

## **EXPLORE**

ALBANIA

THE BEST PLACES IN ALBANIA FOR A FEW DAYS facebook - twitter - youtube

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## ALBANIA

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	Tirana (since 1920)
Main Cities	Durres, Vlora, Saranda, Shkodra, Berat, Korca Gjirokastra, Elbasani,
Currency:	Lek (ALL)
Local time:	GTM +1 (GTM+2 between the end of April and the end of October )
Country code:	+355
Airport:	Rinas ( Mother Teresa)
Religion	There are three official religions in Albania: Muslim, Orthodox and Catholic. Albania is known for its religious coexistence.

ELEVATION OF SHKODER





Coastal areas: Central Mediterranean, mild and wet winter, hot and dry summ Alpine areas:Central Continental, cold and wild winter, wet summer. **Relieve** 

Lowland –Western Albania, Plain –Eastern Albania, Alpine –Northern Albania, the Highest Peak – Korabi Mountain (2,753m)

#### Population

The population of Albania numbers 3,150,886. The vast majority of inhabitants are Albanian, with ethnic minorities representing only about 2% of the population. The minority population is comprised primarily of Greeks, Macedonians and Montenegrins.



#### **Geographical Position**

Albania is a country in SouthEastern Europe, in the West of the Balkan Peninsula, between the geographical coordinates: 39 16' latitude and 42 39' longitudes. Albania is almost midway between Equator and the North Pole, and covers a surface of 28.748 km2. The overall length of the borderline of the Republic of Albania is 1094 km; out of which 657km is landborder, 316km seaborder, 48km riverborder and 73 km lakeborder. Albania's coastline length is 476 km. TheRepublic of Albania, on the North borders with Montenegro and NorthEast with Kosovo, on the East with Macedonia, and in the South and SouthEast with Greece. On the West, Albania is washed by the Adriatic and Ionian seas. The average altitude is 708 m, i.e. two times higher than that of Europe. Albania is included in the humid subtropical zone of the Northern Hemisphere, and it belongs to the Mediterranean climatic zone.

#### 7 DAYS BALKAN TOUR START FROM SARAJEVO AND END FROM SKOPJE



#### Day 1: Sarajevo City Tour

(Lunch and Dinner included) Arrival in Sarajevo. Sightseeing of the old city with a local guide. Lunch in a restaurant. Accommodate. Free time for individual walks. Dinner night.

#### Day 2: Mostar Tour

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)

Breakfast. We leave to Mostar. City tours. Lunch. After lunch we leave to Trebinje. Panoramic view of the city. Accommodate. Free time. Dinner Overnight.

#### Day 3: Dubrovnik Tour

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included) Breakfast. Depart for Dubrovnik. City tours with a local guide. Lunch. We continue to Budva. Walk in the old city. Accommodate. Dinner. Night.

#### Day 4: Tirana Tour

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included) Breakfast. We leave for Tirana. City tours with a local guide. Lunch for restaurant. After lunch we leave to Durres. Walk in the old city. Accommodate. Dinner. Night.

#### Day 5: Vevcani and Ohrid Tour

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)

Breakfast. After breakfast depart for Vevcani. Walk on Vevcani sources. Lunch in a restaurant. We continue to Ohrid. Sightseeing

of the old city with a local guide. Free time for individual walks and shopping. Accommodate. Dinner. Night.

Day 6: Bitola Tour (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included) Breakfast. We depart for Bitola (old town consuls in Macedonia). Explore the city and basilica in Heraclea (4th century BC). Lunch. We continue to Skopje.

Explore the city and the Old Bazaar. Accommodate. Dinner. Night.

#### Day 7: End Of The Tour

(Breakfast included) Breakfast. Free time. Departure of Alexander the Great Airport in Skopje.

395 EUR

#### 7 DAYS BALKANS TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Airport transfer mention in site the Itinerary
- 1 nights hotel in Sarajevo
- 1 nights hotel in Mostar
- 1 night hotel in Dubrovnik
- 1 nights hotel in Tirana
- 1 nights hotel in Ohrid
- 1 nights hotel in Bitola
- 6 open buffet breakfasts
- 6 local lunches at restaurants during to tours
- 6 local dinners at the hotels
- Guided Sarajevo city tour
- Guided Mostar city tour
- Guided Dubrovnik city tour
- Guided Tirana city tour
- Guided Ohrid citty tour
- Guided Bitola city tour

• All entrance fees mentioned in the itinerary

- Transportation in a fully air conditioned, non smoking coach
- Professional English speaking tour guides

#### TOUR NOT INCLUDE:

SKOPJE

- International flights
- Insurance: All types
- Entry visa
- Items of a personal nature such as alcoholic drinks, cold drinks, laundry
- Any others expenses which are not mentioned at the included section

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Hollyvod Hotel in Sarajeva 4\*\*\*\* or smilar Bristol Hotel 4\*\*\*\* in Mostar or smilar Ivka Hotel 3\*\*\* in Dubrovnik or smilar Senator Hotel 4\*\*\*\* in Tirana Millenium Hotel 4\*\*\*\* in Ohrid or smilar Epinal Hotel 4\*\*\*\* in Bitola or smilar





Duration:6 Days Itinerary: Vlora, Ardencia, Tirana, UlqinKotor&Budva-Montenegro, Gjirokastra, Saranda

#### Day 1

Transfer by ferry from Corfu to Saranda. In case of cancelled ferry for any reason transfer to Igumenica mainland Greece and pas the boarder of Qafe – Bote Albania. Arrive to Saranda Albania. Drive to visit Butrint. (a part of UNESCO family) (Butrint in case the change of the program can be visit also the last day.) Drive to Vlora via the in land site of Albania. On way visit Blue Eye the National Park and break for coffee. Drive to visit the Unit city of Gjirokaster. (part of UNESCO family) Visit the castle of the city, the Museum of Weapons and the Ethnographic Museum (was the house of the EX dictator of Albania call Hoxha) Optional lunch in Gjirokaster. Drive to Fier. On way break for coffee. Late noon arrive to Fieri. Dinner free or incl at the hotel. Overnight in Fier, or Vlora city. (city's are only 30 km far to each others)

