

**Day 0**  
22/01/2019  
Tuesday

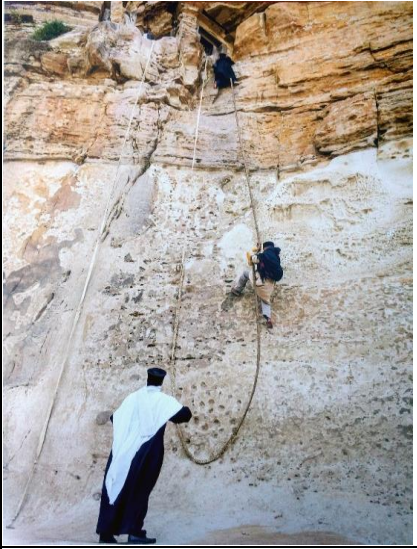
Participants arrive in Addis Ababa

Students of the Ethiopian Institute of Architecture Building Construction & City Development (EiABC), Addis Ababa University, will be available to take those participants who arrive early on city tours.

Fight: depart Addis Ababa 16:30 arrive Axum 17:50

ANCIENT TIMBER CHURCHES

**Day 1**  
23/01/2019  
Wednesday

GROUP 1 - limited to intrepid male participants	GROUP 2 - female participants / less energetic male participants
<p><i>Morning</i>, depart hotel at 08:00 by road for Debra Damo, about 2 hours</p> <p>10:00 arrive Debra Damo monastery (no women or female animals allowed). Access is up a vertical cliff by a 17-metre leather rope; a monk will help pull you up from the top. In addition, we also plan to provide special assistance from guides from Gheralta with safety harness. Male participants should decide if they wish to make the ascent and book for Group 2 if they do not.</p>	<p><i>Morning</i>, visit the ancient royal cemetery at Axum, where the tombs are marked with monolithic stelae. The three largest (3rd/4th centuries AD) <b>imitate multi-storey timber construction in carved stone.</b></p> <p>11:00 depart Axum by road for Yeha, about 1 hour</p> <p>12:00 arrive Yeha to visit the <b>Great Temple</b>, built c. 700 BC</p> <p>13:00 depart Yeha for Wukro, about 2 hours</p>
	
<p>Visit the large <b>timber church of Abuna Aregawi</b>, ?6th century AD [is this the oldest timber structure in the world?]</p> <p>12:00 depart Debra Damo for Wukro, about 3 hours</p>	
<p><i>Evening</i> (arrival time at Wukro permitting), visit Wukro Archaeological Museum (opened 2016); visit <b>Wukro Tcherqos rock-hewn church</b> (?8th century AD) and meet the students at the traditional church school</p> <p>Overnight at Wukro Lodge</p>	

**Day 2**  
24/01/2019  
Thursday

*Morning*, leave Wukro Lodge at 08:00 by 4X4 cars for Atsbi.  
10:00 arrive **Tcherqos Agabo timber church** (?8th century AD), built under a rock overhang. Access from where the cars can reach is a 15 - 20 minute walk  
10:30 leave Tcherqos Agabo  
11:00 arrive **Debra Selam Mikael timber cave church** (the upper parts are carved from the rock), ?8th century AD. Access is by an initial climb and then a horizontal walk to the ledge where the cave is situated, total walking time 20 - 30 minutes  
*Lunch* at Atsbi, 13:15 - 14:15  
14:45 arrive **Zarema Giyorgis timber church** (?7th/8th century AD; is this the second-oldest timber structure in the world?)  
15:15 leave Zarema Giyorgis  
16:20 arrive Mikael Imba rock-hewn church (?8th century AD), with **original carved wooden screen and carved doors**. Access is by a metal stair to the top of the mountain, about 10 - 15 minutes  
17:30 leave Mikael Imba  
19:00 arrive Makalle, overnight in Makalle

EARLY MEDIEVAL TIMBER CHURCHES IN CAVES

**Day 3**  
25/01/2019  
Friday

*Morning*, leave hotel at 06:30 for Axum airport,  
Flight: depart Axum 12:10 arrive Lalibela 12:40  
transfer to hotel; lunch in the XO Restaurant, Lalibela Cultural Centre; visit the museum  
*Afternoon*, road travel to **Yimrahanna Kristos cave church** (early 11th century), 1½ hours, then 15 - 20 minutes easy walk up to the cave  
*Evening*, early dinner in Ben Abebe hill-top restaurant to enjoy the view

**Day 4**  
26/01/2019  
Saturday

<u>GROUP 1</u> - energetic participants	<u>GROUP 2</u> - less energetic participants
<p>Depart hotel 07:00 by road to Gennata Maryam, about 45 minutes 07:45 rendezvous with muleteers and mules to climb a spur of Abuna Joseph mountain (mule ride and walk up the steepest and rockiest bits) to <b>Makina Medhane Alam cave church</b> (?12th/13th century), about 4 hours visit <b>Lideta Maryam cave church</b> [?13th century] 14:45 start return journey to reach the foot of the mountain before dark</p>	<p>Depart hotel 07:00 by road to Gennata Maryam, about 45 minutes 07:45 visit rock-hewn church of Gennata Maryam return to Lalibela to visit <b>Lalibela churches</b> (?7th -13th centuries) and <b>examine timber construction translated to rock-hewn stone</b> <i>Lunch</i> at 7 Olives Restaurant <i>Afternoon</i>, visit to Lalibela churches, continued</p>

*Evening*, dinner in Torpedo azmari house (traditional minstrels with praise singing)

**Day 5**  
27/01/2019  
Sunday

*Morning*, early visit to Beta Giyorgis rock-hewn church (?12th/13th century)  
transfer to Lalibela airport  
Flight: depart Lalibela 10:00 arrive Addis Ababa 11:00

*Lunch* at **Finfine Hotel (timber structure built by Emperor Menelik / Empress Taitu)**  
*Afternoon*, visit to the recently conserved **Addis Ababa Museum (timber house of Ras Birru)** and visit to the unconserved **Sheikh Hojele Palace, a timber building**  
*Evening*, dinner at the recently conserved **Addis Ababa Restaurant, timber house** built in the 1890s as the marital home of Princess Zauditu (reigned as empress regnant 1916 - 1930) on the occasion of her second marriage

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**Day 6**  
28/01/2019  
Monday

**One-day conference on Timber Structures** **08:30 a.m. - 17:00 p.m.**

Participants are invited to submit outlines for papers or posters to the organising committee

Early evening, reception at Zoma Museum, modern wood-and-earth buildings in a herb garden with walls ornamented with astonishing sculptured surfaces in earth.