



# ETHIOPIA

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ADDIS ABABA | KONSO  
HAWASSA | TURMI  
JINKA | OMO RIVER  
ARBI MINCH | LALIBELA

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## TRIP SUMMARY

Base Cost	Total	Monthly
(LO) Land Only (Must Purchase Your Own Flight)	\$2350.00	\$200 Deposit + 7 Payments of \$307.14
(FI) Flight Inclusive Package Leaving from JFK	\$3700.00	\$200 Deposit + 7 Payments of \$500.00
<b>Trip Dates</b>		
October 12 <sup>th</sup> – October 24 <sup>th</sup> (October 27 <sup>th</sup> )		
<b>Included in Base Cost</b>		
11 Day Double Occupancy Hotel Stay	Tour of Konso	
All City Taxes	Tour of Hawassa	
Day tour of Addis Ababa	Host Dinner	
Tour of Adadi Mariam	Daily Breakfast, Lunch & Dinners	
Safari on Lake Chamo	The Highly-Coveted AAT T-Shirt	
Tour of Jinka	Ongoing Support of the AAT staff	
Tour of Turmi	Onsite Photographer + Low-Def Photos	
Tour of the Omo River Region	Trip Highlight Video	
<b>Add-ons and Upgrade</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
Single Room Upgrade	\$800.00	\$114.28
4 Day Lalibela Extension – Double <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round trip Airfare</li> <li>• All Breakfasts/Lunches &amp; Dinners</li> <li>• 4 Day/3 Night Hotel Stay</li> <li>• Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela</li> <li>• Ashton Maryam Monastery</li> <li>• Lalibela Market</li> </ul>	\$1150.00	\$164.28
4 Day Lalibela Extension – Single	\$1500.00	\$214.28

### Payment Arrangements

- Your \$200 deposit is due March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Your first monthly payment will be collected 30 days after your deposit is made or by March 25<sup>th</sup> whichever comes first. Each of the subsequent payments will be collected every 30 days until September 25<sup>th</sup>, for a total of 7 payments (March - September).

### Refund Policy

- Your deposit is fully refundable for 15 days after it has been paid, or until March 25<sup>th</sup>, whichever comes first. 50% of your deposit can be applied to a future trip within a year's time of this trip being cancelled.
- Each monthly payment becomes non-refundable 30 days after the due date for that payment.
- The trip becomes 100% non-refundable on/after September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Refunds can take up to 30 days from the date requested to process.
- Travel/Cancellation insurance is highly recommended for ALL AAT trips. Please contact an AAT rep for assistance in getting you a quote.

## THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### About AAT

#### Detailed Itinerary to be Distributed Upon Receipt of First Monthly Payment

To ensure an intimate and uninvaded experience for our travelers, certain details such as airline names, departure times, hotels and our preparation tips will be withheld until the first monthly payment is received.

#### All Details Are Tentative!

Despite the countless hours invested into planning this trip, the circumstance may arise where we must make changes. For example, maybe we might find out that our hotel isn't up to AAT standard or maybe our airline may go belly up bankrupt (this has actually happened)! Whatever occurs we will do everything in our powers to ensure the trip goes on as planned. And if we do have to make a change, that change will result in you going on a trip that is equal or greater than the value of what you originally paid!

#### Traveling Alone?

While the option is there for you to get a single occupancy room if you choose, by no means do you have to select it if traveling alone. We understand that the extra money spent in getting your own room, takes away from the money available to you to splurge on the streets of Ethiopia!

For that reason, we extend each traveler the option of having us pair you with a suitable roommate for no additional cost. Roommates are paired based upon the answers to their personality questions on their registration form, as well as their ages and even astrological signs. At least 2 months before departure you will be given the contact information of your roommate, giving each of you the opportunity to get properly acquainted.

#### The "Tell-A-Friend" Discount

Do you know someone who may be interested in joining our trip but isn't a member of AAT? Here is your chance to save a little money while bringing them on a trip of a lifetime!

For every traveler that you refer to our trip, you can subtract \$50 from the cost of your trip. There is no limit to the amount of people you can bring, as long as that person has not already traveled with AAT. Be sure to tell your friend to enter your name in the registration form under "How did you hear about this trip?"