#### Day 2

Transfer and visit Tirana. On way visit the area of Ardenicaincl the Monastery too.Drive to Durres the sea side city. In Durres visit the Archeological site of the city and the Old part of the town. Free time in town.Drive to visit Krujaincl the Museum of the National Hero call "SKENDERBE" optional lunch. To Kruja. The museums in Kruja is possible for visit in the afternoon from 16:00. Late noon arrive to Tirana. Dinner free or incl to the hotel. Overnight in Tirana or Durres. (city's are only 45 km far to each others)

#### Dav 3

Drive to Ulkin- (Montenegro). On way visit the city of Shkoder and the Castle of Rozafa. Coffee break. Before passing the boarder break for lunch too. Continue driving, pass the boarder between Albania and Montenegro. Round Afternoon arrive to Ulkin.Visit the Old part of Ulgin and free at night. Dinner free or incl to the hotel). Overnight in Ulkin or Sutomore. (city's are only 31 km far to each others

#### Dav 4

Drive to Budva- (Montenegro) Full day tour to Kotor and Budva. In Kotor visit the Castel of the c

#### ΜΟΝΤΕΝΕGRΟ



ity incl all sites in the Castle. Guide in the small town of Kotor. There is an optional boat trip to the bay of Kotorincl a visit to the Catholic and Orthodox islands churches. On way back to Ulgin visit the town of Budva(part of UNESCO family) Pay also a visit to the area of Sveti Stefan to Budva. Optional lunch in Budva. On way back to Ulgin photos and coffee break. Dinner free or incat the hotel. Overnight in Ulkin or Sutomore.( city's are only 31 km far to each others)

#### Dav 5

Drive toSarande-Albania. On way few coffee break. Near to the city Lushnja optional lunch. Passing from the the city of Vlora the tour continue to Sarande via the Coast site of Albania. Break to the National Park of Llogora. Break in Himara town too. On way passing from the biggest Navy Base of Albania to PORTO Palermo. Arrive late noon to Sarande. Dinner free or incl at the hotel. There is an optional performance WITH LIFE POLIPHONIC MUSIK, OR FOLK PERFORMANCE. Overnight in Sarande or Gjirokaster. (city's are only 59 km far to each others)

#### Dav 6

Drive to visit Butrint. (a part of UNESCO family). Later return to the town of Sarande and visit the market of the town. Visit the Castle of Lekuresi and optional lunch. Before the departure visit a market with all sorts of Albanian Alcohol product and local souvenir incl the Albanian Polyphonic music. Dep by ferry to Corfu at 16:30 local time, or driving to the boarder to take the ferry from Igumenica to Corfu. Arrive to Corfu at 19:00 local time.

Montenegro

ALBANIA AND MONTENEGRO SIX DAY TOUR



#### Notes on towns and main sites

Vlora: The main town in the coast area. The well known for the most beautiful beach in Albania. There is recommended area to spent longer beach and cultural holidays. Ardencia: 12th C monastery converted into an inn, it occupies the whole of a rocky outcrop amid pine and cypress trees and is a landmark visible for miles across the plain. The church, dedicated to the Virgin, is characteristically Greek, and has a magnificent iconostasis and high-quality wall-paintings.

**Tirana:** The capital and main administration city of Albania since 1920, with 1 million habitants; A town with big contrasts. Tirana is the main institute of culture and town in which you can find good restaurants with specialties from a the different areas of the country. Around Tirana, several historical sites can be found in cities like Durres and Kruja.

**UlqinKotor&Budva-Montenegro:** The most attractive cities in Montenegro. Cities with interesting architecture, culture, and delicious gastronomy. Heritage town and well know as a part of UNESCO family

#### Gjirokastra: This fascinating and historic small town is on UNESCO's

World Heritage list. Largely medieval, with some lovely architecture to admire reflecting the town's wealthy past, it is build on a hill overlooking valley and mountains. Excellent views from the large castle above, which houses a weapon museum! Some good restaurants in de narrow cobbled lanes of the old town.

**Saranda:** Commercial port and main town in the south. It's built directly over Roman town which surfaces here and there. Best views are from the castle call "Lekuresi" high above; the restaurant on top is an idea for evening dining.



#### **Additional Into**

1. We confirm that in Albania it is one hour later than in Greece, (people should put their watch one hour back).

2. On the 6-day tour we confirm that; if one person is traveling completely alone, ( use of single room), a supplement of 60.00 Euros will be extra charged.

3. For the 6-day tour to Albania, for 6 lunch, for drinks & coffee: a person should need approx 50-70 Euros.

4. People are advised to use comfortable shoes during visiting museums and archeological places.

5. About the climate & temperature in South Albania, this is similar to the climate on Corfu.

(Mediterranean climate). About the temperature on the North of Albania and Montenegro is always 5 G/C lower than to the South part.



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#### Sarajevo - - Mostar - Dubrovnik-Tirana

5 Days / 4 Nights

DAY 01 ZAGREB - SARAJEVO( only transfer from Zagreb to Sarajevo)400 KM

Depend from arrival time in Zagreb Airport.Arrival at Zagreb International Airport, meet and Transfer to Sarajevo. Accommodation at the hotel and overnight in Sarajevo.

#### DAY 02 SARAJEVO(Breakfast included)

Breakfast at hotel. Walking City tour- old town Bascarsija, Latin bridge, place where the

Austro Hungarian Archduke was assassinated, what triggered the 1st World War; Brusabesistan – covered market place; GaziHusrevBey's Mosque- built in 1530 year during the Ottoman era – and GaziHusrevBeyMadrass; Moricahan built in 1551; Vijecnica – town hall from the Austro-Hungarian era. Lunch at the local restaurant. Free at leisure. Overnight in Sarajevo.

#### DAY 03 SARAJEVO – MOSTAR- DUBROVNIK (206 KM)

SARAJEVO – MOSTAR (B/L/D)

0700HRS Breakfast at hotel.

0800HRS Proceed for city tour of Sarajevo; visit Bascarsija old town with cobbled streets, numerous Mosques and oriental shops, Latin Bridge where assignation of Franz Ferdinand took place, Morica Han, the only preserved style inn in Sarajevo and much more - the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Free time for souveniers. 1400HRS Proceed to Mostar. Half way to Mostar, we stop in the beautiful small town of Konjic on the river of Neretva. Short sightseeing of the town.Proceed for the city tour with fascinating history, beautiful architecture and natural setting in a valley on Neretva river banks. Start with sightseeing; visit Old bridge (UNESCO World heritage), Bey's Mosque, Oriental bazar and Turkish house.We make way to Pocitelj, a small town in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the left bank of river Neretva. Experience the unique architecture of the town that was an administrative centre of governance for the region 1500HRS Stop for lunch at local restaurant Continue journey to Dubrovnik

(approximately +/- 5 hours)

2000HRS Upon arrival, transfer to check-in hotel.

