

# Kitulo National Park Mountain Hiking

## **About Kitulo Mountain**

Known locally as Bustani ya Mungu (God's Garden) and elsewhere as the Serengeti of Flowers, the Kitulo Plateau is unique. Comprising 273 km<sup>2</sup> of Afro-montane and Afroalpine grassland, the plateau has long been heralded as a botanists' paradise, containing great numbers of endemic flowering plants, including terrestrial orchids. Perched above 2,600m (8,528ft) between the Kipengere Range and the Poroto and Livingstone Mountains, Kitulo represents the largest and most important plateau grassland community in Tanzania.



Kitulo is floristically rich, with 350 species of vascular plants documented to date, including 45 species of terrestrial orchid. Many of the species are of restricted distribution. Some 31 species are Tanzanian endemics, 16 are endemic to Kitulo/Kipengere and 10 are restricted to Kitulo/Poroto. At least three species are endemic to the plateau itself and two more are known only from the plateau and adjoining forests. It is the abundance of plants in the wet season, however, that immediately impresses and the phenomenon has been described as 'one of the great floral spectacles of the world'. The plateau is also home to important animal species including national and regional endemics. Breeding colonies of Blue Swallow (*Hirundo atrocaerulea*) and Denham's Bustard (*Neotis denhami*), as well as species such as Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*), Pallid Harrier (*Circus macrourus*), Njombe Cisticola (*Cisticola njombe*), and Kipengere Seedeater (*Serinus melanochrous*), contribute to the plateau being an Important Bird Area (IBA 73).

Kitulo is a hikers and Mountain bikers paradise all our activities in this area are ecofriendly. There are more than 5 hiking routes, one is for fit hikers and at the moment we have researched and established 2 Mountain biking routes one is for fit bikers. The area proves to have better hikes than those of Uluguru Mts, Udzungwa Mts, Mt Meru and is a good exercise for Mt Kilimanjaro Hikes. The environment, views and weather changes rapidly keeping hikers and bikers amazed at all times.

**Day 00: Arrival Day:**

On your arrival you will be met and transferred to the hotel for Dinner and overnight at Kipepeo beach Village

**Day 01:**

After break fast, drive from Dar es Salaam to Matamba Village, for Dinner and overnight at Fema Rest House. FB

**Day 02:**

After breakfast, drive, hike to Mt Mtowri Summit 2998m above sea level, arrive at campsite, inside Kitulo National Park for dinner and overnight. FB

**Day 03:**

Hike to Waterfall, Livingstone Forest or Numbe valley Forest, after the hike, arrive at campsite for dinner and overnight.

**Day 04:**

After breakfast drive to Dar es Salaam to connect your flight back home or continued with other activities.

**Price includes:**

Transport to and from the Southern Highlands  
Food and meals (vegetarian by default, but flexible on request)  
Use of cooking and eating utensils  
Drinking water for the hikes  
National park fees  
Campsite fees  
Use of Camping equipment  
Game ranger fees for hikes  
Mountain bikes  
Campsite guards for security of hikers and their belongings

**Price excludes:**

- First night and last night after Safari (Book with us for \$35 per person sharing per night). BB
- Airport transfer \$ 25 per vehicle per trip.
- International Flights
- Items of a personal nature