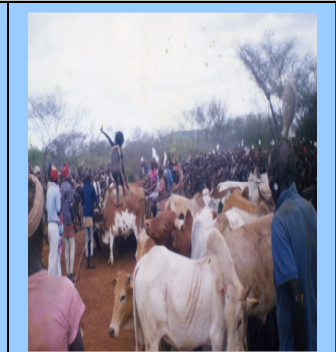
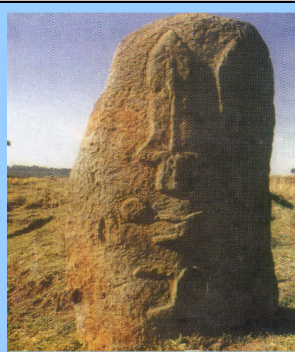
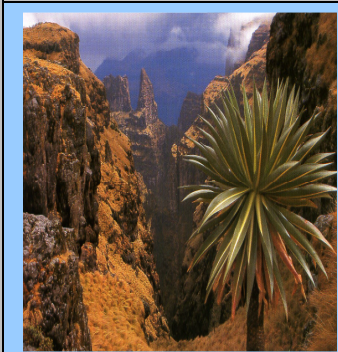


Connection Travel & Tours



*Come visit with connection travel & Tour and discover a
Land of Fascinating People and Culture*



About the Company

Connection Travel & Tour is a newly established private company which running different holidays with the help of qualified and over decades of experienced staff. Our company is committed to developing a competitive form of tourism, which can meet the interest and budget of its clients. Connection Travel & Tour is also practicing to promote a less well-known tourist destination of Ethiopia, in order to benefiting the locals from the tourism income-share. As we are offering different forms of holidays; history and culture, wildlife and bird life tour, trekking, safari and expedition tour are one of the major tour programs that Connection Travel & Tour is actively running through out the country. In addition, Air ticketing, hotel reservation and car hire is also one of the activities that we expertly serving.

Welcome To The cradle Land of Humankind...

At the North Eastern edge of Africa, literally known as the Horn of Africa, one could find a unique land Ethiopia, the origin of mankind and one of the cradles of ancient civilizations. The country with its diverse environment, long history and mosaic culture has its past alive in the form of attractive monuments, traditions and ruins built long an ago.

Physical Features

Ethiopia is a country of great geographical diversity. It has high and rugged mountains, flat-topped plateau, deep gorges, incised river valleys and rolling plains. The country's altitude ranges from the highest peak at Ras Dashen (4560 meters above sea level) down to the Dalol depression, which is about 120 meters below sea level. A large part of the country comprises of high plateau and mountain ranges with precipitous edges dissected by rushing streams that are tributaries of famous rivers like the Blue Nile (Abay), Awash, Wabe Shebelle, Omo, Tekeze, Ganale-Dawa and Baro-Akobo

As the country is located within the tropics, its physical conditions and variations in altitude have resulted in great diversity of terrain, climate, and wildlife and bird species.

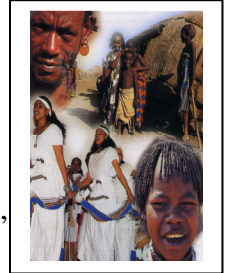


The Great Rift Valley that stretches from the Palestinian-Jordan with the eastern end of the Mediterranean Basin down to Mozambique in the southeastern is also one of the natural beauties of this region.

2-The People

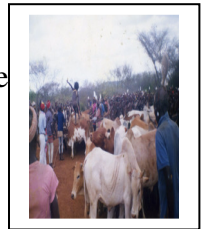
Ethiopia's geographical and historical factors have had a great influence on the distribution of its peoples and languages. The country is situated at the cross roads between the Middle East and Africa. Through its long history, Ethiopia has become a melting pot of diverse customs and varied cultures in which some of them extremely ancient.

Many of the country's large variety of ethnic groups have their own customs, traditions, crafts, homes and unique languages. There are over 78 languages are spoken in the country in which the majority of the languages belong to the Afro-Asiatic supper family, and the rest few classified under the Nilo-Saharan. Of these, the *Afan Oromo*, *Amharic*, *Tigrinya* and *Wolaita* languages are the most widely spoken with the largest population, respectively.



