



Tour to Washa Mikael RockHewn Church in Addis

Duration: half day

Way of transportation: Surface

Program:

Drive about 10km east from the hub of the city and 4.2km further north to the 1,600 years old rock hewn church of Wash Mikael through eucalyptus tree packed hill. This church was built by the two Ethiopian kings around 320AD, making it older than Lalibela. The two kings were originally called Ezana and Sayzana, but around 320AD they were re-named as Abraha and Atsbaha. The church is in the shape of the letter “U” – which is read as “Ha” in the Amharic alphabet. It is said that this “U” represents the phrase “Halwotule ab emkdme alem” which means “Before anything existed, God was here.”

The church stopped giving service in 1878 when a wall collapsed also bombed during the Ethio-Italian war between 1928 and 1933 by fascists. Rumor has it that the church was Locals claim that it was bombe.

The church originally had 7 windows (some still partially remain) to represent 7 days, 7 skies and 7 angels. Before it was bombed it apparently also stood 7m high. But now the roof is missing. Entrance into the church is through a tunnel which passes underground. Once inside you can visit the priest’s room, the baptism room and the main altar – or what remains of each of these. The baptism room has a window – the mother would stand outside and pass the baby through, as only the priest was allowed inside.

KARAM INT. TOUR AGENCY

Price in USD per person for a group of:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
65	39	29	25	22	20	19	18	17	16

- Children 0-2 years old free of charge
- Children 3 to 12 years old 85% of the adult rate
- Children over 12 same price as adults

The above prices include:

- The cost for the insured car
- English speaking guide
- Entrance fees at the church
- 15% government tax

The above price doesn't include:

- Photographic and video camera charges if and where applicable
- Tips
- Expenses of personal nature such as telephone calls, laundry, etc
- Any other expense not listed under the "package includes"