Birding in Ethiopia: 14Days / 13Nights

Arrival Bole International Airport

Adimasu ours meets all guests arriving at the airport regardless of arrival time. For morning flight arrivals you may begin your tour after checking into your hotel. For afternoon or evening arrivals, you may begin your tour the following day.

Wattled Ibis

Day 01 ,Addis Ababa - Awash National Park

Drive to Awash National Park. Many species of birds are found here: Red-bellied Parrots, Bustards, Weavers, Hoopoe, Yellow-throated Serine, Red-fronted Barbet, Pygmy Batis, and the Lesser-striped Swallow. The park also boasts a variety of mammals: the Anubis Baboon, Colobus Monkey, Black-backed Jackal, Bat-eared Fox, Egyptian Mongoose, Warthog, Beisa Oryx, Soemmering's Gazelle, Lesser Kudu, Salt's Dikdik, etc. Doho lodge

Black-billed Barbet

Day 02 ,Awash National Park

Continue birding in Awash National Park and proceed to the Alledeghi Plains about 70 kilometers from Awash Park. This is a good area to spot different bustards, larks, sandgrouse, etc.

Overnight Lodge (B, L, D)

Overnight Lodge

Meals: (B L, D)

Black-winged Lovebird

Day 03,Awash National Park - Lake Langano

Drive to Lake Langano with birding stops at Koka Dam, the Awash River, and Lake Ziway. Spot species such as; the African Pygmy Goose, Black-billed Woodhoopoe, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Northern Black Tit, Little Weaver, Yellow-billed storks, Collared Pratincole, Lesser Jacana, African Jacana, White Pelicans, Fish Eagles, and crowned and common cranes are seen here in impressive numbers.

Savana lodge

Nubian Woodpecker

Day 04 ,Lake Langano

Continue birding around Lake Langano and Abiyata—Shalla National Park. Over 300 species can be seen around Lake Abiyata, such as: Yellow Wagtails, Ibis, Cormorant, Pelicans, Ducks, Egrets, Herons, Flamingos, Storks, Swallows, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Rollers, Wheatear, African Marsh Harrier, etc.

Overnight in savanna lodge

White-headed Buffalo-Weaver

Day 05 ,Lake Langano - Bale Mountains

Drive from Langano to the Bale Mountains National Park, rated by the African Bird Club as the number 4 birding destination in Africa. Over 300 species of birds live here, six are endemic to Ethopia. Arrive at the park headquarters in the afternoon in time for a leisurely afternoon hike, possibly spotting two endemic mammals that frequent the area: Menelik's Bushbuck and the Mountain Nyala. Birds in this area include the Blue-Winged Goose, the Spot-Breasted Lapwing, the Abyssinian Long Claw, the Wattled Ibis, the Black-Headed Siskin, Rouget's Rail, and numerous other species.

Overnight Hotel

Meals: (B L, D)

Red-cheeked Cordonbleu

Day 06 ,Bale Mountains National Park

Continue exploring Bale Mountains National Park and drive further into the interior. Spot birds such as Chestnut-naped Francolin, Ground Thrush (of the distinctive, endemic species Simensis), the secretive Abyssinia Ground- thrush, the vocal Abyssinian Catbird, and the endemic White-backed Black-Tit. If we are very fortunate, we will see a pair of the endangered Wattled Crane in the moist grasslands or spot a Cape Eagle- Lapwing, Thekla Lark, Red-breasted Wheatear, and Moorland chats. On the Senetti Plateau, (the largest continuous area of its altitude in Africa) look for the endemic and rare Ethiopian Red Wolf.

Overnight Hotel

Meals: (B L, D)

White Rumped Babbler
Day 07 ,Bale Mountains National Park
Continue birding in the Bale Mountains.
Overnight Hotel
Meals: (B L, D)

African Fish Eagle
Day 08 ,Bale Mountains National Park - Dila
Drive to Dila with birding stop en route.
Overnight Dlight Hotel
Meals: (B L, D)

White-bellied Go Away
Abyssinian Catbird
Day 09 ,and 10
Dila- Yabello Borena Haro Bake
Drive to Yabello. Search for the endemic White-tailed Swallow and Stresemann's Bushcrow.
You should spot the Swallow threading its way through the termite chimneys and groups of Bushcrows in the thorn bushes. For the entire day explore the Yabello Wildlife Sanctuary and Reserve; species to look for include: Somalian Ostrich, Secretary Bird, Ruppell's Griffon Vulture, Martial Eagle, Grasshopper Buzzard, African Pygmy Falcon, Vulturine Guineafowl, Kori Bustard, Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar, Star-spotted Nightjar, Yellow-billed Hornbill, Lilac-breasted Roller, Rufous-crowned Roller, D'Arnaud's Barbet, Red and Yellow Barbet, Short-tailed Lark, Northern Grey Tit, Shelley's and White-crowned Starlings, Abyssinian Grosbeak Canary, Somali Sparrow, Black-capped Social Weaver, Grey-headed Silverbill, Taita Fiscal, and Somali Golden-breasted Bunting. Other possibilities include: Coqui Francolin, Somali Courser, African Bare-eyed Thrush, Little Spotted Woodpecker, Pringle's Puffback, Little Tawny Pipit, Fawn-coloured Lark. Mammals that inhabit the park include: Burchell's Zebra, Aardvark, Grant's Gazelle, Thompson's Gazelle, and Lesser-spotted Genet.
Overnight Borana eco lodge
Meals: (B L, D)

Lilac Breasted Roller

Day 11 ,Yabello Borena

Continue birding in the Yabello area. See Degodi Lark, Bush crow ,white -tailed swallow,corsar,Garganey pintail and others you might not have seen on the first day.

Overnight Borana eco lodge

Meals: (B L, D)

Egyptian Goose

Day 12,Haro Bake Borena National park

Continue birding at this fantastic birding site.

Overnight Borana eco lodge

Meals: (B L, D)

Pied Kingfisher

Day 13,Yabello Borena - Hawasa

Drive to Hawassa. En route to spot numerous species: Silvery-Cheeked Hornbill, Abysinnian Ground Hornbill, Roget's Rail, Marabou Stork, Black and White Egrets, African Pygmy Goose, Spur-winged Goose, Swallows, Ibis, African Fish Egret, Woodland Kingfisher, Malachite Kingfisher, etc.

Overnight haile resort

Meals: (B L, D)

Rüppell's black chat

Day 14,Hawassa - Addis Ababa

Return to Addis Ababa with optional return stop at Lake Ziway, In Addis Ababa, enjoy a Farewell dinner at a traditional Ethiopian restaurant featuring dancers and musicians representing some of the country's many ethnic groups. Transfer to airport for late night departure or additional hotel night booked upon request.

Overnight Hotel

Meals: (B L, D)

End of Tour

Adimasu Tours will arrange additional hotel nights in Addis Ababa upon request.)

Tour Notes

Maximum number for each tour is 10.

Our birding guides are Ethiopians and know the best places to spot specific birds. All of our scheduled birding tours have experienced, English-speaking guides.

Depending on the type of binoculars you might bring we may need to obtain a permission paper from Ethiopian Customs. Send the specifications and serial number one month before the tour.

Explore Ethiopia with Adimasu Tours