Culture & Tradition

Christianity, Islam and animism have exerted much influence in the development of the complex and diverse cultural traits. While the lives and day-to-day activities of the people are influenced by their respective religion. In terms of religion, Christians and Muslims makes up about 80 % of the population together, the remaining 20 % would be animist and others.



HISTORY

It was in 1994 that the oldest human remains ever discovered, the 4.4 million old bones of *Homo Ramidus afarensis*, in the Ethiopia's Afar region, in which the previous one was known as " *Lucy*", who was estimated at 3.4 million years.

Ethiopia has got very wonderful and extensive historic places, especially in the northern part of the country, where the visitors can easily see old steleas, churches and castles. In the east, the 1000 years old city of Harar, with its 99 mosques, is also considered as the fourth holiest place in Islam, after Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem.

The 1.5 to 1.8 million years old archeological site at Melka Kunture, the Tiya standing stones and the 400 stelae of Tutu Fella (near Dilla) are one of the most southern historical sites. Although there are some medieval monasteries and palaces in Oromia, the recently restored palace of Abba Jifar, the last independent Oromo king, is one of the remarkable historical sites in the western Ethiopia.

Language

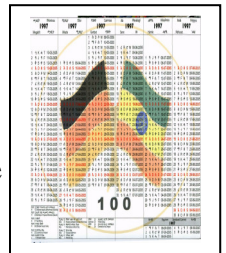
Afan Oromo, Amharic and Tigrinya are the largest indigenous languages in the country. And that, Amharic is also serving as an official language of the central government. Besides, English, French, Italian and Arabic are widely spoken in Ethiopia.

Calendar

Ethiopia follows the Julian calendar, which consists of twelve months of thirty days each and a thirteenth month of five days (six days in the leap year). Our calendar is seven years and eight months behind the Western (Gregorian) calendar.

Time

Ethiopia is three hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (+3). Almost, time remains constant through out the year; day and night are always the same length, in which counting starts at 6.00 a.m. in the morning. So that, Western 7.00 a.m. is, therefore, one o'clock.



Energy

Ethiopia uses 220 volts and 50 Hz.

Currency

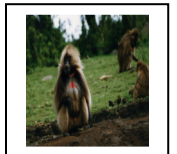
The local currency is the Ethiopian birr, which made up of 100 cents. Notes are issued in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 50 and 100. There are also five different coins: 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents.



NATURE

Endemic Mammals:

The Mountain Nyala, Ethiopian Wolf, Gelada baboon, Swayne's hartebeest, Walia Ibex, Wild Ass, Giant Mole rat, Menelik's bushbuck and Stack's hare are one of the Ethiopian endemic mammals.



Endemic birds:

Ankober serin, Salvador's seed eater, Stresemann's bush crow, Abyssinian Long claw, Nechsar Nightjar, Yellow-throated serin, White-tailed swallow, Sidamo Lark, Degodi Lark, Black-headed siskin, Abyssinian catbird, Harwood's francolin, Spot-breasted plover, Yellow-fronted parrot, Prince Ruspoli's Turaco, Abyssinian woodpecker.

Come visit with Connection Travel & Tours and discover a land of fascinating people and culture.

Connection Travel & Tours (CTT): - Tour Program.

A. Day Tour Program (from Addis Ababa)

(TOUR-CODE= CTT)

- CTT-001. Ambo-Wanchi Creator Lake and Addis Alem church
- CTT -002. Debra Libanose Monasteries
- CTT-003 .Adadi Mariam rock-hewn church, Tiya and Melka kulture Archeological sites.
- CTT-004 .Menagesha-Suba forest
- CTT-005 .Sodere Resort
- CTT-006 .Debre-Zeit creator lakes
- CTT-007 .Addis Ababa city tour
- CTT-008 .Blue Nile gorge and Debra Libanose
- CTT-009 .Debra Brehan and Ankober
- CTT-010 .Mount Zequala and Debra Zeit creator lakes
- CTT-011 .Menagesha-Suba forest and Addis Alem church

