

## **ETHIOPIA ROOF OF AFRICA 11 days**



### **Itinerary:**

#### **Day 1 : Arrive Addis Ababa (D)**

Upon arrival in Addis Ababa meet your guide and start your city tour. See the diplomatic capital of Africa, headquarters of the Africa union starting with the Holy Trinity Cathedral on to the National museum. Later enjoy a visit to the Ethnological museum, at the former palace of Haile Selassie then proceed to Mountain Entoto for a panoramic view of Addis Ababa.

**Lodging:** Skylight Hotel

#### **Day 2 : Addis Ababa - Awash National Park (B / D)**

After breakfast depart Addis Ababa for Awash National Park. On arrival you have a chance to do a short game drive to see the local wildlife, like oryx, baboons, greater and lesser kudu, warthogs, gazelles, colubus monkeys. If you are lucky you can also see leopards, lions, and other cats. The landscapes in the park are beautiful, looking over these stunning Awash Gorge.

**Lodging:** Awash Falls Lodge

#### **Day 3 : Awash National Park - Bale Mountains National Park (B / D)**

After breakfast this morning make your way to the Bale Mountain National Park. Upon arrival in Dinsho, get ready for an easy hike to explore the area with its high concentrations of the Bale Mountains Nyal, Menelik's Bushbuck and other mammals and endemic birds.

**Lodging:** Bale Mountain Lodge

#### **Day 4 : Bale Mountain National Park - Senetti Plateau & Harenna Forest (B / D)**

Today drive to the Senetti Plateau, the second highest altitude in Ethiopia and here with some luck you can see the Ethiopian Wolf, endemic to Ethiopia. Enjoy a hike to Tulu Dimitu before continuing on to the Harenna forest at the southern end of the park. It holds a unique variety of vegetation. The Harenna Escarpment towers 2000 m above the edge of the forest and provides stunning views. Here you can also see a vast number of bird and African wild life

**Lodging:** Bale Mountain Lodge

#### **Day 5 : Mountain National Park - Arbaminch (B / D)**

This morning after breakfast make your way to Arbaminch located in the southern part of the country. It is the most resourceful zone in southern region and home to the two largest Lakes in Ethiopia, the Chamo and Abaya Lake and more than 40 springs.

**Lodging:** Emerald Resort

### **Day 6 : Arbaminch - Dorze & Lake Chamo Tour (B / D)**

Today drive to Dorze, set in the highlands above Arbaminch. The Dorze people are known for their tall beehive-like houses and their fine cotton weaving. Visit the village and learn about the daily lives of these industrious people. In the afternoon, take a boat trip on Lake Chamo to visit the "crocodile market" and the local hippos.

**Lodging:** Emerald Resort

### **Day 7 : Arbaminch - Bahir Dar (B / D)**

In the morning after breakfast take a flight to Bahir Dar via Addis Ababa. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel. Later visit the former palace of Emperor Haile Selassie at Bezawit. It offers great views of the town and the place where the Blue Nile flows out of the lake.

**Lodging:** Blue Nile Resort

### **Day 8 : Bahir Dar - Lake Tana & Blue Nile Falls (B / D)**

After breakfast take a boat trip on Lake Tana to visit a selection of the monasteries hidden on the islands and shores of this sacred lake. See the Zege Peninsula and the monasteries of Azuwa Maryam and Ura Kidane Mehret. In the afternoon drive to the Blue Nile falls for a hike in the area. Finish the day with the sunset over the lake.

**Lodging:** Blue Nile Resort

### **Day 9 : Bahir Dar - Gondar - Simien Mountains (B / D)**

In the early morning today start the drive to Gondar. Here you visit the Royal Castles and the Bath of Emperor Fasiledes. The bath is filled with water for the important Timkat epiphany ceremony once a year. You also see the DebreBirhan Selassie Church before continuing the drive to the Simien National Park, one of the most spectacular mountain massifs of Africa.

**Lodging:** Limalimo Lodge

### **Day 10 : Simien Mountains - Gondar (B / D)**

After breakfast you have a beautiful walk between Sankaber and the great waterfall of Jinbar. The path progresses along the immense escarpment. Along the way you have a magnificent view of the valley below and the surrounding peaks. Among the animal species endemic to these high plateaus are the geladas baboons. Later in the afternoon make your way to Gondar.

**Lodging:** Goha Hotel

### **Day 11 : Gondar - Addis Ababa departure (B)**

After breakfast in the morning transfer to the airport flight back to Addis Ababa to visit Mercato, one of Africa's largest outdoor markets and enjoy shopping in the city before transfer to the airport for your international return flight.

