



ICONIC IMAGES

DENIS GLENNON PHOTOGRAPHY



ICONIC ETHIOPIA 2018

EXCLUSIVE SMALL GROUP PHOTO TOUR



You can visit Africa many times to photograph its spectacular wildlife, scenery and culture but it takes a perceptive eye to appreciate a selection of the many photographic icons in this marvellous continent. Over the years I discovered such jewels and for this photo tour I have compiled a different, yet compelling, itinerary that brings together some of Africa's finest photography and personal experiences – the photographic icons of Ethiopia. This is unquestionably one of the best Ethiopian photo tours available. It will take you to places you may not have known about, nor expected existed.

To capture the iconic shots found in the Simien Mountains in the north, the rare Ethiopian wolf in the Bale Mountains and on both sides of the Omo River in the south, requires an extended time in the country. To the best of my knowledge no other photo tour offers this combination in the one visit. The concept is the same as I used for the very successful [2014 Iconic East Africa](#) photo tour where I selected the 'best-of-the-best' from Kenya and Tanzania and blended them into a single, extended itinerary.

I have engaged Graeme Lemon/Wild Expeditions for all on-ground logistics. Graeme is a safari operator and fully qualified professional safari guide with over twenty years' experience in African safaris. His extensive guiding skills include; walking safaris, white water rafting, canoe guiding, wilderness hiking and conventional boat and vehicle excursions in Africa. Prior to operating in Ethiopia, he was Managing Director of his own safari company (including luxury lodges) in Zimbabwe from the mid-90s until 2003. Graeme has also spent time guiding in both Australia and Canada.

This phot tour is a change from other Iconic Images' photo safaris and is a new lens on what Africa really has to offer to those who dare to find it. This is not a game viewing safari; its focus is to help you capture iconic images of three very exceptional destinations within Ethiopia; we just ask beginners and 'first-timers' to Africa for your patience and enthusiasm.

Your tour leaders will be my good friend [Shem Compion](#), C4 Photo Safaris, South Africa and myself.

Numbers are confined to a maximum of fourteen (14) participants. Places will be allocated strictly on the basis of receipt of the completed registration form together with payment of the first deposit amount.

© All images in this PDF were captured by Denis and Una Glennon during the Ethiopia 2017 Photo Tour.





SIMIEN MOUNTAINS

Simien Mountains National Park, listed as a World Heritage Site in 1918, is one of the more dramatic national parks of Ethiopia. Located in the Simien Gondar Zone of the Amhara Region in northern Ethiopia, the park covers the Simien Mountains including Ras Dejen, the highest mountain in Ethiopia at 4,533m (14,850 feet).

Massive erosion over millions of years on the plateau has created one of the most spectacular landscapes in the world, with jagged mountain peaks, deep valleys and sharp precipices dropping some 1,500m (5000 feet). It is an exotic setting with unique and endemic wildlife and breath-taking views of a landscape shaped by nature and traditional agriculture. The natural beauty of this region has always filled photographers with awe. With its undulating plateau and deep valleys, it is frequently dubbed the Grand Canyon of Africa.

Steep ascents lead to lush plateaus populated with giant lobelias – ‘freaky’ fleshy-leaved plants growing to 3m in height, evoking images of dinosaurs and ancient days. Escarpment vistas are filled with sheer cliffs, plunging waterfalls, and rocky turrets spiking out from the forested valleys below. Ribbons of mist drift over the ground. Vultures and ravens cruise the skies.

Dropping off the escarpment, the landscape undergoes a dramatic transformation as it descends some 2000m into the lowlands – lowlands being a misnomer given these valleys are still over 2000m in altitude. Vibrantly coloured red hot poker plants cover the mountain slopes, and desert-style cactus trees and groves of aloe vera line the trail.

It is a strangely beautiful yet primal world – a mystical world of primeval forests, misty peaks, bizarre plants and exotic creatures. Photographing these stunning highlands is like stepping into an otherworldly paradise.

Ensure you pack your tripod and some Grad ND filters. It is home to the Walia ibex – a wild goat found nowhere else in the world. The gelada monkey and the caracal, also occur within the Simien Mountains. More than 50 species of birds inhabit the park, including the impressive bearded vulture, or lammergeier, with its 3m (10 feet) wingspan.





