



Dear guests,

Welcome to Ohrid, the lost piece of paradise, as many people experience when they see our city for the first time. From the moment you arrive, you will know you are somewhere different.

Ohrid might be the most important link in the millennial existence of the Macedonian people and for sure the largest spiritual, cultural, and tourist center of Macedonia. This picturesque town and Lake Ohrid were accepted as Cultural and Natural World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. If you are looking for a breathtaking destination that is brimming with history and culture, Ohrid is a must-see. Numerous ancient sites, medieval churches, and monasteries, together with the art galleries make the perfect blend between history, tradition, and modern living. In Ohrid, you will find warm and friendly people. The brochure will guide you through the deep history, the magical nature, and the traditional culinary specialties, which will only intensify your desire to be our guests again.

The unique Lake Ohrid with its crystal clear water and picturesque coastline, together with the Galichica Mountain, offer attractive contents for numerous activities or impeccable tranquility in the magical landscapes. Once you make your way to the lake, you will realise what all of the hype is about. The beautiful experiences in Ohrid might last for a short time but are remembered forever.

We are sure that this city guide will help you to have a wonderful time spent in our city, whether you are here alone, with your family or friends. Ohrid is truly a place like no other, and its beauty is sure to take your breath away, so enjoy it with all your senses.

Mayor of Ohrid,  
Kiril Pecakov





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OHRID  
CITY

## LIHNID / OHRID

The archeological remains on the hill above the Ohrid Lake tell us of life in continuity of 3 milleniums. The historical sources speak of this region in Arhaic past and 5 century BC was controlled by the powerful Brigi tribe that had their own town on the south and east meadows of the hill above the Lake. On this same area in the 5 century BC the artefacts show the existence of rich family of Engelani (necropolis today Upper Gate golden mask and other golden things and armour) They were predecessors to Lihnid people and in 4 century BC the town is known as Lihnid - the city of light. The town got todays' urbanized look during the time of the Macedonia Kingdom and we can see that from the fortified acropolis on the top of the hill and the octagonal street net with civil objects by



them (antique theatre). In the Roman times Lihnid played an important role on the Via Egnatia road that connected Du'res and Thessaloniki. In the period the population grew and the town spreaded. By coming of Christianity and the arriving of the first Christian misioneries the town becomes a very important centre of Christianity.

In the following centuries many early – christian churches are built and Lihnid is mentioned as an influential Episcopal centre. During the Great moving of the nations this town was very often

a target to the Huns and Goti invaders. The natural disaster that happened in 526 on 30th of May started the destruction of Lihnid and its continuing disappearance from the historical evidence. The earthquake and the spread of contagious diseases, frequent robberies from the Avar tribes made closure of one period of the town's history-the ancient times. However life still goes on but with new people-Slavs and towns became bridge that connected Byzantium and the South Slavs.



## LEGENDS AND STORIES

Legend (Latin, *legenda*, “things to be read”) is a narrative of human actions, according to the narrator and his listeners, that part of human history and contain specific advice and tradition, it is an oral transmission of historical events, events of the past or life experiences that have taught from generation to generation.

### CADMUS AND THE BIRTH OF THE CITY

Long, long ago, there was a hero named Cadmus.

He was the son of Agenor of Phoenicia, somewhere between Asia and Africa. He had brothers and a sister named Europe. His sister Europe was grabbed by Zeus turned into a bull. Cadmus was sent to find her, and the female prophets from Delphi foretold him to follow a cow he would meet on the way, and where



it would stop to drink water Cadmus should start building a town, and in that way he would save his sister. Cadmus went and saw a cow in sight so he went after it up to a big water. Then a big, huge dragon came out of the water. . . and our hero would not be a hero if he didn't beat the Dragon. Once Cadmus beat the Dragon, he fulfilled his promise and started building town. But there was no end to their plight. The dragon was a child of Ares, the god of war, who got very



mad and Cadmus had to serve him for many years. What happened with his sister Europe - the legend doesn't tell us, but something else tells us that he returned home and to appease Ares somehow, he married Harmonia, a daughter of himself and Aphrodite.

Then they built the city of Thebes, made a beautiful wedding, and lived happily and had given birth to many. Their lives became weary and many accidents happened to the children of theirs. They decided to leave Thebes, off they went to a journey and the destiny brought

them between the Enheleans who fought with the neighboring Illir community. They accepted him, knowing his heroism, made him their king and built the city Lihnidos by the beautiful White Lake. Cadmus conquered Illyrians and ruled their country proclaiming himself King of Illyria. Here is the place he had a child who got the name Illir in honor of the victory. The legend tells that one of his nieces was named Dasaro, which had much merit, and therefore after her a large area was called Dasaretia - lake areas around today's Ohrid, Prespa, Korce, Bilista - area later populated with her descendants, the Desaretes or Ezerans.

