

instant

# KORÇA

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### KORÇA

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POGRADEC

2009-2010



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## Introducing Korça

A proud and cultured town high in the hinterlands of southeastern Albania, Korça (pronounced *KOR-cha*) is a world away from Tirana, and is indeed close to Greece in more than one way. Locals cross the border to nearby Kastoria and further afield to Thessaloniki and Athens for the latest fashion, religious festivals, education, jobs and family visits, and many of them are fluent in both Greek and Albanian.

Korça is known for its pretty girls, its tradition of serenades, and good food. Despite its small size, it has quite a few great sights, including an excellent icon museum, a bustling bazaar, a fantastic Byzantine-era painted church, a top-rate beer brewery and a great beer festival. In the immediate surroundings, Pogradec has a lovely lakeside setting and Voskopoja and Dhardha make for great daytrips in the mountains.

This new *Korça In Your Pocket* guide is the first English language city guide to this fascinating destination. If you have any comments, please let us know at [tirana@inyourpocket.com](mailto:tirana@inyourpocket.com). Enjoy Korça.

## About this guide

This Instant guide contains the content of the *Korça In Your Pocket* miniguide, the first English-language guide to Korça, Pogradec and surroundings, produced in March 2009 in cooperation with Korça municipality, GTZ Albania and the Gulliver OK Travel Agency. Copies of the printed miniguide are free and can be found locally as well as in many other distribution points in Albania including hotels, embassies, airports and tourist information centres; copies may also be sold for 200 lek to allow bookshop distribution. The full content of this guide can be viewed at <http://albania.inyourpocket.com>. Find *In Your Pocket* guides to Tirana, Shkodra, Pristina, Skopje, Belgrade, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Athens and other cities online at [www.inyourpocket.com](http://www.inyourpocket.com).



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**Cover photo:** The cathedral seen from the Vangush Mio museum courtyard.

## Arriving in Korça

### Arriving by plane

Albania's only airport is in Tirana, 175 km northwest of Korça. After arrival and passport control, most foreigners need to pay a €10 fee to enter the country. There's an airport at Ohrid in Macedonia, 110km from Korça, serving mainly charter and Balkan flights. Across the border in Greece, Kastoria airport (76km from Korça) has flights to Athens, while Thessaloniki's airport (247km) has flights across Europe.

### Arriving by train

Korça is not on the Albanian rail network, but the the station at Guri i Kuq a few kilometres north of Pogradec is the terminus of trains from Tirana. A direct bus to Korça (200 lek) waits for the trains from Tirana. Other furgons wait to take passengers to central Pogradec.

### Arriving by bus

There are no bus stations in Albania, and most buses drop passengers off near the bazaar in the centre of Korça.

### Arriving by car

The roads in Albania have seen massive improvements over the past years, and the ride from Tirana to Pogradec is pretty smooth. The Pogradec-Korça road is being upgraded at the moment, causing some delay and considerable clouds of dust, and is expected to be completed in late 2009; at the moment it takes 40-50 minutes to cover the 35km between both cities.

## Taxis

Taxis are green or blue with white roofs. All taxis in Korça are independent, though most collaborate with the central taxi switchboard at tel. +355 24 44 44. A ride within the city should cost about 200 lek; all other rides are subject to negotiation. Korça's main taxi rank is outside the Grand Hotel on the main square; in Pogradec ask for Rruga Rinia.

## Public transport

Korça has five city bus routes aimed at shuttling residents to the suburbs. Buses run every 30 minutes. Tickets cost 30 lek regardless of destination and are bought on board.

## Car rental

There are no car rental companies in Korça, though if booked in advance, the car rental companies in Tirana can bring a car to Korça for you. Cars with drivers or guides can be hired via the local travel agents.

## Buses

Korça is well served by buses from the main cities in Albania, as well as Thessaloniki and Athens in Greece. There's no bus station and no official timetable, so it's a good idea to ask around for the exact departure locations and times before travel - many buses depart from beside the bazaar along Shetitorja Fan Noli. Most minibuses (furgons) depart as soon as they're full, starting from various places in town, sometimes trawling through the streets to find passengers. Buses to Gjirokastra and Greece are slower but more comfortable large buses.

There are direct daily furgon buses from Korça along the Pogradec-Elbasan route to Berat, Durrës, Tirana and Vlora. There's a daily early morning bus (departs around 06:00) using the stunning mountain pass route to Gjirokastra, continuing to Saranda every second day.



The daytrip destinations Voskopoja, Gorica e Madhe (Lake Prespa) and Vitthkuq can be reached by a daily furgon, but the timetable may not leave you enough time to explore.

## Trains

The nearest place with rails is Pogradec, from where Albanian Railways (Hekurudha Shqiptare, HSH) runs one daily, basic and extremely slow diesel-hauled train to Tirana. Pogradec train station (*stacion i trenit*) is a few kilometres north of town along the lakeside, and tickets for the train are available just before departure. It's much faster to take a bus, but if you have the time, the stretch to Elbasan is a marvellous train ride, as you first trundle along the lakeshore and then wind down a lush valley towards Elbasan, sometimes perched high on rusty viaducts. Avoid the flat tedious bits of rail beyond Elbasan by taking a bus to Tirana or elsewhere.

## Travel agents

Hotels and plane bookings and guided tours in the region or elsewhere in Albania.

**Albania Travel & Tours B-4, Biv. Gjergj Kastrioti, Pall. Çajupi 2, tel./fax +355 82 24 38 62, [skasso@abissnet.com.al](mailto:skasso@abissnet.com.al).** Also on Rr. Reshit Çollaku in Pogradec, tel. (083) 22 26 17.

**Gulliver OK B-4, Biv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 36 97/+355 68 227 04 70, [gulliver@icc-al.org](http://gulliver@icc-al.org), [www.gulliver-ok.com](http://www.gulliver-ok.com).** A friendly travel agent that doubles as the local Tourist Information Centre (see also 'Sights'). Flight bookings as well as local tours; ask for Orieta who is an expert on the region and speaks fluent English. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:00.

## Train schedule

From Pogradec		To Pogradec	
Dep.	Arr.	City	Dep. Arr.
12:50	16:00	ELBASAN	09:30 12:23
12:50	20:00	TIRANA	05:00 12:30



Albania's population is 3,619,778 (2008 estimate). There are more than two million ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, hundreds of thousands in Macedonia and Montenegro, and an estimated two million in the United States, Switzerland, Germany, Greece, Italy and Canada. In Korça, some 65% of believers are Orthodox, with the rest split between Muslim, Bektashi and Catholic.

At 28,748 square kilometres, Albania is a bit larger than Wales or Maryland. The highest mountain is Mt. Korabi near Peshkopi, at 2,751m.

At 3,710 square kilometres, Korça prefecture is the largest of Albania's 12 prefectures, and is ranked 4th in population, with 265,000 inhabitants (2001). The prefecture's two cities Korça and Pogradec rank 7th and 11th in Albania, with 55,000 and 24,000 inhabitants respectively (2001).

## Purchasing power

How far does your euro, pound or dollar go in Korça?	
Espresso	50-100 lek
Glass of local beer (0.5 litre)	200 lek
Mineral water (1 litre)	50 lek
Mars bar	50 lek
Hamburger	100 lek
Cinema ticket	150-200 lek
Public transport ticket	30 lek
100km by bus/train	400/250 lek

### Exchange rates (per 1-4-09)

€1 = 131 lek; £1 = 141 lek; US\$1 = 99 lek

## Tourist information

Korça is one of very few cities in Albania with a good municipal website with information in English: [www.bashkiakorca.gov.al](http://www.bashkiakorca.gov.al).

**Tourist Information Centre B-4, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 36 97/+355 68 227 04 70, [zrt\\_korca@yahoo.com](mailto:zrt_korca@yahoo.com), [www.gulliver-ok.com](http://www.gulliver-ok.com).**

Sharing an office with the Gulliver OK travel agency, the TIC has maps and booklets about the city and region, and can help with general information and hotel and tour bookings. Ask for the knowledgeable English-speaking Orieta Gliozheni. Hiring a guides for trips in the city or the surroundings costs €35 per day if booked in advance. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:00.

## Mail & Phones

### Internet access

There's free internet access at the Thimi Mitko Library. **World Cup Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti.** Surfing at 100 lek/hr. ▶ Open 08:30 - 24:00.

### Mobile phones

Three rather expensive providers are active in Albania. **AMC** numbers start with 068, **Vodafone** numbers with 069 and **Eagle Mobile** numbers with 067. It's easy to buy and recharge a mobile phone SIM card for around 600 lekat the operators' shops; recharge vouchers are sold in kiosks too. National rates for pre-paid calls are between 30-55 lek per minute.

**AMC Blv. Fan Noli 26, tel. +355 82 25 28 33, [www.amc.al](http://www.amc.al).** ▶ Open 08:30 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

**Eagle Mobile Blv. Fan Noli, Lg. 3, tel. +355 82 25 40 50.** Also at Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti. ▶ Open 08:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

**Vodafone Rr. Guri Stratobardha 2, tel. 25 28 30.** Also at Rr. Themistokli Gërmenji, pall. 2. ▶ Open 08:30 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

### Post

Posta Shqiptare has the following rates for postcards/letters under 20gr: Albania 15/20 lek; Italy, Greece, Kosovo & Macedonia 20/30 lek; rest of Europe 30/50 lek; Americas 50/90 lek; elsewhere 40/60 lek.

**Post office B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 39 92, [www.postashqiptare.al](http://www.postashqiptare.al).** ▶ Open 08:00 - 16:00.

### Public telephones

Public card phones can be found on the street, at hotels and in post offices. Telephone cards are available at post offices and should be wrapped in clear plastic. If you don't plan to talk away a whole card, you can rent one from the 'businessmen' often found lingering near the phones. Prices will run about 20 lek a unit.