Short Tours

- CTT-012. Two-days/one night/ in Awassa, Langano and Wondogenet
- CTT-013. Two days/one night /in Awash National park
- CTT-014. Three days/ two nights/ in Bale Mountains
- CTT-015. Two-days/one night/ in Ambo, Guder falls and Waliso
- CTT-016. Two-days/one night/ in Bahir Dar
- CTT-017. Three-days/two night / in Bahir Dar
- CTT-018. Two-days/one night/ in Lalibella
- CTT-019. Three-days/two nights/in Lalibella
- CTT-020. Two-days/one night/in Gonder
- CTT-021. Two-day/one night/in Axum
- CTT-022. Three-days/two nights/in Axum
- CTT-023. Two-days/one night/in Sodere
- CTT-024. Three days/two nights/in Langano and Wondogenet
- CTT-025. Two-days/one night/in Ambo-Wanchi, Guder falls & Waliso
- CTT-026. Three-days/two nights/in Jimma (Abba Jiffar's Palace)
- CTT-027. Three- days/two nights/in the walled city of Harar

NB: Please refer our tour code for any trip bookings, accordingly.

We are always committed to satisfy our clients through quality and efficient service

C. Long Package Tours

CTT-028. Five days /four nights/ in the historic route by Air.

- 1 Night in Bahir Dar
- 1 Night in Gonder
- 1 Night in Lalibella
- 1 Night in Axum

CTT-029. Seven days /six nights/ in the historic route by Air.

- 2 Nights in Bahir Dar
- 1 Night in Gonder
- 2 Nights in Lalibella
- 1 Night in Axum

CTT-030. Thirteen days/12 nights/ along the historic route by surface.

- 1 night in Debre markos
- 2 nights in Bahir Dar
- 1 night in Gonder
- 2 nights in Axum
- 1 night in Mekelle
- 2 nights in Lalibella
- 1 night in Kombolcha
- 2 nights in Addis Ababa

CTT-031. Twelve days /11 nights/ Omo valley special

- 2 nights in Addis Ababa
- 2 nights in Arbaminch
- 1 night in Jinka
- 1 night camping at Mago National Park
- 1 night camping at Muriele/ Karo village/
- 2 nights camping at Turmi/ Hamer village/
- 1 night at in Yabello
- 1 night in Wondogenet Resort

CTT-032. Ten days /9 nights/ Trekking in the Semien Mountain (by Air)

- 2 nights in Addis Ababa
- 1 night camping at Buyit Ras
- 1 night camping at Geech
- 2 nights camping at Chenek
- 1 night camping at Sankaber
- 2 nights in Gonder

If you join our long package tours, you really experience the Ethiopian life style.

CTT-033. Nine days /8 nights/ Bird watching

- 2 nights in Addis Ababa
- 2 nights in Awash National Park
- 1 night in Lake Langano
- 2 nights in Wondogenet
- 1 night in Awassa

CTT-034. Twelve days /11 nights/ Bird watching

- 3 nights in Addis Ababa (with a full day birding in Debra Libanose)
- 2 nights in Awash National Park
- 1 night in Lake Langano
- 2 nights in Wondogenet
- 2 nights in Goba/Bale Mountains National Park
- 1 night in Lake Awassa

CTT-035. Eight days /7 nights/ in Western Ethiopia for history & culture.

- 2 nights in Addis Ababa
- 2 nights in Jimma- Abba Jiffar
- 2 nights in Gambella
- 1 night in Nekemte

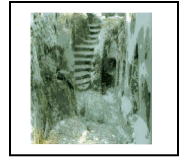
CTT-036. Ten days /eight nights/ Trekking in the Bale Mountains, including visit to Sof Omer.

- 1 night in Dinsho
- 1 night camping at Fecha-abera
- 1 night camping at Wassama
- 1 night camping at Gerba Guracha Lake
- 2 nights in Goba (including a trip to Sof Omer)
- 2 nights in Addis Ababa

Our goal is to maximize the satisfaction of our customers through quality services.

Concise Statement on some sites

Adadi Mariam - It is an hour drive from Addis Ababa. It is an old church, which like most of those at Laibella, is still used as a place of worship. It is/was said that it was hewn by King Lalibella of the Zagwe dynasty when he came to visit Zequalla- particularly Abune Gebra Menfeskidus, the founder of Zequala church.



