



Brianna Glenn
Travel Designer
Milk + Honey Travels

424-343-7390

brianna@milkandhoneytravels.com
<http://milkandhoneytravels.com>



The Voices Project 2022 Ethiopia Trip: Our Cultural Biblical Legacy

Jul 29, 2022 - Aug 10, 2022

Proposal Approved

By: Donna Barber On: Sep 29, 2021

Approx cost for all land inclusions in itinerary w/ flights from IAD:

per person sharing: \$5500

single supplement: \$6800

Miscellaneous:

Travelers will need Visa for Ethiopia

Tips / Gratuities not included

Insurance: Insurance coverage for personal loss, injury, illness or damages incurred during your trip. (We strongly recommend travel/cancellation insurance)

Trip Summary

July 29 - Friday

11:00 AM Depart from Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) - Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

July 30 - Saturday

7:15 AM Arrive at ADD - ADD

Welcome to Ethiopia!

Check in at Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel - Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel

Group Dinner

July 31 - Sunday

Explore Addis Ababa

August 1 - Monday

Day Excursion to Tiya Stelae Field + Adadi Mariam Church

August 2 - Tuesday

Check out at Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel - Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel

7:30 AM Depart from ADD - ADD

8:30 AM Arrive at Bahir Dar Airport (BJR) - Bahir Dar Airport (BJR)

Check in at Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar - Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar

Lake Tana Monasteries

August 3 - Wednesday

Morning Schedule

Check out at Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar - Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar

Bahir Dar - Gondar

Check in at Mayleko Lodge - Mayleko Lodge

August 4 - Thursday

Morning Breakfast

Explore Gondar: Piazza & exploration of Italian architecture

Evening Celebration

August 5 - Friday

Morning/Afternoon at leisure

5:40 PM Depart from Gondar Airport (GDQ) - Gondar Airport (GDQ)

6:50 PM Arrive at ADD - ADD

11:20 PM Depart from ADD - ADD

August 6 - Saturday

4:50 AM Arrive at Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO) - Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)

Arrival in Rome - Private Transfer to hotel

Palazzo Navona Hotel - Palazzo Navona Hotel

August 7 - Sunday

Ancient Rome

August 8 - Monday

Castelli Romani Culture & Wines

August 9 - Tuesday

Morning: Vatican Museums & St Peter's Basilica

Farewell Dinner

August 10 - Depart for US

Private Transfer to airport

11:00 AM

Depart from Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO) - Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)

2:55 PM

Arrive at Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) - Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

July 29 - Friday



11:00 AM - Eastern Daylight Time

Depart from Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER
United Airlines	UA 7201



Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

1 Saarinen Cir, Dulles, VA, US, 20166

(703) 572-2700

July 30 - Saturday



7:15 AM - East Africa Time

Arrive at ADD

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
United Airlines	UA 7201	2



ADD

Addis Ababa, OROMIA, ET

+251 11 665 0400



Welcome to Ethiopia!

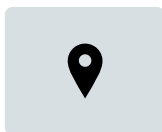
Welcome to Addis Ababa!

Upon arrival you will be greeted by our friendly guide, who will transfer you to your hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital city and Africa's diplomatic capital.

Meaning "New Flower", Addis Ababa was founded by Emperor Menelik II in 1887, who selected the site because of its location within the Entoto Hills, which has long been the centre of Shoan politics. Addis lies in the central highlands, rising to an altitude of 3,000m in parts, making it the third highest capital in the world. It is a pleasant and vibrant city, with wide avenues of jacaranda trees, interesting museums and one of the largest open-air markets in Africa. The capital is rich in impressive monuments of historic architecture, which are interspersed amidst stretches of modest, sun-bleached shacks.



Check in at Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel



Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel

Cameroon Street, Addis Ababa, Addis Ababa, ET, 5623



Group Dinner

Dinner with The Beta Abraham Ethiopian Jewish Community and Lecture and Q&A on The History of the Beta Abraham Community. (Set up by [Kulanu](#). The Voices Project should donate since this community lives in extreme poverty).

July 31 - Sunday

Explore Addis Ababa



Today you will set off on an exciting exploration of the city of Addis Ababa. Meaning “New Flower”, Addis Ababa was founded by Emperor Menelik II in 1887. He selected the site because of its location within the Entoto Hills, which has long been the centre of Shoan politics. Addis lies in the central highlands, rising to an altitude of 3,000m in parts, making it the third highest capital in the world. It is a pleasant and vibrant city, with wide avenues of jacaranda trees, interesting museums and one of the largest open-air markets in Africa. The capital is rich in impressive monuments of historic architecture, interspersed amidst stretches of modest, sun-bleached shacks.

