

We loved Albania

great food - great people - great price



Albania

Shkodër - Tirana - Lake Ohrid LOTS OF MOUNTAIN PASSES

Our first stop in Albania was Shkodër. We had a fantastic time here we stayed with our friends Sister Vera , Sister Spring at their convent for three days. We were sad to say goodbye. There is a lot to see in Shkoder - The Castle Rozafa, St Stephens Cathedral, Site of Witness and Memory Museum and the Ebu Bekr Mosque.

From Tirana it was another constant climb it was dark by the time we could find anywhere to camp , we found a spot just on the side of the mountain away from the road, it was really windy so had to lie the bikes down and tie them to the tent . Also freezing cold.

Tirana - Cheap and friendly, lots of bars and restaurants, mosques and churches.

Locals - The people in Albania were super friendly to us and helpful we really enjoyed this country.

Loads of stray dogs everywhere and lots of the dogs like to chase you down the road.

Prrenjas - We stayed in a hotel here as it was freezing cold and was in need of a hot shower and had had enough of cycling up mountains so wanted a day off and chill out. Great hotel with its own bar and restaurant were all the locals come and hang out so good atmosphere. Lots of stray dogs in this village.

There was a steep climb out over to Lake Ohrid. Lots of long wagons go over this pass so a little busy and the road is not the

best to cycle on. The wagons pull in at the sides to have their vehicle sprayed down with water to cool the brakes. There is a Cafe bar Thane and Hotel Odessa at the top and great mountain views to take photos. Then a great down hill all the way to the Lake Ohrid.

Camping on Lake Ohrid - Restaurant Camping Rei Just after Piskupat. This Restaurant in the summer is open to campers they have a small piece of land next to it on the lake but was closed for the winter but the owner let us camp there for free and we had a meal in the restaurant and he closed up but let us stay to relax and have more drinks. Chris was really happy. Stunning views across the lake over to Macedonia. I had a wash in the lake even though it was ice cold.

We then cycled around the lake into Pogradec but stayed the night in Tushemisht the last tiny village just five minutes from the border into a Macedonia .

Tushemisht - The Sunset Bar has cheap rooms and lets you camp in front of his bar on the lake. A great family run place . There are also a couple of restaurants and hotels. Restaurant-Dallga we went to one night . We stayed here for two nights at Hotel Sirena with really helpful staff we left our bikes outside but on the grounds of the hotel. We got the local mini bus from the hotel into Progradec it only cost 20c each.

We were sad to leave Albania as we enjoyed everything about the country.