GELADA MONKEYS

The gelada is an “Old World” monkey, not a baboon despite previous naming conventions. It is the only living member of the once widespread genus *Theopithecus* and is only found in the highlands of Ethiopia. The present-day population of the gelada is limited to the steep escarpments and gorges that border the eastern side of the central highlands and the north-western highlands. The gelada feeds predominantly on fresh shoots of grass, roots and seeds. It is frequently called the “bleeding heart” monkey because of the distinctive, bright red, heart-shaped patch on its chest. The gelada social system consists of a hierarchy of social groups generally made up of 1-4 breeding males, 2-10 females and their dependent young.

The females tend to be closely related, have strong social ties and stay in their own band all their lives. A band of gelada shares a common foraging and sleeping area and

may contain 2-10 reproductive units, as well as 1-3 all male groups (non-breeding males of a young age, who remain in these groups for 2-4 years before trying to enter a reproductive unit). The ranging areas of different bands overlap, and can mix easily for a short period, without any aggression, to form very large gelada ‘communities’ or herds. These communities can be up to 1,000 strong – geladas can associate in one of the largest groups of any primate on earth. Approximately 2,500 geladas live in the park with a further 2,000 on the surrounding Simien massif. The average band size is 200 geladas, providing excellent photography opportunities of these rare and magnificent creatures.

With their expressive faces, playful antics and magnificent silver manes, the geladas are simply delightful. Once almost hunted to extinction, the monkeys are now a protected species. Unlike most primates that advertise sexual receptivity with swollen red buttocks, the gelada has its ‘bleeding heart’ moniker. It is easy to approach within a few metres of these wild animals, ensuring you will capture many memorable images.





The Rock-Hewn Churches of Lalibela.

In the heart of Ethiopia, situated in one of its holiest towns, Lalibela, is a group of eleven monolithic rock-hewn churches. They are the biggest monolithic temples in the world, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, yet much mystery still surrounds their construction.

The age of these buildings is unknown, but are thought to have been excavated during the reign of Gebre Mesqel Lalibela, who ruled Ethiopia at the beginning of the 13th century AD. However, Professor David Phillipson, Cambridge University, has proposed the churches of Merkorios, Gabriel-Rufael, and Danagel were initially carved out of the rock half a millennium earlier, as fortifications or other palace structures in the waning days of the Axumite Kingdom, and that Lalibela's name simply came to be associated with him after his death.

All churches are arranged in two groups, connected with passageways. The churches were hewn out of solid rock from top to bottom, excavated externally and internally, and carved in different styles, over a reported period of 24 years. This gigantic work was completed with an extensive system of drainage

ditches, trenches and ceremonial passages, some with openings to hermit caves and catacombs. Even today, accomplishing this work using carbon steel tipped chisels and diamond tipped tools, would be a remarkable achievement. Temporary light-weight shelters have been installed over some churches and these, while offering protection, do impact on visual integrity.

One of the churches, the Bet Giorgis, has a remarkable cruciform plan and has been devoted to Saint George, the national saint of Ethiopia. It is in a deep pit with perpendicular walls and can only be reached through a tunnel, entered from some distance away through a trench. Small round caves and chambers can be seen in the walls of the courtyard, as well as graves which are thought belong to pious pilgrims and monks. Without doubt, the church of Bit Giorgis is the most remarkable and special one all other churches in Lalibela for its different architecture.

The timing of this photo tour has been carefully planned so that we are in Lalibela on the feast day of St. George when we anticipate the presence of large crowds of pilgrims at sunrise and throughout the day; making for some unrivalled photography.



THE TRIBES OF THE OMO VALLEY

For millennia, the Omo Valley has been inhabited by a kaleidoscopic variety of ethnic groups having rich and distinctive cultural identities.

Tribes living in the more remote lower Omo Valley are among the most fascinating on the African continent. The Arbore, Ari, Bena, Bodi, Bumi, Dassanech, Dorze, Hamar, Kara, Kwegu, Mursi, Tsemay, and Turkana tribes are out of sight of the cities and towns of modern life and their way of life is still largely untouched by modernity.

