E EUR TO DO

ALB: (LP40)

Tirana (Tirane), ALB: (LP43, 44m)

7D

IUAL eTicket Number: 0167049126068 800-538-2929

UALReference Code:NRR8YGLufthansa Reference Code:8QPIKX

Travelocity ID#: 6209 0302 8861me/e2to20 888-872-8356

www.checkmytrip UAL Freq. Flyer: 032789600

FLIGHT INFO: TUS > TIA

SERVICE	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE	
UAL 5456	4Apr	JAC	DEN	0723am	0853am	
NOTE:	Change plan	es @ DC/Dulle	es Intrn'l Air	port (IAD		
UAL 902	4Apr	DEN	MUC	1025am	0750am	
MUG 1736	24APR	MUC	TIA	0925am	1110am	

Tourist INFO office: recently opened on DIRECS: Rruga Ded Gjo Luli, just N of Skanderbeg Square (behind National Historic MUS). ENG-speaking staff: very helpful; maps & <u>directions to hostels/hotels</u> etc. vital INFO: bus & furgon schedules. SCOTT

\$: old or new leke???: NEVER: use str \$ changers; To Pay 1000 old leks USE 100 lek banknote; To Pay 1000 new leks, USE a 1000 lek note;; Grand Rapids

DO NOT stare @ males; always ACCEPT drink or gift etc.; shake hands - OK

GENERAL:

about 32 kms (20 mi) inland. Tirana's average altitude is 110 meters (360 ft) <u>above sea level</u> & its highest point measures 1,828 m (5,997.38 ft) at Mali me Gropa. city is mostly surrounded by hills, w/ <u>Dajti Mountain</u> on East & slight valley opening on North-West overlooking <u>Adriatic Sea</u> in distance. <u>Tiranë</u> RIV also runs through city, w

TRANS-IN:AIR: Tirana International Airport (aka Rinas Airport); 15 kms NW of city______ Rinas Express airport bus (hrlyw, 6-6pm)



BUS:

NO central bus station, so dropped at various city locations. **International** coach services:Kosovo, MACE via Sturga.

To other cities from from different locations in Tirana

Daily bus service from Skope, MACE, SERB

multiple daily > :Pristina, KO & ALB cities . Schedules change frequently

Rail: no international

Tirana RR STA: N of Skanderberg SQ, beside BUS TERM @ N end of BLVD Zogu I

FOOD: Supermrkt: Italian Connad, Albanian Euromax, biggest closest to cntr: "Connad" - oposite "Dinamo" stadium.

TRANS-LOCAL:

Tourist Info Center (??? (LP46)

Confirm: Girokaster > Ohrid routing

Coach & minibus (furgon) services Intra-city bus lines.

Buses marked 'Unaze': for ring road; loop around city centre. Bus

See also: Bus lines in Tirana

ACCM: BOOKED-HW hostelworld.com Get Directions from Hostel Wrld internet page

Hostel Albania: 96%, 6dm\$17, rr. Beqir Luga,+355 67 278 3798, wifi, bikes, trav desk, lugstor Reservation Number: 34784-25303306; 14:00 24(arv)-29(dp) Apr 2012; Bal Due: €54

DIRECS:

- 1. # You start at Skenderbeg Place straight on to Luigij
- 2. Gorrakuqi street which begins between the Opera House and the old mosque
- 3. # At the crossing after 200m you keep on straight.
- 4. # Further on, after 200m, there is thr roundabout Sheshi Avni Rustemi, where you can see the fruit market, there you take the left street on the other side.
- 5. # Walk straight into Hoxa Tassim street and follow it for 100m.
- 6. #Go right into rr.Beqir Luga.
- 7. #Take the first street left and follow for 60m.
- 8. #You will find our entrance gate on left side. Look out for the big HA on the top of our gate.:

Milingona:95%, 6/8dm:\$17, (LP44m, 9D2) dm: \$15, LPia, DIRECS "HOSTELs- MISC Xtras

Tirana BPs:87% (LP44m, 10D4) dm: \$13.50; DIRECS "HOSTELs- MISC Xtras

MISC:

TEMP: Apr: 64-°; May: 73-54°

POP: 421,286

fast pop growth: when from rural areas > capital for more opportunities.

1990: 250,000, but now - well over 500,000. Such migratory waves creates unsurpassed hospitality

Tirana founded 1614 as an OTTO town by Sulejman Bargjini: area continuously inhabited since antiquity; capital city in 1920; ECON: industrial CNTR centre; rapid growth since 1920s;ag., machinery, textiles, pharma, metal products.

HISTORY:

Antiquity (years???)

10,000 to 30,000 BPE: Since Paleolitic: based on tools found near Mt. Dajt's quarry & in Pellumba Cave arch allege. various Tirana @ suburbs: filled w/lllyrian toponyms. GOOG; continuous human activity through history.

3rd C A.D, **Oldest** discovery: mosaic; other remains found near **Shengjin Fountain medieval temple**; **castle**, possibly called *Tirkan* or *Theranda*, by EMP Justianian, 520 AD w/ 18th C restoration by Ahmed Pasha Toptani. <u>NO special importance</u> in Illyrian & classical times.

1510 reffered to as small village

OTTO rule & World War I (years???)

1431–32: OTTO Land registrations records: 60 inhabited areas, w/ 2,028 houses & 7,300 peepsts. In

1614, Sulejman Bargjini, local ruler established OTTO town w/ MOSQ, commercial centre, & hammam (TURK sauna). town was located along caravan routes & grew rapidly in importance until early

19th C.

1800: 1st settlers, called Vlachs, from villages near Korce & Pogradec settling around modern day Park on Artificial Lake. known as *llacifac*; 1st Christians to arrive. After SERB reprisals in Debar region, thous&s fled to Tirana.

Tirana in 1916.....



After 1816, Tirana languished under Toptani family of Kruja. In 1889,

ALB was taught in Tirana's schools,

During Balkan Wars temporarily occupied by SERBian army,& took part in village. In 1917, first city outline was compiled by Austro-HUNG architects.

Capital city





Building: Italian architecture

ministries Complex:Skanderbeg Sq

1920: Tirana temporary ALB capital which acquired independence in 1912; permanently 1925:

1821: Et'hem Bey MOSQ:t by Molla Bey of Petrela: best artisians, completed by Molla's son.

1923: 1st city plan- by Austrian architects.[10] CNTR of Tirana designed by Mussolin ARCHs; revisions by ALB architect, Italian architect Castellani,& Austrian architects.

Politically, Tirana experienced tumultuous events:

- 1) intermittent attacks from SERB, Croatian & SLOV armies & forces of Zogu
- 2) 1924 Fan S Noli coup

1925, when banned in Turkey, <u>Bektashis dervishes</u> made Tirana their primary settlement.

Sep 1928, Zog of ALB King off ALB.

Monarchy & WW2 (years???):

Primarily: architectural projects, military occupying forces vs. local resistance clashes, & commie rise.

1939: Tirana was captured by Fascist forces

Nov1941, Enver Hoxha began ALB Commi Party w/ Tirana CNTR mobilized against Italian fascists & later Nazis.

17 Nov 1944 liberated after fierce Commie & German battle; Nazis withdrew, commies seized power.

Communism:

Decline: arch & living standards w/ massive socialist-styled apt. complexes & factories; Skanderberg Sq redesigned or demolished includ: Old Bazaar & CATH; replaced by **Soviet-styled Palace of Culture**.(BUT, proudly ALN completed) private car ownership banned, thus mainly bicycles, trucks & buses. After Hoxha's death, pyramid MUS in his memory by gov.



Proclamation of Albania's self-isolationist policy,

Late 1980: Mother Teresa 1st religious figure to visit after ALB's long declared atheist stance. She laid respect to her parents local cemetery.

Rebellion/Demonstrations: U of Tirana students demanded political freedoms Start at Student City > Skanderbeg Square: toppling Enver Hoxha's STAT,.

Transition







Illegal units: Lana RIV banks Rinia Park & Lana RIV after Buildings painted in bright colors **Chaotic urban development**: w/o central planning &w/public areas usurped/ BUT in period, Tirana transformed from centrally planned econ > mrkt econ:

car ownership allowed, kiosjk biz re-established; **BUT**, city lighting & road quality = major problems.

1991 Hoxha's MUS (Pyramid) dismantled (), renamed > persecuted activist Pjeter Arbnori.; all buildings/ apartments de-nationalized, second-hand buses introduced,

1992-1996: modern water, telephone, & electrical systems built.

Politically: historical events: Some important Western personalities visit: James Baker (after Commie-fall; chanting "Freedom works!), Pope John Paul, NEVERTHELESS ,pre 1080s turmoil

Rebirth (years???):

2000,

former Tirana mayor Edi Rama <u>demolished illegal buildings</u> around city centre & on Lana RIV banks; <u>returned area to pre-1990 state</u>; paint façades of Tirana's buildings in <u>bright colours</u>, BUT, int continue to degrade. Critics allege continued corruption

<u>Public transport privatized</u> w/ newer second hand buses, municipal services expanded <u>New Municipal Police force</u> established;

main road reconstruction includ: Ring Road (Unaza) & main BLVD; common areas btw apartment buildings restored; existing prks & SQs & sports areas reovated like EURO look. However, some green areas are being used for construction of skyscrapers.

PROBLEMS: Decreasing urban space & traffic congestion w/ general construction chaos.

2007, U.S. President Geo W Bush visit - 1st.

2008: Gerdec explosions??? **GOOG** especially felt in capital & citizens shaken.

2011: 21 Jan, ABL police clash w/ opposition supporters w/ cars on fire, 3 persons killed, 150 wounded.

WHY? While much achieved, <u>lack of clear vision</u> on Tirana's future.

pressing issues: noise pollution, solid waste issues, loss of public space due to illegal & chaotic construction, unpaved roads in suburban areas, degradation of Tirana's Artificial Lake, rehabilitation of Skanderbeg Square, ever present smog, construction of central bus station, & public parking lots.

Proposed future plans include: continuation of illegal buildings' legalization process, construction of southwestern portion of Big Ring Road, tram system, rehabilitation of Tirana Train Station area.

SOLVED ISSUES: Skanderberg Sq.: currently pedestrianized; more tourist friendly; Tirana: major renovation: ugly dull buildings repainted,--- average citizen speaks little ENG

ECON:

Early 16th C: bazaar established: craftsmen manufactured silk &n cotton fabrics, leather, ceramics & iron, silver, & gold artifacts.

Exports: 1769:2,600 barrels - olive oil, 14,000 packages of tobacco to Venice **1901**:140,000 olive trees, 400 oil mills, & 700 shops.

Known for native wealthy families.

TO DO

(2T, 4+D, 4?N) est 4D2 1/2h

N of RIVER:

Deshmoret e Kombit BLVD: panoramic avenue built by Italians; panoramic BLVD: built by Italians in 1930s: similar to Champs de Elysee extending S from Skanderberg Square. BLVD features: Fascist, Communist, & modern arch of gov't buildings, business centers & hotels; Cultural Assembly: Name for Tirana center from Skanderbeg Sq down > Univ. In 2000, centre of Tirana from central campus of Tirana U up to Skanderbeg SQ w/ state protection.

Skanderberg SQ:

Skanderbeg Sq: Et'hem Bey MOSQ & Clock Tower, 1901

Skanderberg Monument

Nat. HIST MUS: DIRECS: Skanderbeg Sq., closed Mon,

1½h

<u>Easily recognizable</u> cuz: huge mosaic standing on top of front facade: contains many artifacts: ancient times > Hoxha's regime.

Repeated looting 1990s: robbed many artifacts, best place learn ALB history. Harrowing exhibit of Albania's gruesome labour camp system. Not enough ENG.

'ALB' mosaic facade; Onufri icon exhibit

Tirana Clock Tower: (Kulla e Sahatit) 1820, OO oldest Tirana buildings,'s nearby **Clock Towers of ALB MUS** (Muzeu i Oreve):

½h 1¾h

½h

1h

Clock Towers from around ALB. (10 lek):

Et'hem Bey MOSQ (Xhamia e Tiranës):

1821, construction took 28 yrs; goat's head helmet, minaret; frescoes: depict trees, waterfalls & bridges; still life paintings: rarity in Islamic art.

NAT Art GAL: Dëshmorët e Kombit BLVD

?h

(Bulevardi Dëshmorët e Kombit (Nation's Martyrs BLVD)):. Soviet realism Many local parks nearby.

Parku Rinia (Youth Park) Murat Toptani Street:.

1½h 1h

recently pedestri-only street; E of Rinia Park; constructed w/ stone & nearby

Tirana Castle wall remnant: (Kalaja e Tiranës)(Fortress of Justinian): @ historical core of capital around Murat Toptani Street BUT about all that's left <u>above ground</u>: 6m-high Ottoman-era wall, covered in vines ---incorporated into pedestrianized **Murat Toptani** street

Nearby: **Traditional houses**, cafes, & <u>local park</u> are found here.

?h

Bush Street (Rruga Presidenti George W Bush),

1/4h

(Across from Parliament Building & Murat Toptani Street).; named after US President George W. Bush in honor of his 2007 visit.

S of RIV: Blood feud house not demolished (LP-WB59) N side of RIV:

Hoxha's PYR: EXT ONLY - disrepair

½h

The "Block" (Biloku Area):

1h

giant promenade; ; almost anywhere for <10-15 min.; PAST: commie leader's off-limits, secluded & heavily guarded Politbureau enclave under strict protection. TODAY: main business & fun area; main parks. filled w/ Tirana's citizens & expensive cars cruising

Mount Dajt: 2h

Cable Car > Mount Dajt: <u>www.dajtiekspres.com</u> panoramic city view.

address of cable car ticket office is: Down station of cable car, Commune LINZA, Tirana-Albania Tel. of ticket office: +355 4 2379111, Closed Mon

cable car up & bicycle down!; HIKE: cable car > top> Cherry Pass > Peak of Tujani >back

Congress BLDG: Dëshmorët e Kombit BLVD; Hoxha's daughter's design

½h

ARCHITECTURAL MUS: in Byzantine CHURCH DIRECS: ??

1h

Tirana Mosaic (Mozaiku i Tiranes), Blloku pallateve Partizani, Lagja nr. 9: **mosaic** discovered during excavations for apartment complex. Various artifacts suggest presence of **village 1000s** BPE. <u>only archaeological site in Tirana!</u>

The **Tirana Mosaic** (<u>Albanian</u>: *Mozaiku i Tiranës*) is famous <u>Albanian</u> landmark that is thought to have been part of <u>Roman</u> house built in third century. Later in fifth & sixth centuries, church was built at this site. The ruins of this Paleo-Christian <u>Basilica</u> were discovered in 1972. **Today**, <u>Byzantine church</u> displays some of ancient mosaics discovered at site that feature diverse geometrical patterns & depict poultry & fish. It has been re-opened for public on 23 January 2010.

Grand Park: along artificial Lake (Parku i Madh), (S part of city)

11/₆h

picnics, natural beauty **cuz** huge trees, open spaces, & surrounding mtns.; artificial lake in Park middle. restaurants or cafés. 120 types of plants.

Tabak Bridge (Ura e Tabakëve) Tanners' Bridge:

½h

18th C TTO stone footbridge; once part of Shëngjergj Road linking Tirana w/E highlands. Shëngjergj Road furnished city w/ ag produce & livestock, across Lanë stream & adjacent to butchers & leather workers area mainly used by caravans of farming products or livestock to be butchered in city.. Lanë rerouted in 1930s, but thereafter neglected; 1990s, bridge cleaned & restored; now: pedestrians only bridge's foundations were uncovered & an artificial pond was recreated on both sides of bridge

Butchering profess: certain families owned: Xheleti or Kuka, called tabakë (ALB) includes tanning. Overall project intends entire area 2B pedestrians only.--- intended area extends from Tanners' bridge to square where flag of Albania was raised for first time in 26 November 1912.[

Kaplian Pasha's Grave (Varri i Kapllan Pashës):

?h

Sali Shijaku house

3/4h

DIRECS: Rruga Vildan Luarasi Tirana, Albania, (0)4 226 14 58

Traditional Houseold, typical Ottoman house is believed to have been built in 15th century. It is private home of Sali Shijaku, one of Albania's most famous artists

5 well-preserved traditional houses ????

?h

Bektashi Temples & Global Centre

?h

Shengjin Fountain Church (Kisha e Kroit të Shëngjinit)

?h

OUTSIDE Tirana:

Day 1:

Selita village: in Tirana's outskirts live Tirana's influential elite & astonishing villa architecture

Prezë Castle (Albanian: Kalaja e Prezës), Prezë,

4h

DIRECS: NWW of airport > Fushe Preze, **SEE GoogMs**

built by Parthini tribe.

Preza Castle overlooks village w/ name & located on hilltop.small 14th C castle & owned by Topias, local feudal family. DESIGN: 4 towers; 1/corner. clock tower, 1800-1850, beautiful location, overlooking Tirana plain.

Day 2: Dajti National Park: 15km E of Tirana;

4h

highly used in & considered 'Natural Balcony of Tirana': together w/ S Priska Mountain (1353m) DIRECS: via narrow asphalt mtn road into area aka Fusha e Dajtit: site of many restaurants w/ excellent view of Tirana & its plain THUS, Balcony of Tirana. gondola lift from E Tirana outskirts > Fusha e Dajtit (field of Dajti), 1050 ms H. On summit: radio & TV transmitters.

Prehistoric settlements: traces found. Also, <u>fortifications</u> from later periods discovered. Brar Canyon & Bridge (DIRECS: NE of Tirana inside Mount Dajti NP), Brar village (Follow Myslym Keta Street): panoramic canyon & OTTO bridge; cave & few traditional houses also Petrele Castle (Kalaja e Petrelës) (Petrela Castle): medieval fortress DIRECS: 8km S of Tirana; OO ALB's best preserved castles; aka ancient settlement 2000 years old commanded by princess Mamica, sister of national hero, Skanderbeg

Petrela Castle near Tirana

EXTRA: If time:

Pellumbas Cave(local aka"Shpella e Zezze" (Black Cave): SEE PDF DIRECS: 18km SE from Tirana, near small village of Pelumbas; karstic cave. inhabited by humans in prehistoric times; unguided OR TOUR: travel agencies regular daytrips.



4h

TRANS-OUT:

BUS & furgons: (hrly, 2 hr) (cost: 400 lek).

Furgon from Tirana to Berat (cost: 500 lek), Tourist Info Center (??? (LP46)

Confirm: Girokaster > Ohrid routing

BUS: > MACE (8hr,

ALT 2: 'Jlrokastra > Maceonia ???

TRN: NO Intn'I

ALT 1: IDEAL: from Gjirokastra, ALB:POSSIBLE ???

- 1) Gjirokastra, ALB > Pogradec, ALB,
- 2) THEN taxi (6km, 300MKD) > Sveti Naum ⊗, then BUS (29km, 110MKD / Taxi: 900MKD (NO!) > Ohrid, MACE

Passes near Pogradec, ALB small city worth visit for those w/ extra time in Ohrid No TRNs run to Ohrid.

OR,

ALT 2: Tirana, ALB > Ohrid, MACE

- 1) daily BUS from Tirana, ALB (via Kafasan ⊗) to Struga, (town) BUS STA (09:30, 12:30, 22:30, 23:00; € 10-13).
- 2) TAXI: Struga .> Ohrid (€ 5-7) or minibuses (approx. every 20 min; 40 Denars).

Ohrid BUS STA: few kms outside town CNTR (30 minute walk). TAXI from BUS STA > town CNTR: (1 € (60 MKD) BUT beware taxi dRIVs cheat, SO agree on price before hand

KRUJA, ALB (C): DT from Tirana (LP47)

population of about 15,900; "means "Spring"; foot of Mount Krujë

(1D) Skanderberg's birthplace

1D

TRANS-IN/OUT: GOOG Furgon: 1 way: 200 leke **TOURS? Ask in Tirana**

32 km from capital of Tirana; btw Mount Krujë & Ishëm RIV, city is only 20 km from capital of

ALB

TRANS-LOCAL:

Tirana furgon > Kruja (NOT Fush Kruja)

ACCM: no-DT

MISC: **HISTORY:**

> In ancient times Inhabited by <u>Illyrian</u> tribe of <u>Albani</u>, while town is located near <u>Iron Age</u> Illyrian site of Zgërdhesh.[3][4] Some scholars have identified site w/ main settlement of Albani, Albanopolis, while others identified Albanopolis w/ Krujë itself in During Illyrian Wars area of Krujë was captured by Roman Republic

1190 Krujë became capital of first autonomous ALB state in middle ages, Principality of Arbër. Later it was capital of Kingdom of ALB, & in 15th C it became capital of Principality of Kastrioti under Gjon Kastrioti, father of national hero of ALB Skanderbeg. In early 15th C Krujë was conquered by OTTO Empire, but then recaptured in 1443 by Skanderbeg, leader of League of Lezhë, who successfully defended it against three OTTO sieges until his death in 1468.

region of Krujë was inhabited by <u>Illyrian</u> tribe of Albani, [4][5].

Ottomans took control of town after fourth siege in 1478, & incorporated it in their territories. A 1906 local revolt against OTTO Empire was followed by 1912 Declaration of Independence of ALB. In mid-1910s Krujë was one of battlefields of conflict btw short-lived Republic of Central ALB, founded by Essad Toptani, & Principality of ALB. In 1914 Toptani managed to seize town but during same year it was reincorporated by Prênk Bibë Doda in Principality of ALB. During WWII was CNTR of activities of resistance leader

Ancient:

Pagan ritual site; of Illyrian tribe of Albani, while town is located near iron age Illyrian site of Zgërdhesh.[3][4] Some scholars believe it is main settlement of Albani "Albanopolis"; others identified Albanopolis w/ Krujë itself

During Illyrian Wars Krujë area captured by Romans

Medieval (middle ages):

Early Kruje medieval artifacts include: dress items & weaponry found in 5th & 6th C cemeteries: displaying high status & wealth. Originally (5th - 9th C), middle-sized fortress expanded to

In 1190, capital of 1st autonomous ALB state of middle ages. During late 13th & early 14h C Byzantium & then SERBian Empire controlled for brief periods.

Btw 1363 & 1368 Kingdom of ALB was dissolved, when captured & incorporated into Princedom of ALB.

After 1389 House of Topia lost control of Kruje to Ottomans who, in turn, lost control in early 15th C to Niketa Thopia (???), BUT regained control & then incorporated into Sanjak of ALB.



Until 1432, governor of Krujë wasZagan Bey ,& later from

1437-1438 Skanderberg was governor. HIST NOTE: On November 28 1443 Skanderbeg gained control over Krujë by deceiving its governor w/ forged sultan's letter. From1450 > 1477 Krujë was defended successfully by ALB troops four times against OTTO army which

eventually captured it in 1478 during 4th seige. During 1st seige 914500,Skanderberg's 2000 soldiers defeated 100,000 OTTO force men led by Sultan who tried to bribe Konti to surrender castle..2nd seige (1466) & 3rd seige (1467) thwarted against 150,000. After 1468 Skanderbeg's 1468 death, supplemented by Venician troops. In 1476 seige against 10,000 OTTO besiegers, who retreated after reinforcements arrived. BUT Kruje eventually conquered by 1478 Ottomans after year's seige. This OTTO seige success inspired their seige of Shkodra.

1450 HIST NOTE: Skenderberg's Greatest Victory: 17,500 vs 100,000

Citadel of Kruj': OO Europe's most titanic struggles. May 1450, OTTO Sultan Murad II of Consandtantinople (w/ 100,000 men) to crush forever, ALB army (united since 1444 by Skenderbeg's personal recruiting). AIM: storm citadel & hold ALB countryside w/ Kruj' as capital. OOH, Skenderbeg's personal magnetism inspired all ALB fit to B armed & ready for combat, 17,500 at most,:thus 5 to 1. Skenderbeg divided troops into 3 bands. 1) 1500 led by Count Uran provisioned to withstand siege inside citadel. 2) 8,000 under Skenderbeg to harry near of OTTO army once encamped below Kruj', & 3) 8,000 as small guerrilleros bands to ambush, raid, & snipe TURK caravan on cumbersome trail from MACE. Since Sultan Murad II realised that his troops would mutiny if ordered to stay for hostile winter encamped below Kruj', retreated after 4 ½ mo w/ loses est at more than 20,000 -more than entire ALB army. Ragusa congratulated Skenderbeg, "Magnificus et Potens" on his stupendous victory.

British military strategist Wolfe has said Skenderbeg surpassed "all captains, both ancient & modern, in his ability to lead small defensive army". After 1468 death - natural causes - Skenderbeg, citadel of Kruj' defeated after 10 yrs faling 16 june 1478 to Sultan Mehmet.

Modern (1900 --)

- During ALB's rise of nationalism, Kruje was battlefield site of many tax related anti-OTTO rebellions.
- In 1906 Krujë revolted again against OTTO empire. <u>Wāli</u> of <u>Shkodër</u>, Sali Zeki Pasha sent four battalions of OTTO army stationed in city against rebels of Krujë. Eventualy OTTO officials offered negotiations w/ rebels. On September 20, 1906 Ottoman's ambushed Kruje's negotiating leaders
- During 1912 ALB Revolt, captured Kruje became major anti-OTTO centers. In 1914 notable member of Toptani family & OTTO officer captured Kruje.
- After successful Italian invasion ALB became an Italian protectorate; native Krujeian became Prime Minister & created 300-man force to defend against resistance groups. BUT, soon after another Kruje native resistance created permanent ALB resistance forces & gradually took back control.
- In end of Nov 1944, last German troops in area were defeated & LNC (???) battalions took control.

TO DO

Skanderbeg STAT: @ bus Stop in Fushe Kruja

Kruja / Ktuje castle

3h

Inhabited by Illyrian of Albani. Originally mid-sized fortress which expanded into 6th - 9th C town; In 1190 capital of 1st autonomous ALB middle ages state

Krujë castle:(ALB: Kalaja e Krujës) is castle in Kruje, ALB -- site of Skenderberg's great OTTO battle; withstood 3 massive Turk sieges, w/ garrisons usually no larger than 2,000-3,000 men. Mehemed II " Conqueror" could not break castle's small defenses.

Castle image on ALB 1000 leke banknote of 1992-1996, & 5000 lekë banknote:post-1996.

Skanderberg MUS:in castle

Founded 1982,15th C ALB-OTTO war's artifacts; when besieged four times by OTTO army; paintings







Bomb Shelters

Concrete dome bunkers: LP47

Ethno MUS: 34h

founded in 1989, in 1764, 15-16 room villa of affluent 19th C Toptani family; frescos main exhibits 60 to 500 year old artisanship objects.

OTTO bazar btw BUS STA & castle Old restored Bazaar near castle

3/4h



SHKODRA, ALB (Shkoder): (LP46,)

(1T, 2D, 2N)

EST

5D

In coastal plain NW ALB : 'Lock in tower'; On Lake Shkodra in: OO oldest, most historic ALB towns.

TRANS-IN:

BUS: Tirana (hrly, 2 hr)

TRANS > Town

Airport Express bus

ACCM: Get Directions from Hostel Wrld internet page

Hotel Kaduku: Rr.Studenti 84, (Sheshi Demokracia), 4000 Shkoder,

Albania(LP-WB 91) (E5s. ?\$23) LOC: town CNTR, (0)22

242216; info@hotel-kaduku.com, postmaster@hotel-kaduku.com additional budget rms &

GUD Thethi info, www.hotel-kaduku.com; Probably (email) can book furgon

Hotel Parku: (LP46,\$5)near rr (?) not far from center

Florian Shkodra GH: \$35, 2 km from Shkodra NOT GUD location

MISC:

POP: 74,876 **Climate:** Apr: 66-°; May: 75-55°

Econ: educational & industrial CNTR. city produces various mechanical & electrical

components, along w/ textile & food products;

HISTORY:

Antiquity

Known as Scodra (GRK: Σκάρδον) Latin: Scodra)] during antiquity; capital of 1st llyrian Kingdom, since mid- 3rd C BC. Town 1st mentioned during classical

times as site of Illyrian Labeates GOOG

In 168BC captured & colonized by Romans - became important trade & military route. By 395 AD - part of Dicoses of Dacia within Praevalitana.

Middle Ages (???) Rozafa Castle, an Illyrian fortress

Approx. 500AD: Middle Ages waves of SLAV arriving. Byzantium EMP Heraclius gave Shkodër & surrounding territories to SERBs. Why? Shkodër becane major medieval Montenegrin.city creating SERB controlled by BUL Czars during 1st ½ of10th C.

Byzantium later incorporated region into empire but lost control during 1st ½ of 11th C.; accepted crusaders of Crusade of 1101. Eventually fell under Vnetian control forming coalition against Ottomans w/ many neighboring ALB tribes.

15th to 19th C







1867 Shkodër CATH Construct

Lead MOSQ,1773

ped st: Sheshi / Pjaca on Kol Idromeno St

1474, under Venetian rule Shkodër resisted major OTTO attacks, but in 1478 under OTTO seige again by Mehmed Conqueror: ten heavy canons cast on site; heavy balls fired (still on display in castle MUS);Ottomans captured in winter & adjacent castles; plus famine & constant bombardment lowered defenders morale.

Situated on naturally protected hill forcing many casualties; truce w/ honour mutually desireable & occurred on Jan 25 btwn Venetians & Ottomans, permitting citizens to leave unharmed, w/ Ottomans taking deserted city. After TURK occupation large numbers fled. **Around 17th C**, city began to prosper; OTTO administration; economic CNTR of N ALB: producing fabric, silk, arms, & silver artifacts. Construction: 2-story stone houses, bazaar & Central or Middle Bridge (*Ura e Mesit*) over Kir RIV, built 2nd ½ of 18th C: over 100 meters long, w/ 13 arcs of stone, largest one being 22 meters wide & 12 meters tall.

18th C: Shkodër under rule of Bushati family, ruled: 1757 to 1831.; Then number of uprisings against Ottomans (1833–1836, 1854, 1861–1862, & 1869); many SERBian families emigrated. **2nd ½ of 19th C** Shkodër was an important trade CNTR for entire Balkan peninsula: over 3,500 shops; major products: clothing, leather, tobacco, & gun powder; special trade administration, trade court, postal connection w/ other countries; foreign consulates (1718) Also, main entrepot for 'illegal' things through MONT throughout eastern EURO. League of Prizen: ALB liberation movement role: participated in battles, own armed unit. **19th C** was cultural CNTR: Library -1840s, 1st ALB newspapers; Marubi family of photographers; legacy MUS of over 150,000 negatives from period of ALB liberation

20th C

movement.

During Balkan Wars, Shkodër went from one occupation to another: Ottomans defeated by MONT Kiingdom & SERBian allies who made citizens suffer cruelties afters October 1913: Thousands of refugees: Victims of MONT. Anecdote: women came crying: "If you will not feed my child, throw it in RIV. I cannot see it starve." In May 1913 MONT abandoned Shkodery to new country of ALB.

WWI: June 27, 1915 MONT forces again occupied Shkodër. Jan 1916, Shkodër taken over by Austria-HUNG as CNTR of occupation.

After WW I, international military administration of ALB was temporarily located in Shkodër, **March**, **1920**, Shkodër administered by Tirana. 2nd ½ of 1920, Shkodër resisted military intervention of SERB, Croats & Slovenes.

1921–1924 Shkodër was CNTR of democratic movements which succeeded on May 31, 1924. From **1924 to 1939**, Shkodër had slow industrial development, small factories that produced food, textile, & cement were opened.

Early 1990s, Shkodër was major CNTR of democratic movement ending Hoxha's Commie regime..

In **later 2000s**, city's rebirth: main streets paved, buildings painted & streets renamed. BUT **Dec 2010**, hit by worst flooding in last 100 years.

In 2011: new swing bridge over Buna RIV replacing mighty old nearby bridge.

TO DO City Center:

"Lead" MOSQ: ½h Al-Zamil MOSQ: ½h

former Catholic Cathedra that Shkodra people refer to as Great Church(Hoaxa basketball)

Rozafa Fortress/Castle (Castle of Shkodër):, SSE of Shkodra

2h Illyrian reign built; "keeping of promise" walled-in woman legend:. Rozafa, bride of

youngest of three brothers, was walled up alive in mortar of walls of castle to ward off evil that was destroying them each night after husbands built new walls.: became famous during First Balkan War when it was protected by TURK general Hasan Riza Pasha & Esad Pasha GOOG why?.

HIST MUS: 3/4h

housing complex of Oso Kuka, rich 18th C tradesman & revolt leader. MUS displays traditional way of life & showcases remarkable collection of priceless artefacts & accessories designed to make life easy & pleasant for upper classes

Marubi Photo Exhibit 250,000 orig glass negs, from 1858, preserved & being digitalized. 3/4h

Restored Old Town section 2h

Many visitors feel Shkodër is AL's soul: juxtaposition of ancient houses & narrow streets joined w/ stone walls & modern buildings.

TURK Bath: 3/4h

NAT'L GEO DVD:

- 1) @ Lake Scutari's outlet: monument >5 ALB ppartisians that died holding off Nazis
- 2) Atheist MUS









Shkodra MUS Interior 18th C Mes Bridge

Rozafa Castle at top of hill overlooking Buna

DT (Nearby):

Shurdhah ruins (Sarda): interesting <u>HIST site</u>; medieval town only 15 km from Shkodër. 1/2D TRANS: must take boat from Vau I Dejes dam>island (10 mi). Built atop hill on island in Drini RIV (rerouted to form artificial lake); one time famous Dukagiini Family summer retreat.

Citadel of Drisht: medieval; 5 km east bike ride???

1/2D

Shkdora Lake: biggest BALK peninsula lake.

Thethi: "lock-in tower" SEE SEPARATE "Thethi" page below !!!!!

Also **Thethi Falls**: u'll need good car to go to Thethi, preferably Jeep. If you have an old or small, or even if your car is good but not Jeep, its best to rent Jeep at local stores, as they are not expensive, but they are very safe for your security.



Skhodra TRANS-OUT:

BUS: >Tirana (hrly, 2 hr)

NO Valbona Valley National Park also difficult, but less so than Thethi

NO Lake Koman: ferry ride GOOG, Thorn Tree: in/out not worth hassel,

Thethi: "lock-in tower" Also Thethi Falls: @ CNTR of Thethi NP 2D TRANS-IN:

difficult: enter @ NW 25 km from Shkoder through village of Bogë (where PUB TRANS & asphalt road stops), narrow dirt road w/ hairpin curves that sees fair amount of traffic continues to Thethi. In summer, various vehicles continue > Theth w/which to possibly hitch ride. May means just one minibus early in morning.

ACCM:

A number of **local families** offer board & lodging to visitors ??? Precarious ness of 3 hr furgon trip > breakfast w/ host family, **Guest House** Theth Center; 3Stars, Email: Phone number: +355 69 20 46 333 HISTORY:

EARLY: pop moved to Theth some 300 to 350 years ago to preserve their Catholic Christian traditions; majestic isolation from all world;

PRESENT: Depopulation serious long-term threat; greatly reduced over past few decades & majority remaining only during summer. However, stimulated tourism may solve; 9-grade school tourism. who come to Theth to hike in National Park - or merely to admire mountain scenery

TO DO:

- 1) LOCK-IN TOWER "Kulla e ngujemit": restored; especially interesting cuz OO last ALB examples- used to protect family males under blood feud. Blood feuds were virtually extinguished during communist times, however, lawlessness of 1990's saw sharp rise in killings. New York Times article: about Kanun, Lekë Dukagjini, & blood feuds. Tourists & foreigners: generally immune from these (& even protected, unless you flip over someone's table!).
- 2) Spectacular waterfalls:
- 3) Working watermill (still used to grind local inhabitants' corn)
- 4) ethnographic MUS: modest

hiking ???

Kanun, an Albanian code of behavior that has been passed on for more than 500 years, "blood must be paid with blood," with victim's family authorized to avenge slaying by killing any of killer's male relatives In Albania, blood feud has returned in rural areas after more than 40 years of being abolished by Albanian communists led by Enver Hoxha. More than 5,500 Albanian families are currently engaged in blood feuds. There are now more than 20,000 men & boys who live under an ever-present death sentence because of blood feuds. Since 1992, at least 10,000 Albanians have been killed due to blood feuds. [33]



Other Defensive Tower Contexts:

The defensive towers built by feuding clans of Svaneti, mountains of Caucasus



Vathia, typical Maniot village famous for its towers;

The families involved would lock themselves in their towers & when they got chance would murder members of opposing family. The



Maniot vendetta is considered most vicious & ruthless; it has led to entire family lines being wiped out. The last vendetta on

record required <u>Greek Army</u> with <u>artillery</u> support to force it to stop. Regardless of this, Maniot Greeks still practice vendettas even today. Maniots in <u>America</u>, <u>Australia</u>, <u>Canada</u> & <u>Corsica</u> in <u>France</u> still have on-going vendettas which have led to creation of <u>Mafia</u> families known as "Γδικομέοι" (Gdikiomeoi



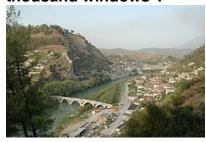
A <u>Kasbah</u> in Dades valley, <u>High Atlas</u>. Historically, tribal feuding & banditry were way of life for <u>Berbers</u> of Morocco. <u>loitation needed</u> As result, hundreds of ancient kasbahs were built.

[20] among <u>Serb tribes</u> in Montenegro, [21]

Berat/Berati, ALB: (LP47,) (beautiful town) UNESCO (1T, 1D, 2N)

3D

Rare example of well-preserved OTTO town; country's most beautiful town; aka "town of thousand windows".





TRANS-IN:

Tourist Info Center (LP:WB76m, 48) **Confirm**: Gjrokaster > Ohrid routing

BUS & furgons: (hrly, 2 hr) (cost: 400 lek). **Furgon** from Tirana to Berat (cost: 500 lek),

ACCM: Get Directions from Hostel Wrld internet page

Berat BPs: (LP-WB78m,253A3; Gorica, Berat 1 map dm\$12)(Eng man); LOC: Gorica Qrt (across

RIV from Castle: OK),

Hotel Mangalemi: 100%, (LP-WB78m,25B3; LP46,s \$17/\$20.40); N side RIV

Lorenc GD & Hostel: 98%,dm:\$17,easy walk >BUS STA, GREAT TravAdvRev,+355 69 633 7254

Hotel Guva: (LP48,dm: \$10); Gorica,cheap / bare, but hike up stairs

MISC:

HISTORY:

Earliest date: 314 BC; earliest recorded peeps (6th C BC): Grk: Dexarioi tribe. Modern Berat at Ancient GRK Antipatreia site, later MACE stronghold in S Illyria.OTTO house up hill > castle

TO DO

NOTE: Modern Berat consists of three parts divided by Osum RIV: Gorica ("little mountain"), Mangalem & Kalaja, later, residential quarter w/in old Byzantine citadel overlooking town.

