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Ethiopian Airlines Group discount rate for Tigray Festival 2014 travelers in North America

As you all know, the Tigrean Diaspora is holding a colorful 7- day event dubbed Tigray Festival 2014 from July 31st to Aug 6, 2014 in Mekelle.

It is the first of its kind in Ethiopia and there will be a huge influx of guests from the Diaspora and other parts of Ethiopia.

To secure an airfare discount for festival travelers during the high season, the event coordinators negotiated a deal with Ethiopian Airlines over the last few months and the key points agreed on are as follows:

- for departure dates between July 20 and 25, the prevailing rate would be discounted by 40% for a minimum group of 10 travelers
- for departure dates prior to July 20, 2014, a minimum group of 10 travelers would get 15% discount of the prevailing rate
- one free date change without any additional fee upon return
- Excess weight up to a maximum of 32 kg per luggage allowed

It's important to note that the above privileges apply only to flights on Ethiopian airlines, not connecting flights. In North America's case, the privileges apply from and to Washington DC and Toronto in the case of Canada. However, Ethiopian Airline is trying to negotiate a lower rate for connecting flights of up to \$480 for flights originating from the west coast of the US.

To take advantage of this offer, many travelers have registered online and via a hotline number. Event coordinators are now in the process of calling each registered festival traveler to gather personal and flight information, to submit to Ethiopian Airlines.

A traveler whose information has been submitted will then be contacted by Ethiopian Airlines for booking until May 31st, 2014.

The discounted rate from DC to Mekelle is \$1,490 if you are flying out from DC between July 20 and 25. This would mean a round trip airfare of roughly \$1, 970 from the West Coast to Mekele.

Regards,
International Tigray Festival 2014 in Tigray
North America organizing committee