### Telephone calls

**International calls:** Dial the international access number (00), the country code, the area code and the subscriber's number. Call 12 for international directory assistance.

**National calls:** For calls outside Korça, dial 0, the city code and the subscriber's number. Call 14 for domestic directory assistance.

**Local calls:** Korça numbers have six digits, all starting with a 2.

**Calling Albania from abroad:** Dial the country code (355), then the city code (Korça's is 82). To call a mobile phone in Albania from abroad, dial 355, then drop the 0 and dial 38.

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In Your Pocket for free at  
[www.inyourpocket.com](http://www.inyourpocket.com)

Korça has plenty of hotels to choose from, with everything available from an Ottoman inn to comfortable three-star options. Breakfast is included unless mentioned otherwise.

**George E-7, Rruga Korçe-Mborje, tel. +355 82 24 37 94/+355 69 208 31 12.** Named after the owner's father, this curious structure on the hillside just east of town has triangular rooms arranged like pieces of pie. Feel as happy as a cherry in one of the newly built suites with wide wooden beds and spanking clean bathrooms. The quiet location makes air conditioning unnecessary as you can sleep with windows open. Along the road to Mborje, it's a bit of a walk from the centre, but just a short taxi ride. ▶ 36 rooms (5 singles 1,500 lek, 25 doubles 2,500 lek, 6 triples 4,500 lek).

**Gold C-3, Rr. Kļo Goliniku 5, tel. +355 82 24 68 94/+355 69 236 43 50.** A modern and friendly hotel with balconied rooms in various shades of brown, all equipped with en suite bathrooms with reliable hot water. Just off Boulevard Gjergj Kastrioti. ▶ 10 rooms (2 singles 1,500 lek, 7 doubles 3,000-3,500 lek, 1 triple 4,000 lek).

**Grand B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 31 68, fax +355 82 24 26 77, [grandhotelko@hotmail.com](mailto:grandhotelko@hotmail.com).** Recently brought back to grandness with a thorough renovation, the glistening marble hall of Korça's largest hotel (and one of just a handful with a lift) leads to adequate, simple rooms overlooking the main square. The hotel brochure proclaims "Yes, this miracle must be felt to be believed" and without drawing the divine into it, we certainly feel it's worth a look. ▶ 84 rooms (26 singles 2,500 lek, 45 doubles 4,000-5,000 lek, 7 suites 6,000 lek, 2 VIP suites 10,000 lek).

**Han Elbasan B-5, Rr. Naum Kristo Vokopoj.** The wonderful 200-year-old inn built to accommodate traders from Elbasan is Korça's oldest hotel and has been taking care of travellers for centuries (see also Sight). The four wooden rooms above the main gate that are available for foreigners are simple but clean, with basic shared facilities at the end of the corridor. With the bustling bazaar right outside, it's an excellent and atmospheric option for budget travellers in the warmer months. ▶ 25 rooms, 4 suitable for foreigners (250 lek per bed). Breakfast not included.

**Koçibelli (Turizem) B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 37 94/+355 69 207 55 39, [lobitv@hotmail.com](mailto:lobitv@hotmail.com).** Formerly the dour state-run Hotel Turizmi, this newly renovated hotel with its modern blue glass facade has decent rooms with cable TV and en suite baths or showers. Koçibelli overlooks the busy main square, so ask for rooms at the back for a peaceful night's sleep. ▶ 30 rooms (singles 2,500 lek, doubles 3,500 lek, triples 4,000 lek, suites 6,000 lek). Breakfast not included.

**Konti A-3, Rruga Korça-Pogradec, tel. +355 82 24 49 27, fax +355 82 24 38 15, [hotelkont@yahoo.com](mailto:hotelkont@yahoo.com), [hotelkontiko@albmil.com](mailto:hotelkontiko@albmil.com).** A glam-looking hotel in Korça's industrial zone, overlooking the noisy main road into town. Not the most romantic or central place to stay, but handy for a early morning escape to Tirana. The single rooms and cheaper double rooms have shared bathroom facilities; air-conditioning is available in the suites and some doubles. ▶ 27 rooms (3 singles 1,300 lek, 19 doubles 2,000-3,500 lek, 1 triple 4,000 lek, 5 suites 5,000 lek).

**Kristal D-4, tel./fax +355 82 24 89 92, tel. +355 69 209 83 21, [rezekote@yahoo.com](mailto:rezekote@yahoo.com).** Up on the hill overlooking town, this former 'worker's hotel' is a large concrete block with standard rooms and good views over the city and the plains beyond. Unless you like long walks, you'll need your own transport or a taxi to get to and from town. ▶ 61 rooms (4 singles 2,000 lek, 47 doubles 3,000 lek, 10 triples 4,500 lek).

**Pallas B-5, Rr. Misto Mame.** The convivial doorman of this ghastly hotel whispered to us that it should be closed down, and he's absolutely right. Anything but a palace, this hotel has downright shitty rooms with sagging beds, mouldy bathrooms, crumbling ceilings and broken mirrors. A smudge on Korça's fine reputation - but it's oh so cheap. Find Pallas in the alley next to the Procredit bank. No telephone. ▶ 6 rooms (singles 300-500 lek, doubles 600-1,000 lek). Breakfast not included.

**Regency B-5, Rr. Ismail Qemali 7, tel. +355 82 24 38 68/+355 69 230 47 48, fax +355 82 24 38 70, [regencycom@hotmail.com](mailto:regencycom@hotmail.com), [www.regencyalbania.com](http://www.regencyalbania.com).** The 'American-style' Regency is one of few self-proclaimed three-star hotels in Albania actually living up to the standards. With good rooms and a quiet corner location in the city centre, it's often the hotel of choice for business travellers, though it remains firmly Albanian, witness the ubiquitous chain-smoking men hanging out in the lobby bar. A good breakfast is included in the price. ▶ 18 rooms (2 singles €30, 14 doubles €40, 2 suites €40).

**Smerald C-3, Rr. Viktimat e Pojanit 1, tel. +355 82 24 50 93, [hotelsmerald@yahoo.com](mailto:hotelsmerald@yahoo.com).** Great value for money, this small but modern business hotel was the first in town with key cards, is decorated with abstract art and has a funky-coloured bar area. The decent-sized rooms come with marble sinks and safes. In summer, there's a piano bar here too. Away from all the action, it's located 100m from the stadium, off Blv. Republika. ▶ 10 rooms (8 doubles 4,500-5,000 lek, family rooms 6,000 lek).

**Vila Sidheri C-4, Rr. Mbledhja e Beratit, tel. +355 82 24 58 14/+355 68 205 64 45.** Opened in early 2009, this utterly charming new bed & breakfast is an excellent place for a relaxed stay. The renovated house is built in traditional Korça style, while the cellar restaurant and rooms are furnished with the owner's antique collection. Near the centre, just east off Boulevard Republika. ▶ 4 rooms (singles €25, doubles €50).

## Symbol key

Air conditioning	Credit cards accepted
Restaurant	Conference facilities
Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Internet	Guarded parking
Fitness centre	Non-smoking rooms
Wi-Fi	

Korça is one of the best destinations around for good Albanian food. Apart from the ubiquitous pizzerias, there are several welcoming restaurants serving local food in a great setting. Don't miss out on the kernace, spicy small sausages. The price range in brackets indicates the average price of main courses.

## Albanian

**Shtëpia Voskopojare C-5, Rr. Gaqo Koroveshi, tel. +355 82 24 27 84/+355 68 205 44 88.** This small villa beside the cathedral serves up cheap and excellent Albanian dishes. The small salad feeds two, and the qofte and other grilled meat dishes are fresh and tasty. Sit in one of two dining rooms in 'ambjente luksoze' behind the pretty porch with Ionian pillars, or on the sheltered terrace outside. ▶ Open 08:00 - 15:00; 19:00-24:00. (800-1200 lek). ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

**Taverna Qilari C-5, Rr. Bardhyl Pojani 8, tel. +355 69 248 96 93, qilari\_03@hotmail.com.** An unassuming apartment building on a quiet street off Blv. Republika holds Korça's best culinary surprise; an utterly charming cellar tavern serving huge portions of local nosh. The two dining rooms are wonderfully done up with old photos, keys, ancient Albanian radios listing exotic radio stations and a medieval tavern scene painting. Local dishes include kernace, piperka me djathe and tave, as well as some Mexican snacks spelled local-style: kesadja, burrito and tako. Some English is spoken. ▶ Open 13:00 - 23:00. (800-1,300 lek). ☎

**Taverna Vasili C-3, Rr. Kostadina Gaçe, tel. +355 82 24 66 10/+355 69 214 85 83.** Renowned as the best place in town to try Korça and Albanian specialties - at modest prices. The grilled qofte and kernac, roast beef with spices, piglet, koloface salami, game and fish are all wonderfully presented and delicious, and for something special, order the Korça cannelloni or call in advance to order lamb and koran (Lake Ohrid trout) dishes. There's an elegant dining room upstairs with an open grill, and a rustic cellar space. ▶ Open 13:00 - 24:00. ☎ 🍷 🍴

## Cafés

**Mësonjtorja C-5, Blv. Themistokli Germeji, tel. +355 69 204 77 48.** Near the First Albanian School museum, this modern bar with cubist and old paintings on the walls is fine for a relaxed coffee. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00.

**Niva Akullore B-4, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti.** Delicious ice cream, of both the scooped and machine varieties. Look for the shop decorated with juggling penguins. ▶ Open 09:00 - 20:00.