Old Town featuring exterior flower & plant decorations, tight paths & unique local hospitality. 1h main promenade at sunset

GORICA: (another Christian QRT)

Bridge of Gorrica (stone bridge): (LP-WB78m,21A3, 78) over Osum RIV)

St. Spiridon MON & St Thomas: (LP-WB78m,12A3 & 20B3, 78)

DIRECS: near footbridge; Not impressive

Illyrian Fortress remains: (LP-WB78m,12A3 & 20B3, 78) IF EXTRA TIME

DIRECS: tough, unmarked trail up hill into woods

Kalasa castle / Kala:

13th C, but w/ origins back to 4th C BC; very beautiful place w/ great area views. Citadel still inhabited, w/ many churches & shops DIRECS: steep walk up cobbled path of worn & slippery stones.

built on rocky hill on L bank of Osum RIV, accessible only from S. After being burned down by Romans in 200 BC walls strengthened in 5th C by Byzantine, & rebuilt again in 6th C by EMP Justianian & again in 13th C by Despot of Epirus, cousin of Byzantine EMP.

Main entrance - N side, is defended by <u>fortified courtyard</u> w/3 smaller entrances; large enuf to house many town peeps. **Interior buildings:** 13th C, -- preserved. Fortresses's pop was Christian:

IN Castle??? 20 13th C churches & 1 MOSQ for Muslim garrison, (only few ruins & base of minaret); only some church ruins remain.

Water reservoir: up ruined stairs from Inner Fortress (highest part):

½h

1/2h

½h

1½h

Churches: castle related

1) INSIDE:

14th C Church of Holy Trinity:

½h

DIRECS: in sm treed sq on hillside inside fortress; form of cross w/ Byzant. murals.

St. Nicholas CATH: most interesting; well restored; now: Onufri MUS.

2) NEAR ENTRY: Little Church of St. Theodore (Shen Todher):

½h

DIRECS: Near entrance, after guardhouse; wall paintings by Onufri himself.

½h

3) OUTSIDE: 3th C **Church of St. Michael** (Shën Mehill); <u>Outside</u> fortress walls, <u>DIRECS</u>; on clift edge below citadel; reached by steep but perfectly safe path.

Onufri MUS: DIRECS: INSIDE castle in CHURCH;

1h

Onufri: greatest 16th vivid iconography works & ALB painters. Not only was he master of techniques of fresco & icons, but he was first to introduce new colour in painting, shiny red, which French called "Onufri's Red". In addition, Onufri introduced certain realism & degree of individuality in facial expression.

1st inscription w/ Onufri's name found in 1951, in Shelqan church. Kastoria church (July 23, 1547) refers to Onufri's: "I am Onufri, & come from town of Berat.". MUS has works of Onufri, his son, Nikolla & others'; many icons & fine religious silversmith's work (sacred vessels, icon casings, Gospel books covers, etc.).4th C Berat Gospels are copies (originals in Nat'll Archives in Tirana). church itself has: magnificent iconostasis of carved wood, w/2 very fine icons of Christ & Virgin Mary. Bishop's throne & pulpit are considerable quality.

From 27 february 1986 **Onufri National MUS** is located in inner part of "Saint Mary Church" in Castle of Berat. MUS is called "Onufri", in honor to ALB artist; rebuilt 1797, CATH is most representative monument of post Byzantine architecture in Berat town.

MUS's collection: 173 objects chosen from 1500 objects belonging to ALB Churches & Monasteries & Berat; 106 Icons & 67 Liturgical objects of ALB Iconol painters during 16th - 20th C: Onufri, Onufri `s son, Nicola, Cypriot Onufri, David Selenica, Kostandin Shpataraku.

ETHNO MUS: 18th C OTTO house+355 32 232 224 ·

1½h

DIRECS: located in grounds of traditional house on way up to castle.

Seems that building itself is MAIN attraction w/ traditional local furniture & house utensils Opened1979, in old 18th C building w/ Berat country architecture built by country masters: residence w/ lobby; feudal style residence; 2-storied residence, w/lobby on one side; basement is uninhabited; connection w/ 2nd floor is staircase made of stone on one side, built over lintel in stone arch.

Main attraction: lobby & porch open spaces, w/ non-moveable furniture (thus preserved: wooden case, wall-closets, chimneys, wells, etc.; some rooms are only for, living, eating, sleeping, cooking & so on

INT: known for combining nature w/ massive MUS objects: parallel to well is olive-press, & wool-press which presses olives & gets their oil; also massive ceramic dishes that were used to contain liquids.

15th C Red MOSQ: Albanian: Xhamia e Kuqe):1st Berat mosque (ruined) Where?

Churches:

1) GOOG DIRECS where? 13th C Church of St. Mary of Bachernae: 16th C mural paintings by Nikollë Onufri, son of....

½h







MANGALEM:

Sultan's MOSQ (ALB) (Xhamia e Mbretit): 16th C: oldest in town (1481–1512): <u>fine ceiling</u>.

DIRECS: (LP-WB78m,22C2, 77); Helveti tege: <u>behind MOSQ</u>;

6th C 'Lead' MOSQ (Xhamia e Plumbit),: DIRECS: (LP-WB78m,11C3, 77) on square ½h

Built 1555; named for lead covering of cupola; town centre;

11827 Bachelor's MOSQ (Xhami e Beqareve):

DIRECS: (LP-WB78m,5B3, 77) Near st. running down from fortress

nice portico. EXT: decoration of flowers, plants, houses, etc; 'Bachelors' were young shop-assistants (in practice generally unmarried), whom Berat merchants used as their own private militia.

½h

TRANS-OUT:

Berat BUS STA (next to Lead MOSQ)

BUS > GJIROKASTRA (>Saranda):

3 /day (8. 9:30am; 1:30pm): 6 hr)

1/day (5hr, ?)

BUS to major ALB towns from Berat - Tirane, <u>Gyrocaster</u>, Saranda amongst many others (needs update). Check board in bus station for destinations & departure times..

SCOTT

4723 cunctatory 6593 Haji Bektash
 6613 Grk rite of Incubation6645 St Geo's Eve II
 6672 Ouche Polye (Sheep's Field) stone in i.e 'rock'

6677 Gunpowder gypsie 6704 'Pain is price for Gud'



NO Tomorr(i) Mountain:

DIRECS E of <u>Berat</u> & <u>Poliçan</u> & Osum RIV (<u>Canyon of Osum river</u>). reached w/ 4x4 vehicles as part of tours organized by Outdoor ALB

ALB legend: Tomorr mountain was originally giant, who fought w/ 2nd giant over young woman. They killed each other & girl drowned in her tears, which then became Osum RIV.

ount Tomorr is large mountain in southern <u>Albania</u>. Its highest peak, called <u>Cuka e Partizanit</u>, reaches height of 2,416 m (7,927 ft).

In antiquity region of Tomorr (<u>Greek</u>: Άμυρον Amyron) was inhabited by <u>Dexari</u>, tribe of Epirus that belonged to <u>Chaonian</u> group.[1][2]

<u>Albanian folklore</u> tells how Tomorr came to be. The people believed that Tomorr was giant that wanted to fight another giant named *Shpirag* for young woman. The two giants killed each other & when hearing this young woman cried & drowned in her own tears thus creating river of Osum.[3]

Tomorr is of great importance to local people where <u>Bektashi</u> religious temple can be found, & offering them many facilities such as skiing. For its importance & beauty Albanian Government declared Tomorr National Park. **Tomorr Mountain National Park** (<u>Albanian</u>: *Parku Kombëtar i Malit të Tomorrit*) covers an area of 4,000 hectares. Many endangered species are free to roam & live there.

Bektashi Temple: on peak

GJIROKASTRA (Gyrocaster ???), ALB: (LP49)

(1T, 1D, 2N) (9 1/4h)

Tourist Information Centre, (near Old Bazaar), ☎ +355 84 267077 (tic@gjirokastra.org

2D

GENERAL:

TEMP: Apr 64-66°; May 54-73° NAT GEO DVD: 1930: 70% Mus, GRK Ortho & Latin Cath



TRANS-IN:

NOTE: Transportation & other tourism info @ employees of Tourism Information Center (TIC) in Gjirokaster old town, on left side of road leading towards castle.

Confirm: Girokaster > Ohrid routing

BUS from Berat> GJIROKASTRA (>Saranda)

BUS stops on main hiway 1.5km from old town 3 /day (8. 9:30am; 1:30pm): 6 hr)

1/day (5hr, ?)

Maybe also, route to/from Athens etc.

Gjirokaster Regional Furgon & BUS STA at town entrance, on NW corner where town's main BLVD intersects w/ National Road: NOTE: less of "bus station" & more collective gathering place for buses & furgons (shared minibuses) along shoulder of road. BUT, From here, catch northbound buses > Tirana or Berat.

<u>Daily Buses Sarande > Gjirokastër</u> (300 leke) (Does it continue N somewhere (Tirana)) stopping hourly at bottom of hill (???) until early afternoon.

Buses & minibuses > Tirana (1000 leke)(hrly, around 7AM until 12noon; 2:30PM & night bus DP@ 11PM (arriving Tirane at 5:45AM near Skadnerbeg Square).

Tepelene, Korxe, Permet & southbound buses to Sarande.

LOCAL TRANS:

Gjirokastër divides in 2 halves:, old town on hill, & new town in valley; can walk just about anywhere on steep cobbled streets. Public bus circuit connects old town & new town. WALKING: From roundabout at town CNTR > BUS STA on National Road fairly flat, easy, 10 min walk on main BLVD. Taxis will make this trip for around 200 leke

ACCM:

Recommend traditional Gjirokastër house. Prices start at 17 euro per person per night. Kotoni GH/BB: s\$15, 1500 leke, Lagjia Palorto, Rruga Bashkim Kokona No. 8 DIRECS: Gjirokastra, SE ALB Tel/fax: (+355) 84 263526 * Mob: (+355) 69 23 66 846 * E-mail: info@bb-kotoni.com (L corner)(LP-WB:89,) \$15; 220 yr old bldg,

Hashorva GH: (s \$11,) Rruga Varosh, Lagjia Varosh,, \$11.39 (HashorvaGuestHouse@gmail.com). Hotel Gjirokastra: (s \$16), DIRECS: Hotel Gjrokaster map, Gjirokastra, SE ALB (L corner) Rruga Shezal Como.

MISC:

City's built on dominating plateau on slope surrounding citadel. Although city's walls built in 3rd C & city 1st mentioned in 12th C, most buildings are 17th & 18th C. Typical house: tall stone block structure up >5 stories; external & internal staircases surround house. In Theory design stems from fortified country houses typical in southern ALB: lower story: cistern & stable. upper story:

guest room & family room w/ fireplace. <u>Further upper stories</u>: for extended families connected by internal stairs.

This distinctive local style gives nickname "City of Stone", cuz roofs covered w/ stones. City & Berat avoided 1960s & 1970s modernzation/destruction --- status of "MUS town" & UNESCO **Recently**, site of anti-government protests leading to major ALB political instability (1997)

Alongside ALBs, large Greek minority. Gjirokastër & Saranda, OO centers of GRK community in ALB, 1991, Severe ECON problems following end of communist rule in. In **spring 1993**, region was CNTR of <u>open conflict</u> btw GRK minority & ALB police

1997 suffered collapse of massive pyramid scheme destabilizing entire ALB econ; ALSO focus of violent anti-government protests & rebellion; forcing Sali Berisha's resignation. 16 Dec 1997, Hoxha's house was damaged by unknown attackers, but subsequently restored.[29]

ECON:

Principally, commercial CNTR w/ some industries: foodstuffs, leather, & textiles. **Recently**, regional agricultural market trades locally produced groceries; potential -- <u>organic products</u> for S ALB & GRKs of nearby city - Loanina, but <u>currently **below** EURO standards</u>; Greece Armed Forces built hospital as GRK aid to ALB

Recently, many traditional houses being reconstructed & owners lured to come back, thus revitalizing tourism as potential revenue source for local economy. In **2010**, unfortunately <u>GRK financial crisi</u> impacting ALB cuz ALB emigrants in Greece unemployed & returning.

Ismail Kadare birthplace, internationally famous ALBn writer, candidate for Nobel Literature Prize & recipient of first Man Booker International Prize in 2005. Novel: 'Chronicle in Stone', "It was strange city, & seemed to have been cast up in valley one winter's night like some prehistoric creature that was now clawing up mountainside," Kadare writes in novel.

TO DO

Old Town:

World Heritage: " rare example of well-preserved OTTO town, built by farmers of large estate."; Everything old & made of stone, from streets & fountains to roofs of sprawling ago-old houses, covered w/ grey slates like gigantic scales."600 monumental houses

GJIROKASTRA castle:

DIRECS: at top of hill, dominates town & STRAT imp RIV valley route; 2nd largest in BALK;

contains military MUS (see below), 19th & 20th C additions.

Today: five towers, clock tower, church, water fountains, horse stables, & more.

Zog's gov't used N part of castle as prison housing political prisoners during communist regime, cistern, stage & other points of interest.

National MUS of Armaments **DIRECS**: in castle.

Limited collection, cuz castle pillaged several times in 1990s; remaining arms mostly foreign built; Lockheed T33, shot down in 1957; mostly post-War era weapons, photographs & artwork.

Main gallery: eerily lit corridor, contains two columns of large German & Italian WWII field guns. captured artillery & memorabilia of Communist resistance against German occupation







1h

Old OTTO Bazaar & Historic OTTO Homes

DIRECS: at foot of fortress Originally built 17th C;

19th C Rebuilt after fire; still social & com Old Town CNTR, bazaar & its surrounding 18th, 19th & early 20th C homes captures bit of bygone era; recent EXT cleaning & restoration -- gov's revitalization plan. summer time, it is very lively in evening w/ terraces & live music being played

Traditional old houses:

200 homes preserved as "cultural monuments" various levels of restoration & open to public include: Cabej House, Kadare House, Topulli House, & Skenduli House. Gjirokastra MOSQ: 1757, dominates bazaar.[31].

Zekate House (1812): (LP-WB:89)

3/4h

"great examples of Gjirokastra OTTO architecture style".

most interesting OTTO addition -- tower houses housing wealthy OTTO merchants. particularly well conserved: two-towered **Can be visited w/ permission of family.**

DIRECS: in historic Palorto quarter, short hike from main bazaar; gate at entrance w/ guard dog which looks too old to incur any serious damage but barks loud enough to let owners know of visitors presence. Old lady living in house adjacent to Zekate House has key > main house & she'll exchange it for small fee. large key opens massive front door, visitor explore freely.

four stories w/ intricate engravings in sitting rooms of top floor; featuring three floors spread over two large towers; view of castle & valley --- stunning. MOST VISITED







Ethnographic MUS

1/2h

DIRECS: close to Zekate house, diverse set of cultures / wide range of variety in costumes & other artifacts; ALB dictator Enver Hoxha birthplace.

TRANS-OUT:

IDEAL: DIRECT > Pogradec (LP42m), THEN Taxi > 🗑 > taxi > Sveti-Naum (LP826m), > BS Ohrid Mace

ALT 1: via Kafasan 🕅 ??? if possible GOTO MACE

ALT 2: Return to Tirana (or Elbasan - OVN) Then, next morn > Ohrid

NOTE: The above ALT may go thru Korca1st (LP-WB: 79)

ALT 3: If Ohrid, NOT POSSIBLE, then DIRET > Skopje

ALT 1: IDEAL: from Gjirokastra, ALB > Ohrid, MACE POSSIBLE ???

- 1) Gjirokastra, ALB > Pogradec, ALB,
- 2) THEN taxi (6km, 300MKD) > Sveti Naum \otimes , then BUS (29km, 110MKD / Taxi: 900MKD (NO!) > Ohrid, MACE

Passes near Pogradec, ALB small city worth visit for those w/ extra time in Ohrid No TRNs run to Ohrid.

OR.

ALT 2: Tirana, ALB > Ohrid, MACE

- 1) daily BUS from Tirana, ALB (via Kafasan ⊗) to Struga, (town) BUS STA (09:30, 12:30, 22:30, 23:00; € 10-13).
- 2) TAXI: Struga .> Ohrid (€ 5-7) or minibuses (approx. every 20 min; 40 Denars).

Ohrid BUS STA: few kms outside town CNTR (30 minute walk). TAXI from BUS STA > town CNTR: (1 € (60 MKD) BUT beware taxi dRIVs cheat, SO agree on price before hand

NAT GEO DVD: OOM colorful of Tosk towns

MACE: (LP825.826m,)

GENERAL:

Ancient sites, hiking, mt biking, aunthentic

TRN: DOM: Yes

IDEAL: In thru Orhid > Bitola > Skopje > BUL or

POP:

majority: ethnic MACE & Orthodox ?, but also significant ALB Muslim minority. Thus, mix of architectural & ethnic hertitage. Typical BALK: mix of MACE, ALB, TURK, & MED influences.

GEO: Landlocked, country bisected by ???

OHRID, MACE: (best JUN) (LP831832m) UNESCO

(1T, 1D, 2N)

2D+

Tourist Info Center: online: no ENG

Confirm: Gjrokaster > Ohrid routing

TRANS-IN:

Tourist Info Center: (LP48) Ohrid Tourist Info, 7-mi Noemvri, Ohrid 6000, Macedonia [FYROM], +389 70 212 162 · ohrid.com.mk

Confirm: -- Ohrid > Galicica NP > Bitola

Ohrid BUS STA: few kms outside town CNTR (30 minute walk). TAXI from BUS STA > town CNTR: (1€ (60 MKD) BUT beware taxi driver's cheat, SO agree on price before hand

MINS INFO: Ohrid, MACE > MONT: regular bus line from Herceg Novi > Skopje, MACE via ALB, passing through

Ohrid - Skopje. 5:00**, 5:30, 7:15**, 7:30, 10:45, 12:45, 15:00, 17:45, 19:00*, 20:30* Skopje - Ohrid. 6:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00*, 14:00, 14:45**, 15:30, 16:00**, 16:30, 18:30

Skopje ALTs: BUS: If have to go to Skopje 1st, then Ohrid

Easiest: Skopje >Ohrid BUS (every few hours, 3.5 hours, 520 MKD one-way (US\$10 or € NOTE: Ohrid > Skopje In summer - buy ticket 1 - 2 days in advance.

From Skopje > Ohrid: (11, 3 hrs, \$5.75)

Ohrid > Skopje: 3½h.

TRANS-LOCAL:

TAXIS: common. Usual, 30 denars flat rate (in Skopje 50 denars) w/ extra kms added on. **CAUTION** W/in city, over 100 denars = expensive NOTE: MACE cities much smaller than W countries, ONLY. 10-15 min to cross. Skopje, big city, 100-150 denars considered expensive.

ACCM:: €5-10 E Get Directions from Hostel Wrld internet page

1) **Tourist Bureau Biljana** (Private houses),(LP-WB: 302m, 5B2) **sobi** (E5-10) also 'couchsurfer'???.€10 - €15/night: excellent private facilities, mostly in Old Town. Fastest & safest booking: [www.lihnidos.com.mk

Bajchino: lodging & TRANS-IN & OUT> Bitola

- **Old Town Accommodation**, Ul. Ilindenska 3, +389 70 642 809, (*email: ohridrooms@yahoo.com* Quiet,in Ohrid old town, rooms, near CATH St. Sophi
- 2) **Sunny Lake Hostel**: 94%,#beds drm: \$11.5 / €12 in Old Town; <u>Best Hostel awards</u>; +38975629571, (*[info@sunnylakehostel.com]*), [sunnylakehostel.com]. Cosy,2 min. walk town CNTR.. Brkfst-in. GUD beds; 35 beds total,.NO pets /smoking IN rooms. Reception: 08.00am -01.00am or CALL

Di Angelo Hostel: 95%, % drm: \$12.50: Petar Caule str. No 31, LOC: **on Old Town SQ**; wifi **Stefan Kanevce ROOMs:** (**s E10**,(LP-WB: 302m, 19A4)

DIRECS: on Lake Ohrid (Koco Racin 47, Kaneo; Tel: 46-34813) In small fishing village of Kaneo, clean rooms directly on lake.

Villa Lucija: sE15 (LP-WB: 302m, 22A2)(LP831, 9D4)

Villa Germanoff, \$17s; Ohrid old town, on lake shore, near CATH St. Sofia & Nat'l MUS(*email:* tunte@mezzoforte.com.mk), Contact: Zoran Tuntev, Ph.D. +389 70 261 301; +389 46 266 83

Typical MACE food: food of S BALK = loads of grilled meat (aka skara). Side dishes la carte.

shopska salata: mixed salad of cucumbers, tomatoes, & grated

Sirenje: white cheese similar to feta cheese. Usually MACE will translate ENG cheese local speciality **ajvar**, red paste of roasted peppers & tomatoes, used either as appetizer or side dish.

local dish *tarator*: comparable to Greek tzatziki;. yogurt, cucumbers & garlic; served as cold soup.

Directions to:

Health Food Shop, Green Market (old town), Ohrid, Macedonia

Burek: layered OTTO pastry for breakfast w/ meat, cheese or spinach/cheese (arguably best) + cup of traditional MACE yogurt.

Gjomleze, baked layered pancakes cut in rhomboid shape, & usually served w/ white cheese. Try it w/ yogurt or peach juice.

Ohridski Gevrek, traditional bakery product

RESTAURANTS:

Burekđilnica Igor: Modest looking place makes best burek in town,

Žito Leb's is also good.

Ohridski Gevrek, traditional bakery product.

Makalo, starter spread made w/ garlic & yogurt.

MISC:

4389 Black market 4618 Ohrid " old town"

4623 Church of Sveti Kliment

4889 Slava

READ Chris Deliso's "Hidden MACE"

HISTORY:

886 AD - 1st seat of higher learning ??? Archaeology indicate one of oldest human settlements in all of EURO. **Lake**:3 million+ years old. Ohrid 1st mentioned in 353 BCE GRK docs when known as Lychnidos - or, "city of light." Much later, 879 CE, was renamed Ohrid: probably from phrase "vo hridi" – meaning roughly, "in cliff." when town was limited to small area on lake side of hill, which in fact, is huge cliff rising above lakeshore.

Early11th C, Ohrid briefly was kingdom capital of Car Samuil, who built city's fortress.

Today's Ohrid built mostly btw 7th > 19th Cs during Byzantine period when Ohrid became significant cultural & econ. CNTR, serving as Orthodox Church's episcopal CNTR & as first Slavic university site run by St. Kliment & St. Naum at end of 9th C.

Ohrid Traditional Architecture:

Turks: settled flat land along lake = Muslim part; THUS, hills inside walls = always Christian part, w/ bazaar as meeting place. As city grew, Christians <u>not allowed</u> to build outside walls,SO, Ohrid so forced into tight narrow streets; houses had tiny yards usually enclosed-in ground floor, & houses grew over streets on upper floors (tunnels) since plots were small; steep terrain everybody had good view of lake, cuz of strong sun houses were painted white, so they would reflect sun. Cuz of winds from lake houses in Ohrid don't have open spaces that traditional houses in other towns in MACE have.

TO DO: (1T, 2+D,3N) 3D

LP Walking Tour: following *** Sites are in order of walk. (LP-WB: 305m, 304)

*** Gorna Porta: (Upper Gate-old town):(LP-WB305m, 1, 302m, 16B3) (1) 1h Old times, connected w/ ancient theatre by portico, preserved cuz 16th C reinforcements.

*** St.Bogorodica Perivlepta: (LP-WB305m, 2, 302m, 11B3) 13th c. (100 denars entry); 1h DIRECS: In old part of town, near Upper Gate

built & painted: 1295; dedicated to Virgin Mary, Perivlepta (from [[Greek] Περίβλεπτος]] meaning Virgin is "Omnisicent & Clairvoyant"; Painted by Michael & Eutychius, two young painters: styles later adopted in Renaissance-- already current in Byzantine art long before Gioto; frescoes have all elements of renaissance art except perspective.

Important frescoes:

- (**E wall**) *portraits* of St. Klement & Konstantin Kavasila (archbishop of Ohrid), detailed portraits w/ personal features; *Lamentation of Christ*, painted w/ many emotions, Virgin Mary is about to faint, woman next is holding her, women pulling their hair from pain in disbelief,
- on right notice woman acting reasonably & trying to stop another from pulling her hair, angels above whole scene are crying, in left corner: group of women doing what normal people do -- gossiping about what happened;
- (**W wall**) Prayer in olive mountain as apostles are sleeping take look at their dresses & how well artists worked w/ color & showed roundness of bodies;
- (**N wall**) *Death of Virgin Mary*: in order to present holiness of moment there is bunch of angels coming from gates of sky to take her soul, above her stands Jesus holding her soul, notice her body & how familiar are artists w/ human anatomy.

NOTE:

- <u>1)</u> Figures painted by Michael & Eutychius are **not** presented in traditional Byzantine way, skinny, emotionless w/ their thoughts wondering somewhere; INSTEAD, are presented like healthy, chubby young men w/ red cheeks.
- 2) Mihailo & Evtihie:1st Byzantine artists to sign their work (20 diff. hidden LOCs: front columns *** Classical Ampitheatre: (LP-WB305m, 3, 8B3)

DIRECS: St. Clement, Ohrid GoogM ('A'); SEE Bolnicki, Ohrid GoogM (upper middle L)

*** King Samoil fortress (Samuil's (sic)): (LP-WB305m, 4, 302m, 7A3 2 ½h DIRECS: at top of city built, SEE GoogM; SEE St. Clement, Ohrid GoogM (upper L corner) Ohrid Fortifications -

Entire old town is circled by walls crowned by **King Samoil fortress**: 1st fortifications built in 5th C BC, BUT oldest remains are 3th/4th(?) C BC; reinforced many times throughout history; today's: from 10th C. <u>Used to be</u> four gates inside city:

Lower Gate - Ohrid Partial Site map (5, under #6) reach it soon after walk from main square inside old part of town on "Car Samoil" street; used to be gate regular visitors entered in ancient & medieval times, only 1 tower still st&s;

Front Gate - near St. Bogorodica Celnica Church. **main entrance** gate. Today, mere traces:

Water Gate - entrance to city from lake, place where it used to stand is not known.







Samuil's Fortress

*** 4th C Church ???: (LP-WB305m, 5, 302m,6A3) ruins 3-1996, pg1

*** Saint Panteleimon CHURCH, Ohrid: (LP-WB305m, 6, 302m, 14A3)(7)

½h 2h

DIRECS: St. Clement, Ohrid GoogM (lower L edge) NE of Lower Gate blk or so (guess) Wiki pdf: Saint Panteleimon sword & cloth of 2 holy warriors).left strong influence on Byz. art..

*** **St. Klement CHURCH 14th c.-**(LP-WB305m, 7; 302m, 14A3)

DIRECS; SEE Bolnicki, Ohrid GoogM (to R of 'A') SEE St. Clement, Ohrid GoogM ('A') few steps from Bolnicki churches Just take small narrow street opposite Bolnicki churches Free entrance; ask for key in one of houses around (they are allowed to say no).

This tiny well-hidden church on <u>Small square</u>: interesting cuz st OO very few original streets; shaped in form of gentle stairs so walking uphill easier; steps are slightly curved towards inside so when raining water stays in middle. Opposite church is traditional house: badly ruined, but good example of traditional houses construction. Church: historica lly important cuz: bones of St. Klement were hidden here after Turks took

1378. INT frescoes painted & some parts of church, some original 14th C frescoes visible

*** **Plaoshnik MON:** (LP-WB305m,7a, 302m, 13A4)

1h

DIRECS: GoogM, SEE Church of St. John ... GoogM ('A')

quite unique: recently reconstructed w/ attention to detail in style of Byzantine church, right down to red bricks & mortar.: most exhilarating MACE Byzantine-style churches: floor; covered w/ mosaics of twenty wave-shaped tassels interspersed w/ figures of flowers, birds & animals. Its reconstruction is proof of strong affection MACE still feel for their Byzantine heritage

Located in Ohrid's old town, Plaoshnik is guite unique of phenomenon: it was recently reconstructed with loving attention to detail in style of Byzantine church, right down to red bricks &

An early Christian sacral building dating from 5th century was discovered here; it was built over remains of an older antique

Today, Plaoshnik is one of most exhilarating Byzantine-style churches in Macedonia. Its floor is covered with mosaics of twenty wave-shaped tassels interspersed with figures of flowers, birds & animals. very fact of its reconstruction is but mere proof of strong affection Macedonians still feel for their Byzantine heritage.

*** Sveti Jovan @Kaneo CHURCH (Plaoshnik, & St John @ Kaneo):

DIRECS: (LP-WB305m, 7, 302m, 13A4) on lake bluff over Kaneo bch 13th C (LP831,) can be visited on return journey Church of St. John at Kaneo

*** Mala Bogorodica: (LP-WB305m, 8, 302m, 13A4) ??

*** **Kaneo beach** (LP-WB305m, 9, 302m, walk down >)

1/2h *** Sveta Sofija CATH, 11th C: (LP-WB305m, 10, 302m, 12A2) 1h

DIRECS: on "Car Samoil"; SEE St. Clement, Ohrid GoogM (bottom L of CNTR); SEE Bolnicki, Ohrid GoogM (to R of 'A')



*** Sveti Bogorodica Bolnicka: (LP-WB305m, 12, 302m, 10B2) ½h

*** Sveti Nikolai Bolnicki: (LP-WB305m, 13, 302m) 1/2h



1h



1h

EXIT Old Town:

*** DIRECS: (LP-WB305m, 14,) on Car Samoil via ped. Mall, ul:**SvetiKliment Ohridski** ½h

*** Cinar: (LP-WB305m, 15,) ½h

Upper Gate (King Samoil fortress):-

DIRECS: ???

Old Bazaar 1h

DIRECS: Ohridska čaršija ;;;Big religious & cultural CNTR, BUT never important trade CNTR evidenced by small Old Bazaar - simple bazaar of just one street;

- 1) starts w/ food market (used to be animal market).
- 2) after market, bazaar begins w/ small square: w/ 1000 year old tree & nice fountain.

Walking down bazaar; on L are couple of stone stores: only original stores in bazaar. In past, bazaar covered w/ grape vines, protecting shoppers from sun & rain. Very few crafts are preserved. Bazaar ends w/ main square that used to be food market.

3) Above square: Ohrid clock tower.

A must-peek: Dereban filigree store, if open. Mr. Dereban: very old & ill; opens irregularly; tiny store like MUS w/old jewelry & old silver melting & processing objects. He is legend- many royals, presidents & statesmen have shopped his store on their official visits in Macedonia.

Clock Tower: DIRECS: Above bazaar

Mesokastro Quarter:

DIRECS: (See above) right above old bazaar, btw bazaar & city walls.

Name origin: from Latin term "meco castrum"; meaning "city outside city walls" where poor used to live; interesting that term survived since ancient times.

Houses of Mesokastro

have incorporated parts of city walls although some parts not visible: walk around to see couple of remaining old houses still standing; some streets have great views over lake.

Old traditional architecture Houses of very rich families

DIRECS ul Koco Racin or along "Car Samoil" & "Ilindenska" streets.(normally houses were not this big) all over old town, but 2 best ARE:

Robevci house: (LP831,) now houses National Archaeology MUS: 1h

DIRECS "Car Samoil" (Tsar Samoil) **SEE Bolnicki**, **Ohrid GoogM** (bottom L of CNTR): top level of Robevci has great views, nice wood carvings, & some furniture (100 denars entry)-

Uranija house (Urania House?): MUS?, BEST of 2, FREE,

DIRECS: The House of Urania GoogM ('A')

Especially rich architecture w/ entrances on different levels & inside galleries. Free entry, Watch paper made w/wood pulp using trad. methods, also original Guttenberg press copy.

Waterfront Park: (4) DIRECS: : @ harbor jetty

Quiet, simple & relaxing, in old town area. of tree & savor picturesque view of lake & great location of park makes it famous



You can always stop here to rest in shade slow movement of boats on its surface. among tourists.

1h

Lower Gate: (5) ½h

DIRECS: on King Samoil Street not far from main square. OO two city gates well preserved today. 1 tower of 2: still in place at gate; town's visitors main entry in ancient & medieval times.

OUT OF TOWN:

1) Sveti Naum MON & tomb:

S end of lake: DIRECS & TRANS

DIRECS: few buses & kombis near Tina's Tours(LP-WB 303) accessible by bus, taxi or boat.

On ALB border: CAUTION: avoid military zone; 910: St.Naum, OOM beautiful MACE

monasteries; imp pilgrimage site; Great setting on plateau over Ohrid Lake & Galicica mt;

4766	Sveti Naum
4786	Drin RIV
4839	Nearby sprgs
4846	old mill wheel
4848	wht stone circle w/blk star on flr
4856	MON design
4869	Sveta Sophia
4873	bakery rlls
4885	BULs vs SERBs

Present-16th C church: EXT: peacocks includ rare albino

1806 frescoes:

1st chamber: fresco of St.Cyril & Methody & their students including St.Klement & St.Naum.

icon screen: 1711, oldest completely preserved wooden high icon screen in MACE.

side chamber: popular to get down on your knees & try to listen heart of St.Naum. (yeah, right)

side chapel : only exist part of original church: holds <u>grave</u> of St.Naum; <u>side chapel</u> frescoes depict life & miracles of St.Naum)

Near MON:

Springs of Drim RIV: w/ lovely <u>cafe on small island</u> inside springs. RIV enters lake & comes out in Struga, <u>skip short boat tour offered to see MON from water</u>.

Picturesque mountain villages overlooking lake: cheap lunch of grilled meat & cheese.

- 2) Struga: DIRECS: (every 30 min, NW of Ohrid: 4752 Struga
- 3) Coastal Villages: Churches: S Of Ohrid:
 - St. Holy Mother in village of Peštani
 - St. Spas & St. Holy Mother Zahumska
- ?) Polyconch Basilica: from 5th century Can't find any more info

TRANS-OUT:

- 1) > Galicica NP: see Galicica NP pages below
- 2) Ohrid > Braichino:
 -) **BUS: Ohrid > Resen:** Bitola: (10 Ohrid > Bitoli), 1 ¼ hrs)
 - b) **Reg BUS > Brajchino**:(6, 9, 11am, 2:30, 3:30pm; 35min)

Galicica NP, MACE www.galicica.org.mk

(LP831,) DT from Ohrid unless overnight in Park en route to Bitola

TRANS-IN:

modern asphalt roads:beside Lake coast & across central part connecting 2 lakes, climbs to 1550 m. New (2011) **Galicica National Park Office**: along road to park PARK TIK office:

TIK OFFICE

- DIRECS:
- close to petrol STA @ Bulevar Turisticka near Biljana Springs, just before you exit Ohrid on road to St Naum: called Studenchista. NOTE: can follow asphalt road uphill from petrol station,
- 2) **but faster**, take stairs uphill at yellow signs (w/ maps of Galicica National Park.) THEN, go L at top of stairs > Park Office & 2nd WW memorial. **NOTE**: To R: <u>ruins of an Early Christian</u> <u>Basilica</u>.

Permit mandatory w/ passport AND tell exactly where you will go in park.NO permit FINE: 3000E MAPS: Since 2011, trails in Galicica National Park finally have finally been signposted; also several signposts w/ maps that describe these trails.

Unfortunately, in summer 2011, trail maps impossible to get cuz failed to pay their printer bill.

Phone: +389 (0)46 261 473; Website: http://www.galicica.org.mk/

ACCM: MON dorms: NOW, hotel

TRANS-OUT: ask??? > Galicica NP: ???

> Bitola: ???

TO DO

Elshani village

?

HIKES: follow trails on either N or S end of village to nearby villages Konjsko or Pestani) Windy (sic - winding), hilly streets of village to explore. **Church of Seveti Ilias**

impressive caves Where???

?

1D

caves "Volja", "Samotska Dupka" (longest, 279 m.; located in cliff valley Studino) & "Naumova pestera".; Glacial Epoch remnants, mountain areas of Galicica, especially higher peaks, such as peak Magaro at height of 2,254 m, panoramic views of both lakes.

Cave CHURCHES: Clarify in Ohrid?

St. Petar church: on island Golem Grad, W side of Lake Prespa

?

2D

DIRECS in mountains of W MACE, just E of E shore of Lake Prespa.

village w/ picturesque village population of 160 people, mostly older people.

TRANS-IN: Ohrid > Brajchino:

BUS: Ohrid > Resen: Bitola: (10 Ohrid > Bitoli), 1 ¼ hrs)

b) **Reg BUS > Brajchino**:(6, 9, 11am, 2:30, 3:30pm; 35min)

(OLD LP) Bitoloa BUS stops in Brajčino twice daily.then, easily walked SCHED ???

ACCM:

Sveti Petka MON - Drm: €5-10; kit, reg brkfst: 2€, sm lunch/dinner: €6: +389 70 576515

TO DO: Popular for many reason:. <u>First</u>, most picturesque architecture. <u>Second</u>, 5 beautiful churches & 1 extravagant MON. <u>Third</u>, beautiful nature & <u>Fourth</u>, hospitality of village

- St. Petka beautiful mon,1500s. Main tourist attraction in Brajčino. DIRECS: by foot.about 15 min
- St. Arangel: 1975, also in mtns, BUT easier 45 min walk.
- St. Bogorodica:inside large cave, high up on mt 200 yrs ago; visible from village, hardest church to get to-- DIRECS: only way by foot, several hour hike up steep, very tough path, but worth it.
- **St. Ilja**;1864, in village: only four walls, but sig: 1st school; renovated in 1919.
- St. Atanas; 1970s,

legend: on site large MON burned by local TURK garrison; site where Car Samoil's brother became monk & later died.

<u>Large human bones</u> found under church & "believed 2B race of human giants long ago HUH?

St. Nikola Bey's House: Last TURK reg commander's home: U-shape w/ row of four rooms w/ big terrace, all around closed cobblestone yard: Cattle lived on ground floor, peeps on second floor; house overlooks village entrance & great view of Prespa Lake.

Naum Mačkov House -1923, on hill apart from other houses

Stefan Dzhajkov's House - mostly ruins- Stefan lived in poverty, but to 100 years cuz understood hardships. While in U.S.A., smuggled alcohol during Prohibition & counterfeited money, sent to same jail as Al Capone; later deported back to Brajčino; local legend cuz extraordiwisdom & exp

Petre Kostov's House - typical ex Brajčino architecture, located in Gorno Malo.

