



Addis Ababa, the capital of modern Ethiopia and gateway for most tourists, is the political and commercial heart of the country. Now a city of 4 million people it was founded by Emperor Menelik in 1887.

This big sprawling hospitable city is more than 2,200 meters high in the foothills of Mount Entoto. Medium buildings and wide open boulevards stand side by side with historic churches, palaces and monuments, as well as simple country-style huts. The air is filled with the scent of flowers and eucalyptus, and the rich vibrancy of a city that is home to so many cultures.

Modern Addis Ababa also plays host to many international organizations, including the AU (African Union), the Economic Community for Africa, ECA and other multi-national bodies, who all have their headquarters here. As a major international city, Addis Ababa offers a wide range of excellent hotel facilities, from luxury international hotels to a good number of mid-priced and budget accommodations. State-of-the-art conference facilities attract numerous international meetings to Ethiopia.

The rich cultures of Ethiopia, and its international links have endowed the city with many fine restaurants and street-side cafes. Nightlife, including many cinemas, theatres, casinos and bars, provides entertainment until the early hours.

Today, Addis Ababa is an up-to-date thriving city. Served by a modern airport at Bole, just 8 kilometers from the center, Ethiopian Airlines, and a large number of regional and international carriers, link the city to Africa and the world. The train service of the Addis Ababa/Djibouti Railroad terminates at the celebrated Addis Ababa Railway Station. A wide network of roads, most of them all-weather highways, link Addis Ababa with all the regional centers and most other towns in Ethiopia, as well as with Kenya, Djibouti and Eritrea. Bus services leave Addis Ababa daily for all regional centers, and most rural centers that have roads.



With a population of more than two million people, Addis Ababa is not only the political capital but also the economic and social nerve center of Ethiopia. Founded by Emperor Menelik in 1887, this big, hospitable city still bears the stamp of his exuberant personality.

Like any other capitals in the world there is more than enough for anybody to do in Addis.

There are numerous restaurants offering various exotic dishes from many parts of the world. Ethiopian food is served at the majority and there are Chinese, Italian, French, Indian, Armenian, Arabic, Greece and many other specialist restaurants. Indeed, it is possible to eat your way round the world without ever leaving Addis Ababa. On the entertainment side several cinemas show stage dramas in Amharic depicting Ethiopia's social and culture life during different historical epochs. If someone can spare time during his stay there are number of places that are well worth a visit. The following mentions a few things to see in Addis Ababa:

Things to see in Addis Ababa

- Selassie, trinity Cathedral
- The merkato
- Ethnological Museum
- The Jubilee palace
- Mount Entoto
- The Menelik Museum
- St. George's cathedral
- The National Museum