This is a true photographic adventure into the remote region of southern Ethiopia's Omo Valley; one of the most culturally rich tribal regions on the African continent. Inspired by their habitat of lush vegetation, abundant trees and colourful flowers the people use the bright yellows, startling whites and red clay soils to paint each other's bodies to create stunningly photogenic body "costumes" which at festival times are a walking body of art. These tribes have been sheltered from much of the modern world in a place that is still primeval, natural, and apparently ageless.

This photo tour will visit tribes on both sides of the Omo River, including spending several days visiting the Suri tribe, also known as the Surma. The Suri are the most ornate tribe, and being the most remote tribe in the Omo they are one of the least visited, but the most desired tribe for us to photograph. This is one of a very few photo tours to traverse both sides of the Omo River to photograph the Suri tribe.

We will spend sufficient time in each location to ensure a deeper experience, which always produces more intimate and compelling images. As we are fellow travellers/photographers in an amazing part of the world I have retained flexibility in the itinerary to ensure we can immerse ourselves in spontaneous photographic opportunities that will inevitably arise. The time spent in each village will depend on what activities are taking place and the richness of the photography. It is likely we will also meet several other tribes en-route.

I wish to give you the opportunity to photograph their daily lives, capture stunning portraits, and experience some of their timeless ceremonies - truly an experience of a lifetime for any photographer!





When larger groups visit remote tribal villages, the higher the probability your subject will be distracted, another photographer will shoot over or too close to you, other photographers take too long to shoot particularly special subjects and frequently another photographer will show up in your background. This tour is limited to only fourteen (14) participants to ensure you come home with more intimate experiences, many memories, and much higher quality images.

The incredible photography available in Ethiopia captures a moment in time in the ancient world of people who live peacefully and close to nature in one of the most far flung, yet beautiful parts of the world. It is a special opportunity to photograph timeless ceremonies whilst feeling you are an integral part of a very special personal experience.



SUMMARY ITINERARY

The photo tour commences at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Sunday 28 October 2018 and finishes at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Wednesday 14 November 2018.

Direct links to the accommodation are provided in the table below.

DATE	TRANSFER	ACCOMMODATION
28 October	Arrive Addis Ababa Airport, Ethiopia & transfer to hotel	Sapphire Addis Hotel - 1 night
29 October	Air transfer to Gondar & Simien Mountains National Park	Simien Mountain Lodge – 2 nights
31 October	Road transfer to Goha Hotel, Gondar	Goha Hotel - 1 night
1 November	Air transfer to Lalibela	Maribela Hotel - 2 nights
3 November	Charter aircraft to Murulle Airstrip & road transfer to camp	Lumale Tent Camp - 4 nights
7 November	Charter aircraft to Mizan Teferi & road transfer to camp	Kabish Tent Camp – 3 nights
10 November	Road transfer to Mizan Teferi & charter aircraft to Lodge	Bale Mountain Lodge - 3 nights
13 November	Charter aircraft to Addis Ababa	Sapphire Addis Hotel - 1 night
14 November	Road transfer to Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa	N/A





MORE DETAILED DAILY ITINERARY

28 October – Sapphire Hotel, Addis Ababa

Arrive at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. You will be met by an Iconic Images International ground handler who will transfer you to the Sapphire Hotel. The day includes a city tour of Addis Ababa and time permitting, visits to: The National Museum, Trinity Cathedral, Mount Entonto, Churches of Raguel and Kidist Mariam, St Georges Church and the Mercato Markets.

29 October – Simien Lodge: The Highest Lodge In Africa – 3260 Metres (10,700 Feet)

We transfer by air on an Ethiopian Airlines commercial to Gondar where our private vehicles will take us to Simien Mountains National Park (SMNP). After settling into the Simien Mountain Lodge, we will spend the next two days photographing the landscapes of the SMNP and the Gelada monkeys. Depending on the locations of the monkey troops we will fit in as many photo shoots of them as we can.

31 October – Goha Hotel

We will have a last morning shoot in the SMNP and then road transfer to Gondar, overnighing in the Goha Hotel. In Gondar, we will have time to explore and photograph the Fasilides Castles and baths complex. Because of these remarkable buildings, Gondar town is frequently referred to as the 'Camelot of Africa'.



