yonGO TRAVEL

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26Dec2025- 11Jan2026 (17 days) Ethiopia Expeditions - Historic Route, Danakil Depression, Safari & Omo Valley Tribes

Cost Rm17,000 (12-13 pax), RM16,800 (14 pax & above) (Excluded International flight/Included 6 sector domestic flight)

(Note: Based on USD 1 = RM4.50. We will make final adjustment on the cost based on the USD exchange rate in Oct-Nov 2025)

Update 22Feb25 - Beautiful Landscape, people and culture are top reason why should we explore Ethiopia. Sept-Jan is dry season, which is one of best season to go. Combined original itinerary where added Danakil Depression. Visa can be done via online effective 1st June 2018. 6 Domestic flight in total (Please take note if opt for other international airlines NOT AIR ETHIOPIA, additional cost for domestic need to top up approximately USD220). Please register and confirm your seat by email **rachelheng123@gmail.com** or **whatsapp** Rachel 012-3520868

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humour, and above all, have the <u>right attitude</u> for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fuss-pots, and other similiarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun!



Lalibela

Day 1 (26Dec) KLIA: Meet KLIA take **ET639** at **1115PM** for midnight flight (Note: transit at Singapore 1hr25m). O/N Plane

Day 2 Addis Ababa: Arrived ADD at **0550AM** in morning. City tour of capital including National Museum, Ethnological Museum. Drive to Merkato, the largest open-air market in East Africa. O/N Addis Ababa.

Addis Ababa (the name means 'new flower'), the Ethiopian capital, is a delightful place to explore. City tour of the capital including the National museum where will visit the cast of 3.2 million years old "Lucy" and different historical monuments.

<u>Day 3 Addis Ababa -Gondar (Flight)</u>: Fly Addis Ababa to Gondar (ET 126; 07:10 – 08:20). Meet local guide in the imperial city of Gondar, which was founded in 1632 by the emperor Fasilidas and was a center of Ethiopian art, literature and science for many decades which takes about 3 to 4 hours. City tour to the sites of Gonder in the afternoon will include the city's unique Imperial compound which contains a number of Castles built between 1632 and 1855 by various Emperors who reigned during this period, the bath of King Fasilades, the church of DebreBerhan

Selassie with its unique murals. O/N Gonder.

<u>Day 4 Gondar- Semien Mountains-Debark (120KM to Semien Park)</u>: Day excursion to Semien Mountains National Park (UNESCO World Heritage). We depart early from the historical town of Gondar and drive around 2.5 hours on a tarred, comfortable road to Debark where we get permission to enter Simien National Park at the park head office. We then drive 22km further to the Simien Lodge, within the national park. From here we walk about 2 or 3 hours, stopping often to admire the amazing views of the escarpment, take photos and see the friendly gelada baboons. Drive 120 Kms back towards Gonder. O/N Gonder.



Gondar

<u>Day 5 Gondar - Lalibela</u> (Fly to Lalibela): Drive from Gonder to reach Lalibela via the chains of Lasta massifs. Your arrival in Lalibela will be late at noon. You will check into a hotel, have dinner and spend the night there. King Lalibela is credited with the foundation of the 11 rock-hewn churches in the 12th century. One of the world's most incredible man-made creations, they are a lasting monument to man's faith in God. Most travel writers describe these churches as the "eighth wonder of the world". These remarkable edifices were carved out of a solid rock, in a region where the ragged landscape still protects the churches. O/N Lalibela.

<u>Day 6 Lalibela Rock Hewn Churches</u>: Early in the morning, visit eleven rock-hewn monolithic (carved from a single rock) churches of Lalibela (UNESCO World heritage site, with magnificent architecture & paintings inside the churches). O/N Lalibela



Simien National Park//Gelada Baboon

<u>Day 7 Fly Lalibela - Addis :</u> Upon arriving in Addis Ababa from Lalibela, up on arrival meet your vehicles at the

airport & drive to the South Ethiopia via the river valley lakes region to Hawassa, O/N Hawassa.





<u>Day 8 Hawassa - Arbaminch (220km) - A scenic drive through Arsi and Bale Mountains to the rift valley lakes region takes you to Arbaminch. En route, pass close by the Arsi Mountains National Park. On the way to Arbminch, will experience the fascinating culture & unique life style of the people in the South Ethiopia people's region. We stop at the Chencha villages(the home of the Dorze people, the renowned weavers having unique bamboo woven houses having 8 to 12 meters height) before reach Arbaminch, the city of forty springs', the gateway to the indigenous people and the largest trading center in the south. O/N Arbaminch.</u>





<u>Day 9 Arbaminch - Konso (290km) - Boat excursion on Lake Chamo, to see the biggest African crocodiles, and Hippopotamus as well as beau ful aqua c birds including the lovely Kingfisher and Fish Eagle. Drive to Konso en route visiting different cultural people and their villages which includes, Gamo, Derashe, Konso people and undula ng landscape of Konso and the surrounding area. Visit one nice village of Konso. The Konso are famous for their old and unique terracing, unusual engraved wooden statues of</u>

Konso grave markers. The consolida on created a unique cultural landscape by terracing the hill slopes to the intensive cul va on and irriga on of crops. The unusual interaction between man and nature, was honored in June 2011 with the appointment as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Continue to Turmi. O/N Konso.





