# Kilimanjaro 360° Bike

Cycle the lower slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania





T: 020 7386 4680 events@theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk www.ultimatechallenges.co.uk

# Mount Kilimanjaro 360° Cycling Challenge Cycle 341km around the base of Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

Come and experience an exciting, challenging and unforgettable 341km cycling tour around the largest free standing mountain in the world, Mount Kilimanjaro.

Cycling 6-days you will experience some of Tanzania's most beautiful landscapes, vibrant villages and wonderful cultures. From the Maasai people who inhabit the arid western plains of Kilimanjaro to the Chagga people who inhabit the foothills of the mountain you will get to discover, experience and learn about these wonderful cultures first hand.

Whilst on your journey you will cycle vast open grasslands rich in wildlife, lush green forests, farmlands, villages and towns. This will be one of the most challenging but satisfying journeys you will ever make. As the saying goes, if you don't want to climb Kilimanjaro, cycle around it!



### **Detailed itinerary**

**Day 1: Depart London to Kilimanjaro** Overnight flight from London to Kilimanjaro International Airport.

#### Day 2: Arrive Tanzania

On arrival, we will be transferred to Moshi town situated on the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro.

We meet our guides who will brief us about the upcoming adventure and together we will do the bike fittings. For those arriving on the morning or afternoon flight, we will have ample time to go for a quick test ride through the nearby coffee plantation and surrounding villages.

#### Day 3: Moshi to Tinga Tinga 45 miles / 73km

Our ride today takes us from greener southern side of Mt. Kilimanjaro towards the more arid western side of the mountain. The ride will initially take us through coffee and banana plantations as we cycle through the more fertile areas of southern Kilimanjaro but as we head west we will cycle through the more arid open plains and acacia woodlands. These plains support a remarkable variety of wildlife and spectacular views of Kilimanjaro.

#### Day 3: Cont.

While Moshi is home the Chagga people west Kilimanjaro plains are home to the nomadic Maasai people who co-exist with the surrounding wildlife and it is why this area is known as the Maasai Lands. We ride today on both dirt and tarmac roads and finish the ride at the Ngabobo village where we spend the night.

#### Day 4: West Kilimanjaro to Nalemoru 42 miles / 66km

Today we will be cycling towards the northeast side of Mount Kilimanjaro to Nalemoru near the Kenyan border. Nalemoru is where the Rongai route on Kilimanjaro starts off. The ride today takes us through beautiful open farmlands with breath-taking views of the west Kilimanjaro plains behind.

#### Day 4: Cont.

We cycle through several vibrant towns and head up the foothills of the mountain towards the Rongai forest. We end today at the Snowcap Cottages which are nestled right on the edge of the Rongai forest. On a clear day you can enjoy amazing views of Kilimanjaro's Kibo and Mawenzi peaks.

#### Day 5: Nalemoru to Lake Chala 40 miles / 64km

Today we enjoy a downhill ride towards the beautiful Lake Chala, a crater lake lying right on the border between Kenya and Tanzania. Lake Chala is one of Tanzania's hidden gems, fed entirely by underground springs from Kilimanjaro. Our camp is situated on the edge of this mystical caldera lake, against a dramatic volcanic backdrop!



## **Detailed itinerary**

#### Day 6: Lake Chala to Marangu 18 miles / 29km

Today's ride will be short but very challenging as you ride from Lake Chala at 900m up to Marangu village at approx. 2000m on the foothills of Kilimanjaro. As we cycle through Marangu village we pass banana and coffee plantations along the way as well as the friendly Chagga people who will be waving and shouting "Jambo!". Before getting to camp we will take a detour to the iconic Kinukamori Waterfall where we can stretch our legs and walk down to the base of the waterfall. Here, a local Chagga guide will give us a brief history of the area, the people, their traditions and customs as well as the mystical legend about the waterfall. After spending some time refreshing by the waterfall we finish the last downhill stretch of the ride towards camp.

#### Day 7: Marangu to Moshi 30 mile / 49km

Our last day of cycling where we will be circumnavigating the villages and plantations on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro.

The first half of the ride will be comprised of several steep ascents and descents followed by a second half which is a gradual downhill ride towards the bustling and vibrant Moshi Town. We cycle through the suburbs and outskirts of Moshi on the back roads as we head towards the Weru Weru River Lodge which marks the end of our incredible journey around Mount Kilimanjaro, on two wheels. We seal the challenge with a fun celebratory dinner and sparkling wine to toast to our achievements.

#### Day 8: Departure Tanzania

Free day. Depending on flight times you could go and explore Moshi town and grab some souvenirs before heading to the airport. Or day flight leaving early morning.

#### **Day 9:Arrive London**

Arrival into London if on an overnight flight back from Tanzania.

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change

Challenge grade Tough

#### Best time of year February to June, September and October

