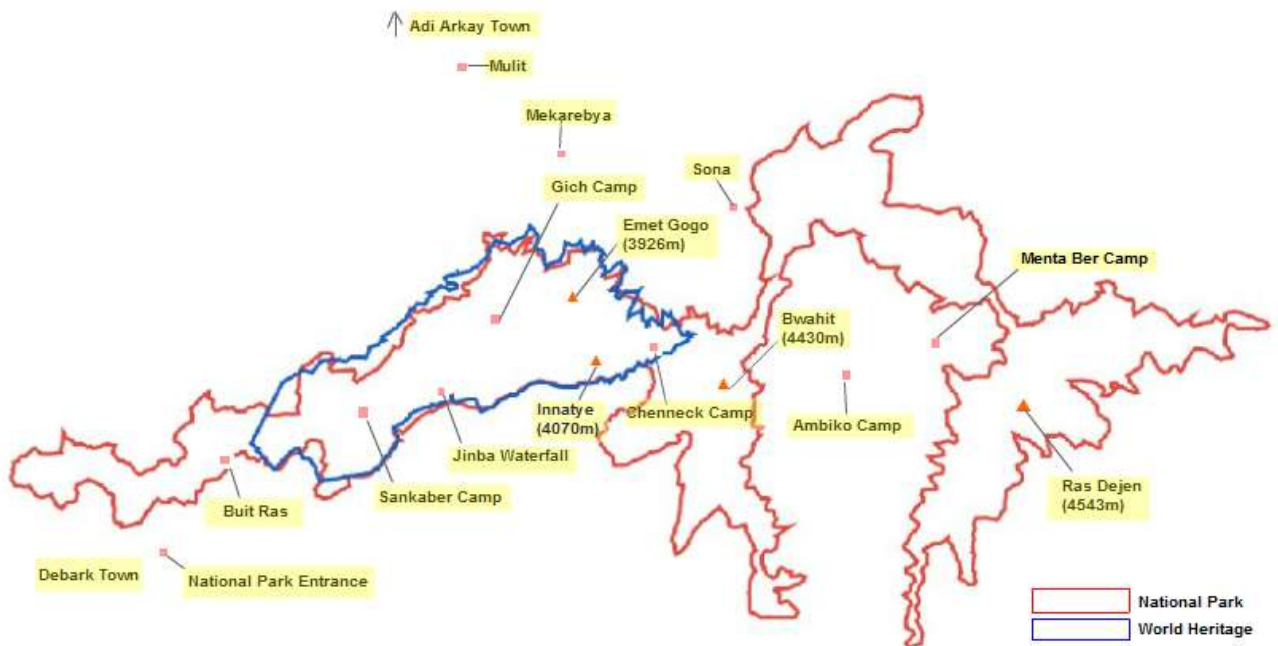




# 8 days trip



Simien Mountains National Park Trekking Map

## Itinerary

**You will climb 🏔️ Mt. Emet Gogo (3,926m) 🏔️🏔️ Mt. Ras Dejen (4,543m) ● High and lowland area**

**Gondar – Gich (3,600m) – Mt. Emet Gogo (3,926m) – Mt. Innatye (4,070m) – Chenneck (3,620m) – Ambiko (3,200m) – Mt. Ras Dejen (4,543m) – Ambiko camp – Sona camp- Mekarebya camp- Mulit camp – Adi Arkay – Gondar**

### **Included:**

- Cars to and from Gondar
- Guide
- Scout
- Cook and cooking materials
- Mule(s) and mulemen
- Camping tools: tent, sleeping bags and mattresses
- Park entrance fees
- Plenty food and bottled mineral water