Island of Golem Grad, W side of Lake Prespa. May-Oct. Many species of birds & also unusual plants

TRANS-OUT > Bitola: Reverse Out unless a DIREC BUS to Bitola

4919	Bul EMP Samuel /Byzantium EMP Ba	asil	
4931	Bitoli	4926	Rascally waiter
4929	hilltop cafe	4931	GER War MEM
4949	Heracleia & Roman town beyond	4959	FR Cemetery
4962	Kaimakshalan	5111	Prince Marko's (Prilep)
6622	woolen rope barred window	6657	Sheep's Field near Veles
6704	Christian Contradiction	6718	St Paul's abominable doctrine
6733	King Lear	6740	William Blake

Bitola, MACE: (LP833,) Bitola, Mace 2 - G Maps

(1T, 3D, 4N) 3D

" city of consuls", formerly Monastır, cuz many EURO consuls in Bitola;



TRANS-IN: Brajchino>Bitola: Reverse out:

a **Reg BUS Brajchino> Resen:**(6, 9, 11am, 2:30, 3:30pm; 35min)

b) **BUS: Resen >** Bitola: (10 Ohrid > Bitoli), 1 ¼ hrs)

(OLD LP) Bitoloa BUS stops in Brajčino twice daily.then, easily walked

TRANS-LOCAL:

Walk -- best cuz sites in sequence: <u>first</u> old bazaar, <u>2nd</u>: city square, <u>3rd</u>: Shirok Sokak street, <u>4th</u>: city park & <u>5th/last</u>; ancient city of Heraklea.

Tourist map billboard on city SQ @ RIV end of Shirok Sokak, only tourist INFO in city.

NOTE: MACE BIG cities very small vs. most W countries, taking approx. 10-15 minutes to cross.

Tourist Info CNTR: (LP-WB312m, 2B2,)(http://bitolatourist.info)

1/2**h**

ACCM: singles

Chola GH: 84%, \$18s /13 E; ??? dlb only, (LP-WB834, 9A3) 5 min>Bitola CNTR, DIRECS: Stiv Naumov, 80; across street from DVD Club "Dju".; nice rooms w/ TV & free wifi. /night.Tel:+389 47 224 919; +389 75 522 555; web site: www.chola.mk Tel. +389 47 20 20 90



Via Apartments: s E12-13 (LP834), DIRECS: Downtown

Hostel Bitola-Premier: (HI), SW outskirts of; Lavcanski pat b.b, Bitola 7000,

MACE, 80 Stiv Naumov street,

hostelfsm@hotmail.com / hostelfsm@hotmail.com

contact hostel directly for booking; at SW outskirts of city, outside city rush yet walking distance from city CNTR, zoo & park. w/ comfortable rooms & huge restaurant & conference rooms.

FOOD:

Grne: near clock tower, local specialties, grill. <u>Kus Kus</u> salads, French kitchen, local specialt

Plta Giro: best Giro in Bitol

Pizza Bure: has most tasty pizzas in Bitola.

MISC:

HISTORY:

POP: 2002, Bitola POP: 95K; MACE (88%), ALB (4%), Roma 2%, Turks 2%, SERB.6%, Bosnia .02%

Tourist Info CNTR ARCH tours (3 hr/ E30)

Stari Carsija & Old Bazar Bezisten: (LP-WB312m, upper R corner)

1h

(Macedonian: Bezisten, Безистен) DIRECS: Old Bazaar, Bitola, Mace (A) near city CNTR Original: 86 shops & 4 large iron gates, sold textiles, Today sells food products, smaller than Skopje,BUT cleaner & neater, thus most beautiful old MACE bazaar; numerous cupolas that look like fortress, with tree-branch-like inner streets & 4 big metal doors; OO biggest covered MRKTs pleasant small squares w/ water fountains & many OTTO monuments in & around it

15th C by Rumelian Beglerbey, Grand Vizier & famous Kara Daut Pasha Uzuncarsili donor. Although looks secure, many times robbed & set fire, but endured; store sold textile & other luxurious fabrics. Also, Bezisten was treasury: in specially made small rooms money from whole Rumelian Vilaet was kept, before being transferred to royal treasury. **IN19th C**, 84 stores, **Today** most are modern, but outer appearance stayed unchanged.

Deboj Amam/ Bath

1h

DIRECS: Bitola Clock Tower (L of CNTR).

Deboj Bath is <u>Turkish</u> bath (<u>hamam</u>). Built: ???; Once heavily damaged, but repaired > orig: beautiful façade, 2 lrg domes & several minor ones





3 MOSQs

Yeni MOSQ: (LP-WB312m, 8C1)
Bitola Clock Tower (next to Deboj)

1/2h

½h

DIRECS: city CNTR. Sq base, topped w/ dome. Near MOSQ: minaret: 40 m high. **Today**, city art gallery. Recent arch excavations reveal built on old church.

Yahdar-kadi MOSQ: (TURK judge) (LP-WB312m, 7C1)

3/4h

OOM attractive Bitola mon of Islamic archi; early 1560s, BUT, over time, abandoned & heavily damaged, but partial recent restoration toward original appearance.



Ishak MOSQ: DIRECS: (LP-WB312m, 6B1,)

1/2h

Inherit by kadi Ishak Celeb;. large yard w/ several tombs, attractive soft, molded shapes of sarcophagi.

Tourist Info CNTR: (LP-WB312m, 2B2,)(http://bitolatourist.info)

1/2**h**

Clock Tower: DIRECS: (LP-WB312m, 5B1) Bitola Clock Tower (A)

3/4h

Built: ?, 16th C written sources mention clock tower, but not clear if even same 1; may be same time as St. Dimitrija Church,1830. **Legend**: OTTO gov't collected 60K eggs from villages & mixed in motar to make walls stronger.

Tower design: walls, massive spiral stairs, wooden mezzanine constructions, pendentives & dome; façade decorated w/ simple stone plastic rect. base, 30 ms H; near to top: rect. terrace w/ iiron fence, on each side of fence is iron console construction which holds lamps for lighting_clock; clock is on highest of three levels. **original clock** was replaced during World War II w/ working one, given **by Nazis** cuz city had maintained WWI German graves..



German Cemetery: DIRECS: SEE Bitola, Mace 1- G Maps (middle L-up)

Sveti Dimitriji (Saint Demetrius)CHURCH: (LP-WB312m, 4B2,)

DIRECS: very near clock tower; Sveti Dimitrija church, (A) x Bitola GoogM Bitola - Wiki pdf
1830, w/ voluntary contributions of local merchants & craftsmen, plain EXT by OTTO designs b

1830, w/ voluntary contributions of local merchants & craftsmen; plain EXT by OTTO designs but rare beauty <u>inside</u>: lavishly decorated w/ <u>chandeliers</u>, carved <u>bishop throne</u> & an engraved iconostasis, imperial guarters w/ modeled figures of Jesus &

<u>iconostasis</u>, <u>imperial quarters</u> w/ <u>modeled figures</u> of Jesus 8 apostles.

Other engraved wood items include: <u>bishop's throne</u>, several icon <u>frames</u> & five more-recent <u>pillars shaped like thrones</u>. **frescoes** from two periods: 19th C end & WWI end to present:

Icons display: great sense of color, dominated by red, green & ochra shades; abundance of golden ornaments points to late Byzantine artwork & baroque style.

Icon of Saint Demetrius: signed w/ initials "D. A. Z.", iconographer Dimitar Andonov Zograph, 1889. <u>Other items</u>, includ: <u>chalices</u> by local masters, <u>darohranilka</u> of Russian origin, & several paintings of scenes from New Testament, <u>brought from Jerusalem by pilgrims</u>.

opening scenes of film *Peacemaker* were shot in "St. Dimitrija" church in Bitola, as well as some *Welcome to Sarajevo* scenes.





Catholic Church: (LP-WB312m, 18B2 ,) DIRECS: near Porta Jazz club

1/2**h**

Shirok Sokak imp street: meaning "Wide Alley") (LP-WB312m, ,) cafes etc

DIRECS: (2 km / 1 mi)>city CNTR, SEE Shirok Sokak, BITOLA 1 map & SEE Bitola, MACE 2 -

G Maps Širok Sokak (Macedonian: Широк Сокак, long pedestrian street that runs from Magnolia Square to City Park.

Pedestrian st lined w/ colorful romantic & neo-clasical buildings: **3** parts, BUT, 1st part best preserved buildings & worth walk to end.; street very lively & lined w/ cafes 4 peep watching, Bitola girls most beautiful in MACE & love to walk st. best dressed.



BITOLA MUS: (LP-WB312m, 20B3) (http://www.bitolamuseum.org)

1h

Heraclea Lyncestis ---- SSW of Town SW of ZOO

--- Next page ---

Heraclea Lyncestis: (Хераклеа Линкестис)

11/2h

TRANS:

DIRECS: Heraclea Lyncestis, Bitola (lower L corner)

Important ancient settlement from Hellenistic period till early Middle Ages: founded by Phillip II of MACE by mid 4th C BC.Southern Bitola,

Most monuments are from Roman & early Christian period; only small part of Bitola excavated, including: theatre, 2 water fountains, courthouse, baths, bishop's palace & two basilicas.

<u>Greatest fame</u>: 5th C **mosaics** of big basilica: floor mosaic in <u>narthex</u>: most complete presentation of world as understood it back then.



Ruins at Heraclea Lyncestis

In centre of rectangular field: fountain out of which grapevine comes (as symbol of Christ's teachings) & peacocks & deer are gathered around (as symbol of eternal life), meaning: "If you accept teaching of Christ, you'll have eternal life."

On L & on R: 5 trees rich w/ fruits w/ birds flying around (representing garden of Eden & afterlife), & huge red dog called Kerber (Cerberus) guarding entrance. Below: trees, animals like deer: attacked & eaten by wild animals (symbols of suffering Christian souls on earth). Field: surrounded by water w/ medallions w/ 28 water animals; mosaics of little stones: 27 different colours (only "richer" mosaic is found in Pompeii - wall mosaic made of stones in 32 colours). small MUS on grounds w/ few artifacts & nice scale model of city at its peak. Entrance to MUS is included in site TIK

TRANS-OUT:

BUS: Bitola> Skopje: (10dly, 4hrs) stopping in Prilep & Veles

NOTE: Bitola BUS & TRN STA @ S of city centre, near end of Bitola Park. FromBUS STA > clock tower: approx 1.5Km, through park

TRN: (3 (3:45a,1:35 & 6:50pm), 3-4hr,) (stop in Prilep & Veles)

Skopje Central RR STA: approx 2 kms E of city centre: part of "Transportation Center" complex, (built 1970s to replace 1st RR STA destroyed by 1963 earthquake.

New STA: 10 platforms & suspended on massive concrete bridge about 2 km long

NOs:

Pelister NP ??? Ask Locally; compared to other NPPellister NP" worth seing???NO

X

SKOPJE, MACE: 1st (LP826,826m,) (1T, 5D, 7N) 6D

Sister cities: Tempe, AZ, Nanchang, C

TRANS-IN:

Tourist Info Center: @ Old Bazaar May be new TRN services

NOTE: 1) **Bitola** BUS & TRN STA (nearby) @ S of city centre, near end of Bitola Park.

2) **Skopje** <u>new</u> BUS (ENG) & TRN STA (adjoined): "Transportation Center" complex;

New STA: 10 platforms & suspended on massive concrete bridge about 2 km long approx 2 kms E of city centre: (built 1970s to replace 1st RR STA destroyed by 1963 earthquake DIRECS: Skopje, MACE map (lower R corner);

NOTE: To change BUS STA: walk to stone Vardar bridge & cross bridge (about 2.5 km) or taxi.

OLD BUS STA: **DIRECS**: at city CNTR; few other buses (EX: Pristina)

BUS: Bitola> Skopje: (10dlly, 4hrs) stopping in Prilep & Veles **TRN:** (3 (3:45a,1:35 & 6:50pm), 3-4hr,) (stop in Prilep & Veles)

Skopje's 2 BUS STA: NEW STA:

DIRECS: NEW Skopje BUS STA: ENG; adjoins TRN STA Most buses: 2 kms E of city CNTR & located in Transportation Centre (also **central RR STA**). international HUB: Skopje>Ohrid, Bitola, Sofia, & other cities (several, daily,)

TRANS-LOCAL:

City buses: whole city connects different neighborhoods & smaller surrounding towns. 2011, old buses replaced w/ 84 new buses; STA (???): intercity &

NOTE: MACE urban cities much smaller than most W countries, taking approx. 10-15 minutes to cross. In Skopje, largest city, 100-150 denars considered expensive

ACCM:

1) **Shanti Hostel**, 95%, **4**/8Dm \$14/11, **3** nite SPEC : Rade Jovcevski Korcagin 11, \$11 **2** +389

2 60 90 807 (hostelshanti@gmail.com), Small & cozy; Near RIV, 3 min > INT'L BUS & TRN STA; 5 min to .CNTR. Near: Irg food mkts, change office & ATM . Staff: most welcoming I ever seen in 10 yrs

The area is called Majir Maalo which is one oldest neighbourhoods in Skopje. It's secure and quiet place where you can still feel spirit from old Skopje.

DIRECS: From BUS & TRN STA:,

WALK: (only 3 min) go towardCNTR & seek Shanti Hostel signs; very easy. S Use Hostel's photo 8 of 9 map

City Hostel: 100%, 87%, 4/6drm: \$11/8 HostWrl DISC 10-20% Sum SPEC; St. Tome Arsovski nu.6, Address 2; LOC: wifi?

DIRECS:

WALK: From TRN & BUS STA -- WALK !!!!

TAXI: IMP NO more than 2 E for drive our hostel.

SEE HOSTELS-MISC Xtras: Art Hostel-Riverside & sister Hostel Hostel w/drm nearby

MISC: TEMP: Apr: 41.8-65.38°, 49.8-74.7°

HISTORY:

REFERENCE: NGM art: 1996 p124: Gorni Sveti Ilija (n of)

Always cntr of power long coveted by various empires.

Neolithic settlements remains within Skopje Fortress, earliest probably Tribali.

City founded: 3rd C B.C.E Paeonians as ancient name 'Skupi', for strategic location in long valley btw two hills on Vardar RIV; vital trade route.

Romans; admin. cntr of Dardanian PROV. city's prestige grew when Orthodox Church made it an episcopal seat during early Byzantine Empire.

6th Cen. C.E, migrating Carpathians MT Slavic tribes changed city's name & demographic composition.

Byzantine C balance time, Skopje was IMP mercantile CNTR, cuz at crossroads of Balkan trade & communications routes; celebrated for: urban life & fortress & beautiful church of region.

14th C, strongest Empire of SERBia's capital: 1st of largest & strongest of Europe's countries.

BUT, at very end of 14th C, OTTO Turks controlled Skopje & MACE; over next C: construction of: many MOSQs, TURK baths, bridges, & other Oriental buildings.

After early 20th C Turk liberation, Kingdom of SERB controlled again.

Today, Skopje is modern w/OTTO legacy <u>extremely visible</u> in Skopje's architecture & small Islamic minority; MACE major political, economical, educational, & cultural CNTR. **HISTORY - recent**:

Pre-- July 26, 1963: Then, Republic of Yugoslav Federation capital: prosperous capital w/ many ornate, Neoclassical buildings laid out harmoniously in more or less Central EURO style. BUT - July, 1963 - <u>disastrous earthquake</u> regal old city; <u>reborn</u> in imaginative, futuristic style in vogue at time. Amer relief troops

July 26, 1963: After earthquake,5:17am, w/in 20 sec: 80% destroyed, 1070 dead,-only neo-clasical bldgs left -- small section of houses at city cntr.; no GOOGM info more on & around Maksim Gorki st (look for Italian Embassy & Arabian House Hotel).

2007, MACE gov't plans to reconstruct Army House AND Old Theatre (other side MACE Square, across Vardar RIV) destroyed in earthquake

Dec 2008: MACE flagpole w/ flag erected on MACE Sq, near Stone Bridge (also, on 68 other imp MACE sites

2 May 2010, 2 monuments of Goce Delcev & Dame Gruey erected near Stone Bridge.

Sep 8, 2011, on 20-year anniversary of Macedonia's independence referendum from YUGO high monument / fountain **26m in tall** of/Alexander Great on Bucephalu; 3 main sts merging onto square are Maksim Gorki, Dimitar Vlahov & Street MACE.

2011 <u>Dimitar Vlahov Street</u>: converted > **ped st.** in. Maksim Gorki: lined w/ Japanese Cherry trees, blossoms in spring mark week of Asian cultural events.

<u>Diversity of</u> churches & monasteries built in different styles - from Byzantine to modern: EX: Byzantine Church of St. Panteleimon in Gorno Nerez: finished in 1164; contains Comnenian art: known for frescoes --- pinnacle of 12th-C trend of <u>intimacy & spirituality</u>; often compared w/ similarly delicate works by **Giotto**, who worked 140 years later.

<u>DEMOGRAPHIC</u>:

Ethnic group folklore ensemble Tanec folok music (YouTube), from Skopje

MACE largest ethnic group: ??? (338K / 67%; next: ALBs 20%(largest); Romani: 4.6%; SERB 2.8%; TURKS: 2%, Bosnia:1.5%; Aromanians: 0.50%

ALB privilege status: ALB language used local gov. & primary schools; & official where at least 25% ALBs speaking AND official MACE language.

Roma minority 1st ARV'd in OTTO EMP, settled in "Topaana" district (TURK word *Tophane*, meaning *cannon foundry* or *armory*), where they found work making gunpowder for TURKS.





4230	x Vodar RIV	4232	> Old Town
4246	16th C MOSQ, Yugo man restored	4257	Caravanserai
4271	17th C Christian CHURCH: iconostasis	4300	Roma Quarter
4306	Promenade corso near French War Cemet	taery, Kolo danc	е
4331	Roman aqueduct	4389	Black MT peeps
4618	Ohrid's Old Town		
TO DO			

TO DO-

POPULAR WALKING TOUR: (Uses LP ---not LP-WB)

1h

DIRECS: starts on <u>S side of RIV</u> @ Old Railway Station > down MACE Street (nice cafes) > past Mother Teresa Memorial House*** see below & Feudal Tower *** > past Mother Teresa's birth house SITE *** > down MACE Square > across Stone Bridge > past Holocaust MUS, MUS of MACE Independence > towards TURK Bazaar >> ending at Kale Fortress.

NOTE: (also along MACE St ???) reconstructed **Old Theater** & **new Arch MUS**,est completion -- 2012-2013,.

NOTE 1: MACE Street - main ped st--, connects MACE Square to > Old Railway Station
NOTE 2: All following *** sites are in walking tour order

Scupi Ruins: DIRECS:

3rd century BC, Skopje & surrounding area was invaded by Dardanians. Scupi, ancient name for Skopje, became

Capital of Dardania, which extended from <u>Naissus</u> to <u>Bylazora</u> in second century BC.[22]

South Bank & Plostad Makedonija



*** Old Railway Station: (LP-WB290m,19B3) ½h
(destroyed by 1963 earthquake ???), housing Skopje's CITY MUS: (LP-WB290m, 19B3)

***Skopje City MUS: old TRN STA (LP-WB290m, 19B3), frozen STA clock, Byzant. items 1h Stone Clock w/ frozen hands: (LP-WB290m, 19B3)

Soboren HramSveti Kliment Ohridski: (LP-WB290m, 26A2 W of Plostad) Orthodox CATH

*** (LP) Mother Teresa Memorial house & (LP828m, 7B4, 828, *)

½h

DIRECS: just E of Ristik Palace & Macedonia Square; Back on main square, take Makedonija St towards Old RR Station. Right after passing crossroad look L to Feudal Tower.).

original family home located near MACE Square; plaque marks location On very location of once Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church, where Mother Teresa was baptized. Part of her relics preserved, transferred to Skopje w/ help of Skopje Cath Church

Feudal / Bey's Tower:

DIRECS:: Ulice Makedonia, not far from City MUS, next to Mother Teresa House surprisingly withstanding earthquake.

17th C, Not known when built or purpose; probably defense RES tower oldest <u>central Skopje</u> <u>building</u>; protected family living here against attacker: 14m high, 1.5m thick walls, high door & small windows on lower floors, . on TURK aristocrat property. <u>Today in tower</u>: <u>Mother Teresa memorial</u> & <u>National MUS shop</u>. Square in front of tower: orig. Site of small catholic Church, destroyed in 1963 <u>Bedesten</u> earthquake.

Mother Theresa's Monument: original house site w/plaque):

DIRECS: From main square when turning to enter shopping mall, look for marked place(?). Born in this house & lived here until 18 when she left 1st for Ireland & then India.

Plostad Makedonija SQ / MACE Square. (Wiki)(LP-WB290m, @ RIV) DIRECS: Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 1 GoogM (lower L)

(LP) X over Karmeni Most (Stone Bridge) (LP-WB290m, 27B2) 1h **DIRECS**: Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 2 GoogM (CNTR)



6th C by Byzantine EMP Justinian, city symbol, effected by each successive ruler: current major's 10 yr restoration; biggest reconstruction: 1450s by Sultan Mehmed II (OTTO), stone fence & guard tower added then. **Unfortunately**, guard tower fell during most recent restoration--awaits reconstruct.

Main connect BTW main square & old bazaar.

NOTE: BIG 6th C stone blocks.; 13 arches, 214m (702 feet) long, built of stone blocks which helped it survive fires & earthquakes; same appearance since 1st built; 12 semicircular arches rule, countless executions conducted on Stone Bridge.

INTO Carsija area & North Bank

(LP) Holocaust MEM of MACE Jews: (LP828m, 5C3, 827,) 1h

Sveti Dimitrija CHURCH: (LP-WB290m, 29C2)(LP828m, 2C3, ?,) 1h

(LP) Daut Pasha Hamam TURK baths (City art gallery) (LP-WB290m, 21C2) 1h DIRECS: Kruševska 1a; 313 31 02; Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 1 GoogM (R of CNTR) SEE elaborate dome decorations

--- More Daut Pasha Hamam info -- next page ---

Daut Pasha (East Rumelia grand vesir) 2nd ½ 15th C; based in Skopje. Legend: built hamam

(TURK bath) for his harem's needs;. Before leaving Skopje, donated hamam to city. Consists of 15 rooms covered by 13 domes; 2 baths: male & female (bathing separately), male & female baths parallel to each other; 2 big domes in front covering 2 dressing/changing rooms, ea w/ fountains in middle; small domes covered separate bathing room; heating room was on end. building. Today, collection of late 19 & 20 C art



Gazi Baba Park: DIRECS: SEE Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 3 GoogM (upper L corner) 1h

Cifte Amam Hamam (LP-WB290m, 32C2)(LPm2C2) (EXT only, TOO \$ entry fee) 1h DIRECS: Bitpazarska bb, Skopje, Skopje Macedonia [FYROM] (0)23109566; in CNTR of old bazaar SEE Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 1- 2 & 3 GoogMs

TODAY: temporary exhibitions art gallery, BUT if not art, visit dome decorations Middle 15th C by Isa beg ,TURK aristocra: male & female bath, but unlike Daut Pasha Hamam where both parts go parallel to each other, here heating room is in btw & entrances are on opposite sides. Cifte hamam, or Double bath, is one of two OTTO public baths; for both males & females, entrances in parts covered w/ large domes which housed changing rooms & central water fountains. Each smaller dome housed different bathing room w/ heating room for both parts in middle. Evlija Celebija, 17th C TURK travel writer, visited Skopje & counted 70 public baths; Today only 2.

1h

(LP) Svetyi Spas CHURH: 17th C, (LP-WB290m, 30C2) SKIP-too \$ DIRECS:

on older church, built partially underground cuz illegal under OTTO rule for Christian buildings to be taller than Islamic buildings so MOSQs could dominate city skyline. Present look in 19th C.

wood <u>lconstasis</u>; 10m (32.8 ft) lng, 4.5 > 7 m (14.8 > 23 f) Hl.

Revolutionary Goce Delcev buried in church courtyard's white stone tomb.

(LP) MUS of MACE: (LP-WB290m, 24C2)

DIRECS: ul. Kjurkchiska, bb, 1000 Skopje www.musmk.org.mk

Small 1446 gate from side of old bazaar is only gate still standing.



1h

1h

1h



*** MUS of MACE Independence: (LP828m, 2C3, 827,)???

SEE Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 1 GoogM (upper R); SEE Skopje's MUS of MACE (map)

*** Kursumli An (1550) : (LP828m, 6C2, 827,)

*** Bedestan (Pit Pazar): (LP-WB290m, 72C1)(LP828m, 1D2, 827, *)

DIRECS: E bank of Vardar RIV :// bezistan // bedesten (Stara Charshija))

Present bedesten built in early 17th C was small, not even covered, but lots

of atmosphere; just **5 short streets**, small shops & **four gates**. In past (?), covered w/ wine grape, to protect shoppers; 1899 renovation

covered MKT usually for habadashery & crafts, BUT also precious goods: silk, spices, jewelry & perfumes; w/ gates closed in evenings to protect goods;

Arch evidence at Fortress suggests: Old Bazaar might/was inhabited @ 4000 BC, earliest historical records suggest 6th C BC, perhaps by Paeonians; 1392: Ottomans conquered: centre for trade & commerce since, @ 12th C, peaked 30 MOSQ, several caravanserais & other TURK stuff based on MOSQs design in most basic form: central building in commercial part of town; origins in Greco-Roman Bascilica or Kaierion was so IMP that OTTO cities were classified as w or w/out one.

Largest BALK after Istanbul. existing churches seized & converted to MOSQs. **1555 earthquake**: much destruction;**1689 fire** destroyed & rebuilt after fire, BUT Skopje, much smaller, lost trading CNTR importance, THUS, Evlija Celebija; 17th C wrote "only bigger & more beautiful bedesten was in Damascus. Covered w/ 12 valutes & it held an entire bazaar inside." Unfortunately,1689 fire destroyed that bedesten, .

Typical Old Bazaar str thru gate @ entry, near Bit-Bazaar(Bezisten)





Bit veggie Bazar (Wiki).

DIRECS: begins where bazaar ends, biggest Skopje food markets; has existed on same spot for C. -- cheap fresh fruits, vegetables, salads, cheese, teas, spices & flowers.

shak Bey MOSQ: DIRECS: N part of Old Bazaar

Aka Decorated (Aladya) MOSQ cuz floral decorations, inscriptions & colored tiles found on its walls, built 1439 in; MOSQ minaret rises 30 meters (98.4 feet). Ishak Bey retired in city, buried in turbe behind MOSQ.

Sultan Murat MOSQ: 15th C (LP-WB290m, 28C2) OTTO



1h

?) Shak Beg MOSQ, (). DIRECS: at end of Bit Pazar

1438, Ishak beg, commander in & led Turk army that conquered MACE; retired in Skopje. Beautifully decorated w/glazed tiles in different blue shades, BUT damaged in 1689 fire: rebuilt afterwards w/o decorations. 6 sided turbe (grave mausoleum) next to MOSQ didn't suffer in fire / still has tiles. DEF: turbe just for aristocracy, usually 4 one or family who donated \$ to build MOSQ, but Ishak beg was so grateful to his accountant that he built this turbe for him.

(?) Isa beg MOSQ.

DIRECS: On outskirts of bazaar, behind Čair Hospital across street from Bit Bazaar. 1475, Isa beg built. only seljuk (?) EURO MOSQ. UNIQUE: 2 main domes (2 joined rooms) & 5 domed porch; built as memorial for Isa Bey after death; 2 main domes & 5 smaller ones above porch area.

(?) Jahja Pasha MOSQ,

1h

DIRECS: At beginning of Čair quarter close to Bit Pazar

Built 1504, Jahja Pasha, Turk army commander & son in law of Sultan Bajazit II & court vesir. UNIQUE cuz roof is pyramid shape instead of usual dome; minaret is Skopje's tallest: 50 mtrs tall. hit by lightning twice.

Debar Maalo (WIKI)

1h

one very old neighbourhood...where tourists rare; traditional for old settlers of Skopje; DIRECS:: right off CNTR of city... lots of trees around, old-restored houses.. FULL of old town, traditional type of rustic, small & very intimate restaurants. Very good fresh food, very decent prices.

Bazaar's Clock Tower.

1h

All MACE bazaar has 1 CUZ: 1) muslims close stores 5 times/day 4 prayers. 2) w/ working hrs in old bazaar & no one cud work & earn more than other; 16th C TOW on foundations of older edifice; Original: wood, top replaced w/ bricks 1902

1st OTTO Emp TOW (1566-72), shows Skopje's trading CNTR imp; more Islamic looking than other MACE clock towers. Actual clock from Szeged, HUNG, BUT unfortunately clock disappeared during earthquake chaos ened up in Switzerland clock museum. **DIRECS**: Skopje's clock tower,, is located just north of Sultan Murad MOSQ.



(LP) Kuršumli An/ Kurshumli Han,

1h

DIRECS: Kurshumli Han, (A) Skopje, MACE GoogM; Next to han: where MOSQ &

hammam (Turk bath) used to stand -- both suffered in 1) big fire of 1689 & 2) 1963 earthquake -- today

MOSQ is gone & amam in ruins.

Today, MACE National MUS grounds & houses lapydarium. Large Kurşumli Han building has ground floor, which housed cattle & horses, & first floor, which housed guests.

"Lead Inn": largest / most beautiful w/ARCH detail of 3 remaining OTTO caravanserais. 1550 built by Mula Musledin Hodza, son of Abdul Gani, scientist of Sultan Selikm II court.



Roof was covered w/ lead, thus, its name (lead makes bullets which are called kurshum in Turk). but removed during World War I. ALSO,

Both ground & 1st floor made of stone & beautiful arches line courtyard; two courtyards:

- 1) 1st crtvd rooms on ground & 1st floor housed guests;
- 2) 2nd ctryd used to house merchant's & guest's horses & goods -- water fountain in middle of 1st courtyard.

Also has several small pyramidically-shaped domes.



Kapan Han. 1h

DIRECS: Another 15th C OTTO existing *caravanserais* in old bazaar. <u>Ground floor</u> used to house merchant's horses & goods, on <u>1st floor</u>: merchant's sleeping rooms. Today -- nice restaurant.



Suli Han. DIRECS:

1h

1st ½ of 15th C OTTO caravanserai by Ishak beg; 1963 earthquake badly damaged :2 floors: TOP FLR: 54 rooms for guests; BOT FLR: guests' cattle; fully repaired after heavy 1963 earthquake damaged; NOW: Skopje Academy of Art & Old Bazaar MU

(?) **Sultan Murat MOSQ, 2077 633 267.** (LP-WB290m, 28C2)

1h

Biggest Balkan's MOSQ; 1436 w/ money donated by Sultan himself who bore responsibility for all adjustments or repairs. Sultan Suleiman Great donated money for 1537 fire repairs; Sultan Ahmet III for 1689 fire repairs). NOTE: unusual 3 naved basilica shape & flat ceiling (instead of domes) cuz built (or adjusted) over main pre-Turk St. George MON. Current (?) imam Liman Ismail introduces in Eng MOSQ to visitors for donation to.MOSQ

DIRECS: on plateau next to 1566 clock tower fortifications of MON still stand.

KALE & Around:

(LP) Mustafa Pasha MOSQ: (LP-WB290m, 25C2)

1h

DIRECS: Stands on plateau above old bazaar

Most beautiful / elegant MACE Islamic bldgs: 1492, by Mustafa Pasha, court of Sultan Selim I; on older Christian site; quite elegant, intact, w/no additions; square shape & largest dome: 16 mts (52.5 feet) dia; courtyard filled w/ roses & offers distinct overhead view of Old Bazaar.

INT: beautiful, simple, spacious includes calligraphic inscriptions NOTE: 'game' (???) of domes, fountain, porch, porch is on four marble pillars, decorated w/ stalactite, & covered by three small domes; minaret: rising 42 metres (137.8 feet); of limestone.

<u>turbe</u> (grave mausoleum) next to MOSQ Mustafa Paşa is buried in short eight-sided marble tambour;

Mustafa Pasha's daughter ,Umi buried / decorated sarcophagus which includesPersian inscriptions on two of four walls.; fountain, ALSO, pleasant rose garden; fine views over bazaar. Free entry.



*** (LP) Tvrdina Kale Fortress: (LP-WB290m, 31B2)(LP828m, -C2, 827,) (Skopje Citadel) (Wiki)

1h

DIRECS: SEE Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 1 GoogM (upper CNTR) on high, defensive Skopje hill w/great city views @ future Old Bazaar site.

After great 518 earthquake when ancient Scupi or Skupi(Roman) was destroyed 6th C, by Byzantine EMP Justinian (born in village of Taorion near Skopje), named Justinijana Prima in opus qvadrum style (huge stone blocks on outside & small stones inside); Oldest section: within present day fortifications: 121m long; first inhabited in prehistoric times.



Unfortunately, no major archeological work done to discover Justinijana Prima remains. Most existing fortifications are 10th C (Square Tower) & 13th C (Round Tower): reinforced during TURK rule; became major trading centre in 12th C; some ongoing restoration; up to 70 towers, BUT just 3 standing; Fortress (1689 fire badly damaged & 1963 earthquake - more so) went down to RIV Vardar & up onto hill to MUS of Contemporary Art.



St. Saviour Church, (Wiki)

DIRECS: few steps below Mustafa Pasha MOSQ.

Tiny & pleasant courtyard w/ grave of MACE's greatest national hero -Goce Delchev -- leader of national Turk liberation movement MACE independence,. **Small MUS** in courtyard BLDGs (enter MUS to buy TIK for church). Among courtyard **paving**: 18th & 19th C gravestones.

Turks didn't allow new churches <u>usually</u>, but as 18th C empire weakened, to pacify peeps it allowed. NOTE: as you enter, turn R for <u>remains of frescoes</u> & earlier church <u>level</u>).

Famous for interior & wood carving:

1819 to 1824 iconscreen: 1926 British MUS offered blank check 4 State gov't to fill in amount, if 4 sale. beauty is: 1) deep wood carving from whole wood boards (figures not add-ons), & 2) not covered w/golden paint (Orthodox churches tradition) so play of light & dark shades is quite dramatic (doors into altar & cross on top covered w/ gold paint, so can compare); 10 mtrs long & 7 mtrs high. scenes: old & new testament. Figurines - 7 cm tall. Look for: 1) "Creation of Adam & Eve" -- on 1 columns next to altar doors, 2) "Dance of Salome", where she dances for king Irod so he would give her head of St.John Baptist (she is dressed in traditional dress from Galichnik). 3) All around: typical regional flowers & animals. DIRECS: AT far right -- self-portrait of artists as they worked on iconscreen. 4) icons are some of best Byzantine revival.

City Park zoo.

DIRECS: SEE Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 2 & 3 GoogM (upper L corner) Large green area: NW of If time, interesting to see how/what they have improved zoo; part MUS w/ several monuments within. Nice pathways walks around small lakes, cafes, rest. & city Zoo.

(LP) NW Skopje:

Aqueduct (Roman) (Wiki)

1½h

DIRECS: Cifte Amam, Skopje, MACE 3 GoogM (upper CNTR edge); SEE Skopje, Aqueduct, Macedonia/FYROM - Google MapsGOOG

On exit of Skopje towards Kosovo, R before village of Vizbegovo. Turn R at 1st traffic signal on road to Kosovo (only turn right). Turn R again immediately at 1st opportunity. Pavement ends abruptly. Follow unpaved road to L that runs alongside canal. After about 300 mtrs, aqueduct in front of you.).

Built: not known; some claim Roman times but???-- theory doesn't make much sense; probably during Byzantine era; was used during Turk era providing public baths water. **55 stone arches still standing.**



Markets: (LP)

Green Market (Pazarce): Another good food mmkt DIRECS: near Parliment Bldg
Bunjakovec Market: DIRECS: near CATH.

1h

(LP) DT Mt Vodno: (LP-WB 293)

DIRECS: >S

3h

Sveti Pantelejmon MON ???

Climb Vodno Mountain, (largest mt to S of Skopje):

best views Skopje city & valley, also be able to see close up & possibly

Millenium Cross, view

Climb to Millenium Cross, largest Christian cross in world, built to celebrate 2000 years of Christianity.

1h

Also, **Monument to MACE partisan fighters** who defeated Axis forces stationed on Vodno allowing liberation of Skopje.

MISC:

Lake Matka in Saraj / (Wiki): Hiking

???

DIRECS: 20 min outside of Skopje. Lake & hydrodam;...

REST: Mechkina dupka restaurant: "don't miss" restaurant "Bear's Cave" near cayak trail, built into cave

Matka Canyon, hike varying difficulty there

??'

DIRECS: After cars at entrance & pass restaurants, approach canyon from R side; beaten path goes about 2-3 km deep into canyon; break from beaten path, down to water anywhere, no beach so find own spot; 5-6 m depth of water, very very clean... untouched nature.

one of Macedonia's - deep mysterious natural beauties -- only good during spring & summer... water color: amazingly green-just overwhelming



TRANS-OUT: www.BGrazpisani.com

Skopje new BUS (ENG) & TRN STA (adjoined): "Transportation Center" complex; New STA: 10 platforms & suspended on massive concrete bridge about 2 km long approx 2 kms E of city centre: (built 1970s to replace 1st RR STA destroyed by 1963 earthquake DIRECS: Skopje, MACE map (lower R corner);

NOTE: To change BUS STA: walk to stone Vardar bridge & cross bridge (about 2.5 km) or taxi.

Skopje, MACE > Sofia, BUL:

BUS: 5½hrs, 3 dly) (LP-WB 331INTN'L BUS Sched) > Sofia Central Bus Station Toilets: ANS: probably??).

MATPU & Kaleia (Skopje) BUS companies services: **DIRECS**: both located outside main bus terminal. <u>Single ticket</u>: approx. 16 Euros (32 Lev).

TRN: NO or ??? May be new TRN services

Sofia, BUL 1st & 2nd (CW): (LP243, 244m,) BUL: (LP240, 242m,) TRANS-IN:

BUS: (6hrs, 5/day) to Sofia Central Bus Station (so assume 5 go Skopje > Sofia w/ similar schedule that **may** include: 9am, noon, late afternoon & night buses

TRN: NO or ??? May be new TRN services

Skopje, MACE > Deve Bair, MACE / Gyueshevo. BUL⊗ (NE of Skopie) >Sofia, BUL (Sofia Central BUS STA)

LOCAL TRANS:

GENERAL: Well-developed & efficient public transport system: buses, trolleys, trams, subway line:.5AM to about 12AM. ONLY Taxis in night.; **price-**TIK: 1.00 lev (~ 0.50€) only local \$.

BUS: Plovdiv: 0.60 levs, get on BUS @ any door & TIK girl will find you.

DISCOUNT OPTIONS: 1) 10 (8.00lv) TIKs, 2) combined TIK; subway & ground transport: (1.40 lv),3) daily cards (4lv): all lines, 4) 5-day cards (15lv).

Airport & Hotel Pliska BUS USE:

1) Buy 2 TIKs - 1.00 BGN ea (ME & LUG) from driver **or** from newspaper stand; get on @ front then further down bus aisle @ sides are little punch hole machines that put hole in TIK to validate If NOT punched, NOT valid. NEVER accept taxi offers at train or bus station

PURCHASE TIKS: , daily & 5-day cards: most newspaper stands especially adjacent to public transport stops. OR also buy TIKs from dRIV if he has any available - NOT guaranteed.

VALIDATE TIK: Punch TIK immediately on bus (inspectors rarely speak ENG & problems w/ security if NO TIK or w/ an unpunched TIK. <u>Inspectors</u> ambush & board buses & trams in groups (generally not friendly), sometimes accompanied by police, & make no exceptions. (Fine; 10 lv or €5.)