Your \$50 discount will be put back on your card once you and your referral have paid in full.

#### The Land Package

The Land Package option is for those travelers outside of the New York area that may want to join us. Selecting this option means that you will have to purchase your own flight to meet us in Ethiopia!

If you select this option, you will have to purchase your flight no later than July 30<sup>th</sup>.

### About Ethiopia

#### Entry Requirements

You must have a U.S. passport valid 6 month past the date of entry and a visa.

U.S. passport holders traveling to Ethiopia for tourism purposes for less than 30 days can obtain an **Electronic Travel Authority (ETA)** for \$52. You can begin the application process by going [HERE](#).

#### Shots/Vaccines

Yellow Fever Vaccine is required in order to enter Ethiopia

#### Weather

Average Weather in October in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Daily high temperatures are around 71°F, rarely falling below 66°F or exceeding 76°F. Be sure to bring a sweater all year round due to Ethiopia's elevation

## THE ITINERARY

### Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

11:20 AM	Depart For Dubai via Emirates flight No EK204	12h 30m Flight
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### Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

7:50 AM	Arrive in Dubai	2h 40m Layover
10:30 AM	Depart for Addis Abba via Emirate flight No EK723	4h 05m Flight
1:35 PM	Arrive in Addis Ababa	
6:00 PM	Black Gold Host Dinner	

### Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM	Depart for tour of Addis Ababa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ethnographic Museum</li> <li>National Museum</li> <li>Trinity Cathedral   Resting Place of Haile Selassie</li> <li>Entoto Hills</li> <li>Mercato Outdoor Market</li> <li>Sheromeda traditional cloth market.</li> </ul>	
6:00 PM	Return to Hotel	

### Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/ Drive to Arba Minch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adadi Mariam</li> </ul>	8h Drive
5:00 PM	Check into Abra Minch Hotel	

### Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Drive to Jinka <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safari on Lake Chamo</li> </ul>	3h Drive
4:00 PM	Check into Jinka Hotel	

### Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM	Tour of Mago National Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit the Mursi People</li> </ul>	
4:00 PM	Check into Jinka Hotel	

### Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Drive to Turmi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit Hamar, Ari &amp; Benna Tribes</li> </ul>	3h Drive
5:00 PM	Check into Turmi Hotel	

### Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM	Tour of Turmi/Omo River <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit Turmi Market</li> <li>Visit the Dessenech tribe</li> </ul>	
5:00 PM	Return to Hotel	



**Sunday, October 20th**

8:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Driver to Konso • Visit Konso People	3h Drive
4:00 PM	Check into Konso Hotel	

**Monday, October 21st**

8:00 AM	Drive To Hawasaa • Visit the Dorze People	7h Drive
6:00 PM	Check into Hawassa Hotel	

**Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

9:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Drive for Addis Abba • Rift Valley Lakes	4h 30m Drive
4:00 PM	Check into Addis Ababa Hotel	

**Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

12:00 PM	Check out Hotel/Transfer to Airport	
4:00 PM	Depart for Dubai via Emirates Air Flight EK724	
9:10 PM	Arrive in Dubai	5h 40m Layover

**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Thursday, October 24 <sup>th</sup>					
2:50 AM	Depart for JFK via Emirates Air Flight EK203	14h Flight	Lalibela 4 Day Extension		
8:50 AM	Arrive in New York		8:20 AM	Depart for Gondar via Ethiopian Air Flight No ET122	1h 10m Flight
9:30 AM	Arrive in Gondar				30m Layover
10:00 AM	Depart for Lalibela via Ethiopian Air Flight No ET122				30m Flight
10:30 AM	Arrive in in Lalibela <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tour 11 Rock Hewn Churches</li></ul>				
6:00 PM	Check into Lalibela Hotel				

**Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM	Tour Yemrehanna Kristos	1h 30m Drive
4:00 PM	Return to Hotel	

**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel • Lalibela Market • Neakuteleab cave	
1:10 PM	Depart for Addis Ababa via Ethiopian Airlines Flight No ET121	1h Flight
2:10 PM	Arrive in Addis Ababa	
4:00 PM	Check into Addis Ababa Hotel	

