



## Tanzania, Africa September 2020

This once in a lifetime experience is for hikers, nature lovers, animal enthusiasts, adventurers, photographers, singles and couples alike!

There's no greater investment in yourself than to open your eyes and heart to the fun, experience and adventure of travel! It will expand your mind, give you a beautiful respite, enhance your vocabulary, allow you to connect with other cultures, and feed your spirit!

### Maximum Trip Size

The maximum number of persons on this trip will be 15. The tour is being kept to a small number to allow for a more intimate experience. It's a rare opportunity to join other adventurous spirits, just like you, on a trip of a lifetime to one of the most beautiful countries on earth!

### Traveling Solo?

Do you want to travel to Tanzania and Zanzibar or hike Mt. Kilimanjaro but feel uncomfortable doing so alone? No worries! You won't have to be by yourself when you join this group. Instead, you'll spend time with like minded travelers on a trek up the mountain, in a jeep on safari, or just relaxing at the beach.

You'll have a ball, see tons of sights, and create memories with others, like you, who enjoy spending time in exotic and remote Tanzania!

### Deposit

A payment plan is available for those who would prefer that option. Please keep in mind the later you submit a deposit, the higher your monthly payment. For example, those who start paying in September 2019 will pay a higher rate so it equates to the total cost of the trip.

Submit your deposit to confirm your reservation!

### Dates for the full itinerary: September 7-25, 2020

Fly into and out of Kilimanjaro Airport (Airport Code is JRO). **You must arrive on September 7, 2020 for the climb!**

### Recommendations

Climbing Kilimanjaro does not require any technical skills or special equipment, just good physical fitness and determination. People from all walks of life, from a 7 year old child to an 85 year old man, have successfully summited. But the challenge should not be taken lightly. You need to understand what lies ahead—and prepare for it!

We will hike between 4 and 6 hours per day on the Machame Route. It will take a total of 7-days (9-days including two nights lodging to acclimate).

There are hundreds of companies who service the mountain. Selecting an operator can be a daunting task. However, I have done the research and have selected an operator based on experience. The operator, a Tanzanian, has competent guides who practice high safety standards and treats porters well.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are the best months to travel?

The best times to climb Kilimanjaro tend to be the warmest and driest months -January, February, and September. June, July, August and October are also good months. However, temperatures and weather are unpredictable, and can change drastically based on the time of day and altitude. I have selected September as the best time both to climb as well as the most opportune time to see The Great Crossing of the Wildebeest.

### Which route should we climb?

The Machame Route presents the best opportunity for success in reaching the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro!

Each route has different characteristics which may or may not appeal to you. I considered the difficulty, scenery, and crowds when selecting our route. Other factors that should be considered before you decide to hike are your age, fitness level, medical conditions, backpacking, hiking experience, experience at high altitude, degree of motivation, and any other special considerations. For those who are not interested in the climb, an option has been developed just for you that includes going on safari and resting on Zanzibar's pristine beaches!

### How many days are needed?

The more days you spend on the mountain, the better your chances for successfully reaching the summit. Statistics show that each additional day you spend acclimatizing increases your probability of success.

We will arrive two days early to acclimate which should increase our chance of success.

### Should You join my Private Group?

The group climb is limited to 15 people. I've negotiated the best rate for an amazing experience. This trip is perfect for solo travelers as well as pairs or couples. Obviously you have choices, however, you'll climb among new and old friends should you join me!

In my opinion, a small-party is the best way to climb Kilimanjaro because it ensures individualized attention, added flexibility and increased safety. This will be a private climb that includes friends and family!

### How do I train for the climb?

It is very hard to gauge the mental and physical strength needed to climb Kilimanjaro. If you've spoken to those who have successfully or unsuccessfully climbed it, you would get a wide range of accounts. The truth is, like any other activity, some people excel at it and some people struggle.

Three months of physical training is usually sufficient, doing day hikes for four to six hours, with moderate elevation changes (~1,500 ft) while carrying a 20 lb. pack is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

### What about altitude sickness?

Altitude sickness is potentially fatal. However, most climbers will get some form of mild acute mountain sickness (AMS) while on the mountain. Our guide will monitor us closely during the duration of the climb. However, you should be aware of the symptoms of mild, moderate and severe AMS, and you must inform your guide of any symptoms immediately. Never try to hide your symptoms in order to continue climbing. There is always the possibility you will not be able to summit due to AMS.

