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15 Days Eritrea - Tour

Day 1 Arrival in Asmara international airport, the capital of Eritrea. Transfer to the Top 5 Hotel

Day 2

After seeing the old Train station ☐ ride the antique locomotive from Asmara to Nefassit and return by bus to Asmara for half day city Tour ☐ starting at the Cathedral on Liberty Avenue built in 1923 by the Cappucini Monks. We move to the Orthodox church and the Mosque built in 1938 during colonial era. We end the stroll in that area by visiting Fish market near the Municipality. Leaving the courthouse to the left, we reach the Bowling centre which was built by the Fenili Family. The much talked about resourcefulness of the Eritreans is exposed when we visit Medeber, scattered workshops where young and old are busy forming and converting materials for the daily use of the people. From there we move to Cinema Hamasien in the foot of Idaaga Aarbi. Returning to the centre of the town, Asmara offers beautiful entertainment like the Cinema Impero, Cinema Roma, Cinema Odeon, Cinema Dante, Cinema Croce Rossa. - Teatro Asmara and Cinema Capitol with 2000 seats. Each showing excellent interior and facade of quality architectural designs.

Villa Roma, the Italian Ambassador's Residence, the suspended wings of the FIAT Tagliero gas station, the AGIP gas station in Godaif, are further must see unique structures. Tracing the Italian heritage we drive by the Albergho Hamasien, Albergho Italia, Albergho C.I.A.O, Monumento General Galiano -Igri Hazhaz. Asmara has more than 2000 years history, and a local tradition of Mai Melatze ☐wher



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King Menelik the 1st was born to Queen of Sheba on her journey back to Axum, her capital city, after her visit to Jerusalem. Leaving this area, aka Mai Bella, we visit the open market > Shouk. Where souvenirs can be purchased and come to the infamous prison Kaserma Mussolini, the central prison.

We drive by and observe many art deco villas and few of the bigger structures like the main post office. Lunch will be at the Circolo Italiano.

Day 3-5 Keren City - Lowland variety

This lovely historical city is located 90 kms west of Asmara surrounded by mountain ranges, valleys and **Oasis** (the life spot for the peasants and their cattle) driving downhill and enjoying the scenery of twisted mountainous roads. The wonderful healthy climate of Keren welcomes everyone and is often called the retreat town for people with rheumatism problems. Keren is **1392** meters above sea level with an average temperate climate of **30C** all year round. This town demonstrates a mixture of traditional and contemporary life style. 2 kms north of the town is the huge Baobab-grotto hewn church shrine of St. Mariam DeAarit. **Overnight in Shegey Hotel Keren**

Day 6 1988 Dahlak Islands Visit

Early morning cruise on a charter boat to Dahlak Kebir island to the Necropolis that is older than 1000 years and the cisterns which were used as a fresh water depot for transiting ships. Here also is the Naval Base that has been used by the Russians during the Ethiopian occupation. We shall visit the old prison camp that was built by the Italians during the colonial times. Camping for two nights with Ful



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traditional fish meals and fire sides watching the pretty sky with its bright star or naments.

Day 9-11 The region of the nomads - Danakil Depression at Gelaallo - Massawa

Early morning departure via Hirgigo to the ancient ruins of Adulis port, via Foro along the red sea coast down to the lowest points on earth. The bizarre scenery resembles somewhere in the planets in the universe. The climate is the most hostile one during the June, July and August reaching up to 50 degrees Celsius. It is incredible to experience that really humans and wild games such as the Ostrich, the wild donkey and the Gazelles live here. **Ovn in Gelaallo free campsite**

Return to Massawa - Relaxation at the Gurgussum beach Hotel

The coastal line north of Massawa is the dwelling area of the tribe known as Rashaida. They roam around the coastal region with their Camel-herd for existence.

