



# OMO TOURS AND CAR RENT

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**Tour Code:** OTE-4002  
**Duration:** 8days 7night  
**Tour Title:** Historic Route/Timket Festival In Gondar/

**Day1.** Arrival to Addis Ababa and transfer in to hotel.

**Day2.** Fly from Addis Ababa to Bahir Dar and visit the Blue Nile Falls. After lunch, In the afternoon, have a boat trip on Ethiopia's largest water body - Lake Tana (3,600 Km Sq) to visit the island monasteries of Ura Kidane Mihret (14<sup>th</sup> Century AD) and Azwa Mariam (14<sup>th</sup> Century AD).

**Day3.** Drive from Bahir Dar to Gondar - the 17<sup>th</sup> century capital of Ethiopia. This afternoon, visit the most colorful religious celebration of **the eve of Timket (Epiphany)** which is held to memorize the baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. All the replicas of the Ark of the Covenant will be accompanied by crowds of colorfully dressed Christians to a nearby water place. The priests and the deacons of the churches spend the night praying, singing religious songs and dancing. Overnight Hotel

**Day4.** Early in the morning at about 5:00, attend prayers and religious music with a fascinating priest dance; then have a quick breakfast and participate the celebration on which the replicas of Ark of the Covenant will be accompanied back to its respective churches with the same dancing and singing. In the afternoon, visit the Imperial Castle Compound of Gondar, the Bath of Emperor Fasiladas and the church of Debre Birhan Sillassie which is famous for its wall and ceiling paintings. Overnight Hotel

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**Day5.** Fly to Axum - the earliest capital of Ethiopia. Visit the Archaeological museum of Axum, the famous stele park (UNESCO World Heritage Site), the church of St. Mary of Zion which is believed to be the last resting place of the original Ark of the Covenant, the palace and tomb of King Kaleb and Gebre Meskel (6<sup>th</sup> Century AD), and the ruin palace of the Queen of Sheba (9<sup>th</sup> Century BC). Overnight Hotel

**Day6.** Fly to Lalibela - the home of the 12<sup>th</sup> rock hewn churches and Ethiopia's top tourist attraction. In the afternoon, visit the first group of the rock hewn churches of Lalibela. Overnight Hotel

**Day7.** In the morning, mule ride to the hill top semi monolithic church of Asheten Mariam (13<sup>th</sup> century AD). Getting to the top of the hill rewards with great and unforgettable scenery of the area. In the afternoon, visit the remaining second and the third group of the churches of Lalibela. Overnight Hotel

**Day8.** Fly back to Addis Ababa and have a half day city tour, which includes visiting the National Archeological Museum of Addis Ababa, Merkato - the largest open air market in Africa, and driving to Mt. Entoto (3,200 meters) to have a panoramic view of the capital, then Departure.

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