2100HRS Dinner at hotel.

Overnight in Dubrovnik.

#### BOSNIA







#### DAY 04 DUBROVNIK - BUDVA – TIRANA (180 KM)

#### DUBROVNIK (B/L/D)

0800HRS Breakfast at hotel.

0900HRSStart with full day sightseeing of Dubrovnik. We will explore the finest sites of the Old Walled City. Walking through the old town we will see the Franciscan Monastery with Europe's third oldest pharmacy, the Rector's Palace and the Cathedral. 1200HRS Lunch at local restaurant.Free at own leisure. (optionalboatride and cable car)

1300HRS Continue journey to Budva - the old Mediterranean port, surrounded by an impressive city wall built by Republic of Venice. 1435HRS Arrival in Budva and start with sightseeing of the city with the Venetian influenced remains that are dominant among the architectural influences.

1900HRS Arrival in Tirana,

Arrival to Tirana, and depending on the time of the arrival transfer to hotel (4\* or 5\* depending of the wishes of the group) and accomodation. Also regarding the wishes of the group in Balkan tour, city walk, wisting the Skanderbeg square, EthemBey Mosque and national history museum before having coffe in the bllok area.By the demands of theguest on Balkan tour lunch or dinner in the town in one of the traditional restaurants, or at the hotel.

Overnight in the hotel.

#### DAY 05 TIRANA – DEPARTURE (Breakfast included)

Breakfast at hotel. Check-out the hotel. Departure to the airport

COST INCLUDES:

Program Includes :

- Accommodation for 4Nights on BB basis at selected Category
- All land transport by A/C Modern equipped Coach DVD , Screen ,
- All Sightseeing with entrance fees as above Itinerary Entrance fees from day 1 up to day 5
- Professional English speaking Guide ( high quality of Politeness , experienced with Far East Market ) One Pax in SGL free of charge
- All (Breakfasts as mentioned in above Itinerary
- COST EXCLUDES:
- Visa fares if required / Tips (not compulsory) / Health Insurances
- Expenses of a personal nature

CONDITIONS:

- Prices are valid for tours commencing and completed including and within the dates specified
- Prices are total sharing a double room
- Rates are subject to availability at the time of making the reservation.
- Changes to the chronology of the tour may be made as required based on arrival and departure times
- Prices given will apply to a single person on tour

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<u>C O R F U</u>

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#### Day 01:

#### CorfuApt-Corfu.

Arrival in Corfu APT.

Meet with our Spanish speaking local guide and driver and transfer by bus at the hotel Accommodation and overnight in CORFU

#### Day 02: Corfu

Transfer by bus to the Achillion Palace

The Achillion Palace is ideally located in the picturesque village of Gastouri. This magnificent Palace was built in 1890 exclusively for Elizabeth (Sissy), the former Empress of Austria. The palace used to serve as the summer retreat of the Empress.Lunch will be organised at a local restaurant

#### Old Town of Corfu

The Old Town of Corfu, on the Island of Corfu off the western coasts of Albania and Greece, is located in a strategic position at the entrance of the Adriatic Sea, and has its roots in the 8th century BC. The three forts of the town, designed by renowned Venetian engineers, were used for four centuries to defend the maritime trading interests of the Republic of Venice against the Ottoman Empire. In the course of time, the forts were repaired and partly rebuilt several times, more recently under British rule in the 19th century. The mainly neoclassical housing stock of the Old Town is partly from the Venetian period, partly of later construction, notably the 19th century. As a fortified Mediterranean port, Corfu's urban and port ensemble is notable for its high level of integrity and authenticity.

Accommodation and overnight in CORFU

#### Day 03: Corfu – Butrinti – Gjirokastra – Berat

09.00 Arrival in Saranda

09.30 – 11.00 Visit Butrinti National Park

This impressive walking tour will stir your imagination about the ancient word during the peak of the Roman power and the classical Greek mythology. Inhabited since prehistoric times, Butrint has been the site of a Greek colony, a Roman city and a bishopric. Following a period of prosperity under Byzantine administration, then a brief occupation by the Venetians, the city was abandoned in the late Middle Ages after marshes formed in the area. The present archaeological site is a repository of ruins representing each period in the city's development. Butrint National Park was inscribed on the National Heritage List of Protected Monuments in 1948.

11.30 – 13.00 Drive to Gjirokastra

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch at a local restaurant in Gjirokastra

14.00 – 16.00 Start the city tour of Gjirokastra. Known for its unique

architecture, this Unesco World Heritage Site will offer something interesting for everyone. The highlights of the Old Town, include the castle, its weapons museum and breathtaking views, the bazaar area, the ethnographic museum.

16.00 – 19.00 Drive towards Berat Accomodation at the hotel and prepare for dinner

480 EUR

#### BALLKAN PROGRAME START FROM CORFU



#### Day 04: Berat – Ohrid

08.00 – 09.00 Breakfast in the hotel and start with the visit of the fortress 09.00 – 11.30 Walking tour of Berat FortressBerat, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is known as the "Museum City of Albania". Berat lies on the sides on the Osum River with a backdrop of Mount Tomorr. Additionally a 2,500 year old castle overlooks the city with numerous, high architectural and historical stone neighborhoods below. 12.00 – 13.30 Time for optional lunch

13.30 – 17.00 Drive towards Ohrid – Macedonia, with stop en route for refreshments (border procedures included) Accommodation and overnight in OHRID

#### Day 05: Ohrid – Bitola – Skopje

07.30 – 08.30 Breakfast and check out of the hotel



08.30 – 11.00 OHRID - At the lake side resort of Ohrid, classified as a UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage site. Thanks to the activity of St. Clement and St Naum of Ohrid, the first Pan-Slavic University in Europe - the famous Ohrid Literary School was founded here. Morning sightseeing tour includes the church of St Sofia (11th century), the most eminent medieval monument in Macedonia with magnificent Byzantine fresco paintings, and St Clement's Church with its icon of Annunciation.