<u>Day 10 Konso - Turmi</u> Visit one village of the Konso people and drive to the South Omo Valley, colorful KeyAfer market before Turmi. (Or other markets will be visited depending on the date we are arriving in the region). Today's market KeyAfer, is a popular meeting place for the peoples of this region, but also members of the Banna people flock from all directions on the main square to sell vegetables, spices, butter and milk and sharing news. Here you will find ornate gourds. They decorate themselves with

samples of clay. At the colorful weakly KeyAfer Market, we will see more than four different tribes including Hammer, Benna, Ari in traditional marketing activities and displaying their local handicrafts. We have a good opportunity to bargain for varieties of handicrafts. O/N Turmi

<u>Day 11 Turmi-Karo- Jinka (130km)</u>: In the morning visit small ethnic group on the Omo River called Karo. Particularly impressive from Konso are their body paintings and decorations scars. The Karo Tribe is the smallest tribe in the Omo Valley, South Ethiopia, and resides along the banks of the Omo River. Drive back to Turmi for lunch. Afternoon drive to Jinka(120 KM), along the way we stop at the villages of the Hammer people for a visit. Also well known as the Hamar, they are one of the most known tribes in Southern Ethiopia. They inhabit the territory east of the Omo River and have villages in Turmi and Dimeka. Tourists visit the Hamer hoping to see a traditional leaping ceremony (the jumping of bulls). They are cattle herders and practice agriculture. Very colorful bracelets and beads are worn in their hair and around their waists and arms. We then continue to Jinka. O/N Jinka.

Day 12 Jinka-Turmi (Jinka-Mago-Jinka 150KM)- ADD; Fly to Addis (ET270@ 14:15- 15:35). Today cross Mago National Park to the land of the Mursi. The first arduous trip is rewarded with the sight of the vast plain on the Mursi Hills. The Mursi men are renowned warriors, and whose women are famous for the lip plates which is highly considered as sign of beauty. The Mursi live in the dry season on the western slopes of the Omo and grow Sorghum, corn and vegetables, they spend the rainy season, with their cattle herds in the Tama steppe. In addition, they depend on hunting and fishing. Drive back to Jinka town for Lunch. Take the afternoon flight from Jinka to Addis. Transfer to hotel in Addis. The evening goes with a traditional meal with a beautiful dance performance at the end. O/N Addis Ababa.

Day 13 Fly to Mekele: After breakfast in Mekele, the crew (drivers, local guides, cook, & road leader from the tourism authorities & police escort) starts its adventure tour to the Afar Danakil depression. Danakil Depression (dallol and Erta Ale) ranks as one of the most alluring and physically challenging natural attractions anywhere in Ethiopia. It is a shield volcano with a base diameter of 30 km and a 1km square caldera at its summit. Drive directly to Hamedella town of Dallol. You will have your picnic lunch en route at Afdera and continue to Hamedella to arrive in the afternoon around 4pm at our camp site. After setting up camps, we may drive to Lake Assale, enjoy sunset late in the afternoon; overnight open-air camping with clean beds, matress, bed sheets etc. We will provide enough volume of water this morning when departing from Semera. O/N camping at Hamedella





<u>Day 14 Hamedella - Erteala</u> Early in the morning before sunrise drive to the lunar landscape of Dallo geothermal site for

an amazing wonder seen nowhere else in the planet. A chemical reaction happening right in front of you, live face to face with row nature. After this drive to the salt and mud formed mountain cave right underneath Dallol creator. Another 10 minutes' drive further, we will be in a completely different world, have a picnic breakfast near one of the caves. Then we continue to the vast salt plains, the Lake Karum swimming salt-water cold pool in that scorching sun & finally visit the salt miners before leaving back to Hamedella.

Walk about 30 minutes to the tip of the mountain where will see the caldera. We start the hike around 5:30 late in the afternoon, and after the visit, we will return to our camping site by 8:00 PM, camping facility arranged in an open-air camping on a flat ground with suitable matress & bed sheets. O/N camping at Erteale

Day 15 Afdera Salt Lake - ADD: Wake up in the morning with the sun, and a rehaving breakfast drive to Afdera Salt Lake town.

the major & biggest hub in Ethiopia for salt production & distribution on lying at 112 m below sea level; & where you will experience the highest temperature in the Danakil depression. Have lunch in town, a glimpse of the Salt Lake, a walk along the salt farms and after this we drive back to Addis to fly back to Addis. The evening goes with a traditional meal with a beautiful dance performance at the end. O/N Addis Ababa O/N Hotel in Addis

<u>Day 16 ADD - Fly Home</u>: Short visit of the capital Addis Ababa for last shopping in Addis Ababa. Transfer to the airport and flight back to home. ADDKUL 15:05. O/N Plane

Day 17 Home: Arrived Kuala Lumpur 1740pm late afternoon (11Jan2026).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Cost covers 6 sector domestic Ethiopian flight included tax & fuel surcharges (Note: if international airlines is NOT Ethiopia airlines, additional about USD220 will be incurred), accommodation, local guide, transportation (midivan & 4WD), entrance fees, boat trip on Lake Tana & Lake Chamo, permit & all meals for Afar/Danakil
- 2. Accommodation will be in budget hotels.
- 3. Not covered are international flight & taxes/fuel, Lunch & Dinner (RM50-80 p/day) except breakfast, in-town taxis, Visa USD80, optional tours, photo & video fees.
- 4. We will assist for flight booking if have min 10 pax for group ticket. If not book individual ticket by OWN which will advise.
- NO YONGO trip leader along but local guides if group members less than 12 persons. Guide/driver accompanying group do expect tips. Yongo encourages group members to be generous but should commensurate with services rendered.
- 6. A Non-refundable deposit of $\underline{\text{Rm4600}}$ is payable to confirm your place.
- 7. Cost is subject to change if there's significant changes in foreign exchange rates and airfares.

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