First you will drive to Entoto Hills. Mt. Entoto. As this is the highest peak in Addis Ababa, you will enjoy a panoramic view of the city and surrounding countryside. This is a great place to start your tour, as this was the site of the first settlement in Addis Ababa, where Emperor Menelik II resided and built his palace in 1887. The compound at the peak hosts the Entoto Mariam church, an Ethiopian artefact museum and Menelik II’s palace, collectively offering a fascinating glimpse into the history of Ethiopia’s culture.

As one drives up the hill there is an appreciable drop in temperature (so do remember to pack something warm to wear) and the air is filled with the scent of the Eucalyptus trees which line the road. Roadside stalls offer fresh Ethiopian coffee. If you have an interest in Ethiopian traditional clothes it may be possible, depending on time, to stop by at Shero Meda Market, there is a wide variety of beautiful fabrics, shawls, scarves, dresses, tops and jewelry. This is the perfect opportunity to do some gift shopping.

The National Museum of Ethiopia is famous for its paleontological and pre-historic exhibitions. Here you will get to view the famous 3.5 million-year-old bones of Lucy, which were discovered in the Afar region. Established in 1944, the National Museum was born when archeological research was started in collaboration with a team of French scientists; and it became evident how important it was to organize, preserve and exhibit the collections.

Exhibits of the national museum are presented under the following four main sections:

- Paleontology and pre-history: Lucy and other fossils, including stone tools.
- Historical and archaeological: Findings that depict the early history from the pre-Axumite times to the 16th century AD.
- Ethnography: Traditional and ceremonial costumes, jewelry etc. reflecting the diversified cultures of the various ethnic groups.
- Modern Art: Selected paintings and sculptures from various contemporary Ethiopian artists, including the celebrated Maître Artist Laureate, Afework Tekle.

August 1 - Monday



Day Excursion to Tiya Stelae Field + Adadi Mariam Church

Today after breakfast you will depart early in the morning to south of Ethiopia to visit Adadi Mariam Church and the Tiya Stelae Field.

First visit Adadi Mariam which is 57km from Addis Ababa, Adadi Mariam is a subterranean rock-hewn church similar to those of Lalibela. This church is unique as it is the southern-most church of its type, and stands alone – no other rock-hewn churches are in the area. It has been surmised that King Lalibela ordered the construction of Adadi Mariam for his visit to southern Ethiopia. The site dates to the 13th century, but is still an active site of worship, then drive 30km to visit Tiya Stelae Field.

Tiya Stelae Field, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is among the most important of the roughly 160 archaeological sites discovered so far in the Soddo region, south of Addis Ababa. The site contains 36 monuments, including 32 carved stelae covered with symbols, most of which are difficult to decipher. They are the remains of an ancient Ethiopian culture whose age has not yet been precisely determined.

Return to Addis in the afternoon.

August 2 - Tuesday



Check out at Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel

**Golden Tulip Addis Ababa Hotel**

Cameroon Street, Addis Ababa, Addis Ababa, ET, 5623

**7:30 AM - East Africa Time****Depart from ADD**

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 126	1

**ADD**Addis Ababa, OROMIA, ET
+251 11 665 0400**8:30 AM - East Africa Time****Arrive at Bahir Dar Airport (BJR)**

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 126

**Bahir Dar Airport (BJR)**

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**Check in at Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar****Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar**

Bahir Dar, Amhara, ET

**Lake Tana Monasteries**

This morning, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight (1 hr) to Bahir Dar, which means “by the side of the sea” in the Amharic language. Bahir Dar is an attractive and interesting town; Lake Tana creates a tranquil backdrop for palm and jacaranda-fringed avenues featuring a myriad of restaurants, shops and some fascinating architecture. Lake Tana, Ethiopia’s largest lake is 68kms wide and 73 km long, and is dotted with more than 30 islands, on many of which are found churches and monasteries.

Today you will enjoy a relaxing boat trip on the lake. Lake Tana, Ethiopia’s largest lake, is 68km wide and 73 km long. Lake Tana supplies more than half the country’s fresh water. It is the source of the Blue Nile River and one of the world’s longest waterways.

Lake Tana is dotted with more than 30 islands, many housing churches and monasteries. Your boat trip will take you to some islands housing the Zeghe Peninsula to visit 2 of the lake’s renowned island monasteries, known for their 14th century round, grass roofed churches and magnificent wall murals, namely: Ura Kidane Mihret and Azua Mariam. Both offer vibrant paintings depicting scenes from the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible. The monastery of Ura seems to hide within the mangrove forest of the Zege peninsula. Its architectural style is a typical example of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, having a mud-plastered round wall with conical thatched roof. Ura is known especially for its fine frescoes, manuscripts and ecclesiastical exhibits: crowns from various emperors dated from the 14th century, processional crosses of silver & gold, silver drums and royal vestments.