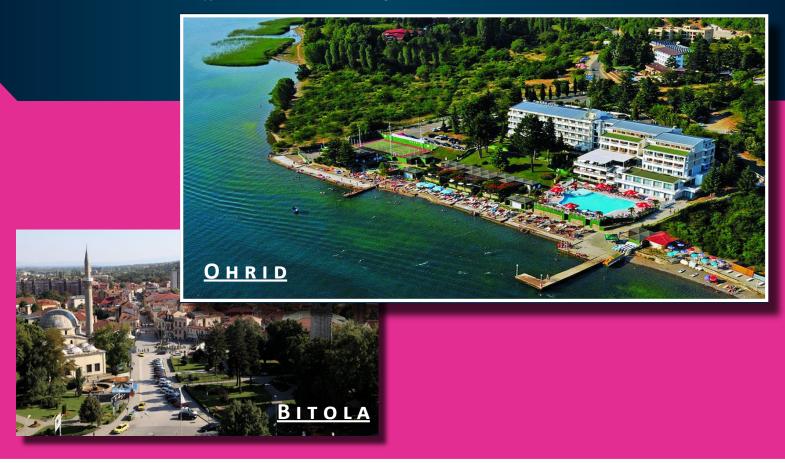
11.00 – 12.30 Transfer by bus to Bitola

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch at a local restaurant

13.30 – 14.30 Free time in the main boulevard of Bitola, SirokSokak

14.30 – 15.30 Visit Heraklea (description tour) – Famous for its dazzling mosaics, ancient theater and Roman baths, Heraclea is the most vividly preserved city from the Ancient Macedonian empire surviving in the country. Founded in the 4th century B.C.E. and conquered by the Romans two centuries later, it was built on the Via Egnatia and became one of the key stations on this trading route. From the 4th-6th centuries C.E. Heraclea also had an Episcopal seat. Beautiful Roman baths, the Episcopal church and baptistery, a Jewish temple, portico and a Roman theater now used for summer concerts and theater shows all survive in excellent condition.

15.30 – 18.00 Bus transfer to Skopje Accommodation and overnight in SKOPJE



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Sky Tour

#### Day 06: Skopje – Tetovo – Mavrovo – Tirana

07.00 – 08.00 After breakfast in hotel, check out and start with city tour of Skopje.

08.00 – 10.00 Panoramic City tour of Skopje.

SKOPJE – It is a city in the west where you can find the signs of East as it was under the rule of Ottoman Empire for a long time. We spend some time in the old town visiting the Daud Pasha baths once the largest baths in Balkans now the City Art Galery, the imposing Mustafa Pasha Mosque or the bustling old market area.

10.00 – 11.00 Bus transfer to Tetovo

11.00 – 11.30 Visit the famous SarenaDzamija. The ŠarenaDžamija was originally built in 1438. The architect behind the ŠarenaDžamija was IsakBey. Most mosques of the time had sultans, beys or pashas' financing their constructions, but the ŠarenaDžamija was financed by two sisters from Tetovo.

11.30 – 12.00 Bus transfer to Mavrovo National Park where we can enjoy not only the beautiful panorama, but we can visit one of the important religious Monastery of St. John Forerunner Bigorski .

12.00 – 13.00 St. Jovan Bigorski is a 19th century monastery standing on the slopes of Debar's Mt. Bistra, above the banks of the River Radika, surrounded by dense woods and rocky hills. While relatively new, St. Jovan was constructed over the remains of an older church dating from 1021. Since the monastery is dedicated to St. Jovan the Baptist, worshippers believe that icons with his image are blessed with a miraculous healing power.

13.00 – 14.30 Time for lunch at Etno Restaurant in Janche

14.30 – 18.30 Continue driving to Tirana with stop n route to Elbasan for refreshment (Border procedures included).

Accommodation and overnight in TIRANA (2 nights)

Day 7: Tirana – Durres – Kruja – Tirana

07.00 – 08.00 Breakfast at the hotel and depart for Durres

08.00 – 09.00 Transfer by bus to Durres

09.00 – 11.30 Explore the ruins of town forum, roman baths, city centre, town hall, Roman Amphitheater, byzantine walls, Venetian tower and archaeological museum, a panoramic display of discoveries and urban planning of this once important city.

11.30 – 12.30 Transfer by bus to Kruja

#### 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch at a local restaurant in Kruja

KRUJA (description tour) – Kruja is considered one of the principal old town and is' one of the most glorious cities in Albania. The walking tour takes you through the Ottoman bazaar, wooden shops and displays various gifts and antique items for the home. Visit the castle walls, Historical Museum dedicated Skanderbeg, and an old house converted into an ethnographic museum, invites you to a special cultural aspect of life in northern Albania

16.00 – 17.00 Drive back to Tirana

City Tour of Tirana. We shall explore the capital city of Albania, including some of the historical highlights, as city centre, Skenderbeg Statue, Et'hembey mosque, Clock tower, Italian buildings and Martyrs of the Nation Boulevard. Visit the ex-communist buildings, painted with vibrant colors and the expansion of city.Prepare for dinner Accommodation and overnight in TIRANA (2 nights)



THE MUSTAFA PASHA MOSQUE



<u>A p o l l o n i a</u>

#### Day 8: Tirana – Apt

Breakfast at the hotel, check out and departure for Tirana Airport.

