

TOUR CODE: WIE-ET0011

SUMMARY OF KEY DETAILS

- **TYPE OF TOUR : - CULTURAL, NATURAL AND SAFARI TOURS**
- **DESTINATION: - ARBAMINCH/JINKA/MURSI/MAGO/KONSO/DORZE**
- **MODE OF TRANSPORT: - ON SURFACE & FLIGHT**
- **DURATION: 4 DAYS AND 3 NIGHTS**
- **ACCOMODATION: - SUPERIOR 3 STAR HOTELS**

DAY 1: ADDIS / ARBAMINCH

Early in the morning flight to Arbaminch from Addis Ababa on arrival after lunch break straight drive to Jinka.

DAY 2: JINKA /MAGO NATIONAL PARK /MURSI

A 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 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. Depending on road accessibility, we will drive through the National park to see animals.

DAY 3: JINKA/KONSO/ARBAMINCH

After breakfast, we will drive to Arbaminch. On the way, we will visit Erbare tribes and the Konso village which constitutes a spectacular example of a living cultural tradition stretching back 21 generations (more than 400 years) adapted to its dry hostile environment. The landscape demonstrates the shared values, social cohesion and engineering knowledge of its communities. Late afternoon reach Arbaminch.

DAY 4: ARBAMINCH/ DORZE/ ADDIS ABABA

Early in the morning, we will 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. If there is time, we will go on a boat excursion in Lake Chamo to visit the Crocodile Market where many crocodiles, the longest in Africa. Depart to Addis Ababa and end of the tour.

TOUR CODE: - WIE-ET00-134

SUMMARY OF KEY DETAILS

- **TYPE OF TOUR : - CULTURAL, NATURAL AND SAFARI TOURS**
- **DESTINATION: - ARBAMINCH/ JINKA/ MURSI/ MAGO NATIONAL PARK /KONSO/KARO/ HAWASSA**
- **MODE OF TRANSPORT: - ON SURFACE**
- **DURATION: - 7 DAYS AND 6 NIGHTS**
- **ACCOMODATION: - SUPERIOR 3 STAR HOTELS AND LODGE**

DAY 1 ADDIS/ARBAMINCH

In the morning you will drive to Arbaminch via Butajera. You will visit the Tiya Standing stone, we embark on a boat trip on Lake Chamo to visit the hippos and the famous crocodile market. Lake Chamo is 32 kilometers long and 13 meters wide, with a surface area of 317 square kilometers and a maximum depth of 14 meters with a catchment of about 18757 square kilometers in size with an elevation of 1,235 meters with a length of 26 km a width of 22 km an area of 551 square kilometers a catchment of 2220 square kilometers and a maximum depth of 10 meters. Wildlife include fish like the catfish *Bagrus docmac* and Nile perch, as well as hippopotamus and Nile crocodiles.

DAY 2 ARBAMINCH/JINKA

We proceed driving to Jinka via Weyto and Key Afar. If today is market day, we will stop in Konso and/or Key Afar to visit. The Konso village which constitutes a spectacular example of a living cultural tradition stretching back 21 generations (more than 400 years) adapted to its dry hostile environment.

DAY 3 JINKA/MURSI/ TURMI

Early in the morning, we drive to Mago National Park to visit the Mursi tribes, who are known for their lower lip and earlobe plates and proceed driving to Turmi, via Dimeka. On Tuesdays and Saturdays, Dimeka holds one of the most colorful markets in the South Omo. At the evening time if there is a bull jumping which is the traditional wedding ceremony.

DAY 4 TURMI/KARO (OMORATE)

Today we drive to Kolcho and Dus to visit the Karo tribe. **The Karo tribe** is a small, endangered omotic tribe with an estimated population between 1,000 and 3,000. They live along the east banks of the Omo River in southern Ethiopia and practice flood retreat cultivation. The crops that are grown by them are sorghum, maize and beans.

Like many of the tribes in the Omo, they paint their bodies and faces with white chalk to prepare for a ceremony. The chalk is mixed with yellow rock, red iron ore and charcoal to make its color. Face masks are worn at times and they have clay hair buns with feathers in them. Red clay mixed with butter is put into their hair and clothing is made from animal skin. The women scar their chest believing it makes them beautiful. The men's scars represent an enemy or dangerous animal killed. They also wear clay hair buns which symbol a kill. A man in the tribe

can have as many wives as he wants, but must be able to afford them. Most men will only marry two or three.

DAY 5 TURMI/KONSO/ARBAMINCH

Drive from Turmi to **Konso** named after the Konso people known for its religious traditions, waga sculptures, and nearby fossil beds (the latter an archaeological site of early hominids).