MORE DETAILED DAILY ITINERARY cont'd

1 November – Maribela Hotel

Transfer by Ethiopian Airlines commercial flight to the ancient and most renowned of Ethiopia's historical destinations, Lalibela. In Lalibela we will photograph the rock hewn churches built in the 11th century.

The churches must be seen – and walked through – to be believed. These exceptional churches have been the focus of pilgrimage for Coptic Christians since the 12th century and to this day still attract photographers from all over the world. Shoes must be removed when entering the churches. Flash photography inside the churches is forbidden.

Expect the cool morning air to be filled with the smell of incense. A sprinkling of foreign visitors may be seen floundering through narrow crevices and labyrinthine tunnels. If you go inside one of the churches here you can feel the history, like an energy coming out and touching you. It goes beyond comprehension what the builders did, especially the detail they created. It's impossible to

think about the labouring and skills necessary to create something of that calibre at that period. Even though Lalibela sits in a remote region of Ethiopia, people/pilgrims walk for days, even weeks, to get here, many of them traversing the rugged mountains barefoot.

Amongst them, blind men and women and people with disabilities also join the pilgrimage, making their way along Lalibela's winding paths. What makes the Lalibela churches important is that they are still in use. It's not a museum; it's a living heritage. Every day, every morning, there is a service in all the churches. Be prepared to capture some totally unexpected and astonishing photos here.

We will also drive out of town to the famed cave church of Yemrehana Cristos. Being still active churches, there is always the opportunity to participate in a service in one of these marvels. A highlight will be photographing the St. George's Day festivities at St. George's church.





MORE DETAILED DAILY ITINERARY cont'd

3 November – Lumale Tented Camp, Murelle

Air transfer by private charter flight from Lalibela to Murelle airstrip in the Omo Valley from where we transfer by road to our own mobile camp at Lumale. This will be our home for three next three days during which we will visit and photograph the Hamar, Kara, Dassanech and Mursi tribes in their villages – the first of a true photographic adventure into the remote region of southern Ethiopia's Omo Valley. The Hamar women wear beautiful, colourful, beaded skins, ornate necklaces and metal bangles around their wrist and ankles. They are well-known for their unique hairstyle, which is made up of a crown of long dread-lock braids covered in ochre.

The Dassanech (known for their unique and ornate hair buns) are a semi-nomadic tribe that stretches across Sudan, Kenya and southern Ethiopia.

The Mursi tribes are one of the most photogenic in Omo Valley. The Mursi women paint their bodies and face in white. They and their counter cousins the Surma and the Chai and Tirma tribes are probably the last groups in Africa amongst whom it is still the norm for women to wear large pottery or wooden discs or 'plates' in their lower lips. A girl's lower lip is cut, by her mother or by another woman of her settlement, when she reaches the age of 15 or 16. The cut is held open by a wooden plug until the wound heals, which can take around 3 months. It appears to be up to the individual girl to decide how far to stretch the lip, by inserting progressively larger plugs over a period of several months. Some, but by no means all, girls persevere until their lips can take plates of 12 centimetres or more in diameter. The larger the plate, the more it is valued by the Mursi women. Men of the Mursi also use white paint for their bodies and faces.

7 November – Kabish Tented Camp

We transfer by charter flight from Murelle airstrip to Mizan Teferi and the drive to Kibish where we spend the next 4 days in our own tented camp along the banks of the river.

Both Lumale and Kabish Tented Camps are very comfortable. The 'igloo' tents are standing height and fully insect proofed with integral ground sheets and an awning over the door. Your bedding is freshly made up each day and the cot beds have comfortable mattresses and a decent pillow. Each tent has its own shower and toilet (long drop) tent. The food is very good and wines, beers and some spirits are available. The camp chef is a 'miracle worker' in this remote area and the packed lunches are as good as the hearty breakfasts and delightful dinners.