Schedule Day 01: Corfu Apt–Corfu Day 02: Corfu Day 03: Corfu-Butrinti-Gjirokastra-Berat Day 04: Berat–Ohrid Day 05: Ohrid-Bitola-Skopje Day 06: Skopje–Tetovo–Mavrovo–Tirana Day 07: Tirana–Durres–Kruja–Tirana Day 08: Tirana-Apt

#### Notes

Highlights

- The National Historic Museum
- The Statue Of GjergjKastrioti Skanderbeg
- •The Mosques Of HaxhiEt'hemBey
- Mother Theresa House
- •The Turkish Bazar
- •The Mustafa Pasha Mosques
- •The Davut Pasha Baths
- Stone Bridge
- •The Ancient Roman Theater
- •The Roman Baths
- The Episcopal Church And Baptisery
- •The Jewish Temple
- •The Portico
- St.BogorodicaPerivlepta
- •St. Kliment Church
- •St. Sophia Cathedral
- The Ancient City Of Butrinti
- The Tample Of Aesculapius
- •The Baptisery
- •The Nympheum The Gate With Towers
- The Castle

Good to know

**Reservations & Payments** 

- Early reservations are essential
- Deposits and all payments may be made by bank transfer or credit card (Visa, MasterCard)
- •A deposit of 30% of the total amount is required as a deposit at the time of reservation
- •One month prior to departure BALANCE DUE
- •No cancellation policy applied 90 days prior to tour departure.
- Failure to submit final payment by the above-noted deadlines may result in automatic cancellation of
- space & forfeiture of non-refundable deposits Program Includes :
- Accommodation for 8 Nights on HB basis at hotel offered below
- •All land transport by A/C Modern equipped Coach DVD , Screen , MIC , Toilette
- •All Sightseeing with entrance fees as above Itinerary Entrance fees from day 1 up to day 8.
- Professional English speaking Guides ( high quality of Politeness , experienced with far east Market )
- •One Pax in SGL free of charge
- All meals (Breakfast Lunch Dinner) as mentioned in above Itinerary Program excludes :
- Extra meals or Drinks not mentioned above
- Tips and Personal expenses Ps. The rates are valid for minimum 20 pax.



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## **BALKANS, IN WHOLE**

#### DAY 01 SARAJEVO (TIRANA - SARAJEVO 400 KM)

Arrival at Sarajevo International Airport, meet and greet by Tour Escort and Driver. Star tour - visit War Museum and Springs of VreloBosne. Lunch at local restaurant. Transfer to check-in hotel. Free at leisure.

Dinner at hotel. Overnight in Sarajevo.

DAY 02 SARAJEVO – MOSTAR- DUBROVNIK (206 KM) SARAJEVO – MOSTAR (B/L/D) 0700HRS Breakfast at hotel.

0800HRS Proceed for city tour of Sarajevo; visit Bascarsija old town with cobbled streets, numerous Mosques and oriental shops, Latin Bridge where assignation of Franz Ferdinand took place, Morica Han, the only preserved style inn in Sarajevo and much more - the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Free time for souveniers.

1400HRS Proceed to Mostar. Half way to Mostar, we stop in the beautiful small town of Konjic on the river of Neretva. Short sightseeing of the town. Proceed for the city tour with fascinating history, beautiful architecture and natural setting in a valley on Neretva river banks. Start with sightseeing; visit Old bridge (UNESCO World heritage), Bey's Mosque, Oriental bazar and Turkish house.We make way to Pocitelj, a small town in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the left bank of river Neretva. Experience the unique architecture of the town that was an administrative centre of governance for the region 1500HRS Stop for lunch at local restaurant

Continue journey to Dubrovnik (approximately +/- 5 hours) 2000HRS Upon arrival, transfer to check-in hotel.

2100HRS Dinner at hotel.

Overnight in Dubrovnik.

DAY 03 DUBROVNIK - BUDVA – TIRANA (180 KM) DUBROVNIK (B/L/D)

0800HRS Breakfast at hotel.

0900HRSStart with full day sightseeing of Dubrovnik. We will explore the finest sites of the Old Walled City. Walking through the old town we will see the Franciscan Monastery with Europe's third oldest pharmacy, the Rector's Palace and the Cathedral.

1200HRS Lunch at local restaurant.

Free at own leisure. (optionalboatride and cable car)

1300HRS Continue journey to Budva - the old Mediterranean port, surrounded by an impressive city wall built by Republic of Venice.

1435HRS Arrival in Budva and start with sightseeing of the city with the Venetian influenced remains that are dominant among the architectural influences.

1900HRS Arrival in Tirana, proceed for half day sightseeing of the city and visit of most important attractions like Skanderbeg Square, Skanderbeg Statue, Et'hemBey Mosque, Clock Tower. Overnight inTirana.

DAY 04 TIRANA – OHRID (135 KM)

TIRANA – OHRID (B/L/D) 0700HRS Breakfast in hotel.

0800HRS Heading to the capital of Albania, the city of Tirana.

14:00HRS Lunch in local restaurant1500HRS departure to Ohrid19300HRS Transfer to check-in the hotel.2000HRS Dinner at hotel.Overnight in Ohrid.









#### DAY 05 OHRID –BITOLA -SKOPJE (180 KM)

0800HRS Breakfast at hotel.

0900HRS Proceed for tour in Ohrid and half day boat ride on the oldest lake to place St. Naum, where we will have a ride with small boats on the springs of river Drim.

1300HRS Lunch in a restaurant near the springs.

Time for leisure and shopping. Opportunity to buy famous Ohrid pearl. In Bitola you will also find many different buildings, restaurants, and shops reflecting the Turkish, Mediterranean, Macedonian, Albanian, Muslim, and Orthodox cultures that peacefully co-exist within the city too. In fact, the ShirokSokak Street is the primary pedestrian area offering up a sample of almost all of the different influences from the region. It is here that so many travelers come to enjoy the cafes, historic sites, museums, parks, schools, fountains, and "people watching" that makes Bitola travel so remarkable and enjoyable.

1530HRS Follow drive to Skopje. On our way to Skopje, we will

visit Tetovo where we will visit unique Painted Mosque from XV century and Arabati Baba Tekke.

Upon arrival Skopje, we start with panoramic sightseeing.

1800HRS Transfer to hotel for check-in. Free at leisure.

2000HRS Dinner at hotel.Overnight Skopje.

#### DAY 06 SKOPJE -- NIS -BELGRADE(400 KM)

#### SKOPJE – BELGRADE (B/L)

0800HRS After breakfast, start with half day sightseeing of the city Skopje, the largest city and capital of Macedonia. The tour starts from the Citadel from where you have excellent panoramic view of the city centre, follows Mustafa Pasha mosque from 15th century, entering the second largest Turkish bazaar on the Balkan. Tour continues to central city square where dominant site is Alexander the great fountain; walk through Macedonia street towards the old Railway station witness of earthquake in 1969. 1330HRS Lunch at local restaurant. Overnight inBelgrade.

