

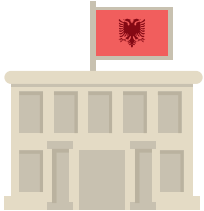


Returning to Albania

Returning to Albania

This document provides information and details of organisations which may be useful if you are facing removal or deportation to Albania.

While every care is taken to ensure that the information is correct this does not constitute a guarantee that the organisations will provide the services listed.



Your Embassy in the UK

Embassy of the Republic of Albania

33 St George's Drive, London SW1V 4DG

Telephone: 020 7828 8897 **Fax:** 020 7828 8869

E-mail: embassy.london@mfa.gov.al

www.albanianembassy.co.uk

Travel documents

A valid Albanian passport or identity card can be used to remove you from the UK to Albania.

If you do not have a valid passport or identity card the following documents may help to get a document which will allow you to return to Albania:

- Expired passport or id card or copies of those documents
 - Original birth certificate
 - Other documents indicating Albanian nationality, e.g. marriage certificate, parents' birth certificates or passports
-

Return

If you are willing to return and want to ensure that you are returned to Albania as soon as possible you can:

- Contact your caseworker at the Home Office to say that you are willing to return;
- Make every effort to find supporting documentation for issuing of travel documents;
- Make contact with the Albanian Embassy to begin the process of obtaining a travel document.



You may find it useful to read the information below to begin preparing for your return:

Documentation in Albania

The Albanian Identity Card (Letërnjoftimi) is compulsory for all citizens aged 16 and over. It is proof of identity, citizenship and residence. The current version is a biometric identity card.

Cards are issued by the local administration for a small fee; presently 1,200 lek (around €10) at the post office where the applicant's fingerprints and a digital picture of the applicant's face are taken.

Accommodation

There is very little provision for social housing in Albania and most people rent privately. If you are unable to stay with family or friends you may be able to find temporary emergency accommodation through one of the organisations listed in the Directory.

Health

Healthcare in Albania is state funded through a system of social health insurance and all citizens are entitled by law to equal access to health services. Those who have paid into the system through mandatory deductions from wages or payment of voluntary contributions can access





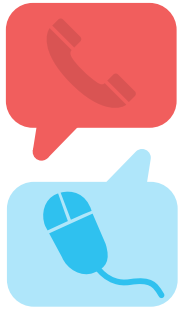
services. A person who has been out of the country for some period of time can get treatment once they begin to pay into the system.

Other than emergency treatment, primary care centres are the access point for most medical treatments.

While the Albanian government is working to improve its healthcare systems many treatments and drugs which are available in the UK are not available there.

To access treatment you must present a medical insurance card. You will need to register with a local health centre for services. More information can be found on the website of the Health Insurers Institute www.isksh.com.al

Emergency support



Access to Albania's social security system is dependent on having paid insurance contributions, either through employment or voluntarily. A person who has not paid sufficient contributions will not be able to access welfare. Benefits are administered by the Social Insurance Institute www.issh.gov.al.

People who have worked in the UK who would be eligible if in the UK for a contributions based benefit through payment of sufficient national insurance contributions may be able to access that benefit in Albania. To find out more you can contact the Exportability Team

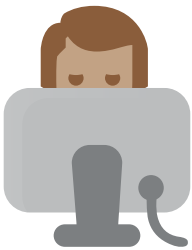
Exportability Team

Room C216, Pension, Disability and Carers Service, Warbreck House, Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool, FY2 0YE

Telephone: +44 (0)125 333 1044

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Employment, education and training



Despite businesses having a legal obligation to declare vacancies to the Employment Agencies, most jobs in Albania are still gained through personal contacts, so it is important to talk to friends and family back home to let them know that you will be looking for work. There are some websites which post jobs in Albania such as Dua Pune www.duapune.com.

Regional Employment Offices aim to provide assistance for returning migrants. To access assistance the returnee needs to register with their local Regional Employment Office.

Albanian citizens returning from abroad who have not been granted asylum, have the legal right to attend an Albanian school at any level.

Vocational training is available in most cities via the Regional Employment Offices. The training is offered at a reduced rate to unemployed people.

Directory



Albanian Rehabilitation Centre for Trauma and Torture (ARCT)

QSHRT - Rr. Kont Urani No.10, Tirana, Albania

Telephone: 04 2 256 522 **Fax:** 04 2 239 121

Email: arct@albmail.com

www.arct.org

ARCT offers counselling and support services to victims of torture.

Association for the Prevention and Rehabilitation from AIDS and Drugs (APRAD)

Rruga "Qemal Stafa", Nr.258, Tirana

Telephone: +355 4 2344195 **Fax:** +355 4 232151

Email: aprad_al@hotmail.com **Email:** aprad_05@yahoo.com

Provides harm reduction strategies to reduce risk of HIV transmission; needle exchange and drop-in centre; defence of human rights amongst Roma and migrant communities; HIV VCT centre and awareness campaign on HIV testing and counselling.



Caritas Albania

“Don Bosko”, Nr.4, Tiranë, Albania

Telephone: +355 42230088 **Fax:** +355 42234327

Mobile: +355 682024596

Email: caritasalbania@caritas.icc-al.org

Caritas Albania is a Catholic agency which offers a broad variety of services in such fields as health-care, anti-trafficking, integration, social inclusion, employment training and education for those most in need.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM) – Reintegrating Albanian Victims of Human Trafficking Project

Annie Morris; IOM UK Focal Point;

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7811 6021 **Fax:** +44 (0)20 7811 6043

Email: amorris@iom.int

The IOM, a United Nations body, has, with funding from the British government, set up a programme to assist with the resettlement of trafficking victims returning to Albania. This can include reception at the airport, accommodation, medical support, assistance to access education, training, employment and child care.

Red Cross Albania

Rruga “Muhammet Gjollësia”, Sheshi “Karl Topia”, 1511 Tirana, Albania

Postal Address: C.P. 1511, Tirana, Albania

Telephone: (355) (42) 225855 / 257532 **Fax:** (355) (42) 225855

Email: kksh@kksh.org.al

www.kksh.org.al

The Albanian Red Cross is the biggest humanitarian organisation in Albania and provides emergency medical care and social welfare assistance.

Refraction Association

Refraction Association is a non-profit organisation. The association runs programs that improve skills and provide services for rehabilitation and re-integration of offenders.

Telephone: +35542259139

Email: refraction@albmail.com

www.refraction.org.al

This resource was produced by Praxis Community Projects in partnership with Shpresa Programme, an Albanian charity that promotes the participation and contribution of the Albanian speaking community in the UK.

Shpresa Programme

Mansfield House, 30 Avenons Road, Plaistow, London E13 8HT

Tel: 020 7511 1586

Email: shpresaprogramme@yahoo.co.uk

Praxis Community Projects

Praxis Community Projects works with vulnerable migrants including foreign national offenders providing advice, advocacy and casework on immigration, housing, welfare benefits. If you would like to know more about Praxis Community Projects you can contact them on the details below:

Pott Street, London E2 0EF

Tel: +44 (0)20 7729 7985 **Fax:** +44 (0)20 7729 0134

Email: advice@praxis.org.uk

www.praxis.org.uk