From here we will spend extended periods photographing the Suri and their lifestyles. The Suri are renowned for their stick fighting ceremonies. The Suri people are semi-nomadic cattle herders and live on the west side of the Omo River. This area is still much undeveloped, only an unpaved road leads to the heart of the Suri settlements: Kibish. Suri people have a cattle-centred culture, the wealth of a family is measured by the number of animals owned. Usually the animals are not eaten unless a big ceremony takes place. The animals are used for milk and blood which they both drink. Sometimes Suri warriors are preparing a mixture of cattle blood and milk for a ceremonial rite called 'cow bleeding'. Like the Mursi people the Suri women are wearing lip plates. The Suri culture demands that the men are trained as warriors as well as cattle herders.





MORE DETAILED DAILY ITINERARY cont'd

10 November – Bale Mountain Lodge

We road transfer back to Mizan Teferi, from where we catch our charter flight to the Bale Mountains National Park and the Bale Mountain Lodge. The next three days are spent searching for and hopefully finding and photographing the elusive Ethiopian wolves as well as the magnificent landscapes of the Bale mountains.

13 November – Sapphire Hotel, Addis Ababa

After breakfast, we road transfer to the airstrip for our private charter flight across the mountains to Addis Ababa. Staying at the Sapphire Hotel, we will enjoy our farewell dinner together at a restaurant in the city.

14 November

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, for your international flights home. Sadly, the end of our photographic adventure in Ethiopia.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What about mobile phone reception and Wi Fi in the hotels & tented camps?

At the hotels, you will have reasonably good phone reception but very slow internet connectivity.

At the two tented camps expect neither or at best, intermittent and unreliable mobile connectivity. This photo tour provides a good opportunity to take a break from both!

2. How safe am I in Ethiopia?

Graeme Lemon and his local staff are some of the best and most reputable guides in Ethiopia. Graeme and where appropriate, hotel staff will provide safety instructions, if thought necessary, on arrival, which, if adhered to, will make your stay quite safe. We will not be spending time in an "undesirable/dangerous" areas in Ethiopia. Also see special note regarding your travel insurance in the "Itinerary" tab.

3. What travel insurance do I need?

Travel insurance is obligatory and must include emergency medivac cover. Please forward a copy of your travel insurance cover along with the completed Registration Form.

4. Can I drink tap water and eat fresh produce on this photo tour?

Only drink bottled water, which will be available in the hotels, the tented camps and the vehicles used for road transfers. Ice is also made from bottled water so it is OK for your G & T! It is safe to eat the fresh produce at all hotels and the two tented camps.

5. Any personal luggage restrictions?

Having too much camera equipment can hinder your photography. As we will be using local flights and a charter flight during this photo tour I suggest you adhere to the weight limits applied by your international airline.

Also, as you will have access to laundry service in camp and with a moderate to hot climate, you can afford to pack light. In short, bring fewer clothes so that you can bring more camera gear!

8. How much spending money should I bring along?

All costs, except personal expenditure and private alcohol consumption where indicated, are covered so you only need to carry a minimal amount of cash. As a guide, I suggest you travel with about US\$500 in smaller notes. Should you wish to purchase items from the lodge gift shop you can use your credit card for payment. It is safe to do so if you do not let your card out of your sight.

9. For malaria, which tablets should I take, if any?

I am not qualified to prescribe medical advice. Most of Ethiopia below 2,500 metres (8,200 feet) is recognised as a malarial area. You should consult with your own doctor or specialist travel doctor/clinic for medical advice on malaria and its prevention.

10. Do I require a yellow fever certificate?

We will be travelling in parts of Ethiopia where a yellow fever vaccine is recommended.

If you are transiting through South Africa from Ethiopia it is likely you will not be allowed to board a flight to Johannesburg unless you can produce a valid yellow fever certificate.

11. What about food allergies?

Most hotels in Ethiopia can cater for food allergies but not with the same degree of skill as say a 5-star hotel in Australia. The best way to handle intolerance to some foods on the photo tour is to avoid eating that food. If you have an uncommon allergy and you know of a solution (e.g. a powder substitute), take it along with you. If you have a severe allergy, ensure you travel with your own medication and request the hotel or the chefs in the tented camp that the ingredient not be served to you. It is helpful to remember that many hotels/camps in Africa must fly produce in or truck it in, over hundreds of miles. Furthermore, the hotels/camps, although impressive looking, have minimal infrastructure behind the scenes. If you assist the camp in managing your allergy, it will be a great help.





