



## **ETHIOPIA**

The Lower Omo Valley is one of the most fascinating regions in Ethiopia thanks to the cultural diversity of more than a dozen tribes that coexist along the Omo River. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this journey through the Omo Valley will give you the chance to meet some of the most colourful of its tribes and gain a deeper understanding into the history, customs and beliefs of this stunning part of Ethiopia.

#### Key

**B:** Breakfast **L:** Lunch **D:** Dinner

#### Day 1: Addis Ababa

D

The capital of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, is the home of 'Lucy' the famous early hominid and is the cultural and food heart of this beautiful country. We'll meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel. There will be time to relax before our get together this evening to talk about our upcoming Ethiopian adventure!

#### Day 2: Jinka Town/Ari Tribe

BLD

Today we take a short flight from Addis to Jinka, the largest town in the Omo region. We'll visit the South Omo Research Center Museum, set in a stone hilltop building overlooking the city and dedicated to preserving traditional tribal life in the Omo Valley. In the afternoon we'll visit an Ari village and gain an understanding of the Ari people, the largest tribal group in the Omo Valley.

#### Day 3: Turmi Town/Mursi Tribe

BLD

After breakfast we will drive to Turmi, a market town in south western Ethiopia. We'll start the day with a visit to one of Ethiopia's most famous tribes, the Mursi. Famous for their lip plates, they still adhere to their traditional and unique culture. The Turmi market is held weekly and in the afternoon we will visit this bustling marketplace.

## Support the communities of Omo Valley

#### - Buy Local!

Its easy to walk into a store in the city and politely peruse the various curios and items available. However the money you pay rarely benefits the people who need it most. The markets of the Omo Valley are lively and colourful and when you purchase an item directly from the community you are supporting income streams that benefit people without any middlemen. It can be a crazy but memorable experience and we are here to help so have fun!

### Day 4: Karo/Dassanetch Tribes

BLD

Today we continue down the Omo Valley to visit two more of Ethiopia's tribes. The valley itself is fed by the Omo River and hundreds of small villages rely on this precious water source. The Karo Tribe are known for their chalk body painting, whereas the Dassanetch tribe are from a very different group and are the only Kushite-speaking tribe of the Omo Valley.





#### TRIP EXTENSION

Combines seamlessly with Ethiopia Unearthed.







# TRIP DETAILS Price: From AU \$2695pp

#### Inclusions

All transfers, transport, activities, accommodation, water with activities, meals (as per itinerary), all tips except your RAW Africa tour leader, 1 x domestic flight (AU \$150).

**Accommodation** 7 nights hotel

**Group Size** Maximum 8.



## Day 5: Konso Town/Hamar Tribe

BLD

Our day starts with another tribe visit, this time the Hamar, known for their ochre hair and the fact they are agro pastoralists which means they grow crops as well as keep livestock and place a particularly high value on cattle. Later in the day we will travel to the ancient city of Konso.

#### Day 6: Konso/ Dorze Tribe

BLD

Konso is considered to be the gateway to the Omo Valley. The village is made up of circular stone walls with each level older than the next. the homes are brimming with ceremonial structures and exploring the maze of stone alleys is fascinating. After Konso we will set off for Abra Minch on Lake Chamo and visit the Dorze Tribe, famous for their beehive shaped huts and weaving skills.

#### Day 7: Lake Chamo

BLD

Today we will enjoy a spectacular boat ride on Lake Chamo. The lake's northern shore lies in **Nechisar National Park** resulting in stunnig panoramic views of open savannah plains and soaring mountain ranges. We will stop in the park for a brief bush walk with zebra and various antelope species. As we move around the lake look out for hippos, water birds and crocs!

#### **Day 8: Return to Addis**

В

This morning we will make an early departure for Addis. You have the option to fly (additional cost, just ask us) or journey by road.

Driving through the landscapes of southern Ethiopia is an experience in itself. We will arrive back to Addis in time for any International flight departures leaving after 6pm.

Alternatively why not stay an extra night in Addis and further explore this lively city.

