

Amazing

ETHIOPIA TOURS

the largest high-altitude plateau in Africa,

It is in fact the largest high-altitude plateau in Africa, and it is here that many of Bale's most distinctive species are found, including the mountain nyala, Ethiopian wolf (Simien fox), giant mole rat, and the rare Bale monkey, amongst others.

Birds and Animals

Menelik's Bushbuck and the Mountain Nyala. Birds in this area include the Blue-Winged Goose, the Spot-Breasted Lark, the Abyssinian Long Claw, the Wattled Ibis, the Black-Headed Siskin, Rouget's Rail, and numerous other species.

Bale Mountains

Ethiopia Bale Mountain trekking 6 Days

Most visits to Bale focus on the Sanetti Plateau, a high Alpine plateau that is more sparsely vegetated than the Simien Plateau but no less beautiful. Much of the plateau sits 3,000m+ above sea level, with several 4,000m+ peaks and volcanic cones, including Tullu Deemtu, the second highest mountain in Ethiopia. It is in fact the largest high-altitude plateau in Africa, and it is here that many of Bale's most distinctive species are found, including the mountain nyala, Ethiopian wolf (Simien fox), giant mole rat, and the rare Bale monkey, amongst others.

Book as a group on our Amazing tours and save on your total trip price with our group discount.

Save 10% - when you travel in a group of 6 to 9 people

Save 15% - when you travel in a group of 10 or more

Key information

- 2 nights comfortable hotels, 3 nights Camping
- Travel by 4WD Toyota Land Cruiser
- One internal flights
- Off the beaten path in the Bale region

What's not included

- Travel insurance
- Single accommodation (available on request)
- Visas or vaccinations
- Tips

What's included

- All breakfasts
- All accommodation twin/ double basis as stated in the program
- All transport and listed activities, 4WD Toyota Land cruiser
- Tour guide throughout
- All camping materials
- All entrance fees
- Cook for the camping days
- All government tax

Bale Mountain Trekking 6 days



Day 1 - Arrive In Addis Ababa And Transfer To Hotel And Visit The City's Highlights

Addis Ababa

Founded in 1886 by Menelik II, Addis Ababa is located 2,500m above sea level in the Entoto mountain chain, where it enjoys an excellent year-round climate, with an average temperature of 25°C. It is a vibrant, developing city that is a pleasure to explore on foot, with wide avenues of jacaranda trees, interesting museums and one of the largest open-air markets in Africa.

Depending on the time of your arrival, it may be possible to fit in an afternoon guided tour of the city, taking in the Holy Trinity Cathedral, the National Museum, and the market. Overnight Nexus hotel

Day 2 - Drive From Addis To The Bale Mountains National Park, Dinsho

Dinsho

Drive from Addis to the Bale Mountains National Park. Arrive at the park headquarters in the afternoon, in time for a leisurely afternoon hike, possibly spotting two endemic mammals that frequent the area: Menelik's Bushbuck and the Mountain Nyala. Birds in this area include the Blue-Winged Goose, the Spot-Breasted Lapwing, the Abyssinian Long Claw, the Wattled Ibis, the Black-Headed Siskin, Rouget's Rail, and numerous other species. Overnight Wabishebelle hotel

Day 3 - Trek To Adelay Via The Geysay Valley And The Web River

Dinsho, trek to Adelay via the Geysay Valley

Starting from Dinsho, trek to Adelay via the Geysay Valley and the Web River, viewing the Web waterfall along the way. During the hike, there will be wonderful chances to see the Mountain Nyala, Menelik's Bushbuck, Bohor Reedbuck, and possibly Colobus Monkeys. Trekking will take 4 - 5 hours. Overnight Camping

Day 4 - Trek To Wasama Through A Beautiful Landscape With Stunning Views

Wasama

We will start the walking trail across to the Sanetti Plateau and ultimately, to reach the escarpment to access Bale Mountain Lodge in the South of the Park. Horses will carry the bulk of the camping gear as we set off across the high country, leaving only day bags with camera's clothing layers and water to be carried by guests.

