

Ethiopia

The land of origins

Welcome to a land of dramatic contrasts and ancient heritage. The journey begins in Addis Ababa and continues to the Danakil Depression, where lava lakes and salt flats shape one of the world's most extreme landscapes. It then moves through the highlands of Tigray and the ancient city of Axum, linked to the legend of the Ark of the Covenant.

The route includes the peaks of the Simien Mountains, the castles and churches of Gondar, and a boat ride on Lake Tana to forested island monasteries. The final stop is Lalibela, home to eleven rock-hewn churches carved over 800 years ago.

Ethiopia's landscapes, traditions, and deep-rooted history, reveal a country unlike any other, where ancient civilizations, dramatic terrain, and living heritage meet in ways found nowhere else on Earth.

DAY 01: ARRIVAL IN ADDIS ABABA

- Activity: Arrival, sightseeing
- Distance: airport transfer
- Meal: breakfast

Arrival in Ethiopia's high-altitude capital. Depending on flight time, the group settles in and, if time allows, begins to get a feel for the city's rhythm with a relaxed walk or an optional visit to a local museum or viewpoint.



DAY 02: ADDIS ABABA CITY TOUR

- Activity: Sightseeing
- Distance: walking
- Meal: breakfast

The National Museum holds the remains of Lucy, one of the world's oldest hominids. **Mount Entoto** overlooks the city with sweeping views, while the former imperial palace houses the Ethnological Museum. Our visit continues to octagonal St. George cathedral and finishes at **Mercato**, said to be the largest open air market in Africa.



DAY 03: BAHIR DAR AND LAKE TANA

- Activity: boat ride, sightseeing
- Distance: around 50 km by boat
- Meal: breakfast

Early flight takes us to lakeside city of Bahir Dar on Lake Tana, which is the source of the Blue Nile and hides centuries old monasteries where time seems to have stopped. Ura Kidane Mihret, with its colorful murals, offers a glimpse into a deeply preserved religious culture, after which we will visit spectacular Blue Nile falls.



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Get to know the history of Ethiopia

DAY 04: GONDAR

- Activity: castles and churches
- Distance: 180 km (3-4 hrs)
- Meal: breakfast

Our next stop is Gondar with its Royal Enclosure, a rare sight in Africa. It's a cluster of castles with Portuguese and Indian influences built by Ethiopian emperors. The nearby church of Debre Berhan Selassie is protected by a legend: a swarm of bees once saved it from destruction.



DAY 05: SIMIEN MOUNTAINS

- Activity: driving, short hikes
- Distance: 150 km
- Meal: breakfast

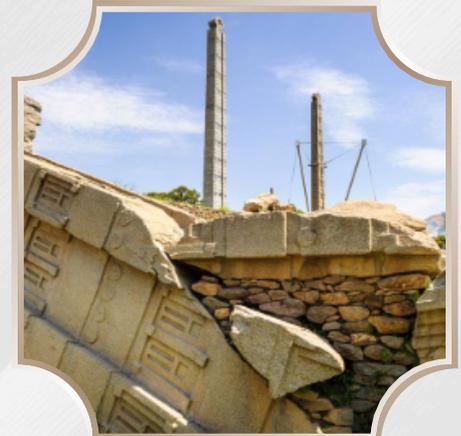
The journey continues to the Simien Mountains, a UNESCO site known for its high plateaus and deep valleys. You'll have the chance to walk in the park and see endemic wildlife such as gelada monkeys, as well as dramatic views of the surrounding landscape. Overnight in a lodge surrounded by nature.



DAY 06: JOURNEY TO AXUM

- Activity: transfer
- Distance: 280 km (7 hrs)
- Meal: breakfast

A scenic full-day drive through mountain passes and rural landscapes takes you to Axum, the capital of an ancient civilization that once traded with Rome and India. Along the way, we will stop for lunch and photo breaks and to enjoy stunning views of the rugged terrain. Overnight in Axum



DAY 07: AXUM

- Activity: sightseeing
- Distance: -
- Meal: breakfast

Axum was once the center of a powerful ancient kingdom. It's a spiritual heart of Ethiopia, where we will visit its large stone stelae (obelisks), underground tombs, and inscriptions. One of the main sights is the Church of St. Mary of Zion, where Ethiopian tradition says the Ark of the Covenant is kept by a monk. Overnight in Axum