BELGRADE



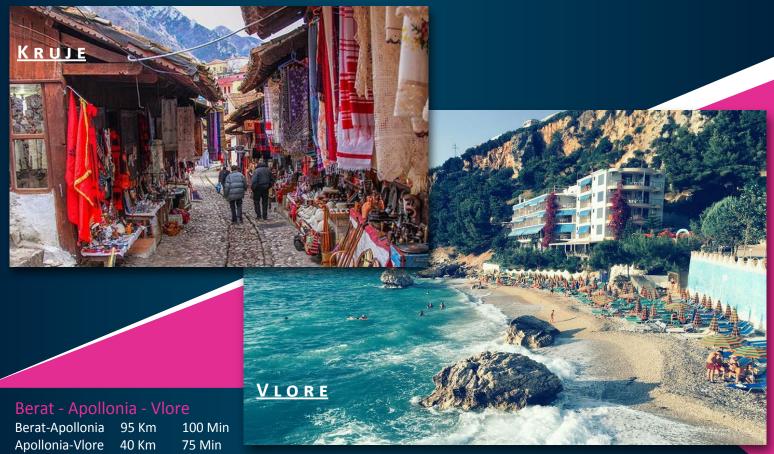
#### Tirana Tour

(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included)

Breakfast. We leave for Tirana. City tours with a local guide. Lunch for restaurant. After lunch we leave to Durres. Walk in the old city. Accommodate. Dinner. Night.

#### Kruja - Durres - Tirane

Breakfast in at the hotel. The City tour of Kruja. The walking tour of Kruja will take you through the cobble stone pathway of Ottoman bazaar, with wooden shops and displays of various gifts and antique household items. Visit within the walls of the castle will include the historic museum dedicated to Scanderbeg and his resistance against the Ottoman invasion. An old house turned to an ethnographic museum will invite you to a unique cultural aspect of life in northern Albania. Lunch at Panorama restaurant near the Bazaar. City tour of Durres. Explore the ruins of the town forum, the Roman baths, the city centre, the Town Hall, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Byzantine walls, the Venetian tower and archaeological museum, a panoramic display of discoveries and urban planning of this once an important-city. Back to Tirana. Walk on your own along the castle walls to Tanners Bridge.



Known as the city of 1000 windows because of the southern orientation of all its houses built on the hillside, Berat is a town-museum which demonstrates the coexistence of different religious and cultural communities. It has beautiful sloping cobbled streets lined with old Ottoman houses with beautiful carved doors, many Byzantine churches with murals and icons 12-15 centuries, a 13th century citadel overlooking the city and the river Osum. In the morning at first, we will see the Citadel.

river Osum. The small stone houses and narrow streets look like they are glued to the side of the mountain. In the afternoon, we visit Apollonia archeological park. Apollonia was an important city founded in the 6th century BC. The fame of the city attracted many personalities as the eminent roman philosopher and orator Cicero. The city grew rich on the slave trade and local agriculture, as well as its large harbor, said to have been able to hold a hundred ships at a time. The city also benefited from the local supply of asphalt. Its' decline, however, began in the 3rd century AD, when an earthquake changed the path of the river Aoos. For accommodation, we will travel a to the second largest port, Vlore.



#### Butrinti – Gjirokastra

DURRES

Saranda-Butrinti 28 Km 45 Min Butrinti-Gjirokastra 90 Km 2.5 Hours

Lovers of history and archeology, will be very happy to explore the large ruins of ancient city of Butrint. Butrint lies 18 km (11 mi) south of Saranda and is a real gem if the ancient world fascinates you. The remains are spanning over 2500 years. The park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the most important archaeological sites in the country. It contains different artifacts and structures which date from the Bronze Age up until the 19th century. A number of major monuments are still intact including the city walls, late-antique baptistery, great basilica, theatre and Venetian castle. The walk through the park will give you good idea how large the city has been in its' glory days and how well had our predecessors placed it. Over the sea canal you will see the Ali Pashas castle. On our return, we will stop for an optional lunch and amazing view of the whole region in Lekursi castle. It is located on the hill top overlooking Saranda, island Corfu

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Tour description

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KRUJA

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Take a chance to get to know two beautiful cities in Albania: Kruje and Tirana. Kruje provides to the visitors the great view of majestic landscape and a rich collection of historical and cultural objects. While Tirana, being the capital has something to offer for everyone.

Meet with the group and leave Tirana at 9:30 am. You will be driven towards the historical town of Kruja. Kruja is located 32 km northwest of Durres and 45 minutes by car from Tirana. Kruja rises on the slopes of Sari - Salltiku Mountain. It provides to the visitors the great view of majestic landscape and a rich collection of historical and cultural objects. The most important is the castle of Kruja, which was built during the 5th and 6th centuries. The surrounding walls are reinforced by nine towers, which served as an observation and signaling post during times of war. Within the walls of the castle there can still be found the remains of a few houses. Start your walking tour of Kruje, through the narrow streets of the medieval well preserved Old Bazaar. Once inside the city walls you will visit the fortress, the Ethnographic Museum, the Museum of George Kastriot Skanderbeg, the Albanian National Hero. Time for lunch in a traditional restaurant where you will enjoy delicious food. Return to Tirana. Tirana became capital of Albania in 1920 and is the largest city of Albania. Your tour starts from the Main Boulevard at Skenderbeg Square. Here you can visit the National theater, Skanderbeg Statue (dedicated to the National Hero), Historic Museum, Cultural Palace, Et'hemBey Mosque, Clock Tower and going through the Boulevard to the Pyramid, built in 1988 as a museum for EnverHoxha, dictator of the period. End of service.

#### What's included

- Transport with a/c vehicle
- City Tour of Tirane and Kruje
- Driver/ Guide
- Hotel pickup and drop-off
- Entrance fees in mentioned monuments and museums.

#### Highlights

- Step back in time on a history tour
- All entrance fees included
- Explore the local streets on a walking tour of the city
- Perfect for all ages and skill level
- Enjoy fantastic aerial views
- What's not included
- Meals and drinks
- Personal expenses
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional activity costs

#### More info

- Duration: 1 day
- Departs: Tirana central location
- Returns: Returns to original departure point



#### <u>TIRANA</u>

TIRANA SIGHTSEEING WALKING TOUR WALKING & BIKING TOURS IN TIRANA



35 eur/pp

#### **Tour description**

It is a great pleasure to visit Tirana during all seasons. The city attracts visitors from all over the world. The tourists reach here to have a look over the ancient historical architectures and monuments that remain intact in the heart of the city. Tirana is the capital of Albania and enjoys a beautiful setting between the ranges of Dajti Mountain from one side and the coastal plains on the other one. Tirana is 110 m above sea level. Tirana is on the same parallel as Naples, Madrid and Istanbul and on the same meridian as Budapest and Krakow. The city of Tirana, is located on a plain on the site of a Byzantine fortress and has been the capital since 1920. Tirana is a city in the grip of change, a city moving forwards despite a harsh past and an economically rocky present.