In all likelihood, we will see Wolves as well as other endemics on this day. Expect to be hiking for approximately 6 hours during the day. Overnight Camping

Day 5 - Walk Between Wasamaa And Rafu

Rafu

Through this next section of wilderness, it becomes very easy to see how the mountain massif was formed through one super volcano long in the past. The ice age with glaciers have also taken some serious sculpting of the mountains, but the walk between Wasamaa and Rafu, really highlight the volcanic influence. Incredible rock formations of basalt pipes and granite boulders litter the high country and makes walking through here an absolutely stunning experience.

In all likelihood, we will see Wolves as well as other endemics on this day. Expect to be hiking for approximately 6 hours during the day. Overnight Camping

Day 6 - Fly To Addis And End Of Trip

Addis Ababa-Departure

We leave the beautiful Bale Mountains this morning via a flight back to Addis from the airstrip at Robe. Arriving in Addis for lunch, we will have the use of day rooms and embark on any last minute shopping and an evening meal before catching the late night flight out of Addis.

Why Travelling To Ethiopia?

Ethiopia really is an African land like no other. The only African country that has never been colonised, Ethiopia is also unusual for its rich Orthodox Christian heritage, which was maintained even when all its neighbors embraced Islam in the seventh century. Ethiopia is famous for having the most unparalleled riches and historical legacy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Referring to the classic historic travel circuit followed to the south and east, one commonly visits 5 key destinations: Axum, Lalibela, Gondar, Bahir Dar and Harar.

Travelling south, our days focused more on wildlife and tribal communities as we followed the huge East African Rift Valley through the lush lakes region and onto the dry low-lying plains of the South Omo Valley. As we continue visiting the various Omo tribes, observing their animist way of life and witnessing authentic customs and traditions, such as the bull-jumping and body scarification of the Hamar, the bizarre lip ornamentation of the Mursi and the incredible banana leaf architecture of the Dorze, we felt as if we had entered an African world of an earlier time, the way of life still largely untouched by outside influences



Trip Information

Climate

Ethiopia is generally pleasant and warm, but varies with altitude. The long rains usually arrive mid- June to early September and the short rains between mid-February and April although this pattern has been completely erratic in recent times. Anticipate sunshine most days, generally all day, with comfortably warm temperatures in the north, but in the South it can get rather hot (30s+), especially for the 2 to 3 days when we are in the south. Nights can be cool in the north, even cold in a couple of places, so a jacket and set of thermals should be taken. The Danakil Depression is one of the hottest places on Earth so please come prepared. Our trips to the Danakil run from Oct – Feb as this is the cooler time of year but this can still mean daytime temperatures up to and around 40C. Night time temperatures in the Danakil are in the 20s (C) and rainfall is very rare. Harar and Mekele will be cooler, but the vast majority of this trip is likely to be very hot.

Daytime temperatures are mainly warm and comfortable but early morning and evenings in the highlands can be cold. We recommend layers and a thick jumper or fleece, plus a lightweight wind/waterproof jacket. A hat is essential. Take swimwear if you plan to use the hotel's pools. Comfortable, good walking shoes with ankle support are strongly recommended as well as comfortable sandals. Walks and Hikes: While most walks are not difficult, a couple are only suitable for those who enjoy scrambling and have a good head for heights. When there are longer more technical walks we try offer an alternative activity as well.

Time difference to GMT: +3

Plugs : 2 Pin Round

Religion : Christian and Islam

Language: Amharic, English

Energy: Ethiopia uses 220 volts and 50HZ

It is best to bring your own round, two-prong adapter and transfer if necessary.

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

4WDs, Bus, Boat, Flight

We will use a private bus charter for the northern loop Addis to Lalibela, a domestic flight as stated in the itinerary and 4WD Land Cruisers for the offroads. Roads can be tar sealed or shingle (dusty), sometimes bumpy and slow due to road works and/or rain damage, although most of the time a reasonable pace can be maintained. Both 4WDs and the bus will be air-conditioned.

Air Transportation: The National carrier is Ethiopian Airlines www.ethiopianairlines.com which has extensive domestic flight network flying to several destinations including the popular tourist destination Axum, Lalibela, Gonder, Bahir Dar, Mekelle, Dere Dawa, Arba Minch, Jimma

Currency

The Local currency is an Ethiopian Birr, made up of 100 Cents, Visitors may import an unlimited amount of foreign currency, but they need declaration to the customs authority upon arrival.