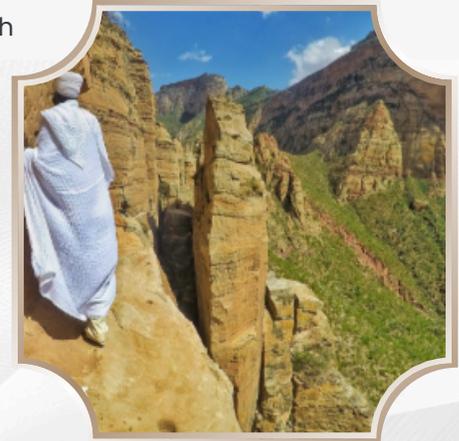
Ethiopia

The country of unique landscapes

DAY 08: YEHA TEMPLE & ABUNA YEMATA CHURCH

- Activity: sightseeing
- Distance: 350 km
- Meal: breakfast

We start our day with a visit **Yeha's** 2,500 year old temple which still stands in near perfect condition. Next stop is **Abuna Yemata**, a rock-hewn church perched high in the cliffs. Reaching it involves a steep climb, but the views and 5th-century frescoes make it well worth the effort. Night in **Mekelle**, Ethiopia's second city.



DAY 09: LAKE AFDERA & ERTA ALE

- Activity: transfer, sights, trekking
- Distance: 300 km
- Meal: full board

We head east into the **Danakil Depression**, visiting the salt lake of Afdera. We continue to Dodom at the base of **Erta Ale Volcano**. In the evening, we will begin the trek to the summit where we spend a night near the lava lake, one of only a few in the world.



DAY 10: DALLOL DANAKIL DEPRESSION

- Activity: sightseeing, transfer
- Distance: 180 km
- Meal: full board

Explore the otherworldly landscapes of **Dallol**, including colorful hot springs, sulfur deposits, and salt formations shaped by intense geothermal activity. Visit the traditional salt miners at the salt flats, where camel caravans are still used to transport salt. Return to Afdera in the afternoon.



DAY 11: ROAD TO SEMERA

- Activity: transfer, flight to Addis Ababa
- Distance: 6 hrs + flight
- Meal: full board

Leaving the other world behind, a scenic drive through the highlands brings us to town of Semera, where we will stop for a lunch. In the afternoon, we will take a plane to Addis Ababa where we will spend the night, before continuing our tour the next day with morning flight to Lalibela..





Eight wonder of the world
Lalibela

DAY 12: LALIBELA

- Activity: flight to Lalibela, sightseeing
- Distance: 1 hr flight

- Meal: breakfast

Lalibela is town in the highlands so called "New Jerusalem", famous for its unique complex of 12th-century rock hewn churches, carved directly into the volcanic rock. They are still places of worship and are linked by a network of tunnels and passageways. It's a unique place of devotion, unlike anywhere else in the world.

DAY 13: LALIBELA

- Activity: sightseenig, flight
- Meal: Breakfast
- Distance: plane ride

Our second day in Lalibela continues with exploring the rest of the rock carved churches and enjoying the mountain views from the hotel rooftop. In the afternoon, we fly back to Addis Ababa. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant and last night in this country.

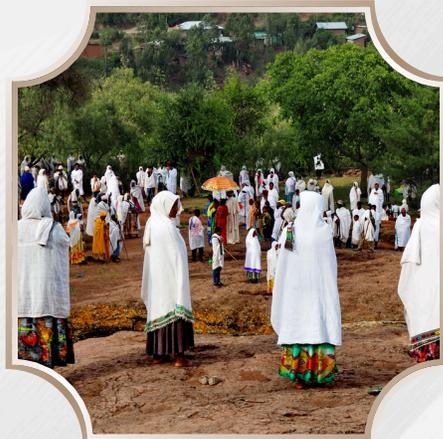


DAY 14: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our international flight back home.

INCLUDED

- Transport
- All domestic flights
- Accommodation
- All entrance fees
- Private guidance
- Breakfast
- Three meals during Danakil tour



EXCLUDED

- Personal expenses
- International flights
- Visas
- Lunch & dinner
- International insurance
- Optional plane ride from Semera to Lalibela

