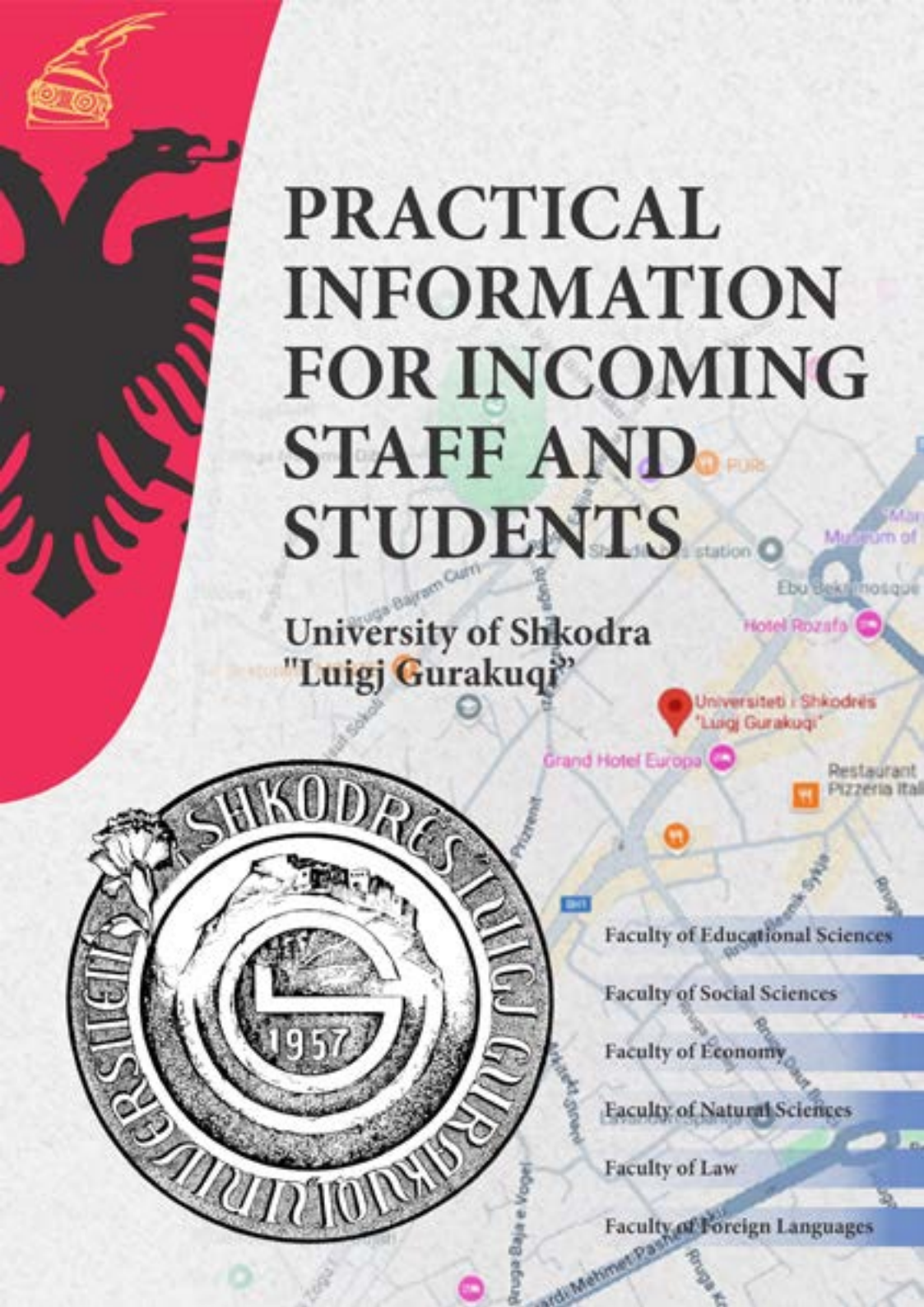


PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR INCOMING STAFF AND STUDENTS

University of Shkodra
"Luigj Gurakuqi"