**Serenata B-5, Rr. Ismail Qemali 7, tel. +355 82 24 38 67.** The café inside the Regency hotel is a convenient spot for foreigner travellers to meet up. Simple surroundings, good coffee. ▶ Open 24hrs. ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

**Sky Café C-5/6, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 30 70.** Just south of the cathedral, the café perched on top of a modern high-rise building offers the best views over central Korça. The terrace seating is perfect but the lounge bar inside, where the locals prefer to huddle and smoke, has windows that are useless for scanning the horizon. This was the first place in Korça to have wifi. ▶ Open 07:00 - 23:00. ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

## Symbol key

☎ Air conditioning	📶 Credit cards accepted
🎵 Live music	🍷 Take away
🚭 Non-smoking rooms	🅓 Guarded parking
📶 Wi-Fi	🌿 Summer garden

**Vila Themistokli C-5, Blv. Themistokli Germeji, tel. +355 82 24 87 99.** A well-known old café/bar along the main road. Fine for a coffee break in between sightseeing, and a good place to catch live music on summer weekends. ▶ Open 07:30 - 24:00. ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

## International

**Amerika C-3, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 24 76 73.** As eclectic as the New World it's named after, the small but modern interior of this Albanian-Italian restaurant holds a stuffed grouse, African statues and a Tutanchamon mask. There's a popular terrace to escape all the history. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00. (600-1,000 lek). ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

**Valbona C-4, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 31 74.** It's back to 1985 at the rambling commie-era Valbona restaurant. Mainly used for wedding banquets and funeral meals, come when invited but avoid otherwise. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00. (500-700 lek). ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

## Italian

**Antic Pizza C-4, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 24 31 47.** We're not sure if they mean antiques, antics or something else, but the pizzas at this popular restaurant are worth a try. Decorated with stone arches and wine bottles, Antic has just a few tables, so if it's full, lay your scene in fair Verona, just across the street. ▶ Open 11:30 - 24:00. (400-600 lek). ☎ 🍷

**Verona C-4, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 28 28.** A quiet, modern pizzeria along the main drag, right opposite Antic and alike in dignity. ▶ Open 11:00 - 24:00. (400-700 lek). ☎ 📶 🍷

## Out of town

**Prince Park Rruga Korça-Pogradec.** Family fun can be found 10km out of Korça on the Pogradec road. This modern entertainment complex has a bar with indoor and outdoor seating, a garden, children's playground and a small football field. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00. 🍷

## Turkish

**Liceu Taverna C-5, Rr. Sotir Gurra, tel. +355 82 25 28 06.** An old building opposite the imposing French school houses the Liceu Taverna. Entered through a garden with an old well, it has four cosy rooms with wooden furniture. On the menu are well-prepared Turkish specialties, grilled meat, fresh fish and salads. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00. 🍷

There's a concentration of bars at the far end of Blv. Republika near Rinia Park, though the best options are in the town centre. For proper clubbing you'll need to go to Tirana or Greece, but Korça does have the charming daily *xhiro*, a mass evening stroll up and down the full length of Boulevard Republika, which is shut for traffic for this purpose during the early evening hours.

## Bars

**Bar Bunkeril Bilishti, tel. +355 68 205 51 36.** If you're driving to or from Greece, it's well worth pulling over for a coffee or a snack at the bar inside one of dictator Hoxha's thousands of bunkers. Find it along the main road, 1.5km south of Bilishti village. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00.

**Havana C-4, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 24 52 89.** Like Buddhism, Cuba-ism is a popular bar theme and Korça can't stay behind. It's not much more than a name in this case, as this bar is simply a purple space filled with young lads drinking and smoking. Still, it's one of just a few bars in town with a summer terrace on the pavement outside. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00. 🍷 🍴

**Moska C-5, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 69 225 59 99.** One of Korça's best-looking bars, a first floor affair with silver air ducts, stylish wooden walls and large balcony windows overlooking the main street. Named Moscow, it has paintings of great Russians and oil paintings of Korça alleyways lining the halls. Corona, Fosters, Kronenbourg and Paulaner beer are available, there's a wine room and a pleasant rooftop bar in summer. Parties every last Saturday of the month. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00. ☎ 🍷

**02 Bar Blv. Republika, tel. +355 69 226 50 07.** Set in a rambling building above the local chamber of commerce, this bar hasn't made it into the new millennium unscathed. The sea-themed décor is a bit outdated, but even though the full-sized snogging mermaid in the mural does her best to cheer you up, you'll need more than one drink to process it emotionally. On the plus side, there's a wood burning stove cosily crackling away. ▶ Open 08:00 - 14:00, 17:00-24:00.

**Piazza C-5, Rr. 6 Dëshmorët, tel. +355 68 207 45 60.** A popular new bar, built in the characteristic Korça style, with two floors, a basement level and a buzzing terrace overlooking the cathedral. Next door to Shtëpia 1821. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00.

**Premier C-5, Blv. Themistokli Germeji, tel. +355 82 25 18 99/+355 68 206 27 44.** Just down the street from the First Albanian School museum in a modern highrise complex, Premier has the nicest outdoor seating area in town, a terrace with parasols beside a gurgling fountain. There's live music here on summer weekends. Inside, there's a stylish café that's fine for a quick coffee break. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00. 🍷 🍴

**Privilegj C-3, Blv. Republika.** A popular but dimly lit triangular bar amidst a clutch of nightlife options at the far end of Blv. Republika. Good for a quick coffee or beer. ▶ Open 18:30 - 22:30.

**Royal Park D-3, Rinia Park.** A simple bar at the far end of Rinia Park, at the point where everyone turns around and strolls back. ▶ Open 07:00 - 22:00.

**Shtëpia 1821 C-5, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 49 54.** A hopping bar in a traditional-style building near the cathedral, with a lively scene and a great terrace, linked to that of Piazza next door. If you like it or not, there's regular karaoke and a ladies' night on the last Saturday of the month. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00.

**Vanessa D-3, Rinia Park, tel. +355 82 24 79 11.** A new, modern bar built on the site of an old but popular kiosk, in the centre of the park. Enjoy your beer surrounded by birdsong and strolling couples. ▶ Open 07:30 - 23:30. ☎

**Vasport C-5, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 03 88/+355 68 206 20 22.** A pleasant restaurant right opposite the cathedral, serving traditional Albanian dishes and wines. ▶ Open 07:00 - 23:00. ☎ 📶 🍷 🍴

**Vecchia Casa C-3, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 82 25 48 80.** A bar set in a renovated building near Rinia park. Large terrace. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00. ☎ 🍷 🍴

**Vila Alket C-5, Blv. Republika, tel. +355 69 268 81 30.** A quaint and fun bar attracting an older audience, set back from the boulevard in an old stone house. The two floors are crammed with antiques and knick-knacks, including record players, radios and stuffed badgers, foxes and wolves. There's a separate function room that's decked out with old photos and rifles. ▶ Open 07:00 - 22:00. ☎ 🍷

**Zeus C-4, Blv. Republika.** A bar with modern cream white couches and wooden separations on the first floor above the El Forno pizzeria. It's named after the king of gods and Aphrodite's daddy, and women can enter without fear as the bar is a self-proclaimed me te shoqeruar or 'woman friendly' place; no dodgy smoking men in leather coats huddled around low tables here. ▶ Open 08:00 - 22:00. ☎ 🍷

## Beer gardens

**Panda Bar D-6, Rr. e Mborjës.** Quite unique for this part of Europe, Korça has a ramshackle but pleasant beer garden directly beside the Birra Korça brewery. Both types of Birra Korça brews are served, along with cheap grilled snacks. In summer, it's quite lively with families coming to enjoy the weather and live music. ▶ Open 08:00 - 24:00. 🍷 🍴

## Clubs

**Omega D-3, Rinia Park, tel. +355 82 24 63 00.** A bar set in the park behind the St Sotir church, with plenty of outside seating and a small stage on the roof. There's a strange interior with blue-lit stairs curling down into a space with Klimt-inspired art. Come on Thursdays and Saturdays when DJs do their disco nights. ▶ Open 07:00 - 24:00.

## Live music

**Skena Park B-3, Rr. 1 Maji, tel. +355 82 25 49 54/+355 68 201 00 94.** The most popular bar in town attracts people from all over the country to listen to the famous Prifti Brothers and other artists singing traditional and modern songs, many of them typically Korcan. It's best to ask before visiting to check if there's a performance. ▶ Open Fri & Sat 22:00-03:00. 🍷 🍴

Though small, Korça has a fantastic range of sights in and just outside its city limits. Boulevard Republika is a good street for a stroll, and on summer evening you'll be joined by hundreds of locals doing their xhiron promenade when the street is closed off for traffic. It's lined by old villas with decorative metal railings, flower gardens and fragrant linden trees. Do take the time to explore the old streets away from the modern boulevards - you can find typically old cobbled streets between Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti and Blv. Republika, though the prettiest streets are directly behind the cathedral.

## Churches

**Church of the Ascension (Kisha e Ristozit) Mborja village.** One of the best sights in Korça is this tiny, quiet chapel in a village just east of town. This magnificent 14th century Byzantine church is painted with brightly-coloured frescoes that UNESCO specialists describe as being among the best in the Balkans. In the narthex, the entrance hallway, note the Day of Judgement fresco which shows a dragon swallowing sinners in a river of fire, above some vivid illustrations of what happens to sinners and non-believers; devils gleefully ride atop people, wrench off noses, drill holes into heads and span people in front of ploughs... believe or burn! Unfortunately some frescoes are damaged by ignorant tourists and electricians. Serious art lovers should bring a flashlight to illuminate details in the dark interior. The church can be found in the centre of Mborja. Follow the signs out of town past the brewery and the George hotel to Mborja; the church is in the village centre, a 20 minute walk uphill from central Korça. If the church is closed, ask around for the key.

