

Program-Ertale and the Dallol Depression



Day 1: Arrival Addis Ababa

- On arrival from international flight our representative will be waiting in Addis Ababa Airport for the transfer to hotel. Depending on arrival time sightseeing of the capital Addis
- Overnight Hotel

Day 2: Addis Ababa - Bilen (village of Afar people).

- Visit the near by village of Afar pastoralists. Bilen village is a village of the Afar nomadic pastoralists who are completely dependent on their cattle and camels. The village is very traditional with portable grass made houses the nomads use when they move

with their cattle in search of grass and water. We spend the day visiting life of the village. We do this walking in the village looking the house style, visiting in to some houses, looking the Afar women milking animals, preparing their traditional food, and many other activities. More over, in the early evening the Afar boys and girls do their cultural song and dance on the field near to the village. Our camp site is near to the local village under acacia trees and this gives greater chance to see all the life of the localities.

- Over night camping.

Day 3: Bilen - Logia drive (lunch in Mile).

Day 4: Logia - Afdera (arrangement of permission paper and police to go for the trip with us).

- Afdera is one of the famous salt mines in the country. After check in to Hora Hor Hotel we walk to the salt mine to see local people do their daily business. Lake Afdera is about 100km square highly saline body of water fed by the abundant thermal springs. Afdera is 103 meters below sea level and registered as one of the five lowest place in the world.

Day 5: Leave early in the morning and reach Kursawad

- For lunch arrange the camels to carry our materials for the trekking to Mount Erta Ale. This is done through the local cheif of the Afar nomadic tribe. After lunch having some rest, we stat the drive in the early afternoon to El Dom (at the base of Erta Ale). El Dom is about 17 km from Erta Ale and it takes about 3 hours trekking. Early dinner around 1730 or 1800 and trek up to Ertale. Camels transport all the camping materials and some food (sleeping materials like light mattresses and math and water) to the rim of the volcano, where we spend the night watching the dramatic action of the boiling lava. Erta Ale ranks one of the most alluring and physically challenging natural attractions anywhere Ethiopia. It is a shield volcano with a base diameter of 30 km and 1 km square caldera at its summit. Erta Ale contains the world's only permanent lava lake.

- Overnight camping.



Day 6: Reykjavik to the Golden Circle and back to Reykjavik. Departure at 10:30 am at the airport. The tour includes a visit to the Geysir Geothermal Area, the Gullfoss waterfall, and the Thingvellir National Park. The tour concludes with a traditional Icelandic dinner and a night in Reykjavik.