

**Exploring the Cultural and
Natural Wonders of Central and
South Albania: A
Comprehensive 1-Week Itinerary**

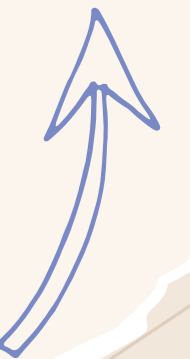


Day 1: Arrival at Tirana Airport

Begin your journey in **Tirana**, the capital city. Explore the vibrant **Skanderbeg Square** and visit the **National History Museum** to understand Albania's rich past. Enjoy local cuisine at a traditional restaurant, experiencing the **flavors** of Albanian dishes.



Transfer to our first destination: the UNESCO World Heritage city of Berat. **Tip for Travelers:** Look out for the colorful murals and Ottoman architecture on your way out of the city!

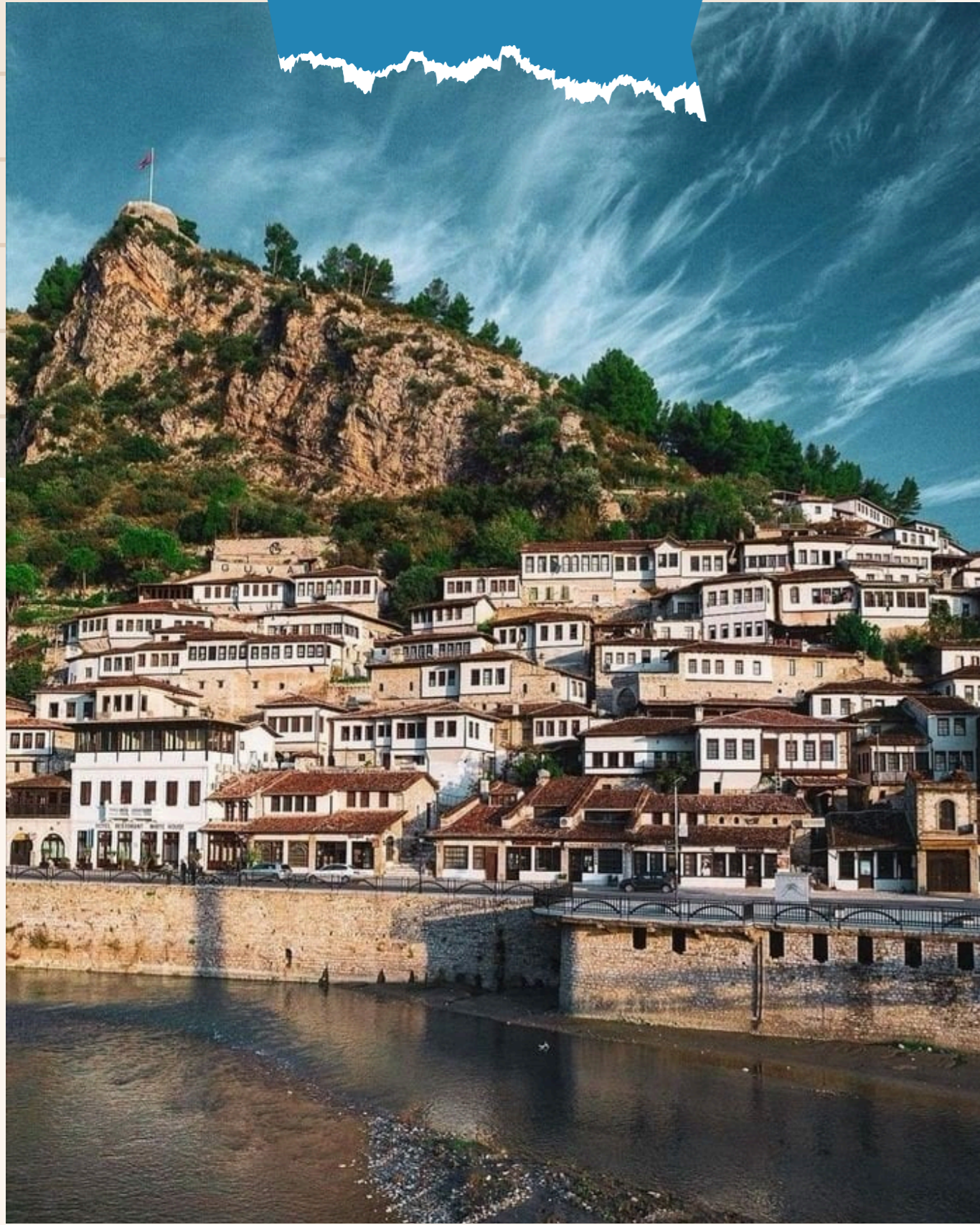




Welcome to Your Albanian Adventure!

