

Ethiopia! Exotic Tribes of the Omo River Valley

Nature Photography Adventures

Adventure Itinerary

October 6-20, 2024



This adventure gives us in-depth opportunities for personal experiences with a number of fascinating tribes, mostly centered around the Omo River Valley in Southern Ethiopia. We also weave in some experiences with natural features, including Bale Mountains National Park! Be prepared for both wildlife and people photography – in all kinds of lighting situations!

Ethiopia is arriving late to the tourism game – hence tourism infrastructure may be less sophisticated than what you have experienced elsewhere in Africa.

October 5	Optional Early Arrival Day Airport meet and transfer	Best Western Plus Hotel	Meals not Included
October 6	Arrival Day Airport meet and transfer Orientation Welcome Dinner at Dashen Restaurant	Best Western Plus Hotel	Dinner
October 7	Journey to Lake Langano Bird photography stops at Koka Dam and Lake Ziway Photography excursion at Abijatta-Shalla National Park	Sabana Lodge	BLD
October 8	Travel to Arba Minch located in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region Visit a Dorze Village en route (beehive-shaped bamboo houses)	Haile Resort, Arba Minch	BLD
October 9	Travel to Jinka Boat trip on Lake Chamo for hippos, birds, and some of the biggest crocodiles in the world Drive through various tribal areas Visit Ari village	Jinka Resort	BLD
October 10	Morning visit to the Mursi people in Mago National Park. Mursi women traditionally insert clay plates in their lower lips. Afternoon visit to Omo Valley Museum	Jinka Resort	BLD
October 11	Visit to the Bodi People. Men in this tribe strive to be fat – but only to compete for the honors of fattest... then they slim back down.	Jinka Resort	BLD
October 12	Travel to Turmi, in the heartland of the Hamar people. Explore a Hamer village. The Hamer are known for body decorations and hairstyles that incorporate clay and ochre.	Buska Lodge	BLD

October 13	Excursion to Omorate Have the opportunity to cross the Omo River in a traditional canoe. Visit a Dassanech village – these agro-pastoralists are semi-nomadic. They raise crops and livestock – and also fish and hunt crocodiles (at night)	Buska Lodge	BLD
October 14	Visit a Nyangatom village. The Nyangatom are known for speaking and singing. Visit Karo people, known for elaborate body-painting (both men and women). There is also scarification, using a sharp blade to create scars in patterns that are significant. It will be market day in Turmi – and we'll be there to experience that and make images	Buska Lodge	BLD
October 15	Return to Arba Minch Along the way, we'll visit the Konso people, famous for terraces that encircle their well-planned villages. World Heritage Site	Haile Resort, Arba Minch	BLD
October 16	Drive to Bale Mountains National Park (long drive) Leisurely hike to spot birds and wildlife – some endemics!	Wabeshebele Hotel	BLD
October 17	Inside Bale Mountains National Park we'll go to the Sanetti Plateau, world's largest Afro-Alpine moorland. Here we'll search for the Ethiopian wolf and interesting birds! Then we'll continue to the Haremma Forest. The Haremma Escarpment towers 2,000 meters above the edge of the forest. Stunning landscapes!	Wabeshebele Hotel	BLD
October 18	We continue our explorations of Bale Mountains National Park. We'll end up visiting five ecological zones: Northern Grasslands, Juniper Woodlands, Afroalpine Meadows, Erica Belt, and Haremma Forest. We'll watch for unique landscape images, birds, and wildlife.	Wabeshebele Hotel	BLD
October 19	We'll return to park headquarters, with one last search through the forest for animals and birds. Then, it's a drive to Addis Ababa. We'll make a stop for souvenir shopping Final dinner at Yod Abyssinia Traditional Restaurant where we can expect dancers and musicians representing Ethiopian ethnic groups	Best Western Plus Hotel	BLD
October 20	Transfers to international airport for outgoing flights		Breakfast