



DISCOVER ALBANIA

Explore Albania in Every Season!

**A Journey
Through Cultural,
Heritage, and Natural
Beauty**

Year-round Tourism

Coastal Tourism

Mountain Tourism

UNESCO World Heritage Sites

Adventure Tourism

Agrotourism

Climate Considerations



A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURAL, HERITAGE, AND NATURAL BEAUTY

Albania is an enchanting travel destination that offers a diverse array of experiences for every kind of traveler. With its sandy Adriatic beaches, Ionian shores, stunning lakes, lush valleys, and towering snowy peaks, the country's varied landscapes are a true highlight. Rich in ancient history, Albania features archaeological parks, grand castles, and cities with unique architecture.

Situated in the Balkan Peninsula, Albania provides access to major European markets

and enjoys a Mediterranean climate with cold and mild winters and hot summers. Covering an area of 28,748 km² and home to approximately 2.8 million residents, Albania uses the Lekë (ALL) as its currency and Albanian as its official language.

In this guide, we aim to provide visitors with essential information about geography, history, local attractions, and travel tips to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience in Albania.

YEAR-ROUND TOURISM

Tourism in Albania is a year-round enchantment, offering a diverse tapestry of attractions that captivate visitors throughout the entire calendar, owing to its picturesque landscapes, vibrant cultural legacy, and inviting Mediterranean climate. While the summer period, stretching from June to September, is especially popular for those seeking sun-soaked beach escapes, Albania also delivers remarkable adventures for tourists in every season.





Saranda



Vjosa River



Shkopet



Syri Kaltër
Blue Eye



Patok Lagoon

BERAT

A 2400-YEAR-OLD CITY



COASTAL TOURISM



During the summer months, Albania's coastal towns of Dhërmi, Jali, Vlora, and Ksamil transform into popular tourist destinations. Visitors flock to these beaches to sunbathe and partake in a variety of thrilling water sports. While the coastline becomes much quieter in the winter, it still attracts those seeking to soak up the remaining sunshine. Beyond the beaches, the region boasts a wealth of fascinating historical sites, such as the UNESCO-listed Butrint, the ancient city of Apollonia, and the ruins of Amantia, providing ample opportunities for exploration.



MOUNTAIN TOURISM

The Albanian Alps and surrounding mountains, such as those near Theth, Vermosh, and Valbona, offer breathtaking scenery and the best hikes from December through March.

From April to September, Albania's mountains provide incredible trekking opportunities, including routes around Valbona Valley, Theth National Park, and the Accursed Mountains (Bjeshkët e Nemuna). These areas feature spectacular hiking, walking, wildlife observation, and visits to traditional mountain villages.

Dajti Mountain near Tirana is also a popular hiking destination, offering stunning panoramic views.

EXPLORE ALBANIA IN EVERY SEASON!



CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL TOURISM



Albania boasts a rich cultural heritage, with numerous archaeological sites and UNESCO World Heritage locations waiting to be explored throughout the year.

This unique Balkan destination offers a captivating blend of well-preserved ancient sites, stunning natural beauty, and vibrant cultural traditions, making it a prime destination for history buffs, nature enthusiasts, and those seeking to discover a hidden corner of Europe.

The historic town of Kruja is home to the imposing Kruja Castle, which served as the center of Albania's resistance against the Ottoman Empire under the legendary leadership of national hero Gjergj Kastrioti-Skanderbeg. Today, the castle operates as a museum and provides visitors with a breathtaking view of the surrounding landscape.





