

2025 Pocket Guide

Ahead of our adventure on the sun-drenched beaches of Dhërmi, we have compiled some essential information.

Please read through as this guide contains key information on:

- Travel and transfers
- Where to collect your wristband
- How to check into your hotel
- Festival info and getting around
- Cashless and how to top up

You will be able to access this information at any time online or via the App, but you may want to download and save a copy so you can access it offline.

Reminder: Albania often isn't included on EU roaming list, so you might not have access to the internet when you arrive—see more on page 4.



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Explorations in your pocket

New for 2025—your go-to companion to make the most of your week at Explorations.

Download the app to access:

- Music and wellness set times
- An interactive site map
- Your own personalised schedule
- Easy access to this Pocket Guide
- Fast, easy cashless top-ups before you arrive
- Push notifications for surprise sets, pop-ups and important updates

Get the most out of the app:

- Curate your personalised schedule by 'starring' your favourite sets and activities.
- Enable push notifications to be alerted about surprise sets and important updates throughout your six days in paradise.
- Pin your accommodation to your personal site map (only visible to you).
- Top-up your cashless wristband before you arrive.

★ [Download the Explorations App](#)



Come Prepared

Check your passport expiry date

Your passport should be valid for at least three months from the date of entry into Albania. If your passport expires before the end of September 2025 you need to organise an emergency replacement ASAP.

Check-in online

Remember to check-in online and get boarding passes for all passengers for both the outbound and return leg of your flight, otherwise the airline may charge you.

Make sure to check your baggage allowance for both cabin & hold bags as some airlines have updated their policies.

Get travel insurance

We highly advise that you book travel insurance as any healthcare costs abroad can be expensive if you do not have insurance.

If you need emergency medical assistance during your trip, please make a Explorations staff member aware. The emergency numbers in Albania are listed below. You should contact your insurance/medical assistance company promptly if you are referred to a medical facility for treatment.

Emergency numbers

General emergency: 112

Emergency at sea: 125

Police: 129

Ambulance: 127

Fire brigade: 128

Road police: 126

Don't forget to pack

- Passport
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat: It gets hot during the day—around 25°C
- Beach towel and swimwear
- Comfortable party shoes
- A couple of warmer layers for the evening and boat trips
- Fitness clothes if you decide to take part in our wellness classes
- EU travel adapter and phone charger—a power bank is never a bad idea
- Waterproof mac—the weather is meant to be good, but it's best to come prepared
- Mosquito repellent

Spending money

Our festival bars are completely cashless—you'll be able to pay for drinks using your wristband. However, you'll still need to bring your bank cards for restaurants and shops in town, and some cash to cover your accommodation security deposit and any extra spending money.

To avoid card fees, we recommend bringing some cash along with a Revolut or Monzo card.

Cash

The local currency in Albania is LEK, but Euros are widely accepted in many places. If you're bringing Euros, you can exchange them at the local currency exchange office.

There are a couple of ATMs on site, but be aware that they do charge a withdrawal fee of about 8-10€.

Hotel security deposit

As with most holiday accommodations, a security deposit of €50–€150 per person may be required at check-in. Please bring this in cash, as most hotels do not accept card payments for deposits.

The deposit will be refunded in full, provided the accommodation is left in good condition.

If your transfer departs early, be sure to arrange your refund with the hotel the day before. This is your responsibility—we're unable to collect it on your behalf.

Check your roaming plan

Albania likely won't be included in your roaming-free destinations, which means you will be charged for internet data by your phone provider—and probably quite a lot.

To make your lives easier this year, we have teamed up with an eSim provider, Airalo. Airalo allows you to download a sim on your phone so you can get data in Albania without juggling multiple physical sims. Explorations customers receive a 10% discount on eSims when signing up via the link [here](#), or using the code `'EXPLORATIONS10'`.

Booking changes

As we need to confirm all final details with the hotels, Thursday, May 29 is the deadline for any booking changes and edits to your booking. Unfortunately, we will not be able to make any changes to your booking after this date.

Prescription medication

If you need to bring prescription medication to the festival, please email our customer service team at explorations@anjunadeep.com so we can inform the security team in advance.