Faculty of Educational Sciences

Faculty of Social Sciences

Faculty of Economy

Faculty of Natural Sciences

Faculty of Law

Faculty of Foreign Languages

University of Shkodra is one of the most important institutions and the biggest centre of education, scientific research and culture of Northern Albania. It was first established as High Pedagogical Institute (the first High Educational School after that of Tirana) on 02.10.1957 based on the wonderful traditions of a prosperous country (Decree nr 150 of the Ministers' Council, date: 18.04.1957). During the years The High Pedagogical Institute of Shkodra has had consulting centers and its own branches all around Albania. It has played a great role on the consolidation of the educational system in Albania. This High Pedagogical Institute has had its own branches in Elbasan, Gjirokaster, Korçë, Berat, Durrës, Fier, Vlorë and consulting centers in Tirana, Peshkopi and Sarandë. The Pedagogical Institutes of Gjirokastra and Elbasan were opened based on these Branches.

The High Pedagogical Institute' status changed into University of Shkodra, "Luigj Gurakuqi" by the Ministers' Council decree Nr 124, on 28.05.1991.

Now the University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi" has 6 Faculties and 22 Departments:

- Faculty of Educational Sciences
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Economy

- Faculty of Natural Sciences
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Foreign Languages

This University offers the following 73 study programs in different fields of study:

- 30 Bachelor study programs;
- 14 Masters of Science;
- 22 Professional Masters.
- 2 PhD in Albanian Studies
- 1 five-year-integrated study program in Law Faculty
- 3 One-year and two-year Professional Study

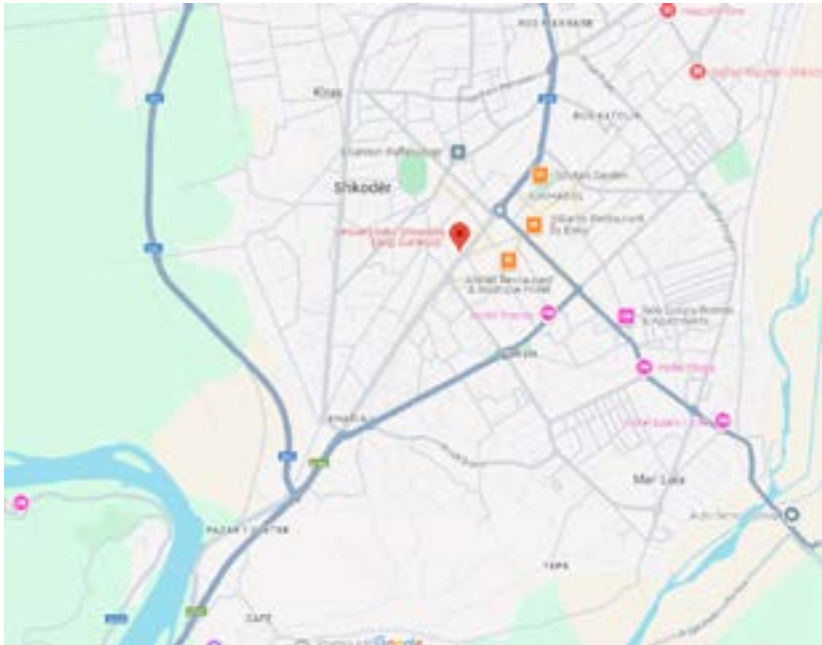
Programs in:

- System and Computer Network Developer
- Tourist Guide and Tourist Itinerary Management in the Northern Region of Albania
- Electrician of Higher education
- 1 Continuous training study program

Two Scientific Research Institutes are at Shkodra University:

- The Institute of Albanian Studies;
- Water research Institute of Shkodra Region

Location of the Rectorate building



University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi"
Address: Rektorati, Sheshi 2 Prilli, 4001, Shkodër, Albania

How to reach Shkodra?

By plane

In case you will fly to Albania the nearest international airport is located in Tirana, the capital city of Albania. Tirana International Airport (TIA) is about 85 kilometres (53 miles) from Shkodra. There are no domestic flights to Shkoder so you will need to use one of the ground transportations described hereunder.