Situated near the town of Fier, the ancient Greek city of Apollonia was once a thriving hub of trade and culture. Visitors can now explore the site's impressive ruins, including a well-preserved theater, temples, and an odeon, offering a glimpse into the city's rich past.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES



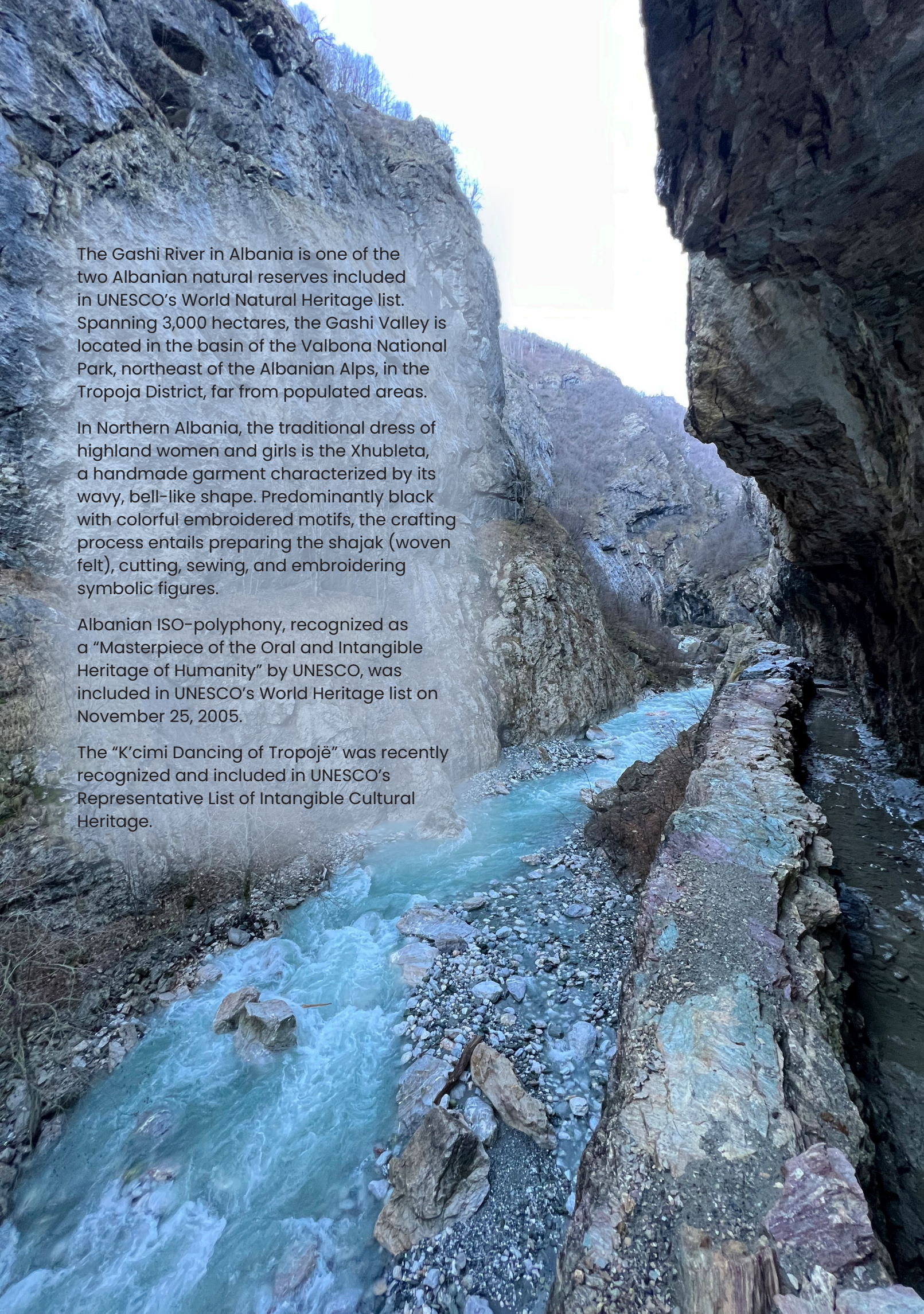
Butrint Archaeological Park is an ancient city with layers of history dating back to the Greek, Roman, and Byzantine eras.

Gjirokastra, known as the “City of Stone,” is a well-preserved Ottoman-style town famous for its cobblestone streets, traditional houses, and the imposing castle.

