

# THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT ROUTE

## OVERVIEW AND FEATURES

The Northern Circuit Route is one of the several trekking routes up Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa. It's known for being one of the longer and less traveled routes, offering stunning views and diverse landscapes. Here's a brief overview:

**Length:** The Northern Circuit Route is the longest route up Kilimanjaro, typically taking around 9 to 10 days to complete.

**Scenery:** This route is popular for its scenic beauty and varied landscapes, including lush rainforests, alpine meadows, high desert, and stunning views of glaciers.

**Acclimatization:** The Northern Circuit Route is known for its excellent acclimatization profile, as it provides ample time for trekkers to adjust to the altitude. This can increase the chances of successfully reaching the summit.

**Less Crowded:** Compared to some of the more popular routes like the Machame or Marangu routes, the Northern Circuit Route sees fewer trekkers, offering a more secluded and tranquil experience.

**Summit Approach:** The Northern Circuit Route typically approaches the summit from the northern side of the mountain, providing trekkers with a different perspective of Kilimanjaro.

**Professional Guides:** As with any trek up Kilimanjaro, it's recommended to go with a licensed and experienced guide or tour company. They can ensure your safety, provide necessary equipment, and help make your trek a memorable experience.

Overall, the Northern Circuit Route offers a unique and less-traveled way to experience the beauty of Kilimanjaro while increasing your chances of a successful summit attempt. However, it's important to be well-prepared physically and mentally for the challenges of high-altitude trekking.

# THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT ROUTE

## THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT ROUTE ITINERARY

### **Day 1: Londorossi Gate to Mti Mkubwa (Big Tree Camp)**

Elevation: 2,100m to 2,780m

Hiking Time: 3-4 hours

Habitat: Montane Forest

### **2: Mti Mkubwa to Shira 1 Camp**

Elevation: 2,780m to 3,500m

Hiking Time: 5-7 hours

Habitat: Moorland

### **Day 3: Shira 1 Camp to Shira 2 Camp**

Elevation: 3,500m to 3,900m

Hiking Time: 4-6 hours

Habitat: Moorland

### **Day 4: Shira 2 Camp to Moir Hut**

Elevation: 3,900m to 4,200m

Hiking Time: 3-5 hours

Habitat: Moorland

### **Day 5: Moir Hut to Pofu Camp**

Elevation: 4,200m to 4,100m

Hiking Time: 5-7 hours

# THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT ROUTE

Habitat: Highland Desert

## **Day 6: Pofu Camp to Third Cave**

Elevation: 4,100m to 3,800m

Hiking Time: 4-7 hours

Habitat: Highland Desert

## **Day 7: Third Cave to School Hut**

Elevation: 3,800m to 4,600m

Hiking Time: 4-6 hours

Habitat: Alpine Desert

## **Day 8: School Hut to Uhuru Peak (Summit) to Mweka Camp**

Elevation: 4,600m to 5,895m (Uhuru Peak) to 3,100m

Hiking Time: 7-8 hours to the summit, 4-6 hours down to Mweka Camp

Habitat: Stone scree and ice-capped summit, then descent through alpine meadows and rainforest

## **Day 9: Mweka Camp to Mweka Gate**

Elevation: 3,100m to 1,650m

Hiking Time: 3-4 hours

Habitat: Rainforest

This itinerary allows for proper acclimatization and gradual ascent, increasing your chances of reaching the summit successfully. However, keep in mind that itineraries may vary slightly depending on the tour company or guide you choose. Always consult with your guide or tour operator for the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding your trek.