

Ethiopia

Travel Facts



US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens Reconsider Travel to Ethiopia due to sporadic violent conflict, civil unrest, crime, communications disruptions, terrorism and kidnapping in border areas.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

US Embassy/Consulate

[251] 11 130-6000; US Embassy in Addis Ababa; Entoto Street, PO Box 1014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; <https://et.usembassy.gov/>; AddisACS@state.gov

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html>

Telephone Code

251

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 92; Fire: 93; Police: 91

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Ethiopia: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19. See WHO recommendations. <http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Tropical monsoon with wide topographically-induced variation

Currency (Code)

Birr (ETB)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

220 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): C, F, G



Type C



Type F



Type G

Major Languages

Oromo, Amharic, Somali, Tigrigna, Sidamo, Wolaytta, Gurage, Afar, Hadiyya, Gamo, Gedeo, Opuuo, Kafa, English, Arabic

Major Religions

Ethiopian Orthodox, Muslim, Protestant

Time Difference

UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

A temporary license from a local authority is recommended. An IDP is not recognized.

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Addis Ababa (includes Imperial Palace, St. George's Cathedral, Holy Trinity Cathedral); Axum (Aksum); Bahir Dar; Harar Jugol; Gondar (includes Fasil Ghebbi); Simien Mountains

Major Sports

Track and Field, soccer, basketball

Cultural Practices

It is customary to bow when introduced to an elder or respected person. Elders are also usually introduced first when making new acquaintances.

Tipping Guidelines

A 10-15% tip is normal for good service at restaurants and in bars. Tip \$1 (USD) per bag for bellhops who carry luggage to your room and \$1-2 (USD) per day for hotel staff.

Souvenirs

Coffee, traditional clothing, shema cloth, carved-metal or wood religious crosses and other wooden items, leather goods, wickerwork, handicrafts

Traditional Cuisine

Wat — a stew that may be prepared with chicken, beef, lamb, a variety of vegetables, spice mixtures such as berbere, and niter kibbeh (seasoned clarified butter); typically served with injera (a spongy flat bread)

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