CAUTION: If by tram BUY separate TIK large bag/case or might be fined!

ROUTES, etc: 15 tram lines, 9 trolley lines, 93 bus lines & one metro line. Some BUSs cover area outside city CNTR including neighboring villages.

Useful routes:

bus #84 from both terminals of airport to city CNTR;

from TRN/BUS STA >

Orlov most: bus #213 or #214

Vitosha Street & Nedelya Square, tram #1, #7 & #18

National Palace of Culture #1, #6, #7,

Slaveykov square #18

MACE square. #6

SUBWAY (still under construction ???) Currently, one line crosses from W edge of town (Lulin, Obelya) through city CNTR > sSDE (Mladost r.d.).... where will eventually connect to airport. --- currently take bus N. 384 to airport from last station in Mladost . (However, this is an experimental line (???) so allow 30 minutes for waiting & travel time to airport.)

WALKING: Pedestrian crossings are numerous & relatively respected by dRIVs. Use pedestrian underpasses to cross large intersections, CAUTION: avoid subur one cuz derelict.

MINI-BUS: Mini-buses (marshrutki): they stop if just wave hand; usually fast way to somewhere; pay driver when get in. Prices: 1,50 leva (about 0,75 euro). MUST advise when/where to GO.

TAXI: Taxis (yellow):.on streets or by phone: arrive fast & are reliable.

RATES inside Sofia: rarely exceed 10lv.

Taxi Companies: w/ fares around 0,70 leva (0,35€) per kilometer

OK Supertrans taxi (973 2121),

€1 Taxi, "962-22-26",

Yellow Taxi (91119)

Radio CV Taxi (91263). DBL CHK phone number & prices before getting in - cuz "dishonest imitators"; GENERAL RULE: reject all solicitong taxi dRIVs.

ACCM:

1) **Hostel Sofia**: NR, 6/10drm: \$13: **ENG staff**, 16 Pozitano Street, Sofia 1000; wifi, gud brkfst, Tour desk, LugStor, bikes;

DIRECS: from CENTRAL TRA & BUS STAS

- 1. Take TRAM 1 or 7 to Sheraton Hotel Travel time: 10 minutes.
- Walk on Vitosha Boulevard to National Courthouse.
- 3. Turn R on Pozitano Street between FloCafe & Courthouse.
- 2) **Hostel Mostel**: (BIG) 92%; 6/8/9 drm: \$15/14/10, LOC:@ CNTR E8.16; wifi, bike, LugStor, CeilFan, ReadLite, Close > CNTR, walk > BUS/TRN STA, KIT, locker, Rila MON, TRAV INFO Walking: (25 min)

Take 'Hristo Botev' (Христо Ботев) blvd, in 5 minutes you will cross bridge at 'Slivnitsa' (Сливница) blvd

Keep walking straight and stop at intersection called 'Makedonia' square (площад Македония).

Landmark when you are there is tall building on your left with 'Mtel' sign at its top.

At intersection turn right and you will see 'Win Bet' casino and 'Post Bank' office. Right after bank there is small metal door with Hostel Mostel sign on it. Ring bell, we will open door for you. Walk through arcade and you will see our traditional building with wooden terrace.

BUS: (15 min)

Tram No 6, 9 or 12, direction to 'Makedonia' square stop - 4th (Ploshtad Makedonia spelled in Bulgarian). Look for 'Caesar' casino and 'Post Bank' office there. We are just next to it.

From International bus stationIt is just next to Central railway station so use directions given above.

3) Canape Connection Hostel, 93% 4/8 drm: \$17/14, E11-16 (LP244m, 12E6) 12 A William Gladstone Street, at corner of Shishman St - Sofia's 'street 2 +359 2 441 63 73

(<u>hostel@canapeconnection.net</u>); checkin: 1400; new; small charming house; city CNTR. spacious beds, GUD home-made brkfst; bikes, LugStor, wifi???

DIRECS: From Central TRN & BUS STA:

- 1) Take tram # 6 or 7 ,2) get off at **4th stop**: Macedonia Square (площад Македония).
- 3) Go 1 block in same direction on same side of BLVD, 4) and, cross at 1st zebra crossing.
- 5) Turn L on William Gladstone Street (ул. Уилям Гладстон). 6) Go 1 block more > # 12A on RH side.

SEE "HOSTELS-MISC Xtras

Orient Express Hostel: 74%, 8 drm only: \$13, LOC: very CNTR: 8A "Christo Belchev" Str - c Sofia Backpacker's Inn: dm:E9; Struma Str. 6 | Floor 2nearby mini-mart & Irg MKT,

Kervan Hostel: 5/6 dm:\$14/E10, (LP244m, 15E2) free wifi, bikes, Rila MON., DIRECS: Central NO: Art Hostel: triple bunks, cramped; party

3) Nightingale Hostel: 100%, 5/6drm or private: \$14 up; 3A, Yanko Zabunov Str2.Fan, wifi???, th floor, BUT no lift, on left from staircase, apt 17.. The entrance is on left of cafe..

FOOD:

Traditional BUL bakeries: banitsa & other pastry: often eatened w/ ayran or boza Katma: big pancake filled w/ cheese, ham, jelly or chocolate.

Baalbek, (Near Slaveykov Square.); great Arab food.

Downstairs:take-away kebabs & falafels

Upstairs: small sit down. Excellent hummus & salads, etc.

Trops House, fast-food w/ traditional BUL meals & drinks; several city CNTR locations.

MISC:

TEMP: Apr: 60-40°, May: 68-48°

MONEY:

Lev, plural Leva, also abbrev. 'lv. (лв.) or ISO code - BGN';.

Exchange rate: fixed at 1 EUR = 1.95586 BGN. USD Exchange rate: not fixed directly, but defined by BUL National Bank, used as benchmark in exchange offices & banks: <u>buy rate</u>: 1.95 BGN & <u>sell rate</u>: 1.96 BGN to 1 EUR; BUT, airport & TRN STA rates differ substantially. TRY to use use banks.

BOOKS to READ:

Rose of BALK by Ivan Lichev Under Yoke by Ivan Vazov

History

Sofia was founded around 2,500 years ago. Over C, it has been given several names & remnants of old cities can still be viewed today.

<u>Prehistoric settlements</u>: excavated in present city CNTR near royal palace AND in outer districts Slatina & Obelya: well- preserved town walls (especially their substructures) date before 7th C BC, when Thracians established their city around mineral spring, which exists to present day.
447 Hun invasion destroyed city.

About **100 AD**, Serdica (Sardica) *Serdica*, derives from local Celtic tribe of Serdi who inhabited region si

1st C BC expanded: turrets, protective walls, public baths, administrative & cult buildings, civic basillica, ampitheatre, City Council Boulé), large Forum, big Circus (Theatre), etc. built.

During **middle Ages**: major BUL Empire commercial centres, along w/ Tarnovo.

Small pop until 1879: when declared capital of BUL after Liberation from Ottomans. OTTO Turk Empire decline followed by rejuvenation after 1878 Russian liberation when Sofia chosen BUL capital followed by rapid G.

DANGERS:

At **night**, **avoid BUS & TRN STA**, **Maria Luiza Blvd**, **Parks** (around Palace of Culture & Borisova) & **Lions' Bridge** (Lavov Most): junkies get high there, prostitutes, touts of contraband (stolen, illegal, etc.) &/or then try to mug you.; also homeless & drunk. If your hotel is in area you'll be alright (HUH???); act confident (& familiarize yourself during day), act like local, **centre is okay**, <u>choose</u> hotel/hostel in better location, such as ones listed above.

TO DO (1T, 4D, 5N) 5D

Free Sofia Tour(free ENG-walk tour of BUL capital),

2h

DIRECS: Corner of Alabin Str. & 2 Vitosha Blvd., 🏗 +359886993977, (2 daily: 11AM & 6PM.

No res req'd - just show up! Start: - corner of Palace of Justice (Sudebna Palata).

GENERAL:

OO EUR's oldest cities w/ ruins spread across city CNTR; founded cuz quality of mineral waters: 7 independent mineral water springs; . One in central city is accessible to everybody:

PLOSHTAD ALEKSANDER NEVSKI: DIRECS:

1h

Aleksander Nvski MEM CHURCH & Crypt: (LP244m, F4, 243) DIRECS: DIRECS: across square behind MOSQ, next to TSUM (???)

1½h

(intersection of Iskar & Ekzarh Yosif streets). In Sofia admin CNTR streets covered w/ specific yellow pavement, laid @ 20th C beginning as wedding present to BUL Tsar Ferdinand from Austria-HUNG royal

family.



Aleksander Nvski Crypt: (LP244m,1F4, 243)

Hagia Sophia Church,

1/2

DIRECS: 2 Paris str.; Orlov Most, (A) Sofia, BUL (R corner) GoogM; across square & to right of Alexander Nevsky CATH; 6th, C on older church; seen all BUL history; valued cultural monument. Sofia named for in 14th C; destroyed several times; during Ottyoman rule used as MOSQ.

Orlov Most (Eagle Bridge):

1/2**h**

DIRECS: Orlov Most, (A) Sofia, BUL GoogM bridge over Perlovska RIV in centre of Sofia Sveta Sofia CHURCH: DIRECS: (LP244m, 10E3, 243)

AROUND SOFIA CITY GARDEN: DIRECS:

ARCH MUS:

[22]. 10:00 to 18:00. "Thracian & Roman National Institute of Archaeology & MUS",

Rotundra (Church) of St. George

½h

3/4h

(<u>Bulgarian</u>: Ротонда "Свети Георги" Rotonda "Sveti Georgi"): DIRECS: NW of ARCH MUS ;SEE sheraton hotel (A), sofia, bulgaria - Google Maps

of ancient town of Serdica. Roman built, 4th C, famous for 12th-14th C frescoes inside central dome. Three layers of frescoes have been discovered, earliest dating back to 10th century. Magnificent frescoes of 22 prophets over 2 metres tall crown dome. Painted over during Ottoman period, when building was used as mosque, these

PRES BLDG: closed: DIRECS: (LP244m, 6C3, 243)

frescoes were only uncovered in 20th century Roman street

HRLY changing of Guards

Royal Palace (Nat ART GAL): (LP) DIRECS: (LP244m, D3, 243)	½h
Prince Alexander of Battenberg Square:	1h
DIRECS: (slightly NW of Royal Palace: LP244m)	
ETHNO MUS: (LP) folk art, costumes DIRECS: (LP244m, 243)	½h
AROUND PLOSHTAD SVETA NEDELYA : DIRECS:	1h
Sveti Georgi Sveta Nedelya CATH: (LP) DIRECS: (LP244m, 9B3, 243)	½h
Banya Bashi MOSQ: DIRECS: (LP244m,2C2, 243)	½h
TURK Mineral Baths: indefinitely closed- restore DIRECS: (LP244m, 3C2, 243)	½h
Ploshtad Bulgaria: (LP) DIRECS: (LP244m, 243)	½h
Nat Palace of CULTURE: (LP) DIRECS: (LP244m, 243)	½h

SE of ARCH MUS:

Earth & Man National MUS,

1h

DIRECS: 4 Cherni Vruh Blvd., Earth & Man National MUS (A), Sofia GoogM +359 2 865 66 39

(earth.&.man@gmail.com, 10.00 to 18.00. 2 leva.

National MUS of Natural History,:

1h

DIRECS: 1, Tzar Osvoboditel Blvd., SE of (@ S Sofia) Take trolley #2 southwest from corner of Praga Blvd. & Patriarch Eftimi Blvd. Get off @ roundabout at end of bus line. Cross busy Okolovrustino Shosse (ring road) & walk through trees. CAUTION: MUS is not visible from road, nor any signs.), SEE National Museum of Natural History (map)(Sofia U STOP) \$\frac{1}{2}\$ 359 2

987 41 95, 10.00 to 18.00.: 4 floors: rocks & minerals .> insects & stuffed bison. nice way to spend rainy afternoon. Ed

SE of PLOSHTAD ALEKSANDER NEVSKI:

National Military MUS:

1h

Nat'l Mil MUS (A) & Nat'l HIST MUS (B), sofia, BUL; Sofia National Military MUS (A)

Which? DIRECS 1:SEE MUS some distance from Boyana Church, walked to main road & another taxi up steep hill (5 Lev).BEST OPT: local mini bus No. 21: from Eagle Bridge; combined ticket (tik; 12 Lev); do not pay woman 2 lev`s she asks for

DIRECS 2:(Getting here is quite difficult.)

- 1) Take tram #9 or #10 from stop underneath NDK (National Palace of Culture) to Hladilnika neighborhood (last stop).
- 2) **Then,** bus #64: caution: bus stop is just 50 meters away, but ask DIRECS cuz several different stops nearby. stop for **church** is <u>small plaza</u> w/ few shops near end of #64 bus line. Ask dRIV or other passangers where to get off
- 3) walk uphill & turn left.), \$\overline{\Omega}\$ +359 2 959 09 39 (nmbc@nmbc.orbitel.bg, fax: +359 2 959 29 66), [28]. 09:00 to 17:00.

(Национален военноисторически музей, Natsionalen voennoistoricheski muzey)

Peep limit at time cuz climate regulated to preserve magnificent layers of frescoes: 11-19th C, call in advance?. ENG guide: worth it & inexpensive;

National MUS of History,

1h

DIRECS 16 Vitoshko lale str. SEE Boyana Church, Sofia, Bulgaria - Google Maps (upper CNTR)

NOTE: near Nat'l MIL HIST MUS: gold BC treasures.

→ +359 2 955 42 80; (nim1973@abv.bg,

More than 650,000 exhibits; OO largest BALK history MUS; MUS PURPOSE: is to provide comprehensive view on BUL history from <u>prehistory to present</u>, in broad Euro context Several hours;. half exhibits -- ENG captions.

SW Corner:17 1/4

MT Vitosha: 3h

DIRECS: sofia map 1A (SW corner) GOOG M

Easiest route: Cable car to Aleko (1810 m), chair lift to Malak Rezen (2191 m), easy footpath to Cherni Vrah blvd.

oldest NP in BALK: includes large part Vitosha MT: entirely w/in city .[19]; (like Cache CRk).

- 1) Stone RIVs (morraines) aka Zlatnite MOstove (Golden Bridges): scenic spot along Vladayska RIV, an amazing phenomenon aka Stone RIVs: ribbon (moraine) of huge boulders running down mountainside; more formation due to spherical erosion of sienite rocks & gradual movement down stream valleys by gravity & water; only1 stone RIVs in Vitosha YouTube Park sign indcates NOT glacial in origin.
- 2) **Boyana Falls**: (foot of Mt. Vitosha)



Boyana Church, (11-19th C) (3 buildings).: See Sofia pdf 1½h DIRECS: 1-3 Boyansko Ezero Str.; SEE Boyana Church, Sofia, Bulgaria - Google Maps (lower L) foot of Vitosha mt; good starting point for DT> mt. Few tourist:

OOM valuable BUL & EURO culture memorials; frescoes, "best examples of E medieval 12th C art. small 14th-C (???), UNESCO church & garden: very well preserved murals.

1) E church: 1h

10th C, enlarged @ start of 13th C by Kaloyan, who ordered 2nd 2 story bldq next > it.

2) Second chur 1h

frescoes, painted in 1259; OOM imp medieval paintings collections

3) Third church: 1h

Start 19th C, OOM (one of most) complete & perfectly preserved monuments of E EURO medieval art.

Open spaces

GENERAL: Extensive green belt; almost all streets have greenway of C-old trees; except post-2000 neighbourhoods, densely built-up, lacking green spaces.

4 principal parks:

Borisova gradina: DIRECS: (SE corner LP244m) 1h

It's "lungs" of city, w/ Ariana L; city centre

& Southern, Western & Northern parks.

Smaller parks:

City Garden: DIRECS: (mid LP 244m) oldest & most central public garden, since 1872. ½h

Doctor's Garden: DIRECS: located in central Sofia. ½h

Others areas:

Slaveykov Square: open-air book market. DIRECS:

1/2h Patriarch Evtimiy Square: DIRECS: ½h

DEF: Patriarchate: patriarchate (Pentarchy, patriarchs is office / jurisdiction of patriarch.)

Patriarch: is either:

1) OO highest-ranking bishops in E Orthodoxy, earlier, 5 included in Pentarchy: Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, & Jerusalem, but now, 9, excluding Rome BUTincluding patriarchs of Serbia, Russia, Georgia, Bulgaria & Romania;

- 2) OO of **10** high-ranking[2] bishops of <u>Catholicism</u>: **7** "patriarchs of <u>E</u>" (6 heads of <u>E</u> <u>Catholic Churches</u> & <u>Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem</u>), & Patriarchs of <u>Lisbon</u>, <u>Venice</u>, & <u>East Indies</u>;
- 3) OO specific patriarchs of various Oriental Orthodox & Nestorian churches.
- <u>4 early Orthodox patriarchates of East, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, & Jerusalem, & counterparts in W, Rome, are distinguished as "senior" (Greek: πρεσβυγενή, presbygenē, "senior-born") or "ancient" (παλαίφατα, palaíphata, "of ancient fame") & <u>are among apostolic sees</u>,: i.e. had 1 OO <u>Apostles</u> or <u>Evangelists</u> as 1st bishop: <u>Andrew, Mark, Peter, James, & Peter</u>.</u>

patriarchate has "legal personality" in some legal jurisdictions, i.e. corporation.

Sofia Zoo: DIRECS: 1 Sreburna Str., [30]. 09:00 to 17:00.

South Park: DIRECS: nice park in SE Sofia, bit crowded on weekends.

TRANS-OUT: (NOTE: May do Plovdiv & veliko-Tarnovo w/ DAY PACK only)

Sofia > Ploydiy, BUL:

BLOG NOTES:

buses > plovidv: fill quick so, buy Tlk from TlK office, if early enuf; DP hrly, but rush hour cab be ½ hrly;

BEST TIK BOOTH: last row of booths by windows on bus parking side; booth on far L: bus times written above booth; usually bit of ENG, at least, "1 TIK > Plovdiv, PLS"; bus DP: bus stop 6, TIK: seat number written on back at busy times. Big bag: driver put on tag & you put in baggage hold. Ride: 2 hrs; 11 Levs, stops 3 times in plovdiv, last stop is s BUS STA, next to train station. From there short bus ride to town centre or 15 min easy walk if you know where going.

BUS: (2hrs, hrly; 5-6E) departure from parking nbus stop #6, ticket was 11 leva, from driver 3 BUS STAs: South, Rodopi & North.

NOTE: One blogger suggested asking at BUS STA if any DIRECT Sofia > Pristina bus, etc.

TRN: (2 1/2hrs, freq) NOT practical; NOTE: Bul TRN Routes map pdf1 Blog says: freq & OK & TIK selles w/ ENG, avoid touts?? BL: I check it out B4

3 RR STAs: Plovdiv Central, Trakia & Filipovo

TIKS:

Domestic: go from main terminal where you can buy tickets for domestic travel. RR History: city dates .> 1872, RR STA on Lyubimates-Belovo RR line.

Platforms accessed from main floor, down escalators at far L corner.

Platform numbering (confusing): **Roman numerals** indicate: <u>platform number</u> (I to VI); **Arabic numerals** indicate: actual track number (1 to 12).

Each platform is divided into East & West.

Departures & arrivals: indicate <u>track number</u>, <u>not platform!</u> on reliable electronic panels RR Lines > Sofia, Panagyurishte, Karlovo, Peshtera, Stara Zagora, Dimitrovgrad & Asenovgrad.

All services are operated by BUL State Railways [10], whose schedules are available on internet in ENG.

Sofia > Rila MON:

CHK Sofia Central & Skopje BUS STA sites

Tour: Hostel Lavele:

BUS: DIRECT: (21/2hrs; 10:20am & 6:20pm) NO ENG ???

Central BUS STA (Centralna Avtogara/Централна автогара): DIRECS: near city CNTR. Sofia, Knyaginya Mariya Luiza Blvd 100, 1301, BUL, +359 2/813 3204 · <u>bulgaria-go.com</u>

website gives listing of all domestic & international departure & arrival times & costs **Traffik MKT (along w/** Bus Station "Serdika"): http://www.avtogara-serdika.com/en/index.php; In front of Central Railway Station square, "Maria Louisa" Blvd. 1002, Sofia, Bulgaria; Some BUSes (locals won't recognize Traffik name

CAUTION: 3 other bus stations for minor destinations.

BUS Complanies:

MATPU 96: DIRECS: Sofia, Damyan Gruev St 23, BUL, +359 2/981 5856 · matpu.com 50 m from central BUS STA towards Lions Bridge (Lavov Most).: Major INTN'L BUS company: Timetable of in BUL.ETAP & Biomet OO bigger bus companies offering TIKs >many BUL cities, include: Plovdiv.

Kaleya (another bus company) DIRECS: @ an adjacent parking lot.

Many BUL & Int'l bus scheduled lines covering all major domestic & EURO cities

TRN: possible, but NOT practical

Sofia, BUL > Nis, SERB > Pristina, Kosovo:

TO SERB: Sofia > Kalotina, BUL / Gradina, SERB⊗ > Nis, SERB (S>) / Merdare, KOS⊗ (S on

E65hwy) (S>) Pristina, KOS

TRN: TRN: possible, but NOT practical

Intern'II TRN: apparently NOT.

MAIN RR STA (Tsentralna Gara) -confusing.

TIKS:

Domestic: go from main terminal where you can buy tickets for domestic travel.

International: on entering STA @front, turn L, walk past heated waiting room on your left (& some small shops) & GOTO office @ end of wide corridor w/ "RILA" on it --- straight ahead of you.; speak some ENG & to book ticket w/ passport; take credit cards.

Platforms accessed from main floor, down escalators at far L corner.

Platform numbering (confusing): Roman numerals indicate: platform number (I to VI);

Arabic numerals indicate: actual track number (1 to 12).

Each platform is <u>divided</u> into **East & West**.

Departures & arrivals: indicate <u>track number</u>, not <u>platform!</u> on reliable electronic panels

Rila MON, BUL:(DT) UNESCO

BUL: Рилски манастир, Rilski manastir)









TRANS-IN:

NOTE: **Hostel Lavele & Keravan Hostel tour**: http://www.lavelehostel.com/page-rila-monastery BOOK in advance! 1 day;includes: trans. ; Short hike > St. Ivan Rilski cave – about 1h.

Price / person: every day if minimum of 3 peeps

3-4 people - 25 EUR/49 BGN

5-6 people - 20 EUR/39 BGN

7-8 people - 18 EUR/35 BGN

BUS – DIRECT: **(**2½hrs, 10:20am & 6:20pm)

Worst ALT (cuz BUs & Taxi) BUS > Rila VILL: (30 min , 5/day, daily, May be useful , if goes very

early & not using tour **ACCM:** MON: simple rooms

TRANS-OUT: > Sofia

BUS - DIRECT: RETURN > Sofia @ 3pm: ???

BUS > Rila VILL: 5/day, daily,

TO DO

MON of Saint Ivan of Rila, weekdays - best

Largest & OOM famous E Orthodox BUL MON. DIRECS: SW Rila Mountains, 117 km (73 mi) S of Sofia in deep Rilska RIV valley at: elevation of 1,147 m (3,763 ft -- sea level); named after founder: hermit Ivan of Rila (876 - 946 AD).

NO cameras & video recorders inside main church Youtube: YES

NOTES: 2008: 900,000 visitors; depicted on reverse of 1999 -- 1 lev Banknote,

History

??? interior of MON w/ Tower of Hrelyu visible

Traditionally, founded by hermit St. Ivan of Rila during rule of Tsar Peter I (927-968); hermit actually lived in cave not far from MON w/o any material possessions; complex built by his students, who came to mtns for education.

Ever since its creation, <u>supported & respected by BUL rulers</u>. Large donations by almost every tsar from 2nd BUL Empire until OTTO Conquest (12th to 14th C) making MON cultural & spiritual centre of BUL national consciousness.

Re-erected at present place by local feudal lord: Hrelyu Dragovola during 14th C.; oldest buildings in complex date from this period:

- 1) Tower of Hrelyu (1334–1335)
- 2) small church just next to it (1343).
- 3) bishop's throne & rich-engraved gates of MON also belong to this time.

However, Ottomans end-of-14th C arrival was followed by numerous raids & destruction of MON in mid-15th C. Thanks to donations by Russian Orthodox Church & more precisely <u>Rossikon MON of Mount Athos</u>, Rila Mon rebuilt @ end of 15th C by three brothers from region of Kyustendil, who moved Ivan of Rila's relics into complex.

Complex was BUL language & culture depository in ages of foreign rule.

1D

- During BUL National Revival (18th-19th C), was destroyed by 1833 fire, then, reconstructed btw 1834 & 1862 w/ help of wealthy BUL of entire country, under famous architect Alexi Rilets;. Res buildings began in 1816, belfry; added to Tower of Hrelyu in 1844. Neofit Rilski founded school in MON during period.
- MON complex, regarded as foremost masterpiece of BUL National Revival architecture; declared national historical monument in 1976; UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983. Since 1991 it has been entirely subordinate to Holy Synod of BUL Orthodox Church.
- On 25 May 2002, Pope John Paul II visited Rila during pilgrimage to BUL.

Architecture

Whole complex: _____ sq ft; rectangular form, centered around inner yard (3,200 m2), where tower & main church are.

Main church: erected mid-19th C.; architect Pavel Ioanov, worked from 1834 to 1837;

EXT: 5 domes, 3 altars & 2 side chapels

INT: gold-plated iconostasis: most precious INT items; famous for wood-carving taking five years & 4 handicraftsmen.

frescoes, finished in 1846; work of many masters;

many 14th to 19th C. valuable icons,

Residential part

4-storey (not counting basement) residential part of complex consists of 300 chambers, four chapels, an abbot's room, kitchen (noted for its uncommonly large vessels), library w/ 250 manuscripts & 9,000 old printed matters, & donor's room.

EXT: w/ its high walls of stone & little windows, resembles fortress more than MON.

MON MUS particularly famous for: Rafail's Cross: (http://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=zw9krFyEksg
cross made from single-piece-of-wood
(81×43 cm); whittled down by monk Rafail using fine burins & magnifying lenses to recreate 104 religious scenes & 650 miniature figures; 12 year work, completed in 1802 when monk lost his sight. NOT on Youtube

Nativity CHURCH: 920AD, restored 1469, murals

St. Ivan Tomb 15 min hike?

Plovdiv, BUL (SC): (LP250,)

(1T, 3D, 4N)

LOCATION: Plovdiv is situated in southern part of Plovdiv Plain on two banks of Maritsa RIV. city has historically developed on seven svenite hills, some of which are

250 m (820.21 ft) high. Referred to in BUL as "City of Seven Hills".

HISTORY:

Spans 6.000 years, w/ traces of Neolithic settlement (4000 BC); OO oldest EURO cities;

American College of Sofia: founded (1860) in Ploydiv, BUT later moved to today's Sofia --- oldest Amer ed institution outside U S

Known in West as GRK name: *Philippoupolis*; originally THracian settlement before becoming major Roman city;. Middle Ages: kept strategic regional importance, changing hands BTW Byzantiune & BUL Empires

14th C: OTTO rule. 1878, capital of autonomous OTTO region of E Rumelia; **1885**: part of BUL regional unification.

Main ST: **←**

TRANS-IN: Central TRN & BUS STA are w/in 150 m of each other

BUS STATIONS: 3 BUS STAs: the South, Rhodopi & North stations. Each serves its respectively geographic region.

South BUS STA: serves Sofia DP & ARV.

South BUS STA: 032/626 937 Serving: Sofia, Hissar (Hissarya).

Rhodope BUS STA: 032/697 607: Serving: others I don't use

N BUS STA: 032/953 705: Serving: Veliko Turnovo,

RR STAs: 2 TRN STAs: Central Railway Station & Filipovo Railway Station.

Central RR STA: DP & ARV for Sofia, Veliko Turnovo. & Intern'l line, connecting Europe (Istanbul - Beograd).

Bulgarian RR (ENG) http://www.bdz.bg/index-en.php

TRN: (2 1/2hrs, freq)

DIRECS: (Central TRN STA nearby) bul Hristo Botev, St 46, (359) 32622729.

RR History: city dates .> 1872,

RR Lines > Sofia, Panagyurishte, Karlovo, Peshtera, Stara Zagora, Dimitrovgrad & Asenovgrad. 3 RR STA: Plovdiv Central, Trakia & Filipovo

TRANS- LOCAL:

Extensive public transport: 40 bus & trolleybus lines; 6 bridges span Maritsa RIV AND covered bridge Important road junctions to: S, SW & N.

ACCM:

1) Raisky Kat Hoste: 68%, 3/3 dmE10 (LP) 6 P.R. Slaveikov, lugstor, internet brkfst

TAXI: easiest way; find moving taxi, not STA taxis; ask taxi to take you to Ponedelnik Pazar (Monday Market): 100 mts S of hostel or simply show them address. The absolute maximum you should pay from these locations to hostel is 3 leva or 1.5 euro.

From main TRN STA, Take BUS # 2, 20, 26 > Central Post Office & WALK E > old town.ul Slaveikov 1)

2) Art deco'stel Kokob: 100%, 4drm\$14, Kapitan Rajtcho Str.44; antique, family, LugStor, elevator,

DIRECS: most popular streets - old catholic quarter, few min from main st, but quiet corner

WALK: Close

BUS:-BUses: No7, 20, 26

From Central BUS STA: 3 stops - Avtogara Yug -

From Central TRN STA: 4 stops

1) get off @ Hotel 'Trimontsyum' /Trimontium/.





- 2) What/where is address: Kapitan Rajtcho Str.44
- 3) Once arrived inside entrance go 5 stairs down and turn L > elevator/lift; <u>press</u> 6th floor button to. Welcome!

TAXI: Most imp: CHK fare on inside info sticker or on back window; normal fare: around 0.60 BGN /km /0.30 Euro/ to 1 BGN/ 0.50 Euro/ during day. WAITING TIME: 0.30 BGN/min

SEE "HOSTELS-MISC Xtras

- 3) Hostel Mostel: 83%, 8 drm:\$11, 13 Petar Parchevich, GUD MAP of TRN & BUS STA
- 4) Bike Hostel Plvdiv: 87%, 2M, drm\$12; bike, Wifi?.

MISC:

TEMPS: APR: 64-54°, May: 75-64° mild & relatively warm in mid spring

POP: 3rd largest city (340K); . Some gypsies; Turks, ARmeians, Jews, GRKs. BUL: (89.5%), TURKS: (6.7%); vast majority -- Christians: E Orthodox also Catholics & Protestants, some Muslims & Jews. Plovdiv OO fastest growing econs: GDP growth: 12-13%.

BUL National Revival or BUL Renaissance (BUL: Българско национално възраждане, *Balgarsko natsionalno vazrazhdane* or simply Възраждане, *Vazrazhdane*), **DEF**: period of OTTO socio-econ development & national integration among BUL peoples: commonly accepted to have started w/ historical book, Istoriya Slavyanobolgarskaya,(1762: by Paisius, BUL monk of SERBian MON of Hilandar at Mt Athos) lasted until BUL 1878 Liberation after Russo-TURK War of 1877-78.

Characteristics: such arch. still visible in old BUL towns: VelikoTarnovo; rich literary authors:lvan Vazov & Hristo Botev who inspired BUL independence & autonomous church & April Uprising (armed opposition to OTTO rule) ultimately led to Liberation & sig changes in BUL society: econ freedom initiative & religious choice leading to BUL nation w/in its ethnic borders

Three Periods of BUL NAT'L Revival:

Early: 18th C-- beginning 19th C: several theories as to actual beginning; BUT CURRENT belief: beginning marked by first clear processes of decomposition in OTTO Empire **Middle**: 1820-1850 OTTO reforms > Crimean War

Late: Crimean War > 1878 BUL Liberation: ended in BUL, but cont'd in: E Rumelia & MACE

History

AntiquityPlan of known parts of roman city superimposed on plan of modern Plovdiv.

Neolithic Age settlements traces, roughly 6000 BC: fine pottery & other daily life objects showing end of 4th millennium BC.

Written **post-Bronze Age** history: Thracian fort settlement: Eumolpias:.4th C BC trade fair cntr (*panegyreis*); 342 BC, Philip II of MACE conquered (Alex Great's father): renamed it "Φιλιππόπολις", *Philippopolis* or " city of Philip".

Later, Thracians reconquered calling it *Pulpudeva* (Philipopolis)

72 BC, Roman Gen. Marcus Lucuilius took BUT restor> Thracians.

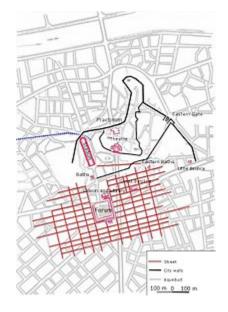
46 AD, finally Roman Empoire again EMP Claudius; called *Trimontium* (*City of Three Hills*); city status in late 1st C.: imp Roman Empire crossroad ("largest & most beautiful of all cities" by Lucian). While NOT Thrace PROV capital: was largest & most imp PROV centre; Via Militaris (or *Via Diagonalis*); most important military road in BALK, passed throug city.

Roman times: G period & cultural excellence; ancient ruins:

numerous public buildings, shrines, baths, & theatres; advanced water & sewage system; defensive double wall. Many still preserved for tourist, BUT, only small part excavated.

Middle Ages

SLAV fully settled area by **mid-6th C** changing ethnic demos. **681:** BUL establishment; Philipopolis was imp Byzantian Empire border fortress; **812**; Khan Krum captured (1st BUL



- ruler to capture), but in **834** Khan Malamit fully incorporated into BUL Empire BUT only for relatively short time <u>until</u> **855-856** reconquered by Byzantine Empire
- Under Byzantines, Paulican heretics cntr transported from E empire borders as military settlers on EURO frontier w/ BUL. **893–927**, tsar Simeon Great most BALK Byzantine possessions conquered by BUL Empire;. city stayed in BUL hands under Simeon's son, Peter I (927–969)
- **970**, Asian Byzantine Empire's eunuch Peter's army destroyed by BUL near Plovdiv; again aka Philippopolis, became Byzantine in character.1180, heard singing of Byzantine songs recounting deeds of Alexander great & his predecessors, over 1300 years before.
- 1204 Byzantine rule replaced by Latin Empire (???) (2 short interregnum periods) 1225--1229. BUL rule again.1263 conquered again by restored Byzantian Empire until 1323 BUL reconquered. Byzantine rule was restored once again in 1323, but 1344 city & eight other cities were surrendered to BUL in return for Ivan Alexander of BUL's Byzantine civil war support.
- **1364** OTTO TURKS: Lala Shakhin Pasha seized Plovdiv: it *Filibe*: capital of Rumelia until 1382 when Ottomans captured Sofia making it capital; Plovdiv remained as imp BUL cultural & tradtion centers; *Plovdiv* name: 1st use approx. 1382+
 - Under OTTO, Plovdiv focal point for BUL nat'l revolt; also major econ CNTR along w/ Istanbul; richer citizens built beautiful houses: many in Archl reserve *Old Plovdiv*.
 - IMP role, Church independence -- peaceful bourgeois revolution.1836, 1st BUL school & in 1850 modern secular ed began @ "St Cyrill & Metodius" school; 11 May 1858 day of St Cyril & Methodius celebrated & still is as Nat'l holiday. 1868, school expanded; 1st grammar school spawning some nat'l leaders etc.
 - 1878, liberated from Ottomans.

Eastern Rumelia

- LIBERATION: 3 March 1878, Principality of BUL including lands w/ predominantly BUL population; . New capital cuz biggest & most vibrant BUL city & as seat of Temporary Russian Government.HOWEVER, Great Britain & Austria-HUNG did not approve & INSTEAD DIVIDED newly liberated country into several parts including autonomous region o E Rumelia w/Plovdiv capital; OTTO Emp: constit. & made governor.
- Spr 1885 Secret BUL Central Revolutionary Committee formed in city, actively promoting BUL & E Rumelia unification. 5 Sep armed rebels in night of 5–6 Sep took control of city & removed Gen-Gov from office; provisional gov't & universal mobilization announced. After SERBs defeated in SERB-BUL War, BUL & Turkey agreed that Principality of BUL & Eastern Rumelia would have common government, Parliament, administration & army. Today, 6 Sep celebrated as Unification Day & Day of Plovdiv.

Recent history

- <u>After unification</u>, 2nd BUL city (pop & imp) after Sofia; 1st RR -- **1874 & 1888** linked w/ Sofia. In 1892 ECON: modern trade, banking & industry; manufacturing: electronics, motors, chems, food & tobacco, brewing & textiles; export of fruit & vegetable
- **1943** 1,500 Jews saved from concentration camp deportation by archbishop of Plovdiv.
- 6 **April 1956**, 1st trolleybus line opened. 1960s & 1970s, construction boom & many modern neighborhoods. 1970s & 1980s antique remains excavated & Old Town fully restored. 1990, Sports complex "Plovdiv"; largest stadium & rowing canal,
- ALSO **1990s**, BUL birthplace of democratic reform, 1989 ????.

TO DO: 23 ½ 3D

Old Town CNTR: small streets, .
St Louis Catholic CATH: DIRECS:

½h



Old Town: (LP 250) aka among locals: "trap" (<u>BUL</u>: Капана)
DIRECS: SEE Eirene, Plovdiv, (A & B), bulgaria - Google Maps

2h

historic preservation site of BUL Renaissance archl style; covers 3 central hills (Трихълмие, *Trihalmie*) —1) Nebet Tepe (defensive tower hill), 2) Dzhambaz Tepe 3)Taksim Tepe (distribution center hill);most houses: characteristic EXT/INT decoration.Old Quarter of National Revival period w/beautiful houses, churches & narrow paved sts, numerous MUS, art galleries & cultural institutions.









½h

Eirene Archaeological complex:

Cultural Center Thrakart), Podlez Arhaeologiski: 32 631 303

DIRECS: Tsar Obedinitel underpass, Visible through floor-to-ceiling windows SEE Eirene, Plovdiv, (A & B), bulgaria - Google Maps southern part of Three Hills on northern part of an ancient street in Arheologicheski underpass; contains extensive colourful Roman floor mosaics w/ geometrical forms & figures & various artifacts from Roman (& earlier) times. includes: 3rd-4th C public building which belonged to noble citizen. Eirene is Christian name for Penelopa - maiden from Megadon converted to Christianity in 2nd C.:



Ethnographic Museum AREA & National Revival houses
Argir Kuyumdzhiouglu (IT IS @ Ethnographic MUS)

DIRECS: (LP 250) Ethnographic Museum & Argir Kuyumdzhiouglu house, Plovdiv, BUL GoogM; ul Dr Chomakov 2

1847 house of rich merchant Argir Kuyumdzhioglu: typical representative of baroque style Plovdiv house architecture from National Revival period. Master Hadji George built 1847;

<u>imposing dimensions</u>: 4 stories of 570 sq.m., 2 big parlors, 12 rooms & more than 130 windows. 1938, moved house > present Ethnographic MUS site; preserves 40 000 movable monuments of culture.