### **Day1: Gondar – Sanbaber camp – Gich camp (Camp in Gich)**

We will meet you in the morning at Gondar Airport or your hotel in Gondar. Drive from Gondar to Debarq, which is the headquarter town for the national park. We will stop here to get a permission to enter to the park and meet the scout. We will have tea and coffee break and visit the local market if we have time. The local market is open every day, and every Wednesday and Saturday is the big market day. From Debarq town, we will drive to the park gate, which is about 16km from the town. We will drive to the first area of the national park, where we start trekking. The starting point will be around Sankaber, however it is flexible depend on your interest and time. You will be rewarded with marvelous escarpment and different plant species. You will most certainly encounter troops of the endemic Gelada Baboon and see them up-close. You may also see clipspringer, bushbuck, different plant species and birds species. The highlight of the trek is Jinba waterfalls, an incredible 500m sheer drop, the longest fall in Ethiopia. From the viewpoint opposite, you will see the different vultures such as Griffen Vulture, Hooded Vulture, Whitebacked Vulture, Lapped- faced vulture and Lammergayer along the cliff. Lammergayer is one of the biggest bird prey in the world and feeds bone marrow. This area is best place for lammergayer to break the bone. This area is also good to see different small birds such as one of the Ethiopian endemic bird- Abyssinian Catbird, Starlings, Sweafsts and Swallows.



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*Jinba waterfall, the longest fall in Ethiopia*

From the Jinba waterfalls, we will continue to Jinba river and have a picnic near more peaceful waterfall. Then we will head to Gich village. Just before you reach Gich campsite, there is wonderful opportunity to visit one of the traditional village houses for traditional coffee and to experience the local living style (depends on your interest). After we arrive at the campsite, you have some time for snack and then head out for a short optional sunset trek up about 185m above the camp to Kedadit. On this point (3,786m), you will look 360 degree around the Simien Mountains and to the lowland mountains. Then, we will come back to the camp for dinner.



*Gich camp sunset on the top of Kedadit*

## **Day2: Gich camp – Mt. Emet Gogo – Mt. Innatye – Chenneck camp (Camp in Chenneck)**

In Gich campsite, the sunrise is earlier than the other campsites. After breakfast, we will climb to Mt. Imet Gogo, an incredible rocky promontory and the most spectacular view point in the Simien Mountains. This is really breathtaking view and you will never forget in your mind. 300m gentle slope take you to the summit that grants 360 degree views over the Simien Mountain range. It descends about 300m to the valley, which is the source of the Jinba river. The trekking route passes vegetated area through Festuca grassland, Lobelia plant, everlasting flower, Erica Arboria tree. Then, we will climb Mt. Innatye about 500m up to the summit passing through the jangle. You will enjoy the stunning views and terrifying vertical drop views. The views are arguably the best in the Simien Mountains. After having a picnic lunch on the top of the Mt. Innatye, the path follows mostly downhill though open grassland and Giant Lobelia towards Chenneck camp. Chenneck camp is the third camping site of the national park and is located in a beautiful valley at the foot of the Mt. Bwahit, at the altitude about 3,620m. You will encounter a number

of stunning viewpoints along the way. Moreover, this area is superb for wildlife with both Gelada Boboons and Walia Ibex.



*Looking opposite side to Mt. Innatye*



*Chenneck campsite, one of the best camping area*



*Ethiopian wolf around the source of jinba river*

### **Day3: Chenneck camp – Ambiko camp through Mt. Bwahit Pass(Camp in Ambiko)**

On the fourth day, we will prepare for the longest trip so far (25km), trekking about 9-10 hours. From Chenneck camp, we will ascend 600m to Mt. Bwahit Pass and continue to Ambiko camp, which is the base camp to Ras Dejen. We will trek along the edge which descends 1,450m to Chiroleba village. Then, we follow the valley and descend down to Meshea river (2,750m). When you reach near to the river, you will see different plant species that are different from highlands, namely Ephorbia, Oliveria (Aloymacropetra). From Meshea river, we will trek to Ambiko camp. This campsite is located along the banks of a stream and in a small village. It is a project of the local church and a donation for the facilities is gratefully accepted.



