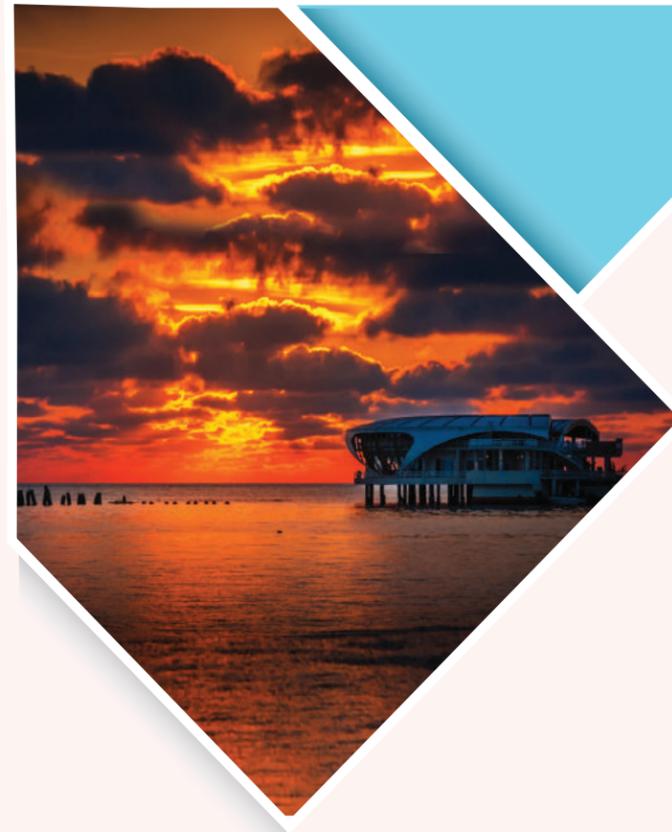




Velipoja beach is the northernmost beach of the country situated 22 km away from city of Shkoder. There are about 250 sunny days and temperatures above 20 degrees C normally begin by mid-May. The beach, with 4 km of high quality sand, is suitable for family vacations and is generally populated by northern Albanian tourists. Shengjin beach is another sandy beach near the district of Lezha, situated 8 km away from the historic town of Lezha. Shengjin beach is well known for its high quality sand and has 200-300 sunny days per year. In the north of Shengjin, ahead of Renci hills, lies the wonderful beach called Rana e Hedhun (Powdered Sand), which is well protected from the winds of that area. Lalzi Bay is another attractive area of the Adriatic coastline situated between Rodon Cape and Bishti i Niles. Rodon Cape is a wonderful, natural masterpiece of 7.5 km and is a highlight for those who enjoy diving. The beaches of Lalezi Bay are sandy ones, some of them surrounded by strips of pine trees.

The Republic of Albania has a considerable coastline that stretches for 450 km (including lagoons) and extends along the Adriatic and Ionian Seas.

The Albanian Riviera is blessed with 300 days of sun. The average temperature in January is 10 degrees C. and the average temperature in July is 25 degrees C. From the saddle of Llogara, which is 1,057 meters above sea level, the exquisitely beautiful littoral zone can be seen as if from the



vantage point of an airplane. Durresi beach, situated only 39 km away from Tirana is the biggest and the most populated beach of the country. It has a length of 6 km with a considerably wide strip of sand. The sea depth increases very gradually, which makes this beach very safe for families and kids. In Durres, there are three major beaches: in the northern part of Durres, the beach of Currila has a deeper depth and is quite protected by the warm wind coming from the land. This beach has characteristics of a

rocky beach - down south of Durres you will find two other beaches: Golem and Mali i Robit, with characteristics similar to the beaches around the Durres area. Vlora is the second biggest harbor of the country and one of the most important points for Albanian tourism offering both "sea and sun". The area near the city along Vlora beaches is well known for its new and modern hotels along with other facilities like bars, restaurants, clubs, and cafes. This is one of the most exciting tourist areas of the country. That area starts directly south of the city along the small and rocky beaches of the Bay of Vlore. Further down the harbor of Orikum you will find recently built yacht stations.



## THE ALBANIAN COAST



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The first beach here is Dhraleos in Palase which has a length of 1.5 km. This is one of the most exotic and tranquil beaches of the Albanian coastal zone, complete with rich blue waters. This beach is popular for water sports and is sometimes even the destination for the parachutes that launch from the saddle of Llogara. Dhermi is located a little further south and is one of the most frequented and important tourist places along the Albanian coast. The crystal-clear waters, isolated beaches, water sports and diving make this the preferred beach of younger generation. The different beaches that are part of Dhermi are Jaliksari, Shkambo and Gjipea.



The beach of Gjipea has a beautiful shape. Past this beach there is a stream that has made a canyon with 70 meters high walls. Located near the beach of Dhermi is the Cave of Pirates which tourists can access only by boat or ferry. There are also hotels, restaurants and summer clubs located nearby. Throughout this entire area, "family tourism" has developed, where tourists can choose to rent guesthouses or reside in a variety of hotels nearby. Near Himara 8 km south of Dhermi, you will find the village of Vuno, which is the central area of the Albanian Riviera. It is a touristy place that comes to life during the summer season thanks to the younger generations that come here. In this area are Beaches of Spilea, Potami, Llamaniand and Livadhja. All of them stand out for their deep waters, navigability and rocky characteristics. After Borsh is Qeparo Beach and the small tectonic gulf of Porto Palermo where Ali Pasha castle is located.

Borsh, is one of the longer littoral zones of the Albanian Riviera and guarding this beach is a collection of massive Mediterranean vegetation, primarily citrus and olive plantations. Family tourism has also become very popular in this area. Between here and Saran& city, one can find the beaches of Bunec, Kakome and Krokey whose collective length runs about three km and each with beautiful, crystal-clean water. The city of Saranda is the most populous urban area on the

Albanian Riviera and a very big tourist destination, especially enjoyed by newly married couples on their honeymoon. The city and surrounding areas offer a range of hotels catering to five-star travelers as well as the more budget-conscious, while home rentals also remain an option. The city is positioned well upon the coast only 9 km away from the Greek island of Corfu. Daily ferries offer connections between Saranda-Corfu-Saranda making this southern Albanian city a good base for European and international tourists. Along Saranda you will find some smaller beaches like Central and Liman. Usually, tourists prefer to visit one of the most more frequented places, Ksamil, which is located between the peninsula of Ksamil and lagoon of Butrint hosting a number of hotels and restaurants. Towards the front of it, it expands Corfu and near the beach of Ksamil are 4 small islands covered by Mediterranean vegetation with a surface of 8.9 ha.

The Albanian Riviera is a place where the sun stretches across the deep sea, where there are splendid configurations of rocky and isolated small beaches, and the mountains and hillsides are covered in Mediterranean vegetation with charming villages constructed between the mountains and sea. It is easy to distinguish the seas apart from one another thanks to their different characteristics.



## Porto Palermo

where All Pasha castle is located.

The Adriatic beaches tend to be sandy with shallow waters, making them suitable for family holidays. The main beaches are those of Velipoja, Shengjin, Durres, Golem, Spille, Divjake, and Vlore. Besides the beaches, the Adriatic coast is rich with lagoons and natural ecosystems providing wonderful opportunities for those passionate about the study and observation of birds as well as those interested in ecotourism.

