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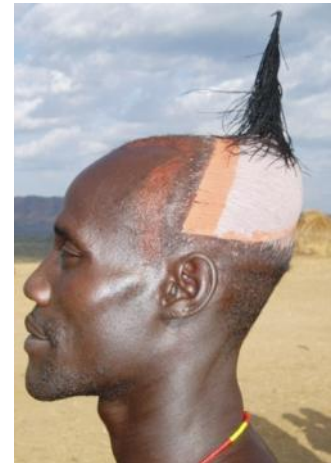
PO Box 59314

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

AAT-1129

ERTA ALLE & DALLOL, HISTORIC ROUTE AND OMO VALLEY TRIBES

Duration: 25 Days / 24 Nights









Tour Highlights:




- Walk the path of pilgrims to the amazing rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Wander between the Castles of Gondar, which are known as Africa's Camelot
- Visit Erta Ale and Dallol
- Visit Camel Caravans
- Explore the fascinating and strange cultures of the indigenous tribes of the Omo Valley in a modern, air-conditioned 4WD
- Get to know the traditional lifestyle, colorful dresses and strange rituals, like inserting clay plates in their lower lips, amazing hairstyles, body-painting or scarring
- Visit the splendid vestiges of the fabled Queen Sheba in Axum
- Shop the stalls of Mercato, the largest open-air market in Africa
- Traditional Ethiopian farewell dinner with "coffee ceremony"

Travel date:

Every day departure with a minimum of two participants.

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<p>Day 1: Arrive in Addis Ababa, city tour of Addis On arrival in Addis Ababa you will be met by our representatives and transferred to Lalibela Hotel. In the afternoon, city tour of Addis Ababa. Overnight Hotel</p> <hr/> <p>Day 2: Awash Drive from Addis Ababa to Awash Town, which is located in the central part of the rift valley system 250 km from Addis Ababa, the best place to familiarize yourself with the weather and the Kereyu people and visit Awash water Falls. Overnight Genet Hotel</p>  <p>Day 3: Dive Semera Drive from Awash National Park to Samara the capital city of the Afar regional state, on the way enjoy the beautiful landscape. Here we will finish some paper works- permits for the visit then we continue to a small town called Logi for An overnight stay at a local hotel.</p> <p>Day 4: Afdera We drive to Afdera and facilitate the permit paper from the regional tourist office to visit Erta Ale then after continue driving to for an overnight in a local hotel.</p>  <p>Day 5: Drive to Dodem then walk to Erta Alle Drive from Afrera to Dodem. In the evening we will start walk to the Erta Alle Volcanic hills (613 meters above sea level) which is 15kms one way. We will be arriving in Erta Alle around mid night and walk to see the volcanic eruption and then take rest; the eruption is so colorful and spectacular. At night we will camp nearby the eruption considering the direction of the wind because of the volcanic acid which is not good for health, anytime any one need to see or take a picture the guide is in help. At Night Shooting a good pictures of the Volcano. Overnight camping around Erta Alle.</p> <hr/> <p>Day 6: Ahmedela Drive to Ahmedela along unmarked sandy tracks. Ahmedela is the base to explore the salt mines, watch the salt workers cut the salt and see camel caravans. Overnight camping at Ahmedela</p>  <p>Day 7: Excursion to Dallol After early breakfast drive to the salt lake Asale to visit the salt workers and the merchants. Here you will observe salt cutting, shaping and loading on the camel caravans. Proceed to Dallol and enjoy the spectacular view of the small hills, fumaroles and colorful hot springs. Ground water bubbles up leaving colorful minerals behind which form amazing structures on the rim of the hot springs. Camping in Ahmedela</p>		

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<p>Day 8: Drive Geralta, Tigry rock churches region After Breakfast drive to Tigray rock churches area, Visit Wekro Cherkos, Abre We Atsebha and proceed to Geralta for an overnight stay at Geralta Lodge.</p>		
<p>Day 9: Drive Axum Drive to Axum Visiting the Temple of Yeha on Route. Overnight Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 10: Visit of historical and archaeological sites in Axum: The ancient city of Aksum is found close to Ethiopia's northern border. It marks the location of the heart of ancient Ethiopia, when the Kingdom of Aksum was the most powerful state between the Eastern Roman Empire and Persia. The archaeological and historical attractions in Axum include: the archaeological museum, monolithic steles or obelisks, the tombs of King Kaleb and King Gebre Meskal, and the legendary Bath of the Queen of Sheba, and the ruins of ancient palace of Queen Sheba. We also visit the new and the old Cathedral of St Mary of Zion and the sanctuary that houses the original Arc of the covenant. The 16th Century Cathedral of St Mary of Zion was probably built on an earlier 4th century church, and is the holiest church in Ethiopia. In its sanctuary is said to rest the original Ark of the Covenant. Overnight Exodus Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 11: Fly Lalibela: Take a short flight to Lalibela then drive 23kms to the town where all the 11 monolithic Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela are situated. Today we visit the first group of six churches lie in rock cradles one behind the other: Bet Golgotha, Bet Mika'el, Bet Maryam, Bet Meskel, Bet Danaghel and Bet Medhane Alem. Bet Medhane Alem, the largest one, is built like a Greek Temple and its stone floor is so polished by the countless numbers of visitors that it reflects shafts of light from apertures in the walls high above. In a corner are three empty graves symbolically dug for biblical patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Overnight Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 12: In Lalibela: After breakfast a mule ride to the 13th c rock hewn monastery of Asheten Mariam. The church is situated on atop a mountain at an altitude of 3150 metres. This will take about 4 hours. We return back to the town for lunch. In the afternoon, visit of the other groups of Rock churches of Lalibela Bet Giyorgis, possibly the most elegant of all the Lalibela churches, lies somewhat isolated in the southwest part of the village on a sloping rock terrace. It can only be reached through a tunnel. The group of four, south of the Jordan River, comprise of Bet Emanuel, Bet Mercurios, Bet Abba Libanos and Bet Gabriel-Rufa'el. Bet Emanuel's elaborate exterior is much praised by art historians. Overnight Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 13: Fly Gondar Tour of Gondar: Transfer to Lalibela Airporta and fly to Gondar. The rest of the day visit attractions in Gondar. The</p>		

