

Addis Ababa city tour program

Addis Ababa city overview part 1

- Addis Ababa Museum the National Museum of Ethiopia (NME), also referred to as the Ethiopian National Museum, is a national museum in Ethiopia. It is located in the capital, Addis Ababa, The museum houses Ethiopia's artistic treasures. It contains many precious local archaeological finds such as the fossilized remains of early hominids, the most famous of which is "Lucy," the partial skeleton of a specimen of Australopithecus apherisis. Recently added to the basement gallery is a display on Selam, found between 2000 and 2004. This archaic fossil is estimated to date to 3.3 million years ago. The NME at present has four main exhibition sections. The basement is dedicated to archaeological and pale anthropological sections. This area shows the previously mentioned hominids. The first floor contains objects from ancient and medieval periods, as well as regalia and memorabilia from former rulers, who include Emperor Haile Selassie. The second floor shows art work in a chronological order, from traditional to contemporary works. Afewerk Tekle's massive African Heritage is one of the most notable pieces. Another painting depicts the meeting of Solomon and Sheba. The second floor contains a collection of secular arts and crafts, including traditional weapons, jewelry, utensils, clothing and musical instruments. Finally, the third floor has an ethnographic display. Here, the museum tries to give an overview of the cultural richness and variety of the peoples of Ethiopia. Holy Trinity Cathedral
- Holy Trinity built during the WWII. Known in Amharic as Kidist Selassie, is the highest ranking Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo cathedral in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It was built to commemorate Ethiopia's liberation from Italian occupation and isthe second most important place of worship in Ethiopia.



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Mount Entoto

- Mount Entoto is the best spot to enjoy the great scenery of Addis Ababa.

Mercato Market

- merkato is the largest open air market in Africa, covering several square miles and employing an estimated 13,000 people in 7,100 business entities. The primary merchandise passing through the Merkato is locally-grown agricultural products — most notably coffee.

Tiglachin Memorial

- The Tiglachin monument is a memorial to Ethiopian and Cuban soldiers involved in the Ogaden War. It was built under Mengistu Haile Mariam on Churchill Avenue in Addis Ababa.

Menelik II Square

- Menelik II Square is located in the heart of Addis Ababa, the area locally known as Arada. At the center of the square stands a magnificent equestrian statue of the Emperor. The monument was erected by Emperor Haile Selassie I, in 1930, just before his coronation.

Shiro Meda Market

- Shiro Meda is one of the most outstanding place to buy Ethiopian local made cotton clothes both for woman and men..in addition to different clothes you will get also gifts like neckless and jewelry .



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Addis Ababa city tour part 2

Unity Park, Friendship Park and Oromo cultural center

Unity Park in Addis Ababa is a wonderful attraction that offers visitors a unique experience of Ethiopian history, culture, and natural beauty.

- **Main Entrance:** As you enter Unity Park, you'll be greeted by beautiful gardens and a grand entrance gate. The gate features impressive sculptures and traditional Ethiopian art, giving you a taste of the country's rich artistic heritage.
- **Menelik Palace:** Unity Park is located within the historic Menelik Palace compound, which served as the residence of Ethiopian emperors. The palace has been meticulously restored and now houses various exhibits showcasing the history of Ethiopia's monarchy.
- **Ethiopian History Museum:** Within the palace complex, you'll find the Ethiopian History Museum. Here, you can explore interactive displays and artifacts that narrate the country's history, from ancient times to the present day. The museum provides insights into Ethiopia's diverse cultures, traditions, and significant historical events.
- **Presidential Palace:** Unity Park also houses the Presidential Palace, which serves as the official residence of the Ethiopian President. While the palace itself is not open to the public, you can admire its impressive architecture and take photos from the outside.
- **Empress Menen's Garden:** Unity Park features a beautifully landscaped garden named after Empress Menen, the wife of Emperor Haile Selassie. The garden is adorned with vibrant flowers, fountains, and sculptures, providing a serene and picturesque environment for visitors to relax and enjoy.
- **Haile Selassie Pavilion:** The Haile Selassie Pavilion is a highlight of Unity Park. It was the emperor's private residence within the palace compound. Today, it has been transformed into a museum showcasing the life and accomplishments of Emperor Haile Selassie, who was an influential figure in Ethiopian history.



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- Lion Zoo: Unity Park also houses a small zoo that is home to various indigenous animals, including lions, baboons, and birds. The zoo offers an opportunity to observe Ethiopia's wildlife up close and learn about conservation efforts in the country.
- Grand Palace Hall: The Grand Palace Hall is an impressive venue within Unity Park that hosts official events and conferences. The hall showcases Ethiopian architecture and can accommodate a large number of guests.

Friend Ship Park

Friendship Park is situated in the neighborhood of Arada, near the city center. Friendship Park is a popular public space located in the heart of Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia. It is a vibrant gathering place that holds historical and cultural significance for the local community.

- Central Monument: The park is dominated by a large central monument known as the "Martyrs' Memorial Monument." This monument commemorates Ethiopian martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the Italian occupation from 1936 to 1941.
- Green Spaces: Friendship Park offers lush green spaces, providing a peaceful environment for visitors. The park is dotted with trees, flower beds, and well-maintained lawns where people can relax, have picnics, or enjoy a pleasant stroll.
- Cultural Events: Friendship Park is a hub of cultural activities and events. It frequently hosts concerts, exhibitions, and other gatherings, showcasing Ethiopian music, dance, and art. These events provide an opportunity to experience the rich cultural heritage of Ethiopia.
- Street Vendors: The park is usually bustling with street vendors selling a variety of goods, including traditional crafts, clothing, and snacks. It's a great place to explore local handicrafts and try some delicious Ethiopian street food.
- Public Gathering Spot: Friendship Park serves as a popular meeting point for locals and tourists alike. It's a vibrant and busy area where you can observe the daily life of Addis Ababa. People gather here to socialize, play games, and engage in lively conversations.



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- **Surrounding Landmarks:** The park is surrounded by several important landmarks, including government buildings, hotels, and commercial establishments. If you venture beyond the park, you can explore other attractions such as the National Museum of Ethiopia, Holy Trinity Cathedral, and the Ethiopian National Theatre.

Oromo Cultural Center:

- **Oromo Cultural Center:** Start your tour by visiting the Oromo Cultural Center in Addis Ababa. This center showcases various aspects of Oromo culture, including traditional music, dance, clothing, and artifacts. You can learn about the rich history and traditions of the Oromo people through exhibitions and displays.
- **Cultural Performances:** Look for cultural events or performances that feature Oromo music, dance, and storytelling. Check with local event organizers, hotels, or cultural centers to find out if there are any scheduled performances during your visit.
- **Traditional Markets:** Explore the local markets, such as Merkato and Shiro Meda, where you can find traditional Oromo crafts, textiles, and artwork. These markets offer a vibrant atmosphere and an opportunity to engage with local artisans.
- **Local Communities:** Consider connecting with local Oromo communities or organizations in Addis Ababa to learn more about their cultural practices and traditions. They may be able to provide you with more specific recommendations on Oromo cultural experiences in the city.



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