3/4h

Medieval walls & towers: DIRECS: @ Ethno MUS Nedkovich house -

1/4h 3/4h

DIRECS: (SEE map) old town Plovdiv, +359 32/ 62 62 16

Partially restored in 1969 with many well preserved original murals. Phone:

Outstanding merchant Nikola Nedkovich; classic representative of late 1863 symmetrical house. Restoration w/ little interference / preserved original best. Design illustrates: how pompous design gradually ousted by growing economic & home intimacy focus: **parlour**; less spacious & used also as living & dining room & 2 storeys even have separate staircases; amazing combination of aesthetic vision & functionality w/an original marriage of architectural forms & decoration; monumental awe toned down by warmth of woodwork, old furniture, bronze & gilted ornamets. magnificence: 2 rooms looking south – Green & Red one – are richest.

Hindlyian Kashta House MUS: (LP)

DIRECS: ul Artin Gidilov 4 (SEE map); (LP 250)

3/4**h**

Merchant Stepan Hindlian, built 1835, OOM most opulent; exquisite period furniture & walls painted w/ real & imaginary landscapes of Venice, Alexandria & Constantinople; took 6 mo, actually displayed locales of owner's overseas trading empire. Magnificent panelled ceilings & 'Oriental style' marble bathroom, w/ high, domed ceiling & skylight & w/ running hot & cold water; lovely small courtyard garden

Danov House: ½h

DIRECS: In Old Town, 2, Mitropolit Paisii Str.; (SEE map) Enter through wall up laneway leading to Church of Sveta Bogoroditsa; ??? Enter gate at right. There are 50 steps up to museum grounds.

Dedicated to Hristo Danov & other renowned BUL writers (enlightener & publisher Danov), contains **re-creation** of <u>bookshop</u> & <u>National Revival—era classroom</u>. Also, old printing press, & **gardens** w/ views Hristo G. Danov. museum photos: Danov's contribution to Bulgaria's education & literacy & profound interest scientific advancements of his time.

Open hours: 9:00 - 12:30 & 13:30 - 17:00; Closed Saturdays & Sundays; Tel: 629 405

Ancient Amphitheater: (LP)

½h

DIRECS: Ancient Amphitheater (A), Plovdiv, Bulgaria - Google Maps

Roman theater: (Antichen teatur); (LP) DIRECS: ul Hermus ; (LP 250)

3/4**h**

2nd C, Roman EMP Trajan: in natural saddle btw Dzhambaz Tepe & Taksim Tepe hills; two parts w/ 14 rows ea divided w/ horizontal lane; cud hold 7,000 people; 3 story scene: on southern part; decorated w/ friezes, cornices & STATs; studied, conserved & restored btw 1968 & 1984: events still held including Verdi festival.







Roman theater

Roman Odeon

Roman Odeon (smaller theatr: DIRECS: S of Etno MUS, & near theater & Main PO restored 2004, Built 2nd-5th C, 2nd second (& of Philipopolis w/ 350 seats, initially built as: bulevterion - edifice of city council, later reconstructed as theatre.

Roman forum:, ½h

DIRECS: next to Odeon near modern post office. Vespasian reign, 1st C --finished 2nd C Has 11 hectares area, was surrounded by shops & public buildings; focal point of ancient city's streets.

Roman aqueduct:

1½h

DIRECS: On Nebet Tepe (hill): remains of 1st settlement on Three Hills which in 12th C BC became Thracian city of Eumolpias,OO 1st cities in SE EURO: **massive walls** surrounding temple & palace excavated; oldest part of **fortress** Built w/ large syenite blocks - so called "cyclop construction".



MUSEUMS:

Historical MUS of Plovdiv:

1h

DIRECS:

1951, as scientific & cultural MUS for collecting, saving, & researching historical evidence about 16th to 20th C Plovdiv & region Exhibits in 3 buildings.

Regional Ethnographic MUS:

3/4**h**

DIRECS: ulitsa Nikola Petkov 18, ; Пловдив, ул. Д-р Стоян Чомаков 2, BUL (Bulgarian: Регионален етнографски музей — Пловдив, Regionalen etnografski muzey — Plovdiv), +359 32/626 327???

1917 Old Town house 14 Oct, 1943 -- moved to an Old Town house; 1949, reorganized as People's Ethnographic MUS; 1962, was renovated. More than 40,000 objects. is museum of ethnography in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Since 1938, it has occupied 1847 house of rich merchant Argir Kuyumdzhioglu in city's Old Town. museum features six exhibitions, each occupying separate room.



Balabanov House:

3/4h

DIRECS:

<u>beginning 17th C</u> Hadji Panayout Lampsha, rich merchant & moneylender, built.; imposing size of 546 sq.m.;. last owner, merchant Louka Balabanov, whose name it bears. Today, 1st Floor: modern art; 2nd Floor: once used to receive guests, today furnished in typical National Revival Period town style.

Natural Science MUS:

1h

DIRECS: 1955, in 1880 edifice, OOM imp MUS w/ rich collections: paleontology, minerals, botany; several wikldlife rooms; BUL largest freshwater aquarium w/ 40 fish species.

Churches, MOSQs & temples

Many 19th C churches of distinctive E Orthodox style: <u>Saint Constantine & Saint Helena</u>, <u>Saint Marina</u>,

Saint Nedelya:

3/4**h**

DIRECS:

Saint Petka & Holy Mother of God Churches:

½h

DIRECS:

½h

CATH of St Louis:

72

DIRECS: largest Cagtholic church

/sh

Roman Stadium:,

7211

DIRECS: btw Sahat Tepe & Three Hills in modern Dzhumaya Square. It was



built in 2nd C & modeled after Delphi stadium. In Roman times held 30,000 peeps; only small part of N section w/ 13 seat rows exisits - larger part lies under main street & buildings.



Dzhumaya MOSQ (LP250)

DIRECS: pl Dzhumaya: elegant minatret MOSQ: oldest EURO MOSQ outside Moorish Spain

Sephardic synagogue:

DIRECS: Tsar Kaloyan Street 13; remnants of small courtyard in old large Jewish quarter dated --19th C, OO best-preserved BUL "OTTO-style" synagogues. INT: "hidden treasure, glorious, if run-down, burst of color."; exquisite Venetian glass chandelier from CNTR ceiling w/ richly painted dome; all surfaces covered in elaborate, Moorish-style, geometric designs in oncebright greens & blues. Torah scrolls kept in gilded Aron-ha-Kodesh.

St. Virgin Mary Church. църквата Св. Богородица; Church of Holy Mother of God 1/2h **DIRECS:**



"Chifte" bath:

DIRECS: @ busy intersection of blvds: "Tsar Boris III Obedinetel" & "Shest Septemvri".no GOOGM

Old Turkish bath, 16th C, "Chifte" (Couple) cuz comprises 2 bath sections: men's & women's. Future use: City Cultural Centre.



Plovdiv Clock-tower:: Sahat Tepe Hill (Clock tower hill) no GOOGM

1/2**h**

1/2**h**

DIRECS: : considered OO oldest clock-towers in whole EURO; built: 16th C. In early 19th C-broke dow; 1812 town public restored.

Ruins of Eumolpias

1h

Plovdiv, Bulgaria Sights > Archaeological site

DIRECS: best reached from ul Dr Chomakov (continuation of ul Sâborna) in old town on 203m high hill are sparse ruins

A 5000 BC Thracian settlement: fortress & surrounding town had strategic position, later bolstered by Macedonians, Romans, Byzantines, Bulgarians & Turks (who named it Nebet Tepe (Prayer Hill)). remaining rubble is rather formless, but great views. Partially restored of 13th-C reservoir remains.

DT:

Aviation MUS: 1h

DIRECS: Krumovo airbase 12 km SE of city; SEE Archaeological museum, 2 Asenovgrad, Plovdiv, Bulgaria - Google Maps 21 Sep., 1991 on 59 aircraft INT & EXT exhibitions.

Archaeological MUS: DIRECS: 1 Saedinenie Square SE of Plovdiv & Krumovo 1h Archaeological MUS GOOG M

- 1882, as People's MUS of Eastern Rumelia. In 1928, moved to 19th C edifice on Saedinenie Square designed by famous Plovdiv architect Josef Schnitter.
 - 1) rich Thracian art: 3 sections: 1) "Prehistory", 2) "Antiquity", 3) "Middle Ages"
 - 2) Precious artifacts from Paleolithic > early OTTO period (15th-16th C); famous Panagyurshte Treasure.

TRANS-OUT: > Veliko-Tarnovo (пловдив - велико търново).

BUS: (4/day, 4 ½ hrs) from Sever BUS STA (Plovdiv)Plovdiv, D.Stambolov St 2, Bulgaria, +359 32/953 011 : DIRECS: I km N of RIV

TRN: (1/day, 5hr); 5:45, 9:01, 14:18) Stops @ Vel. Tarn. DIRECS: bul Hristo Botev,

Veliko, BUL (C): (LP252,)

north central <u>BUL</u>; <u>Yantra RIV</u>; Tarnovo, & this is still common name; population of68,197; former capital of <u>Second BUL Empire</u>

TRANS-IN: from Plovdiv:nn

BUS: (4/day, 4 ½ hrs) from Sever BUS STA (Plovdiv) > ??? **TRN**: (1/day, 5hr); mid-morn Stops @ Vel. Tarn (only 1 STA).

ACCM: CALL:

1) Nomads Hostel: (LP) 95%, dm: \$12; +359 62 603092 / +359

886039705 / +359 884004609 # beds??? : RIV views, A/C Only 5-20 min WALK from BUS or TRN STA FREE PICK UP -

WRITE US YOUR ARRIVAL DETAILS OR CALL US!!! The EASIEST hostel in town TO FIND!

DIRECS: FROM HOTEL "ETARA" BUS STATION:

With bus company office behind you, turn right and walk between tables of restaurant. Reaching boulevard 'Hristo Botev' take right and walk **uphill** for another 50 meters until you reach TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER on your right.

Facing TIC take street on your left going downhill - "Hadzhi Dimitar" Str. In 150 meters this street ends up at beginning of beautiful "Gurko" Str. Another 50 meters - and you are here at Nomads Hostel

FROM YUG BUS STATION

W/BUS & TRN STA behind me turn L & walk uphill for 5-10 minutes until you reach TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE. Follow the directions above

2) Hostel Mostel: (LP) 96% 6/8/10 dm:\$10-11; near fortress;

DIRECS:10, Iordan Indjeto Str.(Улица Йордан Инджето 10); 24 hr hot: +359 897 859 359 (+359 88 922 3296)

DROP US A LINE WITH YOUR ARRIVAL DETAILS OR CALL US FOR A FREE PICK-UP !!If you still decide to find us by yourself:

FROM YUG BUS STATION:

WALK: Take Hristo Botev Blvd. **uphill**. In 5 min I reach Y intersection; small park w/monument on my L & post office on my R. Then: Turn R & keep walking straight ahead for about 20 min until you reach Tsarevets fortress. Then follow map

BUS: Turn L & in front of garden I will see BUS stop. Take BUS 20,50 or 110 for 4 stops i.e. in front off Tsarevets fortress. Then follow map.

FROM HOTEL ETARA BUS STATION: W/ BUS STA behind me, turn R & in 20 mtr I reach Hristo Botev Blvd. Take it uphill for another 20 mtr until I reach Y shaped intersection. There will be small park with monument on your left and post office on your right. Then: Walking: Follow directions for Yug Bus Station.

FROM CENTRAL TRAIN STATION

Walk: Too far & boring, not recommended! Use our FREE PICK UP SERVICE

BUS: BUS 5 to 7th stop. CAUTION: sometimes BUS NOT stop at each stop, so look or ask for Tsarevets fortress & BUS will stop in front of Tsarevets fortress. Then follow map.

MISC:

Religion

2001 PROV census: POP 293,172: Othodox Christians: 87%; Muslims: 9%, Roman

Catholics: 1%



2D

(1T, 1D, 2N)

TO DO: (1N, 1D, N) **2D** 6½h ½h

Samovodska Charshia,

DIRECS: SEE Samovodska Charshia, (A) Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria - Google Maps; 1/4 mi from Stambolov's Bridge area

old trade street: sheltered skillful craftsmen through Revival Period; today, many houses & workshops fully restored

ul Gurko old street:

DIRECS: further NW from following & Trapezitsa GUD EX: BUL Revival architectural style where it is:

Possible visit Sarafkina House

1/2h

Gorge (Emen Gorge???)view walk: DIRECS





½h

½h

Asenevs' Monument

Asen / Asenevs dynasty monument: (LP254m, 1C3, 252)

DIRECS:

Stambolov's Bridge:

½h DIRECS: on way to Asens' Monument & City Art Gallery; near Gurko, etc. Stambolov bridge,

veliko - Google Maps

Church of St Demetrius of Thessaloniki:

DIRECS: near Tsarvets & Trapezitsa Fortress

Tsarevets Fortress: DIRECS: (LP254m, G2, 252) 1h

ENTRANCE: (LP254m, 4F3, 252)

houses, churches, royal palace, execution rock & towers

ruins



½h

Trapezitsa Fortress:: 1/2**h**

DIRECS

2nd fortress of inner city on right bank of Yantra

Church of St Constantine & Helena: DIRECS: Near & W of Trpezitsa Fortress

w/ panoramic view over Yantra RIV & Asens' Monument (Bulgarian: Св. Св. Константин и Елена)

OO oldest in city; built; 337 on site of ancient pagan temple fortified hill; named after Emperor Constantine Great & mother Elena. Overt time, destroyed / rebuilt many times. Today's bldg constructed, 1832 w/ help of local patriots.

magnificent frescoes & icons

Sarafkina Kashta: (LP254m, 2D4, 25

DIRECS: Close to & W of Trapezitsa; Sarafkina kashta, Veliko Tarnovo, (A)

Bulgaria - Google Maps 1861 home

Arch MUS: DIRECS: (LP254m, E4,252)

pre-historic, Roman, medieval



1/2**h**

1/2h

Holy Forty Martyrs Church of Sebaste:

DIRECS: NE of Trapezitsa; Holy Forty Martyrs Church, (A) Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria - Google Maps;

(BUL: църква "Св. Четиридесет мъченици", tsarkva "Sv. Chetirideset machenitsi"):

Medieval <u>Eastern Orthodox</u> church, 1230, elongated six-columned <u>basilica</u>, w/3 semicircular <u>apses</u> & narrow <u>narthex</u> from west. Another building added later > west side. INT: was covered w/ mural painting: probably 1230.

On W addition: some outer decoration survived revealing: traditional arches & coloured small ceramic plates inserted into wall; NOT clear if church HAD/has frescoes EXT walls.

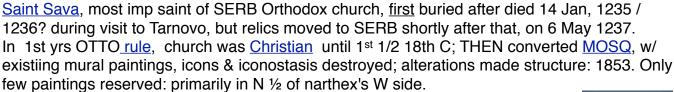
Some BUL Empire's most significant historical records are stored in church, including **Omurtag's Column**, **Asen's Column** &

Border Column: from Rodosto :rule of Khan Krum. & columns of Khan Omurtag & khan Krum: written in GRK; inscription ON column of Krum "Fortress of Rodostro" has been turned upside down.

inscription of Omurtag about building new glorious palace on Danube RIV ,location unknown. second part of inscription: legacy for new generations to remember deeds of Omurtag. These columns were placed in church by Ivan Asen II as tribute to his mighty ancestors.

History

built & painted by of BUL<u>tsar Ivan Asen II:</u> : to honour IMP victory near <u>Klokotnitsa</u> over <u>Despotate of Epirus</u> 9 Mar, 1230. Name: battle on <u>day of feast</u> of Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste; royal church during reign of Ivan Asen II, it was main church of <u>Great Lavra</u> MON at foot of <u>Tsarevets</u> on left bank of <u>Yantra</u> RIV.



Arch. Research: began 1850s, w/excavations first in 1906 & 1914, after badly damaged by 1913 <u>earthquake</u>; full BUL independence from OTTO<u>Empire</u> declared by <u>Tsar Ferdinand</u>: 22 Sep., 1908 i church.

Systematic arch research start 1969: 1972, royal burial of 1.9 m-tall accoutred man excavated including: massive (61.1-gram) gold ring bearing heraldic image & inscription *Kaloyanov prasten* (КАЛОІАНОВ ПРЪСТЕНЪ, "Kaloyan's ring"), Holy Forty Martyrs Church was

Fully restored & renovated - 2000s: After extensive reconstruction works & opened > public,. Since then, used as royal burial place: BUL EMP & nobility includ. Kaloyan (above).





1h

Asenova quarter: DIRECS:

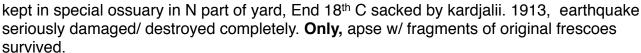
churches & MUS (fee) wrecked by earthquake

"St Dimitar" Church: ½h

DIRECS: @ NE foot of Trapezitsa on R bank of Yantra River: oldest Turnovo Medieval church; related to 12th C Bulgarian. 1185 built, brothers Assen & Peter proclaimed Uprising against

Byzantine invaders; until 1230, royal church. 07.11.1204, Bulgarian rulers Assen, Peter & Kaloyan crowned. Here, Archbishop Vasilli promoted to Patriarch of Bulgarian church. End 17th C & start 18th C --monastery built. **1971**, 4 big buildings found during arch excavations: situated >E, W & S.

Devastated by an earthquake & 1n 15th C new church erected S of old one, over foundations of S monastery building. During 2nd ½ 15th C built Christian necropolis that existed till start of 20th C; 500 burials



1971, scientific & archeological studies started & revealed church floor plan, periods of building, & rich outdoor decoration.

DESIGN: cross basilica w/ separate men's & women's section, & altar. **apse**: pentahedral. EXT decoration: stone, plaster & bricks. **Built in ornaments**, painted in different colors. INT: once decorated w/**frescoes**, **but today:** only 2 artistic layers in altar preserved.

Materials, during excavations, prove church of "St. Dimitar" & monastery played sig spiritual & educational role in old capital Tarnovgrad life

NOW, MUS honor of Tarnovo's capital's 800th anniversary& uprising against Byzantine invaders.

TRANS-OUT:

Veliko Tarnovo > Sofia: (5 dly, 6 hrs) NOTE: Requires change at STA outside town ??? Sofia > Pristina:

BUS: (???, 3 ½ hrs) Etap Adress (ul Ivailo, Hotel Etar, also Yuq BUS STA (1 dly,)

TRN: (5/day, 6 hr)

Also: Trans-Balkan Express (stops @ Gorna Oryahovitsa -- Near Vel. Tarn &

Balkan Express & stop @ Sofia

SOF > PRN: \$268 EX: 6-7-2012 DP: 9:45 ARV 1950 DUR: 11h 5 m



1/2**h**

Sofia, BUL 2nd (CW): (LP243, 244m,)

(1T, 0D, 1N)

1D

TRANS-IN:

Confirm during Sofia 1st:

1) which Sofia BUS STA Veliko bus ARV's at?
Know where TRN STA is from BUS STA in advance in case V-T> Sofia is by TRN

2) which Sofia BUS company & Bus STa/Stop , bus for Nis departs from?

A) IF different BUS STA/STOP for DP to Nis , WALK or TAXI route during Sofia 1st .

3) Confirm which Nis BUS STA/STOP in Nis it ARV's at?

4) **NOTE**: If issues in Sofia w/ Sofia> Nis > Pristina ALT, CHECK OUT this ALT **Veliko Tarnovo > Sofia Central Bus Station: (LP253)**

BUS: (10, 3 ½ hrs @ Etap Adress (ul Ivailo, Hotel Etar (100 m S of INfo Cntr OR

(1 dly, 4 hrs) from Yug BUS TERM

TRN: (5/day, 6 hr) reqr's change @ Gorna Oryahovitsa 13 km N of town

Also: Trans-Balkan Express (stops @ Gorna Oryahovitsa -- Near Vel. Tarn & Balkan Express & stop @ Sofia

May be new TRN services CHK Sofia Central sites: Not useful

BUS: (6hrs, 5/day)Sofia's Central Bus Station > Skopje: **may** include: 9am, noon, late afternoon & night buses ().

MATPU & Kaleia (Skopje) BUS companies services: **DIRECS**: both located outside main bus terminal. <u>Single ticket</u>: approx. 16 Euros (32 Lev).

NOTE: To change terminals, walk to stone bridge over Vardar & cross bridge (about 2.5 km) or taxi.

TRN: NO or ??? May be new TRN services

STA: 10 platforms & suspended on massive concrete bridge about 2 km long

TRANS-OUT:

Sofia> Nis> Pristina

Sofia > Nis:

Easy; (hopefully <u>Sofia</u> - Nis - Prishtina do-able in 1 day's travel then, w/ Hostel Nis in advance about minibuses.(except; in Nis itself, "**infamous" skull tower**.

Nis> Pristina:

several options:

1) REG bus or two ? going from Niš to Kosovska Mitrovica (area in Pristina); but long trip cuz need to circle around Kosovo in order to enter it from north ???HUHRegular bus to K.Mitrovica cost: same, but takes **twice time**: destination is SERB populated N Kosovska Mitrovica.

2) IMO (blog),best way::

take minibuses: do route few times/ day cuz, go direct> **Prishtina** & Grachanica MON ?: TRIP: easy, quick (apprx. 2,5 hours) & cheap.

CAUTION: minibuses aren't registered @ main bus station in Nis as vendors, not listed anywhere,

SO, BEST, Ask at NIs Hostel: Hostel Nis: Dobrička 3A, 18000 Niš, SERB, +381 18 513703 Email: hostelnis@sezampro.rs Website: www.hostelnis.rs

may arrange minibus trip for free cuz; do it quite regularly for others w/o being their guest. .

Minibus ticket from Nis to Grachanica/Prishtina: 6E, 2.5 hr. mitrovica.

OR:

Sofia>Skopje>Pristina

Sofia > Skopje: (LP249)

BUS: 6 hr, 5 dly) from Traffic MKT (TIK from Matpu (<u>www.matpu.com</u>)

NEW Skopje BUS STA Most buses: DIRECS: Skopje, MACE map (lower R corner); 2 kms E of city CNTR & located in Transportation Centre (also central RR STA). international HUB: Skopje>Ohrid, Bitola, Sofia, & other cities (several, daily,)

OLD BUS STA: **DIRECS**: at city CNTR; few other buses (EX: Pristina)

DIRECS: **NOTE**: To change BUS STA: walk to stone Vardar bridge & cross bridge (about 2.5 km) or taxi.

TRN: ???: May be new TRN services

Skopje > Pristina:

BUS: ???

TRN: SERB, but where???

Skopje Central RR STA: approx 2 kms E of city centre: part of "Transportation Center" complex, (built 1970s to replace 1st RR STA destroyed by 1963 earthquake.

Sofia > Pristina: AIR: SOF > PRN: \$268 EX: 6-7-2012 DP: 9:45 ARV 1950 DUR: 11h 5 m NO BUS or TRN Direct to Pristina

Nis, SERB 1st: (LP-WB408, LP1068, 1070m,)

NAT GEO DVD: Constantine birthplace

TRANS: GOAL: Get thru ASAP Sofia> Nis> Pristina:

@ Possible ALTs:

- 1) BEST: Veliko-Tarnovo > Sofia > Nis > Pristina -- ONE DAY
- 2))Veliko-Tarnovo > Sofia > Nis OVERRNIGHT (Hostel Nis)
 - b) Nis > Pristina (minivan) next morning

except; in Nis's, "infamous" skull tower.

Confirm during Sofia 1st:

1) which Sofia BUS STA Veliko bus ARV's at?

Know where TRN STA is from BUS STA in advance in case V-T> Sofia is by TRN

- 2) which Sofia BUS company & Bus STa/Stop, bus for Nis departs from?

 A) IF different BUS STA/STOP for DP to Nis, WALK or TAXI route during Sofia 1st.
- 3) Confirm which Nis BUS STA/STOP in Nis it ARV's at?
- 4) NOTE: If issues in Sofia w/ Sofia> Nis > Pristina ALT, CHECK OUT this ALT
- 1) Veliko Tarnovo > Sofia Central BUS STA or TRN STA: (LP253)

BUS:

(10, 3 ½ hrs @ Etap Adress (ul Ivailo, Hotel Etar (100 m S of INfo Cntr)) OR

(1 dly, 4 hrs) from Yug BUS TERM * above

TRN: (5/day, 6 hr) reqr's change @ Gorna Oryahovitsa 13 km N of town

Also: Trans-Balkan Express (stops @ Gorna Oryahovitsa -- Near Vel. Tarn & Balkan Express & stop @ Sofia

May be new TRN services CHK Sofia Central sites

2) Nis> Pristina:

- 1) REG bus or two? going from Niš to Kosovska Mitrovica; but long trip cuz need to circle around Kosovo in order to enter it from north???HUH Regular bus to K.Mitrovica cost: same, but takes **twice time**: destination is SERB populated N Kosovska Mitrovica.
- 2) BEST ALT: minibus:

Minibuses do Nis> Pristina route several times/ day --DIRECT > <u>Prishtina</u> & Grachanica. : TRIP: easy, quick (6E, 2.5 hr).

CAUTION: minibuses aren't registered @ main bus station in Nis as vendors, not listed anywhere,

BEST, contact in advance: NIs Hostel will arrange trip 4 free; do it regularly 4 others w/o being their guest

Hostel Nis: Dobrička 3A, 18000 Niš, SERB, +381 18 513703 Email:

hostelnis@sezampro.rs Website: www.hostelnis.rs

You can also refer to my thorntree username Marko Better option, in my opinion, would be to take minibus from Nis to Prishtina. It will take you slightly more than 2 hrs

Staff from Hostel Nis can arrange you minibus free of charge, you're paying regular ticket only (some 5-6 euros one way), no matter if you're their guest or not. Marko

Minibus ticket from Nis to Grachanica/Prishtina: 6E, 2.5 hr. mitrovica.

BUS from Nis t> Pristina: 2 BUS/day, DP: 09:30 AM & 06:00 PM from Nis Central BUS STA, 450 dinars (4,50 E). Don't need to book seat in advance. NOTE: BUS goes to Gracanica.; doesn't enter Pristina BUS STA, but you can get off there. Not recommended option.

1D

(1T, 0D, 1N)

FLY: from **Podgorica** to **Pristina** (Reverse??? ITIN options ???; about E70.

Sofia>Skopje>Pristina: If issues in Sofia w/ Sofia> Nis > Pristina ALT, CHECK OUT this ALT

Sofia > Skopje: (LP249)

BUS: 6 hr, 5 dly) from Traffic MKT (TIK from Matpu (www.matpu.com)

TRN: ??? Skopje > Pristina: BUS: ???

TRN: SERB. but where???

Rail Europe: has no Sofia > Nis, Pristina or Skopje

NO Sofia>Skopje train service, except indirect route through Nis. So it wouldn't make sense to travel through Skopie by train enroute to Kosovo.

TO SERB: Sofia > Kalotina, BUL / Gradina, SERB ₩ > Nis (S>) ???/SERB / Merdare, KOSOVO ₩ (S on E65hwy) (s>) Pristina, KOSOVO

ACCM:

Hostel Nis: Dobrička 3A, 18000 Niš, SERB

Phone: +381 18 513703 Email: hostelnis@sezampro.rs Website: www.hostelnis.rs

TO DO:

infamous" skull tower

Nis Fortress: See Nis FLDR
Lepenski Virt: See Nis FLDR
Mesolithic archaeological site

On Danube eastern SERB, within Iron Gates gorge, near Donji Milanovac.

Devil's Town geo featureg

Yerma Canyon: 30 km from town of Pirot, OOM beautiful SERB landscapes: canyon of RIV Jerma (pronounced "Yerma"). W/ its steep rocky walls, some extremely narrow spots & narrow road following it, reminds of Wild West, barren rocky hill Asenovo Kale, 1032 m high, is famouse grey eagles nesting place. **also Poganovo MON:** w/ mysterious fresco of St. Christiphore w/ donkey head, built early XV C, Numerous caves & Vetreno lake add to beauty.



Kosova : (LP775m,)

7037 Prishtina

7055 BYZ EMP's loss of power

7057 Chick & rice

No GRK literature cuz???

Pristina: Prishtina: (LP775 776m,)

(1T, 0D, 1N) 2½D

៧ <u>listen</u> (<u>help·info</u>) & **Priština** (<u>ALB</u>: *Prishtinë* or *Prishtina*, **SERB**<u>ian</u>: Приштина or Priština; <u>TURK</u>: *Pristine*)

GENERAL: Safe, but not very pretty; \$: E or SERB dinars

POP: 200,000: majority ALB, others: Bosniaks, Roma;

Ethnic Composition, Including IDPs ¹										
Year	ALB	%	SERB s	%	Roma	%	Others ²	%	Total	
1991 census ³	161,314	78.7	27,293	13.3	6,625	3.2	9,861	4.8	205,093	
1994	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/ A	N/A	N/ A	225,388	
February 2000 estimate ⁵	550,000	97.4	12,000	2.2	1,000	0.1	1,800	0.3	564,800	

GEOG: no visible RIV in town cuz it tunnels under; surfacing outside town cuz historically passed by local market & everyone dumped waste caused awful smell.

TRANS-IN:

SEE NIS TRANS-OUT

Confirm in Pristina:

- 1) Prizen > Decani? Implied
- 1a) Decani > Pec?
- 1b) OVN @ Decani UNnecessary
- 2) Pec > Kotor, MONT OR necessary /possible to GOTO Kotor from Pristina?
- 3) Routing to Kotor, MONT

BUS:

Pristina BUS STA [Stacioni i autobusave]: DIRECS: Rr. Lidja e Pejes, +381 38 55 00 11; 2km SW of city centre, near end of Bul. Bill Clinton; Taxis: outside main exit costing €2 > CNTR. OR, 20-30 min walk: directly N > Blvd. Bill Clinton, THEN, turn R. refuse €1 car park fee for being dropped off.

Left luggage services: by *shefi I narimit* office (open 06:00-20:00, €1/day).+381 38 55 00 11 **Pristina >MITROVICA** (???) (€1.50) DP ever 15 min btw 06:30 & 20:00, ½hr.

Pristina > GRACANICA (> GJILAN)(€2) DP : 06:30, 07:20 & then every 20 min until 20:20, ½hr. TRANS-LOCAL: City buses.

FOOD:

Chinese Restaurant A-2, Rr. Luan Haradinaj, tel. +377 44 38 49 28. Popular w/foreigners, **Short menu:** dumplings, seafood & pork, =/- €5; ask cook from Harbin Open 11:00 - 22:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00.

MISC:

6745 Plain of Kosovo 6788 Battles of Kosovo

ACCM: ONLY real option cuz DIRECS so BAD

Velania GH (aka Guesthouse Profesor): (s €10-15), Rr. Emrush Miftari 4/34, tel. +381 38 53 17 42/+377 44 16 74 55, info@ guesthouse-ks.net, www.guesthouse-ks.net;

cheapest; by affable former electronics professor: 3-story house, but mostly spacious & adequate, each w/ satellite TV, electric heaters, private bathroom. NO Breakfast: GUD kit, free laundry service & few communal balconies.. additional 20 similar rooms in nearby house Q



DIRECS: From International and Local BUS STA:

By TAXI- A taxi from outside gates of BUS STA, 3 Euro. BY BUS:

From Bus Station walk up Ave. Bill Clinton and at intersection with park (Mother Theresa Blvd) on left side you can get City bus #4 (circular route) serves city center bus goes in directon of Velenia and passes near guesthouse. You can get off on top of hill by Raiffhassen Bank and its 5 min walk to Guesthouse.

Velania district, up hill E of centre, around corner of President Rugova's residence and close to Hotel Dea..; 42°39'39.44'N // 21°10'35.10'E

TEMP: Apr: 59-39°; May: 70-48°

POP: 53% under 25, DO NOT speak SERB in ALB areas: Italians; Span

Early history:

Roman times: large town (*Ulpiana*) 15 kms (9.3 mi) S of Pristina; destroyed, but restored by <u>EMP Justinian I</u>. Today, town of <u>Lipljan</u> stands on site of Roman city, & remains of old city can still be seen.

After fall of Rome, grew from ruins former Roman city; located at junction leadiing all BALK directions THUS becoming important trade route centre for SE EURO.

Great imp > medieval SERB state, 1389 Battle of Kosovo when invading OTTO army defeated BALK coalition army. Next decades: OTTO control, then 1459, all SERB conquered by OTTO Empire -- SERB national identity as bastion against orient & Islam.

Kosovar Gov't Central BLDG restored from 1999 war,)

Simultaneously w/ OTTO conquest, <u>Great SERB exodus</u>: tens of thousands of <u>Kosovo</u> SERB families have withdrawn from Kosovo towards <u>Habsburg</u> <u>Empire</u>, led by their patriarch <u>Arsenije III Carnojevic</u>, along w/ Habsburg army. [6][6] Demographic balanced slowly started to shift in favour of ALB.[7]

During **OTTO Empire**, increasingly OTTO in character, conversion to <u>Islam</u> of many ALB & SLAV. **1870s** onwards ALB iformed <u>League of Prizren</u> to resist OTTO rule; 1881: provisional gov't formed: some SERB tried to support ALB against OTTO, but nothing cuz ALB sought ethnic cleansing which increased Kosovo SERB migration to SERB, while OOH, ALB migrated to Kosovo cuz more fertile soil.

Balkan Wars

Invasion of Kosovo by <u>Principalities of SERB & MONT</u> expulsed many ALB, while as many SERBs fled from mercenaries seeking vengeance.

First Balkan War of 1912 sparked in Jan by ALB revolt, w/ SERBian assistance, against OTTO rule.[By Sep all of Kosovo & C & S ALB in rebel hands, but OTTO rulers persuaded ALB to abandon their uprising by promising reforms; but by then SERBs occupied Kosovo & ALB, UNTIL 1913 Conf. Of Abassador in London forced SERB gov't to concede independence to ALB securing Kosovo w/in its territory.

In Oct 1912 SERB army's occupation of Pristina was w/ fiece retaliation against civilian pop.i.e.: immediately SERB army began "hunting" ALB "literally decimated" Pristina population;. Number killed est 5,000

In 1918: Kosovo became part of newly formed **YUGO**, w/o any autonomy.

Before WWII: ethnically mixed w/ large ALB & SERB communities, BUT, mass series of ethnic cleansing & genocide by ethnic ALB backed by Nazis favored ALB.

World War II

decline of Pristina's SERB pop & large-scale settling of ALB. Btw 1941 & 1945: incorporated into Italian-occupied <u>Greater ALB</u>.

After World War II

In 1946: capital of Socialist Autonomous Region of Kosovo.

Btw 1953 & 1999, POP increased from 24,000 to 300,000+; all ethnic groups increased also, but greatest increase: ALB, many from mt areas, 9,000 > 76,000; SERB & MONT iup, but more modeest; By 1980, ALB -- 70%.

- While under local ALB Communist Party control, economic decline & political instability in late 1960s > 1980s = national unrest. Nov, 1968, student demonstrations & riots, but put down by Yugo security forces, YET, some demands met by <u>Tito</u> gov't includ: 1970 creation of independent <u>University of Pristina</u> instead of Belgrade U outpost which boosted ALB-language education & culture in Kosovo, also, allowed to use ALB flag.
- In **March 1981**, Pristina University rioted: poor food in U canteen, seemingly trivial dispute rapidly spread throughout Kosovo & became national revolt, w/ massive popular demonstrations in Pristina & other Kosovo towns. Tito stopped riot w/ riot police & army & proclaiming state of emergency, w/ several people killed in clashes & thousands imprisoned or disciplined.
- SERB Pres <u>Slobodan Milošević</u>, **1989**,autonomy reduction & <u>harshly repressive regime</u> imposed throughout Kosovo w/ ALBians largely purged from state industries & institutions.U of Pristina, seen as hotbed & was purged: 800 lecturers sacked & 22,500 of 23,000 students expelled.
- In response, Kosovo ALB set up "shadow government" -- <u>Democratic League of Kosovo</u> (LDK), led by <u>Ibrahim Rugova</u>.; although controlled by SERB, LDK established parallel structures, funded by private contributions, provide free services: health care & ed denied to ALB pop.
- LDK's role meant, that when <u>Kosovo Liberation Army</u> began to attack SERB & YUGO forces from 1996 onwards, Pristina remained largely calm until <u>Kosovo War</u>, Mar, 1999; city under state of emergency large areas sealed of at end March.

Before 1999 war: over 25,000 SERBs, now, several dozen to several 1000s.

- March 24, 1999, After NATO began air strikes against YUGO, widespread violence broke out in Pristina. SERB & Yugo forces shelled several districts & in conjunction w/ paramilitaries, conducted large-scale expulsions of ethnic ALB accompanied by widespread looting & destruction of ALB properties. Many expelled were forced onto trains apparently brought to Pristina's main station for express purpose of deporting them to border of Republic of MACE, where forced into exile.
- **May 1999** <u>United States Department of State</u> estimated that btw 100,000-120,000 people had been driven out of Pristina by SERB gov't forces & <u>paramilitaries</u>.
- On or about 1 April 1999, SERBi police went to homes of Kosovo ALB in Pristina/Prishtinë & forced residents to leave in minutes. During these forced expulsions, few people killed. Many

of those forced from their homes went directly to train station, while others sought shelter in nearby neighborhoods. Hundreds of ethnic ALB, guided by SERB police at all intersections, gathered at train station & loaded onto overcrowded trains or buses after long wait where no food or water was provided. Those on trains went as far as General Jankovic, village near MACE border. During train ride many people had their identification papers taken from them.

War Crimes Indictment against Milosevic & others

NATO Pristina targets: Several strategic targets in Pristina were attacked by NATO during war, but <u>physical damage</u> largely restricted > few specific neighborhoods <u>shelled by Yugoslav</u> security forces.

At war's end, most Pristina's 40,000 SERBs fled. remainders subjected to harassment & violence in revenge by ALB gangs; national collaborating peeps also targeted: notably <u>Roma</u>— driven out. According UN, by **Aug**, **1999**: < 2,000 SERBs left in; even fewer after March <u>2004 unrest</u>.

TRANS-OUT: (LP777)

BUS:

Pristina > PRIZREN: (€4) depart at 06:50, 07:20, 08:00 & then every 30 minutes until 20:00, taking 1½hr.

Pristina > PEJA (€4) depart at 07:30, 08:00 & then every 20 minutes until 20:00, taking 1 hour 30 minutes.