**Orthodox Cathedral (Katedralja Ngallja e Krishtit) C-5, Blv. Republika.** Korça's Orthodox Cathedral of the Resurrection was completely rebuilt in 1992 after the previous church on this site, St. George cathedral, was destroyed by the Communist authorities in 1968. Now the impressive pink building is the largest church in Albania, and the second largest in the Balkans. Inside, the modest white interior is dominated by a huge carved wooden iconostasis. Also note the Albanian eagles carved into the chairs.

**Spring of Life church (Kisha e Burimi Jetedhenes) C-5, Rr. Kryengritja e Qershot.** This church, near the Metropolitan offices and also known as the Metropolitan church, was unluckily selected by the communist authorities to be used for the Museum of Medieval Art in the 1980s, and was subsequently nearly completely destroyed to be turned into a bland concrete bunker. However, the side entrance leads to the new Shën Gjergj church at the back of the building, where the original 18th century wooden iconostasis can be viewed. The carvings in the dark wood are impressive, though not all icons remain. ▶ Open 08:00-15:00, Sat, Sun closed.

## Museums

Korça's charming museums are well worth visiting and can all be seen in a relaxed morning or afternoon, but as they are often found locked during opening hours it's best to phone ahead. You can ask an Albanian-speaker to call, but the Tourist Information Centre will also arrange this for you, and can also provide a guide to help explain and translate.

## Archaeology

**Kamenica Tumulus (Tuma e Kamenicës) Kamenica village, 8km south of Korça, tel. +355 69 268 70 09/+355 69 265 97 95, info@kamenicatumulus.org, www.kamenicatumulus.org.** A prehistoric burial mound near Korça has been partly excavated and is now open to the public, accompanied by an excellent little museum (quite rare in Albania) with with an instructive DVD and English-speaking staff that can guide you around the site. The mound was used between the 13th to 6th centuries BC, and visitors can view several discoveries: the 'Big Circle' around the central grave and several monumental structures. The tumulus site is marked with flags, 8km south of Korça along the road to Gjirokastra. ▶ Open 09:00-19:00 May-Sept, 08:00-16:00 Oct-Apr. Closed Mon. Admission 200/100 lek.

**Archaeology Museum (Muzeu Kombëtar Arkeologjik) C-5, Rr. Mihal Grameno, tel. +355 82 22 52 800/+355 69 26 23 217.** Housed in two charming and well-preserved Ottoman-era buildings around a cobblestone courtyard that are worth a visit alone, the town's archaeology museum holds 1,200 Hellenic, Roman and Paleo-Byzantine objects from 6000 BCE to 600 CE. Highlights of the museum are a Byzantine-era floor mosaic and various Roman graves. Call ahead to make sure the museum is open. ▶ Open 08:00-14:00 Mon-Thu, 08:00-12:00 Fri, closed Sat, Sun. Admission 200/100 lek.

**Bratko Museum of Oriental Art (Muzeu Bratko) D-6, Blv. Fan Noli, tel. +355 82 24 30 56/+355 69 215 65 61, http://users.rcn.com/laura2.** This curious building combining a traditional Japanese torii gate with modern architecture houses the art collection of the Albanian-American Dhimitër Boria (1903-1990). Boria emigrated from Albania when he was 17, attending art school in Detroit before working in Hollywood in an early animation studio and as silhouette artist. Boria became a photographer for the US Army in 1942 travelled widely in Europe and Asia. He started to collect Oriental art of which some 400 artefacts are exhibited in this museum that's named after his mother. The exhibition has pottery, jewellery, textiles and furniture on display from 17 Asian countries. Look out for the Tibetan tanka cloths, the Indian Hindi and Buddhist statues, the silver lobsters and chickens, and the fabulous Indonesian masks. Some but not all exhibits have English-language captions. It's a good idea to phone ahead to confirm the museum is open. ▶ Open 09:00-13:00, 16:00-17:00, Sat, Sun by appointment. Admission 100 lek.

**First Albanian School (Mësonjëtorja e Parë Shqipë, Muzeu i Arsimit) C-5, Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji, tel. +355 69 246 17 92.** Focus of considerable pride and symbol of national awakening under Ottoman rule, the first secular school with subjects taught in Albanian was opened in Korça on March 7, 1887. Until then, education was only given by travelling teachers. Korça was a logical place for the first school, as it was Albania's largest and most developed city, with many trade links to the east as well as to Western Europe and the USA, and an open attitude to foreign influence and change. Though the school was originally mixed, a special girls' school was opened soon after, in 1891. The Ottoman rulers tolerated the schools as Albanians came in handy in the Ottoman Army, but after Albanians began to request too many liberties in following decades, their schools were closed. This resulted in mass protest - in 1910 some 12,000 people met in Korça (and later in other cities too) to defend

the schools, with success. The school continued to function until the building was turned into a museum in 1960.

Exhibits inside the former classrooms show documents that are important to the development of Albanian education such as the first written Albanian text ('The mass', written by a Catholic priest) and the very first student book. The story of the Albanian alphabet is interesting too, as it was a language with no written history that was spelled in a mix of Greek and Turkish letters until the current alphabet with 36 Latin-based letters was accepted in 1908. Outside the museum, there's a charming concrete statue of the ABC with a large writing feather and pot of ink. We're told the exhibition will be in for a well-needed renovation soon, but we hope they hang on to the wonderful socialist ABC curtains. Phoning ahead is a good idea, otherwise rattle the museum gates to attend the guard of your presence. ▶ Open 08:30 - 14:30; 17:00-19:00, Sat, Sun 09:00 - 12:00; 17:00-19:00. Closed Mon. Admission free.

**Medieval Art Museum (Muzeu Kombëtar i Artit Mesjetar) C-5, Rr. Kryengritja e Qershot.** The best museum in Korça, and one of the best in the country, has a collection of 6,500 icons from Southern Albania as well as 1,500 other objects, of which some 200 icons and 50 metal objects are on display in this curious building. Once the most important Orthodox church of Korça, the Mitropolia church was 'renovated' beyond recognition and opened as a museum in 1987 - you can still recognise bits of the church inside and next door in the newly re-established Shën Gjergj church. Starting with icons from the 14th century, most icons are from the 16th-19th centuries. Many are from Voskopoja, which in the 17th was one of the main centres for iconography in the Balkans. Orthodox art is highly regulated, and all icons had to be painted following precise instructions, with a fixed position prescribed for each saint; Mary can only be depicted in nine poses. Note the two icons of St. George that incorporate grisly martyrdom scenes, with Turks (representing evil of course) inflicting unimaginable cruelty upon unwitting Christians who immediately acquire haloes. The museum's highlight is the collection of icons by the 16th century Albanian master Onufri, which stand out for their vivid colours and wonderful detail. Onufri started his career in Berat but made his finest works later in Gjirokastra. Phone ahead to make sure the museum is open. Postcards and an English-language booklet are for sale at the entrance. ▶ Open 08:00 - 14:00; 17:00-19:00, Sat, Sun 09:00 - 12:00; 17:00-19:00. Admission 200 lek.

**Sotir Studio, tel. +355 82 24 73 95/+355 69 227 46 45.** Korça-born Kristaq Sotiri (1883-1970) worked as a photographer in New York and Los Angeles between 1903 and 1923, cooperating with the famous George Steckel, before moving back and opening a studio together with painter Vangjush Mio. Using his American skills and techniques, he photographed portraits, urban life and cultural events. Some 14,000 photos survive in the Sotir family's private collection, and it's possible to make an appointment to see a selection.

**Vangjush Mio Museum (Muzeu Vangjush Mio) C-5, Rr. Pavlio Katro.** The gifted impressionist artist Vangjush Mio (1891-1957) had a remarkable painting career encompassing 40 years, producing over 400 paintings and 300 sketches. He studied art at Bucharest's art high school in 1919 and continued to study art at Rome university before returning to Korça in 1924. Painting mostly Albanian landscapes and portraits, Mio also made scenes for the local theatre and was the topic of a dozen exhibitions both in Albania and abroad. The artist's daughter Rozeta shows visitors around the handful of rooms that show Mio's best

## Industrial tourism

**Birra Korça Brewery D-6, Blv. Fan Noli 1, tel. +355 82 25 40 33/+355 82 24 29 65, info@birrakorca.com.al, www.birrakorca.com.** Korça's industrial pride, and Albania's only good-looking factory, is the beer brewery at the eastern end of town. Founded in 1928 by the Italian Umberto Uberti, the brewery was in service until 2004, after which it was thoroughly renovated. The pretty yellow buildings have been lovingly restored, and visitors are welcome to tour the facilities. Birra Korça makes 'blond' beer and is also the only brewery in the Balkans to make dark beer, using the Czech and Italian technology. It brews 120,000 hectoliters of beer annually. The specific taste originates from the traditional five-stage production method, and fermentation and maturation takes place in the twelve huge 500 hectoliter tanks poking out of the building. All ingredients except for water are imported from Germany, Czech Republic and Italy. Highlight of the tour is the brewing room where the massive steel brewing tanks are surrounded by tile tableaux depicting the brewing process and the consumption of the end product, with devils helping brew the beer, pretty girls serving it and rowdy punters having a party. The brewery is happy to receive visitors and conduct 30-60 minute tours of the factory in Albanian or English. Phone ahead to make an appointment. Beer tasting is not part of the tour, but the adjacent Panda Bar serves both types of Birra Korça. ▶ Tours by appointment. Open 07:30-15:30, Sat 07:30-15:00, Sun closed.