Time and calendar

Ethiopia is in GMT +3 hours' time Zone, and follows the unique Julian calendar which is seven years and eight months behind the Gregorian calendar, consists of thirteen months, the twelve months consists of 30 days each and the last (13th Month) will have 5 or 6 days during leap year, The New Year falls on the 11th of September.

When to come

Ethiopia can be visited all round the year, but for some special route like the south west Ethiopia and Danakil (Dallol) depression contact us to know the detail.

Accommodation

Addis Ababa has two 5 star hotels- the Hilton and the Sheraton (Luxury collection) and a growing number of tourist class hotels. Standards vary outside the capital, but apart from some remote areas where camping is unavoidable it is generally possible to get relatively clean rooms with en suite toilet and shower. Hotels / Lodges anticipated are essentially Star**/**/****/(*****) in Addis). In some remote places hotels are basic and simplistic.

Passports, Visas and Vaccinations

Clients must ensure that they are aware of all relevant passport and visa requirements and that they allow adequate time to obtain them. Please note that many Ethiopian immigration require that passports are valid for six months beyond the period of the Client's stay. Requirements can change and it is the Clients' responsibility to ensure that they comply with current passport, visa and health requirements and take all necessary documents with them to gain access to any country or region which forms part of the tour. The Client will be solely responsible for any cost, loss or damage which he or the Company incurs as a result of a failure to obtain all necessary passports, visas and/or vaccinations.

Visa

Visa is required for all visitors to Ethiopia and they can get from Ethiopian Diplomatic Mission abroad ,Visitors from the countries listed below can obtain visa on arrival at Bole International Airport (Addis Ababa): Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea Republic, Kuwait, Luxemburg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, and US.

For a single entry visa you can apply via the e-visa website: <https://www.evisa.gov.et> . You will need to print a copy of your evisa approval letter and present this with your passport at immigration upon your arrival. The approval letter will take a minimum of 3 days to be processed so we strongly advise for you to apply within plenty of time before your departure. You will be permitted to stay within Ethiopia for upto 30 days or upto 90 days depending on which single entry visa you request. We strongly recommend for you to read the Help section on the e-visa website before applying.

Insurance

Insurance that provides cover for emergency repatriation in case of a medical emergency is compulsory for all tours. You should be aware that due to some of the areas visited and some of the activities included on certain of our trips some standard insurance policies may not always provide adequate cover. As such we strongly recommend that you purchase a policy that adequately covers your trip.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

ETHIOPIA Restriction Detail

Date: 02 December 2020

Ethiopia entry requirement in relation to COVID-19 Pandemic:

- All passengers traveling to Ethiopia MUST present a negative RT PCR test certificate for COVID-19 before boarding a flight. The certificate validity shouldn't exceed 120 hours on arrival from the date sample is given.
- Children less than or equal to 10 years of age are exempted from the RT PCR test certificate requirement.
- There shall be no COVID-19 test to be done on arrival at Addis Ababa.
- A Rapid diagnostic test (RDT antibody test) will not be accepted for this purpose
- The above requirement does not apply to transit passengers.
- All Diplomatic and Service (including United Nations and African Union) passport holders, including their immediate families, are advised but not required to have a certificate of negative PCR-COVID-19 test before arrival to Ethiopia. However, anyone (diplomatic and service passport holder including their immediate families) who come to Ethiopia without negative PCR COVID-19 test result, is required to stay in quarantine for fourteen (14) days at home.



General Information

Registration

Program contracts and service agreements become valid upon Amazing Ethiopia Tours' confirmation of the booking by letter, fax, e-mail or telephone. A deposit of 30% of the total cost is requested at the time of confirmation. The remainder of the total cost is payable 30 days before the beginning date of the tour. If complete payment has not been received, Amazing Ethiopia Tours is not obligated to accept the client or conduct the tour unless prior arrangements have been made.

Cancellation

The Client may cancel the booking at any time provided that the cancellation is communicated to the Company in writing. Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below calculated from the day when written notice is received by the Company. The more notice that the Company receives, the less the Company will charge the Client. However, in addition to the charges shown below many air tickets have no refund value whatsoever and, therefore, airlines may impose 100% cancellation charges.