Start the tour from Skanderbeg Square, (photo stop at Skanderbeg's Monument), National Museum (the huge mosaic on front represent the Albanian history development and the stages of this development are presented on respective pavilions). Then you continue to see other important buildings: Palace of Culture/Opera/National Library, Mosque of EthemBey, the Clock Tower, Tirana Castle, Parliament, Ura e Tabakeve, National Art Gallery, mean government buildings, catholic and orthodox cathedrals, the Pyramid, Prime Minister building, Palace of congresses, Mother Teresa Square, Archaeological Museum (there are presented many archaeological discoveries since the Stone Age up to the Medieval), Presidential palace, Ex-Blloku (which used to be the most beautiful and protected zone were the ex-communist leaders families lived). Visit the Cold War corner (one Bunker, part of famous Spac Political Prison, and a piece from Berlin Wall). Walk back to finish the tour in center.

TIRANA

#### Price:

- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant

#### What's included

- Local guide
- Walking tour

#### What's not included

- Entrance fees
- Transportation to/from attractions
- Hotel pickup and drop-off
- Gratuities (optional)

#### Highlights

• Excellent value for money





the holiday and flight specialist

#### More info

- Duration: 1 days
- Departs: Tirana central location
- Returns: Returns to original departure point
- What's included
- Hotel pick up,
- Professional guide,
- Private transportation in A/C vehicle during the entire itinerary,
- Hotel Drop Off

#### What's not included

- Meals & Beverages
- Entrance fees to the museums

#### Price:

- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant



#### What's included

- Transport with a/c vehicle
- City Tour of Berat
- Driver/ Guide
- •Hotel pickup and drop-off
- Entrance fees to the Museum of Iconography 'Onufri', the Ethnographic Museum, and Castle of
- Berat.

#### What's not included

- Meals and drinks
- Personal expenses
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional activity costsHighlights
- Enjoy fantastic aerial views
- Step back in time on a history tour
- Comprehensive tour by bus/coach.
- All entrance fees included

- BERAT FULL DAY TRIP FROM TIRANA • 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
  - 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant

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- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant

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#### BERATI

## 35 EUR

#### More info

- Duration: 1 days
- Departs: Tirana central location
- Returns: Returns to original departure point

#### TIRANA



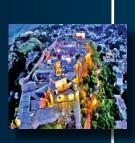


### GJIROKASTRA FULL-DAY TOUR



#### Tour description

The hillside town of Gjirokastra is defined by its castle, cobbled narrow roads full of character, imposing slate roof houses and magnificent views over the Drina Valley. Dive in the amazing past of this great town and immerse yourself into the present. We will have the chance to see walk the narrow cobble streets of the medieval bazaar and Ottoman-style houses where artisan women will be making doilies as well as carving wood and silver. Following this, we will have the unique experience of visiting the locals in their own homes and being treated with traditional, stone-ground coffee as well as "mountain tea".



We will continue our tour in other quarters of Gjirokastra, including a visit to the castle itself. We will then have the chance to taste regional food cooked by locals. Before we finish off our tour, we will visit the historic Skenduli House, built in 1700 (most likely being shown around by MrSkenduli himself) and the Ethnographic Museum. After completing the tour, you'll have free time to explore the city as you wish, either by relaxing with a coffee and enjoying the view or exploring more of the history that Gjirokastra has to offer.



#### Price:

- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant



#### What's included

- Admission ticket
- Traditional coffee (grinded in stone) and mountain tea drinks

#### What's not included

Food and drinks



#### More info

- Departure Point: In front of Hotel Cajupi, Gjirokastra.
- Departure Time: 8:30 am
- Return Details: In front of Hotel Cajupi, Gjirokastra.



For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours in advance of the start date of the experience.



#### **Tour description**

Leaving on coach from the city center, some 15 minutes later we reach the Castle of Lekuresi, located on the hill over the city of Saranda. The castle was build in the beginning of 17th C and is at 600 meters above sea level. From the site of the newly reconstructed Castle, one can admire the amazing views of the Lake of Butrint, the mountainous surrounding region, as well as, the Ionian & Adriatic seas and the coastline of the beautiful island of Corfu opposite. After some free time at the castle, the tour continues inland, giving you a good impression of the countryside of Albania. On the way you will pass by the village Mesopotami, well known because of it's old monastery, build in 1200. The bus reaches the fresh water springs of Blue Eye some 40 minutes later. The National Park of Blue Eye is situated between the cities of Saranda and Gjirokaster. Within this park, 17 very deep and cold natural fresh water springs "wells" can be found. The most beautiful of them will be visited during the tour.



#### Itinerary

- 12:00 Departure from the city center.
- 12:15 Arrival to Lekuresi Castle photo stop.
- 12:45 Departure from Lekuresi Castle.
- 13:45 Arrival at Blue Eye Park & visit.
- 14:30 Coffee break.
- 15:00 Departure for Saranda.
- 16:00 Arrival in Saranda& walking tour of the city of Saranda.
- 16:30 Arrival back at city center.

