

# Albania

## Travel Facts



### US State Department Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Albania due to crime. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws, and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

### Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is not required as long as you do not stay in the country more than a year.

### US Embassy/Consulate

[355] 4 2247-285; US Embassy Tirana, Rruga Stavro Vinjau, No. 14, Tirana, Albania; <https://al.usembassy.gov/>; [ACSTirana@state.gov](mailto:ACSTirana@state.gov)

### LGBTQ+ Travelers

When venturing abroad, LGBTQ+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html>

### Telephone Code

355

### Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 17; Fire: 18; Police: 19

### Vaccinations

An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for travelers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. See WHO recommendations. <http://www.who.int/>

### Climate

Mild temperate; cool, cloudy, wet winters; hot, clear summers; interior is cooler and wetter

### Currency (Code)

Leke (ALL)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): C, F



### Major Languages

Albanian 98.8% (official), Greek 0.5%, other minority languages

### Major Religions

Muslim 56.7%, Roman Catholic 10%, Orthodox 6.8%, other minority religions

### Potable Water

Yes, but some opt for bottled water

### Time Difference

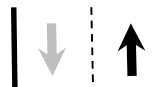
UTC+1 (6 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time); +1hr, begins last Sunday in March, ends last Sunday in October

### International Driving Permit

Suggested

### Road Driving Side

Right



### Tourist Destinations

Porto Palermo Castle; Valbona Valley; Apollonia; Saranda; Tirana; Himare; Berat; Shkodra; Pindus Mts. & Dinaric Alps; Kruje; Butrint; Gjirokastra

### Major Sports

Soccer, basketball, volleyball, handball, boxing

### Cultural Practices

When speaking with an Albanian, you may realize that they make head nods in the opposing direction from Western societies. They shake their head from side to side to indicate yes, and up and down to point no.

### Tipping Guidelines

Rounding up the bill at restaurants is fine, unless the service was outstanding, in which case, a good tip will be much appreciated. Taxi drivers do not expect a tip, but if they help with your luggage and provide you with tourist information, a tip would be appreciated. Tipping the housekeeping staff is not necessary but appreciated.

### Souvenirs

Woven kilim rugs, alabaster, copper crafts, leather footwear, perfumes

### Traditional Cuisine

Tavë kosi — a dish of lamb, or occasionally chicken, and rice baked with a mixture of yogurt and eggs and added to a roux of wheat flour and butter

