

Albania Fam Trip: Sustainability & Carbon Footprint

The Adventure Connection's goal is to be transparent about the impact of our Fam Trips on the environment, culture and local economy of the destinations visited. We measure the CO₂ emissions and highlight the sustainable elements of every Fam Trip we operate. Details for the Albania Fam Trip can be found below.

Impact on the local economy

Elite Travel Group is 100% locally owned.

The Fam Trip will be accompanied by one local guide. All local guides are directly employed by Elite Travel Group.

Elite Travel Group has a network of communities and families that provide authentic experiences across Albania. They believe in distributing tourism expenditure across the country and with local people.

Impact on the local environment

Elite Travel Group research the areas they are visiting to minimise negative impact. They like to take tourists to areas away from hotspots to ensure a better experience and to take the burden away from over-visited areas.

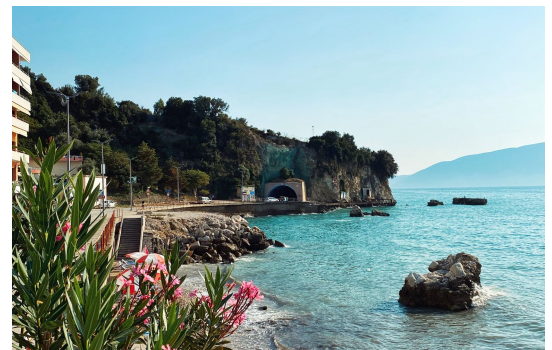
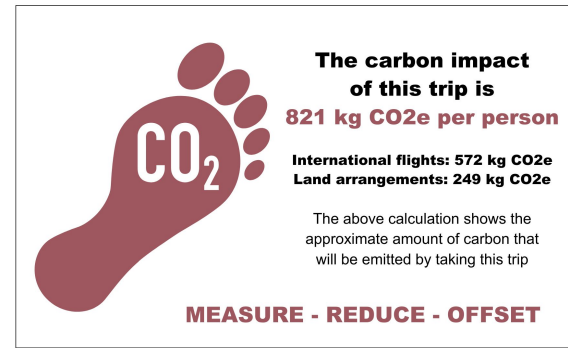
Elite Travel Group are working to address seasonality in Albania. One way they plan to do this is through promoting hiking and cultural tours outside of the summer season. Albania can be a year round destination.

Single-use plastic is an issue for Albania and steps are being taken to reduce this. Fam Trip attendees will be encouraged to refill their water bottles and plastic bottles will only be provided when no other option is available.

Guides are trained to ensure that tourism has as minimal negative impact on the environment as possible.

Hotels used on the Fam Trip are locally owned. Elite Travel Group recognise that hotels need to consider sustainability more and are planning on working more closely on their supply chain on sustainability issues.

Food in Albania is locally sourced and produced, very little is imported. Local restaurants will be used for lunches, and evening meals will be in the hotels. Both serve local dishes with most breakfasts being buffets.



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Impact on cultural heritage and the community

Elite Travel Group understand that tourism experiences must distribute not disturb. They work with a variety of community tourism experiences across Albania where they involve the community in deciding on visitor numbers. Having experiences across the country, Elite Travel Group can ensure that the economic impact of tourism is well distributed without negatively affecting the community.

On this Fam Trip, we highlight a selection of these experiences; we visit a local farm and experience a farm to fork lunch, share Turkish Coffee with a local Quori family, visit a family and learn about the process of making Raki, participate in a traditional slipper and hat workshop and experience folk performances in Vlore.

Albanians are proud of their cultural heritage and want to share this with tourists. Where there are folk performances, these are authentic and sometimes impromptu. Elite Travel Group has a selection of contacts that are called upon to give visitors a genuine experience of music, folklore and dancing. These experiences are immersive and not staged; the community are willing to share these traditions and keep the cultural heritage alive.

The Albanian hat and slipper workshop is an immersive experience and helps to preserve this traditional skill.

Elite Travel Group provide opportunities for young people through tourism by offering vocational training within the business or with small tourism businesses throughout Albania. Immigration is an issue for Albania so tourism is seen as a good industry to be able to give opportunities to young people. This leads to the preservation of traditional skills and cultural heritage.

The Adventure Connection is supplying refillable Water-To-Go bottles to all participants to help minimise the need to buy water in plastic bottles.