#### More info

#### Duration: 4 ½ hours

- Advice to clients: Bring your camera and wear comfortable shoes. Price:
- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant



### **DURRES DAY TOUR**



#### **Tour description**

Immerse yourself in the ancient past of Durres and explore the amazing monuments of classical antiquity. Get an in depth view of the local history with private guide and learn how the city was considered the "Tavern of the Adriatic". Visit one of the biggest Roman Amphitheater in the Balkans and the Byzantine Chapel inside of it. Explore the Archaeological and Ethnographic Museums of Durres. Walk along the Venetian Tower and the Byzantine wall, "the old-and-new-in the same time". Perfect for all ages. Your trip starts at 9:00 at the "Liria" Square. Explore the city's 1930's architecture as you walk along the boulevard. Visit the Ethnographic Museum and its artifacts displayed on the second floor of a traditional house from the 19th century. It exhibits authentic objects of hand-crafts as well as a rich collection of Albanian traditional costumes. Next, you will visit the Roman Amphitheater from the 2nd century AD, built during the reign of the Emperor Trajan as one of the biggest amphitheaters in Balkans. The Roman Amphitheater and the city of Durrës are unusual for their extraordinary degree of preservation, particularly for its large stretches of undisturbed stratigraphy. About a third of the amphitheater was not set on man-made supports, but on natural ones, utilizing a precipitous hillside to support its northern seating, or cavea. On the way to the archaeological museum you can admire the Byzantine Wall, an engineering masterpiece, built during the reign of Emperor Anastasius ( VI century AD ) whose origin was from Durres, and the seaside promenade enjoying the fresh air and the view of the largest bay in Albania. The Byzantine Chapel is our next stop. An early Christian chapel built into the western side of the amphitheater. Its western alcove preserves a unique poly-chromatic mosaic representing Christian iconography in almost their natural sizes. Archaeological Museum – If you're interested in Durres history, or even just curious about it, Durres Archaeological Museum has some of the best exhibits. Having a guide at your side as you explore means you can ask as many questions as you like! The Venetian Tower and the Byzantine stretch of wall – A 15th cent intervention done to the byzantine fortification of the city. A flight of stairs takes you to the roof which gives you the opportunity to watch the seaside and the surroundings of the old city.

#### Itinerary

9:00 - Meeting with the guide at "Liria" Square
9:00 - 9: 30 - Exploring the City Center and the Historical Boulevard
9:30 - 10:00 - Visit the Ethnographic Museum
10: 15 - 11:00 - Visit the Roman Amphitheater
11:00 - 12:00 - Walking along the Byzantine wall, visit the Venetian
Tower and seaside promenade
12:15 - 13:00 - Visit the Archaeological Museum
14:00 - The end of the Program

#### Price:

- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant

#### What's included

- Professional Guide.
- Entrance fees into all historical sites.

#### What's not included

- Lunch
- Drinks

#### More info

- Duration: 5 hours
- Departs: "Liria" Square, Durres
- Returns: "Liria" Square, Durres

**35 EUR** 



#### **Tour description**

This day trip is for active people who enjoy hiking to the top and receive stunning views in return. We start the trip with a panoramic cable car ride to the National park, after which we will follow a trail through the oak forest, until we reach the peak of Tujani. After a snack we will walk down, back to the park where you can enjoy a refreshment or a good lunch at one of the many nice restaurants. Tirana, Albania's capital, extends westwards from the foothills of Mount Dajti, 1612 meters high. A visit to the Dajti National Park is a great way to spend a day in an attractive mountainous landscape outside and literally 'above' the city. This tour starts with a relaxed trip up the mountain with the Dajti Express cable car gondolas, which offers a great view over Tirana and its surroundings.

Once we arrive at the top, the tour hits a well-trodden trail that winds through the oak forest to the Cherry Pass, which runs between the two peaks of Dajti. The tour continuesfurther along the trail, with continuous views of the western lowlands of Albania and the Adriatic coast. The trail leads to the peak of Tujani (1,580 m), which is the highest point that can be reached by foot. From the peak, the panorama broadens inland and you can enjoy the beautiful panorama of Lake Bovilla locked between the mountains and the remote highlands of Tirana, dominated by the St. Mary Miçek Mountain. After a snack break near the peak, we start walking back towards the cable car station for another quick ride

to Tirana. There are many nice restaurants in Mount Dajti. Those who would like to enjoy lunch at any of these restaurants are free to do so at their own expense.

#### More info

Participant guidelines You should note that there could be weather changes in the mountains. Therefore, it is recommended that you wear appropriate shoes for a walk in the mountains (hiking shoes or trainers) and carry an extra layer (preferably wind and water proof) in case of any weather change.



#### What's included

- English speaking guide
- Cable-car ticket
- Transport from the pick-up location in Tirana to cable car and back

#### What's not included

- Meals and drinks
- Bank transfer fees
- If you wish to pay by creditcard or PayPal there is a 4,5% service charge

#### What to bring

You are requested to bring sun block and enough water.

#### Notes

This is a group activity; you are requested to respect the advice of the guide and stay in a group.Departs: Tirana city center, at the Clock Tower.

## DAJTI MOUNTAIN

## Discover the best Trip

35 EUR





#### **Tour description**

Get out of Tirana and experience the varied countryside of Albania on this full-day tour. Depart from your hotel with a guide and visit a farm in a former anti-missile rocket settlement. Explore the farm and learn about Albanian farming. Sample local wine, raki, and cheese. Make your way to Lalezi Bay and swim at the beach. Stop by some of Albania's many bunkers and learn about their history from your guide. After morning pickup at your hotel in Tirana, drive towards Marikaj to visit a farm situated in a former antimissile rocket settlement. Spend about one hour exploring the farm and lake, and learn about Albania's farmingtraditions. Try local goods including wine that has been aged in a bunker, raki, and cheese.

Continue north to Lalezi Bay, which boasts an expansive sandy beach and small seafood restaurants where you can purchase lunch. Have a couple of hours to eat and swim, then drive to Cape Rodoni to visit another set of bunkers, built to protect Albania from an attack approach by sea. You'll also stop to see the beautiful old Catholic church and take a break to for a swim.

#### Price:

- 35 Euro per persons for minimum 4 participants
- 40 Euros per person for minimum 3 participant
- 50 Euro per persons for minimum 2 participants
- 85 Euro for 1 participant

At the end of about nine hours, your guide returns you to Tirana.

#### What's included

- Entrance fees
- Fuel surcharge
- Local taxes
- Bottled water
- Wine tasting
- Local guide
- Hotel pickup and drop-off

#### What's not included

- Alcoholic drinks (available to purchase)
- Lunch
- Souvenir photos (available to purchase)

#### More info

Departure Point: Tirana or locations in Central Albania (at additional costs for pickup and drop-off) Departure Time: Usually 8:30am after pickup of everyone from different locations and hotels in Tirana Return Details: Original departure point

- Confirmation will be received within 48 hours of booking, subject to availability
- Children must be accompanied by an adult
- Adult pricing applies to all travelers

# FULL-DAY TOUR of ALBANIA'S

35 eurpp

