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Northern Ethiopia

Headline: Historic Route #3

Duration: 10 Night // 11 Days

Transportation: Air & Land

Code: Eclipse007

Day 1: Drive from Addis Ababa to Bahar-Dar. On the way you will stop at the blue Nile gorge - East Africa Grand Canyon. After that continue to Debra Libanos Monastery that was founded in the 13th century. The monastery sits in a spectacular site between a cliff and a gorge.

Day 2: Fly from Addis Ababa International Airport to Bahar-Dar. Start your day and visit Blue Nile Falls. Their local name is Tis-Abay (Smoking Water). Continue and visit Lake Tana Monasteries by boat. Lake Tana is the biggest lake in Ethiopia and attracts rich bird life, hippos and crocodiles. (O/N hotel Bahar-Dar)

Day 3: Depart from Bahar-Dar to Gondar (180 Km). In Gondar you will visit different sites - 17th century castles of the great King Fasil and his dynasty (Royal Enclosure). Continue to Falasha Village (Ethiopian Jews) that used to live there until their movement to the Holy Land Israel. After that drive to Derbre Birhan Silasie Church, famous for the decorated ceiling of the angels. After the church you will see the baptism pool of King Fasil, also a place that Gondar religious churches celebrate their Timkat holiday. (O/N Hotel Gondar)

Day 4 - Depart from Gondar to the Simien Mountains, the highest mountains in Ethiopia, the tallest peak is at Ras Dashen - 4550 Meters. Take a day trip and hike and hopefully you will be able to spot the great Gelada Babbon that are endemic in this region of Ethiopia. (O/N hotel in Simien Mountains)

Day 5: Drive from Simien Mountains to Axum via panoramic view of the Simien Mountains and around. O/N hotel Axum.

Day 6: After breakfast in Axum, visit the holiest city in Ethiopia. In Axum you will start by visiting the ancient stelae field (dated over 2000 years). After that continue and visit the impressive archaeological museum. Next stop - King Kaleb's tomb then visit the ancient inscriptions that were written in the time of King Ezana (the first to accept Christianity in Ethiopia). Late afternoon proceed to St. Mary from Tzion Church (where the Ark of the Covenant is kept). (O/N Hotel Axum).

Day 7: Drive to Hawzen via Debra Damo Monasteries that sits on flat topped mountains and is dated to 6th century and is still kept in its original style. The monastery is accessible only by using rope! Continue to Yeha Temple which is the oldest standing structure in Ethiopia. The temple is located in the city of Yeha in Tigray region. (O/N hotel Hawzen).

Day 8: Drive from Hawzen to Makele. On the way you will stop on Mariam Korkor monastery - impressive cross shaped church known for it's architectural features that were built on the 17th century. Then continue to Abuna Yemata Guh monolithic church that situated at a height of 2580 meters and dated for the 5th century. Last stop will be on Abraha We Atsbeha church that architecturally is one of Tigray's finest church. (O/N hotel Makele).

Day 9: Drive to Lalibela via the dramatic highlands and stop at one of the amhara region village to see their live style, houses and culture. (O/N hotel Lalibela).

Day 10: Early morning start you day in the great city of Lalibela. In Lalibela you will visit the 13 breathtaking rock hewn churches built on the 13th century by king Lalibela and his people. (O/N Hotel Lalibela)

Day 11: Fly back to Addis Ababa

Package Inclusions:

- Vehicle hire (Type of the car will be according to number of people), including English-speaking driver/guide, driver's allowance (for his food & accommodation), fuel and insurance
- Entrance fees to all locations including local guide service.
- All applicable taxes

Package Exclusions:

- Breakfast. Lunch, dinner and beverages, including all alcoholic beverages.
- Hotel
- Camera and/or photo fees
- Tips for driver, guides, etc (at your discretion)
- Items of a personal nature

Price:

Price will be given according to number of people traveling

Flights:

We can book for you domestic flights or it can be done by yourself.