If you need to keep the medication with you (rather than leaving it at your accommodation), it must be in its original packaging, and you'll need to show proof of prescription – a photo on your phone is fine. Without this, we won't be able to allow the medication into the venue, and you'll be asked to return it to your accommodation.

Please note: any medication that is not in its original packaging and cannot be clearly identified will be confiscated.

Prohibited items

- Illegal drugs, New Psychoactive Substances and Nitrous Oxide
- Glass
- Spray paints and pens
- Drones
- Items that may be used in a dangerous manner including sharps/blades, tasers and CS gas
- Animals (with the exception of approved assistance dogs)
- Alcohol & food items
- Private sound systems
- Flares, bangers, fireworks, sparklers, Chinese lanterns and naked flames Inc. tea lights
- No unauthorised professional commercial photography

Transfers via Corfu

Once you land in Corfu, you need to make your own way to Corfu port (Kerkira). The best way to get there is by taxi—there is a taxi stop right outside the airport, the journey takes about 20 minutes.

Be sure to ask your taxi driver to take you to the International port for Albania rather than the domestic one for the rest of Greece.

We advise bringing water with you to the port. There can be a slight wait in passing through passport control and boarding the boat, and temperatures can reach 30-35°C. Staff will be on hand with water when necessary but it is best to be prepared.



The boat ride

Boats go from Corfu (Greece) to Saranda (Albania). The standard ferry takes about 1h 15mins. Enjoy the view while you cruise the Riviera—if you are lucky you may see some dolphins!

The final leg

Once you arrive in Albania, our festival reps will be on hand to guide you through passport control and escort you to your coach. The journey to Dhërmi takes around 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on your hotel location.

If the sea is rough, ferry schedules may be delayed or adjusted. Our team will be at the port to support you and will do everything possible to ensure you get back to Corfu in time for your flight.

What happens if my flight is delayed?

If you're delayed and miss your boat, we'll do our best to get you on the next available one. If you miss the last boat of the day, you may need to stay overnight in Corfu – please check your travel insurance to see if you're covered for this.

If this happens, contact our Travel & Accommodation team at +355 069 813 8658 and head to the port the following morning for the first boat.

Transfers via Tirana

Once you land in Tirana, look for the team members wearing pink hi-vis in the arrivals hall. The team will check you in for your transfer and escort you to the vehicle. The journey takes about 3 ½ hours.

What happens if my flight is delayed?

If you're delayed, speak to the festival team in the arrivals hall.

If you miss the last transfer, call the Travel & Accommodation team at +355 069 813 8658 for alternative options.

Departures

Departure transfers will begin from Monday, June 16. The closing party for Explorations will take place on Tuesday, June 17 until the early hours of Wednesday.

If you have booked your festival transfers with us, please be at your nearest shuttle stop 30 minutes before the bus departure time. You can find your transfer times on your e-ticket, sent a few days before the festival begins.

Please note: if you're leaving as early as 01:00, you may need to arrange your checkout and security deposit return with your hotel the evening before.

★ Pro tip: Make sure you have checked in for your return flight home to make your return journey as smooth as possible.

Tirana departures

Coach: Pick-up from the nearest shuttle stop.

Minibus: Head to the Transport Hub in Dhërmi Beach (outside the festival entrance).

Private taxi: Pick-up is from your hotel five hours before your flight. Be sure to add your flight details in Manage Booking—without them, we can't schedule your taxi.

Corfu departures

Your coach will collect you from the nearest shuttle stop to your accommodation.

Accommodation

Locating your accommodation

Check the accommodation map below to locate your hotel and the nearest transfer drop-off point. Since you may not have data upon arrival, we recommend reviewing the map before you travel. Your accommodation name is on your booking confirmation email – if you cannot find, re-send it via manage booking.

 [Link to: Explorations 2025 Accommodation Map](#)

★ Pro tip: Pin your accommodation on the site map inside the [festival app](#).

Upon arrival

Once you've been dropped off, head straight to your accommodation to check in. Festival reps will be at the transfer stop to help you find your way – don't hesitate to ask if you need any assistance.