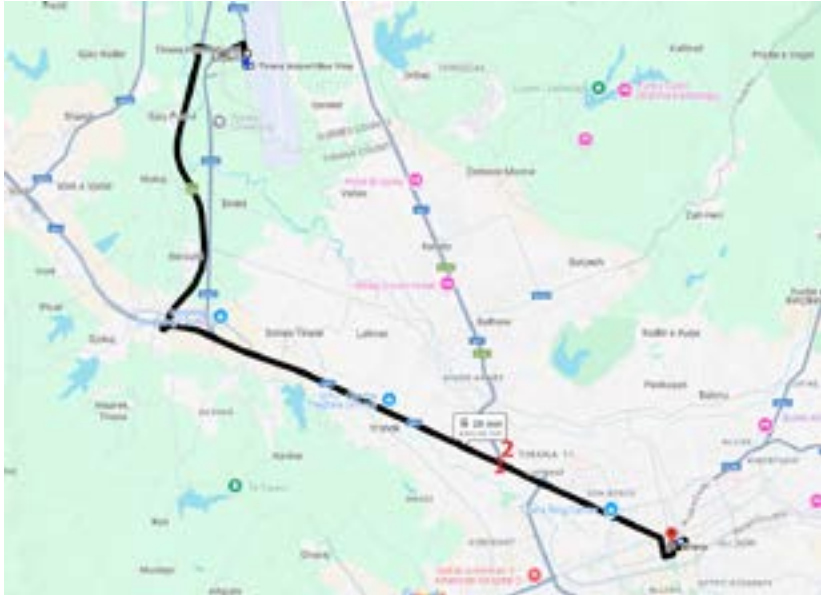
By Bus

Shkodra could be reached from the airport through direct bus lines. The bus station is less than 6 min away from the arrivals exit at the TIA (Map 2). The tickets could be found on-board, and it takes up to 90 minutes to reach Shkodër depending on the time of the day. Further details on service hours and fees could be found [here](#) or [here](#). Please note that some hotels provide shuttle services, check with your hotel if it is the case.



*Map no 2:
Route from the arrivals of TIA to the Tirana Airport Bus Stop*

There are also buses traveling from Tirana to Shkoder that could be found at the [Bus Terminal North-South](#). To reach the terminal you can use the bus line [Airport-Tirana](#) leaving from the Tirana Airport Bus Stop and stop near the terminal (no 1 at the map no 3). Please make sure to tell the ticked guy that you will stop at the terminal. When stopping, it will be just a 2-minute walk to reach the terminal (no 2 at the map no 3).



Map no 3: Route from the Tirana Airport Bus Stop to the Bus Terminal North-South.

The other option is you can travel to Tirana and then take the bus line Tiranë-Kamëz (their first station is behind the opera building marked on the map no 4 with 2, just 100m from your stop -no 1), or Tiranë-Institut (station is marked with no 3 on map no 4) and stop at the Terminal. Both these lines provide station audio orientation in English and the ticket will be paid on-board.



Map no 4: Location of the 1- final stop of the Airport-Tirana bus line, 2- first station of line Tiranë-Kamëz, 3- first station of line Tiranë-Institut.

The bus ride from Tirana terminal to Shkodër takes about 2 to 2.5 hours depending on the time of the day, and buses leave each hour starting from 7.00 am until 6.00 pm. The bus stop in Shkoder is at the center of the city.

By taxi

You can hire a taxi or arrange a private transfer for a more comfortable and direct journey. The journey takes up to 90 minutes, depending on the time of the day. The taxi fare varies from the time of your arrival, normally it starts from 50-60 Euro. Taxis can be found at the arrivals exit, but you can book one, prior arrival. Further details could be found at the webpages of the companies no [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#). Other companies could offer such a service, too.

In case you would like to rent a car, car rental services are located in front of the arrivals exit at TIA.

Tips

Check Schedules: Make sure to check the bus or shuttle in advance, as they can vary.

Currency: The local currency is the Albanian lek (ALL), so have some cash on hand if needed, there might not be problem to pay in Euro in some buses and taxi. Exchange shops could be found at the Tirana international Airport.

Language: While Albanian is the official language, many people in Shkodra and Tirana, especially in tourist areas, can speak some English or Italian.

Accommodation

Shkodra is a tourist friendly city and offers several opportunities of accommodation like hotels, daily rent houses and hostels.

