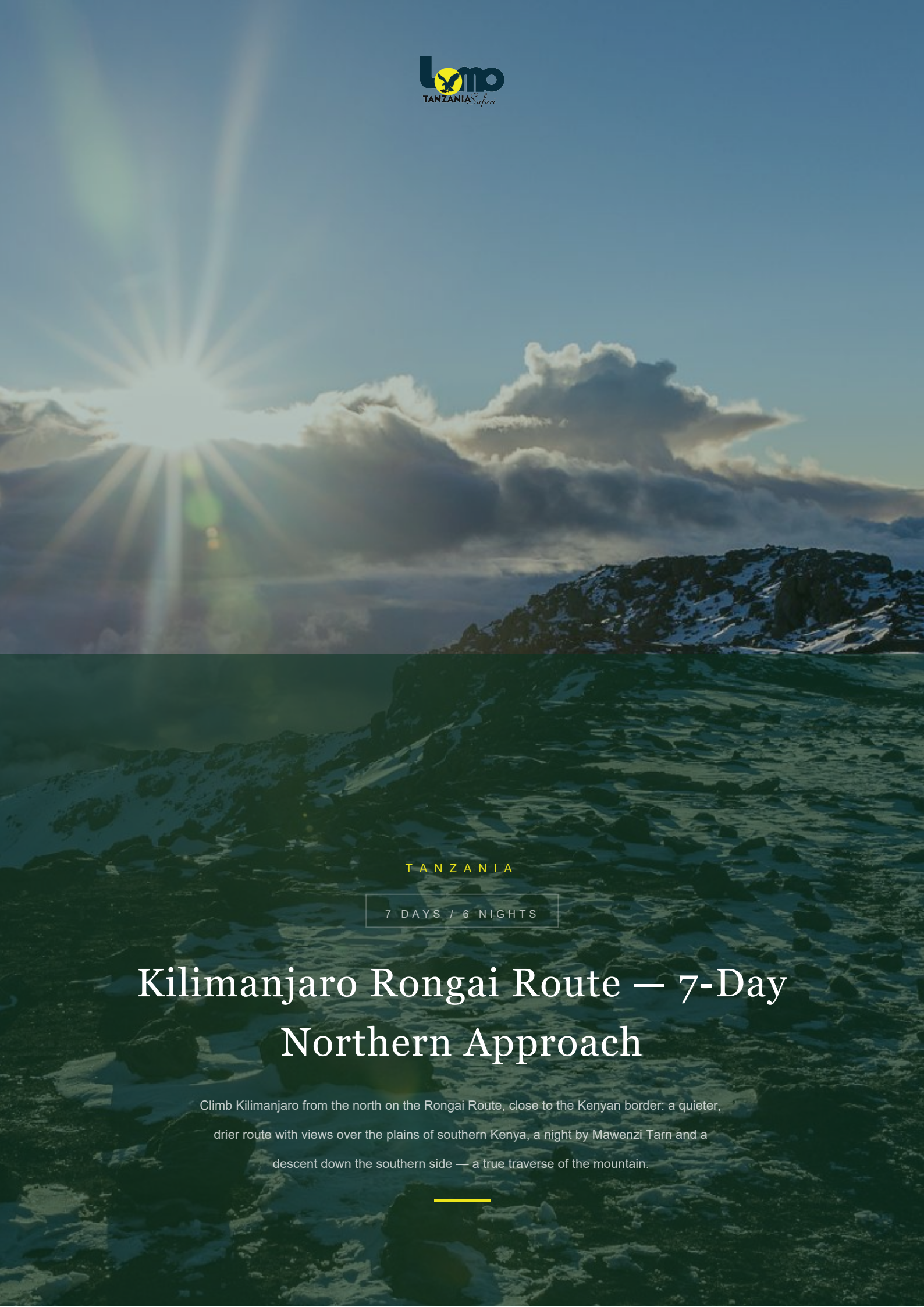


TANZANIA

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

Kilimanjaro Rongai Route — 7-Day Northern Approach

Climb Kilimanjaro from the north on the Rongai Route, close to the Kenyan border: a quieter, drier route with views over the plains of southern Kenya, a night by Mawenzi Tarn and a descent down the southern side — a true traverse of the mountain.

EDITORIAL OVERVIEW

Experience Overview

The Rongai Route is the only Kilimanjaro route that starts on the northern side of the mountain, close to the Kenyan border. It sees fewer climbers than the southern routes and receives less rain, which makes it a good choice in the wetter months and for anyone who prefers a quieter trail.

A different side of Kilimanjaro

From the Rongai trailhead (about 1,950 m) the path climbs through pine plantations and natural forest onto open moorland, with views north over the plains of southern Kenya. You spend a night beside Mawenzi Tarn, a small lake beneath the jagged spires of Mawenzi, before crossing the high desert of the Saddle to School Hut at the foot of Kibo.