TRN: IGNORE

TO DO: 11 ³/₄ (1T, 2D, 3N) 3D

Pristina Heritage map on next page is kindly provided by IKS www.iksweb.org,

Walking tour. 2h

Start in (1) Dardania neighborhood (SEE Pristina 1 GOOG M (lower L corner), @ 3-storey portrait of Bill Clinton Billboard & Statue A-4, Bul. Bill Clinton. Kosovo's favourite superhero is honoured with large billboard overlooking boulevard named after him. Right below, three metre high bronze statue of Bill Clinton was unveiled in 2009, showing love affair is still fresh. The statue, depicting Bill waving & clutching 1999 agreement that permitted US troops to enter Kosovo, was paid for by 'Friends of USA' association:no permission 4 elsewhere, but welcome addition to grey blvd. (2) NE past university N> (3) Grand Hotel & UNMIK (GOOG ???) > (4) Follow Nena Tereze street towards (5) Skanderbeg monument & **(6) new Gov't Building,> then point yourself toward historic (7) MOSQs (How?) & meander (8) through tight lanes of Old Quarter Where ???(st mkt stalls, kids hawking cigarettes & phone cards, qebabtores & cafes, & vibrant community life of Kosovo's biggest city. (9) If time, GO into Dragodan / Arberia or Velania (especially City Park,aka " Italian park,".

Dragodan (Jewish Cemetery) / Aberia (future Park) or Velania (GH??)

Old Quarter: DIRECS:

Skanderbeg monument: DIRECS: Mother Tersa BLVD

NE > SE path: Skanderbeg statue B-2, Bul. Nëne Tereza. The monument of Skanderbeg, or Gjerg j Kastrioti Skenderbeu, stands proudly at top end of Bul. Nëne Tereza, paying homage to Albanian superhero who brilliantly fought off Ottomans for decades in 15th C. Brightly lit at night surrounded by small plaza, traditional Albanian egg-shell hat. STAT designed by Albanian artist Janaq Paco in 2001. Sadly, graffiti, vandals & bad main. have done much damage to statue.

Sultan Mehmet MOSQ:
DIRECS: Near Carshi MOSQ; (LP776m, D1>NE?)

Catholic in 1461

Jashar Pasha MOSQ: DIRECS: (LP776m, D1>NE?)

½h

½h

vibrant Turk INT 16th century mosque (completed much later in 19th century) is similar to Carsi Mosque in architecture & interior decoration.

Ethno MUS: Otoman house: DIRECS: (LP776m, D1>NE?) Rr liazAgushi; worth look

Clock Tower (Sahat Kulla): DIRECS: B-2, Rr. Ylfete Humolli slightly NNE of Kosovo MUS

19th C.; Following fire, tower reconstructed w/ bricks; original bell from Moldavia.; bore inscription,

"this bell was made in 1764 for Jon Moldova Rumen."

2001, original bell stolen, but same year, French troops replaced old clock mechanism w/ electric one, but city's electric outages

= poor time. Every OTTO mkt town had clock tower so faithful knew when to pray & all shops cud close & reopen at same time so no unfair advantage. Pristina's 19th C, 26-m clock tower is similar to Skopje's.bilt by Jashar Pasha beside his MOSQ in bazaar CNTR w/ sandstone & brk.

Fatih Mosque (Xhamia e Mbretit) B-1, Rr. Ilir Konu- shevci. DIRECS: Opposite clock tower, ½h 1461, under Turkish Sultan Mehmed II Fatih ('conqueror'),i.e: Arabic engraving above main door. INT: painted floral decorations & arabesques grace walls & ceiling. Pristina's grandest building has spectacular 15m dome on support pillars - architectural feat at time. (Brunicelli) Minaret: reconstruction cuz original damaged by 1955 earthquake. briefly church during 1690-1698 Austro-Turkish wars. During Friday prayers, peeps in courtyard & street to pray.

Great Hamam (Hamami i Madh) B-1, Rr. Ilir Konush- evci. DIRECS: Near Fatih Mosque ½h Pristina's grandest remaining bath complex long neglected; currently undergoing restoration, but another shoddy workmanship scandal. 1470 built, public baths are symmetrical pair of baths w/in 1 complex, men & women's. ,15 domes, w/ small holes to let light in. Ask workers if you can have peek inside.

Bazaar B-1: large bazaar. DIRECS: east of Rruga Ilir Konusheci

3/4h

Pristina's liveliest bustling area; although most destroyed in 1950s, typical BALK markets. All kinds goods: fruit, vegetables, Albanian flags, cigarettes (walls of cartons), kitchen utensils, car parts, dodgy mobile phones). Many of friendly traders are returned refugees & know, Italian or ENG.

MUS of Kosovo (Muzeu I Kosoves)((LP-WB 273), LP776m, D1) free;

1h

DIRECS: Sheshi Adam Jashari SEE Pristina 1 GOOG M (CNTR N)

6000 yr STATs; in Austro-HUN inspired bldg built for reg OTTO admin:

1945 -- 1975: YUGO Nat'l Army hdqtrs

1963: sold to Kosovo MUS. 1999-- 2002: EURO Agency for Reconstruction's main office in MUS. Extensive collection of arch & ethn artifacts: Neolithic Goddess on Throne terracotta, unearthed near Pristina in 1960 & depicted in city's emblem, even though large number antiquity artifacts in Belgrade & MUS looted in 1999.



15th C Carshi MOSQ (Xhamia e Çarshisë)(LP776m, C1):

DIRECS: front of Kosovo MUS., B-2, Rr. Meto Bajraktari (LP776m, D1)

'market mosque': Pristina's oldest building,15th C, by TURK Sultan Bajazit to honor 1389 victory. **Now:** no longer part of old bazaar complex & no mausoleum -- 1-room mosque

Shadërvani Fountain: DIRECS: B-2, Rr. Nazim Gafurri, just behind Çarshia Mosque.

elegant marble fountain or water well,, OO last remaining Pristina public wells, still used as place for old men to sit & chat, despite busy road nearby.

Photo of Missing (LP776m, C1):

½h

½h

DIRECS: B-2, Bul. Nëne Tereza, on gates of gov't bldgs at N end of Bul nena Tereze BLVD Poignant reminder, Kosovo crisis, gates: dozens of photos of nearly 1,900 missing Kosovans

Orthodox Church: DIRECS: (LP776m, C3) Worth it ???

/211

Newborn MON: DIRECS: (LP776m, A3) A-3, Rr. Luan Haradinaj:

½h

W/O central rallying point during Feb 2008, declaration of independence period, 'cleverclogs' built 7 huge (9') yellow steel letters: 'newborn', placed in front of Palace of Youth & Sports; quickly covered in autographs & texts, scribbled by thousands of people starting w/ PM & president

Independence House (LP776m, A1):

½h

DIRECS: opposite stadium; Pristina 1 GOOG M (in L corner)

NAT Library: DIRECS: (LP776m, C4):

½h

curious architectureSimultane- ously gorgeous & absurd,





City Park (Parku i Qytetit): DIRECS: C-2/3, Rr. Hmez Jashar

1h

E of centre, pleasant, cleaned-up area w/concrete paths, trees & places to sit in shade.

Tauk Bashqe: DIRECS: half way between Gërmia & City Park

½h [

Parku i Taukbahges: DIRECS: C-2, Rr. Nazim Gafurri; short walk E of bazaar

Pretty, old, tall trees create many pleasant shady spots in summer, & colourful foliage in autumn. **Gërmia Park:**1/2h

DIRECS: Nazim Gafurri, In hills E of city, end of bus lines N°4,5 & 9; rests, small paths, I large park, endless forest walks, **CAUTION**: stick to landmine-free paths, no special facilities.Free **Villa Lira Gërmia Park**, tel. +377 44 60 09 30/+377 44 27 15 18.

DIRECS: wooden building at far end of Gërmia Park, lacks good views, but tall trees around deck good food: Kosovo salad, w/ potatoes, onion, parsley & egg. Open 08:00 - 24:00. €€ PLB

Kosovo Independence House

DAY TRIPs:

6826 peeps of Kosovov PLain

6833 Gracanica 6908 Child brides

6949 'Blinded' punishment 6983 Gracanica INT art 7030 Trepcha Mines ???

7033 Time context of Gracanica's creation

1) Gracanica MON (LP777,):

3h

TRANS: Gjilan BUSevry 30 min, ¼ hr) ask to be dropped @ Gracanica **GJILAN** (€2) via **GRACANICA** depart at 06:30, 07:20 & then every 20 minutes until 20:20, taking 30 minutes to get there

DIRECS: (LP-WB 276) 5-10km SE of Pristina at Graçanica; close to Lipljan: ancient Roman town of **Ulpiana**; old residence of bishops.

SERB Orthodox MON; Built older **13th-C** church of Theotokos, which, in turn, built on **6th-C** early Christian 3-naved basilica ruins; magnificent 600 AD wall frescoes

Only original MON complex church remains: vestibule w/ dome, built several decades later; ruined during 1379-1383 TURK assaults in, when dome was lost in fire & rich collection of manuscripts; vestibule restored in 1383 by Bishop Simeon of Gracanica.

King Milutin's last monumental gifts. Kosovo & Metohija region admin.center;

1321: In charter on chapel's S wall, King Milutin says: "I saw devastation & fall of church of Holy Theotokos of Gracanica, Bishopric of Lipljan, I had it built from foundation stone, I had it inscribed & decorated from inside & outside."

2) Ulpiana ancient Roman City Archeological site:

3h

DIRECS: halfway along road between Gračanica & Laplje Selo.

Roman times: large town - <u>Ulpiana</u> - existed; 15 kms (9.3 mi)>S of Pristina (7 km SE of Prishtina). City destroyed, but restored by <u>EMP Justinian I</u>. **Today:** town of <u>Liplian</u> stands on site of Ulpiana, BUT remains can still. **May not be worth effort unless easily done w/**Grancanica

TODAY: little exists: 1) complex of low walls & foundations, 2) few restored 4th-6th C graves. in field near town of Gracanica.

HISTORY: 1st C; thrived in Roman occupation built near silver & lead mines that made Kosovo so important at time. & early Byzantine period. At that time, Serbia, Kosovo, & art of MACE & BUL aka Roman province of Moesia Superior; OO main political, cultural & economic hubs

Stone, marble & brick constructions: walls, rooms & cemetery sections visible. A few stones engraved w/ Roman scripture. Great damage of arch. discoveries also noted: e.g. -- semi-destruction of building & excavated walls, plant growth & climate damage: water & humidity.

Gadime "Marble' caves (LP-WB 276) DIRECS; S 35km Unique marble caves

3h

TRANS: (½ hrly, 30 min)

named Unique different marble's colors & various patterned marble rocks; TEMP: 9.6 - 16 °C, depending on season, 1260m long, but tourist: 500m long, tours every 2 hrs.

Prizren: (LP778,) Digest Prizren wiki page (1T, 2D, 3N) 3D

TRANS-IN:

BUS: >/< Prizen

Pristina > Prizren:(E4, 1½h,) also BUS from Peja (3E):Prizren, 1a BUL GoogM PRIZREN (€4) DP: 06:50, 07:20, 08:00 & then, every 30 min until 20:00, 1½hr.

Small BUS STA: just few minutes walk W of CNTR along Rruga De Rada; few facilities: kiosks & bus info office; most buses, info kiosk (+377 44 67 91 60, 08:00-16:00, BUT closed Sat, Sun)

TRANS >TOWN:

taxi: cost €1, or any bus heading E & left onto Rruga Remzi Ademi; city centre & Shadërvan square are just across RIV. Prizren, 1 BUL GoogM

ACCM:

Oltas Pension: E25s; E30d: Rr. Bujtinat 14, +377 44 11 32 52, Nevruz Pula oltas_pension@hotmail.com

Across The River In The Old Town, Ask taxi drivers to bring you to the catholic church if they don't know the street

Pansiyon Oltas (Bujtine): REV: cheapest: E25s ,brkfst, wifi ?, daughter: ENG, CNTR,

DIRECS: next door to the Albanian catholic cathedral No map no info Small hotel / pensione; wifi, Eng, private bath; wifi, includes brkfst & laundry. very clean, cable TV, A/C,

refrigr & WIFI, also, wifi computers in rooms & reception; quiet res str i

DIRECS: city cmtr; just btw main catholic church Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & main sq. Sheshi Shadervan. Hotel Centrum on same street

WALK: 20 min > BUS STA,

TAXI: 2E).

Hotel Centrum: GUD: ok, E40 Nomap, TripAdv: best in town

Hotel Tirana: Nomap Size??? :E30; Hotel Bujtine: REV: Cheap (30E) brkfst, close > Turk Cntr DIRECS: around corner from Catholic Church in CNTR near central Shadervan Sq (15 min walk from BUS STA on Rr. Bujtine; ask people for directions)

TRANS-OUT: (LP778)

Ideal" Prizren > Decani > Pec/Peja, BUT may have to go back > Prizren > Pec & DT > Decani > Main BUS STA DIRECS: take road along RIV & turn R at traffic circle, BUS STA is on left.

BUS: < Decani MON'; (LP778) (1½h, #?)

(LP): (6 dly, 1½hr)

Confirm in Pristina:

- 1) Prizen > Decani? Implied
- 1a) Decani > Pec?
- 1b) OVN @ Decani UNnecessary
- Pec > Kotor, MONT OR necessary /possible to GOTO Kotor from Pristina? Buy TIK to Kotor in Pristna

77			
TO DO 13 ¹ / ₄	h	1D 4h	
City Kalja/ Kalaja Castle: nothing left but great view over to			3h
St. Saviour Church: DIRECS: on way > fortress; faca	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
DIRECS: free	-	_	
1st INSTRUCTIONS: RIVside walk up to castle (circular	r walk, di	stance about 4.	5Km) - follow RIV
E out of town ("Maresh" district), through attractive I	RIV valle	y, past site of D	okufest camp. At
one point path seems to come to dead-end, retrace			
path leaves RIV & turns R, uphill through woods	•	-	
2 nd INSTRUCTIONS: Walking up steep path from old t		•	
(Pod Kalaja) district to ruined fortress will take abou			best views of city
centre, especially in morning when sun is behind yo			
TOGO DOWN 1) path down > Orthodox CATH. 2) A gr			gnest point of
fortress to Lumbardhi valley, from where you can wa			rofugo cinco
Strategically dominates town, Lumbardhi valley & Dul prehistoric times. On500-m high Cvilen hill immediat			
strengthened in Byzantine & Ottoman times; used ur	•	, ,	
remaining structures & deteriorating walls; Currently	,	•	
grant Just to east, small Kalaja e Cuces (Kiz Kala			
currently home to KFOR base.	,		,
NEARBY: (LP-WB 278):			
Holy Archangels MON: DIRECS: "trace gorges for	few kms	s"	
Ottoman Bridge: DIRECS: ; SUPERB restore		½h	
(Albanian: Ura e gurit, Serbian: Стари камени мост) Х	s <u>Prizren</u>	THE STATE OF THE S	
Orthodox Church of Virgin of Levisa:		½h	
DIRECS: ; UNESCO, barbed wire, force protecte	ed	44/1	0
Old Town: DIRECS: 1 BUL GoogM (bottom L, S of RIV)	over oof	1½h	
Shadervan <u>Turkish</u> : <i>Şadırvan</i> : tourist area on S side of t			
restaurants. Ancient water fountain: <u>legend</u> " drin come back.	K IIOIII IL	a you will	
Ethno MUS: DIRECS: ; 2 nd FLR: mini HIST MUS			1h
Old Tannery BLDG: DIRECS: 1 BUL GoogM (bottom L, N	of RIV)		½h
Tannery/Leatherworks: (ALB: Lagjia e Tabakëve, SERB		енска табахана	
Tabahana): ancient handcraft building.			
MUS: DIRECS:			1h
Bazaar: DIRECS:			1h
Sinan Pasha MOSQ: DIRECS: In town CNTR (Closed 4 R	,		½ h
(<u>Albanian</u> : Xhamia e Sinan Pashës, <u>Serbian</u> : Синан Па			
OTTO MOSQ: Largest, dominating town CNTR / skyline		<u>Sofi Sinan Pash</u>	
Gazi Mehmed Pasha Hammam: DIRECS: ; (Closed 4 R		۵:ا	³ / ₄ h
Early OTTO-era monument; oriental & local traditions of			
1563/4 in heart of city by Gazi Mehmet Pasha, time also building nearby MOSQ.;	wiieii iie	was	
two large & nine small dome: separated into men's & wo	nmen's s	ections	
OOM precious hammams in SE EUR, special archite		ections.	
historical, cultural & social values;. Integrated for C in			
citizens, symbol of Prizen spiritual & cultural heritage			
Functioned as hammam until 1944; then served for che		MARKET STORY COMMISSION	
warehouse, & later entrance area used for cultural e	•	·	
state protection since 1954: repaired & maintained u			ercy of time. After
1999 NATO intervention, some limited monument's	protectio	n.	

1D

(Dečani or Deçan (ALB: Deçan or Dečani; SERBian: Дечани, Dečani):

DIRECS: Metohija, 15 km S of Peja/Pec (**Prizren>Decani>Pec/Peja loop**) or DT from Peja ???: TRANS-IN:

BUS:

Prizren < Decani MON'; (LP778) (1½h, #?) Implied!
Then 2km walk > MON

Pristina BUS STA [Stacioni i autobusave]: DIRECS: Rr. Lidja e Pejes; 2km SW of city centre, near end of Bul. Bill Clinton; Taxis: outside main exit costing €2 > CNTR. OR, 20-30 min walk: directly N > Blvd. Bill Clinton, THEN, turn R. refuse €1 car park fee for being dropped off.

Left luggage services: by *shefi I narimit* office (open 06:00-20:00, €1/day).+381 38 55 00 11 **Pristina > GRACANICA** (> GJILAN)(€2) via depart at 06:30, 07:20 & then every 20 minutes until 20:20, taking 30 minutes to get there.

GENERAL

Visoki Dečani MON: major SERB Orthodox MON In <u>Dečanska Bistrica</u> RIV valley surrounded by mountains & forests of <u>Prokletije</u> mt range.

EXT: Built w/ blocks of <u>red-purple</u>, <u>light-yellow & onyx marble</u>, constructed by master-builders under Franciscan monk Vitus of Kotor.; distinguished from other contemporary SERB churches by <u>large dimensions</u> & <u>obvious Romanesque features</u>;

INT: celebrated **frescoes**: some 1000 **portraits** covering major themes of New Testament; **original 14th-C wooden iconostasis**, hegumen's **throne & carved sarcophagus** of king Stefan.

During 1998-1999 conflict, Dečani OO kosovo LIB Army strongholds (KLA), but, subsequent large SERB military & paramilitary forces infrastructure destruction (HUH???); SERB Orthodox clergy in Visoki Dečani UN administered SERB PROV of Kosovo, holy site survives thanks only to Italian forces protection which blocked every access to MON.BUT, still attracts many intn'l visitors,

CATH: biggest & best preserved BALK medieval church; largest preserved MON of Byzantine fresco-painting. 1327, in chestnut grove by king Stefan Dečanski; founding charter: 1330, however, following year king died & buried at MON: henceforth -- his popular shrine, construction continued by son **Stefan Dusan** until 1335, but wall-painting not completed until 1350.

1327 - 1335: CATH dedicated to Christ Pantocrator ("Almighty" or "All-powerful":

In 2004, UNESCO's World Heritage List, citing: frescoes as "one of most valued examples of so-called Palaeologan renaissance in Byzantine painting" & " valuable record of life in 14th C".









DIMEN: 36 m x 24 m w/ 29 m high **tower**; built btw 1327 & 1335 by SERB medieval king, <u>St. Stephen of Dečani</u>, .

On " **Crucifixion" fresco**, 1350, objects similar to UFOs can be found: 2 comets & in recent times have been taken to bear resemblance to generic space ships, w/ two men inside of them, & they are often quoted by <u>Ufologists</u>.

Visoki Dečani declared: Monument of Culture of Exceptional Importance in 1990 & protected by former Federal Republic of YUGO. In 2004.

During turbulent history MON important spiritual CNTR: artistic & intellectual activities. Although MON buildings suffered damage during OTTO period, church has been completely preserved complete w/ its 14th C fresco paintings. **Today**: young brotherhood of 30 brethren lives in MON maintaining traditions of past: religious services, icon painting, wood carving, book publishing & is also active in missionary work. **Note:** limited times: 11am-1pm; 4-6pm

ACCM: ??? FOOD: cheese & TRANS-OUT:

BUS: Decani (Gjakove) > Pec: Implied Cuz Pec > Decani (Gjakove): (30 min, every 15 min):

Or, ???, Prizen > Peja > Decani: 90min, every 15 min + 2k walk > MON Confirm in Pristiina

Worth overnight assuming I can get bus to Pod > Kotor, otherwise GOTO Pristina









TRANS-IN:

Decani > Peja: 90min, every 15 min + 2k walk > MON

ACCM: if necessary

1) Olive Hostel: GOOG map93% E35s, wifi, GUD LOC; no smoke rms, small, several lang. nearby extra rooms, KIT, wifi, bike, read lite DIRECS:

TRAIN: GO (N) opposite Pecs TRN STA directly > Szabadsag str., then, GO 150 m. & L side no. 28. go backyard.

BUS: once you arrived at Pecs central bus station, go to main rd. called NAGY LAJOS KIRALY (opposite ARKAD shopping center) & turn L (west) for 200 m.THEN, @ 3rd. street turn L onto Szabadsag u. go 100 m., THEN, on R side find no. 28. go into backyard.

Btw TRN STA & City CNTR: 3 min > TRN; 5 min > CNTR,

2) Ananas Hostel: 85%, wifi, bike, REV: helpful, antiquy, near CNTR,

DIRECS: too far NE from OLive Hostel

3) Nap Hostel: 89%, ; main PED Str in HIST CNTR, bike, wifi,

DIRECS: also too far NE from OLive Hostel

MISC:

TEMP: Apr: 59-44°; May: 68-52°

ECON: inevitably, badly affected by war, but historically: ag & craftworks produced by traditional craftsmen—coppersmiths, goldsmiths, slipper makers, leather tanners, saddle makers, etc. **HISTORY**:

1180 --1190:. SERB Great Zupan <u>Stefan Nemanja</u> conquered Peć & <u>župa</u> (district) of <u>Hvosno</u> from Byzantine empire, establishing SERB for next 300 years.

1220:. SERB king <u>Stefan Nemanjić</u> donated Peć & several surrounding villages to his newly founded MON of <u>Žiča</u>., thus Peć came under direct rule of SERB archbishops & latter patriarchs who built their residences & numerous churches in city starting w/ church of Holy Apostles built by archbishop <u>Saint Arsenije I Sremac</u>.

1276 & 1292: After Žiča MON burned by <u>Cumans</u>, SERB archbishop moved > secure Peć where it remained until abolition of SERB patriarchate in 1766.

1346: Under SERB Tsar <u>Stefan Dušan</u>, became major religious CNTR of <u>medieval SERB & seat of SERB Orthodox Church 1766</u>, when <u>Patriarchate of Peć</u> abolished.

Today, Patriarchate of SERB.: city & surrounding area still revered by SERB Orthodoxy; also, patriarchal MON: above city, consists: four fresco-decorated churches, library, & treasury. 14th C Visoki Dečani MON, UNESCO World Heritage Site:

1455: OTTO captured: major changes under their rule including: 1) name change: *lpek; 2*) large number of <u>Turks</u> migrated in whose descendants remain 3) creating distinctly oriental character w/ narrow streets & old-style TURK houses 4) an <u>Islamic</u> character w/ construction of number of <u>MOSQs</u>, which also remain.

One is: Bajrakli MOSQ, built 15th C by OTTO in city CNTR.



1899 by ALB patriots led by <u>Haxhi Zeka</u> Increased political importance w/ <u>League of Peja</u>,,.; League inherited traditions & character of <u>League of Prizren</u> to defend rights of ALB & give them autonomous status within OTTO <u>Empire</u>.

1900: After an armed conflict w/ OTTO forces League ended its operations.

1912-1913 <u>First Balkan War</u>: 500 years of OTTO rule ended, when <u>MONT</u> took control of city. In late 1915,

World War I, Austria-HUNG took city. Peć was retaken in October 1918.

After WWI, became part of <u>YUGO</u> (at first officially called Kingdom of SERBs, Croats & Slovenes). Btw 1931 & 1941 city was part of <u>Zeta Banovina</u>.

During WWII: Peć occupied by ALB. After WWII: Peć again, part of <u>YUGO</u> as part of <u>Kosovo & Metohija</u>, an autonomous PROV within <u>People's Republic of SERB</u>.

20th C **SERBs & ALB** (majority population) **Relations**, often tense: came to head in 1999. 1999 Kosovo War of, city suffered heavy damage & mass killings; 80 %+l 5280 houses -- heavily damaged (1590) or destroyed (2774).: **further damage** in violent inter-ethnic unrest in 2004.

TRANS-OUT:

ALT #1:: Peja, KO >⊗> Rozaje, MONT (LP775m) > Podgorica, MONT

DIRECT BUS: Peja (Peć) > Podgorica (Pristna > Podgorica (& on to Ulcinj): 17:45 - 23:00, 19:00 - 00:30(Note: from Pristina)

Pristina to **PEJA** (€4) DP: 07:30, 08:00 & then every 20 min until 20:00, 1½hr)

ALT #2: Podgorica > Ostrog MON tour

ALT #3: Podgorica > Kotor:

Kotor is very well connected with Podgorica, it is more than easy to combine these two routes.

If necessary to go back > Pristina:

Pristina BUS STA [Stacioni i autobusave]: DIRECS: Rr. Lidja e Pejes, +381 38 55 00 11; 2km SW of city centre, near end of Bul. Bill Clinton; Taxis: outside main exit costing €2 > CNTR. OR, 20-30 min walk: directly N > Blvd. Bill Clinton, THEN, turn R. refuse €1 car park fee for being dropped off.

Left luggage services: by shefi I narimit office (open 06:00-20:00, €1/day).+381 38 55 00 11

TO DO

Turk style bazaar: DIRECS: ½h

Patriachate of Pec: CHURCH & MON:

DIRECS: 10 min walk along RIV; SERB Orthodoxy



1h

MONT: (LP860, 862m,)

Podgorica: (LPmmm) €

TRANS-IN:

Peja, KO >⊗> Rozaje, MONT (LP775m) > Podgorica, MONT

DIRECT BUS: Peja (Peć) > Podgorica (Pristna > Podgorica (& on to Ulcinj): 17:45 - 23:00, 19:00 - 00:30(Note: from Pristina)

Pristina to **PEJA** (€4) DP: 07:30, 08:00 & then every 20 min until 20:00, 1½hr)

ACCM:

Podgorica Hostel: Djecevica 27, (Close to Montenegro) GUD LOC (reward having DIRECS)

DIRECS: CNTR; 100 m far from BUS/TRN STA.(Trg golootackh zrtava) When you exit BUS/TRN STA go to Mitar Bakia blvd (20 m from entrance to BUS STA blvd), then turn R & go 20 m straight ahead > spot where boulevard crosses Blvd of Oct Revolution. On that crossroad go straight ahead (N) 10m & you will see big log cabin Nino Jankovic (grill Nino). When reach grill Nino, turn L to str that leads straight to parking btw res buildings. You will enter a small curvy street: Djecevica Street.

Montenegro Hostel: Djecevica 25; 81%, 4dm:\$20; in CNTR TO far from TRN & BUS STA DIRECS: 7-10min>, 150 m from BUS & TRN STA,REV: several rudes, Gordana SCOTT Hostel Nice: 90%,19 Decembar 60, 6/7dm: \$21, trav desk, TOO Far N of TRN?BUS STA DIRECS: CNTR;

MISC:

TO DO

Podgorica > Ostrog MON tour: SEE NEXT

: Is there a TRN that goes past Ostrog MON???

See Tour's web page; email if possible to BUS from Peja > Ostrog & back to Podgorica; rates TRANS-OUT:

Podgorica > Kotor

Kotor is very well connected w/Podgorica,.

Ostrog MON, MONT: (Central) DT from Kotor **SEE** Web page

SERBian Orthodox Church MON: on almost vertical clift, high up in large rock of Ostroška Greda, MONT.--Several kms N of Danilovgrad: dedicated to Saint Basil of Ostrog (Sveti Vasilije Ostroški); (Manastir Ostrog)

TRANS-IN: Advice from Montenearo Hostel, Kotor

TOUR: from Kotor, if possible

Tours from Podgorica: maybe do w/ OVN in Podgrica B4 Kotor From Kosovo, > Kolasin, Mont.;: TRN thereafter > Podgorica > Ostrog MON ???

OR, no pub bus, BUT Tour bus from coast

DIRECS: tough 3-km walk uphill. reached by road that turns off at village of Bogatići, some 20km along main road from Danilovgrad., THEN, 8km to MON up narrow & often precipitous asphalt road BY 1) Stiff walk or 2) taxis that waits @ main road to mon (about €15 return). NOTE: If > Podgorica- Nikšić bus, have taxi drop Y@ village.



ACCM: DT from Podgorica.

FOOD:

Koliba restaurant :Back down in Bogatići: excellent, rustically styled, w/ seating arranged around large wood-burning fire - smoked ham w/ melon, bean soup, Bosnian casserole (lamb & vegetables), roast lamb & gibanica are just some of appetizing dishes on menu

MISC:

17th C: founded by Vasilije, Metropolitan Bishop; died here: 1671, later glorified (: body enshrined in reliquary kept in <u>cave-church</u> dedicated to Presentation of Mother of God to Temple.

actually two complexes,

first: larger lower MON: centered around white, rock-hewn upper MON: Church of Holy **Trinity**, 1824, also location of majority of monastic residences, including mod off RES - konak: SCOTT

Second: 2 diminutive cave-churches:

- (1) **Holy Cross**: splendid rock-painted frescoes by great 17th C SERB artist Radul. depicting; revered saints (including St Sava & one of St Basil), scenes from life of Christ, & religious holidays.
- (2) 2nd church not as interesting.

Present-day look: 1923-1926: after fire which destroyed major part; Fortunately, 2 little cavechurches spared: -- key monument areas of

- (1) Church of Presentation: frescoes created towards end of 17th C.
- (2) other church, dedicated to Holy Cross, DIRECS: within cave on upper level of MON: painted by master Radul, successfully coping w/ natural shapes of cave & laid frescoes immediately on rock surface & S wall.

Around church: monastic residences, church building & scenery make outstandingly beautiful. HIST NOTE: 1492: printing-press, before art of printing in general use elsewhere; press used until 1852, when, during TURK invasion, types were melted into bullets."

TRANS-OUT:

Χ

TO DO -- above

Kotor (MONT: Kотор), MONT: (LP863m,) GENERAL:

(1T, 2+D, 2+N)

3+D

World Heritage old MED port-city in secluded indented part of <u>Gulf of Kotor</u>.; <u>Bay of Kotor</u> (Boka Kotorska; Bocche di Cattaro) of <u>Adriatic Sea</u>,; most S EUR <u>fjord</u>, but actually <u>submerged RIV canyon</u>). Together w/ nearly <u>overhanging limestone cliffs</u> of <u>Orjen</u>

Kotor roots B4 Homer (10-12 BCE), when Phoenicians ruled MED: ancient city, old as Adriatic sea trade. **Recent years:** steady increase in tourists attracted by: natural beauty & old Kotor.

POP: Kotor: 5,341, MUNI: 13,510; MONTs: majority

1750s: mixed pop of 1/3 SERBs, 1/3 Croats & 1/3 Italians. Since then, Italians nearly disappeared[4], 2003, 22,947: MONTs 47%; SERB: 31%; Croats -8%; Yugo -.7%; Muslims -.5%; ALB :.3%; MACE -0.21%; Romas Russians, Slovenes, Italians, HUNG, Egyptians, Bosniaks, Germans









TRANS-IN: from Podgorica: Bus Station in Kotor tel +382 32/325-809

BTW Kotor and: Podgorica(hrly), Dubrovnik (3 per day, 3 hours), Split (3 / wk, 7 hrs),

SEE SCHED: KOTOR – PODGORICA: 5.10 h, 6.35 h, from 8.10 h every half hour to 20.25 h SCOTT main BUS STA: 5 min walk from old town, on road towards <u>Budva</u> (look for old tall chimney!).

Bus times & frequency: varies greatly seasonly.: +382 32 325 809

TRANS-LOCAL: walk,

ACCM:

1) Montenegro Hostel: 6dm\$18.50; Ostrog MON: Advice from Montenegro Hostel, Kotor DIRECS: Stari Grad b.b., very easy to find

Next to Maritime MUS inside Old Town walls,;, only 100 m from main Sea gate on W side . **FROM BUS STA** go N or S 200m to Sea Gate

Enter Old Town @ main "Sea Gate" gate (LP-WB347m, 8B3), go straight 70 m, past Hotel Vardar on R side, past Pizzeria Pronto on R side, go straight to Hotel Duomo & then turn L to Square of Maritime Museum & Maritime MUS (LP-WB347m, 6C3) When you get to MUS, look at Pizzeria Piazza and caffe bar Portobello which are located in the sq in front of MUS.

Enter through gate btw Pizzeria Piazza & caffe Portobello,(5m R from main door of MUS) pass through hall, go up to 1st stairs on L to 1st floor in old building w/single balcony This is

Montenegro Hostel reception | IF LOST, Ask staff in caffe Portobello for help, they will show you up the balcony 1m above caffe where is reception

2) Meridian TRAV AGENCY: E15-E30 r;(LP-WB347m, 15C3), Stari Grad 436, + +382 82 323 581, travel@cg.yu

DIRECS: Lane behind clock tower, near Trg od Oruzja:

2) Old Town Private Residences: summer about €10 4 private res room in old town DIRECS:, HOSTELS- MISC XTRA:

FOOD:

There is a large produce market outside the city walls.

La Pasteria, (*directly opposite St Tryphons Cathedral*). You'll find great sandwiches and fine pizzas with original prosciutto from the nearby village of Njeguši. Probably the best Italian food in Kotor! edit

Forza, (near the clock tower). The most popular pastry shop in Kotor.

MISC:

GET Old Town Map (1944px × 2592px 851.58 Kb JPG) in Kotor.

HISTORY:

- 1st mention: **168 BC**, settled during <u>Ancient Roman</u> times: known as *Acruvium*, **Ascrivium**, or **Ascruvium** & part of <u>Roman PROV</u> of <u>Dalmatia</u>; then called "Cattaro"; an influential <u>Dalmatian</u> City-states of romanized Illirians throughout Middle Ages period. Until 11th C <u>Dalmatian language</u> was spoken in Cattaro
- <u>Fortified</u> since **early** <u>Middle Ages</u>, when EMP <u>Justinian</u> built fortress above Acruvium in 535, after expelling <u>Ostrogoths</u>; second town probably grew up on heights round it, for <u>Constantine Porphyrogenitus</u>,
- 840: Lower Kotor: plundered by Saracens.
- **1002**, <u>First BUL Empire</u> occupation damage; in following year ceded to SERB by BUL <u>Tsar Samuel</u>. However, <u>local population resisted pact</u> &, taking advantage of its alliance w/ <u>Republic of Ragusa</u>, only submitted in 1184, while maintaining its: <u>republican institutions</u> & <u>right to conclude treaties</u> & <u>engage in war</u>.
- 13th C, Dominican & Franciscan monasteries were established to check spread of Bogomilism.
- **14th C:**, Cattaro commerce (called until 1918) competed w/ nearby <u>Republic of Ragusa</u> & of <u>Republic of Venice</u>.
- **1420 to 1797**: city part of <u>Venetian ALB PROV of Venetian Republic except</u>: periods of OTTO rule in 1538–1571 & 1657-1699.
- <u>4 Cs of Venetian domination</u>: typical Venetian architecture, Renaissance-related literature; huge development: famous writers: How so & why?.

Under Venetian rule, Cattaro was:

- 1538 & 1657: besieged by OTTO <u>Empire</u>
- 1572: plaque
- 1563 & 1667: nearly destroyed <u>earthquakes</u>.
- 1797: After Treaty of Campo Formio passed to Habsburg Monarchy.
- **1805**: assigned to <u>French Empire</u>'s <u>client state</u>, <u>Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy</u> BUT in fact held by <u>Russian</u> squadron.
- 1806: After Russians retreated, Cattaro united w/ Kingdom of Italy
- 1810: British attacked: city & French Empire's <u>Illyrian Provinces</u>. captured by Commodore John Harper (brig sloop <u>HMS Saracen</u> (18 guns).
 - To seal off Kotor in windless conditions, residents along shore literally pulled ship w/ ropes. Saracen's BRIT crew later hauled naval 18-pounder guns above Fort St. John, fortress near Kotor, where reinforced by Captain William Hoste w/ ship HMS Bacchante (38 guns), French garrison forced to surrender: 5 Jan 1814.
- Then ??? restored to <u>Austrian Empire</u> by <u>Congress of Vienna</u>.
- **WWI**: 1 of 3 main <u>Austro-HUNG Navy</u> bases: pre-dreadnought battleships & light cruisers; site of fiercest battles btw local MONT SLAV, & <u>Austria-HUNG</u>.
- After 1918: called Cattaro until then, became part of YUGO & officially named Kotor.
- 1941 & 1943: <u>Italy</u> annexed Kotor area(orig venetian name "Bocche di Cattaro") to Italian "<u>Governorship of Dalmatia</u>" & created new Italian PROV of Cattaro
- After 1945: part of Socialist Rep of MONT w/in Yugo 2nd incarnation.
- **1979** (April 15) major earthquake; approx 100 dead; Half Old Town destroyed & St. Tryphon's CATH partly damaged.
- **Up > 20th C**: Croatian <u>Catholics</u> majority ethnic group around Gulf of Kotor.
- **TODAY**: Kotor is still seat of Croatian Catholic Bishopric of Kotor, covering entire gulf.

TODO 1D

Walking Tour:

3h

ONE STRAT: start at Sea Gate(W) & work clockwise from main Arms Square go right across Flour Square to St. Tryphon CATH, then left > Maritime MUS then straight > square w/ Churches of St. Luka & St. Nikola & then L back > START.



Perast: N of Kotor small HIT town, Also 2 nearby small isles Except for boat ride, no reason to go

Kotor Old Town: (LP-WB 347m,) DIRECS:

4

1/4h

Best preserved Adriatic medieval old town; Venetian influence predominant in city's architecture built like maze for protective purposes; very easy to get lost; even locals-- even w/ town map. BUT, Enter old town via any of three gates

Winged lion of St. Mark SYMBOL: look for as wandering town

then explore maze of narrow passages between stone houses.



San Giovanni Fort ???

*** **Sea Gate** (LP-WB 347m, 8B3): (1555)

Main entrance: huddled underneath rocks of Mt Lovćen,

bordered: on N by short, but violent RIV Škurda; on W by

underwater spring

Date above door: Nazi liberation 15th C stone relief (just inside gate)

Gurdić, Kotor (after 1667 earthquake) underwater spring Gurdić

all features of Baroque

*** Arms Square (Trg od Oruja): .

*** Flour Square (Trg Sv Tripuna)

*** Tryphon CATH (1166) (LP-WB 347m,):

¾n

(1166), good look landmarks will help; landmarks on most tourist map.

more difficult: Grgurina Palace: inside

_

*** Maritime (Grgurina Palace) MUS: (LP-WB 347m, 6C3i %h
Entrance of old town Kotor with sign "What belongs to others we don't want,
what is ours we will never surrender."