*From Chenneck camp to Mt. Bwahit is one of the best area to spot Walia Ibex*



*Chiroleba village-the way to go from Chenneck to Ambiko through the valley via Mashera River*

### **Day4: Ambiko camp – Mt. Ras Dejen – Ambiko camp (Camp in Ambiko)**

After a breakfast, on the summit day, we will trek about 16km for 10-11 hours. The weather fluctuates over time on the summit, therefore we will start early at 4 a.m. Ascending would be more challenging when it becomes hot. The path ascends over 1,400m to Ras Dejen. Half of the trekking route we follow

is zigzag road constructed for the Beyeda town which is found south side of the summit. Just below Dejen Pass, at around 4,250, you will find impressive rocks. There are transported by a glacier and accumulated. They were formed 20,000-14,000 years ago in the last glacier age. Reaching to the summit involves an exciting and challenging climb. From the top of the Ras Dejen (4,543m), you will be blown away by the view which range more than ten thousand square kilometers. You will see the trekking route all the way to Mekelle and the route to Lalibela on the other side. From the summit, you will return along the same route to Ambiko camp.



*Ambiko*



*From Ambiko to Ras Dejen*

### **Day5: Ambiko camp – Sona camp (Camp in Sona)**

On this day we will walk back to Mesha river. From Ambiko camp to Sona camp is about 26km, 10 hours trekking. From Mesha river, we start ascending to Ategeba village. Then, the route undulates to Arkwasiye village. People in this area engage in barley farming and you will see their farming activities. The harvesting time is from October to January, and ploughing and sowing time is from April to June. We will descend down from Arkwasiye to Sona campsite, which is located at the altitude of 3,100m. We will spend the fifth night at Sona campsite.



*Sona Camp*



*Looking Arkwasiye village. A lot of marketing activities are taken place every Saturday.*

## **Day6: Sona camp – Mekarebya camp (Camp in Mekarebya)**

After a breakfast, we will set off the first lowland trekking in the Simiens. This is highly recommended area for bird watchers. We will start at about 9 a.m. in the morning and wonder about the campsite which is warm and beautiful. Then we will trek down to Lamo along the downhill (called Akakiwen). After about 2 hours, the trail leads us to the river. You could relax swimming, sitting under a big fig tree and ficus tree, or reading a book. In the afternoon, we will trek to Mekerabya camp nearby local school and small village at the altitude of 2,100m.



*Mekarebya**Relax under the big fig tree...***Day7: Mekarebya camp – Mulit camp (Camp in Mulit)**

This is another lowland trekking day, we will trek about 5-6 hours. The plant species and bird life completely change from what you see in the highlands.. You may also see animals such as Vervet monkey and white and black Columbus baboon you won't see in the highlands. After 2 to 3 hours walking, you will find natural swimming pool (called Derekwenz river) where you can relax. We will have a break here under the shadow of the big trees. Then, we will continue trekking to Mulit camp, which is located in one of the local farmers' compound with green garden under stunning mountain called Hawaza.

*Mulit Camping Site, the last camping site under stunning hill***Day8: Mulit camp – Adi Arkay – Gondar**

After a breakfast, we will trek for 3 to 4 hours to Adi Arkay, which is the small town out of the park where the trekking route ends. When you drive from Gondar to Axsum, you will pass through this town. When we arrive at the town, we will have a break and enjoy tea and coffee and drive to Gondar or Axsum.





*lowland mountains of the Simien*

## **More itineraries**

[One day trip](#)

[Two days trip \(1 night\)](#)

[Three days trip \(2 nights\)](#)

[Four days trip \(3 nights\)](#)

[Five days trip \(4 nights\)](#)

[Six days trip \(5 nights\)](#)

[Seven days trip \(6 nights\)](#)

[Nine days trip \(8 nights\)](#)

[Ten days trip \(9 nights\)](#)