

Albania 
A New Mediterranean Love

Welcome to Albania!





...still a unique unknown country with fascinating history and culture, emense natural resources and friendly and helpfull people...

Location & Access

A map of the Balkan region with Albania highlighted in red. The map shows the Adriatic Sea to the west, the Mediterranean Sea to the south, and the Italian Peninsula to the southwest. Neighboring countries like Italy, Greece, and Macedonia are also visible.

- **Easy access by land, sea and air**
- **Easily accessed from main capitals and other cities of Italy, Greece, Turkey,**
- **Direct flies from London, Wien, Munich < Paris, etc**
- **Regular ferry service from ports of east Italian tows, and from Corfu to Saranda**

Visitors in 2011

Foreign visitors
2,734,000

**Non-resident
Albanian visitors**
1,267,000

Total arrivals
4,001,000



International Tourism to Albania

<i>Europe</i>	92%
<i>America</i>	5%
<i>Asia</i>	2%
<i>Others</i>	1%



Why to Invest/Visit Albania?



Variety of destinations & attractions



Rich Historic Heritage



10 – archeological protected areas

9 – archeological parks

Over 1600 cultural monuments

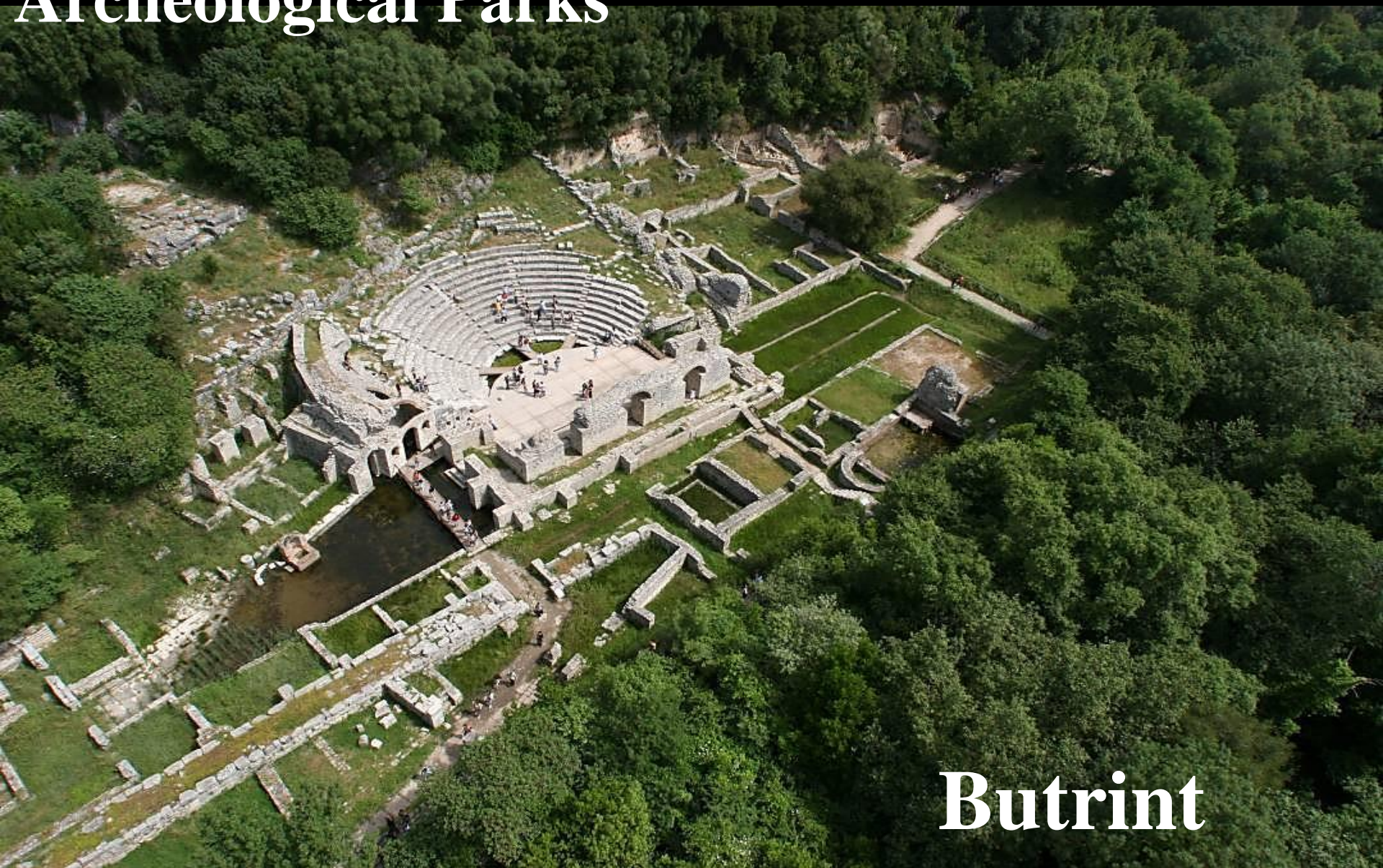
Over 300 fortresses and castles

More than 200 churches and mosques

Over 130 cultural prime attractions

3 UNESCO protected sites

Archeological Parks



Butrint

Since 1992, Butrint is registered as an UNESCO world's estate and as a World Heritage site in 1999



The Baptistery of Butrint, constructed in the early 6th AD, is the second largest baptistery in all the Eastern Roman Empire.

***Butrint, the head of Apollo, a
roman copy of a probably
disappeared model of
Polykletes.***





Synagoge of Saranda (Onchesmos)..

Apollonia



Founded at 6'th Century BC

“...a *magna urbis et gravis*” - a great and important city - (Cicero).

Ancient city of Bylis

First settlement was founded by Neoptolemus, the son of the famous Achilles



In 350 BC it became a stronghold city with a circling wall 2500 m long



Durrës, founded as Epidamnos in 627 BC, one of the oldest cities in Europe.

Durres Amphitheatre is built in the 2nd century AD. The Amphitheatre; used to have a capacity of 15 000 to 20,000 people, During that time, Durres developed as an important port, trade, culture center.