**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 PM	Check out Hotel/Transfer to Airport	
4:00 PM	Depart for Dubai via Emirates Air Flight EK724	
9:10 PM	Arrive in Dubai	5h 40m Layover

## ***IN DEPTH***

### **Addis Ababa**

#### **Ethnographic Museum**

Set within Haile Selassie's former palace, and surrounded by the beautiful gardens and fountains of the university's main campus, is the enthralling Ethnological Museum. Even if you're not a museum fan, this one is worth a bit of your time – it's easily one of the finest museums in Africa, showing the full sweep of Ethiopia's cultural and social history across two floors.



#### **National Museum**



The collection on show at the National Museum is ranked among the most important in sub-Saharan Africa. Far and away the highlight is the palaeontological exhibition in the basement, the home of world-famous Lucy. Her 1974 discovery in the Afar region of northwestern Ethiopia changed our understanding of human origins forever. This section is well labelled in English, so if your time is limited spend most of it here.

#### **Trinity Cathedral**

This massive and ornate cathedral is the second-most important place of worship in Ethiopia. It's also the celebrated final resting place of Emperor Haile Selassie and his wife Empress Menen Asfaw. Their massive Aksumite-style granite tombs sit inside and are a sight indeed. The solemnity of the interior design contrasts sharply with highly the charged emotions of many pilgrims. It's a fascinating place.



### Entoto Hill



Enjoy panoramic views of the capital from Entoto Hill, a popular outing spot for local families. The area houses a former summer palace of King Menelik II, who developed the hills and densely forested them with eucalyptus trees imported from Australia at the end of the 19th century. Known as the lungs of Addis Ababa, the hills also serve as the training grounds for Ethiopian athletes. Reaching a height of 3,200 m (10,500 ft), the mountain features a government-run space observatory on the top, as well as a number of monasteries.

### Mercato Market

If you're a market lover, one place you can't miss when you visit Addis Ababa is Addis Mercato. It's considered Africa's biggest market, an open air sprawl of vendors that goes on for kilometers; It's one of those markets that weaves in all directions and you never know what you're going to stumble into or what you're going to find. At the market there's a section for just about anything you can imagine.

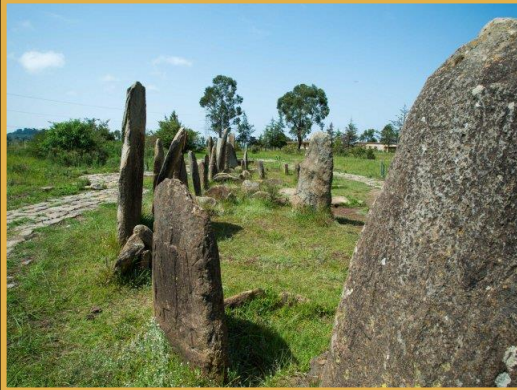


If you're interested in blankets, Ethiopian wedding attire or traditional clothing like a shamma (shawl worn by highlander men), head to this group of stalls lining Entoto Ave, a few hundred metres north of Botswana St and the Spanish embassy. This is where Addis locals do their shopping.



## Arba Minch

### Adadi Maryam



Ethiopia's southernmost rock-hewn church, Adadi Maryam is believed to date from the 12th or 13th century. It's fairly crude in comparison with its counterparts in Lalibela, but if you won't be travelling north, don't miss it. It sits on the far side of Adadi village, 12km west of the main Addis Ababa-Sodo road.

## Jinka

### Safari on lake Chamo

Imagine yourself, for an indulgent moment, sunbathing and observing marine life at sunning Lake Chamo. Green trees and giant view of the water animals along the stretch of golden sand; the sparkling Chamo beckons the best close up view of the fishes, birds and crocodiles and hippos as some of the few things the wildest outdoor escaped offers.