Accommodation check-in

If you're traveling with us, your arrival time has been communicated to the hotel, so they will be ready to welcome you—even if you arrive late.

If you're making your own way, please check in between 15:00 and 23:00.

For check-out times, please confirm directly with the hotel upon arrival.

Security deposit

As explained above, a cash security deposit of €50–€150 per person may be required at check-in.

If your transfer departs early, be sure to arrange your refund with the hotel the day before. This is your responsibility—we're unable to collect it on your behalf.

Accommodation FAQs

Can't find your accommodation?

Check the interactive map linked above (make sure to save it on your offline maps or pin it to your site map in the app). If you still can't find it, check with festival reps at the drop-off point.

No one at the accommodation or reception is closed?

Travel and Accommodation Emergency +355 069 813 8658.

Any issues with your accommodation?

Please refer to the customer service team at the info point at your earliest convenience.

Any emergencies related to your accommodation?

Please WhatsApp or call this number Travel and Accommodation Emergency:

+355 069 813 8658.

This number will be active from 10:00 on Thursday, June 12. Otherwise please email our team on explorations@anjunadeep.com.

Wristband Collection

Once you've checked into your accommodation and dropped off your luggage, head to the wristband collection desks, located just outside of the main festival entrance (E1 on the map).

You will need a valid photo ID and your e-ticket to collect your wristband as well as any cashless top up vouchers ready to be scanned.

Your e-ticket will be emailed to you the week before the event. If you have bought a shuttle bus pass you can collect this here too, so it's best to purchase this in advance.

Wristband collection times:

Wednesday, June 11: 14:00 - 02:00

Thursday, June 12: 09:00-01:00

Friday, June 13: 10:00-22:00

Saturday, June 14: 10:00 - 22:00

Sunday, June 15: 10:00 - 22:00

If you are arriving outside of these times, you will need to wait until the following day to collect your wristband, please aim for arrival within these timings.

Each member of your group will need to come with their ID—you cannot collect accreditation on anyone's behalf.

Cashless System

We are operating a cashless system at Explorations. It's safer and easier than using your bank card or cash. It also means less queuing and more dancing.

Your festival wristband will have an RFID chip that can be topped up and used like a prepaid bank card across all festival bars, the market area, the merch stand and selected restaurants. All prices will be in Euros.

You can top up your wristband by creating a cashless account online before the festival below, or at one of our top-up stations across the festival site. These stations accept card payments only. When collecting your wristband, any pre-loaded credit will be added at this point.

 [**Link to: Top-up your wristband**](#)

The top up stations will be busiest during the first few days. We advise topping up in advance online as much as you would like, as any leftover is refundable online after the festival.

★ Pro tip: Take a photo of the 6-digit code on the back of the RFID chip as this will be required to claim your refund.

Refunds will open at midday on Thursday, June 19 and the refund system will close on Thursday, July 3 at midnight.

Please note there are some small fees to cover part of the costs of running the cashless system and the commissions charged by the credit card providers:

- Activation fee: 1€
- Refund fee: 1€

Opening hours

Top up stations will be located across the festival site and will operate from 11:00 – 05:00. The top up locations and opening hours are:

- Empire: Thursday – Monday from 20:00 – 05:00
- Splendor: Friday – Tuesday from 21:00 – 04:30
- Yacht Club: Friday – Tuesday from 11:30 – 15:30
- The Sundeck at Sanur: Friday – Monday from 13:00 – 20:30
- Dining Experience Bus Stop: Friday – Monday from 17:00 – 18:30
- Cashless cabin, The Terrace: Wednesday – Tuesday from 11:00 – 04:00

What happens if I lose my wristband?

Your wristband should remain securely fastened to your wrist. There shouldn't be any reason for you to remove it, until the event has ended. You should treat your wristband as you would cash or your bank card.

From our experience, it's very very rare for one of the wristbands to break. If you lose it, we won't be able to recover any balance but if you have taken a photo of your 6 digit number on the back of the RFID chip you will be able to claim a refund after the festival.

General Festival Information

Festival entry

There are two entrances to the festival site.

