

TIRANA - ALBANIA 5 DAYS

DAY 1 Arrival at Tirana and transfer to hotel - Free time for leisure

Arrival at Tirana, the capital of Albania. Although a new and modern capital city the origins of Tirana as an inhabited centre are old with several theories and myths associating its current name with ancient words. One version is that its name derives from the word *Theranda* that Greek and Latin sources employed when referring to the area after the term *te ranat*, Albanian for 'that which has fallen', a reference to the soil and substrate swept down by water from Dajti Mountain. Another theory is that it comes from the word *Tirkan*, the name used by the sixth century Byzantine historian Prokop to refer to a castle, first built in the first century BC, on Mount Dajti, and the ruins of which are still there. Transfer to hotel. Free time for relax and leisure.

DAY 2 Tirana city tour - OPTIONAL Kruja Tour

After breakfast we will start the walking tour of Tirana. Will explore the new promenade, approaching the main Italian boulevard, with the view of the Art Gallery and the distinguished Italian buildings, Tirana City Hall, Statue of Skanderbeg, Ethem Bey Mosque, Skanderbeg statue, Clock Tower, National Library and Opera House and the mosaic "Albanians" on top of the entrance of National Historical Museum. In the afternoon **OPTIONAL** tour to Kruja. Enjoy the architectural values of the cobble stones and wooden shops. Proceed to the fortress through the main gate. Skanderbeg museum invites you to a wonderful historic insight of medieval period. Do not forget the ethnographic museum, which displays a lively exhibition of rich tradition and culture of the Kruja people and those, who used it as a stopover on their way to central or southern Albania. Return to Tirana.



DAY 3 Free day or OPTIONAL Berat City UNESCO Heritage and Belshi Lake Tour

After breakfast, free day to explore Tirana on your own or **OPTIONAL** tour to the historic city of Berat, one of Albania's most unique and visited destinations. This UNESCO World Heritage site is famous for its well-preserved Ottoman architecture and rich history.

Your first stop is Belshi Lake, a peaceful and picturesque spot near a small town. Take a moment to enjoy the natural beauty before continuing to Berat.

Upon arrival, visit Berat Castle, a remarkable fortress where people still live within its ancient walls. As you explore, admire the stunning views of the city and discover several well-preserved Byzantine churches.

Next, you have the option to visit the Onufri Museum (optional) known for its breathtaking collection of sacred artwork with vibrant red and gold hues.

After the museum, stroll through the charming old quarters of Mangalemi and Gorica. These historic neighborhoods, separated by the Osumi River, are connected by the iconic Gorica Bridge, offering a glimpse into Berat's timeless beauty.

After soaking in the culture and history, free time to explore the New Berat city, take photos and enjoy the lunch. Return to Tirana.



DAY 4 Free day or OPTIONAL Durrës city tour

After breakfast, free day to explore Tirana on your own or **OPTIONAL** tour to Durrës, one of the most beautiful coastal cities in Albania, rich in history and a vibrant atmosphere. After about an hour's drive, we arrive in this ancient city and begin our exploration with a visit to the Royal Villa of King Zog. Perched on a hill with a stunning view of the Adriatic Sea, this royal residence offers us a glimpse into the reign of King Zog and the history of the villa. Although now abandoned following the events of 1997, it remains a symbol of Albania's regal past.

Descending on foot, we visit one of the city's ancient towers, a restored structure that serves as a panoramic balcony offering a breathtaking 360° view of Durrës and the sea. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the fortifications that once protected this strategic port city.

Next, we head to the Durrës Amphitheater, one of the most important ancient monuments in Albania. It is the third-largest amphitheater after those in Rome and Capua, a remarkable testament to the Roman era in this city. Although only a small part of it has been uncovered, we will have the chance to see the section open to visitors (From outside) and imagine the grand spectacles that once took place here.

Passing by the city's old defensive walls, we stop to admire the Venetian Tower, another historical symbol of Durrës.

From there, we continue our walk along the Vollga Promenade, a lively area lined with bars and restaurants offering delicious seafood dishes.

At the end of the boulevard, we reach Viewpoint Fenix, a perfect spot to sit and take in the stunning Adriatic scenery.

Free time to enjoy the sun, sea view and the fresh sea food. Nearby, the public beach offers a refreshing opportunity for a swim during the summer months.

After a day filled with history, culture, and seaside relaxation, we return to Tirana, carrying with us unforgettable memories of one of the oldest and most fascinating cities in Albania.



DAY 5 Transfer to airport - END OF TOUR

Breakfast at the hotel and free time till your transfer to Tirana airport. END OF TOUR

PRICE PER PERSON IN EURO	2 PERSONS	4 PERSONS	6 PERSONS
TWIN/DOUBLE ROOMS	340	310	300
CHILD 3-12 IN THE SAME ROOM WITH PARENTS	290	260	250
SINGLE ROOM	480	450	440

INCLUDED

- 4 nights in Tirana in 4* hotel on BB basis
- Return airport transfers
- Tirana half day city tour

NOT INCLUDED

- ❖ Air tickets and Visa
- ❖ City taxes (paid on spot where applicable)
- ❖ Entrances to museums and places of visit

OPTIONAL TOURS

- ❖ Kruja Half Day Tour € 100
- ❖ Full day Berat City UNESCO Heritage and Belshi Lake Tour € 150
- ❖ Full day Durres tour € 75
- ❖ Add extra night from +€ 50 per person