

# ALBANIA CLASSIC

Explore diverse landscape and rich history of the land of the Illyrians, Romans, Venetians and Ottomans

## 1. DAY Airport – Tirana

From Tirana airport transfer to Hotel. Time permitting visit the National Historic Museum. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Tirana.

## 2. DAY Tirana - Shkodra - Kruja - Tirana (3.5 hrs driving)

After breakfast we drive to Shkodra, the most important town of north Albania and the Illyrian capital in the 3rd century BC. Visit Rozafa Castle and a walk in the newly renovated pedestrian area of Italian and Austrian architecture. Lunch at a local restaurant in Shkodra. Proceed to Kruja - the centre of Albanian resistance against the Turks under national hero Scanderbeg with the famous Old Bazaar where the best handmade souvenirs can be purchased. Return for dinner and overnight in Tirana.

## 3. DAY Tirana - Ardenica - Apollonia - Vlora (3.5 hrs driving)

Depart to Vlora where Albanian Independence was proclaimed. On the way we stop at the Monastery of Ardenica, and then continue to the ancient city of Apollonia situated on the famous Via Egnatia, a road constructed by the Romans in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC to link Illyricum with Turkey. Lunch at a local restaurant in Fier. Afterwards we continue to Vlora where we visit the Independence Museum. Afternoon and evening at leisure. Overnight in Vlora.

## 4. DAY Vlora - Butrint (UNESCO) - Saranda (4.5 hrs driving)

After breakfast we drive along the spectacular Albanian Riviera and through breathtaking sceneries at the Llogara pass. After a short stop at the fortress of Ali Pasha lunch at a local restaurant in Ksamil. Then we continue to the ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO world heritage site and the most important archaeological discovery in Albania. Apart the beautiful antique ruins it has the added benefit of being situated in a beautiful peninsula, rich in flora and fauna. After the visits we return to Saranda for dinner at a local restaurant and overnight.

## 5. DAY Saranda - Gjirokastra (UNESCO) (2.5 hrs driving)

After we drive to Gjirokastra, a UNESCO site and museum town with beautiful and very distinctive architecture. The dwelling houses have the form of medieval towers consisting of a building ensemble with characteristic architecture. The city was besieged and captured by the Ottomans in the 15th century, but unlike many other towns in Albania it flourished under its new rulers. Home hosted lunch close to a traditional village named Dhoksat. Return to Gjirokastra to visit Skenduli house. Free time before dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Gjirokastra.

## 6. DAY Gjirokastra - Berat (2.5 hrs driving)

After early breakfast we drive to Berat. Being more than 2400 year old, the town is one of the most attractive towns in Albania and is famous for its white-washed houses with their many windows which seem to have been built on top of each other, that give it the nickname "town of a thousand windows". Lunch at a local restaurant in the castle. Afterwards visit the castle and the Onufri Museum. Free time to explore Berat before dinner at a local restaurant or hotel. Overnight in Berat.

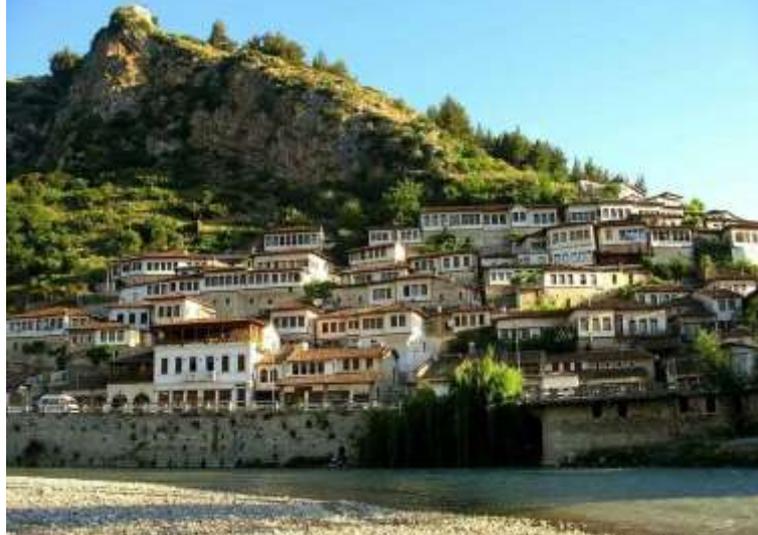
## 7. DAY Berat – Durres - Tirana (2.5 hrs driving)

Depart for Durres founded in 627 BC with the famous Amphitheatre situated in the middle of the modern city. After the visits we have lunch at a local sea side restaurant in Durres. After lunch continue to Tirana. Check in at the hotel and then we head to the Dajti Mountain with the cable car offering a breath-taking panoramic view of Tirana. Return to Tirana. Free time until dinner time at a local restaurant. Overnight in Tirana.

## 8. DAY Departure

Departure after the breakfast.

Take a great introduction into Albania's past and present history, customs and traditions. Discover all the gems of the country from ancient sites to architectural buildings and towns, comprising three UNESCO World Heritage sites, and admire extraordinary landscape of Illyricum, wild Roman province in ancient times.



## GENERAL INFO

- ✔ Price is based on a group of 50 people
- ✔ Price is per person per stay in double room
- ✔ Single supplement on request

Prices are informative and based on availability. Program can be modified according to your requirements or budget. Send us your travel dates to [reservations@codan-agentura.com](mailto:reservations@codan-agentura.com) and we will prepare fixed offer.

## PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Accommodation for 7 nights in good 3\* / 4\* hotels, with breakfast
- Transfers from and to the airport
- Transportation as per program
- Lunches and dinners as mentioned in the program (3c menu including 0.5lt of water pp)
- English speaking tour guide
- Entrance fees as per program
- A standard tip to the restaurants
- All taxes