Melka Kunture – (Prehistoric site) It is regarded to be one of the most Stone Age sites in Ethiopia. Although no human fossils have ever been found, the layers of rock uncovered by the river (Awash) contain large numbers of Stone Age artefacts such as hand-axes and cleavers.

Tiya – Some 80 km from the capital. Little is known about the origin of these Stelae or the meaning of the symbols that are carved upon them. Recent excavation at Tiya revealed that the stones mark the mass of graves of males and females who died when they were between 18 and 30 years of age, and who were laid to rest in a fetal position.



Wanchi- Creator Lake – It is located at a high volcanically formed steep-walled creator about 27 km south of Ambo. It is an area of heather moor land with very fascinating scenery which makes the visit worthwhile.



Debra Libanose Monastery – It is a place where remarkable rituals of the Ethiopian Orthodox church have been reserved, stands about 105 km north west of Addis Ababa. Legend says that it was founded by Saint Tekle-Haimanot in the 13th century.

Mount Zequalla – It is the result of recent volcanic activity, most probably formed around 7,000 years ago. It is said that the name has been derived from the local Oromo chief who was known as Chuqalla Motti, and that the local Oromo people still celebrating *Irecha*- (literally ‘Thanks giving’) in every October.

On the other hand, the beautiful lake in the creator is considered to be sacred by Orthodox Ethiopians in which there is a large religious festival on every 15 October and 14 March. It is also a wonderful site to see the panoramic view down the Rift valley.

Addis Ababa – It is the capital of modern Ethiopia which was founded by Emperor Menelik in 1887. It is also a great gateway for most tourists, as well as the political and commercial heart of the country. The National Museum, Ethnological Museum and the Trinity cathedral are one of the places of interests in Addis Ababa.

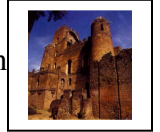
Abba Jiffar Palace/Jimma – Some 335 km west of the capital one could see the late 19th century palace of the last independent Oromo King, Abba Jiffar Abba Mogol. This notable historical site is located at an ideal place known as Jiren, some 8 km north of Jimma town.



Lake Tana/Bahir Dar – Lake Tana is the largest (3600 sq km) in Ethiopia, and it is also the source of Blue Nile, the largest river in the country. It is also a home for many old monasteries with their respective Islands, in which some of churches go back to 13th century.



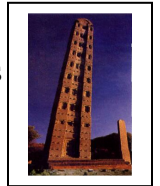
Gonder – It contains a number of castles and churches built between 1632 and 1855 by different emperors who reigned during this period. The beautifully- painted Debra Brehan Sellasie church, the Fasil bath and the ruined of Quskam palace are one of the notable historical sites of Gonder.



Lalibella – King Lalibella of Lsata hewed The Laibella rock-hewn churches in the late 12th century. Legend has it that it took him about 23 years to hewn the first 11 churches. Of these, Beta Giorges which is designed in a form of Cross with the absence of standing pillars, is one of the remarkable ancient architecture of the era.



Axum – Axum is famous for its mysterious monolithic steale, in which all of them made of single pieces of granite and with identical decoration. The biggest of them is 33 meters high and weighs 500 tones, but fell at some time in the past, is said the largest monolithic in the world.



NATURAL ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia, a country with high diversity of eco-system and different habitats, is one of the richest in birds and mammals. The rugged mountains, savannah, lakes and rivers amaze the first- time visitor. The uniquely formed Rift valley, with its associated lakes, is a home for a great variety of bird life. Due to the regional setting of the country, Ethiopia has been rightly called the ‘Water-tower’ of north-east Africa, it because forms a water divides between the Mediterranean and Indian.

Awash National Park – It covers an area of 827 sq km in which most of the area lies at an altitude of around 900 mt with its hot temperature through out the year. Over 400 bird species and few mammals like the endemic Swayne’s Hartebeest, Lesser and Greater Kudu, Defersa waterbuck, Somme ring’s Gazelle, Lion, Hamadryads Baboon and Caracal inhabit Awash National Park. On the other hand, *Fantale creator*/volcano and on the

Southern flank of which can be seen the dark scar of the latest lava flow of 1820 is one of the main features of Awash National Park.