The Konso live in an isolated region of the basalt hills. The area is made up of hard rocky slopes. A Konso village maybe fortified by a stone wall used as a defensive measure, their village is located on hilltops and is split up into communities, with each community having a main hut. In order to enter a Konso village, you must pass through a gate and a series of alleys. These paths are part of its security system, keeping the village difficult to access. Then you will continue to drive to Arbaminch.

DAY 6 ARBAMINCH/HAWASSA

On this day you will drive from Konso to Hawassa. While you arrive you will check in to your hotel.

DAY 7 HAWASSA/ADDIS ABABA

After breakfast, take a boat trip on Lake Awassa to visit the fish market and admire the amazing birdlife in the area, and maybe some hippos. In the afternoon we will drive back to Addis Ababa and end of the tour.

TOUR CODE: WIE/ET 178

SUMMARY OF KEY DETAILS

- **TYPE OF TOUR : - NATURAL, HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL**
- **DESTINATION: - ARBAMINCH, KEY AFER, ELSODE, YIRGALEM, BALE MOUNTAIN AND HAWASSA**
- **MODE OF TRANSPORT: - FLIGHT AND DRIVE**
- **DURATION: - 10 DAYS AND 11 NIGHTS**
- **ACCOMMODATION: - SUPERIOR 3 OR 4 STAR HOTELS AND LODGES**

DAY 1 ADDIS ABABA TO ARBA MINCH

On this day morning you will drive to Arbaminch from Addis Ababa. The City Arbaminch is 575 km far From the Capital city you will arrive there in the late afternoon.

DAY 2 BOAT TRIP OF LAKE CHAMO AND DRIVE TO JINKA

Morning boat trip on Lake Chamo (the largest lake in Ethiopian rift valley lakes) to visit hippos and Nile Crocodiles at Azo (Crocodile) market on the lake, afternoon drive to Chencha village to visit the Dorze tribe who lives in the high land areas and surrounded by bamboo forest and well known for their traditional weaving and towering huts. After visit drive to Konso to visit Koso tribe and Konso Landscape. The Konso people are the hard working people and well known for their specially land management, one of Africa's most fascinating cultures. The Konso landscape is one of the world heritage sites in Ethiopia registered by UNESCO. After visit, drive to Jinka.

DAY 3 JINKA-TURMI

On this day you will drive to the Mursi village through Mago national park to visit the Mursi tribe. The Mursi people are famous for their women putting lip plate on their lower lip and men for their stick fighting (Donga). After visit, drive to Turmi. On the way, visit Bena and Tsemay tribes. Then proceed to Turmi.

DAY 4 TURMI -DASENEH -TURMI

Visit to Dasenech, visit the Hammer village, if you are lucky, and visit bull jumping ceremony that is the right of passage to manhood for Hamar tribes and in the evening visit the Hamar people Evangadi night dancing.

DAY 5 DRIVE FROM TURMI TO YABELLO AND VISIT KEYAFER MARKET

Drive to Yabello visiting the colorful Key Afer market where you will visit the Benna, Tsemay and rarely the Ari tribes. En route you also visit the Oromo Borena and visit their village. The drive this day will let you to experience the life of the Oromo Borena People who is well known

in cattle rearing. You also visit the Oromo Borena People villages and their 'singing well from which they cater water to their own thousands of cattle by singing.

DAY 6 VISIT EL SOD

Early in the morning after breakfast you will drive to El Sod ("House of Salt"). It is a small village located 80 km south of Yabelo, close to a deep crater lake. The salt is retrieved from the lake located on the bottom of the crater without any mechanization. The men work completely naked because the salt hardens their clothes.

DAY 7 YABELO TO YIRGA ALEM

On this day after breakfast you will drive to Yirgalem. It is a town in Southern Ethiopia. The city is located 260 kilometers south of Addis Ababa and 40 kilometers south of Hawassa in the Sidama Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region.

DAY 8 YIRGALEM TO BALE MOUNTAINS

Bale Mountains National Park (BMNP) is a national park in Ethiopia with one of the highest incidences of animal endemism of any terrestrial habitat in the world. The park encompasses an area of approximately 2,150 km, and is divided into five distinct and unique habitats: the Northern Grasslands (Gaysay Valley), Northern Woodlands (Park Headquarters), Afro-alpine Meadows (Sanetti Plateau), Erica Moorlands, and the Harenna Forest. The park is known for being home to the largest populations of both the endemic and endangered Ethiopian wolf (*Canis simensis*) and mountain nyala (*Tragelaphus buxtoni*), as well as the endemic Bale monkey (*Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*) and giant mole rat (*Tachyoryctes macrocephalus*). The endangered painted hunting dog (*Lycaon pictus*) once existed in the park (with relict packs reported in the 1990s), but may now be extirpated due to human population pressures in this region.

DAY 9 FROM BALE MOUNTAINS TO HAWASSA

This day morning you will drive to Hawassa.

DAY 10 DRIVE TO ADDIS ABABA

Drive back to Addis Ababa and End of the Tour.