

Tour Code : STE/TC-003

Tour : Simien Mountains and Gondar

Duration : 5 Days / 4 Nights

Group Size : 1 – 16



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Day 1 : Addis Ababa – Gondar (Flight) – Debark – Sankaber Campsite

Checking in for your flight to Gondar (ET122) at 6:00AM and scheduled to arrive Gondar at 8:45AM (Alt. 2,150m), you will be picked up at the airport and will head to Debark (105kms / Alt. 2,200m), gateway to the Simien Mountains. After making arrangements at the local tourism office (accompanying local guide, Park scout, mule and muleteer) and lunch break as well, you will be heading into the Mountains with National Park entry gate at 22kms mark. In addition to appreciating the surrounding landscape, you have the opportunity to trek from the 29kms mark up to the 36kms mark at Sankaber Campsite (7kms / 3hrs). En route, you will also come across the first herd of Gelada Baboons as you close in at Sankaber Campsite. Much of your late afternoon can be spent here viewing the Gelada Baboons. End of the day, you will be camping overnight at Sankaber Campsite (Alt. 3,200m).

**7kms / 3hrs trekking*

Day 2 : Sankaber Campsite – Geech Campsite

With 7:00AM breakfast, you'll set off trekking along the ridge with stunning views over the foothills 800m below. For the first two hours the trail passes through low bush of Giant Heather, soda apple, Abyssinian rose, St John's Wort and Globe thistle. The highlight of the trek from Sankaber to Geech is Genbar Falls, an incredible 500m sheer drop. From the viewpoint opposite, you can watch the falcons, augur buzzard and Lammergeier bearded vulture soar on the thermals below. From the Genbar falls, the trail passes drier dustier land, broken by lunch at a somewhat less intimidating and more peaceful waterfall. Klipspringer and bush buck may be seen in the steep rocky and wooded slopes, whilst troops of Gelada Baboons roam the dusty fields for roots. Just before you reach Geech camp site, there is a wonderful opportunity to visit one of the traditional village houses for home-roasted coffee and Injera. Geech Camp (Alt. 3,600m) itself is set on a grassy plateau with stunning sunset views.

**15kms / 7-8hrs trekking, can partially be reduced by driving on some sections*

Day 3 : Geech Campsite – Imet Gogo – Chennek Campsite

After breakfast at 7:00am, you will trek for 2 hours along the grass plateau past countless bizarre outsized Giant Lobelia plants. The destination is Imet Gogo (Alt. 3,926m), an incredible rocky promontory that grants 360 degree views over the Simien range. At an altitude of 3,926m you can see West back along the ridge towards Sankaber and Geech and South East across a deep gully towards the walk to Inatye and Chenek Camp. The views here are arguably the best in the Simien Mountains and the drop is terrifying. From Imet Gogo, you'll detour SE towards Inatye (Alt. 4,070m). The path drops into a forest of Giant Hazel before following the ridge on open grassland. The climb to Inatye (4,070m) rewards with stunning views. Inatye roughly translates as "mamma mia" and the terrifying vertical drop here justly warrants the name! After a picnic lunch the path follows mostly downhill through open grassland and giant lobelia towards Chenek with a number of stunning viewpoints along the way. Chenek camp is superb for wildlife with common sightings of mainly the Ethiopian Wolf and Walia Ibex. End of the day, you will be camping overnight at Chennek Campsite (Alt. 3,600m).

**17kms / 8hrs trekking / Can be amended to reduce your high-altitude treks*

Day 4 : Chennek – Debark – Gondar

With additional wildlife viewing early morning, you will be heading to Gondar via Debark, arriving mid-afternoon. Through the rest of the afternoon, you will have a brief city tour of Gondar and its attractions – Emperor Fasiledes Castle Complex and Spiritual Bathing Pool, Debrebirhan Silassie Church. End of the day, you will be spending overnight at Goha Hotel www.gohahotel.com.

Day 5 : Gondar – Addis Ababa (Flight)

With 6:15AM breakfast at hotel, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Addis Ababa (ET125) scheduled to arrive Addis Ababa at 10:45AM. Arriving Addis Ababa, you will be ending your 5 days tour of North Ethiopia's Simien Mountains and Gondar.

REMARKS :

***Available Accommodation Types :**

- Gondar High End : Haile Resorts / Gondar Hills Hotel / Goha Hotel / Taye Belay Hotel
- Gondar Mid-Range : Quara Hotel / Florida Hotel

****Ethiopian Airlines domestic flight schedule dates/times are subject to change.**



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