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The following pages contain important information on Costs and Terms of Payment, What is/is not included, Cancellation Policy & Fees, Compulsory Insurance, Health Considerations, Liability, Pricing & Currencies Fluctuations, Travelling with Camera Gear, etc.

Please take the time to read the information carefully





1. Iconic Images International

Iconic Images International ("Iconic Images") is an ASIC business name, registered in Australia, under the *Business Names Registration Act 2011*. Iconic Images in conjunction with C4 Images & Safaris, registered in South Africa ("C4 Images") will assist guide participants during the land package segment of the photo safari.

Iconic Images is not a travel agent or travel service provider in Australia.

2. Our World Travel

The sole booking agent for this photo tour is Our World Travel, Licence Number 9TA00049, and to whom all payments for the photo safari will be made upon registration. They may be contacted at:



Our World Travel
Shop 1 / 113 Royal Street
East Perth
Western Australia 6004

Telephone: +61 8 9221 9977
Fax: +61 8 9221 5577
Emergency Mobile: 0418 912884
travel@owtravel.com.au

Our World Travel can also assist you with flights to/from Africa and with any private extensions to the photo tour you may wish to arrange either before the photo safari commences or after it finishes.

3. Costs & Terms of Payment

The photo tour commences and finishes at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on **Sunday 28 October 2018 and Wednesday 14 November 2018**, respectively.

Iconic Images International is obligated to pay the costs of the photo safari in US dollars.

The all-inclusive cost is **US\$16,500.00 per person**, twin share (or the equivalent in AU\$ at the time of making the final payment).

- A single supplement of **\$3,300.00** per person (or the equivalent in AU\$ at the time of making payment) applies, if specifically requested. The single supplement is to be paid at the time of registration. If you are a single traveller and you would prefer to share a room, we will do our best to find a suitable person with whom you can share. If we are unable to find a suitable person, unfortunately we will have no choice but to place you in a single room and charge the single supplement fee. Whilst we will, of course, make every effort to assist, we will not be responsible for securing compatible travelling companions for those seeking shared accommodation.
- Please note there are a limited number of unshared rooms/tents available on this photo safari and these will be allocated in order of receipt of registration and payment of the single supplement.

Terms of Payment

1. A non-refundable 25% deposit together with the signed Registration Form, on or before **Friday 30 March 2018**.
2. A second non-refundable payment of 25%, on or before **Friday 25 May 2018**.
3. A final payment of the remaining 50% on or before **Friday 27 July 2018**

[Places will be allocated strictly on the basis of receipt of the completed Registration Form together with payment of the first deposit and a copy of the travel insurance policy referred to below].



4. Included in the Photo Tour

- Pick up/drop off at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa.
- Road and air transfers as specified in the itinerary, for the entire photo tour.
- Two persons per room (i.e. shared double occupancy), unless single supplement option is exercised and secured at the time of payment of the first deposit.
- All national park and sacred site entrance fees where applicable.
- All meals commencing with dinner on 28 October 2018 and finishing with breakfast on 14 November 2018.
- All accommodation at the hotels and tented camps mentioned.
- Pre-dinner drinks and wine at dinners for the entire photo tour.
- Continuous assistance with your photography.
- The services of experienced local drivers/guides.
- Gratuities to drivers/local guides; where exceptional services are provided gratuities may be 'topped-up' voluntarily.
- Tour leaders who understand the needs of photographers.

5. Not Included in the Photo Tour

- Optional activities (e.g. balloon flight or fixed wing flights, if offered as options)
- Travel/Medical insurance costs – travel insurance is mandatory; see Section 7 below.
- Travel visas and associated costs (if applicable).
- Airport taxes (if applicable).
- Expenses of a personal nature not specifically included above, (including alcoholic drinks consumed other than at pre-dinner drinks and wine at dinners).
- Airfares from international destination to Bole International Airport, return.
- Credit card surcharges (as per OWT's policy).

