



Albania - The Soul of the Balkans

1st -8th November, 2025

Itinerary Overview: Day 1 – Arrival & Welcome in Berat

Our journey begins at Malta International Airport, where the group will meet and check in with our dedicated tour leader for the outbound direct flight to Tirana, Albania. Upon arrival at Tirana International Airport, we will collect our luggage, purchase local SIM cards if needed, and exchange currency. We then embark on a scenic drive to the charming city of Berat. After checking in at our hotel, we will enjoy an introductory orientation walk through Berat's picturesque old town, guided by our tour leader. The evening is free for you to unwind, explore at your leisure, or enjoy dinner at one of the local restaurants.

Itinerary Overview: Day 2 – Bogova Waterfall & Osumi Canyon

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, we set off for a day immersed in natural beauty. Our first stop is the stunning Bogova Waterfall. Weather permitting, you may wish to bring swimwear and take a refreshing dip in the crystal-clear waters. Following some time to relax and explore, we will enjoy a leisurely lunch at a local spot en route. In the afternoon, we continue to the breathtaking Osumi Canyon viewpoint, where you can take in the dramatic landscapes and capture memorable photos. We then return to our hotel in Berat after a two-hour scenic drive.

The evening is yours to enjoy at your own pace, whether dining locally or simply relaxing.

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Itinerary Overview: Day 3 – Blue Eye Spring & Gjirokastër

After breakfast, we embark on a scenic journey toward one of Albania's most famous natural attractions—the Blue Eye (Syri i Kaltër). This mesmerizing freshwater spring is known for its vibrant turquoise waters and mystical depth. A charming tourist train ride is included to take us closer to the site, adding a fun and memorable touch to the experience. We then continue with a drive to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Gjirokastër, often referred to as the "Stone City" for its distinctive Ottoman architecture. You will have free time to wander through its cobbled streets, explore the historic bazaar, or visit the imposing hilltop castle. In the late afternoon, we return to Berat for our final night in this enchanting city.

Itinerary Overview: Day 4 – Berat Castle & Drive to Shiroka

Following breakfast and checkout, we begin the day with an in-depth exploration of Berat's rich history. Our tour includes a visit to the impressive Berat Castle, where ancient walls enclose a living village with churches and homes still in use today. We also explore nearby Roman ruins and the Osumi Museum, offering insight into the region's cultural and archaeological heritage. We then continue our journey northward to the coastal city of Durrës. Here, we visit the grand Roman Amphitheatre—one of the largest in the Balkans—and walk along the ancient city walls. In the afternoon, we head inland on a drive to the tranquil village of Shiroka, beautifully nestled on the shores of Lake Shkodra. After checking in at the hotel, the remainder of the day is yours to relax and enjoy the peaceful lakeside atmosphere.

Itinerary Overview: Day 5 – Lake boat trip & Venetian Masks

We start the day with a peaceful morning walk along the scenic shores of Lake Shkodra, taking in the fresh air and tranquil views. Afterwards, we embark on a boat ride across the lake, offering a unique perspective of the surrounding landscapes. Along the way, we stop to observe a traditional carpet weaving demonstration—a fascinating glimpse into the region's artisanal heritage. Weather permitting, there will also be an opportunity for a refreshing swim in the lake's clear waters. In the afternoon, we head into the city of Shkoder to visit a local Venetian mask showroom and enjoy free time along the vibrant pedestrian street, known for its cafés, shops, and cultural charm. We then return to Shiroka for a relaxed, free evening by the lake.

Itinerary Overview: Day 6 – Kruja & Tirana

After breakfast and checkout, we begin our day with a visit to the historic village of Kruja, nestled in the Albanian mountains. Known as the birthplace of national hero Skanderbeg, Kruja offers a

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rich cultural experience. We will explore the charming old bazaar, filled with traditional crafts and souvenirs, stroll through the historic Kruja Castle, and stop at the Skanderbeg monument for photos and insight into Albania's fight for independence. From there, we continue our journey with a drive to the capital city, Tirana. Upon arrival, we check in at our hotel in the heart of the city, after which you will have free time to explore Tirana at your leisure—whether that's relaxing in a café, or taking a walk through its lively streets.

Itinerary Overview: Day 7 – Tirana City Tour

After breakfast, we set off on a guided walking tour through the heart of Tirana, uncovering the city's rich layers of history, politics, and culture. Highlights include Enver Hoxha's former residence, the Parliament building, remnants of Albania's communist past such as a preserved war bunker and a section of the Berlin Wall, and the striking Pyramid Museum. We'll also visit the iconic Skanderbeg Square, the National History Museum, several historic mosques and cathedrals, and the revitalized Tirana Castle area. Following the tour, you will have free time to explore on your own or indulge in some last-minute shopping at Toptani Mall. Enjoy your final evening in Tirana, soaking in the vibrant energy of Albania's capital city.

Itinerary Overview: Day 8 – Departure

After breakfast, we check out early from our hotel and transfer to the airport for our return flight. As we make our way to the terminal, we take a moment to reflect on the unforgettable experiences, stunning landscapes, and rich cultural heritage we've encountered over the past days. With wonderful memories and new friendships, we say our goodbyes to Albania—until next time.

Tour Pricing and Inclusions (for both dates)

Adult in a single room	€1150
Adult in a twin/double room	€999

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Price includes:

- Wizz Air flights to Tirana and return
- Luggage 20kgs and small bag
- Accommodation in 3* & 4* hotels
- Daily breakfast
- All transfers mentioned in the itinerary
- Excursions mentioned in the itinerary
- Boat ride on Lake Shkodra
- Entrances:
 - Blue Eye
 - Duress Amphitheater
 - Venetian Mask Factory
- Service of a Maltese speaking Kercem A' Tours tour leader
- Insolvency Fund Certificate

Price does not include:

- City Tax
- Meals - lunches, dinners
- Tips

NB. The itinerary may be subject to slight adjustments due to unforeseen circumstances that may occur.

The booking is confirmed upon payment of €450 deposit.

Payments can be made with a cheque made payable to Kercem A' Tours, via bank transfer or by cash. Card payments are also accepted over the phone.

For bank transfers kindly issue the payments to the following Bank Account details:

Kercem Ajax FC. A/C TOURS

Account Number: 40023111554

IBAN: MT09VALL22013000000040023111554

Account Currency: EUR

**With bank transfers please make reference to the tour and provide your full name. Eg.
Albania - MR AND MRS VELLA**

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