A week-long journey through some of Albania's most stunning locations, blending history, natural beauty, and authentic local experiences.





Day 2: Berat - The City of a Thousand Windows

Travel to **Berat**, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its stunning **Ottoman architecture**. Visit the **Berat Castle** and the **Onufri National Museum**. Stroll through the cobbled streets of the old town, admiring the **historic houses** and panoramic views.

Top Attractions:

- **Berat Castle:** Perched on a hill, this castle offers breathtaking views and fascinating history.
- **Gorica and Mangalem Quarters:** Walk through these traditional quarters with their distinctive white stone houses.
- **Onufri Museum:** Famous for its collection of Byzantine icons and art. Suggested Activities: Take a walking tour through the old town and enjoy local cuisine at traditional restaurants.





Day 3: Gjirokastër - Stone City

Gjirokastër, another UNESCO site, is famed for its **stone houses** and rich history. Explore the **Gjirokastër Castle** and the **Ethnographic Museum**. Experience the local culture and perhaps enjoy a traditional **folk dance** performance in the evening.

Top Attractions:

- **Gjirokastër Castle:** Home to the Museum of Weapons and stunning panoramic views of the Drino Valley.
- **Skenduli House:** A well-preserved Ottoman-era home that offers insights into traditional Albanian life.
- **Cold War Tunnel:** An underground bunker that was used as an emergency shelter during the communist era.
- **Bazaar:** A bazaar in the historic quarter with artisan shops and local crafts.





Day 4: Slide 5: The Blue Eye & Butrint - Wonders of Sarandë

The Blue Eye

Head to the stunning **Blue Eye**, a natural spring with crystal-clear, **aquamarine waters**. The water is so clear that you can see straight to the bottom, and the colors are simply **mesmerizing**.

Butrint Archaeological Site

An ancient city with **ruins** dating back to **Greek and Roman** times, **Butrint** offers a journey through history set against lush surroundings.

- **The Amphitheater:** Well-preserved and still used for performances today.
- **The Lion Gate:** A notable stone relief of a lion devouring a bull.
- **Baptistery and Basilica:** Structures with beautifully detailed mosaics and religious significance.



Day 5: Përmet - The Town of Warm Hearts and Hot Springs

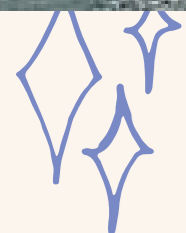
Known for its therapeutic hot springs, Përmet offers a relaxing break in nature.

Top Attractions:

- **Bënja Thermal Baths:** Naturally warm springs where travelers can unwind.
- **Vjosa River:** One of Europe's last wild rivers, great for rafting and scenic views.

Suggested Activities:

- Take a **soak in the hot springs** and enjoy a countryside picnic.
- Option to try a **gentle rafting adventure** on the Vjosa River for a more active experience.





Day 6: Shelegur-Gërmenj - Scenic Countryside and Village Charm

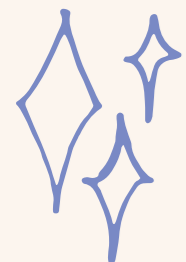
A serene spot, ideal for experiencing Albania's rural beauty.

Highlights

- **Natural Landscapes:** Rolling hills, green fields, and traditional farmhouses.
- **Cultural Immersion:** Visit small villages and meet the locals.

Suggested Activities:

- Enjoy a scenic drive and short hikes to admire the landscapes.
- Sample homemade Albanian foods, especially fresh cheese and locally-grown produce.





Day 7: Korçë - The Cultural Capital of Albania

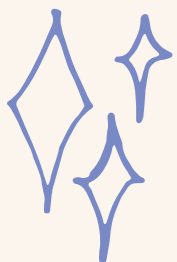
Known for its vibrant art scene and historical architecture, Korçë is often called the cultural heart of Albania.

Top Attractions:

- **The Old Bazaar:** A lively marketplace filled with local products and handmade crafts.
- **Korçë Beer Brewery:** Taste some of the famous local beer.
- **National Museum of Medieval Art:** Home to one of the largest collections of medieval icons in the Balkans.

Suggested Activities:

- Explore the **Old Bazaar** and visit the **brewery** for a taste of local life.
- Relax in a **cozy café** and try some of Korçë's **traditional dishes**.





Day 8: Return to Tirana Airport

After a week of exploration, return to Tirana for your flight back.

"Thank you for joining us on this unforgettable Albanian journey. We hope you leave with beautiful memories and a newfound love for Albania!"