Berat, often called the “City of a Thousand Windows,” is an ancient city that showcases Ottoman-era architecture and is renowned for its picturesque old town, the Berat Castle, and numerous churches and mosques.

Lake Ohrid in Pogradec provides a refuge for numerous endemic species of freshwater fauna and flora dating from the Tertiary period. In the shallow waters near the shores of the lake, three sites testify to the presence of prehistoric pile dwellings, and the small Lin Peninsula is the site of the remains of an early Christian church founded in the middle of the 6th century.





The Gashi River in Albania is one of the two Albanian natural reserves included in UNESCO's World Natural Heritage list. Spanning 3,000 hectares, the Gashi Valley is located in the basin of the Valbona National Park, northeast of the Albanian Alps, in the Tropoja District, far from populated areas.

In Northern Albania, the traditional dress of highland women and girls is the Xhubleta, a handmade garment characterized by its wavy, bell-like shape. Predominantly black with colorful embroidered motifs, the crafting process entails preparing the shajak (woven felt), cutting, sewing, and embroidering symbolic figures.

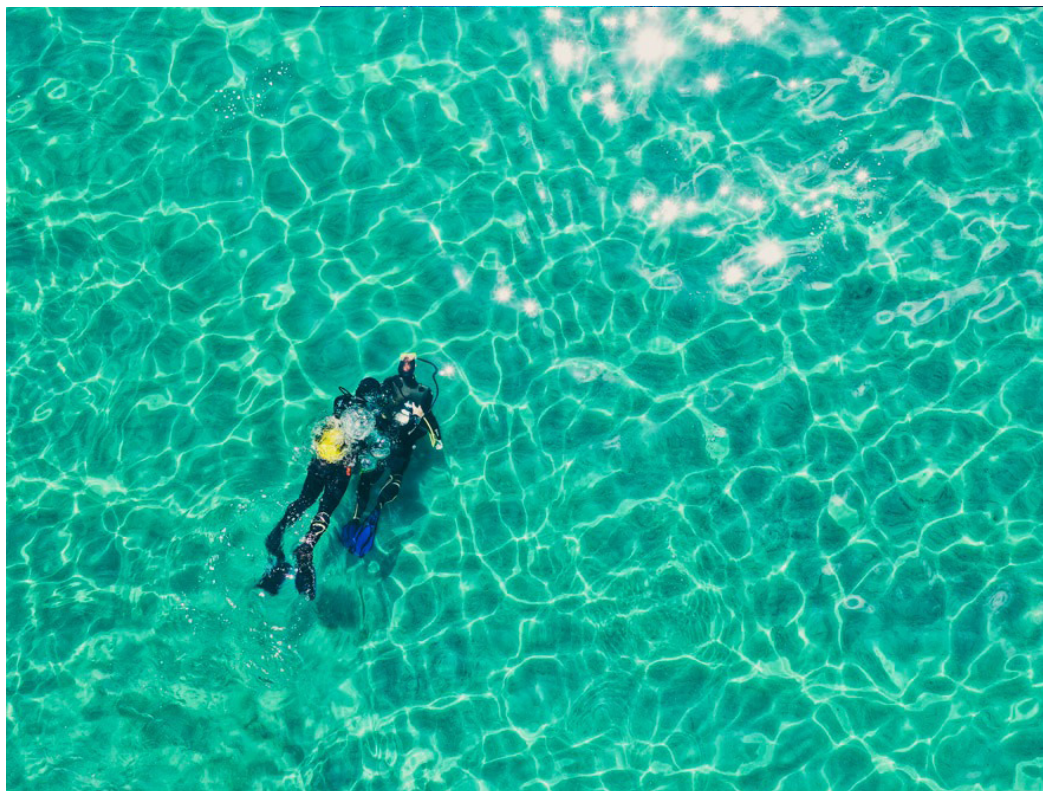
Albanian ISO-polyphony, recognized as a "Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO, was included in UNESCO's World Heritage list on November 25, 2005.