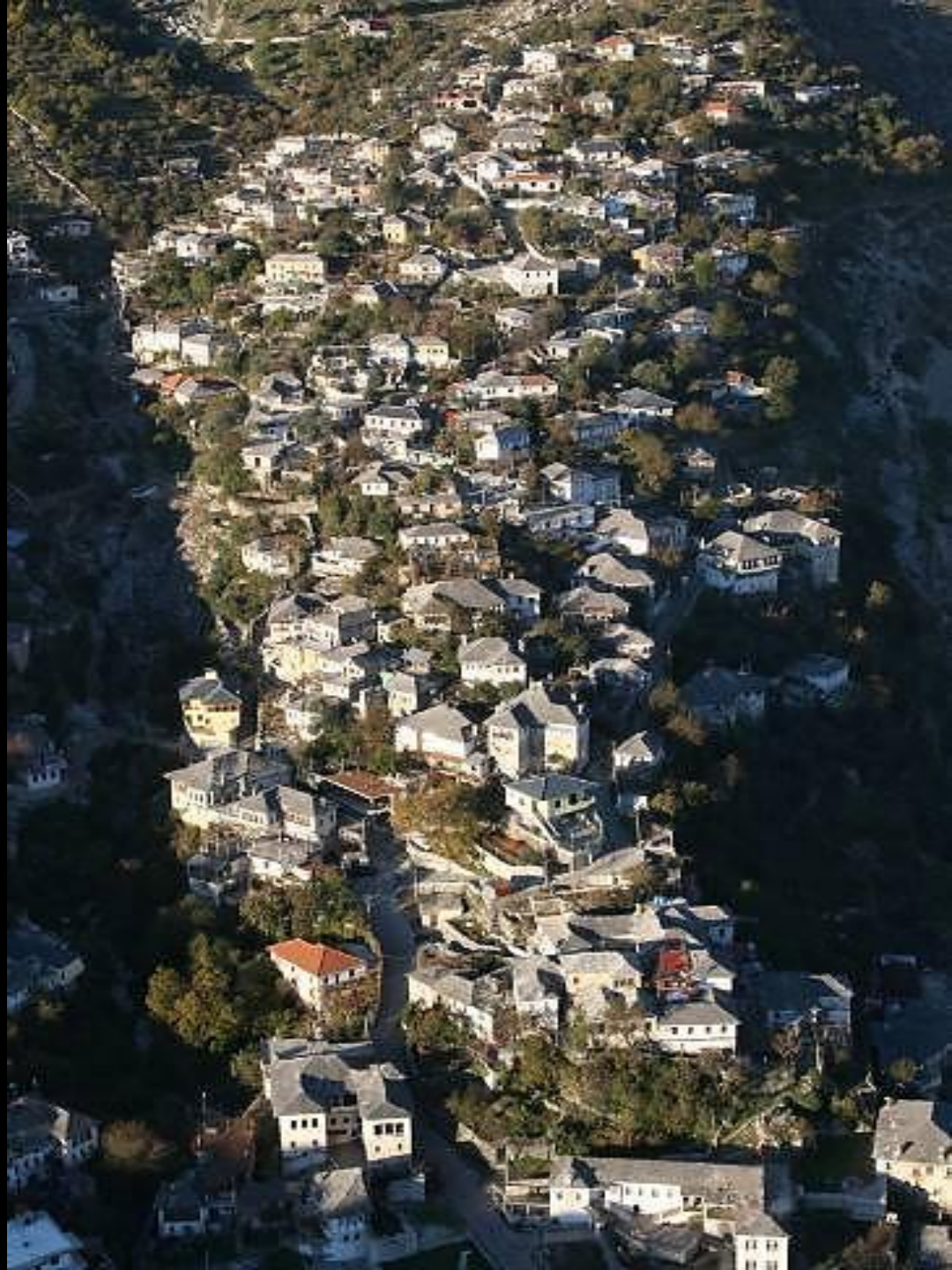


Durrës, “The Beauty of Dyrrachium”: A mosaic of river gravel with apulian motifs (4th c. BC). One of the most beautiful mosaics of the pre-roman antiquity.

The UNESCO World Heritage Town of Gjirokastra since 2004.

**“It was a strange city,
and seemed to have been cast up in
the valley one winter’s night like
some prehistoric creature that
was now clawing its way up the
mountainside. Everything in
the city was old and made of stone,
from the streets to the roofs of the
old houses covered with grey slates
like gigantic scales. That was only
natural, for it was a stone city and its
touch was rough and cold**

Ismail Kadare, Chronicle in Stone



UNESCO World Heritage Sites



Historic Town of Gjirokastrë



...the magnificent and famos Castle of Gjirokastra is an ancient building of stone, erected along a high ridge of rock. It stretches from east to west, a length of 600 m wide and a width of 100 m. The long crowned cortains give it the appearance of a galley ship... Evliya Çelebi, Seyahatname, november 1670.

Berat



Berat “...the Town of a thousand windows...”



