat a light diet rich in carbohydrates. Take symptoms seriously. Rest and acclimatize if Ams is suspected. Report to ranger rescues station and descend immediately if Hape or Hace is suspected.

However it is important to drink plenty of water slowly to allow your body get used to the altitude.