



Pelicans Abyata and Shall National Park

Ethiopian forest endemics are accessible at such forest patches as those at Wondo Genet and Lake Langanos eastern shore in the Rift Valley, Dinsho and the Haremma Forest in the Bale Mountains, and several sites within the easy striking distance of Addis Ababa, including Debre Libanos, Menagesha Forest, and the Entoto Hills. They include Yellow-fronted Parrot, Abyssinian Woodpecker, White-cheeked Turaco, Abyssinian Catbird (actually a babbler), White-backed Tit, Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher and Abyssinian Oriole. Other forest species particularly worthy of mention include Ayre's Hawk Eagle, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, African Hill Babbler, Abyssinian Crimsonwing and Green-backed Twinspot.

Ideally one needs to rent a four-wheel-drive vehicle to do a visit to Ethiopia justice, although it is possible to fly to many areas, including the historically fascinating north. Most birders visit during the dry northern winter (October-March) when Palearctic migrants are abundant, but it is possible and productive to visit at all times of years. Over 500 species can be recorded on a thorough three-week trip.

Who We Are

About Us

Ethio USA Tour is one of a hand full of tour operator based in the United States of America, and that engaged in the tourism industry. We provide both inbound tours to the USA and outbound tours to East Africa, but we specialize in Ethiopian tourism. The joy of traveling can be enjoyed virtually anywhere in the world. Yet one of the best countries for breathtaking scenery, rugged but majestic mountains, exotic flora, fauna (mainly endemic mammals, birds, plants) and pristine cultural diversity maintained by perpetual site and tribes undoubtedly it is Africa.

We are very happy to invite you to join our tours for your next birding vacation and travel need. Most of our customers come from word of mouth and you will refer us after your tour we are 100% sure.

Contact Us

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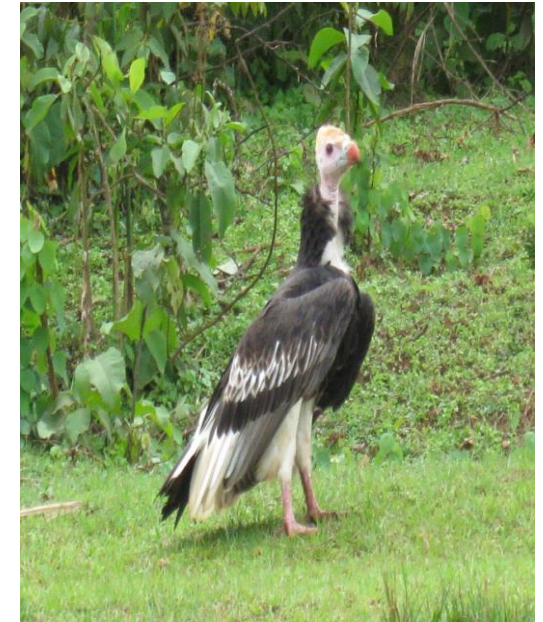
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Did you know

In recent years, Ethiopia has rightly become one of Africa's leading birding destinations. Its avifauna represents an interesting mixture of eastern and West African, Palearctic and endemic components.

The highlands, which dominate the center and north of the country, are bisected by the Rift Valley and fall away to arid desert and bushlands in the north, south, and east, and to moister woodland in the west. Much of the highlands are covered by agriculture, but there still exist considerable tracts of Afro-alpine shrubland and Afromontane forest.

For birders, the most popular access to really high altitude is the Bale Mountains National Park in the south-eastern highlands. Here the highest all-weather road in Africa crosses the Senetti plateau (4377m); allowing easy access to alpine moorlands, grasslands, and lakes.

Highland endemics such as Spot-breasted Lapwing, Erlanger's Lark and Rouget's Rail occur alongside giant lobelias and Ethiopian wolves. The Bale Mountains also curiously hold a number of species not found elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa, such as Ruddy Shelduck, Golden Eagle or Red-billed Cough. Other more widespread highland endemics found here and elsewhere include Blue-winged Goose, Black-headed Siskin, Wattled Ibis, and Abyssinian Longclaw.



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“In addition to over 800 species of birds, of which a staggering 37 are endemic or near-endemic, Ethiopia has a number of spectacular endemic mammals, and a scenic diversity and cultural uniqueness that are probably unequaled in Africa.”

In the south of the country, high diversity and high endemism combine to offer absolutely superb birding. Sought-after specials of the wonderful region bounded by Yabelo in the west and Negele in the east include the endemic Rupoli's Turaco, White-tailed Swallow, Ethiopian Bush Crow and Liben Lark. Many of these species are highly threatened by agriculture and rangeland degradation, in particular, the Liben Lark, of which only a few hundred individuals now remain in a small patch of grassland near Negele.



Other highland localities deserving special mention include the Jemma River Valley north of Addis Ababa, which is the easiest place to see the highly localized and endemic Harwood's Francolin, as well as many other exciting more widespread species of the northern highlands including Erckel's Francolin, White-billed Starling, Rueppell's Black Chat, Nyanza Swift and White-winged Cliff-Chat. One of Ethiopia's four highly localized endemic serins, Ankober Serin, is also a highland species, occurring along the spectacular Ankober escarpment north of Awash.

The Rift Valley, punctuated by several large lakes, offers few endemics but very diverse and enjoyable savannah and wetland birding. Some of the several excellent birding sites in the Rift Valley are Lake Langano, Awash National Park and Nechisar National Park, offering amongst many others African Swallow-tailed Kite, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Arabian Bustard, Somali Fiscal, and Gillet's, Red-winged, White-winged and Singing Bush Larks, and a host of Afrotropical and Palearctic migrant water birds.