*** Lattice Square, Milk Square & Cinema Square 3/4h

*** ST. Luke's Church (LP-WB 347m,):

*** St. Nicholas Church (LP-WB 347m,): DIRECS:

½h

Ancient walls: DIRECS: directly above city

2h

Ancient walls: 4.5 km long, Kotor city walls, skillfully crafted built by <u>Republic of Venice</u> into natural steep slopes; amazing opportunity to circumnavigate entire city on foot from best vantage point – above! <u>At top</u>: Saint Ivan fortress

Saint Ivan fortress:,





DIRECS reachable by walking along walls. fortification masterpiece at up to 15 meters wide & 20 meters high each. TI

4.5 km directly above city., built by Republic of Venice



?h

Sveti Đorđe & Gospa od Škrpijela islets: DIRECS:

off coast of Perast:





Ostrvo Sveti Đorđe

Saint George

TRANS-OUT:

Kotor > Dubrovnik, CRO

SEE SCHED: KOTOR – DUBROVNIK:

KOTOR-DUBROVNIK 8.30 h on even day

KOTOR-DUBROVNIK 7.10 h every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday

KOTOR-DUBROVNIK: 14.45h every day

BUS: Kotor > Herceg Novi> BORDER, THEN, BUS from BORDER > Dubrovnik.BOOK immediately on Kotor ARV (?hrs): there is bus from Kotor to Dubrovnik (92km) According to bus company, **Libertas Dubrovnik** schedule you can download, buses depart from BUDVA,KOTOR 9,20* 10,45 17,00 (*Ponedjeljkom,Srijedom i Subotom - Monday, Wednesday & Saturday).

http://www.autobusni-kolodvor.com/en/terminal.aspx?d=499

or

http://montenegrohostel.com/en/index.php?

option=com_content&view=article&id=99&Itemid=117

NO: Cetinie: Nothing in Cetinie worth effort.

DIRECS: Historic road connecting Kotor w/ Cetinie, w/ spectacular views of Kotor bay. small villages (?)



CRO 1st: (LP263, 266-7m,)

GENERAL: visas ???

CAUTION: Landmines: INT fields & deserted villages (Jolie)

TRANS-IN STRAT from Pec (Peja), Kosovo >

GENERAL:

Emergency #s: RS72

TRANS: Intra

Buy IND TIK rather than EuroPass

WHEN: Early May thru June; Sep thru mid-Oct

BEWARE Holidays: Easter, Acension Day, Whitmon Daym Xmas, New Years

GENERAL:

TIPS: Yes BUT: rest (table service only): add 10%, rnd down; taxis: add 5%, rnd up

MONEY: kuna: 5 kn = 1 USD, 100 lipa, DON"T use /carry EUROS; 2-3 debit cards w/diff #s;

CUR Exchange: reg banks

Check C fees, If too hi, goto www.capitalone.com; Mer Trust shud be very low

PHONE: RS197 Travel INS RS68

Croatian Angels: free 062-999-999 ADDRESSES: useless; map or ask INTern'l Nat'l Driving Permit IDP

Btw countries: change phone chips, money, RS2748

www.time&date.com/worldclock ELECT: 2 rnd prong; 110-220v

MONEY

Site Info: check postcards

ACCM:

Pay in local \$

hostels: online & soba (sobe): RS132 booking URL

BLU signs; some gov't registered(3 stars best): if touts: piks, price, \$, map location

RS Kevs: friendly locals, w/o reception desk, family owned, ENG.

COST: \$15/bed; C coast: \$45-65 basic S; RS2757

3 nite MIN in tourist season, 20-50% surcharge; CONFIRM B4 book

no smoking: CONFIRM B4 book

moskies

Hot water: limited time

FOOD:

expensive, unimaginative; noon-big meal > siesta

bakeries: (burek)

'ajvar' – eggplant & red pepper cndiment in N: noodles,more HUNG, cabage, potatoes

in S & C: Italian-like

Common: mix salad - best

CULTURE:

VOCAB:

RS237water: voda, mineral water: mineralna voda

brusque & rude: waiters, receptionists; classic eye roll, Croatian Shrug

Music: Oliver Drago-Jevi

HIST: RS201

REGIONS:

Coast:

Dalmatian Coast: (S): isles, Hvar, Korxula Kvarrner Gulf: off shore isle: Rab

INT:

N: Zagreb

EC: Plitvice Lakes NP

Coastal Towns: old & new parts;

(1T, 1½D, 2+N) **DON"T use /carry EUROS**

2+D

population is 42,641;

TRANS-IN:

BUS:

BUS: Kotor > Herceg Novi> BORDER, THEN, BUS from BORDER > Dubrovnik.BOOK immediately on Kotor ARV

Cheapest alt from & to <u>Dubrovnik</u> & around <u>CRO</u>.; generally, even smallest villages have some bus Dubrovnik. **Express** BUSs; every large town:BUS STA (Autobusna Stanica): TIKs, timetables displayed, service fast, efficient, many buses/day BUT, most popular routes from <u>Dubrovnik</u> > Split, Zagreb or Rijeka ---- mik runs, sleep difficult, particularly night buses.

BUY TIKs?: NOT online TIKs, can't; BUS STA **ONLY** Usually, no advance-purchase, reserved BUS TIKs req'd, or necessary, BUT, if GOTO most popular places: purchase 1 day in advance. **DUBROVNIK MAIN BUS TERMINAL**/STA - - local & inter'l BUSs ARV/DP:

DIRECS: Old Manin BUS STA is in Gruž Port, Obala pape Ivana Pavla II 44a, tel: 060 305 070 or +385 20 357 020

in Kantafig, near Port Gruz and Tudjman bridge, 2.5 km northwest of the Old Town. Local bus 7 operates between this station and Babin kuk, and bus 1 serves Old Town.

BUS COST: many bus companies compete for most popular routes: Dubrovnik > Zagreb, Dubrovnik > Split,,etc. = prices normal. prices vary for different times of day. Larger baggage: under bus w/ small charge/ bag (ca. 10 kuna or 2 Euro per bag).

TRANS-LOCAL:

Modern orange city BUS, efficient & clean,, connects all Dubrovnik neighbourhoods including Dubrovnik Riviera (Cavtat in south & Pelješac peninsula in north).; dawn > midnight

TIKs & COST:

IN TOWN: cost 10kn if bot @ news kiosks & other sites, BUT if on BUS: 12kn. VALIDATE (cancel) immediately when get on BUS in ticket-stamping machines.

Out-of-town routes (Cavtat, Mlini, Trsteno etc.) cost bit more

TIKs within **Dubrovnik Riviera** BOT from driver.

RR: none in/out Dubrovnik





ACCM: Get GUD maps for each & locate

BEST OPTION: Private Beds: around **€10** w/ comfort & privacy exceeding hostels. Private rooms ,BUT, downside: may be far from Old Town, so check location. Such owners usually meet buses at STA, so ask around & even bargain.

OLD TOWN:

Old Town Hostel: BOOKED 91%, 4/6 dm \$38; wifi, kit, BUS from Gruz - Main Bus Station Take local Bus 1A or 1B 'Pile Gate' to Pile Gate, Old Town. 12 Kuna or 10 Kuna if the ticket is bought before at a newspaper kiosk. The bus drive is 10 to 20 minutes (depending on traffic). Enter the Old Town through Pile Gate. Walk on the Stradun 100 meters. After passing the Fransciscan monastery, take your second left onto Od Sigurate. We are 15 meters up the street on the left. Number 7.

Enter the Old Town through Pile Gate. Walk along the Stradun 100 meters. After passing the Fransciscan monastery, take your second left onto Od Sigurate. We are 15 meters up the street on the left. Number 7.

Fresh Sheets Hostel: 89%, 4/8 dm: \$40; #28, NEW, (LP282, B4) (LP-WB246, 23B3); party place, KITS, wifi, stairs everywhere.; part of Old Town's charm but also quite shock. If you. Jonandsanja@freshsheets.hostel.com; Svetog Simuna 15, Dubrovnik 20000; +385. (0)91.799.2086; beds@igotfresh.com; www.freshsheetshostel.com

Just outside OLD TOWN

YHA Dubrovnik, 83%, 6 dm: \$24, €16.70 Vinka Sagrestana 3 (20 min walk from Old town & 25min from BUS STA), ☎ +385 20 423 241, . checkin: 13:00;. 82 beds. Dull atmosphere, but

usually filled w/interesting peeps on balcony. **YHA Hostel**: (LP-WB24,) Beds??? 83%, dm: E14-19; \$28: Best DMS: 31 &32; LOC: gud 1km W of Old Town (BK ahead)

FROM MAIN BUS STATION:

take a bus #1, 1a, 1b or 7, AND get off bus at Boninovo traffic lights (Dom zdravlja), look for Bana Jelacica street.

Go down street, near caffe bar Ferrari there are steps (Vinka Sagrestana street) that will take you to hostel.

BUS TIK: costs 8 kuna if you buy it at kiosk or 10 kuna if you buy it on bus.

We recommend to get off bus at Pile gate, rather than on Main Bus station, because it is closer to hostel (10-15 minutes of walk)

local buses: also catch one of local buses from Pile (any bus number)

get off bus at 1st stop after 1st traffic lights -crossroads (it should be 3rd stop from Pile gate).

Then, look for Bana Jelacica street (close to traffic lights), go down street and, until you see caffe bar Ferrari. There are steps near caffe (Vinka Sagrestana street) and we are there at end of stairs.

Mare Rooms-to-Rent: 86%, Sipanska 9,

DIRECS: it is very easy to find us... from main BUS STA walk toward W 50-60 meters, look for name of our street on W side at beginning of . Then pls go up stairs some 70 m, looking for # 9 AND an official 'rooms rentals' sign on wall of main gate.

Svetog Simuna 15, **☎** +385 91 799 2086 (<u>beds@igotfresh.com</u>

OUTSIDE Old Town SEE "HOSTELS MIsc Xtras

Hostel City Central: 94%, 4/6 dm\$39;bike, wifi, We are located nearby the famous Pile beach **Brunsko Hostel**: private

Begovic Boarding House: (LP-WB24,) off map?) dm: \$28; up steep hill (free BUS pick up) wifi, **Dubrovnik Backpacker's Club**, Mostarska 2d, **☎** +385 20 435 375 (<u>caravanica@gmail.com</u>),

Hostel Villa Micika Dubrovnik, Mata Vodopica 12 (In Lapad, 200m walk to beach. Take Bus #6

MISC:

Apr: 62.4 - 51.6°; May: 70.3-59.4°

HISTORY:

Prosperity: always been based on maritime trade. In

Middle Ages, as Republic of Ragusa, aka Maritime Republic (together w/ Amalfi, Pisa, Genoa, Venice & other Italian cities), only eastern Adriatic city-state to rival Venice; supported by wealth & skilled diplomacy, high level of development, particularly during 15th & 16th C;

demilitarised in 1970s w/ intent of forever protecting it from war devastation, BUT , of course

- 1991: after breakup of YUGO, besieged by SERB-MONT forces for 7 mo w/ heavy shell damage.
- 7th C: Ragusa (Dubrovnik) founded on rocky island named Laus, which provided shelter for <u>Dalmatian</u> refugees from nearby city of <u>Epidaurus</u>. Romance-Dalmatian founders escaping from Slavic invasions.[2]
 - Another recent theory, based on new <u>archaeological excavations</u> from 8th C Byzantine basilica & parts of city walls): size of old basilica clearly indicates that large settlement at time; also iscientific support that major construction before <u>current era:</u> this "Greek theory" recently boosted by of numerous Greek artefacts during excavations in Port of Dubrovnik; also, drilling below main city road reveals natural sand, contradicting theory of Laus (Lausa) island. How so?
- Dr. Antun Ničetić's book "Povijest dubrovačke luke" (History of Port of Dubrovnik), contends established by Greek sailors based on 'fact' that ships in ancient times travelled about 45-50 nautical miles/ day, & req'd sandy shore for ship beaching > rest period @ night.AND ideal rest site had: fresh water source; Dubrovnik had both & is almost halfway btw 2 known Greek settlements of Budva & Korčula (95 NM is distance btw them.)

Republic

- After Ostrogoth Kingdom fall: under <u>protection</u> of <u>Byzantine Empire</u>.; w/ mediaeval population of Latinized Illyrians.
- 1205-1358 (after Crusades), Ragusa controlled by Venice
- 1358, Ragusa achieved relative independence as vassal-state of <u>Kingdom of</u> HUNG.
- 14th C -- 1808: ruled as <u>free state</u>, although <u>vassal</u> from 1440 to 1804 of OTTO <u>Empire</u> & <u>paid an annual tribute</u> to its sultan
- 15th & 16th C: reached peak when its thalassocracy (sea empire/supremacy) rivaled Republic of Venice & other Italian maritime republics.
- For Cs, Republic of Ragusa was ally of <u>Ancona</u>, another Adriatic maritime Republic rival of <u>Venice</u>, OTTO <u>Empire</u>'s chief rival for Adriatic control. This alliance enabled both towns -- set on opposite sides of Adriatic -- to resist Venetians attemt to create an Adriatic "Venetian Bay", also said to control directly or indirectly all Adriatic ports.
- <u>Ancona</u> & Ragusa developed alternative trade route to Venice-<u>Germany-Austria</u>): this route started from East, passed through Ragusa & Ancona, then > <u>Florence</u> & finally <u>Flanders</u>
- Republic of Ragusa received its <u>own</u> Statutes by 1272: codified Roman practice & local customs; included <u>town planning</u> guides & regs of quarantine (for sanitary reasons).[5]
- Early adopter of 'our' modern laws & institutions: medical service:1301, w/ 1st pharmacy, 1317, still operating today; almshouse :open 1347; 1st quarantine hospital (Lazarete), 1377. **Slave trading:** abolished: 1418; orphanage: open 1432; 20 km (12 mi) water supply system built, 1436; ruled by local aristocracy (Latin-dalmatian extraction), formed two city councils. As was usual for that time, maintained strict system of social classes.; valued liberty highly;

SUM POLITICALLY: successfully balanced its sovereignty w/interests of Venice & OTTO_Empire. ; keys to success: NOT conquering, but trading_especially of seafaring trade& sailing under white flag_w/ help of skilled diplomacy; word Latin: Libertas(freedom) prominently featured on ships; . flag was adopted when slave trading was abolished in 1418
Ragusa's merchants travelled lands freely & on sea_city had huge fleet of merchant ships (argosy) that travelled all over world. Developed lands, founded some settlements, from India to America From these travels brought parts of their culture & flora home w/ them.

- During Renaissance due to pacific cohabitation w/ Slavic element & influence of <u>Italian</u> <u>culture</u>, Ragusa became cradle of <u>Croatian literature</u>.
- <u>languages spoken</u>: Romance Dalmatian & Croatian, latter, 11th C: slowly started to replace Dalmatian amongst common city people; aristocracy of Latin extractio-- mostly of Latin origin until 17th C, when Croatians migrated from surrounding regions. <u>Italian</u> & <u>Venetian</u>: become important languages of culture & trade in Ragusa. Italian language replaced Latin as <u>official language</u> of Republic of Ragusa from 1472 until end of republic itself
- Many <u>Conversos</u>, Jews from <u>Spain</u> & <u>Portugal</u>,; May 1544:, ship landed filled w/ Portuguese refugees; OOM famous cannon & bell founders of his time: <u>Ivan Rabljanin</u>.
- 1667: Republic gradually declined after 1) crisis in MED shipping & 2) catastrophic 1667 earthquake: 5,000+ citizens killed & levelled most public buildings, ruining well-being of Republic
- 1699: Republic sold two mainl & patches of territory .> OTTO to avoid being caught in clash w/ advancing Venetian forces. Today this land belongs to B & H & its only direct access to Adriatic.
- 1806: city surrendered to Napoleonic army, to end month long siege by Russian-MONT fleets (during which 3,000 cannonballs fell on city). At first, Napoleon demanded only free passage for his troops, promising not to occupy & stressing that French were friends of Ragusans.

 Later, French forces blockaded harbours, forcing gov't let French troops ente city. On this day, all flags & coats of arms above city walls painted black in mourning.
- 1808, <u>Marshal Marmont</u> abolished republic & integrated it 1st into <u>Napoleon's Kingdom of Italy</u> & later into <u>Illyrian</u> <u>provinces</u> under French rule.
- 1815: <u>Habsburg Empire</u> annexed & installed new bureaucratic admin, own Parliament & political parties, series of modifications w/ntent to slowly centralize: bureaucracy, tax, religious, educational, & trade structure. Unfortunately, for locals, steps failed, despite good intent to stimulate econ precipitating emerging nationalist movements began;
- Rorčula

 Korčula

 Lastovo

 Mijet

 Dubrovnik

 Adriatic Sea

 Konavle

 Sutorina
- combination of these two forces— flawed Habsburg administrative system & new national movement created perplexing conflict: German-speaking Habsburg monarchy, vs. bilingual (Slavic- & Italian-speaking) elites vs general pop of Slavic Catholic majority & Slavic Orthodox minority 1
- 1815: former Ragusan Government (noble assembly) met last time; extreme measures to reestablish Republic, but in vain; Republic most of aristocracy recognized by Austrian Empire.
- 1832: Baron <u>Sigismondo Ghetaldi-Gondola</u> (1795–1860) elected <u>podestà</u>, serving 13 yrs; Austrian gov't made him "Baron".
- Austrian & Austro-HUNG: <u>Divide et impera</u> i.e. Denationalizing, left its mark in political division of population i.e. in political parties: <u>Croatian People's Party</u> & mostly Italianite <u>Autonomous Party</u>.[[]

1921-1991

- 1918 w/ fall <u>Austria-HUNG</u>, city incorporated into new <u>Kingdom of SERBs, Croats, & Slovenes</u> (later <u>Kingdom of YUGO</u>). **name of city was officially changed from Ragusa to Dubrovnik**.
- 1921: Pero Cingrija died (born 1837), politician & one of leaders of People's Party in Dalmatia. It was thanks to his efforts that People's Party & Party of Right were fused into one Croatian Party in 1905

- During WWII: part of Nazi controlled Independent State of CRO, occupied by Italian army first, & by German army after 8 Sep, 1943.
- Oct, 1944: Tito's partisans entered Dubrovnik & it became part <u>Communist</u> YUGO. Soon after arrival Tito's approx 78 citizens w/o trial, including <u>Catholic priest</u>, on island of <u>Daksa</u>. Why??? Break-up of YUGO

Dubrovnik Shelling (black dots) 1991 to 1992.

- 1991: CRO & <u>SLOV</u>,, republics w/in <u>Socialist Federal Republic of YUGO</u>, declared independence & CRO renamed Republic of CRO.
- 1991: Despite <u>demilitarization</u> of old town in early 1970s following Croatia's independence in 1991, prevent future wars, it from

- SERB-MONT army elements (remains of Tito's Army (JNA) & loyal to Slobodan Miloevic) attacked claiming it was historically part of MONT.in spite of large Croat majority in city & few MONTs (6%)
- Oct 1, 1991: Dubrovnik attacked by JNA w/ 7 mo seige.
 - Dec 6, 1991: heaviest artillery attack:19 killed & 60 wounded, includ: celebrated poet Milan Milisić. Old Town damage: artillery attacks damaged 56% of buildings & historic walls; 650 artillery rounds.
- May 1992 <u>Croatian Army</u> lifted siege & liberated Dubrovnik's surroundings, but JNA danger lasted another three years.
- Following end of war: Old Town shelling damage was repaired to aproved UNESCO guidelines in original style.
- 2005, most damage had been repaired; inflicted damage on chart near <u>city gate</u>, showing all artillery hits during siege, also clearly visible from high points around city in form of <u>more brightly coloured new roofs</u>.
 - **ICTY** indictments issued for JNA generals & officers involved in bombing:.
 - General Pavle Strugar, 8 yr prison term by International Criminal Tribunal YUGO.
- 1996: <u>USAF CT-43 crash</u>, near <u>Dubrovnik Airport</u>, killed everyone; <u>United States Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown</u>,

TRANS-OUT:

TO Cilipi Airport: (24k) from BUS STA on Coatia Airlines BUS:

90	
TO DO 11 1/4	1D31/4h
OLD TOWN & AROUND:	471
Pile Gate (W) (LP-WB246m, 14A2) (LP282m, 4A2): DIRECS: W side	½h
Walls of Dubrovnik (LP282m, B2):	2h
DIRECS: make tour 1st then walk around top; walk around city Old Harbor: DIRECS:	½ h
Minceta Tower: DIRECS: N tower complex	½h
Revelin Fortress: (St. John's Fort???) (LP-WB246m, 19D3) DIRECS E	
The western city entrance is strong, freestanding, St. Lawrence Fortre	
Lovrijenac), protects W side of city from possible land & sea assau	
nicely-shaped Fort Bokar	and perceived by enering a
large & complex St. John Fortress is located on SE of city	
Almost 2 km (1.24 mi) around city: 4 to `6 thick on landward side, bu	ut much thinner on
seaward side; system of turrets & towers.	
Stradun Dubrovnik's main street (LP-WB246m, A2-C2):	½ h
DIRECS: Onofrio Fountain > Orlando COL	
Onofrio Fountain (LP-WB246m, 12A2)(LP282m, 2B2)	½h
Franciscan MON & MUS (Little Brothers MON aka) DIRECS:	1h
LP-WB246m, 8C2)(LP282m, B2):	
Renaissance period: cloister, MUS,	
Little Brothers MON pharmacy: DIRECS:	?h
@ , 3 rd Oldest EURO 1317 , (only one still in operation) Library: 30,000 volumes, 22 incunabula (name 4: 15 th C printed broa	odside)
1,500 valuable handwritten documents. Exhibits include: 15th C silve	
cross & silver thurible (metal chain hanging incense burner), ; 18th C	_
from Jerusalem, martyrology (1541) by Bemardin Gucetic & illuminat	
psalms).	```
War Photo Limited (LP-WB246m, 21B2)(LP282m, C2): DIRECS	½h
Serbian Orthodox CHURCH & MUS (LP-WB246m, 11B3)(LP282m, 6C3	3): DIRECS
Synagogue (LP-WB246m, 20C2)(LP282m, 9D2): DIRECS	½h
Dominican MON (LP-WB246m, 8C2)(LP282m, E2): DIRECS:	³ / ₄ h
Renaissance period; EXT resembles fortress, but INT: art MUS & (
church: special treasure: library w/ over 220 incunabula, numerous illustion	•
rich archive w/ precious manuscripts & docs & extensive art collection Sponza Palace (LP-WB246m, 17C2)(LP282m, 7D3): DIRECS:	1. ½h
Finest 16th C Renaissance; NOW: National Archives .[21]	7211
MEM Room of Defenders of Dubrovnik (LP282m, 7D3):	½h
Ploce Gate (E) (LP-WB246m, 15D2)	½11 1⁄4h
Orlando Column (LP-WB246m, 13C3)(LP282m, 3D3): DIRECS	½h
St Blaise's church (LP-WB246m, 18C3)(LP282m, 8D3): DIRECS:	³ / ₄ h
most beloved; Renaissance; 18th C in honour of Dubrovnik's patron	saint; baroque CATH;
impressive Treasury w/ relics of Saint Blaise.; 'Sober' surrounding	<u>j houses???</u>
Rectors Palace (LP-WB246m, 16C3)(LP282m, D4): DIRECS:	³ / ₄ h
Gothic-Renaissance; finely carved capitals & ornate staircase; NOW	
façade depicted on Croatian 50 kuna banknote, issued; 1993 & 2002.	
CATH of Assumption of Virgin (LP-WB246m, 6C3)(LP282m, 1D4):	
DIRECS	½h
Baroque style;	
Treasury (LP282m, 1D4):	
······································	THE STATE OF THE S

Franjo Tuđman Bridge: DIRECS

Lokrum Island: DIRECS: Dubrovnik bay, (only if lots of free time)

1/2h

72-hectare; legend, Richard Lionheart cast ashore after 192 shipwreck ??? fortress, botanical garden, MON & naturist beach.

Arboretum Trsteno,

DIRECS: in village northwest of <u>Dubrovnik</u> in southern <u>Croatia</u>, oldest arboretum in world, B4 1492

½h

Trsteno Arboretum, in Trsteno, CRO: oldest arboretum in E EUR; erected by local noble family Gozze, late 15th C, who requested ship captains bring back seeds & plants from their travels. already existed by 1492, when 15 m wide aqueduct construct to irrigate - still used. The Arboretum reserves very special place among old Ragusan, Dalmatian and Mediterranean parks due to its five century long continuous development from Gothic Renaissance, Renaissance Baroque and Romantic forms to present. It includes Gothic Renaissance park surrounding fifteenth century summer residence, which is monument of garden architecture, and nineteenth century neo-romantic park at Drvarica.

suffered extensive damage & looting in Yugoslav wars, Oct 2-3, 1991, Yugoslav People's Army set afire, destroying large part w/ partial damage to summer residence & oldest part of arboretum; further severe damaged- 2000 - by forest fire during drought.

Pride of arboretum, 2 Oriental Planes in central Trsreno market place: survived both disasters undamaged; over 500 yrs old & unique specimens in Eur.: both about 45/60 m ta, their trunks: 5 m dia. Within noble family's country house, is oldest Renaissance park in Croatia, 1502, numerous exotic plants.

St. Saviour Church: DIRECS: old town

1/2h

Ordered by local Senate in gratitude that town spared earthquake destruction at time. **Monumental inscription:** above main entrance on front facade. Started: 1520, completed, 1528.

DESIGN: 1 <u>nave</u> w/ <u>Gothic</u>-cross-ribbed vault; lateral windows: Gothic w/ typical pointed arches. Nevertheless, recognizable Renaissance style in: main facade w/ Renaissance elements on portal & 3-leaf semicircular top & semicircular apse

1667, strong earthquake again, w/ considerable collapse throughout, Happily, church survived disaster in original formof fine harmonious Renaissance architecture.



Onofrio's Fountain





Minceta Tower



Old Harbor

St. Saviour Church

Franjo Tuđman Bridge

Stradun Dubrovnik's main street

Dubrovnik > US:

TRANS-OUT:

TO Cilipi Airport: (24k) from BUS STA on Coatia Airlines BUS:

0167049126068 800-538-2929 **IUAL** eTicket Number:

UAL Reference Code: NRR8YG Lufthansa Reference Code: 8QPIKX

Travelocity ID#: 6209 0302 8861me/e2to20 888-872-8356

www.checkmytrip

UAL Freq. Flyer: 032789600

FLIGHT INFO: DBV > JAC

SERVICE	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE
<u>LUFT</u> 5991	JUN28	DBV	FRA	0730am	0935am
<u>LUFT</u> 430	JUN28	FRA	ORD	1040am	1240pm
UAL309	JUN28	ORD	JAC	0603pm	0813pm

NO: Rose of Balkans by Ivan Lichev

NO: Under Yoke by Ivan Vazov Questions:

Can I CLK blue #'s in pararenthesies & go to site from insde my E EURO ITIN doc?

Can I still access # links at ends of lines?

Can I auto convert link content to reg text so Cursor CLk won't auto activate link?

CAUTION: an entire section on Theth that is invisible in Outine mode)

Literary themes

Kadare's novels draw on legends surrounding historical experience of Balkan peoples, representation of classical myths in modern contexts, & totalitarian regime experiment in Albania. They are obliquely ironic as result of trying to withstand political scrutiny. Among his best known books are *Chronicle in Stone* (1977), *Broken April* (1978),[1][2], *The Palace of Dreams* (1980) & [7]

La Pyramide (1992), written in French, was set in Egypt in 26th century B.C. & after. In it, Kadare mocked Hoxha's fondness for elaborate statutes, pyramid form also reflecting any dictators love for hierarchy. *The Accident* (2010) was multi-layered novel about two lovers, whose death launches an investigation not only of their relationship, but also of Balkan politics.

€ £ ¢ € ° (option-shift 8) — (OPT-Shift-Dash) 🛛 🖫 ⊗ 🗘 💻

Language accents: GTO Shortcuts FLDR

B- Herz

Hvar Town, CRO or (islands): DT (LPmmm)

POP: 3,672 people, largest town on island.

LOCATION: SEE Hvar, CRO - GOOG M on bay; S of island, opposite nearby towns: Stari Grad & Jelsa.; old towns: Malo Grablie & Zaraće -- no longer inhabited. ???









TRANS-IN:

X

ACCM:

Hostels: \$12 usd up: privates & dorms See Web page

FOOD:

X

MISC:

TEMP & CLIMATE: Sunny MED <u>climate</u>, typical of southern Adriatic, w/ mild wet winters & hot dry summers.; Rain is rare here during spring & summer; **HISTORY:**

Earliest known settlement on site: <u>Illyrian,LOCATION</u>: on hill slopes to N side of town square -- then, small bay came up to where CATH, stood

8th C B.C Hillfort: On present Spanish Fortress site, important 'hillfort': evidenced by pottery indicating long distance trade.

384 BC: <u>ancient Greeks</u> founded Faros settlement on N of island to control fertile ag area, now aka <u>Stari Grad Plain</u>.; ALSO, some believe that there was concurrently 2nd Greek settlement -- Heraclea -- on Hvar site.

2nd C BC: Romans arrival: island settlement expanded; . Colonization mainly rural around Roman villas (villa rusticae). (3rd C BC ???) Roman settlement: located near port & at foot of hill, where 1278 construction of town ramparts started;

7th-8th C: SLAV arrived: life on coast not safe cuz raiding pirates, folks moved inland; By Medieval Ages, most pop in villages well back from coast for safety.

1278: asked <u>Venetian Empire</u> for protection: <u>part of agreement</u>; 1) S Hvar settlement 2B expanded & fortified as safe Venetian fleet base. New admin centre, new name -- Hvar & ancient Greek town aka Stari Grad (*literally Old Town*). Hvar: centre of independent commune government, res of prince, & new diocese base. Venetians built new fortress, town walls, public buildings, & w/ new prosperity, villages were gradually established along nearby coastline.

15th C protected <u>Cultural Heritage</u> area bounded CATH, Arsenal, Governor's Palace & marina.& many 15th - 17th C noble's palaces: built on N slope above square, BUT w/in town ramparts too confined w/in old walls, SO settlement expanded > S hill;

Medieval town: bounded to E by CATH, to W by Arsenal, Governor's Palace & marina. Hvar: economic, political & cultural life island centre & imp role in Venetian shipping.

16th C: return to unsettled times w/ persistent conflicts btw nobles & citizens & repeated attacks from OTTO Empire, now occupying mainland.

1571 Hvar attacked by TURK fleet on > <u>Battle of Lepanto</u>, fortress saved townspeople.

1579 BUT, just as town being rebuilt, further damage by lightning strike on fortress's gunpowder magazine; many today's public buildings date from explosion's reconstruction.

1776: Venetians moved naval base to mainland Kotor; Hvar into decline.

Early 19th C: After brief <u>French Empire</u> control, Austrian <u>Habsburg Empire</u> controlled: period of exceptional economic & cultural life

1868 " Hygienic Association of Hvar" was founded, to promote development of tourist services.[2] **TRANS-OUT:**

Regular catamaran ferry services from port btw Hvar & Split, Brač, Korčula, Lastovo, & Vis.

TO DO 12½h

Old city walls: 7th C

DIRECS: encircling town;

½h

13th C walls: w/ later additions, renovations & essential repairs:13th > 16th C, stretch <u>from fortress</u> down > square > join 3rd E-W wall;

practically camouflaged by series of patrician houses built into it; walls interspersed w/ 4-cornered side towers.

Old (Medieval) Town: DIRECS: w/in walls:

½h

public buildings & palaces combine Venetian arch style, w/ distinct local flavour in materials & workmanship. Much of Old Town intact: both layout & arch, though modern housing in surrounding areas.

Pjaca

(Piazza): ½h

DIRECS: SEE Pjaca, Hvar, CRO GoogM @ heart of town leading from waterfront > CATH; largest Dalmatia town square (4,500 m² (48,437.60 sq ft), 1780 fully paved when this part of original bay filled in.Buildings around Pjaca: 15th to 17th C, includ: Bishop's Palace, Arsenal, Governor's Palace & others & city well in sq middle (1520).[3]

Governor's Palace:

DIRECS: ½h

City Well:

DIRECS: ½h

Hvar Theatre: DIRECS: 1/2h

612: OO oldest surviving theatres in EURO built on 1st floor w/ entry from Belvedere terrace above Fontik.; TODAY: INT: stage & auditorium w/ boxes; dates from major 1803 renovation: Two historical set designs from 19th C preserved & seen on back wall of stage.

E end of Pjaca

Sv. Stjepan (St. Stephen) CATH & Bishop's Palace: DIRECS:

1½h

; earlier church site (medieval Benedictine MON), which became CATH in 13th C.; **Present** CATH built in stages during 16th & 17th C; INT: not completed until 18th C. Renaissance-baroque style:

facade w/ 3-cornered gable &

Renaissance Bell Tower in 16th C Romanesque style;

former Gothic church: sanctuary of nave 2 pulpits,

15th C stone **polyptyich** (Renaisssance art-style of multi-paneled painting w/ main panel; aka 'dipytch(2), tripytch (3), etc.) w/ " altar of Apostles",

reliefs of Scourging of Christ" & "Annunciation";

11 baroque altars, created by Venetian artists







St Stephen's CATH & bell tower E end of Pjaca

Loggia & Clock Tower

N side of Pjaca: many renaissance buildings:

Paladini Palace ½h

Hektorovic Palace (Gothic, 15th C).

unfinished ½h

SW Corner:

Arsenal building:

½h

<u>Faces waterfront</u> on SW corner of Pjaca; present form dates from 1579-1611 reconstruction of earlier 13th C warehouse. is Arsenal building is currently under renovation (as of 2009) **Fontik:** arched façade: (Beside Arsenal); communal cereals & salt store.

1/2h

W end of Pjaca: town Loggia (Loza) & Clock Tower

(Leroj),: ½h

Communal Loggia (loggia communis) **L**ooks onto bay (DEF: *cloisters*: walkway, covered walk, arcade, loggia,): 1st mentioned in 13th C, referred to again in Statute of Hvar in 1331.[2] only remains from Governor's Palace: 2 reliefs of Venetian lion, large well & 1612 lintel from Palace chapel.

<u>new Loggia: OOM</u> beautiful Late <u>Renaissance</u> (16th C) buildings in Dalmatia; **Today**, INT: decorated in neo-Renaissance style acting as reception hall & exhibition room for Hotel Palace & Hvar.

W side of Pjaca also:

Mandrać small enclosed marina:

½h

1st mentioned: 1459. 1795 Venetian District finished building marina w/ **Baroque pyramids** on surrounding walls. Picturesque natural bay, w/ <u>Pakleni Otoci</u> island chain protecting it > S; safe year round haven; popular port of call for yachts sailing around Adriatic, especially in summer.

Fabrika stone paved quay,, OO oldest in EURO: 1554.

½h

Hvar Heritage MUS: w/ its art & archaeological collections.

½h

ON hill above: 2 massive fortresses (GOOG ???)

1st built: 1278, Venetians built forts to protect their fleet, & Hvar thereafter expanded 34h

2nd built: Fortica Fortress aka Tvrđava Španjola (Spanish Fort):

3/4h

Built after 1579 gunpowder explosion; includes: modern tourist complex, superb town view 1811, Napoleonic Empire built 2nd fortress - Trđava Napoleon -- on higher NE hill; also observatory.









ST. leading > Fort

Fortress

View of Hvar from Castle

SIDE TRIPS --:

Franciscan MON (LP278): DIRECS: On cape SE end of town.

11/2h

Our Lady of Mercy church, late 15th C.: Hanibal Lucića: buried under altar; cloister, w/ monumental rounded arches w/ well in middle dominates entire Renaissance MON; bell tower, in Renaissance style from Korčula artist.

Cloister garden: w/ 300 yr cypress

Summer Residence of Ljetnikovac Hanibal Lucića (Find-on-

site) 11

DIRECS: in fields outside town walls > to E;

1530, fine example of Renaissance country house w/ enclosed garden & outbuilding. NOW: MUS.

Rural areas:

Velo Grablje: DIRECS: ½h

Malo Grablje & Zaraće: no longer inhab **Arch Sites**: 5 arch sites: ½h

hydro-archaeological site of Palmižana DIRECS: ½h

lla rustica Soline DIRECS: ½h

Vira: prehistoric site **DIRECS**: ½h

Lompić fort prehistoric in Gračišće Bay DIRECS: (Find-on-site) ½h

Co at

of

Ar ms

NOT MUch available on Korkuls sites: Worth trip?

POP: 16,182 (2001): mainly ethnic Croats (96.77%);

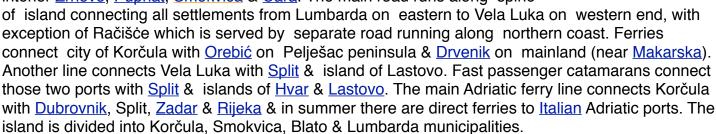
MTS: highest peaks: *Klupca*, 568 m (1,864 ft) & *Kom*, (1,670 ft) high.

TEMP/CLIMATE: mild;

r

TRANS-IN:

The island also includes towns of <u>Korčula</u>, <u>Vela Luka</u> & <u>Blato</u> & coastal villages of <u>Brna</u>, <u>Lumbarda</u>, <u>Račišće</u>, Zavalatica, Prižba & Prigradica & in interior <u>Žrnovo</u>, <u>Pupnat</u>, <u>Smokvica</u> & <u>Čara</u>. The main road runs along spine



Ferries:

- 1) connect Korčula (btw Dominče, just outside of Korčula Town) w/ <u>Orebić</u> on Pelješac peninsula & <u>Drvenik</u> on mainland (near <u>Makarska</u>).
- 2) connects Vela Luka w/ Split & island of Lastovo.
- 3) Fast passenger catamarans connect: two ports w/ Split & islands of Hvar & Lastovo.
- 4) main Adriatic ferry line: connects Korčula w/ <u>Dubrovnik</u>, Split, <u>Zadar</u> & <u>Rijeka</u> main Croatian ferry operator <u>Jadrolinija</u> links Korčula w/ <u>Rijeka</u>, <u>Split</u>, <u>Hvar</u>, <u>Mljet</u>, <u>Dubrovnik</u> & (from May to September) <u>Bari</u>.

Operator Linijsk

nacionalna plovidba: seasonal service linking Korčula w/ Drvenik.

BUS: islands > major cities on mainland using Orebić ferry service.[42]

TRANS-IN:

X

Ragusan territory before 1808

HOW TO GET To THE ISLAND - Travel Info

Flights | Ferries | Ferry Catamaran Korcula-Split | Ferry Catamaran Dubrovnik-Korcula | Info page about travel to Korcula | Bus from Dubrovnik to Korcula | Ferries from Dubrovnik to Korcula | Bus Timetable | Taxi Service Dubrovnik / Split Airport to Korcula | Korcula Car Hire Korcula - Rent--Car | Scooter & Boat Service |

Get in

edit

By car

From **Dubrovnik**

Follow coastal road (E65) in direction Split. Then you drive on peninsular <u>Pelješac</u> until <u>Orebić</u>. In Orebić you take ferry to Domince/Korčula. The ferry goes every hour, except in night between 24-4 o clock.

