

TOUR CODE: WIE/ET 176

SUMMARY OF KEY DETAILS

- **TYPE OF TOUR : - NATURAL, HISTORICAL AND MOUNTAIN TREKKING**
- **DESTINATION: - BAHIRDAR/ SIMEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK/ LALIBELLA**
- **MODE OF TRANSPORT: - FLIGHT AND DRIVE**
- **DURATION: - 11 DAYS AND 10 NIGHTS**
- **ACCOMMODATION: - SUPERIOR 3 OR 4 STAR HOTELS AND LODGES**

DAY 1: FLY FROM ADDIS ABABA TO BAHIR DAR AND VISIT BLUE NILE WATERFALLS BOAT TRIP TANA

In the morning we visit the Tis Isat Falls, where the Blue Nile is an impressive cliff plunges down. In the afternoon we take a boat trip on Lake Tana, the highest lake of Ethiopia. Of the 37 islands that lie in the lake. The lake has about 29 a monastery or church full of beautiful religious paintings and ancient Bibles. We visit the Ura Kidane Mirhet church on the peninsula Zeghe.

DAY 2: DRIVE FROM BAHIRDAR TO GONDAR

In Gondar, we find a unique collection of castles, churches and art work that recall the heyday of the Ethiopian kings in the seventeenth century. We also visit the king of bath Fasiledes and Debre Birhan Selassie church, built by an emperor and protected by an archangel. The Church of the Trinity as well as the Mountain of Light, is one of the most important in the country. He is known for the beautifully painted ceiling.

DAY 3: TREKKING SIMIEN - SANKEBAR - GEECH (3600M)

Early in the morning you will drive to Sankaber. After the luggage is loaded on the mules, we leave Sankeber and we descend into the gorge formed by the action of the Jinbar uitsnijdende River. This we stabbing over. Then "climb" we back out of the valley and finally we reach the village Geech, where we camp. The village lies on a plateau with the typical afro-alpine flora and stunning views. Day hike of 6 to 7 hours.

DAY 3: TREKKING SIMIEN - IMET GOGO (3926M) - CHENEK (3600M)

In the morning we walk on grass steppes to Imetgogo (3926m). We have a panorama of ridges, gorges and lower villages. Then we continue our trek to Chenek (3600m). This is one of the best places for spotting indigenous walia-ibex and Ethiopian wolf. We camp at Chenek. Day hike: 7 hours.

DAY 4: TREKKING SIMIEN - VIA BWAHIT PASS (4200M) TO AMBIKO

Today we walk to the Bwahit Pass (4200m) with a beautiful view of Ras Dashen, the highest peak of the Simien Mountains. The trek continues to Ambiko, where we will camp two nights.

DAY 5: TREKKING SIMIEN SONA - MEKAREBIA (2100M- TOP RAS DASHEN (4620M) -AMBIKO

Today we climb to the summit of the highest mountain in Ethiopia, Ras Dashen. With its 4620m is one of the highest mountains on the continent. It's an uphill climb (5-6 hours), but you will be rewarded with spectacular views. After this fall a 2 to 3 hours to off Ambiko for an overnight stay in the tent.

DAY 6: TREKKING SIMIEN - ARKWASIYE (3600M) - SONA (3600M)

In the morning we walk into the northwest (10 to 11 hours) to Sona. Arriving in Sona you on the edge of a canyon to enjoy a beautiful sunset over the Ethiopian highlands.

DAY 7: TREKKING HAWASA (2100M)

A brisk walking day ahead, 10 to 11am. **Overnight stay in Camping.**

DAY 8: TREKKING HAWASA - ADI ARKAI - GONDAR

On the last day of trekking we walk in about three to four hours to Adi Arkai, from where we continue by car to Gondar.

DAY 9: FLIGHT TO LALIBELA - ROCK CHURCHES

After breakfast, transfer to the airport of Gondar, domestic flight to Lalibela.

The most imaginative speaking, the **rock churches in the highlands**. In Lalibela ordered the eponymous king eleven churches from the rocks down, each with its own character and with **strong influences from Greek, Moorish and even Indian architecture**. If morning early commencement Mass is the **magic** of this place is almost tangible.

Each church has its own character, design and has its own church treasures. These are shown to us by the priests. Near the complex there are the round houses with two floors that are typical for this area. Many are inhabited by priests, monks and nuns, we are indeed one of the holiest sites of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

DAY 10: LALIBELA ASHETON MARIAM - YEMRAHANE KRISTOS

In the morning, we make an excursion by mule to Asheton Mariam, the monastery situated at 3150 m above Lalibela (Lalibela is 2630 m). Once upstairs we enjoy breathtaking views.

After lunch you will drive to Yemrahane Kristos, about 40km from Lalibela.

DAY 11: FLIGHTS TO ADDIS ABABA

After breakfast, domestic flight to Addis Ababa and End of the Tour.