

Bahir Dar City and Madison, Wisconsin of the United States became Sister Cities

Bahir Dar City, the Capital of Amhara Regional State (Ethiopia) and the City of Madison, the Capital City of the State of Wisconsin (USA) have become Sister Cities on November 20, 2018, making Madison the second American city to become Bahir Dar's sister city, next to the City of Cleveland, Ohio. In total, Bahir Dar has now three sister cities, including Ashdod, Israel's sixth-largest city.

The process of becoming sister cities for Bahir Dar and Madison started when a group of Madison (Wisconsin, USA) residents submitted an application in August 2018 that would make Bahir Dar, a sister city of the Wisconsin's capital.

As both Bahir Dar and Madison serve as capitals for their respective state or region, the two cities have large public universities and are located near major lakes, according to the application.

While Bahir Dar City is known for its Lake Tana (3,200 km²), which was nominated as UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2015 recognizing its national and international natural and cultural importance, the City of Madison has more than 15,000 registered lakes including man-made lakes (of which 40% have official names). Lake Winnebago is the largest lake (557 km²) and Petenwell Lake (93 km²) is the largest man-made lake for America's north-central city, Madison.