

Tour ins and outs, practical information

Pricing

The price for the seminar will be about 900 Euro per person , based on sharing a twin or double room in the hotels. Breakfast and part of the lunches or dinners are included. All transportation for excursions and admissions to museums etcetera is included.

Application form

Fill in the application form as completely as possible on the website or send email. We ask you your address and phone number just in order to be able to reach you. Your information will be saved as confidential. Do not send any money. When the minimum of participants is reached we will ask you to send a small amount in advance as an insurance that you take part. There will be no selection to level, experience, gender or other items. First comes, first goes until the maximum number of participants is reached.

Minimum is 15, maximum is 30 participants.

Places

The main part will take place in Gjirokastër with two excursions to interesting places nearby. After the festival we will stay one night in Berat, visit the museum and the citadel before returning to Tirana on the first two days there is some opportunity to go shopping in Tirana.

Assistance

During the festival we will have 3 musicians providing live music for classes and Genc will be assisted by Helga Saraçi (dancer at the National Ensemble) in dance classes.

The staff of Albania Holidays travel agency will assist in transport and arrangements.

Extension

It is possible to stay more days in advance or after the trip. We and Albania Holidays are happy to assist you for accommodation, arrangements and guides.

Teacher

Genc Kastrati finished his study at the Academy of Fine arts in historical dancing, which is the Albanian equivalent of folklore dancing. By that time he already was a solo dancer at the National Ensemble but now also became choreographer for the ensemble and presented his first complete concert in 2008. Apart from this job, Genc is also teacher at the Art Academy, the Academy of Sports and member of the scientific council of the National Centre for Immaterial Culture, and occasionally involved in teaching at amateur groups. From 2010 onwards Genc has been teaching at workshops in Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany and the Netherlands.

Language

We will use English as the standard language for communication during the seminar. Genc speaks Italian and English and we will have a translator at hand as much as possible. We also will provide you with basic Albanian words for dancing, food and drinks. We ourselves are able to communicate with you in Dutch, French and German as well.

Hotels

In Tirana we will stay at Hotel Theranda, a modern hotel in the very centre of Tirana. In Gjirokastër we will stay in Hotel Kalemi in a traditional house. In Berat we will stay in hotels in the old Moslim quarter of the town, also traditional buildings.

Contacts and registration

Check out the website for details:

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Albanian Folk Dances

Gjirokastër

Folk Festival 2015

and folk dance seminar

with

Genc Kastrati

8th—18th of May 2015

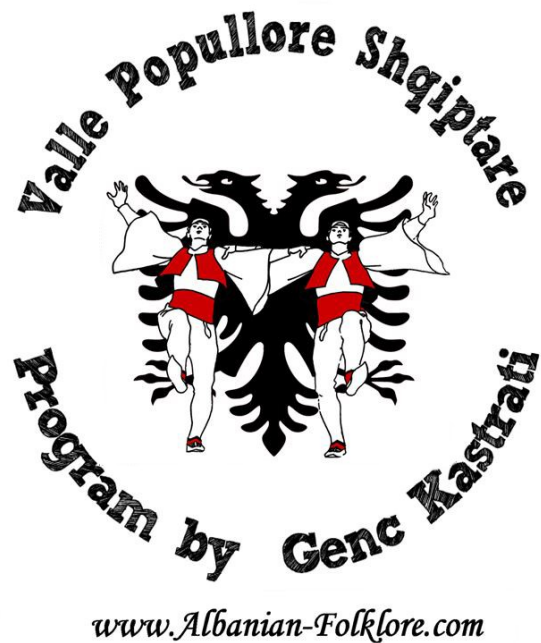
Programs and Information

www.albanian-folklore.com



Albanian-Folklore.com





The Gjirokaštër folklore festival

The Gjirokaštër folklore festival is the major folklore event held once in 4 or 5 years, with some exceptions. During 6 days amateur groups perform at night. The groups consist of several people from the region they represent. Each group has to perform songs, instrumental pieces, a ritual and dances in the costumes of their region and will be judged on authenticity, originality and performance. It is a competition, but in a friendly atmosphere. The festival ground is on top of the castle of Gjirokaštër in the old town.

Gjirokaštër itself is a museum city, protected by Unesco and the old part of town has traditional houses in a typical style for Gjirokaštër.

Three of these houses can be visited inside, which we will visit. One of them is the Ethnographical museum.

There will be groups from every region in Albania and Albanian groups from Kosovo, Macedonia and Montenegro and usually groups from the Albanian diaspora (USA, Switzerland, Italy etc).

In case of bad weather, the festival will be held indoors in Gjirokaštër.



Program Festival trip

Arrival date 8th of May 2015, Leaving date 18th of May 2015

Day 1: arrival at Tirana. Checking in at hotel Theranda in the centre of Tirana and welcome dinner with traditional food

Day 2: first morning class at the Opera, afternoon leaving for Gjirokaštër, checking in at the hotel, dinner party

Day 3: Opening of the festival all day, first night of performances

Day 4: Dance classes, lunch, visiting the museum, performances

Day 5: Dance classes, excursion with lunch, performances

Day 6: Dance classes, free time afternoon, performances

Day 7: Dance classes, excursion with lunch, performances

Day 8: Dance classes, free time, final night of the festival

Day 9: Leaving Gjirokaštër for Berat, museum visit, dinner party

Day 10: Visit the Berat citadel, lunch, leaving for Tirana, dinner party

Day 11: Leaving Tirana for travelling back home..

Program is subject to changes, depending on opportunities to meet the groups during the days.

On the final day in Gjirokaštër we will take group pictures and video recordings of the dances learned.