From Split

Follow coastal road (E65) in direction Dubrovnik about 100km. In <u>Drvenik</u> you take ferry to Korčula (it goes at 8:30 & at 17:30 costs: per person €5/ car €25/ motorcycle €10/ camping-bus €40). The camp is situated 500m from their.



<u>edit</u>

By ferry [2]

from Split

You take ferry to <u>Vela Luka</u> (around 10 euros per person). You can take bus to Korčula from there. from Dubrovnik

You take Marko Polo (Jadrolinja) ferry to Korčula (80 kn).

from Dubrovnik

Libertas bus to Orebic (14:15 every day except Sunday) then passenger ferry from Orebic to Korčula (12 kn).

from Rijeka

10 hours, overnight (Marko Polo ferry), 210Kn

from Bari, Italy

12 hours, (Marko Polo ferry)

from Hvar, 1.5 hours, 33kn

By catamaran Krilo, daily leaving Korčula harbour to Hvar & Split at 6:00 am. Split-Korcula: 16:30. Three hours travel.

[edit]

By Water Taxi

If arriving on Orebić you can get your self ride on one of Water taxis, or order speed taxi boat that will get you across chanell in under 7 minutes (Water express - water taxi service)098 757043 [edit]

By bus

From **Zagreb**

There is direct bus to Korčula, which takes 10 hours.

From Dubrovnik

There is bus which takes 3 hours.

<u>edit</u>

Get around

Korčula town has no public transportation. The town is small enough to walk everywhere. The layout of town is quite simple, with single avenue as spine bisecting village with roads branching from this central avenue toward sea. A pedestrian avenue circles village as well.

Bike rentals are available.

If visiting costal villages its best done with water-taxi since Korcula has big archipelago with many small islands well worth seeing (Water-express water taxi service 098 757043) [edit][add listing]

ACCM: no

X

FOOD:

X

MISC: History

Legend: island founded by Trojan hero Antenor in 12th C BC, famed as founder Padua city.

1st settled: by Mesolithic & Neolithic peeps: arch evidence @

- Vela Spila (Big Cave) site: finds on display at Center for Culture in Vela Luka:
- Jakas Cave site near Zrnovo village.

fate of these peoples is not know but sites do provide window into their way of life.

2nd wave of settement:

<u>Illyrians:</u> arrived approx 1000 BC; semi-nomadic tribal people: ag; numerous old stone buildings & fortresses (gradine) left.

6th C B.C: *Melaina Korkyra* (<u>Greek</u>: Μέλαινα Κόρκυρα, "Black Corcyra"): ancient <u>Cnidian</u> Greek colony of colonists from Corcyra (<u>Corfu</u>); small colony, named "Black Corfu" after homeland & dense pine-woods on island. Greek artifacts including:

carved marble tombstones in Korcula (GOOG ???) found in Korčula MUS.

Stone inscription: found in Lumbarda (<u>Lumbarda Psephisma</u>): oldest written stone Croatian monument records: Greek settlers from Issa (<u>Vis</u>) founded another colony on island in 3rd C BC. two communities lived peacefully until <u>Illyrian Wars</u> (220 BC to 219 BC) [7] w/ Romans.

220 BC to 219 BC: part Roman PROV of Illyricum after Illyrian Wars; then Roman migration w/Roman citizens arriving on.

Roman villas appeared in Korčula & area, & evidence of organised ag.

Arch remains of Roman Junianum & old church foundations.

10 AD Illyricum split into 2 PROV: Pannonia & Dalmatia.

6th C it came under Byzantine rule.

6th & 7th C: Slavic's <u>Great Migrations</u>: & <u>Avar</u> invasions into this region: 'so-called barbarians' settling on coast forcing Romanised coastal locals pop to take refuge on islands. Along Dalmatian coast <u>Croatian</u> Slavic peoples poured out of interior & seized control of area where <u>Neretva</u> RIV enters <u>Adriatic</u>, AND island of Korčula (Corcyra) which protects RIV's mouth.

9th C: Croat Christianisation began: but early Slavs fully accepted Christianity later; in <u>early Middle Ages</u>;

Sea piracy began as Neretva coastal delta settlers quickly learned maritime skills in their new environment. At 1st Venetian merchants willing to pay annual tribute/protection for ships (predating <u>Uskok</u> pirates based further N in Senj).

After 9th C, briefly under nominal <u>Byzantine</u> control. In 998 Principality of Pagania under <u>Venetian</u> control by Doge <u>Pietro II Orseolo</u>'s naval expedition. Afterwards Korčula under control of <u>Zahumlje</u>.

12th C: Korčula conquered by Venetian nobleman, Pepone Zorzi, & incorporated briefly into Venetian Republic.

<u>Around this time</u>, local Korčula rulers used diplomacy & legislated independence, particularly w/ internal affairs.

10 August 1184: brothers of <u>Stephen Nemanja</u>, Miroslav & Stracimir, attacked island's fertile western part; peeps sought <u>Republic of Ragusa</u> (Dubrovnik) help which captured all Stracimir's galleys.

1214 Statute of Korčula drafted to guaranteed island autonomy from her outside rulers: Captains created for ea island's five settlements for organized defence. Korčula had only 2,500 peeps.

1221, Pope Honorius III gifted island to Princes of Krka

1222: SERBian <u>King</u> gifted his monasteries & lands on islands to followers of <u>Benedictine</u> Monastic <u>Order</u> on <u>Mljet</u>.

During 13th C hereditary <u>Counts</u> of Korčula loosely governed by HUNG crown & <u>Republic of Genoa</u>,;

enjoyed brief independence; but,

1255, Marsilio Zorzi conquered island's city& razed / damaged some churches, forcing Counts back under <u>Venetian</u> supreme rule.

1254 : legend, Marco Polo born at Korčula in established merchant family -- no good proof 1298: Republic of Genoa defeated Venice in Battle of Korčula & galley commander, Marco Polo, taken prisoner, spend time in Genoese prison writing his travels. However, some Italian scholars believe he captured in minor clash near Ayas ---- debate continues > present day.

1333, Republic of Ragusa gave peninsula to Bishopric of Korčula.

1358 Curzola, (Venetians called), surrendered to <u>Kingdom of HUNG</u> in according to <u>Treaty of Zadar</u>, **1390**: Surrendered to <u>Bosnian King</u>, BUT Kingdom of HUNG restored rule in Dec 1396; Croatian-



HUNG King gifted to <u>Balšić</u> dynasty of <u>Zeta</u>, who kept it until death in 1403, then returned to HUNG crown.

1409: again part of Venetian Republic, purchased by <u>Republic of Venice</u> in 1413-1417, BUT declared itself subject of Venice in 1420.

1571: defended against OTTO attackers at Battle of Lepanto that Pope honored it

Korčula had for years supplied timber for wooden walls of Venice, & had been favourite station of her fleets. From

1776 to 1797: Korčula succeeded <u>Hvar</u> as main <u>Venetian</u> fortified <u>arsenal</u> in region. According to <u>Treaty of Campoformio</u>

1797: Venetian Republic divided btw French Republic & <u>Habsburg Monarchy</u>, Korčula passed to <u>Habsburg Monarchy</u>.

1806 French Empire invaded island & joined it to Illyrian Provinces.

1807 MONT Forces of <u>Prince-Episcope Peter I Njegos</u> conquered island w/ <u>Russian</u> naval assistance [20] in his attempt to construct another SERB<u>ian Empire</u>.

1815 BUT Great Powers returned island to <u>Austrian Empire</u> -- part of <u>Austrian crown l</u>& of <u>Dalmatia</u>.[21]

1867: Korčula was in <u>Cisleithanian</u> part of <u>Austro-</u>HUNG.

WWI:,

1915 island (among other territorial gains) promised to <u>Kingdom of Italy Treaty of London</u> in return for Italy joining war on side of Britain & France.

1918: after war, part (w/ Dalmatia) of <u>State of Slovenes, Croats & SERBs</u>; ruled by Italy: 1918 to 1921.

After 1921: incorporated into <u>Kingdom of SERBs, Croats & Slovenes</u>, aka from 1929 <u>Kingdom of YUGO</u>.

1939, part of autonomous Croatian Banate.

1941: During <u>Axis</u> occupation of YUGO from, <u>Ustase</u> regime gave island, together w/ most of Dalmatia, to <u>Fascist Italy</u>.

1943: After Armistice btw Italy & Allied powers in, briefly held <u>Yugoslav Partisans</u> w/ local support in region. Korčula was then occupied by German Nazis & finally

1944: liberated.

1945: liberation of YUGO, Federal People's Republic of YUGO formed, Korčula part of People's Republic of CRO,1 of 6 Socialist Federal Republics of YUGO. state changed; name change: 1953,

1991: island part of independent <u>Republic of CRO</u>, recognized in 1992.

Oliver Dragojević is famous Croatian pop singer who comes from island

TRANS-OUT:

Χ

TO DO

Moreška is 16th C traditional <u>sword dance</u> from Korčula; one of many sword dances performed on island. It arrived in Korčula around 16th C.

Old Town:

Korčula. palace: Arneri Lords of Korčula GOOG

Since 15th C, OO land owners of Arneri resided, is <u>Venetian Gothic</u>. **bronze knocker** adorning door of <u>Hercules swinging two lions by their tails</u>. <u>Courtyard:</u> **marble draw-well w/** 3 pears cut in -- family arms symbol

An <u>ENG</u> writer (19th C) spoke to Signor Arneri & described him as "polite gentleman who had white neck cloth & broad-brimmed hat." Signor Arneri quote: "These three pears you see on wall," said he, "are arms of my family. Piruzović [24] was name, when, in earlier part of 15th C, my ancestors built this palace; so that, you see, I am Dalmatian. All family, fathers, sons, & brothers, used to serve in fleets of Republic (Republic of Venice); but hero of our race was Arneri Piruzović, whose statue you see there, who fought, bled, & died at <u>Siege of Candia</u>, whose memory was honoured by Republic, & whose surviving family was liberally pensioned; so his name of our race. We became Arneri, & ceased to be Piruzović "[25]



original Patriarch of clan was called Petar. He had status of minor nobleman (local Patrician status of City of Korčula). Clan's ancestors lived in Republic of Ragusa. In 1420 family was mentioned in charter of town of Korčula as Duke/Lord of Manor of Korčula. In 1558 clan was awarded Venetian holdings on Isl& of Hvar, thereby making them Counts there as well. Other noble families of Korčula were Kanavelić, Izmaeli, Gabrijelić & Nikoničić.[26]

Town Walls w/ RND Towers: narrow stone streets

Shore walk:

St. Mark's CATH:

Town MUS:

(1254 - 1324) famous world-traveller & writer, as well as Venetian merchant, is **reputed** to have been born in Korcula.In old town of Korcula where his **supposed** house of birth is located. It will shortly be turned into Museum of Marco Polo. Besides Marco Polo, Korcula has long art & cultural tradition, including museums

??? Don Marko Bono of Žrnovo

On 10 June 1715, <u>TURK</u> pirates set out to raid one of provinces of Republic of Venice, Dalmatia. It is well documented that two empires had their fair share of conflicts btw each other over C. Sailing around Korčula in two of their galleys, they disembarked at bay of <u>Brna</u> & 260 of them went on to plunder island. Firstly they set houses on fire in <u>Smokvica</u> & took 23 of villagers as prisoners.[27]

When they set fire to house of parish priest, Don Marko Bono, native of <u>Zrnovo</u>, Don Marko decided to fight back. In process he killed two of them & wounded seven. pirates took him in chains to <u>Ulcinj</u>.[28] There he was sold in public as slave for 100 sequins. After two years of searching for him, his relatives found him & managed to buy him back for 141 sequins. Don Marko Bono returned to village of Smokvica on isl& of Korčula where he remained as pastor until his death in 1745.[29] other 23 Smokvica residents taken prisoner in 1715 remained in slavery, including sister of Don Jakov Salecic (1678–1747), noted theologian, poet & historian who was native of Smokvica.[30]

Split: DT (LPmmm)

among 1st UNESCO world heritage urban complexes: 1979

oldest area city,traditionally, over 1,700 yrs(1500BC) beginning w/ construction of <u>Diocletian's Palace</u> in AD 305, arch research: founding city as <u>Greek colony</u> of Aspálathos (Ασπάλαθος) in <u>6th C BC</u>,, but suggests several Cs older

TRANS-IN:

TRN:

Split TRN STA: DIRECS: in city centre, few min walk from port & old town,

basic cuz little use. Expect very friendly grannies: w/ signs saying "Sobe" (rooms) at all arrivals & jump anyone w/ backpack.

btw Split & Zagreb, Split & Perković (where you can change for Šibenik). Timetables can be found from Croatian Railways website [4].

> Perković through picturesque valley/village of Primorski Dolac depart 5 times day & stop in every station taking 1 hr; very picturesque journey, Perković simply collection of houses; have coffee or walk in hills B4 return Split. Connecting.

BUS:

Frequent buses to & from <u>Zagreb</u>, <u>Dubrovnik</u>, <u>Sibenik</u>, <u>Zadar</u>, <u>Rijeka</u> etc.; also few/day to & from <u>Mostar</u> & <u>Sarajevo</u>. Detailed INFO on departure & arrival times.

Summer season: more lines i/e/ Banja Luka & Gradiska, north of B.

intercity buses: luggage fee (€0.5-€1/piece > driver upon boarding; exact change desired correct currency (sometimes local currency, sometimes Euros) & don't like small coins.

TRANS-LOCAL:

Local BUS: to & from <u>Trogir</u> & <u>Solin</u>.

frequent local buses to outlying attractions & airport.

City BUS: (Promet)':. Most new, but some very old TIKs: BOT: kiosks or driver; only single trip TIKs.

Single ticket (on bus) - 10 kn

Single ticket (at kiosk) - 8 kn

2 trip TIKs: ('Pojedinačna karta za dva putovanja') - 16 kn

Set of 5 2-trip TIKs ('Pretplatna Karnet karta') - 75 kn

Validate IMMEDIATELY in yellow machine or give it driver for validation.

Split Suburban Railway opened Dec 2006:

1 line from: Split city harbour > <u>Kaštel Stari</u>.; . New, low-floor trains; future: lengthened to airport, & on to <u>Trogir</u> & <u>Seget Donji</u>. also plans mini-metro 2012.

WALK best:

BOAT:

<u>Ferries</u> run three times week across Adriatic to & from <u>Ancona</u> & <u>Pescara</u> (<u>Italy</u>). There is also large ferry that runs twice week up & down coast between <u>Dubrovnik</u> & <u>Rijeka</u>, stopping off at couple of islands along way.

Split is main hub for local boats & hydrofoils in Central <u>Dalmatia</u>. Several day run to & from <u>Brac</u>, <u>Hvar</u>, <u>Solta</u>, <u>Vis</u>, <u>Korčula</u> & <u>Lastovo</u>.

Jadrolinija [6] State-owned sea shipping company. They have regular lines to Croatian islands & with Italy.

SNAV [7] Italian sea shipping company with lines to & from Split.

Blue Line International [8] Sea shipping company that operates between Croatia & Italy.

Split Rent Agency Taxi boat [9] Fast transfer to desired locations from Split airport to Split & surrounding islands.

Split to Hvar Taxi boat transfers [10] Transfer to Hvar & other Dalmatia islands from Split & Split airport. ☎ ++385 (0)99 20 099 20

ACCM:

Palace is great place to stay if you like to be in center of things. Bars, cafes, restaurants, shops & markets abound; there's always something to do Hostel Antonio BEST

Raspudic LAI's Place, Petra Kružića 10 (inside city walls), 2 +385 98 918 2923

(info@hostelsplit.com), [27]. great (1st in Split), Brit expat, Al, passionate about travel, 800-year old stone house inside city walls, small & cozy w/ only 12 beds in 2 ensuite rooms; guest kit; common area, A/C, & laundry. Dorm bed: 110-130 kn.

CroParadise Split Hostel, Culica Dvori 31, [28]. LCD tv & computers w/ free internet access in room. Dorm: 56 kn. edit

Diocletian's Rooms - Split, Poljana kraljice Jelena 2, ☎ +385 91 333 2206, [29]. Rooms w/ view on Peristil. All rooms w/ A/C, free internet access.

Guesthouse Split, Lovretska 1 (next to arch MUS). Free WiFi, dorm €13-18.

Hostel Split MED House, Vukasoviceva 21, 2 +385 98 987 1312, [30]. built into old stone house just outside hist centre. Free wifi. Dorm bed: 80 kn (low season). edit

Old Town Hostel, Dominisova 3, Split, \(\Gamma \) +385 91 920 1539 (\(\frac{info@oldtownsplit.com}{} \)), \(\begin{cases} [31] \).

checkin: 1PM; checkout: 12PM. Free wifi, 1 shared computert

Pletkovic Hostel, Poljana Kneza Trpmira 1, [32].

Silver Central Hostel, 1 Kralja Tomislava, [33]. Dorm bed: 110-180 kn.

SilverGate Hostel, Hrvojeva 6 (5 min walk from train/bus/ferry terminals), ☐ +385 21 322 857

(silvergatehostel@gmail.com), [34]. edit

Situs Hostel, Starčevićeva 3, [35]. Dorm bed: 110-150 kn. editOC 82%

FOOD:

Croatia's coastal cuisine unique cuz most produce is organic.

Ćevapi or Ćevapčići (diminutive), traditional Bosnian dish, are small grilled rolls of minced beef, pork, or lamb, or combination of any of these three. Usually served w/ chopped onions, Kajmak (similar to clotted cream)

Aivar (relish made from bell peppers, aubergines, garlic & chilli).

Soparnik: originates from nearby Poljica region (formerly known as Poljička Republika or Republic of Poliica): dough filled w/ mangold vegetable & baked on fireplace. On top, olive oil & garlic. You can find it on Pazar (green market).

Italian influences dominate on Croatia's coast, amongst best are; Risotto w/ tender white scampi or black calamari

cheese from island of Pag,

REST:

Cetina, Radunica 16, 12 +385 21 482 243. Varied menu including local specialities, good

value, friendly service (ENG spoken), no credit cards. Main dish 50-100 kn. edit

Kod Joze, Sredmanuska 4, ☎ +385 21 347 397. traditional family-run konoba serves tasty

dishes in style. Prices very reasonable considering quality & atmosphere. Mains 50-120 kn. e

Buffet Picaferaj, popovica 2. Small side street restaurant run by young married couple, incredible food at very fair price. Pasta w/ prawns & mussels is 70 kn. edit

Fino Friško, Čulića dvori 2. Cuz of its proximity to school, this bakery always has fresh & tasty food.

Hajduk, Matošića 4. best ice cream in town w/ big selection of flavours. Yogurt icecreams 7 kn.

edit

MISC: HISTORY:

Town: originally built around Diocletian palace/fort built by retired Roman emperorDiocletian) where locals sought refuge C ago. Today: Roman walls, squares, & temples.

While beginnings of Split are often connected to construction of <u>Diocletian's Palace</u>, **Founded** earlier as <u>Greek colony</u> of Aspálathos. <u>Greek</u> settlement lived off trade w/ surrounding

<u>Illyrian</u> tribes, mostly <u>Delmatae</u>, who inhabited (much larger) nearby city of <u>Salona</u> **229 & 219 BC**. <u>Roman Republic</u> became dominant power in region, & conquered Illyrians in <u>Illyrian</u>

<u>Wars Romans</u> founded PROV <u>of Dalmatia</u>] w/ Salona as capital, & name of nearby Greek colony

Aspálathos (Split) changed to "Spalatum".[5]

AD293- AD 305: Diocletian palace/fort:

After he nearly died of an illness, <u>Diocletian</u> (ruled AD 284 to 305), great reformer of late <u>Roman Empire</u>, decided to retire; ordered construction of retirement palace near his hometown of <u>Dioclea</u>; specifically, harbour near Salona. Work began AD 293, built like massive, Roman military fortress., faces sea on S side, w/ 570 to 700 ft long,X 50 to 70 feet) high walls enclosing 9½ acs.; water supply substantial, fed by aqueduct from <u>Jadro Spring</u>.

This opulent palace & surroundings at times w/ population of 8,000 --10,000 people, who required parks & recreation space: thus: Dio built outdoor areas at Marjan hill.

Completed in <u>AD 305</u>, on time for owner who retired exactly on schedule --- 1st Roman EMP to voluntarily remove himself from office;

After few years, group of Roman Senators came asking EMP to return Rome & help Empire overcome growing political problems. Diocletian refused as he was showing them his garden & told them could not leave beautiful garden he had created by his own hands proving that he remained bound to leave political life after 21 years of ruling Roman Empire.[11]

AD 476: afer fall of <u>Western Roman Empire</u> in, Spalatum became part of <u>Eastern Roman Empire</u>, aka Byzantium; grew very slowly as satellite town of larger Salona.

AD 639 Salona invaded & fell to <u>Avars</u> & <u>SLAV</u>, razed to ground w/ majority of displaced citizens fleeing to nearby <u>Adriatic islands</u>.

Byzantine rule returned: Romanic citizens returned to mainland under nobleman Severus Great choosing to inhabit <u>Diocletian's Palace</u> in Spalatum, cuz of fort -like structure & cuz palace had long ben deserted; INT was converted into city by Salona refugees, making Spalatum much larger as successor to capital city of PROV.

Middle Ages

engraving of city's seaward walls by Robert Adam, 1764.

Medieval period: marked by Byzantine Empire waning power & by struggle of neighboring powers, namely Venetian Republic, Kingdom of CRO, & (later) Kingdom of HUNG,trying to fill power vacuum.

7th C AD: South SLAV (mostly Croats) arrival profoundly influenced area: hinterland & islands populated by Croats, who influenced city.

Following C: Split increasingly Croatian character seen in arch (particularly of churches) in city & surroundings; Romance population increasingly mingled w/ surrounding populace. **1069**, & again 1075 city for 1st time fully integrated w/in state



10th C > north, <u>Venetian Republic</u> began to influence Dalmatian region using growing economic power to control islands & coastal cities during temporary weak periods of CRO HUNG. W/ decline of

1102, CRO forced into union w/ <u>Kingdom of HUNG</u>, however maintained significant independence, & **1312**:, issued own statutes & currency.

Early modern period



Split: Early modern period (1764)t Robert Adam. Marjan hill in background.





City CNTR from Marjan in 1910

City CNTR & Riva promenade from Marjan, 2008.

During 20-year HUNG civil war btw King <u>Sigismund & Kingdom of Naples</u>, Naples sold Dalmatia to Venetian Republic for 100,000 <u>ducats</u>.& remain Venetian for 377 years (1420–1797); POP then largely <u>Croatian</u>, Romance <u>Dalmatians</u> not so numerous; common language: <u>Croatian</u>, but <u>minority of Italians too.</u>;] autonomy reduced: highest authority: prince-captain, always Venetian birth. Split eventually developed into significant port-city, w/ important trade routes to <u>OTTO</u>-held interior through nearby <u>Klis</u> pass. Culture flourished: <u>Marko Marulić</u>, classic Croatian author, <u>Judita</u> (1501), an epic poem <u>Judith</u> & Holfernes, written in Split, printed in Venice: 1521; 1st modern work of Croatian lit.; advances & achievements mostly of <u>aristocracy</u>: POP <u>illiteracy</u> rate: extremely high cuz Venetian rulers did not care about ed & med.

Split ruled by Venetian Republic to downfall 1797.

1806–1813: brief Napoleonic rule when part of Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy,

Then Split given to Empire of Austria Large investments made: new streets; ancient fort parts removed.

During period of <u>Austrian Empire</u> Split's region, <u>Kingdom of Dalmatia</u>, was separate administrative unit. **1848** Revolution: <u>romantic nationalism</u>; two factions:

- 1) pro-Croatian *Unionist faction* (later called *"Puntari"*, "Pointers"), led by People's Party &, to lesser extent, Party of Rights, who advocated union of Dalmatia w/ CRO-Slavonia under HUNG administration., Split based & headquarters.
- 2) pro-Italian Autonomist faction (aka "Irredentist" faction): goals varied: autonomy w/in Austro-HUNG Empire, >> political union w/ Kingdom of Italy.

Under Austria, Split stagnated. great 1848 URO upheavals did not effect Split, did not rebel.

20th C

Kingdom of YUGO

See also: 1918-1920 incidents in Split

After WWI: part of <u>Kingdom of SERBs, Croats & Slovenes</u> (1929: *YUGO*). (<u>Rijeka & Zadar</u> annexed by <u>Italy</u>, Sooooo, Split most important YUGO port, seat of new admin unit, <u>Littoral Banovina</u>.

Lika railway, connecting Split > rest of country, completed: 1925. AWorld War II

Main article: Yugoslav Front

German troops on Riva after 1943 re-occupation, occupied by Italy & formally annexed one month later w/heavy Croat resistance, YUGO anti-fascist sentiment CNTR. Btw Sep & Oct, 1941: 10 Italian facists occupation officials assassinated by citizens.

Sep 1943, after Italy capitulation, temporarily liberated by Tito's brigades w/ thousands volunteering to join Tito <u>Partisans</u> (1/3 of POP). Few weeks later, Partisans forced to retreat from <u>Wehrmacht</u> who placed city under occupation of <u>Nazi</u> puppet <u>NDH</u> ..

During occupation, some port facilities & old city parts damaged by NDH & German bombing. Tragic turn of events, bombed by axis forces & allied forces causing 100s dead.

Oct 26, 1944: Partisans finally liberated & provisional CRO capital.

Feb 12, 1945 Kriegsmarine 's daring raid damaging Split harbour & British cruiser Delhi.

Republic of CRO

1991: declared independence again w/ large garrison of JNA troops (drafted from all over YUGO) & headquarters YUGO War Navy (JRM): tense months-long stand-off btw JNA & Croatian National Guard & police forces flaring up in incidents: most tragic:

Marco Polo alleged birthplace Korčula

Nov 15, 1991, when <u>JRM light frigate Split</u> fired few shells at city & surroundings w/ slight damage, but casualties. 3 locations: 1) old city CNTR, 2) city airport. JRM Sailors who refused to attack Croat civilians, most Croats themselves, put in vessel's brig. JNA & JRM evacuated all facilities in Jan, 1992.

1990s economic recession soon followed.

After 2000: finally gained momentum starting to develop again, w/ focus on tourism; now major Croatian tourist destination: many new hotels, apartment & office buildings, many large development projects, & new infrastructure.



Split-born US marine Major Louis Cukela (*Čukela*), one of 19 two-time recipients of Medal of Honor. **TODAY**: palace is inner core of city, still inhabited, full of shops, markets, squares, w/ an ancient CATH of St. Duje (formerly Diocletian's mausoleum) inserted in corridors & floors of former palace. As part of Byzantine Empire, city had varying, but significant political autonomy.

TRANS-OUT:

x <mark>TO DO.</mark>

17 ½ h + 2 ½ D (5 x ½ h DT) ((2+ D & 2 ½

D))

4½D

Croatian National Theater in Split, built in 1893 & later renovated. GOOG

½h

Campanille of St Christopher:

1940's nakedness of upler elevations stripped of tiber

Split: Diocletian Palace: house built insode to support walls not injure it; not great Roman architecture; FRONT: entrance to imperial apartments; LEFT: Diocletian's mausaleum; RIGHT: Temple of Aesculapius (now bapistry); probably were cold & sunless (holes in ceiling only); sarcauphaus dissappeared; Golden Gate of alace; near Gate small staircase goes to small 110 yr old church - hurch of St. Martin - built into Palace walls; Church of Virgin Mary built into gate, confratenity for 20 townsmen.

Dio's mausoleum bceame cathdral8th C:

Park on Mount Marian, hill below town

Asphalto ??? GOOG

Also used by Macellinius

Salonae: great Roman city remains.; Cathdral's bapistry: steps down from chamber round font > holfy baptismal waters, tombs reflects eretical mode ie t=3 year abstinence (Manichaeism)

DIOCLETIAN'S PALACE:

7h

(UNESCO heritage site) - historic centre of Split built around & in;

Diocletian Palace walk tour:.

1½h

informative & relaxed, small-group, good for exploring – one of kind Imperial Palace that was enlisted in UNESCO's World Heritage since it's one of most significant original structures of late ancient architecture. 80 kn

Start: Peristyle (in front of tourist office) Look for blue panel or blue umbrella. DP: daily: 10:30AM, 12 noon, 2PM & 7PM; TIKs from guide @ start,

May - Oct, 10AM-12 noon-7PM (?). Nov-Apr, open: 11AM; 90 min. Tour, in ENG., Starts: front of tourist info centre, please arrive 15 min before tour start time

IMP NOTE: Palace includes historic Old Town & medieval streets that run W of Palace > Veli Varos. Palace not MUS, BUT populated walled village in heart of Split; entire area is pedestrian only, including seaside promenade.

main streets well preserved cardo & decumanus; GOOG

Gothic & Reinassance buildings: DIRECS:

4 monumental gates:

Porta Aurea (Zlatna vrata, Golden gate): DIRECS:

Porta Argenta (Srebrna vrata, Silver gate): DIRECS:

Ferrea (Željezna vrata, Iron gate): DIRECS:

Porta Aenea (Mjedena vrata, ???): DIRECS:..

Garden ? DIRECS:?? Campanile bell tower: ½h

3/4h

DIRECS: next to palace mausoleum.; Climb stairs (10 kn) clinging inside tower,

in places <u>stair's steps</u> cross large open window spaces, not for vertigo peeps, great views: city, nearby islands & Marjan hill,

Hungariang King after avoiding Mongols returned to Split after leaving his wife to bury her 2 dead children in Dilcletian's Mauseleum.; in tower ???

Unique substructure halls (palace basement):

1h

DIRECS:

newley explored & each year more opened to public; some have fascinating artifacts displayed.







Reconstruction of Palace -- AD 305

modern-Split w/ Diocletian's Palace; 1997.

Visible also: medieval Varoš district & Giardin Park.

Green Market (Baazar): DIRECS:.

1h

Split's Pazar: variety of wares: fruits & veggies, clothing & other odds & ends. Local colour & excitement.

St. Duje's CATH(DIOs mausoleum): DIRECS:

3/4h

Originally 305 A.D.; as Diocletian's mausoleum (world's oldest CATH building); very beautiful mixture of Roman temple & Catholic church; .

Peristil square (Peristylium): DIRECS: Main square in palace 1/2h

w/ well preserved Roman architecture.

Jupiter's temple: DIRECS:

½h

Ancient Roman temple which became St. John's church.

2 original Egyptian sphinxes-

1/2h

One, **DIRECS**: on Peristil square, **other**, **DIRECS**: in front of Jupiter's temple or St. John's church; <u>brought from Egypt by Roman EMP Diocletian</u>.

Cathedral of Saint Domnius; DIRECS:

 $\frac{1}{2}$ h

MUS:

Archaeological Museum (Croatian: muzej)

DIRECS: % h

main collection is housed at Zrinsko-Frankopanska 25 in Split.; ALSO <u>Solin</u> (<u>Salona</u> & <u>Tusculum</u> branch building.

Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments: DIRECS:

11

(Croatian: Muzej hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika)

Only CRO MUS researching & presenting cultural artifacts of Middle Ages (7th --15th C) Croats, particularly time of early medieval Croatian state: 9th > 12th C: collection of early medieval wicker, clay figurines, & old Croatian Latin epigraphic monuments; largest collection in Europe.

Split City Museum (Croatian: DIRECS: Papalićeva 1, in former Papalić Palace



116 Muzei Grada Splita). The collection presents urban, cultural, artistic & economic heritage of city. ALSO, Emanuel Vidović Gallery, OO IMP 20th C Split painter. Ethnographical Museum : DIRECS: Severova 3/4h 1, (Croatian: Etnografski muzej) has wide range of ethnographic content mainly from Dalmatia. Founded in 1910, museum collects original & contemporary applications of traditional heritage. They also track contemporary popular culture living with traces of old foundations & preserve & promote value of folk heritage, renewing them & presenting exhibitions.[26] The Croatian Maritime Museum: DIRECS: Glagoljaška 18 - Tvrđava Gripe (Croatian: Hrvatski pomorski muzei); collection of marine equipment & supplies, weapons & navigation equipment, medals, ship models, uniforms & equipment, & related artwork. Split Science museum & Zoo: 1h DIRECS: on Marjan peninsula GOOG @ Kolombatovićevo šetalište 2.[27] (Croatian: Prirodoslovni musej i zooloski vrt) **NEARBY**: Riva: main city promenade. 2007 -- Riva's new, "modern" look: not accepted by Marjan hill: DIRECS: on W of Split; oasis of natural, great for long walks & bike rides. Marjan's peak -- Telegrin -- : 174 m high; great panoramic Split view, Houses strictly forbidden; lungs of Split E side: St. Nicholas church:, S side: beautiful St. Jeronimus church & "Gospe od Betlema" church (Madonna of Betlehem):. Varoš GOOG -**DIRECS**: OO oldest parts, most city peasants & fishermen lived, Charming streets & beautiful small houses. Galerija Meštrović art gallery: DIRECS: works of Ivan Meštrović, famous Croatian sculptor. Archaeological MUS: DIRECS: about 20 min walk N of old town ½h OO oldest MUS in CRO (1820.), (entry 20 kn): Many artefacts & monuments from Roman colonies Salona & Narona

DAY TRIPS:

Salona - DIRECS: Situated near town of Solin, 10 min BUS from Split.

ancient Roman colony, OO biggest Roman towns; POP: 60,000; capital of Roman PROV Dalmatia:

SITES: amphitheater, theater, basilica, cemetery & many other Roman buildings.???

Krka National Park [58] -DIRECS: on island Visovac.

OO 8 NPs; beautiful waterfalls & old MON

Narona: DIRECS: BTW today's Metković & Vid village

Ancient Roman city located in Neretva valley; part of Roman PROV Dalmatia; established after Illyrian Wars: located on alluvial planes, 3rd/2nd century BC founded Hellenistic emporium; became major 1st century BC Roman stronghold; 6th century AD, under Byzantine rule. CEASED EXISTENCE in 7th century after Slavic tribes arrived.

Roman temple 1995 building discovered, contained STATs EMPs Claudius & Vespasian, & two of Augustus & wife Livia: vandalized in 4th C: lying on floor w/ heads broken off. BUT heads of Vespasian & OO Livias acquired in surrounding area by Arthur Evans, 1878, & reunited w/ bodies; since: major European MUSs.

> Perković:

4h

DIRECS: TRN: DP: 5/day & stop in every STA, 1 hr; very picturesque journey,.

Picturesque valley/village of Primorski Dolac: Perković simply collection of houses; have coffee or walk in hills B4 return Split.



Trogir: nearby

town 4h

DIRECS: A few DPs from Split's main bus station > Trogir on work days

TRANS-OUT:

CRO > Sarajevo, B-Her:

Dubrovnik, CRO > CRO islands(Korcula, Hvar > Pocitelj ??? > An Isle) > Split, CRO > Mostar, B-H > Durmitor NP, MONT .Sarajevo, B-H,

TUCSON -- OUT

Discount Taxi: 520-388-5000 \$25 Other CAB: From TUS > S&y: \$36

UAL eTicket Number: 800-538-2929 (say 'Agent' or "hit "0")

UAL Reference Code:
N950L

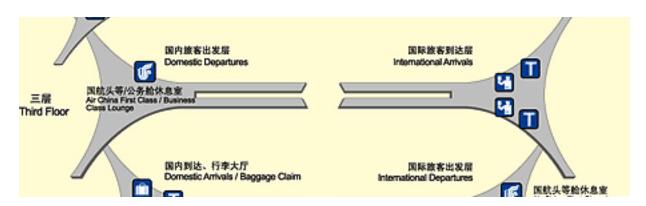
CONT Reference Code: D8LF8Y

Traveocity Trip ID #: 2119 9280 9993 1.888.728356/888.756.2745

www.checkmytrip (not available for United)

SERVICE	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE	DURATION
UAL-X 6369	1Sep THU	TUS	SFO	0600am	0823am	2h 23m
0309	THU (TUS>SFO) Ter: SFO: 3; CAR: 4			Seat: 11D		
	Time btw flights: 2h 39m					
CONT	1SEP	SFO	PEK	1102am	1420pm	12h 18m
4194	THU (SFO>PEK) Ter: PEK 3			(next day – FRI, Sep 2) Seat: 55K		ep 2)

\$ \$1115.70 Seat as of 7-19-2011 @ 9am Total Travel Time: 17h 20m



THisar(ya), BUL (Hissarya, Hisarya (BUL Хисаря): DT (LP251) Worth it???

Seems like modern tourist spa town built on some Roman spa town w/ wall

ruins over two dozen mineral springs around cit; population is 7,691, y, which are extremely healthy & deliver good water 40 km north of <u>Plovdiv.</u>;

TRANS-IN:

Yug BUS STA: (1 hr)

ACCM: no FOOD:

MISC:

Cuz of these springs, town <u>founded 1000s years ago</u>;. Some pre-historic remains found in current town centre. Later, <u>Thracian city</u>, UNTIL Thrace fell to <u>Romans</u> & became Roman PROV called Augusta; wealthy healing centre w/ EMP's palaces, wide stone streets, marble baths, STAT of Roman Gods & exuberant vegetation; aka Diocletianopolis; EMP Septimus Severus visited. After fall of Rome city declined & to <u>minor fortified town</u>; <u>during TURK rule</u> further declined & finally: just couple of small houses in midst of many Roman ruins which nearby peasants used for stone quarry destroying most ruins.

After 1878 BUL Lliberation was [paty of PROV of E Rumelia; after 1884 BUL Unification; BUT prospered again whe mineral springs re-discovered by rich.

After 1945, rich's summer houses nationalised as spas for public; 1992 "restitution" returned them to grand children of pre-war rich, who had no money restore, thus now disrepair of old heritage.

TRANS-OUT:

Yug BUS STA: (1 hr)

TO DO

4½h

Small

amphitheatre: ½h

Barracks of Roman garrison,

½h

Roman Bath

Kamili (Roman) fortress / Hissar Fortress:

2h

best preserved in BUL; irregular tetragon shape w/ 300 decares area;.

Walls: OO best preserved BUL fortress defenses Monumental Roman walls nearly surrounds city; In past cud enter in 4 gates:

southern gate: main, aka " Camels", cuz broken in middle & looked like two camels facing each other, before partially restored in early 20th C.

Hissar tomb:

1/₂h

late-Roman (4 th C) family tomb w/ overarched passage, staircase & burial chamber w/ colour frescoes & 4-colour-mosaic.

??? bathhouses, theatres, in peaceful

parks ½h

Archeological MUS - 8, Alexander Stamboliiski

<u>Str</u>. ½h

,working hours:8a.m.-12a.m., 1,30p.m. - 5,30p.m.