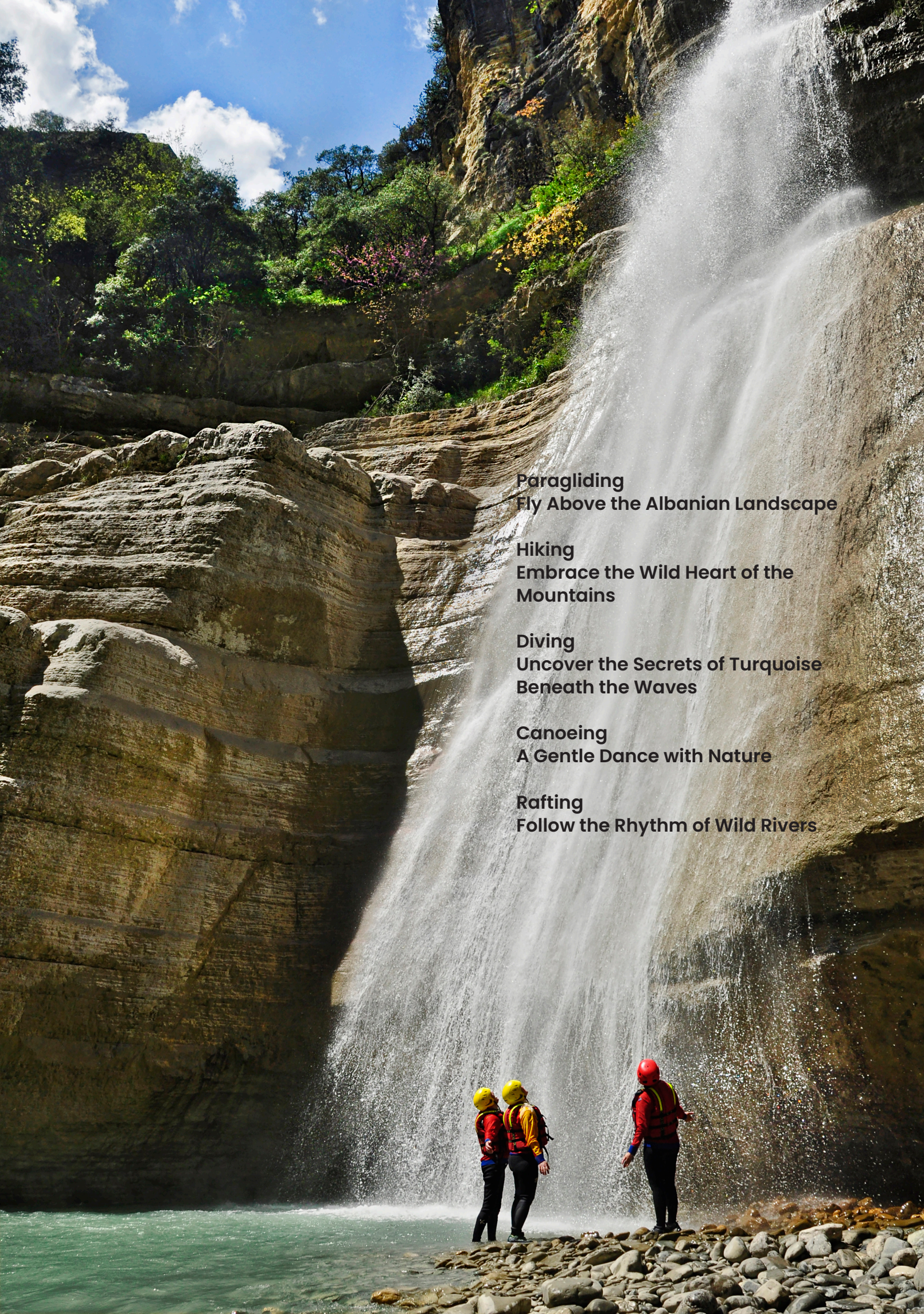
The "K'cimi Dancing of Tropojë" was recently recognized and included in UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.



