



The Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage - Vlore is a public institution which is subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania. The territory in which our directorate operates are the Vlora Region.

The central offices of the institution are located in the city of Vlora, which is located on the shores between the Ionian and the Adriatic sea in the southwestern Albania. The institution has 2 other smaller branches in the cities of Himara and Saranda in the south Albania.

The Directorate is composed of 36 employees who are distributed in 5 different sectors.

The main goal of the institution is to preserve and promote the tangible and intangible values of cultural heritage in these areas.

The Regional Directorate of Cultural Heritage manages and is responsible for 3 archeological sites, 6 historical centers, 45 protected archeological areas and about 230 cultural monuments such as castles, bridges, churches, mosques, houses, ancient cauldrons, etc., 7 of which, 3 archeological sites, 3 castles and a monastery have special care and focus and are monuments that are visitable with tickets.

The institution is responsible and has the duty to monitor all restoration, conservation or urban requalification interventions in the eligible area.

The institution has a department of restoration projects which designs over 20 restoration projects every year.

In terms of intangible cultural heritage, the directorate is one of the most active in the eligible area. During the last year (2019) the institution organized 84 different cultural activities such as concerts, festivals, theatrical performances, experimental activities in monuments etc. Over 800 artists took part in these activities, who were applauded by an audience of over 10,000 people. For the realization of these activities, the directorate cooperates with over 30 other institutions or other organizations. One of our most fruitful collaborations is with the Ministry of Education of Albania, where last

year were organized different activities with 52 public and non-public schools with the participation of more than 6000 students.

The region of Vlora is located in the southeast part of Albania and is wetted by two seas: the Adriatic and the Ionian Sea. The region is mainly mountainous and hilly and rich in groundwater resources. The highest peak is the Cika mountain with 2048 m high. The coastline of Vlora is one of the most beautiful ones, part of Albanian Riviera. It has a favorable geographical position, where natural and cultural resources are distinguished, as well as the bridges connecting with neighboring countries: Greece in the south and Italy in the west. The seaport of Vlora is the second largest port in Albania, after that of Durrës, which is defined as the entrance gate of the corridor VIII. The Regional Council of Vlore of Vlore is one of the 12 regions in Albania established as a unit of the local government in November 2000. It is comprised of 7 municipalities: Vlorë, Himarë, Sarandë, Delvinë, Finiq, Konispol and Selenicë. The regional capital is city of Vlore.

Total surface: 2706 km²

Population: 189.039 people

Coastline length: 244 km

National borders: Fier region in north and Gjirokaster region in south

International Borders: Greece in southeast and Italy in east

Region of Vlore is distinguished for:

- Cultural Heritage
- Undamaged/well preserved landscapes
- Unique coastline
- The Diverse relief

Vlora region is a collection of cultural traditions, which are the expression of an ethno-cultural area known as **Labëri**. The territory of Vlora region has a series of touristic attractions such as:

1- the cultural heritage with archeological objects from the time of the Illyrians and the Greco-Roman period, with sacred religious sites, with castles and traditional villages as well as with intangible heritage such as: iso-polyphony, folk music, ethnography, handicrafts etc.;

2- the natural values of landscape that are rich in mountains, valleys, seas, wetlands;

3- the characteristic agri-food products such as olive oil, cheese, honey, and **traditional cuisine**;

4- the rural activities that represent an important part of regional culture and identity, being a reservoir of natural resources, traditions, crafts and tastes that constitute a special attraction for tourists;

5- the hospitable people, as part of a distinctive feature of the whole Albania

After the territorial reform (2015) Vloa Region, as a territorial unit of the second level consists of seven municipalities, where each of them has in its composition the respective administrative units:

Region	Municipality	Administrative unit
Vlorë	Vlorë	Orikum Qendër Shushicë Novoselë
Vlorë	Himarë	Himarë Horë-Vranisht Lukovë
Vlorë	Selenicë	Armen Vllahinë Kotë Brataj Sevaster
Vlorë	Sarandë	Sarandë Ksamil
Vlorë	Konispol	Konispol Xarë Markat
Vlorë	Finiq	Livadhja Dhiver Aliko Mesopotam Finiq
Vlorë	Delvinë	Delvinë Vergo