**Carpet factory B-3, Rr. 1 Maji, tel. +355 69 271 69 45.** Korça has been a centre for carpet-making for centuries, and this factory (the largest of its kind in Albania) is the one place where you can see women making the Turkish-style kilims and other carpets. Visitors are welcome to have a look and buy carpets too; it's best to call ahead.

works (though 60 are in Tirana's National Museum). Korça's streets and surroundings haven't changed that much judging by Mio's beautiful paintings. Three nude paintings from the artist's Roman period in the 1920s are on display too. Interestingly, Mio had to stop painting nudes as the local girls didn't want to pose naked as eagerly as Italian ladies. The lovely two-storey traditional Ottoman-era building housing the museum is worth a visit alone, as it has many original carved wooden ornaments and ceilings (some of them painted too). Find the museum at the rear of the cathedral. Call in advance. ▶ Open by appointment only. Admission 50 lek.

## Ottoman Korça

**Bazaar (Pazari tradicional) B-5, Rr. Naum Kristo Vokopja.** The slightly chaotic Old Bazaar district is perhaps the best place in town to get an idea of how the bustling trade town of Korça must have been in Ottoman times, when merchants from as far away as Russia, Turkey, Greece and Italy came here to buy and sell at the 1,000 shops, staying at inns like the Han Elbasan. The haphazardly built street stalls are piled high with all kinds of goods, from shoes and clothes to car parts and watches, and there's no better area in town to find a cheap traditional snack of byrek or grilled meat. The area burnt down many times over the years, but the area was always restored. The remaining shophouses are a very quaint backdrop for all the bustle, but many seem like they could collapse any minute. Come in the morning or early afternoon for the liveliest scenes.

**Han Elbasan B-5, Rr. Naum Kristo Vokopoj.** Once an essential part of all bazaars from the Balkans to Central Asia, Korça's original han (inn) is one of just two in the Balkans still functioning as a hotel (the other is in Bucharest). Built by a Greek trader over 200 years ago, it was a safe place where travelling salesmen could feed and groom their horses, conduct business, eat, sleep and of course enjoy some hanky-panky. This han was mainly used by traders from Elbasan. Built around a cobbled courtyard with a well, roses and a gate to keep out unwanted visitors, the han had stables for horses downstairs, and simple rooms upstairs along a gallery. Immediately after World War II, the inn was used as a base by the UK and US forces before returning to its original function as a simple hotel.

The han still functions as a hotel, but visitors are welcome to look around the picturesque courtyard and galleries. Many guests in the dirt-cheap rooms are unfortunate would-be emigrants who have been kicked out of Greece and are waiting for a new chance to get in. Ask for former maths teacher, DIY philosopher and long-term han resident Ilja who may be at hand to sit and chat with you in English about life in Korça.

### Mirahor Mosque (Xhamia e Iljaz Bej Mirahorit)

**B-5, Rr. Xhavit Dishnica.** Korça's venerable mosque from 1484, the oldest in Albania, was founded by Iljaz Bey Mirahor, who played an important role in the siege of Constantinople in 1453. The modest building looks a bit battered and its minaret was only recently restored after being knocked down by an earthquake long ago, but it's a true survivor. The building is usually locked up, but before and after prayertime the community is happy to show you the interior with its depictions of Islam's holy cities Medina and Mecca.

### Turan Tekke Turan village, www.komunitetibektashi.org.

The temple in Turan village, 2km west of Korça along the road to Voskopoj, is where Bektashis meet and pray. The originally Persian Sufi order which is part of the Islamic mystic tradition considered blasphemous in many eastern Muslim countries, fled to Albania after Turkish leader Kemal Ataturk banned all Sufi orders in 1925. Bektashis are Muslims and believe in one God, but their liberal understanding of this is close to pantheism; Bektashis venerate the wider prophetic family and are noted for their tolerance of other faiths. The local leader is Baba Mondri Brahimaj.

## Parks

### Park of Tears (Lëndina e lotëve) C-3, Blv. Republika.

The small triangular park at the bottom end of Blvd. Republika has a sad name as it was where the main road out of town started, and it was here that the women waved a final goodbye to their menfolk, who were hauled into senseless wars or to find work elsewhere. It's a quiet little place now - the town has expanded, and the local women have modernised and are as mobile as the men now.

**Rinia Park D-3, Rr. e Bllishtit.** The Youth Park is a lovely green expanse along a hillside just out of town. Pine trees shade old men on benches from the hot sun, children zip giggling around on electric cars and several restaurants and bars cater to thirsty and hungry strollers. Pity the fountains are dry.

## Dardha

Mention Dardha to anyone in Korça you'll instantly get a smile, so good is the reputation of this small mountain village. Lovelier than any other village in Albania, Dardha is set in the Morava mountains, 20 kilometres southwest of Korça, at 1344 metres above sea level and has about 50 permanent inhabitants. The village is sheltered by the Shën Pjeter and the rugged Guri i Vjeshtës (Autumn Rock) mountains and is surrounded by flowering fields, orchards and forests, making it an ideal base for hikes in the surroundings.

Founded in 1600 by Orthodox Christians escaping from Ottoman conversion campaigns, Dardha is famous for felt processing (incorporated in the local black/red folk dress), Dardha had 500 houses in the early 1900s. Nowadays, the village consists of a few narrow cobbled streets winding between stone houses, many of which are decorated with carved symbols and retain their traditional flagstone roof tiles. Most of the village's stone houses look rather smart after recent renovations, yet there are few modern additions to spoil the atmosphere.

Dardha has few specific sights, though it's worth entering the small Shën Gjergj (Saint George) church for its old icons. Scattered along the streets are several public fountains and wells spouting natural mineral water, believed locally to cure all manner of ailments. Drink sulphur-spiced water from the aptly named Uji i Qelbur ('filthy water') spring if you have stomach problems.

Apart from the pretty streets and mountain views, the local cuisine is a reason to visit; Dardha is famous for its huge fire-baked lakror onion and tomato pies, the unusual side dishes like snails, mushrooms and corn flour pie, all best washed down with the local raki pear liquor.

The annual village festival is on Shën Maria (St Mary's; 16 August), when the road is clogged with people returning to the ancestral home for the day, and everybody dresses up in their best folk clothes and joins in the religious rituals and traditional dances. In winter, some hardy types attempt to ski on the slopes around the village, though there are no rental or lift facilities at all.

Dardha can be reached across basic gravel roads by car or taxi; there's no minibus service. Heading south out of Korça, turn left into Boboshtica after passing the new prison, and left again at the World War II monument, pass the Shën Maria church and follow the road up into the gorge.

Accommodation is available in a handful of village homes where one or two rooms are available for guests, at about 1000 lek per room. It's difficult to book ahead so it's best to simply ask around on arrival. The Shtëpia e Pushimit (tel. 069 266 60 10/069 214 85 75; 15 rooms, 600 lek per person) is a rather basic converted workers resort, with small rooms, a few dorm rooms, shared showers, a restaurant with pool table and terrace.

The best meals are to be had at the local's homes; ask around or look for Mrs. Stolie Mekolli for the best lakror pie in town, though don't expect fast service; order, go for a walk and come back later. Alternatively, the Batelli bar and restaurant along the road at the top of the village is a great place for traditional food, served on the grassy terrace with its great views.



Street scene in Pogradec' old town

A town of modest pretensions, Pogradec (pronounced PO-gra-dets) enjoys a wonderful setting on the shore of magnificent Lake Ohrid, 40km north of Korça. Though its history goes back to the Iron Age, the town has a modern appearance. With its long sandy beach, fresh air and various sights in the surroundings, Pogradec can be visited en route to Korça or Ohrid.

The word Pogradec is of slavik origin, meaning 'below the small town', and the scant ruins of a 5th-century castle high up on the hill indicate there was once an Illyrian settlement here.

Modern-day Pogradec is pleasant enough for a stroll. Just west of the Enkelana hotel is a newly pedestrianised street with old houses that show something of the fishing village that was once here. Nearby, the modern concrete Ebu Bekr mosque has an unusual double-balconied minaret. Further east, the Church of the Resurrection (Ringjallja e Hyllindëses) at the end of Rr. Kajo Karafilil I sthe main Orthodox church in town. The St. Mary Dormition church (Kisha Fjetja e Hyjëllindëses) can be found in the Lagja e Toplecit area.

A sandy beach fringed by a well-tended park stretches for over a kilometre along the lakeshore from the centre. However, it's not recommended to swim here until the new sewage treatment plant is functional.

### Drilon springs

Near the border 5km east of Pogradec, Drilon is a lush and delightful park set around the ponds where crystal-clear water originating from Lake Prespa bubbles up from the side of Mali i Thate ('dry') mountain at an amazing 7 cubic metres per second. You can feed the ducks and swans and rent a boat for a quiet paddle around. The Vila Art restaurant (tel. +355 68 225 32 45) serves coffee, snacks and Albanian food. The small village of Tushemist, a few hundred metres east of the park, is worth a visit for its 6th century St. Pantaleon church with its original floor mosaic. Drilon can be reached by the bus to Tushemist, departing from near the Orthodox church daily at 08:30, 09:30, 10:30, 12:30, 13:30 and 16:00 (tickets 30 lek), on one of the irregular furgon minibuses (50 lek) from the same point, or by taxi (200 lek).

### Lin Mosaic (Mozaiku i Linit) Lin village, tel. +355 69 26 23 217.

The paleochristian basilica on a hill by pretty Lin village, on a peninsula 20km north of Pogradec on the western lakeshore, may no longer have any roof or walls, it does retain some stunning mosaics dating to the 6th century. Similar in style to the early medieval mosaics in Ohrid, just across the lake, biblical scenes, flowers, animals, and many other things are depicted on the old church floor, some in very

## Pogradec tourist information

**Internet & Tourist Information Center (Qendra InkuSat Cyberspace) Rr. Reshit Çollaku, Pall. 23, tel. +355 83 22 60 80, pogradec@gmail.com, www.pogradec.info.** A good internet café (100 lek/hr) where the multilingual manager (English, Italian, French, Dutch) doubles as the local unofficial voluntary tourist information officer and Fedex representative. His website is the best local site about Pogradec. ▶ Open 09:00 - 22:00.

good condition. Unfortunately, the whole complex is protected by a hideous modern concrete roof. Lin is along the road and railway between Pogradec and Elbasan. A taxi from Pogradec to Lin and back will cost around 1500 lek. Always call ahead to be sure that the site is open. ▶ Open 08:00-16:00, later in the summer months. Admission 200 lek.