6. Cancellation Policy & Fees

Our World Travel must receive written notice of any cancellation by you at which time, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- If cancelled 90 days or more before the commencement date of the tour, a fee equal to 50% of the photo safari cost.
- If cancelled less than 90 days before the commencement date of the tour, or in the case of a 'no show' on the commencement date, of the tour, a fee equal to 100% of the photo safari cost.
- Failure to pay by the due dates will be deemed to be a cancellation of the booking and all fees paid prior to the due date will be non-refundable.
- Bookings made within 60 days of the commence date of the tour must be paid in full on booking.

No refunds will be made for unused portions or services of the photo tour for any reason. Cancellation fees are not transferable. **The photo tour is sold as a land package only.**

For flight cancellations and any private pre-and/or post photo safari arrangements, please refer to the booking agent, Our World Travel, or to your own booking agent, for any additional specific conditions.

Credit card surcharges will apply if the fees are paid by credit card. Our World Travel accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners credit cards, which all attract a surcharge of 2%.

Direct deposit facilities are available and details are available from Our World Travel. See Section 2 above for contact details.

Iconic Images reserves the right to cancel this photo tour. In the event of this happening, all payments received for the land package will be refunded, but the participant shall have no further claim, of any nature whatsoever, against Iconic Images, or its agents, arising out of such cancellation. Any such refund will not include payments or cancellation charges for any bookings for private or additional services made in addition to the itinerary outlined above. Responsibility for such bookings lies solely with the participant.



7. Insurance Is Compulsory

Due to the remote destinations visited for this photo tour, participants are **required** to purchase emergency evacuation insurance coverage. **To emphasize, emergency evacuation insurance is MANDATORY for this photo safari.**

Our World Travel can assist you with information on and the purchasing of the required insurance.

Due to the non-refundability of monies paid, as detailed in Section 3 above, participants are strongly urged to purchase travel protection insurance at time of or prior to paying the first deposit.

Iconic Images and its agents do not represent that the insurance you purchase will cover such risk of loss of deposit and other payments.

If you pay for this photo tour using your credit card and you opt to use the general travel insurance associated with major credit cards, we urge you to check that this cover provides fully for emergency evacuation. Also, please ensure that all pre-existing medical conditions, if any, are made known to the insurance underwriter at the time of application for your insurance for this photo tour. These precautions will assist avoid any delays if an emergency evacuation or other medical services are called upon, under your policy. We recommend you disclose your participation in this photo tour to your insurer.

8. Health Considerations

This photo tour is designed to be within the capabilities of average people in good health. Some of the time participants may be required to walk over uneven terrain or trails, stepping into an out of Land Cruiser type vehicles, occasionally hiking - while carrying an assortment of sometimes heavy camera equipment. If you have concerns about your own capabilities and/or fitness as it relates to this photo tour, please enquire with the booking agent, or with Iconic Images before reserving a place.

By forwarding a signed Registration Form and paying the initial non-refundable 25% deposit, you warrant that, to the best of your knowledge, you do not have any physical or other disability that would create a risk for you or for other participants. Our World Travel (OWT) reserves the right to request a medical certificate from a participant at any time before departure or during the photo tour. In consultation with Iconic Images, OWT's judgment will ultimately determine an individual's ability to embark upon the photo tour.

Once a booking has been accepted by OWT, medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to the cancellation policy. Iconic Images assumes no responsibility for medical care. We will advise the lodges/hotels of any dietary requirements or restrictions for individual participants, if sufficient notice is provided by you, but we do not assume responsibility for the delivery of such special dietary requirements.

If you sustain an injury or become ill on the photo tour, Iconic Images/C4 Photo Safaris reserves the right to continue the photo tour for the benefit of other participants. Iconic Images/C4 Photo Safaris will make every effort to assist you while at the same time trying to minimize interruption to the photo tour.

Iconic Images/C4 Photo Safaris reserve the absolute discretion, in the event of behaviour detrimental to other participants, to decline any person's participation at any time during the photo tour and cancel that person's participation in the photo tour, in which case any refund will be on a recoverable cost basis only.



9. Responsibility

Iconic Images and/or its agents act only as agents for the participants in this photo tour, in regard to travel arrangements including, but not limited to, game viewing, photography, sightseeing, meals, lodging and transportation, whether by rail, road, vehicle, motor coach, boat, ship or aircraft. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Iconic Images and/or its agents, disclaim liability for injury, damage, loss, or delay which may be occasioned by reason of a defect in any vehicle or for any other reason whatsoever, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the participant or in carrying out the arrangements of the photo tour.

