



## THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE INFORMATION SHEET

### ABOUT ETHIOPIA

Home to 9 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Ethiopia's history is rich and beautiful. A nation comprised of mountains, volcanoes, and deserts has a long religious history as it is mentioned 40+ times in the Bible, as home to Queen of Sheba. Ethiopia is a melting pot of religions and people of all faiths live together peacefully and with respect for one another. Another big part of the culture revolves around coffee. Many Ethiopians enjoy several cups a day and the traditional coffee ceremony is an experience worth seeking. Ethiopia is now the number one coffee exporter in the entire world. Along with beautiful people, the country is home to 924 bird species and 279 mammal species, including critically endangered, endangered, and vulnerable animals. Ethiopia is truly a gem full of energetic life, culture, and history. Don't forget to try Ethiopia's staple food, injera, while you explore.

**Topography:** Ethiopia has an elevated central plateau varying in height between 300-2000 meters in the north and center of the country there are some 25 mountains whose peaks rise above 4000 meters. The most famous Ethiopian river is Blue Nile (or Abbay) which flows north, a distance of 1450 kilometers from its source in Lake Tana to join the White Nile in Khartoum, Sudan.

**People:** The population is estimated at 102,374,044

**Economy:** More than 70 percent of the population earns a living from the land, mainly as subsistence farmers. Agriculture is the backbone of the national economy and the principal export from this sector is coffee oil seeds, pulses, flowers, vegetables, sugar and food staff for animals. There is also a thriving animal sector, exporting cattle, hides and skins.

**Language:** Ethiopia is a multiethnic state with 83 languages and 200 dialects. Amharic is the working language for the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Oromiffa, Tigrigna and Guragina are widely spoken.

**Electric Supply:** Ethiopia uses 220 volts 50 cycles AC. Plugs are European two-pin

**Time:** Ethiopia is in GMT +3 time zone. It follows the Julian calendar which consists of 12 months of 30 days each and 13<sup>th</sup> month of five or six days (on a leap year).

**Currency:** The units of currency are birr and cents. Notes are 100, 50, 10,5 and 1 birr. The 1-birr coin is also in circulation. ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines) are found in major Addis Ababa hotels, shopping malls and at Bole international Airport. It is important to retain currency exchange receipts.

**Health Requirements:** A yellow fever certificate for some African destinations. Vaccination against cholera is also required for any person who has visited or transited cholera -infected area within six-days prior to arrival in Ethiopia.

## **VISA INFORMATION**

The Sponsorship provided by the conference organizers does not include the visa fees and participants are required to cover this cost.

Visas are required for all foreign visitors to Ethiopia, with the exceptions of nationals of Kenya, Eritrea, Sudan and Djibouti. Visa applications may be obtained at Ethiopia's diplomatic missions overseas.

### **Option 1: Tourist Visas**

Nationals of 37 countries are allowed to receive their tourist visas on arrival in Ethiopia. Alternatively, nationals of these countries can apply for a tourist visa online at [www.evisa.gov.et](http://www.evisa.gov.et). The list includes Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, North Korea, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom and the United States.

### **Option 2: Business Visas**

There are numerous types of Business Visas for Ethiopia which permit visitors to enter for various reasons. The visas allow visitors to enter Ethiopia through Addis Ababa Bole International Airport.

### **Conference Visa**

Conference visas are issued to visitors who have received an invitation to a conference, seminar or workshop which has been organized by the Ethiopian Ministry or Department of the Government, Regional State Governments, Educational Institutions and Universities or organizations, the United Nations, the African Union or reputable NGOs.

You can apply for an E-Visa prior to travel at <https://www.evisa.gov.et/#/home>

## **TRANSFERS TO AND FROM AIRPORT WHILE IN NAIROBI**

United Nations Conference Centre is 6.8 Kilometers from Bole International Airport. After checkout from the airport, look out for an **Africa Animal Welfare Conference** Banner where a team from the conference secretariat (in AAW Conference shirts) will be waiting to receive you and arrange your transport to your respective hotel.

## **ACCOMMODATION, MEALS AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES AND COST**

Accommodation will be either on single or two delegates sharing a room basis; please do get in touch with Edith on your preferred accommodation arrangement. All accommodation, meals and airport transfers will be provided by the Kaleb Hotel Addis Ababa <https://www.kalebhotel.com/>. For more information/clarifications on your transport and accommodation please contact Edith on +254717798073 or on [info@aawconference.org](mailto:info@aawconference.org)

Upon arrival at your designated hotel, go straight to the hotel reception for your room allocation. Members of the secretariat will be at the reception and will give you a conference pack.

ANAW is responsible for your travel logistics and accommodation; however, you will be responsible for any “incidentals,” such as laundry services, telephone calls and alcoholic drinks.

## **SECURITY**

As a visitor, it is always important to be aware of your surroundings and ensure your own personal safety. As anywhere else, it is wise never to leave valuables (briefcases, laptops, electronic equipment) unattended. If faced with any suspicious happening urgently alert Edith or Josiah (see contacts below) for assistance.

## **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

It is advisable to take up personal medical insurance before travel to the conference. The conference organizers will not be responsible for any medical treatment during your stay in Kenya.

## **CLOTHING**

Visitors are advised to take the ‘onion philosophy’, i.e. dress in layers. Light clothes are worn in the heat of the day and warm attire is added in the cool and sometimes chilly nights. Avoid dressing in attires with political messages or connotations of the same when moving around.

## **INFORMATION FOR DISPLAY:**

There will be a display table at the entrance of the conference hall. We kindly request you to carry as much information about your organization as you can e.g. brochures, newsletters and magazines for display. You will not be charged for displaying this information. Exhibition spaces are available where participants can book to display their information. Contact [Info@aawconference.org](mailto:Info@aawconference.org) to book your space on time.

## **PER DIEM**

Owing to the limited funding available, per diems and allowances will not be given. It is recommended that each participant makes personal arrangements for their own per diem before travelling to the conference.

## **CONTACTS**

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