

Irreecha celebration

The Irreecha thanksgiving Festival is celebrated by the Oromo, Ethiopia's largest ethnic group. Participants from across the country flock to the capital, Addis Ababa.

After holding up green grass and flowers as symbols of hope and prosperity, the participants performed the Irreecha ceremony and held several Oromo cultural events with songs and attractive and varied dance performances.

On this day, the Oromo people thank God because they believe they survived the heavy rains and saw the beautiful September sky, heralding the approaching spring. The Ethiopian calendar lags several years behind the Gregorian calendar, which most other countries follow.

Participants wore colorful traditional Oromo clothing and danced in the streets of Addis Ababa while singing cultural songs. An estimated million participants traveled from other cities across Ethiopia each year to participate in this festival.

Irreecha is part of the Gada system, as the Gada system is registered as an intangible cultural world heritage.

The Irreecha festival takes place every year on October 5th in Addis Ababa and October 6th in Bishoftu town. (The date may vary by one day every 4 years)

Itinerary

Day 1- Upon arrival at Bole International Airport, you will be greeted by our tour guides and transferred to your booked hotel. Most flights to Addis Ababa arrive in the morning, leaving the remaining hours of the day available for a city tour of Addis Ababa. Full- and half-day tours are available on our website. Learn more about our city tours there.

If you arrive at night, the next day will be reserved for a full-day city tour of Addis Ababa.

Day 2- early in the morning at 6:00 a.m., we head to Meskel Square to celebrate the festival.

After the half-day celebration, we enjoy a lunch with vegetarian and vegan options.

Farewell Night: we'll rest at your hotel and begin our farewell night. We'll enjoy dinner in one of Ethiopia's best jazz or (reggae optional) lounges, or in one of the most beautiful dance and folklore houses, with a traditional coffee ceremony. This concludes the two-day tour.

What does the two days festival tour include?

- *Hotel fees.
- *Air fair for domestic flights. (There are no flights for this section)
- * Pick up and drop off service.
- *Transportation, including fuel and driving.
- *Entrance fees, at all listed places.
- *Professional English speaking tour-guide.
- *Lunch, dinner hot drinks and bottled water.

What's not included?

- * Alcoholic beverages not listed on the package
- *Tips and Gratitude

All-Inclusive Meskel festival tours

Total: \$699 (individual price)

*Group of 2: \$524 per person

*Group of 3: \$ 471 per person

*Group of 4-9: \$423 per person

*Group of 10 or more: \$384 per person

From 25% to 45% discount for group tours