- The main entrance is by Grand Boutique Hotel—E1 on the map. The Customer Info cabin can be found before you reach the main entrance and will be signposted to your right.
- The second entrance to the festival site is by Splendor Hotel—E2 on the map.

Customer info

The Customer Info Point is located outside of the main entrance to the festival site, behind the Grand Boutique Hotel. Head there for:

- Event information
- Accommodation queries
- To purchase a shuttle bus wristband or extras tickets (including Gjipe, Poolside Sessions, and Dining Experience, subject to availability)
- Customer service queries

Opening times

Thursday: 14:00—02:00

Friday: 10:00—01:00

Saturday & Sunday: 10:00—12:00

Monday 09:00—18:00

Tuesday 09:00—18:00

Contact details

Email: explorations@anjunadeep.com

Customer service: +355 069 813 8660

Travel and accommodation emergency: +355 069 813 8658

Local services

Most of the restaurants are located by the main entrance along the water edge. You will also find a couple of shops, an ATM and a currency exchange office in that area.

Accessibility

Explorations is set on a beachfront on the coast of Dhermi, Albania. Due to the location of the event, access for some mobility impairments is not possible in certain areas.

No matter your needs, we will work with you to ensure you have the best experience possible. Our customer service team is available on explorations@anjunadeep.com to discuss plans & further details.



Food & Drink

Dhërmi and Drymades are home to some fantastic restaurants and bars. Albanian cuisine sits at the crossroads of Italian, Turkish, and Greek influences – with a strong emphasis on fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Expect mouthwatering Mediterranean dishes, crisp salads, fresh seafood, handmade pasta, and delicious stone-baked pizzas.

Restaurant hours are relaxed, and it's not uncommon for some to stay open until midnight.

Empire, Splendor, Gjipe, Noah's, Chilli Peppers and the onsite festival traders will accept payment via RFID—all other venues accept both cash and cards. ATMs are marked on the map if you need them.

A little further out, we also recommend Azul by Havana (Dhërmi), Yamato (Drymades), Ulliri & Nazar (Palasë).

Reusable cups

To help reduce plastic waste, certain drinks—like spirits—require you to purchase a reusable cup the first time you order at the bar.

Your first cup costs €3. Once you have it, you can reuse it throughout the night. If you don't want to carry it around, you can exchange it for a cup token at any bar.

Next time you order a drink, simply hand over your token to receive a fresh cup. This simple system helps us cut down on single-use plastic—so please either hold on to your cup or swap it for a token instead of throwing it away.

Please note: cups are not refundable.

Getting Around

Shuttle bus

If your accommodation is located outside of the festival area you will need transport to get to and from the site.

We run a shuttle bus service between Dhërmi and Drymades. The weekly pass costs only £32 per person and provides unlimited shuttles. You can get this in advance via manage booking (up to 48h before the festival) or at the Customer Info point for €45.

Not sure if you need one? Check the accommodation map to see where your accommodation is located. Anything in Dhërmi is walking distance to the festival. Perivolos and Drymades areas will require a shuttle pass.

★ Pro tip: Book your shuttle pass in advance to collect it with your wristband.

Shuttle times

The shuttles run every 20 – 30 mins from Wednesday, June 11 at 16:00 until Wednesday, June 18 at 12:00. Times may vary during peak hours.

There are four main shuttle stops between Dhërmi and Drymades, along with four additional drop-off-only stops available on request.

Don't forget to collect your shuttle pass in advance—or purchase one at the Info Point. You won't be able to board without it.

Taxis

Alternatively, you can take a taxi between the festival and your accommodation—just note that taxis will be more expensive than the shuttle service. For your safety, please use only official, branded shuttles or licensed taxis—avoid walking home alone or using unlicensed taxis.

To book an official festival taxi, send a message on WhatsApp to +355 69 279 3603. Taxi ranks are located at the Empire Hotel and Pirates Car Park (Stop A).

Same fares from Dhërmi Beach:

- Drymades €15
- Dhërmi Town €15
- Perivolo Street €10
- Himarë €40
- Green Coast €30

If you have any trouble finding transportation contact us and we will provide a trusted contact.



