

AAT-1123

DANAKIL DESERT, ERTA ALE VOLCANO, DALLOL & SALT LAKE ,ASALE

Duration: 9 Days / 8 Nights





Tour Highlights:

- Get to one of the remotest, hottest and lowest places on earth, the Danakil depression at the northern edge of the Great Rift Valley System
- Walk on the rim of the Erta Ale crater to see the active lava lake at night, one of just four on earth.
- Visit the salt lake Asale, salt mining sites and endless camel caravans
- Enjoy amazing and unique rock formations, fumaroles and colorful mineral deposits at Dallol
- Shop the stalls of Merkato, the largest open-air market in Africa
- Traditional Ethiopian farewell dinner with "coffee ceremony" and traditional dances of different ethnic groups.

Travel date:

Every day departure with a minimum of two participants.

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9 Days / 8 Nights Flight / Surface

Day 1: Arrival in Addis Ababa

On arrival our representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hote. An overview of the program will be given. The rest of the day visit historical sites in Addis Ababa, including the National Archeological Museum, where the 3.6 million year old remains of Lucy rest, whose skeletal remains were discovered in 1974. You will also visit the Ethnological Museum, the Holy Trinity Cathedral and Mount Entoto which rises up to an altitude of 3200meters and offers a panoramic view of the metropolis. Overnight 4-star hotel.

Day 2: Drive to Awash

After breakfast drive east towards Awash, Enjoy the rift valley of Ethiopia and the remaining of the day visit Awash National park, the hot spring and Awash water falls. Overnight Genet Hotel.

Day 3: Drive to Semera

Drive East to Semera, the capital of the Afar region. On the way enjoy the beautiful Ethiopian Rift Valley landscape. At Semera we

collect the permission to visit the region and pick up our local Afar guide and two armed rangers, who accompany us during the trip. Overnight local hotel



Day 4: Drive to Afdera

We drive further to the east to Afdera. Here an old man who is important for our trip will join us. Overnight camping

Day 5: Drive to Erta Ale

Drive from Afdera to Dodom. At Dodom we hire mules to transport our luggage and camping gear. Then we start the 15 km walk to the crater of Erta Ale (613m above sea level). We arrive at Erta Ale around midnight and walk to see the spectacular, constantly erupting lava lake in the crater. We

camp near the crater rim.

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

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



Day 8: Drive to Mekele

Drive from Berahile to Mekele - the capital of the Tigray region. On the way visit the Afar village, the escarpment of the Great Rift Valley System and the Western highland region.

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Day 9: Fly to Addis Ababa, Departure

After breakfast fly to Addis Ababa. In the evening have a fare well dinner in an Ethiopian restaurant with dances from different ethnic groups. Afterwards transfer to the airport for departure.

PRICE

Price per person (on the basis of 2 travellers) = US \$ 3.485 Price per person (on the basis of 3 travellers) = US \$ 3.200 Single room supplement = US \$ 120 Plus domestic flights ca. US \$ 130

Price includes:

- 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 accommodation outside of Addis Ababa
- All accommodation based on twin room occupancy
- All camping gear, staff and packing animals
- 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, parks and villages
- All transfers according to the itinerary
- All ground transportation including insurance, fuel and all costs of the driver
- A traditional Ethiopian coffee ceremony at a convenient time in the program
- Government taxes

Price doesn't include

- 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.
- All what is not included in the list above