Cancellation charges apply as follows:

-Cancellations of confirmed bookings received more than 30 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation penalty of US \$500 per person.

-Cancellations received between 30 and 15 days prior to departure will be subject to a penalty of 50% of the total tour rate.

-Cancellations received under 15 days prior to departure will be subject to forfeiture of the entire tour rate.

Local Laws

All participants in tours operated by the Company are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the country and any failure to do so will relieve the Company of all obligations that it may otherwise have under the Contract.

- “Amazing Ethiopia Tours” is the trading name of Amazing Ethiopia , a private company head office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Registration No. 487/97
- Office Address :Bole Medhanealem, Redwan Bldg #202

Travel and cancellation insurance

Travel Insurance is mandatory for all clients whilst on a holiday organised by the Company. Clients together with their personal property including baggage are at all times solely at their own risk. Clients are wholly responsible for arranging their own insurance. Clients not taking out the Company's specially arranged travel/cancellation insurance are responsible for ensuring that they have alternative personal travel insurance with protection for the full duration of the holiday in respect of at least medical expenses, injury, death, repatriation, cancellation and curtailment with adequate and appropriate cover.

Clients making their own arrangements should ensure that there are no clauses limiting or excluding protection for the type of activities included in their holiday. Clients should satisfy themselves that all travel insurance purchased meets their particular requirements and should arrange supplementary insurance if need be. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance you purchase provides adequate cover. We do not check insurance policies and cannot be liable for any expenses incurred as a result of your not having adequate, appropriate or valid insurance cover.

If we cancel your holiday

The Company reserves the right to cancel a holiday in any circumstances but will not cancel a holiday less than 8 weeks before the start of the holiday except for force majeure, or the client's failure to make all payments (including the final balance and any surcharge) when due. If we have to cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure and the cancellation does not result from your failure to pay, we will offer you the option of purchasing another available holiday from the Company (paying or receiving a refund in respect of any difference in price) or receiving a full refund of all monies paid to us.

We regret we cannot meet any visa, vaccination or similar costs in the event of any change or cancellation by us. Similarly, as you are advised only to book fully flexible flights, we cannot pay any cancellation, amendment of other charges you may incur in relation to any flights which you have to change or cancel as a result of the cancellation of your holiday.

Age, Fitness and Participation

All Clients are expected to satisfy themselves prior to booking that they are fit and able to complete the itinerary of their chosen tour as described in the Company's websites and written through e mails with clients. No unaccompanied minors (i.e. those under 18 years of age) can be accepted on tours operated by the Company, however children of 15 or more may travel provided that they are accompanied by a parent or a guardian who accepts full responsibility for them and subject, in all cases, to the ultimate discretion of the Company.

Clients agree to accept the authority and decisions of the Company's employees, tour leaders, and agents whilst on tour with the Company. If in the opinion of such person, the health or conduct of a Client before or after the departure appears likely to endanger the safe, comfortable or happy progress of the tour, the Client may be excluded from all or part of the tour, in which case all monies paid will be forfeited and the Company will not be liable to pay any compensation whatsoever to such Client.

Weather

– Anticipate sunshine most days, generally all day, with comfortably warm temperatures in the north, but in the South it can get rather hot (30s+), especially for the 2 to 3 days when we are in the south. Nights can be cool in the north, even cold in a couple of places, so a jacket and set of thermals should be taken.

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Clothing

Visitors should take light, summer clothes for the day time and something warm for the evenings, like a sweater or jacket. The temperature drops quite rapidly towards sunset. Simian or Bale Mountains trekkers should bring warm clothes and water proofs for unexpected seasonal rains.

Dress is conservative – Women should not show bare knees or shoulders, so no singlets/sleeveless tops or pants/skirts shorter than mid-calf. Men, no bare chests and as wearing shorts is considered odd, stick to longs and ¾ pants or long shorts at the very least. Generally light weight pants/skirts and t-shirts are the order of the day, with a set of warm layer-up clothing and jacket for the cooler mountain locations.

Walks and Hikes

While most walks are not difficult, a couple are only suitable for those who enjoy scrambling and have a good head for heights. When there are longer more technical walks we try offer an alternative activity as well.

