



BIRDING TOUR

Albania South

SPRING - SUMMER

Dates

15-23 June 2020

Price

Promotional – Please contact us at

contact@birdingalbania.com or

contact@albaniantrip.com

What does the price include?

- Food
- Accommodation
- Transport from pick-up to departures

List of bird species that this tour targets?

Please contact us at contact@birdingalbania.com

if you are interested for the full list of bird species expected to be observed during the trip.

Any other questions?

We will be happy to answer to your questions related to the trip. Please contact us via e-mail addresses listed above or via telephone:

Birding Albania: + 355 68 2000 894

Albanian Trip: +355 68 405 8529

We are able to carry out communication in English, French, Italian and Albanian

Extensions?

Excellent opportunities for extension based on the number of days wanted
Please inbox us if interested!





Day 1. Arrivals

Organize pick up, hotel and dinner for all the guests!

Day 2. The exceptional triangle

Visit the Lalzi Bay Important Bird Area. Lalzi bay is recognized at international level as an Important Bird Area. The area represents a complex of shallow lagoon surrounded by agricultural lands, shrub land and pine forest habitats. The banks created are very suitable for the breeding of European Bee-Eater and the agriculture lands are populated with one of the largest colonies of the Collared Pratincole not only in Albania, but in the whole Balkans.

The Lagoon is very suitable for waders and many other water bird species. The site is particularly interesting for the passage or stop-over birds.

After Lalzi bay, the trip will continue towards a breeding territory of the European Roller. Spend short time in the site and leave towards Divjake-Karavasta National Park. DKNP represents one of the most important wetlands of the whole Adriatic. It has been recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA), as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) as RAMSAR site and it is part of the Emerald Network of Albania. It is the most important area for birds in the country.

Here it will be seen (apart many other bird species) the sole breeding colony of the Dalmatian Pelican in Albania and one of the rarest of this species breeding in brackish waters.





Day 3. Narta Lagoon

Narta Lagoon, represents the best site for bird watching in Albania. It is situated in the southern Albania, closed to the city of Vlora. The area is recognized as an Important Bird Area, a Globally Key Biodiversity Area, and Emerald Site and it also fulfils the criteria to be proclaimed as a Wetland of International Importance based on the Ramsar Convention. In Albania, it holds the status of the Protected Landscape.



The whole day will be spent in the Protected Landscape Vjose-Narte and particularly the Salinas of Narta. Watch interesting species, such as the *Greater Flamingo*, the *Dalmatian Pelican*, *Pygmy Cormorant*, the *Little Tern*, the *Stone Curlew*, the *Kentish Plover*, the *Pied Avocet* and many others, including a good number of passerines such as the *Crested Lark*, *Short-toed Lark*, *Black-headed Yellow Wagtail*, *Tawny Pipit*, *Hoopoe* etc. In addition, raptors such as *Montagu's Harrier*, *Marsh Harrier*, *Common Buzzard*, *Common Kestrel* etc are also often seen there. Spend the whole day in Narta. In the evening there is the option to visit the city and take dinner there.





Day 4. Vjosa and Drino valley

Start the day early in the morning and drive towards the UNESCO city of Gjirokaster. Make a birding stop on the way, to the first and the most northern territory of the Egyptian Vulture in Albania. The territory is situated closed to the Vjosa-River, one of the most amazing and the last remaining wild river in Europe.



Watch other birds of prey there, such as *Peregrine*, *Short-toed Snake Eagle*, *Kestrel*, *Common Buzzard* etc. Here we will be able to see also the *Rock Nuthatch*, the *Blue Rock Thrush*, the *Northern Wheatear*, the *Black-eared Wheatear*; several “Sylvia” warbler species, such as the *Sub-alpine Warbler* etc. On the way to the site it is also situated a colony of the *European Bee-eaters*. Visit the castle in the late afternoon and see nesting birds there, such as *Little Owl*, *Kestrel* etc.

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Day 5. Butrint National Park

Butrint is the most visited site in Albania, due to the presence of one of the most interesting archeological parks in Europe. However the area of Butrint represents one of the richest environments in Albania in terms of biodiversity. In a small surface of land is scattered a high number of different natural habitats and landscapes, holding a wide diversity of species, making the area highly attractive not only for cultural tourism but also for eco-tourism.



Birds are one of the most interesting and diverse groups of fauna in this area. In Butrint are registered around 250 bird species. The site is both interesting for water birds and passerines. *Species to be highlighted are White Stork, Glossy Ibis, Caspian Tern, Cattle Egret, Spanish Sparrow, Black Headed Bunting, Calandra Lark, Olive-tree Warbler etc.*

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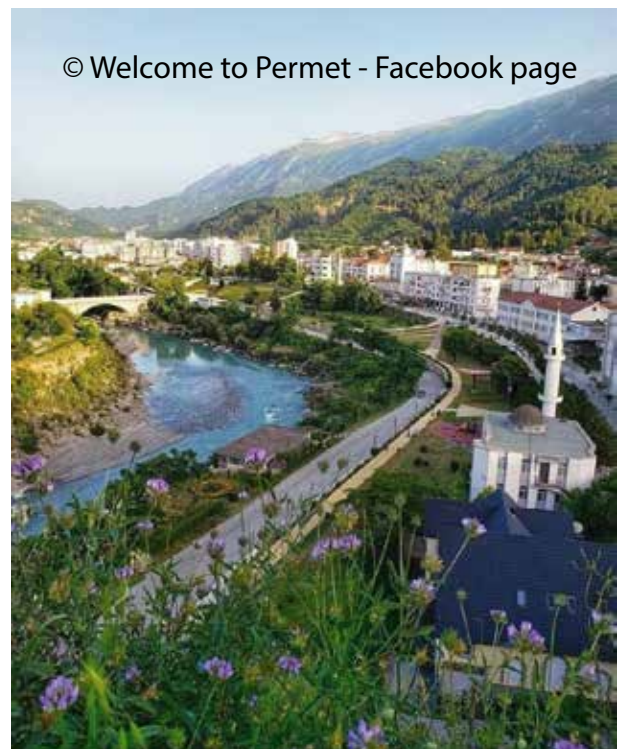


Day 6. Trip to Ohrid lake

Take an early breakfast and start the super interesting trip towards Ohrid Lake. The way goes way up through the amazing landscapes of Vjosa River upper stream and Nemertska Mountain. The area offers original sightseeing of rural Albania and many features of the communist regime in architecture of the areas are still preserved likewise the wall slogans and many communism monuments. The trip is long, but the road goes all way through natural landscapes and habitats.



Several stops will be realized on the way for different bird species and particularly for forest birds such as the woodpeckers. Coffee breaks in two very nice small cities in Albania: Permet, known as the city of flowers in Albania and Erseke, a very small city placed high in altitude in the base of Gramos Mountain. Ohrid Lake will be reached early in the evening. The group will be accommodated in a nice hotel, just next to the lake offering a super relaxing view.





Day 7. Visit Prespa National Park

Take breakfast at the hotel and start birding straight away. Along the first part of the day, we will go birding around the land area and after lunch we will take a boat trip into the lake. Prespa offers fantastic opportunities for birding due to the diversity of habitats that includes. Agricultural birds, shrub birds, forest birds, water birds and birds of prey are all present in the area. Exceptional will be the boat trip where we will be able to see both Dalmatian and the Great White Pelican foraging in the area.

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Day 8. Departures

Depending on the hour of departure, organize eventual visits on other sites on the way!