## The Mursi Tribe

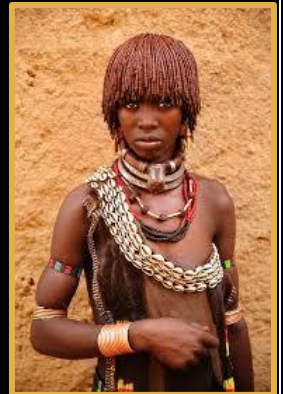


The Mursi (or Mun as they refer to themselves) are a Nilotic pastoralist ethnic group in Ethiopia. They principally reside in the Debub Omo Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region, close to the border with South Sudan. According to the 2007 national census, there are 7,500 Mursi, 448 of whom live in urban areas; of the total number, 92.25% live in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region. Surrounded by mountains between the Omo River and its tributary the Mago, the home of the Mursi is one of the most isolated regions of the country. Their neighbors include the Aari, the Banna, the Bodi, the Karo, the Kwegu, the Nyangatom and the Suri. They are grouped together with the Me'en and Suri by the Ethiopian government under the name Surma.

## Turmi

### The Hamar Tribe

Located in the far south west of Ethiopia in the accessible Omo valley live the 25,000 strong Hamar tribe. The Hamar or Hamer tribe are agro pastoralists, this means that they grow crops and keep livestock, but they place particularly high value on cattle. They are an extraordinary people with a unique expression and culture.



### The Ari Tribe

The Ari people inhabit the northern part of the Mago National Park in Ethiopia and have the largest territory of all the tribes in the area. They have fertile lands allowing them to have several types of plantations. An Ari's crop can consist of grains, coffee, fruits and honey. It's also common for them to have large herds of livestock. Their women are known for selling pottery and wearing skirts made from banana trees called enset. Tribe members wear a lot of jewellery and have many piercings in their ears. They wrap beads and bracelets around their arms and waist for decoration. The Ari are known to paint and scar their bodies as part of their culture.



### The Benna Tribe



The Benna reside in the higher grounds east of the Mago National Park, and their population is estimated at around 35,000 people. They are primarily agriculturalists; however, Benna men also hunt for food, and if they succeed in killing a buffalo greatly prized among their people they are adorned with clay and an impressive headdress, and a great celebration follows throughout the village. The language spoken by the Benna is one of the Omotic group tongues.

## Omo River

### The Dassanech



The Dassanech live around the Omo delta on the northern side of Lake Turkana. They practice flood retreat cultivation, pastoralism and fishing. The Dassanech are the most southerly tribe living in Ethiopia's Omo valley. The lands of the Dassanech are semi-arid and they live where the Omo delta enters Lake Turkana. Their name means People of the Delta. Despite the lake and delta, this is an incredibly dry region; there is nothing but desert to the west and southwest. Cattle are central to the lives of the Dassanech, just as they are for the other tribes of the

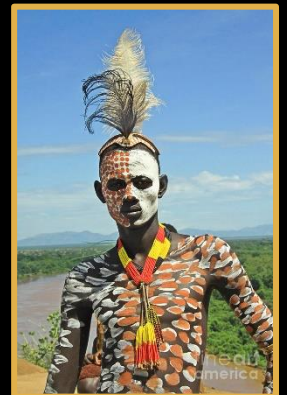
Omo valley. As well as meat, milk, leather for clothing, houses and mattresses, they provide status in the tribe, and the bride-wealth that allows a man to marry. The Dassanech tribe is not strictly defined by ethnicity. Over time the tribe has absorbed a wide range of different peoples and it's now divided in to eight main clans. Each clan has its own identity and customs, its own responsibilities towards the rest of the tribe and is linked to a particular territory.

## Konso

### Konso Tribe

The large Konso tribe in Ethiopia is confined to a homeland of considerably less than 1000 square kilometers. The Konso have no memory of where their ancestors originated. They assume they have always lived in the tiny hilly territory in the far southwest of Ethiopia. Their African ancestors, however, probably arrived there around 5,000 years ago, bringing with them the prevalent stone age culture and agricultural techniques that are still evident today.

From these beginnings their remarkable culture developed in virtual isolation. Surrounded by their neighbors, they continue to till their fields. With the exception of trading with the Borena for salt or cowrie shells, outside influence has virtually passed them by. They have always fiercely defended their territory. This is evident in the fact that each village is walled. Much of their land is terraced and planted with trees, and the fertile fields are tended, irrigated and fertilized.