Castles & Fortresses



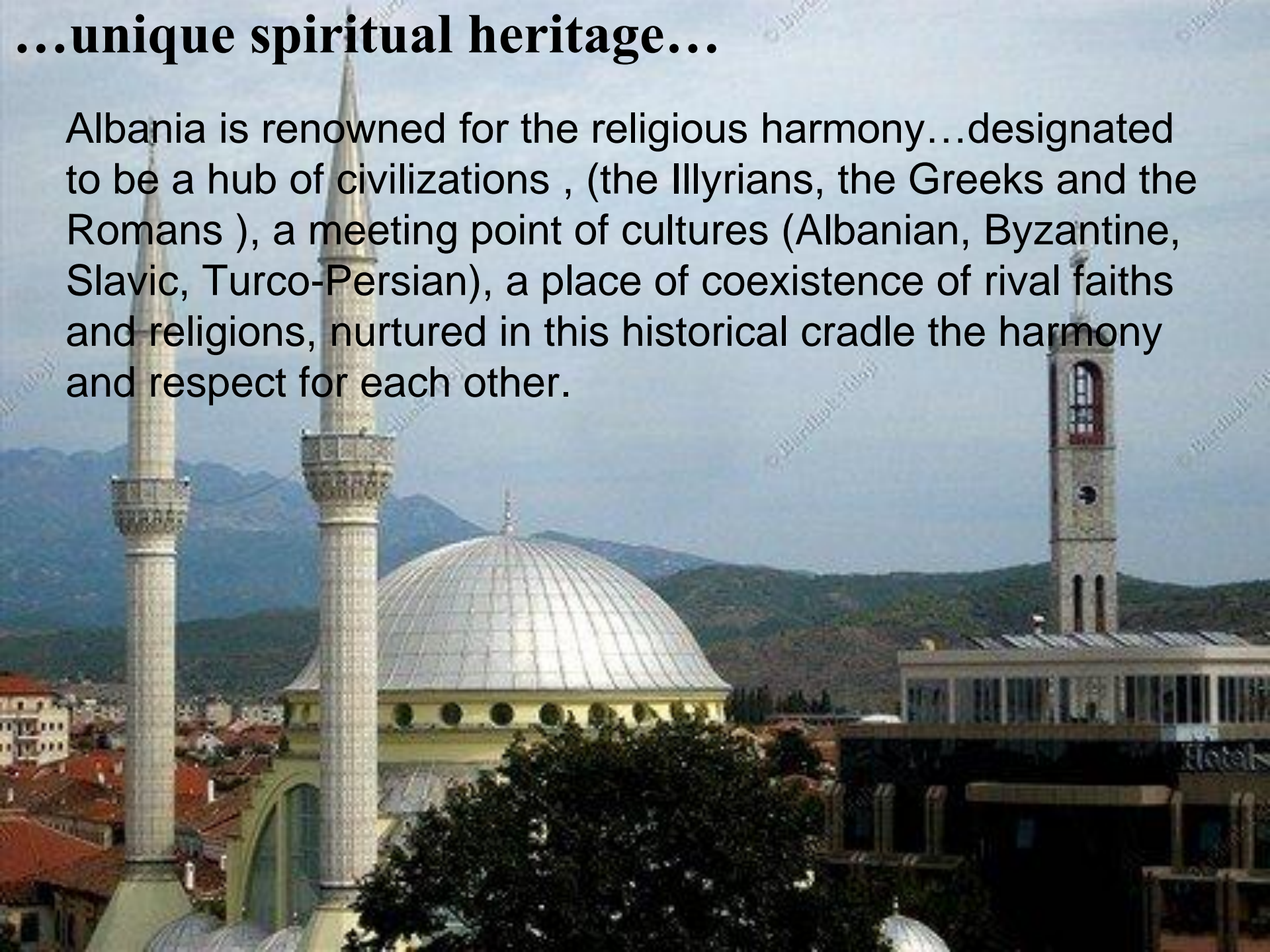
...Castle of Shkodra

...Kruja Fortress..



...unique spiritual heritage...

Albania is renowned for the religious harmony...designated to be a hub of civilizations , (the Illyrians, the Greeks and the Romans), a meeting point of cultures (Albanian, Byzantine, Slavic, Turco-Persian), a place of coexistence of rival faiths and religions, nurtured in this historical cradle the harmony and respect for each other.



Orthodox Church in Korca



Monastery in Apollonia



Muradie Mosque, Vlore



Mosque in Berat





...on an Albanian spring day, dozens of Muslims, Catholics and Orthodox Christians toil together up a steep, winding slope to St Anthony's Church , Lac....

Sun & Sea Tourism



...a great variety of seaside relaxation, from sandy to pebbly and rocky beaches...





- **Over 400 km** of coastline out of which approx 200 km of sandy beaches
- **Lakes and Lagoons, sand belts and sand dunes**
- **Eco-tourism and bird watching**
- **Diving, fishing, sailing and swimming**
- **Easy direct access from inland and abroad**





**...Albanian
Riviera, a Frugal
Paradise...**

*..NY Times
June 2011..*

“ Grama” beach, Ionian Coast



“Uji i ftohtë” Vlora Bay





...unspoiled beaches.. Lalezi Bay



Natural Protected Areas



Lagoons

Eight lagoon ecosystems, covering nearly 10,900 Ha, supporting traditional fisheries, fish farming and salt production



Karavastaja Lagoon