### **What is included in the Kilimanjaro Climb?**

3-Nights' Accommodation, 2-nights before and 1-night after climb at Masi Hill Villa in Arusha, based on full board, drinks are included at Masi Hill Villa. Kilimanjaro National Park, permits, camping fees, rescue fees and value (VAT)

- Transfers to and from airport
- Group transport (Clients & Crew) to and from Kilimanjaro
- Expert Mountain guide, assistance guides, cook and porters
- Bottled Oxygen for rescue only
- Mountain tents for clients (double occupancy)
- Mess tents, tables, chairs
- Sleeping pads
- Fresh Nutritious meals on the mountain (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)
- One Complimentary T-shirt per person

### **What is excluded in the Kilimanjaro Climb?**

- International Flights and local flights
- Medical insurance and evacuation (rescue on the mountain included)
- Personal gear and equipment
- Tipping - recommended, per day \$60 USD for guide, \$50 USD for assistant guides, \$30 USD for cook, \$20 USD per porter, but is ultimately to clients discretion
- Entry VISA to Tanzania
- All taxes at the airport
- Any other things not mentioned/described in Price includes section

### **Should you go on the Serengeti Safari?**

We will take a private safari after the Kilimanjaro climb. You can extend your stay in Tanzania or join our group on Day 9! The safari will include accommodations in lodges and permanent tented camps, strategically located in the heart of the action in Serengeti National Park and in Karatu, an ideal base for excursions into Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Eyasi and Lake Manyara.

We will be led by professional safari guides who have intimate knowledge of the National Parks of Northern Tanzania; experts who know where to find the wildlife, either through experience or through a network of communication with other guides. They can spot animals from great distances and do their best to bring you close for an unforgettable encounter with Africa's majestic animals.

### **Ngorongoro Conservation Area**

Located in the great rift valley, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area is a gigantic fracture of the earth's crust. Within this beautiful and unique landscape lies alkaline soda lakes, a series of peaks and volcanoes, dense rain forests, vast plains, archeological sites and Maasai villages. This protected area is the land of the semi-nomadic Maasai, who can be seen grazing their vast herds of cattle.

Although the Tanzanian government has tried to encourage the Maasai to give up their customs and adapt to modern African life, the proud Maasai have resisted. During your visit, it may be possible to visit nearby Maasai villages, called boma, to observe their traditional dance and to go inside their mud and dung huts.

### **Ngorongoro Crater**

Ngorongoro Conservation Area houses one of the world's greatest natural spectacles, the Ngorongoro Crater, home to almost 30,000 animals. Once an active volcano, Ngorongoro Crater collapsed leaving a caldera 12 miles (20 kms) in diameter. With no breaks at all in its steep walls,

this is the largest intact caldera in existence. The bottom of the crater is 165 square miles (265 square kms) and is dotted with watering holes.

The crater shelters an abundance of animals in an area naturally enclosed by the slopes of the volcano. The crater is famous for viewing black rhinos, for which there are very few left. Other animals that can be seen include elephant, buffalo, zebra, wildebeest, gazelle, monkeys, and ever hungry predators including lions and hyenas.

### **What is included in the Safari and Zanzibar Trip?**

- All National park entry fees, camping fees, conservation fees, crater service fees and value added tax (VAT)
- All local flights (Arusha – North Serengeti) (Arusha – Zanzibar) (Zanzibar – Arusha)
- All accommodation based on full board during safari (Zanzibar is based on Half Board (Dinner, Bed and Breakfast) (Zanzibar hotels are charged on Half Board basis)
- All transfers to and from airport in Zanzibar, Arusha Airport and to Kilimanjaro Airport for your Int'l flight
- Transport on a 4-Wheel Drive vehicle, only for you – Private Tour
- Day room at Masi Hill Villa until you drive to Airport, Breakfast, Lunch and Drinks included
- Town tour included if you would like visit Arusha town or suburban areas.
- Experienced Guide(s) who will be our driver(s) as well
- Enough drinking water, Coffee (French Press), Tea, on board safari vehicle daily (Can't be taken to lodge/camp)
- Unlimited mileage during game drives on a private 4-WD vehicle (Within Park regulation hours)
- One Complimentary T-Shirt per person.