### Shkumbin valley sights

Several ancient and medieval curiosities can be found in the upper reaches of the Shkumbin river valley, 30km northwest of Pogradec, a relatively untouched site of the ancient trading routes between the Adriatic and the lands beyond the lake. The first sight in the valley is the impressive Ottoman-era **Golik Bridge** (Ura e Golikut) with its three arches.

A group of five **monumental tombs** can be found in the rocks near Selcë e Poshtme village, the main settlement in the valley. Dating back to the 4th century BC, one in the shape of an amphitheatre, and another with two storeys and decorated colonnades. The graves may well have been for Illyrian kings, but grave robbers struck in the 1st century, and very few artifacts remained. The narrow track leading to the tombs best tackled by 4WD car; call tel. +355 69 262 32 17 to see if the graves are open.

A few kilometres further, **Potkozhan** village is worth visiting for its traditional stone houses and for the diminutive medieval St. Demetrios (Shën Bitri) church which retains its original frescoes; ask around for someone to unlock the church if you find it closed. At Potkozhan it's possible to stay in guesthouses and enjoy the local food and raki.

The valley is best approached from Urakë in the Elbasan road; there's a direct gravel road to Pogradec but that is impassable in wet weather. A daytrip by sturdy taxi will cost up to 3000 lek.

## Pogradec hotels

**Enkelana Rr. Reshit Çollaku, tel. +355 83 22 20 10, fax +355 83 22 21 73.** The former state hotel dominating the town centre has been modernised and now has decent, simple rooms, some overlooking the lake. ▶ 46 rooms (34 doubles 2,500-3,000 lek, 6 triples 3,500-4,000 lek, 6 suites 5,000-6,000 lek).

## Pogradec transport

Pogradec town is small enough to walk around, though taxis can be found at the main hotels if necessary. To order a taxi, have an Albanian speaker contact Liri Taxi (tel. +355 69 235 09 38) or Bexhet Allko Taxi (tel. +355 68 219 68 69). A ride to Drilon park or the Macedonian border will cost about 200 lek, or 50 lek in a shared taxi. Furgon minibuses to Korça, Elbasan and Tirana depart very regularly between early morning and mid-afternoon, trawling for customers along the main road; simply flag one down.

## Travelling to Macedonia

With Macedonia within sight across the lake, it's easy to travel between Pogradec and Ohrid, stopping off at the beautiful Sveti Naum monastery, right next to the Macedonian checkpoint. There are rumours of a new ferry service between the two towns starting in summer 2009, but till then the easiest way is to take a taxi to Ohrid, costing 2,000 lek or 500 lek in a shared taxi, taking under one hour. You can also take a taxi to the border (200 lek), walk across the 500m of no man's land, and hop on a bus (or an infrequent ferry) to Ohrid at Sveti Naum (the bus runs every two hours, costing 120 denars). Coming from Ohrid, you can expect taxis to be waiting on the Albanian side of the border between 09:00 and 19:00 (16:00 in winter); alternatively walk to Tushemist village (10 minutes) or Drilon Park (15 minutes) and catch the bus to Pogradec there. Note that most foreigners entering Albania need to pay a €1 land border fee (leaving costs nothing); ask for a receipt. The border crossing is open 24 hours per day. When travelling on to Skopje, check out our online and print *Skopje In Your Pocket* city guide.

**Millennium 1&2 Rruga Pogradec-Tushemisht, tel. +355 68 228 39 11.** Along the lakeside between Pogradec and the border at Tushemisht, this hotel has a pleasant garden overlooking the lake and a popular restaurant. The newly built annex has more modern facilities and conference rooms. ▶ 50 rooms (29 doubles 2,000-3,000 lek, 17 triples 3,500 lek, 4 suites 5,000 lek). 📞📺📺📺📺📺

**Perla Shëtitorja 1 Maji, tel. +355 83 22 37 70/+355 83, fax +355 83 22 66 88, perlahotel@yahoo.com.** The nicest rooms in this modern hotel are on the top floors, offering the best views of the lake, some 50 metres in front of the hotel. All corner rooms have a dainty circular balcony that pokes out of the building. ▶ 20 rooms (5 doubles 3,000 lek, 11 triples 4,000 lek, 4 suites 5,000 lek). 📞📺📺📺📺📺

**Royal Rr. Reshit Çollaku, tel. +355 83 22 31 58, fax +355 83 22 31 59, hotelroyalpogradec@yahoo.com.** A newly renovated lakeside hotel with good rooms and a lovely rooftop terrace for enjoying breakfast or a drink. ▶ 18 rooms (10 doubles 3,500 lek, 5 triples 4,000 lek, 3 family rooms 4,000 lek). 📞📺📺📺📺📺

**Vila Bimbi Shëtitorja 1 Maji, tel. +355 83 22 25 16/+355 69 223 20 57.** A gleaming pink-and-white near the city centre. The rooms are well-appointed, though it's the top floor suite with its huge private terrace with lake views that impresses most. Downstairs, there's a pleasant garden terrace. ▶ 12 rooms (4 doubles 2,500-3,000 lek, 6 triples 3,000 lek, 2 suites 4,000 lek). 📞📺📺📺📺📺

## Pogradec Food & Drink

Although well-known for the fresh fish from Lake Ohrid, central Pogradec does not have many attractive restaurants yet. For a special meal, locals often head for the lakeside restaurants a short drive north and east of town.

**Blealb Rruga Nacionale Pogradec - Qafe Thane, tel. +355 69 229 18 44.** A well-known lakeside restaurant offering views over to Macedonia. There's a beach here too. ▶ (500-700 lek). 📞📺

**Natrya e Qete Rruga Nacionale Pogradec, tel. +355 83 22 60 80/+355 68 208 29 93.** Well-known for its fish and grilled meat, Natrya e Qete is a large restaurant sited 4km along the main road north of Pogradec. ▶ (600-800 lek). 📞📺

**Mateo Disko Shëtitorja Rinia, tel. +355 69 269 08 96.** Pogradec' craziest structure is this crashed UFO floating around on the lake. Wobble across the gangplank into the round bar for house music and cocktails or take in the lake views from the rooftop terrace. Open in summer only. ▶ Open 19:00 - 05:00.

**Oxygen Beach Bar Rr. 10 Deshmorët e Pojskës, tel. +355 69 209 19 90, www.oxygenbeachbar.com.** A popular beach bar, a few hundred metres east of the centre along the lakeshore. This is the best place to have coffee or fresh juice during the day, watch the sunset with a cocktails in hand, and hit the dancefloor. Open June-Sept. ▶ Open 09:00 - 04:00.

**Tea Shetitorja Fan Noli, tel. +355 83 22 29 47.** A modest restaurant serving pizza, fish and the usual grilled meat dishes. ▶ Open 07:00 - 22:00. 📞

**Tek Mollët Rr. 10 Deshmorët e Pojskës, Lgj. 1, tel. +355 69 269 27 78.** Local pies, meat dishes and two guest rooms. Call ahead to check it's serving food today. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00.

**V Pogradec Rr. Naim Frashëri, tel. +355 83 22 45 54.** Traditional Pogradec cooking. ▶ Open 12:00 - 22:00. (400-800 lek).

## Great lakes: Ohrid and Prespa

Pogradec overlooks **Lake Ohrid (Liqeni I Ohrit)**, the deepest tectonic lake in the Balkans (298 metres) and one of the oldest lakes in the world, formed 4 million years ago. Set at 695 metres above sea level and shared with Macedonia, one third of the 358 square kilometre surface is Albanian. The lake is fed by various rivers (including an underground river from Lake Prespa popping up at Drilon) and exits to the north in the Black Drin. Ohrid is home to various endemic species of plants and animals, including the *koran*, an ancient and very tasty variety of trout, the Ohrid sponge and various molluscs.

**Lake Prespa**, set at 850 metres above sea level, 20km north of Korça and shared with Macedonia and Greece, is another beautiful tectonic lake fringed by bare mountains. The whole area is a national park and is excellent for bird-watching. The region also has important Byzantine sites – the tiny uninhabited island of Maligrad in the Albanian part of the lake has the amazing 14th-century Kisha e Shën Meri (St. Mary's church), in a cave set high in a cliff at the top of a rickety wooden ladder. It's possible to spend the night and taste the local food (including carp, sardines, fish-stuffed byrek and meze) at modest guesthouses and restaurants in Liqenas, Goricë e Vogël and Gollomboç villages, reached by taxi or minibus from Korça. The best sandy beach is at Liqenas/Zaroshkë. Village festivals take place on various religious holidays; in Zaroshkë on 12 July, in Kallamas on 20 July and in Cerje on 28 August.

Amidst high mountains, forests and rolling green fields some 18 kilometres west of Korça, Voskopoja is a Balkan oddity; a village that was once a bustling town and Balkan cultural centre. Set at 1150 metres above sea level, Voskopoja was founded in 1338 in an isolated and defensible location. Also known as Moschopolis to Greeks and Moscopole to Vlachs, it grew steadily to become one of the larger urban centres in the Balkans, and may have had up to 30,000 inhabitants in the 18th century. The town profited greatly from trading along the shortest land route between Istanbul and Venice, and was also a major centre of Orthodox culture (despite the Ottoman occupation) with 22 churches, a school, library and dozens of workshops producing crafts, books (from the Balkans' first printing press) and religious artworks, including icons. For a while it was even the largest town in the Balkan region. Ottoman campaigns in the late 18th century spelled the end of Voskopoja's glory years. Voskopoja's end finally came in the 20th century, when battles in World War I and partisan warfare during World War II destroyed most of the town. Now only seven churches, a handful of houses and some old cobbled streets still remain.

