



15th Anniversary

– Trip to Ethiopia –

September 8 - 25, 2023



Preliminary Itinerary

A life-changing experience for a life-saving mission!

In 2023, W2T is celebrating its 15th Anniversary. This trip is part of that celebration. The trip will be led by Dick Moeller, Founder and Board Chair of W2T. This trip will mark his 18th trip to East Africa in support of W2T's mission to bring clean safe water to rural communities in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda. You will get to experience firsthand the need for clean water, but also the impact and joy that is experienced by the communities we serve. You will not only get to meet and travel to our field sites with our four implementing partners in Ethiopia, but along the way you will get to know the people, culture and food of Ethiopia as well as visit some of its most popular historical sites.

On our trip, we will be joined by Gashaw Semeneh, W2T's in-country Program Manager, and Yohannes Wassie, who has served as W2T's group tour coordinator for many years. They will both bring the mission of W2T and Ethiopian experience alive, delivering a trip of a lifetime!

Friday, September 8: Depart Austin (or other U.S. city). Overnight hotel accommodations will be in a hotel close to Dulles International Airport/Washington, D.C.

Saturday, September 9: Depart Dulles before noon on a *direct flight* on Ethiopian Airlines Boeing aircraft to Addis Ababa.

Sunday, September 10: Arrive in Addis Ababa early in the morning. Check in to Saro Maria Hotel near the airport. Afternoon is open to explore Addis, the capital. Spending time shopping and visiting the National Museum (Home of Lucy) and the National Cathedral.

Monday, September 11: Early morning flight to Hawassa. W2T is working with Mekane Yesus (Lutheran Church of Ethiopia) South Central Ethiopian Synod to implement a water security and rehabilitation program for 34 Rural Health Clinics. We will visit both clinics in process and completed. (Haile Resort)

Tuesday, September 12: We will visit more clinics today and overnight at the Aregash Lodge.

Wednesday, September 13: Today we will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. In the afternoon we will tour the beautiful area around Hawassa seeing the local sites. (Aregash Lodge)

Thursday, September 14: In the morning, time permitting, we will visit a couple of projects, on the way to catching our flight back to Addis Abba. After arriving in Addis, we will drive to Ambo to meet our implementing partner, another Synod of the Mekane Yesus, the Central Gibe Synod (CGS). Ambo is the home of one of Ethiopia's favorite drinks, Ambo Sparkling Water. (Abebech Metaferia Hotel)

Friday, September 15: We currently have a 30-project program underway with CGS. Today we will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. (Abebech Metaferia Hotel)

Saturday, September 16: Today will be another day in the field. We will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. (Abebech Metaferia Hotel)

Sunday, September 17: Early morning we will drive to Addis for a flight departure to Gondar. Gondar is the home of our implementing partner for this region, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC). We currently have a 22-project program underway with EOC. In the afternoon, we will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. On the way to the hotel, a stop at a Dashen Brewery. (Goha Hotel)

Monday, September 18: In the morning, we will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. Sightseeing in the afternoon around Gondar, including the Gondar Castle and King Fasiledas's bath. (Goha Hotel)

Tuesday, September 19: Early flight to Lalibella. In the afternoon, we will explore the famous sacred churches carved entirely from granite inside and out. These are incredible monolithic churches carved directly out the mountain during the 12th century and still in use today. Some time today for shopping. (Maribela Hotel).

Wednesday, September 20: In the morning, we will take an excursion trip to Yimrehane Kirstos/ Asheton Mariyam Monastery. Later in the day, we will visit the remaining churches of Lalibella. With our evening meal, we will enjoy a special presentation of the Ethiopian coffee ceremony. (Maribela Hotel)

Thursday, September 21: Early morning flight to Addis, connecting to arrive in Mekelle by noon. Mekelle is the home of our implanting partner Relief Society of Tigray (REST) for the Tigray region. Tigray is recovering from a civil conflict, during which many water projects were damaged. W2T has an active program to rehabilitate 200+ of the damaged water projects to their original state, delivering sustainable clean water to their communities. Already, we have completed 300 rehabilitations. In the afternoon, we will visit a number of field water projects, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. (Planet Hotel)

Friday, September 22: Today, we will visit a number of field rehabilitation water projects near Mekelle, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. (Planet Hotel)

Saturday, September 23: Today, we will visit a number of field rehabilitation water projects near Mekelle, both completed and underway, getting to meet and celebrate with our benefitting communities. (Planet Hotel)

Sunday, September 24: We will have an early morning departure back to Addis. The remainder of the day will be open for shopping and sightseeing. We will secure a couple of hotel rooms for travelers to freshen up for the long trip home. We will enjoy a celebration dinner together before a late night departure to return to the US.

Monday, September 25: Arrive back in your departure city.

Estimated Cost: \$4,000–\$4,500 per person* (limited to 10 total travelers) Departure from Austin, TX, 2 persons per room. Other departure cities may be slightly different in price.

***\$500 reservation fee now to hold your space
\$2,000 by August 1
Final payment by September 1***

****Note: The estimated cost includes R/T airfare from Austin, TX, all in-country flights, all hotels, all land travel, all breakfasts and dinners, and baggage handling. There is a single room occupant supplement of \$500. Hotels typically have twin bed accommodations.***

Contact Dick Moeller with any questions....
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