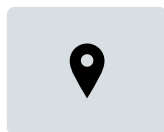
August 3 - Wednesday**Morning Schedule**

9:00am-10:00am: Morning Prayer, Devotional and Ethiopian Breakfast
This is a Group meal together

10:00am-11:00am: Interactive Bible Study: Ethiopia & The Ark of The Covenant



Check out at Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar



Kuriftu Resort and Spa Bahir Dar

Bahir Dar, Amhara, ET



Bahir Dar - Gondar

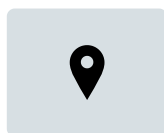
After breakfast, you will drive to Ethiopia's very own Camelot – the magical city of Gondar, which is around 180km away, approximately a 3-hour drive.

You will check into your hotel before embarking on an interesting exploration of Gondar, the imperial city of Fasilides. The city was the first capital of the Ethiopian empire, which began in 1632, with the reign of Fasilides; and the kings of Ethiopia based their power there for over two centuries. In Gondar, there are a dozen castles built by various emperors over the course of 236 years. Many picturesque ruins lie in the royal enclosure, like fairy-tale castles dating back to the 17th century. The castles reflect the glory of Gondarine kings and is characterised by its distinctive architectural style. The other place of interest is the Fasilides pool, in which pilgrims still take a plunge during the Timket (Epiphany) celebrations. Afterwards, you will visit Debre Birhan Trinity Church, (rewarding for the magnificent murals adorning the ceiling and walls), and Kuskuam Church, situated on a hillscape, just outside the town.

During this day of remarkable sights, you will pause for breath and for lunch at the Four Sisters Restaurant, which offers the finest cuisine in Gondar (optional extra).



Check in at Mayleko Lodge



Mayleko Lodge

ጎንደር, አማራ, ET, 6948

August 4 - Thursday



Morning Breakfast

Morning Prayer & Breakfast
 (Group meal together)



Explore Gondar: Piazza & exploration of Italian architecture

When visiting Gondar, especially in certain precincts such as the Piazza, you will notice a distinct Italian footprint. During the Italian occupation of Ethiopia (1936 to 1941), the Italian forces used Fasil Ghebbi as their headquarters. They also constructed accommodation and facilities in the city for their officials and colonists. Many of Gondar's mediaeval castles were damaged during the British liberation, when bombs were dropped on the complex.

Today you will have an opportunity to explore the piazza, which has a distinct Italian footprint. You will also explore some period buildings that were constructed during the Italian occupation, a time during which the country (Italy) had a long-term view of colonization.



Evening Celebration

6:30-10:00pm Dinner & Praise, Prayer & Worship Night to End Ethiopian Spiritual Pilgrimage (Group Meal together)

August 5 - Friday

Morning/Afternoon at leisure



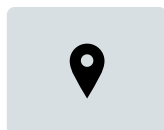
Today you will enjoy some leisure time. Your guide is at your service to take you to any additional sites you may wish to visit, including the Wolleka Jewish Falasha Village, just outside Gondar.

This afternoon you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Addis. You will be transferred from the domestic airport to the Bole International Airport, next door, where you will wait for your international flight to Rome.



5:40 PM - East Africa Time
Depart from Gondar Airport (GDQ)

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 169



Gondar Airport (GDQ)
Gondar, ET



6:50 PM - East Africa Time
Arrive at ADD

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 169	1



ADD
Addis Ababa, OROMIA, ET
+251 11 665 0400



11:20 PM - East Africa Time
Depart from ADD

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 702	2



ADD
Addis Ababa, OROMIA, ET
+251 11 665 0400

August 6 - Saturday



4:50 AM - Central European Summer Time
Arrive at Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
Ethiopian Airlines	ET 702	3



Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)
Via dell'Aeroporto di Fiumicino 320, Fiumicino, LAZIO, ITALIA, 00054
+39 06 65951



Arrival in Rome - Private Transfer to hotel

Upon arrival meet with private English speaking assistant and transfer by deluxe A/C minibus to **Rome city center**.

Modern and old, past and present go side by side, all the time. Whether you are in Rome for 3 days, 3 weeks or 3 months, be prepared to step into the world's biggest open air museum. Rome will seduce you and it will hardly leave you indifferent. It will surprise you, since has so much to offer to any visitor, and it's beauty is just been merely blurred by time passing by. Rome is one of world's most photogenic cities - not surprising when you remember what's here - The Vatican, the Trevi Fountain, St Peter's Square, Spanish Steps, Colosseum... Whether you spend your time sightseeing, or lazing in cafés watching the world go by, it will be your turn to feature in your very own Roman Holiday.