The Shën Kollë (St. Nicholas) church from 1721 was the only church to be protected in the Communist era (the others were used for storage) and is the only church reliably open to visitors. It has an elegant painted gallery and a dark and moody interior, with fantastic examples of wood carving and sooty wall frescoes. The most valuable icons have been moved to the Medieval Art Museum in Korça. If you find the church closed, simply ask around for someone with the key.

Another church worth visiting is the Shën Athanasii (Saint Athanasius) church, set between fields just east of the village; it's damaged but enjoys a pretty setting and has several well-preserved frescoes. Finally, the Shën Mëhill (Saint Michael) and Shën Ilia (Saint Ilia) churches are worth a look – finding someone to unlock these churches can be difficult, however. In the woods, a bumpy 2 kilometres beyond the village, lies the the Monastery of Shën Prodhomi (St. Prodhon), a peaceful complex with a charming 17th-century brick church in the courtyard. The guard is usually at hand to unlock the gate and let you in. The church celebrates Saint Prodhon's day every year on June 24, when it's the site of a well-attended religious festival. The Vlahos festival, celebrating Vlach/Aromanian culture, is held annually on July 4.

There's a daily morning bus from Korça to Voskopoja. Otherwise, you can charter a taxi for the ride. The roads all the way up to the monastery are accessible for cars. Voskopoja is perfect for a picnic in a flowery field – brings supplies from Korça. There's a restaurant serving Albanian dishes at the Hotel Akademia. Two

## Vithkuqi

The nearby village of Vithkuqi, 25km southwest of Korça and reached by minibus or taxi, is a picturesque and ancient mountain village with mineral water springs and several Orthodox churches that are worth a visit, most notably that of Shën Pjetër (Saint Peter) monastery. Vithkuqi suffered the same fate as Voskopoja and was wrecked several times since the 18th century. A calm and pretty village remains now, with several guesthouses and restaurants. Annual village fairs take place on June 29, St. Peter's day, and on July 10, St. Nikodhim's day.

## Vlachs in Albania

Voskopoja is historically a centre for Vlachs or Aromanians, an originally nomadic minority speaking a Latin language close to Romanian, who as shepherds spread widely throughout Central and Eastern Europe since early medieval times.

Aromanians, the Vlachs in the southern Balkans who have been strongly influenced by Greek culture, are spread mainly in northern and central Greece and in Albania, where up to 200,000 Aromanians can be found in the area south of Vlora. Voskopoja, or Moscopole as they called it, was an important urban centre for the Vlachs. Korça, called *Curcea* in Aromanian, is the site of Albania's only Vlach church, sponsored by the Romanian government, and also still has a Vlach district. Nowadays, Aromanian language is seldom heard in Albania, though there are attempts to revive the culture and start language education in some schools.

trout-farm-cum-restaurants, Ura e Kovacë and Taverna Peshku, are located halfway up the road to Voskopoja; both have seats beside the fish ponds and serve good-value, freshly grilled trout. Although Voskopoja is an easy daytrip from Korça, consider staying the night to enjoy the peace. There are several simple guesthouses with rooms for tourists in the village, best found by asking around. Along the road east out of Voskopoja towards the St. Prodhomi monastery, the renovated Hotel Akademia complex (tel. +355 69 225 86 46; 27 rooms: 16 doubles and 11 chalets, 3,000-4,000 lek) has simple rooms and new chalets (some with fireplace) overlooking gardens and forests; call to check when loud parties take place.



The Shën Athanasii church in Voskopoja

## Banks

**Alpha Bank Blv.** Fan Noli, tel. +355 82 25 43 13, [www.alpha.gr](http://www.alpha.gr).  
**Emporiki Bank B-4,** Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 25 49 12, [www.emporikibank.gr](http://www.emporikibank.gr).  
**Intesa Sanpaolo Bank B-5,** Rr. 28 Nëntori, tel. +355 82 25 28 38, [www.albambank.com](http://www.albambank.com).  
**ProCredit Bank B-5,** Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti, tel. +355 82 24 37 54, [www.procreditbank.com.al](http://www.procreditbank.com.al). Also on Rr. Rinia in Pogradec (tel. +355 83 22 20 55).  
**Raiffeisen Bank B-4, Rr. Midhi Kostani,** [www.raiffeisen.al](http://www.raiffeisen.al). Also in Pogradec at Rr. Reshit Çollaku. ▶ Open 08:30 - 15:00, Sat 09:00 - 12:30. Closed Sun.

## Business connections

**Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Dhoma e Tregtise dhe Industrise),** tel. +355 82 24 24 57, [cciko@albmmail.com](mailto:cciko@albmmail.com).

## Consulates

Find the details of all foreign embassies in Tirana on the Tirana In Your Pocket website, at [tirana.inyourpocket.com](http://tirana.inyourpocket.com).

**Greek consulate (Konsullata Greke) C-5, Rr. Pavlo Katro 4,** tel. +355 82 24 57 33/+355 82 24 57 34, fax +355 82 24 50 52, [grgencon.kor@mfa.gr](mailto:grgencon.kor@mfa.gr). In th street behind the cathedral. Non-Albanians should phone ahead for consular business. ▶ Open 08:00 - 16:00. Closed Fri, Sat, Sun.

## Culture

Branding itself 'the festive city', Korça is the first city in Albania to make work of organising festivals and other events for locals and visitors. We've printed a selection of the main events here; you can download a full overview of 2009 events at <http://korca.inyourpocket.com>.

## Cinemas & Theatres

**Andon Zako Çajupi Theatre B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti.** One of Albania's oldest theatres, with performances in Albanian only.

**Kinema Majestik C-5, Blv. Republika,** tel. +355 82 245 05 15. A lovely Art Deco-style cinema with 350 seats that was renovated in 2001. Screenings at 17:00 and 19:30, Sat, Sun also at 11:00. ▶ Admission 150 lek.

## Cultural centres & Sports

**Skënderbeu stadium C-2/3.** The Skënderbeu stadium and sports complex includes a 7000-seat football stadium built in 1959 which regularly hosts matches against visiting teams and the Tamara Nikolla sports hall (basketball and volleyball are popular). For schedules of matches, see the signboard opposite the cinema.

**The Castle,** tel. +355 69 263 20 38. An entertainment centre with go-karts and a bar, 2km south of town on the Erseka road.

**Thimi Mitko Library B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti,** tel. +355 82 24 29 49. ▶ Open 08:00 - 15:00. Closed Sun.  
**Vangjush Mio Cultural Centre (Pallati i Kulturës) B-5, Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti,** tel. +355 82 22 48 78. A centre for occasional exhibitions, concerts and festivals. Look out for performances by the city's famous Lyra Choir, the City Band and the Skënderbeg Ensemble.

## Institutions

**Fan S. Noli University D-3, Rr. e Bllishtit,** tel. +355 82 24 36 09/+355 82 24 89 44.  
**Korça municipality (Bashkia) B-5, Rr. 28 Nëntori,** tel./fax +355 82 24 33 53, tel. +355 82 24 30 55, [www.bashkiakorce.gov.al](http://www.bashkiakorce.gov.al).  
**Prefecture C-5, Blv. Republika,** tel. +355 82 24 27 00/+355 82 24 30 39.  
**Radio-TV Korça B-6, Rr. Emin Duraku,** tel. +355 82 24 28 07.

## 2009 events

### Korça

**April 16-18:** Pottery fair, Blv. Republika by the cathedral. Display and sales of pottery.

**May 13-15:** Sotir International Photography Competition, Vangjush Mio Cultural Centre. Renowned photographers from Albania and abroad exhibit their works.

**June 1 celebrations, Rinia Park:** A festival for children, with playgrounds and activities such as painting and drawing.

**June 6:** Korça Carnival. Nowhere in Albania is carnival celebrated as much as in Korça and this summer event with a parade of local and international groups attracts thousands of visitors.

**June 25 - July 6:** Sculptures in the Park, Rinia Park. An international sculpting symposium, which sees the resulting sculptures given to the city for exhibition in Rinia Park.

**July:** Lakror Pie Festival, Rinia Park. A festival set around the delicious traditional-style lakror or byrek pie. There's live music, a children's programme and lots of pie of course.

**August 13-16:** Beer Fest, near Rinia Park. The biggest event of the year, with tens of thousands of people enjoying beer, traditional food, beer games, music and performances. See also [www.festaebirres.com](http://www.festaebirres.com).

**September 22:** Car-free day. Experience Korça without the traffic, but with a festive atmosphere.

**September 29:** Cultural Heritage Day, Korça and Pogradec. A celebration of local culture, with events, special exhibitions of object or heritage places, free admission to museums, and more.

**October 25-28:** Vangjush Mio Days. A festival of local and international painters, with the city as their muse and inspiration for 4 days.

**December:** End of year fair. Korça is decorated with twinkling lights and a winter fair with stalls selling toys, sweets, baked apples, drinks like mulled wine. There's music and exhibitions too.