Bale National Park – is the largest area of Afro-Alpine habitat in the whole of Africa with an average rainfall of 1500 mm and usually falls between March and October. Tulu Dimttu, the highest peak (4377 mt) is within this mountain range. In addition to its Spectacular scenery, Bale Mountains is a home to the rare endemics like the Ethiopian Wolf, Mountain Nyala, Menlik’s Bushbuck and Giant Mole rat.

Nech Sar National Park – It was established as a sanctuary in 1974 for the endemic Swayne’s Hartebeest with an area of 514 sq km. It is situated in the Rift valley between the twin lakes of Abaya and Chamo, in south-central Ethiopia. Over 190 bird species and some mammals like Greater Kudu, Zebra Reedbuck, Grant’s gazelle, and Swayne’s Hartebeest and Hippopotamus occurring in this savannah wood land area.



Mago National Park – is one of the recently established parks with an average area of 2,162 sq km on the western bank of Omo River. The savannah grass land of this region is accommodating mammals like Buffalo, Elephant, Giraffe, and Burchell’s Zebra, Topi, Lesser kudu and Somme ring’s Gazelle and over 60 bird species.

Omo National Park – It is Ethiopia’s largest nature sanctuary(4,068 sq km) and one of the richest in the spectacle game of true wilderness situated in remote south-western Ethiopia, but the least visited park in the country. Eland, Oryx, Lelwel hartebeest, buffalo, giraffe, elephant, lion, leopard and cheetah are among the mammals inhabiting this park.

Simien Mountains National Park – The Simien Mountain constitutes one of the major mountain massifs of dramatic topography in Africa. It was gazetted as a national park in 1969 to protect the rare endemics Walia Ibex, Gelada baboon and Ethiopian Wolf (formerly known as Red Fox). Including many summits, Ras Dejen which is the highest peak (4562mt) in the country and the fourth in Africa is one of the geological beauties of the park.



* ****

We really make your holidays very unforgettable, if you come and visit this remarkable gift of nature through Connection Travel & Tours.

THE PEOPLE OF UPPER & LOWER OMO VALLEY

Although there are a variety of ethnic groups inhabiting this region, the Hammer, Banna, Mursi, Karo, Konso and Dorze people are very notable for their colorful customs, values and traditions.

The Dorze - Another distinctive people of the region around Lakes Abaya and Chamo are the Dorzes, once warriors, who have now turned to weaving and farming. The Dorze villages are classic examples of simple architecture, unlike anything seen elsewhere in Ethiopia, with its towering beehive-shaped structures reaching up to 12 meters high.

Konso – The Konso, who inhabit southwest of Lakes Abaya and Chamo, practicing an intensive form of agriculture on intricately terraced hillside. The Konso have a rich indigenous culture that finds expression in haunting music and dance. They also commemorate dead heroes with carved wooden figures known as ‘Waga’ (which means, literally, something of the grand father).



Hammer-Benna – These people inhabit the Turmi and Demeka area, and they are estimated to be about 16,000 in number. Hammer men and women pay a great attention to the styling and decoration of hair. Hair styling enhances beauty and signifies status, bravery and courage. Men who have killed either an enemy or big and dangerous animals such as leopard or lion wear clay hair buns. The ‘jumping of the bull’ ceremony marks the initiation of the young men into adulthood. The initiate takes a running leap on to the back of the first bull (or cow) and then charges across the backs of all the others. The jumper must repeat these four times in order to prove his manhood.



Karo – The Karos inhabit along the Omo River, Murile/Qorcho and Dus villages. They are one of the least minorities in Lower Omo Valley with a population size of less than five hundred. Body painting and scarification is one of the beauties of these people.



Mursi – The Mursi are part of the small remaining group of people in the world whose women still wear lip plates, which is purely symbolic. Even though there are several theories why lip plates were originally adopted, the practical use is the sign of beauty and/or indicating the number of cattle required by the wearer’s family for her hand in marriage or perhaps to prevent evil things from entering the body through the mouth.

* * * * *

*As we primarily concentrate on our clients' satisfaction, **Connection Travel & Tour** is highly dependable in arranging very competitive trip to these colorful tribes with the help of its qualified guides and drivers.*

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