Music & Stages

There are seven stages in Dhërmi, plus Gjipe, which is outside of the main festival area and can only be accessed by boat.

Empire

Our main stage is a sprawling throwback to vintage open air clubbing with bars, a food area with incredible stone-oven pizzas, fresh fish and vegetables, a chill out area with day beds, its own private beach and a stunning mountain backdrop. This space will hold most of the live acts and extended DJ sets, as well as spa activities.

Splendor

A tranquil beach bar with sun beds surrounded by vegetation by day that becomes a buzzing open air club at night. This is the second biggest stage at Explorations. From Thursday to Monday we will host special sunrise sets here.

The Cove

The Cove is an intimate beach spot, tucked away a few steps away from the main entrance. You can swim in crystalline waters during the day, enjoy live performances at sunset, and dance the night away by the sea.

Yacht Club

The Yacht club is a cosy late night club on a raised yacht-like terrace flanked by gorgeous beaches and turquoise waters. Expect amazing cocktails and chill out areas during the day, and a full clubbing experience at night.

The Tent

New for 2025, The Tent is your go-to chill-out spot—a laid-back haven with cosy lounges, floor cushions and a genre-blending soundtrack from Explorations DJs.

Havana Beach Club

This daytime spot will host performances on Thursday and Tuesday from 16:00 – 20:00. The infinity pool is a strong contender for the best sunset spot in Dhërmi. Something worth experiencing with a cocktail in hand.

The Sundeck at Sanur: Poolside Sessions

Immerse yourself in The Sundeck at Sanur's turquoise pool, take in the view of the Ionian sea and experience unique sets from our core label family. If you booked a spot to one of our Poolside Sessions, you will be emailed all of these details along with your e-ticket closer to the event.

Gjipe

Gjipe is the hidden gem of the Riviera. This natural canyon fenced by 40m high cliffs and turquoise waters is one of the most incredible locations you will ever dance at, and an experience you will remember for years to come.

Gjipe is only accessible by boat, thus requiring an extra ticket. It opens Friday – Tuesday between 12:00 – 18:30

There are only a handful of tickets left on the manage booking portal. We promise this is an experience you don't want to miss.

Set Times

[Download the Explorations App](#) for set times across all stages, plus wellness and extras programming.

★ Pro tip: Curate your personalised schedule by 'starring' your favourite sets and wellness activities.

The Explorations App is the most up-to-date source.

Wellness & Spa

At Explorations there will be a whole host of wellness activities available to help rejuvenate your body after a night of dancing.

Sessions range from yoga to meditation, sound baths and breathwork.

Our wellness activities start from £6, and 100% of profits will be donated to SOS Children's Villages, which provides humanitarian and developmental assistance to families facing difficulties. It also supports children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it. The organisation protects children's interests and rights around the world. Today, SOS Children's Villages is active in more than 130 countries and territories worldwide, including Albania.

Additionally, we offer a range of massage and spa treatments. These start from £35 for a 30 minute treatment to £55 for 1 hour.

Places are limited so make sure to [reserve your spot here](#) or via the [Explorations App](#).



Things To Do

Gjipe

Gjipe is a secluded paradise only accessible by boat that sits at the end of a natural canyon fenced by impressive 40m cliffs, stunning beach caves and crystal clear waters where Anjunadeep DJs perform.

You've probably heard loads about this hidden gem but it's got to be experienced to be believed.

Gjipe is only accessible by boat, therefore requiring an extra ticket. It opens Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday between 12:00 - 18:30.

Boats run every 30—45 minutes from the jetty at the far end of the Yacht club.

Earliest departure: 12:00

Last departure to Gjipe: 14:30

All guests must be checked in for departure from Gjipe by 19:00

If you already have a ticket, you will be able to collect your wristband before boarding the boat with proof of ID and your e-ticket.

If you haven't got a ticket yet, there are a handful of tickets left for some of the days that you can still book via the Explorations App, manage booking portal or at the customer info cabin on site.

Dining Experiences

Our Dining Experiences are now sold out, if you booked a spot, you will be emailed all of these details along with your e-ticket closer to the event.