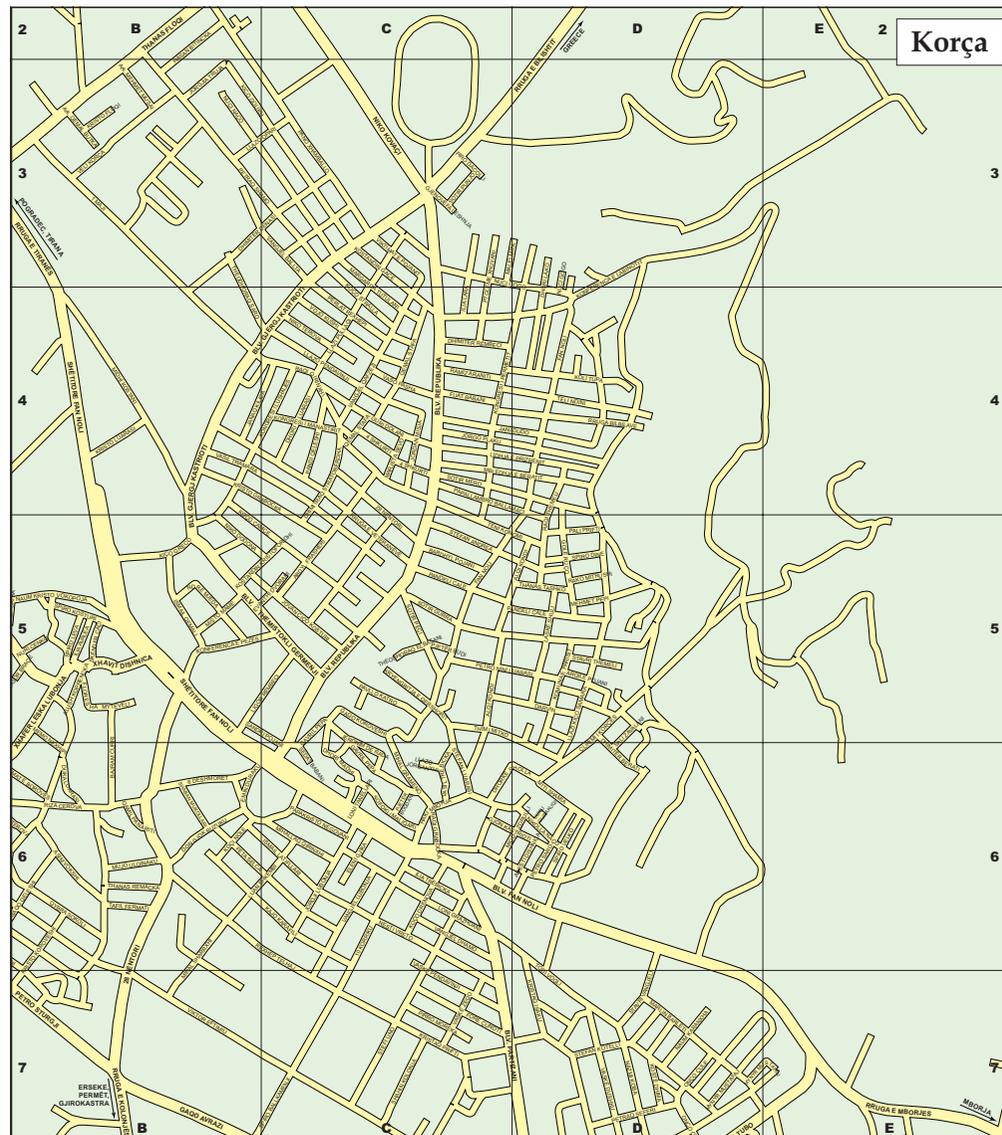
**December 30:** Santa Parade. Babagjyshi, the Albanian Santa, rides through town in his carriage.

### Pogradec

**June 21:** Lake Days. The municipalities of Pogradec and Ohrid and Struga in Macedonia organize joint events including concerts and exhibitions.

**June:** Puppet Theatre Festival. For two weeks, puppet troupes from Albania, Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Croatia, Italy and other countries compete with each other, entertaining both young and old while they're at it.

**December:** Wine Festival. Over three days, local wine makers fiercely battle for the first prize in this open-air home-made wine competition. It's cold so it's good that visitors are welcome to have a few sips too, best done with kernačka sausages and other barbecued food.



1 Maji	B-3	Dhimitraq Stratobërda	Ismail Latifllari	C-6	Kristo Luarasi	B-4	Mujo Ulqinaku	B-6	Qemal Stafa	C-4	Spiro Kosturi	B-5	
10 Korriku	C-6	C-4/5	Ismail Qemali	B-5	Kryengritja e Qershorit	C-5	Mynyr Mustafaj	D/E/7	Qybra Sokoli	B-6	Spiro Leva	B-5	
28 Nëntori	B-6	D-3	Janaq Kilica	B-4	Laskë Shull	D-5	Naum Kristo Vokopoja	B-5	Rako Mitrush	D-5	Stavri Themeli	D-5	
29 Nëntori	C-5	Dhori Luarasi	C-4	Jani Dudo	C-4	Lidhja e Prizrenit	C-4	Ndre Mjeda	B-5	Ram'Arantit	C-4	Stefan Andrea	C-5
4 Shkurti	C-4	Dhori Mladi	C-6	Jeronim De Rada	C-5/6	Ligor Brace	B-5	Nesti Vreto	C-6	Raqi Grabocka	C-6	Stefan Luarasi	C-6
6 Dhjetorët	B-8	Dhorië Sholla	C-6	Jordan Mija	C-4	Ligor Rëmbeci	C-5	Niko Dodona	B-5	Raqi Qiraxhi	C-4	Tafiri Fermtari	B-6
Abdyll Frashëri	C-5	Don Gjik Buzuku	B-6	Jorgji Lubonja	C-6	Llazi Kiço Samara	D-5	Niko Kovaci	C-3	Raqi Themeli	D-5	Teli Nidini	D-4
Alqi Kondi	C/D-5	Duka Luarasi	B-6	Jorgji Plaku	C-4	Llazi Pullaj	C-4	Niko Terova	C-4	Riza Cerova	B-6	Teni Konomi	C-5
Altush Koprencka	B-5	Eleni Gjika	C-6	Jovan Cipo Kosturi	C-5	Llazo Jorgaxhi	C-6	Nuci Gogo	C/D-3	Rruga e Bllishtit	D-2	Thanas Remačka	B-6
Arqile Pojani	D-5	Emin Duraku	B-6	Kajo Karafil	C-6	Llazo Pendavini	C-4	Nuri Cerko	B-5	Rruga e Kolonjës	B-7	Thanas Tashko	D-5
Asim Vokshi	B-6	Evanthi Dvorani	B/C-5	Kiço Greco	B-5	Loni Grazhdani	C-5	Pali Prifti	D-5	Rruga e Mborjes	E-7	Theodorag Elbasani	C-5
Bajram Curri	B-6	Fan Noli	D-4	Koçi Nole	B-6	Loni Tanellari	C-6	Pandeli Cale	C-5	Rruga e Tiranës	B-2	Thimi Mitko	C-5
Bardhyli Pojani	C-5	Feta Selca	B-6	Koço Camço	B-5	Luan Shkëmbi	B-6	Pandeli Vangjell	D-2	Rruga e Veteranëve	C-4	Vangjel Dhamo	C-6
Billilave	D-4	Florësia Myteveli	B-5	Koço Drenova	C-6	Margantia Tutulani	C-4	Pandi Kereku	B-6	Selli Zavalari	D-5/6	Vangjel Lubonja	C-6
Blv. Fan Noli	C/D-6	Fuat Babani	C-4	Koli Tupa	D-4	Margjeta Sevo	C-4	Pandi Qeleshi	C-4	Sandri Projani	B-5	Vangjel Qarzo	C-6
Blv. Gjergj Kastrioti	B-4, C-3	Gaqo Koroveshi	C-5	Komuna e Parisit	D-5	Mbledhja e Beratit	C-4	Pano Xhamballo	C-3	Sedat Babani	C-6	Vasil Tramara	C-4
Blv. Partizani	D-7	Gaqo Qeleshi	B-6	Konferenca e Labriottit	D-4	Mehmet Pepi	D-5	Papakristo Negovani	C-6	Shaban Mukollari	B-6	Vasil Trebicka	C-6
Blv. Republika	C-3/4/5	Gavril Pepa	C-6	Konferenca e Pezës	B-5	Memo Nexhipi	B-5	Papallabro Ballangaj	C-4	Shetitorja Fan Noli	C-6	Vaso Pasha	C-4
Blv. Republika	C-4	Gole Rupo	D-5	Kongresi i Lushnjës	C-4	Mico Zdrull	C/D-6	Pavillo Katro	C-5	Shetitorja Fan Noli	B-5	Viktimat e Borovës	B-6
Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji	B-5	Guri Dolani	C-4	Kongresi i Manastirit	C-4	Midhi Kostani	B-4	Perlat Rexhepi	C-4	Skënder çaçi	B-5	Viktimat e Pojanit	C-3
Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji	B-5	Haki Mborja	C-6	Kongresi i Permetit	D-4	Mihal Ciko	E-7	Petro Nini Luarasi	C-5	Sokolik Maliqari	C-6	Vojo Kushi	C-4
Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji	B-5	Hasan Bitnicka	B-2	Kostandin Gajce	C-3	Mihal Grameno	C-6	Pjetër Bogdani	C-6	Sotir Gurra	C-4	Xhafer Leska Lubonja	B-5
Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji	B-5	Illa Avalea	B-5	Kostandin Kristoforidhi	C-5	Mihal Sharrxhi	B-6	Pjetër Buda	C-5	Sotir Mero	C-5	Xhavit Dishnica	B-5
Blv. Themistokli Gërmenji	B-5	Illa Terova	B-6	Kristo Grabocka	C-4	Mihalqin Gjermi	C-6	Ptoleme Xhuvani	C-3/4	Sotir Peçi	C-5		
Dhimitër Rëmbeci	C-4	Illa Trebicka	C-6	Kristo Koroveshi	B-6/7	Misto Mame	B-5	Qamil Panariti	B-6	Spiro Dine	D-5		