

Africa: Day Three

A sea of voices awoke us as the Machame camp came to life. Our cook, Matais, provided a breakfast of sausage (hot dog), porridge, cucumbers, toast cheese, papaya and egg white omelets. – Pretty good menu for a backpacking trip! I think we all had a decent night's sleep. With full stomachs and rested bodies, the group was in great spirits and ready to tackle another day of hiking. Before leaving camp we were introduced to our collection of porters as they lined up to sing us a song. I then gave each porter an mp3 player pre-loaded with the New Testament in Swahili that I had brought as a goodwill gesture. The trail today would lead us out of the trees and into the moorland. This would be a fairly easy day as we



Kibo Peak, a shoulder of Kilimanjaro reminded us of the scale of our goal...



only had to hike three and a half miles to the next camp. It surprised me how much the landscape and vegetation changed as we gained elevation. At times, the vegetation looked almost as if it was part of a coral reef.









After nearly five hours, we arrived at our new home for the night, the New Shira Camp. The Machame route had merged with the Lemosho route so the size of the camp was growing. At one point I walked around and counted 113 tents – it promised to be another noisy night. Another great day of hiking had landed us at 12,600ft. I was tired and hungry, but I was one day closer to the goal!!



Senico Tree

