Theth
Heart of the Albanian Alps
Discover the pristine beauty of nature
and experience the hospitality
of local families
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People and nature of Theth welcome you!

Welcome to one of the most remote mountain areas in Europe! The region is part of the Dinaric Alps which have their highest peaks here (Jezerca: 2,694 m). The alpine landscape is breathtaking and the populations in the valleys saved their centuries-old traditions of rural life and hospitality. The flora and fauna around Theth offer an enormous number of rare species. That is why a huge area has been declared as a National Park. This remote region waits to be discovered by people who love to experience nature, the great hospitality and culture of local families.
The forgotten Mountains

The landscapes of this highest part of the Dinaric Alps are characterized by rough limestone (karst) formations, dense forests, bourns and rivers, canyons, waterfalls as well as small cultivated fields in the valleys.
Wild boar, deer, wolf, chamois and the brown bear live here. Several rare and endemic plants with over 1,650 different species compose a highly interesting and diverse ecosystem.
The trough valley forms a unique landscape in the high mountains with several attractions like waterfalls.
The climate in Northern Albania is characterized by relatively sunny and dry summers but rainy and snowy winters.
Active in nature

The fantastic nature and landscapes offer great potential for people who want to explore pristine and undiscovered regions. Just recently several walking tracks and trails were identified and partly marked. A new map covering the region of Theth and Kelmend (Tamara, Vermosh) gives information about 18 hiking tracks or trails (eight in Theth, eight in Kelmend and two cross-regional tracks). A new walking guide provides detailed information including GPS data. The peaks around Theth also offer great possibilities for mountaineering and climbing. Recently several climbing tracks have been identified and published. The region opens up for numerous, challenging possibilities for mountain bikers: there exist various trails from Shkodra and Razma to Theth. Further possibilities to actively spend leisure time are horse riding, exploration of the numerous caves, bird and animal watching, collecting berries or herbs and kayaking. To raise the attractiveness of the village and the accessibility of the surrounding nature GTZ supports the identification and labeling of walking tracks and climbing routes. Other ongoing activities are to improve the healthcare situation in the village. The nature of Theth is still a treasure box waiting to be opened and explored.
Hiking trails around Thethi

Thethi in the region
History and traditional rural culture

The harsh nature with long winters, infertile soil and the landscape with high mountains has always made living hard for local people. Nevertheless the valley of Theth has been settled for 3,000 years and during centuries it has been on a borderline with Illyrians, Romans, Byzantine or Ottomans.
The typical houses are made of stone to be protective and robust. Family life has always been very important - old traditions and festivities outlasted the centuries.

Try traditional specialties!
A real delicacy is Ferlig - a whole lamb or young pork prepared on skewer over open fire.
Typical for the region is also the famous white cheese from sheep milk and kulac, served with bread from maize flour baked over the oven.
The village has a long tradition in the production of Raki made from local grapes, plums, mulberry and cornel. Raki is present in social live and you surely will be invited to taste the home made production.
Tourism facilities
Long tradition of hospitality  
– experience living with local families

You are welcome to experience the long tradition of hospitality of the families in Theth! A stay in their historical houses offers you the possibility to get to know the typical and traditional way of rural living together with local Albanian families. Few families live the whole year round in Theth. A lot of the inhabitants leave the village due to the harsh living conditions, especially in winter.

Since 2005 the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) is supporting the development of tourism as a new source of income in the village. Also GEF’s small grant program (SG/GEF) contributed to improve tourism facilities and tourism infrastructure in the area.

In a first step the offer of accommodation in local private houses was improved by creating facilities with a simple but good standard to satisfy the expectations of national and international guests. Camping sites are also available. The number of tourists visiting the region and staying with the families keeps rising significantly.

The map and a list of accommodation facilities in this brochure provide you a first outline and helps you to choose an appropriate accommodation for your stay in Theth.
How to reach Theth:
Starting point for trips to Theth is Shkodra, the regional center of North Albania. You can reach Theth on two different ways:

1) The shortest way via Koplik, Boga and the pass Buni i Thorës (1.786 m) is around 68.8 km long but not passable in winter. The road is paved until Boga, the remaining way is unpaved.

2) An all year accessible road is located more to the south via Prekai, Kiri, Nikaj-Shala and Nderlysa but the distance adds up to 128.3 km.

For both ways the use of an off-road car is recommended.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact the following institutions:

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