ADVENTURE TOURISM

Albania, a land of breathtaking landscapes and rich history, beckons adventure seekers with a plethora of thrilling activities. From soaring through the skies to plunging into the depths of the seas, and traversing its rugged trails and roaring rivers, this beautiful country invites you to immerse yourself in its diverse natural wonders.





Paragliding
Fly Above the Albanian Landscape

Hiking
Embrace the Wild Heart of the Mountains

Diving
Uncover the Secrets of Turquoise Beneath the Waves

Canoeing
A Gentle Dance with Nature

Rafting
Follow the Rhythm of Wild Rivers

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

**UNUM
SOUTH OUTDOOR
KALAFEST
PORTO PALERMO FESTIVAL
ZA FEST
SUNFEST
SOUNDTUARY
TURTLEFEST**

Albania hosts an array of captivating festivals and events that showcase its dynamic music scene, vibrant culture, and stunning landscapes. From lively music festivals to cultural celebrations, there are many exciting opportunities for visitors to immerse themselves in Albania's rich culture.



ECO-TOURISM AND RURAL EXPERIENCES

Albania is focusing more on ecotourism and sustainable travel, with rural areas offering authentic experiences of Albanian culture and nature. The rural regions in places like the Vjosa River Valley, Llogara National Park, Divjaka, and Ohrid Lake in Pogradec, a UNESCO heritage site, offer visitors the chance to explore Albania's diverse ecosystems and traditional ways of life, regardless of the season.



RURAL AND AGROTOURISM

Albania's rural areas, offer a more authentic Albanian experience. You can visit farms, try local cuisine, and learn about traditional crafts and culture. The fresh air and natural beauty of Albania's countryside make it perfect for relaxation and exploration in all seasons.





GASTRONOMY AND WINE TOURISM

Albania has a growing reputation for its unique cuisine and winemaking culture. The country's local dishes (e.g., tava e kosi, byrek, and fërgesë) are available throughout the

year, and wine lovers can visit vineyards in the areas around Kruja, Berat and Shkodra, tasting the indigenous varieties of wine.



Grapa is considered a traditional drink and is deeply embedded in Albanian culture and hospitality. It is often served to guests as a welcoming gesture, and it is common to enjoy it with friends and family during celebrations and special occasions.