House Rules

Explorations is a space for people to connect through music and shared experiences overseas. We welcome people from far and wide with open arms, regardless of race, gender or sexuality, as long as they come with a positive attitude.

Here are a few essential house rules. Please read through:

Be inclusive: People at Explorations are free to dress how they want, be who they want to be and love who they want to love. We want everyone to freely be themselves without judgement. Please look after each other, treat everyone with respect, embrace the openness and celebrate together.

Be open: At Explorations, you'll be able to enjoy a wide selection of artists spanning the Anjunadeep spectrum. This is a great opportunity for you to discover new artists.

Be present: Explorations is an escape from the everyday, make the best out of it. If you are on the dance floor, put your phone away. Dance, interact with the people around you, let loose and enjoy the moment.

Respect the locals: Albanians are incredibly welcoming, but remember that we are here as guests. Be kind to our hosts, keep the noise down outside the music venues, and leave the place in the same or better condition than when you arrived.

Respect the planet: We are so lucky to gather together on the picturesque shores of Albania each year. Be mindful of your surroundings and look after our home, so we can keep coming back.

Please note: Cigarette disposal is available on-site, but there are currently no places to recycle vapes - please take vapes home for recycling in WEEE bins. Tetra packs and cans go into recycling, with everything else belonging in general waste bins. Refuse plastic bags & straws from local shops & restaurants, collect any plastic you see on the beaches, and help us keep this beautiful place in pristine condition.

Welfare & Safety

Our Welfare Tent, located just outside the Cove, is open 24 hours a day. The amazing team there is always available—whether you need support, a quiet moment or just someone to talk to.

We ask everyone to bring their best selves and a positive attitude. Explorations is a space where everyone is welcome—a place to be fully yourself, without judgement.

Please look out for one another. If you ever feel uncomfortable, speak to a member of the Safe Team. They'll be wearing orange armbands and are there to support you.

Unwanted attention, or any racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, or ableist behaviour will not be tolerated.



Basic Albanian Words & Phrases

Hello (General greeting)	Mirë se vjen	(meer-seh v-yen)
Thank you	Faleminderit	(fah-leh-meen-DEH-reet)
Yes	Po	(poh)
No	Jo	(yoh)
Good morning	Mirëmëngjes	(meer-muhn-JESS)
Good afternoon	Mirëdita	(meer-DEE-tah)
Good evening	Mirëmbrema	(meer-MBRUH-mah)
Good night	Natën e mirë	(NAH-tuhn eh meer)
Goodbye	Paçim	(PAH-cheem)
See you later	Shihemi më vonë	(SHEE-heh-mee muh VOH-nuh)
Cheers!	Gëzuar!	(guh-ZOO-ar)
Have a nice day	Ditën e mirë!	(DEE-tuhn eh meer)
Bon appetit / Have a nice meal	T'bëftë mirë!	(tuh-BUHF-tuh meer)
I don't understand	Nuk kuptoj	(nook koop-TOY)

Police Processes

The laws in Albania are very similar to that of the EU, if you find yourself in any kind of trouble you should contact the relevant embassy. You should also check-out the latest advice on [do's and don'ts](#) in Albania.

For our British attendees, check out this link to the [British Embassy](#).

Conditions of Entry

The event is strictly an over 18's event.

All admission is subject to search.

The promoter reserves the right to refuse admission to any festival area.

For promotion, safety & security reasons, customers may be filmed at any time. When entering Mainstage Festival's venues you are agreeing to this condition of entry.

Unauthorised photography, audio and video is strictly prohibited.

Mainstage Festivals will not accept any responsibility for damages or loss sustained at the festival.

Tickets are sold on the understanding that the event is subject to a licence from the appropriate authorities.

Security reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone wearing footwear deemed inappropriate for the environment.

Swimming at night and jumping off boats may result in temporary or permanent eviction from the event.

Prohibited items or any items that the Event or third parties acting on its behalf (such as security) deem to be either; a risk to the safety, security or enjoyment of others; unsuitable to be taken to the Event; or, may be used in an illegal or offensive manner (regardless of whether or not the item itself is illegal) are not permitted to be taken into any venue or stage.