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<p>attractions that we visit in Gondar includes: Castles of Gondar- are included in the World Heritage List. the royal Fasiledes Bath and the Church of Debre Berhan Selassie with its unique murals. Over-night Belegez Hotel</p>		
	<p>Day 14: Drive Simien Mountains: After breakfast departure for Debarok town (100 Kms from Gondar), where the head quarter of Semien Mountains National Park is found. Continue driving on the gravel road to Buyit Ras, the first campsite of the National Park and enjoy the beauty of this highland region, the extraordinary scenery, enjoying the endemic Gelada Baboons and the bone breaker giant bird Lammergeyer roaring around. Then after drive back to Debarok for an over-night stay at Simien Park hotel.</p>	
<p>Day 15: Drive Bahir Dar Drive from Simien Mountains to Bahir Dar. The drive is through a breathtaking landscape Overnight Hotel.</p>		
<p>Day 16: In Bahir Dar. Morning, Blue Nile Falls afternoon Boat trip After breakfast fly to Bahir Dar. After check into the Hotel and refreshment, we take a boat trip on Lake Tana to visit ancient monasteries. We will visit two of the most accessible and representative of the monasteries, still serving their original function, Ura Kidane Mehret, and Azwa Maryam. In the afternoon we pay a visit to the impressive Blue Nile Falls, locally known as Tis Isat or 'Smoke of Fire'. Overnight Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 17: Fly Addis Then Drive Awassa After breakfast transfer to Bahir Dar Airport and fly to Addis Ababa then after meet 4WD car and drive to Langano. Overnight Sabana Lodge</p>		
<p>Day 18: Drive Arba Minch Drive to Arba Minch via Wolayta Sodo En route visit the Dorze village, high in the mountains north of Arba Minch. The Dorze are well known as master weavers and live in interesting igloo-shaped houses. Overnight hotel</p>		
<p>Day 19: Drive Jinka After breakfast take a boat trip on Lake Chamo, and spot hippos and spectacular concentrations of giant crocodiles. The water birds are great and the scenery is unforgettable. Locals fish here in traditional boats for Nile Perch. Then after drive to Jinka along impressive land terracing to the village of the Woi to people, near the Woi to river. Overnight Hotel</p>		
<p>Day 20: Visit Mursi then drive to Turmi After breakfast leave Jinka and drive to the Mursi village to visit and appreciate the very attractive</p>		

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culture of the Mursi tribe. They are renowned for the strange custom followed by their women who, on reaching maturity, have their lower lips slit and circular clay discs inserted. Then after drive back to Jinka and continue to Turmi for an overnight stay Camping



Day 21: In Turmi

After breakfast drive to Murulle and visit the Karo people. The Karos are famous for tattooing, scaring and body painting. They reside by the side of the Omo River. Overnight Camping

Day 22: Drive Konso

After breakfast drive to Konso and visit their village. The Konso people are known for their colorfully costumed dress, impressive terracing of the Land and unusually engraved wooden statues used as grave markers can be seen.



Day 23: Drive Yabello

After breakfast drive to Yabello. The drive this day will let you to experience the life of the Oromo Borena People who is well known in cattle rearing. You also visit the Oromo Borena People villages and their 'singing well' from which they cater water to their own thousands of cattle by singing. Overnight Yabello Motel

Day 24: Drive Awassa

Drive from Yabello to Awassa over a beautiful Sidamo mountains & coffee plantation. In the late afternoon visit Lake Awassa. Overnight Hotel

Day 25: Drive Addis then Departure

After breakfast visit the fish Market in Awassa where the local people buy fish from the fisher men. Then after drive back to Addis Ababa through the Great Rift Valley lakes. En route we will stop on the viewpoints for the Rift Valley Lakes of Shala, Abyta and Langano. In the Evening a fare well diner party in one of the Traditional Ethiopian restaurant with dances from the different ethnic Groups. Transfer out to the airport for departure back to home.

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<p><u>PRICE</u></p> <p>Price per person (on the basis of 2 travellers) = US \$ 5,900</p> <p>Price per person (on the basis of 3 travellers) = US \$ 5,186</p> <p>Single room supplement = US \$ 500</p> <p>Plus domestic flights ca. US \$ 150</p>		
<p>Price includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special qualified guide as well as mandatory local guide and scout fees in parks and villages - 4-star hotel in Addis Ababa and the best available hotels outside of Addis Ababa - All accommodation based on twin room occupancy - All camping gear and cook during the camping - Meals in Addis, on bed and breakfast basis - Meals out of Addis, on full board basis - Farewell dinner in Addis to enjoy traditional Ethiopian food and music - All entrance fees at sites, churches, parks and villages - All transfers according to the itinerary - All ground transportation including insurance, fuel and all costs of the driver - Boat trip - Traditional Ethiopian coffee ceremony at a convenient time in the program - Government taxes <p>Price doesn't include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International flights - Lunch and dinner in Addis Ababa - Any kind of drinks, alcoholic or non-alcoholic - Video filming and photographing fees - Incidental meals, snacks and drinks - Tips and items of personal nature like laundry, souvenirs, etc . 		