

DNHG trip to Eritrea from Friday March 30 to Saturday April 7, 2018

This Easter DNHG is organizing a week-long trip to the secretive little state of Eritrea.

Bordered by Sudan, Ethiopia and Djibouti, Eritrea occupies a strategic area in the Horn of Africa but remains one of the most secretive states in the world, thus nicknamed the 'North Korea of Africa'.

Not surprisingly, the travel to Eritrea is difficult to organize and requires a lot of paperwork and permits. DNHG trip to Eritrea is thus an unique opportunity to visit this secluded but vibrant and beautiful country.

The long Eritrean history dates from prehistorical finds of one of the oldest hominids representing a possible link between *Homo erectus* and an archaic *Homo sapiens* dated to over 1 million years old, to ancient Punt and the Kingdom of Aksum to modern history when Eritrea was conquered by Italians in 1890 and made a centre of the Italian East Africa colonies. When Eritrean economy, development and infrastructure were catapulted into the 20th century only to be later impoverished by 30-year struggle for independence from Ethiopia, this ended in 1991 with Eritrean rebels defeating Ethiopian and Ethiopian-backed forces. Independence was overwhelmingly approved in a 1993 referendum, administered by the UN. However, final demarcation is on hold due to Ethiopian objections, and the border as well as neighbour relationship remain very tense to this day.

See this short, entertaining video for more information on Eritrea:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hA4ZV72wnpl>

During our trip to Eritrea we will visit all the most important sights of Eritrea that are open to foreign visitors