

## Travel Program Albania

Welcome!

Dear Guests,

I am delighted to welcome you at Tirana Airport.

From here, we begin our adventure in Albania! Our first stop will be Elbasan, where we will arrive after about an hour's drive (approx. 56 km) and spend the night.

### Day 1

After a hearty breakfast, we will set off to visit the historic Egnatia Road and the impressive fortress in Elbasan. Here, you will dive into Albania's history and learn more about King Morsia.

We then continue to Korça, known as the "Little Paris" of Albania. We will explore the bazaar, city center, Orthodox Cathedral, the Icon Museum, and relax with a fresh beer from Albania's oldest brewery. In the evening, we drive to Pogradec, where we will spend the night.

### Day 2

After breakfast, we will enjoy a walk along the picturesque Lake Ohrid and visit the charming village of Tushemisht near the North Macedonian border.

On the way back, there is an option to stop in Berat and enjoy a fresh fish meal in "Fish City."

### Day 3

Today, Berat, the "City of a Thousand Windows," is on the program. We will visit the historic fortress, the Mangalem and Gorica quarters, as well as the country's oldest bridge. We will spend the night in Berat.

### Day 4

After breakfast, we head to Gjirokaster (approx. 3 hours drive), an impressive city known as the "Stone City." Along the way, we enjoy the ride along the wild Vjosa River, Europe's last untouched river. Upon arrival in Gjirokaster, we will visit the fortress with breathtaking views and spend the night there.

## Day 5

Today, we visit the natural phenomenon "Blue Eye" (approx. 1-hour drive) and, if interested, the ancient city of Butrint. After that, we relax on the beach of Ksamil, a true paradise.

In the evening, we drive to Saranda, enjoy the promenade along the Ionian Sea, and visit the largest synagogue excavation outside Israel. Dinner will be at the fortress of Saranda, offering a magnificent view. Overnight stay in Saranda.

## Day 6

After breakfast, we drive along the coast to Vlora (approx. 3 hours drive). If desired, we will stop at the fortress of Porto Palermo, once built by Ali Pasha. We will take a lunch break in Himara.

There is also an option to visit the Llogara National Park. In the evening, we reach Vlora and stay overnight there.

## Day 7

After breakfast, we explore the city of Vlora before continuing to Durrës (approx. 2 hours drive). In Durrës, we will visit the ancient city walls, the amphitheater, and the Roman baths. Overnight stay in Durrës.

## Day 8

In the morning, we drive to Tirana, where we take a cable car up Mount Dajti and enjoy a fantastic view of the Adriatic coast. Those interested can also go on a hike (Cable car closed on Mondays).

If desired, we can visit one of the two bunkers that provide insight into Albania's communist history. To conclude, we enjoy a traditional lunch in Tirana before returning to Elbasan for our overnight stay.

## Day 9 - Departure Day

If time permits, we will relax once more at the beach before heading back to the airport, saying our goodbyes with the hope of seeing each other again soon.

Total Distance: Approx. 980 km

Best regards,

Your Tour Guide

Florim Kajtazi