Iconic Images and/or its agents accepts no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine or other causes. All such losses or expenses are borne by the participant, as the photo tour costs provide for arrangements only for the times and locations stated.

Baggage, including photographic equipment is at the participant's risk entirely, and as an insurable risk.

Reasonable care has been taken to compile the information in this and the other documents pertaining to this photo tour but circumstances change. For example, airline schedule changes, airline fuel charges, taxes and operational costs are subject to change. Iconic Images and/or its agents are not responsible for changes that occur and reserve the right to change the price of the photo safari up to the date of commencement. Iconic Images is obligated to pay all on-ground costs in US\$.

The right is reserved by Iconic Images to (i) substitute hotels/lodges/tents/camps of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary or transport where deemed necessary or caused by changes in schedules or equipment substitution; (ii) cancel the photo safari prior to departure, in which case a refund of all payments received for the land package will be given. (However, in such event Iconic Images and/or its agents will not be, responsible for any other trip preparation expenses such as penalized or non-refundable air tickets, visa fees and medical related expenses); (iii) substitute photo safari leader(s) for the leader(s) originally specified, in which case the substitution is not a basis for participant cancellation or refund, and (iv) accept or refuse at its sole discretion, any person as a participant in the photo tour.

In the event that, at the sole discretion of Iconic Images/C4 Images, it is necessary or advisable for the photo tour to be cancelled due to such events as outbreak of conflict, government intervention, or withdrawal of access/traffic rights, or in the event of insufficient numbers being available, the refund of all monies paid, pro rata if applicable after commencement, shall constitute a full and final settlement by Iconic Images and its agents of any obligations to participants. The on-ground operation of the photo tour is at the sole discretion of Iconic Images/C4 Images, having in mind the welfare of all participants and the safe and prudent operation of the itinerary and program.

The Registration Form must be completed and signed by each participant at the time of paying the first deposit. Participation will be declined in the absence of a completed and signed form. No modification to the Terms and Provisions of Registration, detailed on page 3 of the Registration Form, will be accepted.

10. Liability

Iconic Images does not accept any liability of whatever nature, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of third party providers to the photo tour. Under circumstances where liability cannot for any reason be excluded, such liability is limited to the cost of the land package arrangements. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Iconic Images disclaims liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss (including consequential loss), delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or any other event which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on the part of Iconic Images.



11. Travelling with Camera Gear

During road transfers, we will not be confined to the usual overall weight restriction, of 15 – 20kgs per person, on this photo tour, but we ask that you do play your part by not travelling with large/heavy individual pieces of luggage or hard-sided suitcases.

Pack your camera gear in bags such as those manufactured by Gura Gear, Lowepro, Think Tank etc.

As we will be using smaller charter aircraft, I request that you pack your camera gear as your hand luggage so that it can be carried with you onto the aircraft. Thus, if one of your in-hold bags is delayed or lost when you arrive in Addis Ababa, at least you can commence photographing as soon as you arrive.

Please do NOT use clamshell cases or hard sided suitcases such as those in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.



Fig. 1 - Clamshell Case



Fig. 2 - Hard-sided Suitcases

Instead, please use soft sided bags or duffle bags, such as those in Fig 3 and Fig 4.



Fig. 3 – Canvas duffle bag



Fig. 4 - Soft sided duffle bag

These bags will make life easier for yourself, the guides, (and me), not to mention the pilots of the charter aircraft as they can be more readily fitted into available spaces on smaller planes whereas the hard-sided cases do not work (not to mention putting the pilots offside, big time). I have witnessed larger hard-sided suitcases left on remote airstrips in Africa by pilots (they call the shots on weight every time and you will not win the argument!).

If you plan to travel to Ethiopia through Johannesburg airport it is advisable to have your in-hold baggage shrink-wrapped at your home international airport. Unfortunately, despite recent improvements, Johannesburg airport has a reputation of baggage theft.

13. Further Information

Approximately six weeks prior to departure from their home base, registered participants will be provided with a more comprehensive information kit on preparing and packing for this photo tour.