Three star hotels will cost you starting from 35-40 euros per single room per night. In case you would like a 3 star hotel we would suggest: *Promenade Hotel, Rose Garden Hotel, Hotel Argenti, Çoçja Boutique Hotel.*

Four star hotel will cost you starting from 50-60 euro per single room per night. In case you would like a 4 stars hotel we would suggest: *Petit Hotel Elita, Hotel Tradita, Alis Hotel, Hotel Rozafa, Sol Hotel.*

Five star hotel will cost you starting from 70-80 Euros per single room per night. In case you would like a 5 star hotel we would suggest: *Grand Hotel Europa and Hotel Colosseo and SPA.*

Moving around in Shkodër

To immerse yourself in the essence of Shkodra, it is recommended to walk or cycle, especially through the historic center of the city where you can deeply experience the wealth of history and the cultural vibration of the city.

Bicycle: There are several providers of bicycles in Shkodër. You could choose among several providers such as: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) etc.

Bus: There are public bus lines operating in Shkodër. For information on the time, frequency and price please check this [page](#).

Taxi: In case you would like to take a taxi, there are several providers such as: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#) etc.

General Information

Visa and Residence Permit

Citizens from 79 countries can enter the Republic of Albania without a visa. Depending on their country of origin they will need a passport or ID card to be shown at the customs to enter the country. The list of countries and details of the traveling documents needed could be found at [this page](#).

Foreign nationals must apply for residence permit if the stay exceeds 90 days. In such a case, the application must be submitted within 30 days from entry stamp to the border.

For more information please check [this page](#).

Health insurance

Temporary visitors and tourists are advised to have travel insurance that includes health coverage, as they may not be eligible for public insurance services. Some of these companies are: [Sigal Uniq Group Austria](#) and [AlbSig](#).

Climate

Shkodër experiences a Mediterranean climate with continental influences, bringing warm summers and mild, wet winters. During the summer months, from June to August, temperatures often reach highs of 30–35°C (86–95°F), with plenty of sunshine and little rainfall. Spring and autumn offer pleasant weather, with temperatures ranging between 15–25°C (59–77°F), making them ideal seasons for outdoor activities. Winters, from December to February, are cooler and wetter, with average temperatures around 5–10°C (41–50°F) and frequent rainfall. Snow is rare but possible in

surrounding mountainous areas. Overall, Shkodër enjoys a balanced climate with distinct seasonal changes, making it a diverse destination year-round.

Drinking water

Tap water in Shkodër is safe to drink.

Telephone Codes

The country code for Albania is +355 which will allow you to make an international call to Albania from another country. Albania's country code +355 is followed by an area code and phone number in case of telephones, and by the company code (69 for Vodafone and 68 for One) for the cellphones.

Electricity

As in most countries of Continental Europe, the electricity voltage in Albania is 220V. Electrical outlets are standard European.

Schuko plug



Europlug



Currency

Lek (abbreviation ALL) is the currency used in Albania. The Lek is a currency that is often linked to the Euro for exchange rate stability. The exchange rate may change in accordance with international market fluctuations.

Emergency numbers:

Police: 129; Ambulance: 127; Fire department: 128;
Emergency Services: 112; Country code: +355

Attractions of Shkodër

History

Shkodër (sometimes spelled Shkodra) is a city in northern Albania, known for its rich history and cultural significance. The city has been an important settlement since antiquity. It was known as “Scodra” in the Roman era and was an important center for the Illyrians, an ancient group that inhabited the western Balkans.

During the medieval period, it was a significant city





in the region and came under the rule of various powers, including the Venetians, Ottomans, and others. It was a center of trade and culture.

This city boasts a mix of architectural styles from different periods. Notable sites include the Rozafa Castle, which offers panoramic views and has historical significance dating back to the Illyrian period. The castle is associated with various legends, including the story of the woman who was sacrificed in the construction of its walls.

Shkodër is also home to several important religious sites, including the Cathedral of Shkodër (a Roman Catholic church) and several historic mosques reflecting its diverse religious history.





Natural Beauty

Shkodra Lake is one of the largest lakes in the Balkans. It is a key natural feature of the area. It straddles the border between Albania and Montenegro and is known for its scenic beauty and biodiversity.

The region around Shkodër features beautiful landscapes, including mountains and rivers, making it a popular destination for outdoor activities.

Shkodra city has a strong ***educational presence*** and is known for its contributions to Albanian literature and arts. It has several cultural institutions, including museums and theaters.

Shkodër offers a unique blend of history, culture, and natural beauty, making it a fascinating place to visit and explore.



Our suggestions on visiting in Shkodër

Traveler information on destinations and attractions worth visiting in the city of Shkodra could be found [here](#).

Contacts

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