Foreign Exchange

Local currency : Ethiopian Birr ETB

Travellers Cheques : Very difficult to exchange and are not recommended.

Credit Card Acceptance : Accepted in most of the hotels in major towns. Limited in the banks

ATM Availability : Available in most of the major towns. In the remote areas it is very Limited. Ask your tour guide the availability

Where To Exchange : Recommended Currency For Exchange

It is advisable to take your spending money in Sterling, Euros or US Dollars cash (high denomination notes usually get better exchange rates). Please note that any pre- 1999 or torn US Dollar bills will not be accepted in Ethiopia. Please keep any receipts as you may be able to change back any unused local currency.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

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Equipment

A hat and sun cream are essential throughout the trip. A torch can be useful in the case of power outages.

For the walking in the Simien Mountains and Lalibela, a pair of good walking shoes/boots are essential and walking pole(s) if you use these regularly.

A filter water bottle is very useful on this trip to ensure you have access to clean drinking water at all times.

Food

The Ethiopian national dish consists of Enjera, a flat, circular pancake of fermented made from an endemic grain seed called teff, served with different kinds of cooked meats, vegetables and different sauce, The sauces are generally spiced with berbere, a blend of herbs and spices (including hot peppers) that gives Ethiopian food its characteristic taste. Vegetarians should try "fasting food" (for devout Ethiopian Orthodox Christians fast days make up more than half the year), a colorful spread of salads and vegetables devoid of all meat and animal products.

Usually One eats national dishes with the right hand (water for washing is usually brought to the table before the food is served).

Addis Ababa now boasts of a wide variety of restaurants traditional, Italian, Far East and western, and at hotels in tourist sites European style foods are always available. If you are travelling to remote areas and camping, such as the Omo Valley and parts of southern Ethiopia, our company provide professional cook with first class cooking materials it is also advisable to inform your interest of food during booking.

Booking Guideline

1- Check availability

Go online to check availability, you can get this on the 'Trip Status' in the Price section above or contact us by phone or email.

2- Complete your booking

When you're ready to book, complete the online booking form or send an email stating which program you choose.

3- Deposit

Once you send your confirmation of the tour by email or online form, we will send you the invoice and detailed information for payment.

Please note that the following are not included in the cost of the tour

Visas & Travel Insurance: Visas will always be nationality dependent but travel insurance is mandatory

Tips: Always optional but some guidance will be given in the pre-departure information documents

International Flights: Please ask us for an obligation-free quote for flights which originate in your home country

Beverages & any costs of a personal nature: This will include items such as laundry and souvenirs

List of World Heritage Sites in Ethiopia

Axum

The ruins of the city of Aksum, dating from the 1st to the 13th century, mark the heart of ancient Ethiopia and what was the “most powerful state between the Eastern Roman Empire and Persia”. It includes monolithic obelisks, giant stelae, royal tombs, and ruins of former castles.



Fasil Ghebbi

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Harar Jugol, the Fortified Town

The city is on a plateau and surrounded by gorges and savanna. It contains 82 mosques, 102 shrines, and unique interior design in the townhouses. Harar is said to be the fourth-holiest city of Islam.



Konso Cultural Landscape

The site features 55 kilometres (34 mi) of stonewalled terraces and fortified settlements in the Konso highlands of Ethiopia.



Lower Valley of the Awash

Palaentological findings from at least four million years ago, such as Lucy, give evidence of human evolution.

AMAZING ETHIOPIA TOURS



Lower Valley of the Omo

Palaentological findings from at least four million years ago, such as Lucy, give evidence of human evolution



Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela

The site contains twelve medieval rock hewn churches from the 13th century.



Simien National Park

The eroded Ethiopian plateau comprises jagged mountain peaks, deep valleys, and sharp precipices dropping about 1,500 m (4,900 ft).[11] The decrease of the Walia Ibex, bushbuck, and bushpig populations, as well as an increase of the human population in the park prompted the World Heritage Committee to place it on their List of World Heritage in Danger in 1996.



Tiya

The archaeological site contains 36 monuments, which includes 32 carved stelae covered with symbols hard to decrypt.



ETHIOPIA A TIMELESS TREASURE



NEED SOME HELP?
Speak to one of our travel consultants:

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www.amazingethiopia.com