One of the largest in the Mediterranean Sea (nearly 3900 Ha). The lagoon is famous for the rare Dalmatian Pelican – nearly 5% of the world's population of this type of pelican is found in this lagoon





Narta Lagoon

Which since 1290
converted to a
commercially
operated salina





Viluni Lagoon

Kune – Vain Lagoon



Shkodra Lake



- **Prespa lake**
- Consists of Great Prespa (285 km) and from Prespa e Vogel (44 km²). The Lake stretches between Albania, Greece and Macedonia



Prespa Lake





Butrinti Lake and ancient city

Nature & Adventure

- **77% mountains and hills**
- **Great potential for winter sports, trekking, climbing, rafting etc.**
- **Albanian Alps in North near Shkodra**
- **Mountain villages and guest-houses in Albanian Alps and in the southeast**



Rafting, Osumi Canions



Air Sports, Pass of Loogora over Vlora Bay



Winter Sports

...Valbona Valley...



Trekking





“Rally Albania” - the second largest racing activity in the Balkans, with the participation of about 30 European countries.



Speleology



Fishing



Dynamic Capital



- Business Travelers
- Seminars and Conventions facilities
- Museums (Historical, Archaeological, etc.)
- Art Galleries and events
- A thriving nightlife



..a **culinary experience**, rich of high nutritional values and delicious tastes. A visitor may enjoy plenty of traditional dishes as well as delights from all over the world, including Asian, Indian, Middle Eastern, and other international tastes...







Have a nice stay in Albania!