

12 Days and 11 Nights

- Day 1: ADDIS/ARRIVAL

Upon arrival in Addis transfer to your hotel. In the available time city tour of Addis Ababa where the National or Archeological Museum and the Merkato (the biggest open air market of Africa) can be visited. Overnight in your hotel.

- Day 2: ADDIS /ARBAMINCH

Early in the morning after breakfast drive towards Arbaminch along the Butajira road visiting the stele field of Tiya and the archaeological site of Melka Kunture. Have lunch on the way in Welayta. Upon arrival in Arbaminch rest dinner and overnight in your hotel.

- Day 3: ARBAMINCH

After breakfast go on an excursion by car of 30kms up the hills towards the Dorzes, the Dorze are one of the small segment ethnical groups of southern Ethiopia. Once warriors, the Dorze have now turned to farming and weaving to earn a living. Their success in the field of weaving has been phenomenal and the Dorze name is synonymous with best woven cotton cloth. Each amazing Dorze bamboo house has its own small garden surrounded by inset, beds of spices, cabbage and tobacco. After lunch in Arbaminch go on a boat excursion in Lake Chamo to visit the Crocodile Market where many crocodiles, the longest in Africa are seen. Dinner and overnight in your hotel.

- Day 4: ARBAMINCH/ KONSO/ JINKA

A spectacular scenery as the road crosses soft rolling hills with dark red soil and plentiful crops and woods. You have an interesting cultural encounter as you meet with different tribes. Among which you continue your experience of tribal life with a visit to the Konso. A pagan society they erect eerie wooden totems replete with phallic symbols over the graves of the dead and have numerous cults based around the breeding and veneration of serpents. The cornerstone of Konso culture, however, is highly specialized and successful agricultural economy that, through terracing buttressed with stone, enable these people to extract a productive living from a none-too-fertile hills and valleys that surrounded them. An excellent day to meet the people, take photographs with them and learn of a culture that has had very little outside influence. Overnight in your Hotel.

- Day 5: JINKA/ MURSI/ JINKA

Day excursion to Mago National Park to visit a Mursi village. The insertion of wooden and terra cotta discs into the ear lobes and their lower lips is a widespread custom the latter practiced only by Mursi women. Though these lip plates may appear bizarre to outsiders, the Mursi regard them as signs of beauty, generally speaking, the larger the lip plate the more desirable the wearer. These are people who farm the land and breed livestock; they live in almost complete isolation from the rest of the world. You have an interesting day here learning of a very unique culture if the road permits drive through the National park to see animals.

Overnight your Hotel.

- **Day 6: JINKA / DIMEKA / TURMI**

Drive towards Turmi across various villages browsing the different ethnic tribes such as the Banna and the Hammer all with their own unique cultural and life style. If this day falls on Saturday you will visit the famous Dimeka market where various ethnic groups gather every week to exchange their product. Upon arrival in Turmi dinner and overnight in the available lodges (provided the rooms will be blocked in advance) or in tent in the characteristic Keske Mango camp site.

- **Day 7: TURMI / CARO / OMO RATE / TURMI**

Whole day excursion to visit the Caro and Dassanech people their culture and way of life. During this day lunch will be had from a lunch box. The Omo river will also be seen during this day.

- **Day 8: TURMI / ERBORE / YABELO**

After breakfast drive towards Yabelo along the way visit the tribes of Erbore. Lunch will be had in a local restaurant. Dinner and overnight in Yabelo Mobil Hotel.

- **Day 9: YABELO / EL SOD / WELLS / YABELO**

During this day excursion to visit the salt mine lake of El Sod and the Singing Wells where the local Borana people extract water for their cattle making a human ladder. Back to Yabelo for rest dinner and overnight in the Yabelo Mobil Hotel.

- **Day 10: YABELO / AWASSA**

After breakfast depart and head up North. Lunch will be had in the town of Dilla. Upon arrival in Awassa rest, dinner and overnight in your Hotel.

- **Day 11: AWASSA / ADDIS**

In the morning after breakfast visit the Fish Market of Awassa which takes place on the shores of Lake Awassa after which drive towards Addis Ababa and along the way visit the lakes of Abiata, Shalla, Langano and Zuway. This evening you culminate with a farewell dinner in a traditional restaurant with traditional music and dances. Overnight in your Hotel.

- **Day 12: ADDIS / DEPARTURE**

Additional city tour in the available time where by visits to the Ethnographical Museum, St. George Church and other centers of town will be seen. Transfer to the airport for departure. End of tour.

