

# Danakil Depression & Lower Omo Valley 12 Day's ETHIOPIA November 2018

# Day 1, Addis Ababa Airport – Gonder

Domestic flight from Addis Ababa Airport to Gondar Airport.

Visit includes, the castle compound (UNESCO World Heritage Site), King Fasiledes' Bath, the Debre Birhan Selassie (The light of Trinity) Church with wonderful Murals, Qusqam Church and Mentwab Palace. Meals: L, D Hotel: Gonder

# Day 2, Gondar Airport – Lalibela

Domestic flight from Gondar Airport to Lalibela Airport.

Tour the magnificent Rock-Hewn Churches of Lalibela, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This group of eleven monolithic and semi-monolithic structures were carved directly into the stone of the mountainside at least 800 years ago. This complex boasts the largest monolithic church in the world, a maze of passageways and tunnels, intricately carved reliefs, and fabulous examples of icon paintings. Meals: B,L,D Hotel: Lalibela

# Day 3, Lalibela – Axum

Domestic flight from Lalibela Airport to Axum Airport.

Sightseeing in Axum, a town steeped in more than 2500 years of history, from the palace and tomb of King Kaleb (6th C, AD). You will also visit the extraordinary Stella's records as a world heritage site (WHS) and the tomb of king Remhay (1st to 4th C, AD). Visit the church of St Mary of Tsion (17th C, AD), in which is deposited the Arc of the Covenant.

Meals: B,L,D Hotel: Axum

# Day 4, Axum – Makale

Drive east visiting Yeha Temple & Debre Damo Monastery in to Adigrat, south in to Wukro visit "The Church of Abraha Atsbeha".

About 15km drive west from Wukro; Abraha We Atsbeha is located in one of the most scenic sites of the region. Considered among the country's earliest churches, it is known for extraordinary interior decoration as well as its magnificent murals. Its ceiling is decorated with sophisticated patterns and its walls are dotted by curved crosses. More than a dozen enormous columns divide the interior of the church into several bays and aisles. Without doubt, Abraha Atsbeha is a rock church masterpiece. According to local tradition, the church was constructed in the 4th century, but some scholars estimated its date of construction to be the 10th century. What is certain is that it is built well before the famous rock-hewn churches at Lalibela. Drive to Makale. Meal: B,L,D Hotel: Makale



### Day 5, Makale – Berhale – Hamede Ela

The Danakil Depression is one of the most inhospitable regions of the world, but is nonetheless spectacular, full of eye-catching colors, as in the sulphur springs. The desert has several points lying more than 100 meters (328 ft) below sea level; You pass through a small town of Berhale where the camel caravan stop before they proceed to the northern highlands. En route you might see many long camel caravans coming to the salt mine and others going out of the Danakil with their salt loaded camels. After driving to reach Hamad Ela, better village with a total population about 500 people. Sun set at Dallol.

Meals: B,L,D Camping: Hamed Ela

# Day 6, Hamed Ela – Ragad/Asebo – Dallol – Makale

Morning drive expedition to Ragad (Asebo), the place where the localities are mining salt. Look the activity of breaking the salt from the ground, cutting in to rectangular pieces and loading on camels. You drive ahead to Dallol and visit the difference landscape formed by volcanic activity, Dallol + Lake Assal + Camel Caravans. Excursion to Dallol (116 meter below sea level, one of the lowest places in the world) colorful salts mining, visit Lake Assal, follow up camel caravans and walk with the Afar people. Drive back to Hamedela and proceed to Makale.

Meals: B,L,D Hotel: Makale

# Day 7, Makale – Arba Minch – Jinka

Domestic flight from Makale Airport to Addis Ababa Airport to Arba Minch Airport. Connection Addis Ababa arrival 10:10. Addis Ababa departs 13:30 to Arba Mintch arrival 15:10. Late afternoon drive southwest via Karat-Konso enter Lower Omo Valley in to Jinka.

Meals: B,L,D

# Day 8, Jinka – Mursi Tribe

Mago National Park visiting Mursi Tribe Villagers.

Meals: B, L, D Camping: Merenge Village, Mursi

Hotel: Jinka

#### Day 9, Mursi – Kara

Kara Tribe considered masters of body decoration and paint their bodies with chalk paint often imitating the spotted plumage of a guinea fowl. Night life with Kara Tribe...

Meals: B, L, D Camping: Dus Village, Kara



# Day 10, Kara – Turmi

Proceed to Turmi for Hamer Tribe Ceremonies/Cultural-events

Meals: B, L, D Camping: Lojera Village, Turmi

# Day 11, Turmi – Konso

Finalize Hamer Tribe & to Konso Tribe in to Machike Village Chief Kalla Gezahegn Compound. Meals: B, L, D Camping: Machike Village, Konso

### Day 12, Konso – Arba Minch Airport

Visit Doketu Village Konso Tribe & 10:00 AM drive to Arba Minch. Domestic flight from Arba Minch Airport to Addis Ababa Airport.

Meals: B & L

#### **Optional Activities:**

As mentioned in the itinerary we are always looking for interesting ceremonies and cultural events. We offer these events as optional activities, which gives you more budgeting flexibility. You need to know that prices are subject to change and can fluctuate in relation to the number of people on a specific excursion. Not all optional activities listed below may be available. As a rough guideline we list the prices in US dollar (per person).

- Mursi Donga fight, Mago National Park: \$25 \$30
- Mursi blood drinking ceremony: \$25
- Evangadi "evening dance" in Kaina village: \$10
- Bull Jumping Ceremony in Turmi: \$25
- Anthropological museum in Jinka: \$4



# Price:

2,000 US Dollar per Person for 5 People

# Price includes:

Airport transfers in Gondar, Lalibela, Axum. Mine Bus transport in North Danakil Depression 4WD Vehicles' traveling in convoy with other groups Danakil Depression Full Board Logistics.../Meals/Camping/Guide/Security/Water/Entrance Hotel accommodation 3 double/twin bed rooms in north & southwest Breakfast, lunch, dinner Camping in Danakil Depression, Mursi Tribe, Kara Tribe, Hamer Tribe & Konso Tribe Cooking, camping equipment with a Cook Two Vehicles' 4WD starting & finishing at Arba Minch Airport Village & Mago Park entrance fees English speaking local freelance guide & Mago Park Scout

# What's not included?

Bank Transfer fee, International and domestic flight tickets, payable beverages and drinks, except the mineral water we provide during camping, optional activities: ceremonies & culturalevents, tipping for drivers, guides, scouts & security and any other expense of personal nature, video camera and photography fees, any services that are not mentioned in the list above