A true traverse

Summit night leads up steep scree to Gilman's Point on the crater rim and along the rim to Uhuru Peak (5,895 m). You then descend on the southern side via Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate, so you see two completely different faces of the mountain. The gentle gradient of the lower days and the seven-day profile give good time to acclimatise.

SIGNATURE MOMENTS

Highlights

- ★ The only route that starts on Kilimanjaro's northern side
- ★ Views over the plains of southern Kenya
- ★ A night beside Mawenzi Tarn beneath Mawenzi's spires
- ★ A true traverse: up from the north, down the southern side
- ★ Drier climate — a good choice in the rainy season
- ★ Quieter and more remote than the southern routes
- ★ Gentle gradient that helps acclimatisation

SAFARI ROUTE

Journey Route

Follow your journey across Tanzania's iconic landscapes

SAFARI ROUTE OVERVIEW

Route map will appear once destinations are assigned.

ROUTE SUMMARY

Route summary will appear once destinations are assigned.

Itinerary

Your day-by-day journey through Tanzania

DAY 1

Rongai Gate to Simba Camp (2,625 m)

After registering at Marangu Gate, drive around the eastern side of the mountain to the Rongai trailhead (about 1,950 m) near the Kenyan border, and meet your crew. The path climbs gently through pine plantations and natural forest, where you may see colobus monkeys, before reaching the first moorland and Simba Camp, with views back over the plains. Distance about 7 km, walking time 3–4 hours. Overnight: Simba Camp (Full Board)





DAY 2

Simba Camp to Second Cave (3,450 m)

Climb steadily through heather and moorland, with Kibo and Mawenzi coming into view and wide views north into Kenya. Arrive at Second Cave Camp, set among old lava formations, in time for a hot lunch and an afternoon of rest. Distance about 6 km, walking time 3–4 hours. Overnight: Second Cave Camp (Full Board)

DAY 3

Second Cave to Kikelewa Camp (3,600 m)

Leave the main trail and head across the moorland towards the jagged peaks of Mawenzi. The walk is gentle, giving your body time to adapt to the altitude. Kikelewa Camp sits in a sheltered valley with giant groundsels and dramatic views of Mawenzi's pinnacles. Distance about 6 km, walking time 3–4 hours. Overnight: Kikelewa Camp (Full Board)





DAY 4

Kikelewa to Mawenzi Tarn (4,330 m)

A short but steep climb brings you to Mawenzi Tarn Camp, beside a small tarn in a cirque beneath the spires of Mawenzi, one of the most beautiful campsites on Kilimanjaro. In the afternoon, join your guide on an acclimatisation walk towards the Mawenzi ridge before returning to camp for the night. Distance about 4 km, walking time 3–4 hours. Overnight: Mawenzi Tarn Camp (Full Board)

DAY 5

Mawenzi Tarn to School Hut (4,750 m)

Cross the Saddle, the wide lunar desert between Mawenzi and Kibo, with the summit cone growing larger ahead. Arrive at School Hut in the early afternoon. Rest, drink plenty of water and prepare your clothing and headtorch while your guides check your health. An early dinner is followed by a few hours of sleep before the summit attempt. Distance about 8 km, walking time 5–6 hours. Overnight: School Hut Camp (Full Board)





DAY 6

Summit Night — Uhuru Peak (5,895 m) and Descent to Horombo

Start around midnight and climb the steep scree by headtorch, passing Hans Meyer Cave on the way to Gilman's Point (5,681 m) on the crater rim, usually reached around dawn. A further one to two hours along the rim bring you to Uhuru Peak (5,895 m), the highest point in Africa. After photographs, descend to Kibo Hut for a rest and a meal, then continue down the southern side of the mountain to Horombo Hut. A demanding day of 12–15 hours in total. Overnight: Horombo Hut (3,720 m, Full Board)

DAY 7

Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate

Descend through moorland and rainforest to Marangu Gate, sign out of the park and receive your summit certificate. Say thank you and farewell to your crew. Distance about 20 km, walking time 5–6 hours. Transfer to your hotel in Moshi or Arusha. End of trek.



WHERE YOU'LL STAY

Accommodation

Accommodation recommendations will be finalized with your chosen travel dates.

PACKAGE DETAILS

What's Included

Included

- ✓ All KINAPA park fees
- ✓ KINAPA-licensed lead guide and assistants
- ✓ Porters and private camp chef
- ✓ Quality camping equipment
- ✓ All meals on the mountain
- ✓ Purified drinking water
- ✓ Pulse oximetry health checks
- ✓ Summit certificate
- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ Pre-trek hotel night in Moshi

Excluded

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Travel insurance (mandatory)
- ✗ Personal climbing gear
- ✗ Gratuities for mountain crew
- ✗ Personal snacks

BESPOKE PLANNING

Ready to plan your journey?

Share your preferred travel dates and let us tailor this experience around your pace, interests, and preferences.

VIEW THIS TOUR

PLAN YOUR SAFARI

LESS ON OURSELVES, MORE ON OTHERS

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VIEW ITINERARY

END OF ITINERARY