

# Kilimanjaro



Mount Kilimanjaro is located in North- Eastern Tanzania. It is 5892 meters (19331 ft) tall. It is the highest mountain in Africa and the fourth highest in the

Seven Summits. Kilimanjaro has three volcanic cones *Kibo*, *Mawenzi* and *Shira*.

Kilimanjaro is a giant stratovolcano that began forming 1 million years ago when lava spilled from the Rift Valley. *Mawenzi* and *Shira* are extinct while *Kibo* could erupt again. The last eruption was dated 360,000 years ago. The glaciers on the mountain have shrunk 82% since 1912 and it has been predicted that in 20 years there will be no ice left.



There are many tracks up Kilimanjaro. Their names are Marangu, Rongai, Lemosho, Shira, Umbwe and Machame. Machame is the most scenic route up the mountain and it takes 6 to 7 days to reach the summit. Rongai and Marangu are the easiest camping routes but you stay in a hut.



The youngest boy to reach the summit is Keats Boyd aged 7. The oldest person to reach the summit is Karl Haupt aged 79. The first deaf person to reach the summit is Heidi Zimmer. The first blind people to reach the summit were Tofiri Kibuuka, John Opio and Lawrence Sserwambala.



Last August Eleanor Macdonald from North Uist reached the summit of Kilimanjaro with other people from St Andrews University. Some of the people couldn't reach the summit as they were suffering from altitude sickness and weren't well enough to carry on. But most of them reached the top.