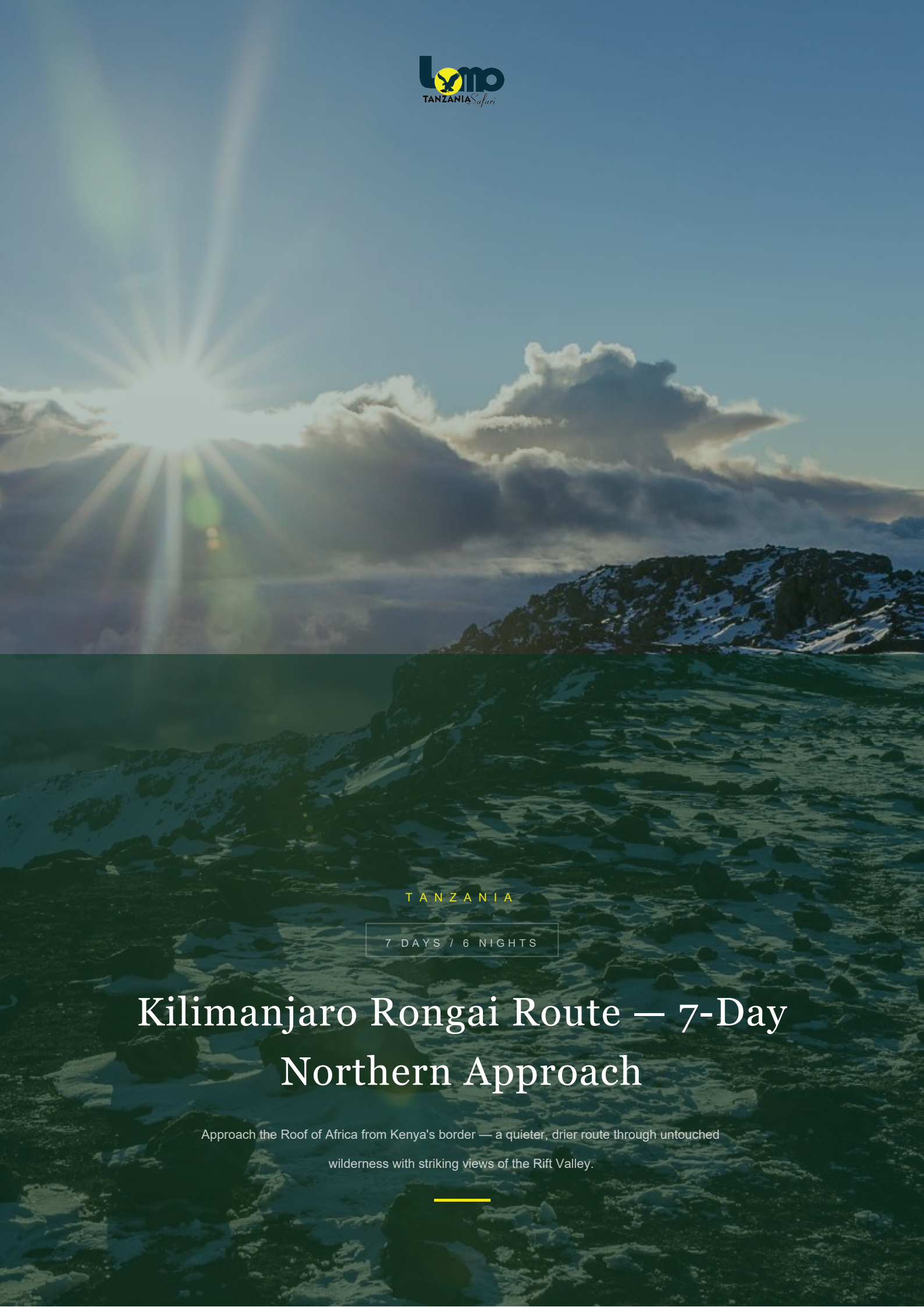

TANZANIA

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

Kilimanjaro Rongai Route — 7-Day Northern Approach

Approach the Roof of Africa from Kenya's border — a quieter, drier route through untouched wilderness with striking views of the Rift Valley.

EDITORIAL OVERVIEW

Experience Overview

The Rongai Route is the only trail that approaches Kilimanjaro from the north, near the Kenyan border, offering a completely different perspective of the mountain. Its drier climate and gentler gradient make it an excellent choice during the rainy season, while its remote character guarantees a more intimate wilderness experience. Beginning at the Rongai Gate (1,950m), the trail winds through pine and heather forest before opening onto sprawling moorlands. On clear days, spectacular views of Kenya's Tsavo plains stretch to the north. The route is uniquely positioned to witness the mountain's northern glaciers and ice cliffs — features rarely seen from other approaches. The path joins the summit trail at School Hut before the final midnight push to Gilman's Point and onward to Uhuru Peak. Descent is via the Marangu Route, giving you a completely different experience going down — a true traverse of Kilimanjaro. Perfect for trekkers who value solitude and want to avoid the busier southern routes, particularly during peak climbing season (January-March, June-October).

SIGNATURE MOMENTS

Highlights

- ★ Only route approaching Kilimanjaro from the north
- ★ Views of Kenya's Tsavo plains and the Rift Valley
- ★ Northern glaciers and ice cliffs rarely seen from other routes
- ★ True traverse: ascend north, descend south via Marangu
- ★ Drier climate — excellent during rainy season
- ★ Quieter and more remote than southern approaches
- ★ Gentle gradient for comfortable 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)

Drive from Arusha to the Kenyan border at Rongai Gate. Begin your trek through pine and juniper forest on Kilimanjaro's drier, quieter northern slopes.

DAY 2

Simba Camp to Second Cave (3,450 m)

Ascend through heather moorland with views stretching into Kenya. Arrive at Second Cave camp among lava formations.

DAY 3

Second Cave to Kikelewa Camp (3,600 m)

Traverse rocky terrain toward the Mawenzi massif. Camp at Kikelewa with dramatic views of Mawenzi's jagged pinnacles.

DAY 4

Kikelewa to Mawenzi Tarn (4,310 m)

Climb steeply to the beautiful Mawenzi Tarn — a glacial lake at the foot of Mawenzi Peak. Afternoon acclimatisation walk.

DAY 5

Mawenzi Tarn to School Hut (4,750 m)

Cross the lunar desert of the "Saddle" between Mawenzi and Kibo. Arrive at School Hut for rest before summit night.

DAY 6

Summit Night — Uhuru Peak (5,895 m)

Midnight start across scree to the crater rim. Reach Gilman's Point, then Uhuru Peak at sunrise. Descend to Horombo Hut.

DAY 7

Horombo Hut to Marangu Gate

Final descent through moorland and rainforest to Marangu Gate. Summit certificate ceremony and transfer to Arusha.

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