This famous port city is located in the coastal region lowland of Eritrea along the Redsea coastline stretching circa 1200 kms from northeast to the southeast. In the past centuries this port was a meeting-point of the orient, which is witnessed by the traces left behind. One can find here endless sandy beaches and untouched coral reefs and is the future Rendezvous for scuba divers. **Ovn in Massawa**

Day 11-13 Historical Route

Dekemhare - 40 kms southeast of Asmara. Not far from here, in Gura'e the then Abyssinian empire against the Egyptians won a historical battle. The Egyptian crown prince was taken prisoner. It is presumed that probably this happening might have been one of the reasons why Egyptians did not try to make further attempt



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s to infiltrate into the highlands. The Italians built the modern town of Dekemhar e as the centre of industrial activities.

Seganeitti is a smaller town 62 kms southeast of Asmara and is known for its cactus fruits and Sycamore trees, traditionally used as an assembly location of the villagers. One of the trees is memorialised and embossed in the five Nakfa Eritrean currency.

Adi Keyih - some 111 kms southeast of Asmara is the biggest town in the region and 11 kms south of here is Quohaito an archaeological site known as Queen of Sheba's Dam which dates back circa 500 BC. It is expected that further excavation will show the importance of this place in the history of the region. By itself, the present ruins of the ancient city of Quohaito are very impressive because of its mere size.

Senafe - is located 136 kms southeast of Asmara. Just 2 km south of here is a partially excavated site known as the ancient city of Metera with the landmark of an Obelisk with an inscription dating back to the 3rd century. Sena = Sanaa - Fen = Where is Sanaa ?. Historians believe that during Queen of Sheba reign the south Arabian migration continued and named this place Senafe after trying to look over at Sanaa climbing on the tallest mountain in this area. **Ovn in Asmara**

Day 14 **Adi Quala** - Mendefera - via Debaruba

33 kms south of Asmara lies Debruba, a small, but historically an interesting town. Through the Middle Ages it played an important role as a trading centre. Now it is growing fast into a large industrial and mining town. Geologists have determined that the surrounding area is full of precious minerals such as copper, Gold and etc., This can be easily seen looking at the colors of the landscapes.



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54 kms south of Asmara lies the provincial capital for the southern region called Mendefera.. It is fertile, its outreach extending to the western lowlands. During the ancient times and later, Mendefera played a major role as a main trade center and a crossroad to the Red Sea. The famous, St.Giorgio School founded in the 1930s by an Italian has offered a great deal of education. Many Eritrean intellectuals were educated in this school.

This part not possible at this time

92 kms south of Asmara further down from Mendefera circa 38 kms lies Adi Quala and just few kms is the border between Eritrea and Ethiopia. A fair size market place, mainly for tamed animals such as Donkeys and Mules and other merchandise also is available on Saturdays. Of interest to any traveller, especially European traveler is the Italian Mausoleum some 6 kms south of the town. This is a historical place where about 8000 Italian troops killed in the famous battle of Adua in 1935 rest in peace. This gave Mussolini the rationale to attack Ethiopia in 1935.

Day 15

Dinner at the traditional Hidmona restaurant with coffee ceremony and LIVE indigenous music, transfer to the Airport for departure check - in at 22:00 End of Tour

Participants	4 pax	8 pax *	10 pax * + 1	16 pax * + 1
Accommodation	Single/Double	Single/Double	Single/Double	Single/Double
Price per person	2875 / 2475 p	2495 / 2095 p	2725 / 2325 p	2455 / 2145 p
	p	p	p	p
Currency	USD	USD	USD	USD



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Included in the price

- Meet + Assist +Transfer Airport/Hotel/Airport
- DB-Hotel + Breakfast accommodation ***/**
- City Tour + traditional dinner with coffee ceremony
- *2 x 4 x 4 Land Cruisers □ for more than 4 pax *3 for more than 8 pax etc.,
- 1 X fast motor boat and 2 X for more than 10
- Museum entrance fees
- Port Fee USD 20,-pp
- All required permits
- English guide/driver(s)

Not included in the price

- RT ticket
- Embarkation Fee Euro/USD 20,- pp
- Tips
- Drinks
- International Travel Insurance
- Steam train trip Minimum 20 Pax @USD60,- pp

*Damera Tours reserves the right to change routes and prices with or without notice.
