

Ethiopia

Information for applicants

Ethiopia

Situated in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia is three times the size of Germany and home to some 105 million people. Hailed as the cradle of civilisation and the birthplace of coffee, the country has a great deal to offer. The population is made up of over 80 different ethnicities and the official language is Amharic. 63% of the population are Christian and around 34% Muslim. In 2017, Ethiopia's gross domestic product (GDP) stood at USD 73 billion. Most of the population works in the agricultural sector, which forms the basis of the Ethiopian economy and accounts for almost half of GDP. The dynamic capital, Addis Ababa, is located in the centre of the nation. Undergoing rapid development in recent years, the city has become an established base for many embassies and international organisations. Nowadays, Addis Ababa offers excellent flight connections to Europe and several destinations in Africa. Ethiopia presently still ranks 174th out of 188 countries on the UN Human Development Index. Nonetheless, the country currently has the highest economic growth rate in the world and the government has a strong development orientation. Additionally, Ethiopia is a key stabilising force for the entire region of East Africa.

Climate and sights

The Ethiopian climate does not generally have tropical heat levels, but is moderate, characterised by warm sunny days and cooler nights. The country boasts some stunning scenery. From the source of the Nile and

unique mountain landscapes to rainforest and the Danakil desert, the land-locked nation of Ethiopia offers a wide range of spectacular places to visit.

It also captivates travellers with its cultural diversity, being home to nine different World Heritage Sites, including the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, the stelae of Axum and the palaces of Gondar.

Medical care

You do not need to have the yellow fever vaccination if you are travelling to Ethiopia directly from Germany. You will need to provide evidence of yellow fever vaccination if you are entering the country from a yellow fever area. There is little to no risk of malaria infection in Addis Ababa or at any altitudes above 2,000m. Those visiting lower lying parts of the country should obtain comprehensive information about protection measures in advance.

Recommended vaccinations: tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio (where relevant), measles/mumps/rubella (MMR), influenza and pneumonia. Travellers are advised to have the hepatitis A and yellow fever vaccinations, and those staying in the country for longer periods or who are particularly exposed are also advised to get immunised against hepatitis B, meningococcal disease, typhoid and rabies. Rabies immunoglobulin is not always available in the country.

Medical care in Ethiopia is not comparable with that in Europe. For this reason, it is recommended that you take out an adequate insurance policy and reliable repatriation cover. For straightforward

illnesses in Ethiopia, GIZ offers consultation with a German doctor and referrals to suitable hospitals.

Accommodation and quality of life

There are many different options for accommodation in Addis Ababa. Much additional living space has been created in recent years especially through the construction of new buildings. You can find suitable accommodation via estate agents or through the recommendations of colleagues and locals. Monthly rents vary depending on size, condition and location, but are somewhat lower than in Germany. The Ethiopian capital offers a considerable array of sports and leisure activities. From gyms, swimming pools and spas to tennis lessons, dance classes and yoga courses, there is something for everyone. And then there are many good international restaurants, various bars and clubs to suit different musical tastes, cinemas and leisure activities for children.

Shops and services

In Addis Ababa, you have a choice of traditional markets or supermarkets with a relatively wide range of goods. Fruit, vegetables and spices can be purchased at low cost from any market, and supermarkets sell basics as well as imported cheeses, wines, sausages and other international products. Shopping centres and larger markets offer traditional and modern clothing, shoes, jewellery and high-quality leather products, the latter at very low prices.

Accompanying partners and children

The presence of many international organisations in Addis Ababa means there is certainly scope for accompanying partners to find work in the city. Nonetheless, partners should always enter the country on a tourist visa initially and then subsequently on a separate business visa issued by the respective employer, as individuals with a residence card for accompanying partners are not permitted to undertake any work in the country.

Childcare: Those heading to Ethiopia with young children will find a good range of German and international pre-schools, including the German Embassy School kindergarten (www.dbsaa.de), the Brana Play School (www.branaplayschool.com), the Kinderhaus Sonnenblume (yainishet@aol.com) and the Flipper Kindergarten (www.flipperschool.com).

Schools: There are also a number of excellent German and international schools for children in all older age groups, including the German Embassy School (www.ds-addis.de), the International Community School (ICS: <https://www.icsaddis.org>), the Lycée franco-éthiopien Guébré-Mariam (www.quebre-mariam.org), Sandford International School (www.sandfordschool.org) and the British International School (www.bisaddis.com).

Find out more

[https://www.auswaertiges-
amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/ethiopia/209410](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/ethiopia/209410)

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/336.html>

Publication details

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Street address
Postcode, town/city, country
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15
E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

Eschborn 2018

Responsible/Editor, etc.
Ulrich Heise, Eschborn

URL links:

The providers of linked external websites are always responsible for their own content. GIZ explicitly disassociates itself from all such content.

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.