

Durrës, Albania

One of Europe's oldest cities, Durrës drops you at the heart of ancient Roman history, an Albanian beach strip, and a gateway to Tirana — all without ever tendering a single wave.

⚓ Pier (docked) ⌚ Typical call: 7-9 hrs 🇦🇱 Albanian Lek (ALL); EUR widely accepted 🗣️ Albanian; Italian widely spoken

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — ships dock directly; no tender required

Walk to center: ~10-15 min (1 km) to Freedom Square

Best For: Roman history, beaches, day trip to Tirana or Krujë

Don't Miss: Roman Amphitheater — largest in the Balkans

🚗 Getting around: 🚕 **Taxi** ✅ ~800 ALL (~\$10 USD) · 📱 **Rideshare** ❌ not available · 🚌 **Hop-on hop-off** ✅ HOBUS Albania / Durrës City Tour

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Roman Amphitheater of Durrës** — The largest Roman amphitheater in the Balkans, built under Emperor Trajan in the 2nd century AD and seating 20,000.
- **Archaeological Museum of Durrës** — Albania's largest archaeological museum, recently renovated, displaying Greek, Hellenistic, and Roman artifacts from the city's 2,600-year history.
- **Day Trip to Tirana** — Albania's vibrant, colorful capital is just 40 minutes away by taxi or minibus.
- **Krujë Castle & Ottoman Bazaar** — Hillside fortress of Albania's national hero Skanderbeg, 50 minutes from port.
- **Durrës Beach** — A wide sandy arc stretching south from the port, warm shallow Adriatic water, and a row of beach clubs.

BEST WALKS

- **Port Gate to Freedom Square & Amphitheater Loop** 2.5 km · ~45 min · Flat with one short hill — Walk from the port gate along the main boulevard to Freedom Square.
- **Vollga Promenade to the Sphinx** 2 km · ~30 min · Flat seafront — Head south from the port along the waterfront promenade past seafood restaurants and sculptures to the Sphinx — a modern concrete staircase installation popular with...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌦️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇦🇱 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:02AM–7:22PM · Jun 5:08AM–8:16PM · Aug 5:51AM–7:40PM · Sep 6:22AM–6:51PM · Oct 6:54AM–6:00PM	
Apr	64°	51°	10d	🇦🇱 Albanian Lek (ALL); EUR widely accepted	
Jun	79°	67°	6d		
Aug	85°	72°	4d		
Sep	78°	66°	8d		
Oct	71°	58°	10d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Use Lek, not just Euros. Euros are accepted everywhere but the exchange rate you get paying cash in Lek is noticeably better. Hit an ATM near Freedom Square.
- Negotiate taxi fares before you get in. Meters are rarely used. City center rides should be €3-5; to the beach €4-7; to Tirana €25-35 one-way.
- The amphitheater is worth every cent. Only ~€3 entry, and the Byzantine chapel inside is genuinely rare — one of the few surviving in-situ painted chapels in the Adriatic.
- Italian works better than English in older shops. Due to proximity to Italy and decades of Italian TV, Italian is a reliable lingua franca with locals over 40.
- Tirana day-trippers: leave by 9 AM. Traffic can be heavy. Allow 45-60 min each way and return well before all-aboard.
- Summer heat is real. Durrës averages 30°C+ in July-August. Carry water, wear sun protection, and the beach clubs offer essential shade.

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The map shows the city of Durrës, Albania, with its coastline and surrounding areas. Key locations marked include the city center, the port, and the beach. The map includes labels for streets, landmarks, and transportation routes. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances of 0.1 miles and 0.25 kilometers.

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