

Itinerary to Addis, Lalibela, and Omo Valley 11 days in country

Flights

Flight	Date	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Airline
ET701	03	Heathrow	Addis Ababa	2020	0705+1	Ethiopian Airlines
ET120	05	Addis Ababa	Lalibela	0730	0830	Ethiopian Airlines
ET121	07	Lalibela	Addis	0850	0950	Ethiopian Airlines
ET135	07	Addis	Arba Mintch	1200	1340	Ethiopian Airlines
ET710	15	Addis Ababa	Heathrow	0135	0935	Ethiopian Airlines



Day 0 Fly to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Fly Heathrow to Addis Ababa on overnight flight.

Day 1 1 Night, Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa, Standard Twin Room, with dinner.



On arrival in Addis Ababa, you will be met and transferred to the Ghion hotel in Addis, where you will stay for the night. Enjoy the rest of the morning at your own leisure. The Ghion hotel has a splendid thermal swimming pool and a well-kept garden.

This afternoon you may have a guided tour of Addis Ababa. The name of the city, in Amharic, means “new flower”. Founded in 1886 by Menelik II, it is located at 2,500 metres above sea level in one of the highest parts of the Entoto mountain chain (3,000 m above sea level). It enjoys an excellent climate all year round, with an average temperature of 25°C. Addis Ababa is a pleasant city with wide avenues of jacaranda trees, interesting museums and one of the largest open air markets in Africa, known as the “Mercato”.

Day 2 & 3 2 nights, Roha Hotel, Lalibela, Standard Twin Room, Full Board

Early this morning you are transferred to Addis airport in time for your flight to Lalibela. On arrival at Lalibela airport you are met by your guide and transferred to Lalibela, where you stay the following 2 nights at the Roha Hotel. After lunch you visit the first group of churches.



The following day you can visit Asheton Mariam Monastery in the morning. You go on foot or riding on mules to visit the famous rock-churches located outside the city (about a 3-hour walk). Then in the afternoon you visit the second group of churches.

Day 4 Lalibela to Arba Mintch

Breakfast at hotel and transfer to airport for flight to Addis and on to Arba Mintch. Arrive Arba Mintch early afternoon and transfer to hotel. If time allows you may have the opportunity of a boat ride on Lake Charmo this afternoon.

The name “ArbaMinch” means forty springs. ArbaMinch is located to the south of Addis Ababa, in the rift valley situated between Lake Abaya and Chamo. The mountain known as “yegzer deldey” meaning God’s Bridge separates the two lakes. A long section of the road offers magnificent views of Lake Abaya; The Lake has volcanic origins and is almost pink in color. ArbaMinch is the place where you will start the Omo valley voyage. This is the region inhabited by the people of the Guragie. ArbaMinch is known for its delicious fish, fresh from Lake Chamo and its wild life in the Nechi Sar National park.

Day 5 1 night, Jinka Resort, Jinka, Standard Twin Room, Full Board

The road crosses soft rolling hills with dark red soil and plentiful crops and woods. The Dorze people, famous for their textiles, inhabit most of the territory. Their bamboo houses are each surrounded by a small garden. Moving on, we meet the Konso people who are excellent farmers. These are pagan people, who erect totem poles on the tombs of their dead. To the southeast of the Konso village are the Borena, who are semi-nomadic shepherds. Overnight stay and dinner in Jinka, a large town on the edge of the southern savannah.

Day 6 1 night, Murulle Lodge, Standard Twin Room, Full Board



Today we descend to the Omo valley. This valley is very special because nowhere else in the world are there so many ethnic groups inhabiting such a small area. During the next couple of days you’ll see different tribes all of whom have their own languages and, for the most part, have few interactions between each other.

The Mursi: are perhaps the best known of the tribal peoples due to many documentaries having been done about them. They are a nomadic people, moving with the season. The women wear lip plates and the men are known for the fierce stick fighting they engage in among themselves.
O/n at Murulle Lodge.



Day 7 1 night, Evangadi Camp Site, Tent, Full Board

Continue towards The Karo: One of the most endangered of the tribes, they raise cattle and crops. These peoples are masters at body decorating during festival time. They use chalk to imitate the spotted plumage of the guinea fowl. They also make unique jewellery from almost anything they find! You'll also see villages of the Dus, Korcho and Geleb peoples. Overnight at Evangadi camp site.

Day 8 1 night, Evangadi Camp Site, Tent, Full Board



Today you visit the colorful Dimeka market, a market for Bena and Hammar people. Here you also visit the Hamar tribe, one of the largest groups in the Valley. The Hamar cultivate millet, vegetables, tobacco and cotton, plus raise cattle and goats. They are known for the fine pottery they produce as well as their remarkable hairstyling. Most dramatic of all are the clay hair buns with ostrich feathers that the men don when they've killed a fierce animal. These buns remain on for 3-6 months at a time!! The women wear beaded necklaces and iron coils around their arms plus the skin is decorated with cowry shells. These decorations indicate the wealth and prestige of a woman's husband.

Day 9 1 nt, Tourist Hotel, Arba Minch, Standard Twin Room, Full Board

Drive back to Arba Minch and stay at the Tourist Hotel.

Day 10 1 nt, Sabanna Beach Resort, Langano, Standard Twin Room, Full Board

The drive north to Lake Langano takes you across fertile land planted with bananas, cereals and tobacco. Langano is a holiday resort with a splendid beach dotted with acacia trees, pinkish volcanic water - ideal for swimming. Overnight at Sabanna beach Resort.



Day 11 1 night, Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa, Standard Twin Room, Full Board

Set off for Addis with an early start so as to find time to visit the twin lakes in Lake Abiata-Shalla National Park, famous for flocks of flamingos and great white pelicans. Though the park has been intruded upon by settlers with their domestic animals and plantations, it is still



well worth a visit. Lake Abiata is shallow and brackish and is home to colonies of flamingos.

Lake Shala, a crater lake with a depth of about 820 feet, is surrounded by a sulphur spring. Continue to Addis and the Ghion Hotel for dinner. Here we will provide a room so you may have a shower before transferring to the airport for your flight to Heathrow which departs at 0135 hours and arrive 0935.

Day 12 Arrive UK

Arrive UK 0935 hours.

For prices please contact our office. Do let us know your season of travel and the number of people travelling.

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