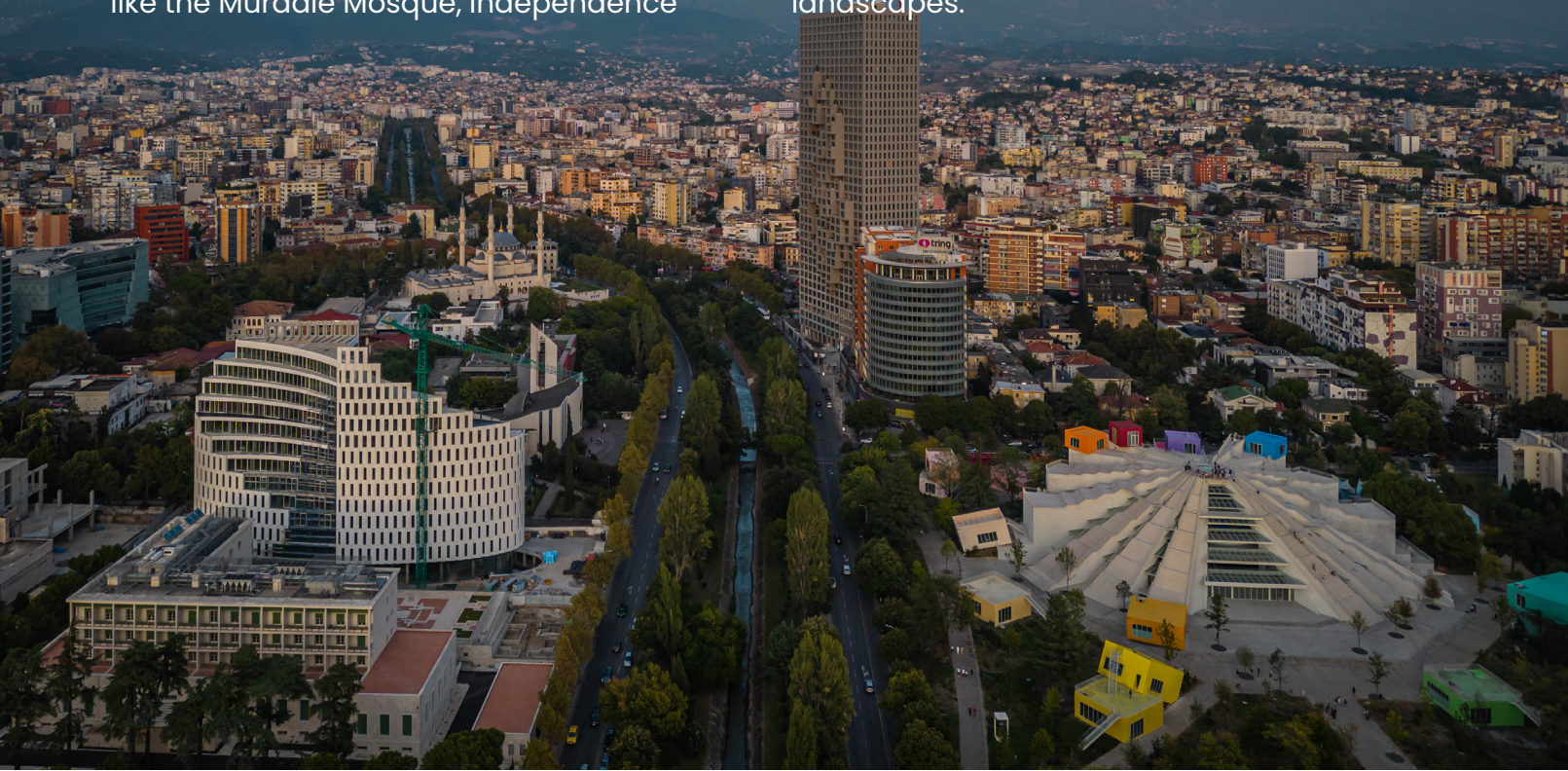




URBAN TOURISM

The cities of Tirana, Shkodra, and Durrës offer diverse urban tourism experiences year-round. Tirana's Skanderbeg Square and Bunk'Art museums provide insights into Albania's communist history. Vlorë boasts a rich history, and its Lungomare promenade allows visitors to explore nearby attractions like the Muradie Mosque, Independence

Square, and Vlorë National Museum. In Shkodra, the impressive Rozafa Castle and scenic Lake Shkodra are must-see destinations. Durrës beckons with its Roman amphitheater and lively beach promenade. Korça, a cultural center, is known for its museums, monasteries, and picturesque landscapes.





CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS

Albania's Mediterranean climate means mild and cold winters (especially on the coast) and hot summers. While summer is peak season, visitors can enjoy a more relaxed pace during spring and autumn. The cooler mountain areas make Albania an excellent destination in both winter and summer.





NIGHTLIFE

Albania's nightlife is vibrant and diverse, particularly in major cities and along the coastal regions. The combination of historical cities, beautiful beaches, and a youthful, energetic population creates an exciting atmosphere after dark. Whether you're looking for lively beach parties, chic bars, live music venues, or traditional taverns, Albania has something for every kind of night owl.





Tirana
The Heart of Albania's Nightlife

The Albanian Riviera
Beach Parties and Chill Vibes

Shkodra
A Blend of Tradition and Modernity

Vlora
Vibrant Coastal Nightlife

Korça
The Traditional Nightlife

Gjirokastra
A Night of History and Entertainment

Përmet, Berat, and Saranda
Local Bars and Taverns

EXPLORE ALBANIA'S TRADITION AND CULTURE

in a Single App



TEA

Tourism Events of Albania





ALBANIA
ALL SENSES
NATIONAL TOURISM AGENCY