### **What is excluded from the Safari and Zanzibar Trip?**

- All International flights to and from Tanzania
- Entry Visa to Tanzania
- All airport taxes
- Travel Insurance and medical evacuation
- Any activity in Zanzibar
- Extra costs of personal nature, i.e. Laundry, telephone calls...
- Tipping for the driver guide, recommended \$10-20 USD per person per day. For camps and lodges, \$10-20 USD per room per day, but is ultimately to clients discretion
- Any other things not mentioned/described in Price includes section

Did you know the Zanzibar Archipelago is an awesome world class beach destination that is only 15 miles off the coast of Tanzania?

Zanzibar might be one of the best beach honeymoon destination of the world...beautiful white sandy beaches and coral reefs, comfortable accommodations, transparent blue sea, like in the movies. We will relax and unwind after our Kilimanjaro Climb and safari on Zanzibar Island! Oh yeah!!!

### **Itinerary (which will be confirmed by July 31, 2020).**

#### **Day 1: Arrival Day**

You will be picked up and transferred to Masi Hill Villa for Dinner and Overnight stay. Lodging: Masi Hill Villa

**Day 2: Rest Day.**

Briefing from your Mountain guide, check your gear. After lunch you can walk with the local guide in the village or visit Ngiresi water falls, and hike a small mountain OR You can just relax at the villa.  
Lodging: Masi Hill Villa

**Days 3-8: Enter Machame gate and climb Kilimanjaro**

**Day 9:** Picked up from Mweka gate after the climb and transferred to Masi Hill Villa for dinner and overnight stay.

**Days 10-12: Safari begins (Game Drives)**

We will be transferred to Arusha Airport for a flight to Northern Serengeti. We will meet our safari guide(s) and continue with the day program. Tanzania Bush Camps

Those who are not going to safari will be transferred to the Airport in time to catch up with their International flights.

\*Those who are going on safari can leave their mountain gear and equipment at the Masi Hill Villa because they will not need it on safari. It is safe there – guaranteed. Your property will be returned on 19th day after the safari.

**Day 13:** Serengeti and to your accommodation Tanzania Bush Camps. Lodging: Thorn Tree Camp

**Day 14:** Drive from Central Serengeti to Ngorongoro Crater for Game. Lodging: Marera Valley Lodge

**Day 15:** Drive to Tarangire for Game drives, late afternoon drive to your accommodation.  
Lodging: Sangaiwe Tented Lodge

**Days 16-18: Zanzibar!!**

We will drive to Arusha airport in time to catch up with our flights to Zanzibar.

After arriving at Zanzibar Airport, we will be picked by Pongwe Beach Hotel vehicle and transferred to our accommodation for pure relaxation after the Kilimanjaro Climb and great safari.

\*At Pongwe Beach Hotel we will be staying on Half Board basis. Most of Zanzibar hotel/Lodges don't provide full board.

We can have our lunch in nearby restaurants or with special request at Pongwe Beach Hotel.

\*At Pongwe Beach Hotel we will be staying at Beach Front rooms. Lodging: Pongwe Beach Hotel

**Day 19: Departure**

We will be transferred to Zanzibar Airport for our flight to Arusha (It will be very early in the morning) After arriving to Arusha, we will be picked and transferred to Masi Hill Villa, for breakfast and a late lunch.

After breakfast, we can visit Arusha town. Masi Hill Villa villages -Terraced vineyards were carved on top of the other along the hillsides along the coast, and many are still producing wine today!

### **Payments**

The deposit and monthly payments may be made using Paypal (pearlramos@aol.com) or via check.

### **Other Questions**

If you have questions, please feel free to email me at pearlramos@aol.com or phone me at 480-213-8339. Once you register, I'll provide you with the required registration documents. I will post periodic information here for your consideration.

**Disclaimer:** Hiking and safari tours will be included as daily activities on this trip. Good fitness activity is required to participate in the Mt. Kilimanjaro hikes. Training is recommended; however, it is not needed for Option 2 (Safari and Zanzibar).