Palazzo Navona Hotel

This 43-room, mid-century modern boutique hotel is sleek and upscale, with a gorgeous rooftop terrace with bar -- and a phenomenal location for tourists right by the Piazza Navona, within a five-minute walk of the Pantheon. Spacious, stylish rooms have black tile floors and free minibar item on the first day. There's no restaurant, but there's a big, free breakfast buffet as well as sundowner appetizers and cocktails at the rooftop bar.

*breakfast included



Palazzo Navona Hotel

Via del Melone 18/20, Roma, Lazio, Italia, 00186

August 7 - Sunday



Ancient Rome

Buffet Breakfast in hotel.

This morning meet with private English speaking guide & driver with minibus in hotel lobby and beginning of the complete guided tour of **The Ancient Tour of Rome**. Your half-day Rome walking tour start by entering the **Colosseum** (entrance fees are included). With your guide, explore this legendary amphitheater, learning interesting facts such as how seats were assigned according to social class. You'll also hear about the gruesome gladiator games, the Colosseum's main attraction that provided much entertainment to the crowd. Then follow your guide back outside to walk around the neighboring streets, where the commercial and political center of ancient Rome once stood. Head to the **Roman Forum**, where you'll check out historic ruins such as the **Temple of Caesar** and listen to stories about the power and backstabbing that went on during this period of Roman history. Other sites you'll see include the **Arch of Septimius Severus, the colonnaded Regia, the Gemonian stairs and the Temple of Vespasian and Titus**. From here, enjoy a panoramic tour to **Capitoline Hill**, one of the Seven Hills of Rome, to admire the Michelangelo-designed **Piazza del Campidoglio**. End of your tour and return in hotel. Lunch and balance of the day at leisure.

Dinner at leisure and overnight in Rome.

August 8 - Monday



Castelli Romani Culture & Wines

Buffet Breakfast in hotel.

This morning meet in hotel lobby with your private English-speaking guide & driver with minibus for your full day excursion along the **Rome Countryside**. Experience the essence of Italy in the hills of the famed **Castelli Romani**, as you soak up the rich history and enjoy a wine tasting and a typical lunch in this tour from Rome. Visit one of the oldest and most beautiful **vineyards in the Frascati region**. About one hour away from Rome this is area is far from touristy roots and offers a privileged insight on authentic Roman countryside: you will visit **Castel Gandolfo**, second home of Pope where you will get a tasty cappuccino as you wonder around this lovely village and enjoy beautiful glimpses of the peaceful lakes of **Genzano and Nemi**. Later continue to **Ariccia** village to stop in a local Trattoria to taste local food like "Porchetta" and in the early afternoon enjoy a guided visit to a local winery in **Frascati** with tastings of local wines before heading back to Rome city center. Balance of the day at leisure.

6 hours

August 9 - Tuesday

Morning: Vatican Museums & St Peter's Basilica



Buffet Breakfast in hotel.

This early morning meet with private English speaking guide & driver with minibus in hotel lobby and beginning of the complete guided tour of the **Vatican Complex**. You will enter immediately in the **Vatican Museums** with your skip the line tickets. Follow your guide to some of the complex's dozens of galleries and rooms, such as **Raphael's Rooms, the Gallery of Maps, and the Gallery of Tapestries**. Hear about the famed Renaissance masters like Raphael and Michelangelo who created art for the popes, and listen to stories about rivalries between artists. You'll reach the **Sistine Chapel**, known for its iconic frescoes by Michelangelo—The Last Judgment and The Creation of Adam, which decorates the chapel's sacred ceiling. (Talking inside the chapel is prohibited, so any commentary from your guide will be given outside the doors.) Next, walk over to **St Peter's Basilica**, the Italian Renaissance church that's home to more artistic masterpieces, most famously Michelangelo's La Pietà sculpture and Bernini's bronze baldachin altar canopy. Then head outside for a stroll around **St Peter's Square**, where your guide points out Bernini's use of optical illusion at the colonnades. Return in hotel. Lunch at leisure and balance of the day at leisure.

Dinner at leisure and overnight in Rome.



Farewell Dinner

TBD

August 10 - Depart for US



Private Transfer to airport

Arrivederci!

Breakfast at hotel and check-out.

Meet in hotel with private English speaking assistant and driver with minibus and transfer to **Rome FCO airport** for your departure



11:00 AM - Central European Summer Time

Depart from Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER	TERMINAL
United Airlines	UA 885	3



Aeroporto Di Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo Da Vinci" (FCO)

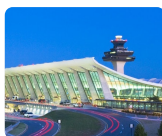
Via dell'Aeroporto di Fiumicino 320, Fiumicino, LAZIO, ITALIA, 00054
+39 06 65951



2:55 PM - Eastern Daylight Time

Arrive at Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

AIRLINE	FLIGHT NUMBER
United Airlines	UA 885



Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

1 Saarinen Cir, Dulles, VA, US, 20166
(703) 572-2700