## Hawassa

### Dorze Tribe

The Dorze live in the Gamo Gofa region, an eight hour journey from Addis Ababa. There are 12 kebeles (Amharic for village or small township) of Dorze people. The Dorze are very industrious and are well educated, comparatively speaking. The literacy rate is estimated to be 45%. They are "cousins" of the Gamo tribe, but consider themselves superior to the Gamo. The Dorze Christians are largely Orthodox, while the Gamo Christians are largely Protestant.



The Omotic Dorze people are famous for their beehive shaped huts which are constructed with vertical hardwood poles and woven bamboo. According to the inhabitants this towering, re-locatable, structure can go as high as 12 meters and last from 60-80 years. Traditionally the bamboos that are used as frames for the huts are cut during moonlight. For insulating the roof of the hut a thatch of false banana (Enset), grass and cover of the bamboo stem are used. Through time when termites destroy the basement of the huts, after having avoided the rotten part of the basement, the whole structure can be lifted and relocated in a different place of the same compound. This practice explains why the hut is first built so high. The older the house the shorter the height.

## Rift Valley lakes

The Rift Valley lakes are a group of lakes in the East African Rift that runs north-south through the eastern side of the African continent, from Ethiopia in the north to Malawi in the south. These lakes include some of the oldest, largest, and deepest lakes in the world. Many are freshwater ecoregions of great biodiversity, while others are alkaline "soda lakes" supporting highly specialised organisms. The Rift Valley lakes are well known for the evolution of at least 800 cichlid fish species that live in their waters. More species are expected to be discovered.





## Lalibela

### Rock Hewn Church

This rural town is known around the world for its churches carved from within the earth from "living rock," which play an important part in the history of rock-cut architecture. Though the dating of the churches is not well established, most are thought to have been built during the reign of Lalibela, namely during the 12th and 13th centuries. Unesco identifies 11 churches assembled in 3 groups:



#### The Northern Group:

- Biete Medhane Alem (House of the Saviour of the World), home to the Lalibela Cross.
- Biete Maryam (House of Miriam/House of Mary), possibly the oldest of the churches, and a replica of the Tombs of Adam and Christ.
- Biete Golgotha Mikael (House of Golgotha Mikael), known for its arts and said to contain the tomb of King Lalibela)
- Biete Meskel (House of the Cross)
- Biete Denagel (House of Virgins)

#### The Western Group:

- Church of Saint George, thought to be the most finely executed and best preserved church

#### The Eastern Group:

- Biete Amanuel (House of Immanuel), possibly the former royal chapel
- Biete Qeddus Mercoreus (House of Saint Mercurius/House of Mark the Evangelist), which may be a former prison
- Biete Abba Libanos (House of Abbot Libanos)
- Biete Gabriel-Rufael (House of the angels Gabriel, and Raphael) possibly a former royal palace, linked to a holy bakery.
- Biete Lehem ("Bethlehem", Hebrew: בֵּית לֶחֶם "House of Bread").

### Yemrehana Krestos Church

Located 12 miles northeast from Lalibela, the church was built in a large northeast-facing cave on the west side of Mount Abuna Yosef. Until the construction of a road in 2000, according to British Archaeologist David Phillipson, this church was reachable only after "a long day's arduous journey on foot or mule." The construction of the church is credited to Yemrehana Krestos. The building is notable for its resemblance to the ancient church on Debre Damo, with walls that, according to Phillipson, "show a similar horizontal pattern of inset beams and projecting stonework", with "wooden quoins, door- and window-frames that are essentially Aksumite in style". Munro-Hay believes that the church's interior decorations make "Yimrehana Krestos the most elaborate of all



	known ancient Ethiopian churches." Mural paintings high on the nave walls are considered the oldest surviving mural paintings in Ethiopia. The cave also contains a second structure north of the church, which tradition describes as a palace or residence of Negus Yemrehana Krestos, but now serves as a residence and storage space for the local priests.
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