When time came to move to the land of the blessed, he asked Zeus to turn him into a snake or eel and he left the earthly world in the clear lake waters and continued his wanderings through the seas and oceans.





## OHRID

The coming of the Slavic tribes made the locals accept their language. The names of the places began to be changed so the towns became Slavic forms which show different etymological origins. It is interesting to be mentioned that the Christianity remained very strong and was accepted even by the newcomers. Ohrid will flourish in the 9 century by coming of the first teachers brothers Cyrilus and Methodius. Kliment (886) and Naum (900) started the golden era of the Slavic renaissance and forming the new centre of culture and education. Kliment Ohridski had worked here for 30 years in the monastery

dedicated to St. Pantelemon where he formed the first Slav literary school better known as the First Slav University with 3500 students. Other subjects except literature were taught too such as philosophy, anatomy, agriculture and in the University there was the oldest Medical School and Hospital where the patients were treated freely, not by using magic by suggestion and hypnosis, and by using various teas and potions. Kliment was the first writer on Slav language who had written many works - the most famous being "Pofalno Slovo na Kiril" the masterpiece of medieval



Slavic literature. He died in 916 and his body was placed in the grave that he made for himself in the monastery church of St. Pantelemon. Because of many good deeds that he had done the locals decided to choose him as a patron of the town and protector. Naum, too, on the other side of the lake built a church (900) dedicated to the Archangels Michael and Gabriel who were thought to be healers. Ohrid folks think very highly of St. Naum, too, especially as the healer of human souls from evil demons. Naum worked as teacher in the Administrative Church area and formed translation school in his monastery St. Naum where his grave is, and is thought to have a healing power.

Ohrid grew into a big town and later a metropolis. The Samuel's Kingdom – an early feudal state - was formed in 969 when the four sons of the Slav prince Nikola disregarded the Bulgarian authority and later the





rule of the Byzantium Emperor and became independent. The youngest of the brothers, Samuel, at the end of the 10 century with blessing from Rome was established in king with the capital in Ohrid and he raised the Ohrid Church to Patriarchate. Ohrid blossomed economically in every other field as well and is considered invincible because of its walls and fortress. Many churches are built and painted.

After the fall of the Kingdom (1018) Ohrid was under Byzantium rule and was defeated by the Normans from the South of Italy according to the written documents. The Samuil's Fortress remained a safe place for the clans and the clergy.

Then the years of Bogomilism, came-movement against the rule and the





power of the church as an institution, new uprisings of the local lords, the crusades and later the new rulers: Epir (1206-1231) new wars for regaining power (1230-1261) then Byzantium rule (1261-1334) Serbian Medieval state (1365-1395) the King Volkasin and his son Marko Krale (1365-1395) the 5 centuries of rule of the Ottomans (1405-1912) and wars again... Everybody who came

to this area left their marks but also accepted a large part of the Ohrid town tradition as in building art, music and culture. The Ohrid Archiepiscopate which was denominated from being Patriarchate after the fall of the Samuels Kingdom and the archbishops later called Patrici remain the central figures in the forthcoming centuries - education, spiritual culture etc.





## BE SURE TO VISIT

In order to understand the spirit of the town and comprehend our lifestyle you should visit the town's centre called Varosh which is situated on 2 hills above the crystal-clear water of the lake.

One place covering couple of square kilometers surrounded by medieval towers and high walls is the Museum of Antique and Medieval Art. There are three gates which were entrances through the town's walls.



## THE SQUARE AND THE PORT

The heart and pulse of the city of Ohrid is the Ohrid Square. This is most popular, visited, favorite and noisy place in the city, through the day and through the whole night. Ohrid Square is widely open in shape of amphitheatre toward the Ohrid Lake and it's a place with view of the horizon, calm blue water of the lake, which makes Ohrid Square different from the

other such places in the world that are closed all over the sides with buildings and houses. Constantly, the most important events occur here. Plenty of visitors and citizens have the opportunity to seat comfortably in their chairs and take pleasure in their favorite drinks while discussing the daily news, argue about events, chat about memories, also negotiate business deals in a relaxed atmosphere, constantly throwing view of



the numerous passers-by. The Square named Saint Kliment Ohridski, as a heart of the city connects the main shopping street and the quay along the lake coast, but also connects all the streets that lead to the cultural and historical monuments and city beaches. As every other city square, the Ohrid square has many coffee bars, clothes, jewelry shops, souvenir shops, markets etc. It is decorated with monuments, statues and memorials for significant citizens.

As a component part of the square here are the moving stages intended for different performances as choir festivals, folklore festivals, political events etc. The way from the Square leads in the direction of the port where there are many means of water transport, giving opportunity for boat sightseeing of the lake, while at the other side of the square is the main shopping street which takes us through the Ohrid authentic, unique bazaar.

## DOLNA (DOWN GATE) PORTA

Dolna (Down Gate) Porta, Chelna (Middle Gate) and Gorna (Upper Gate) Porta. The main street through Dolna Porta is still the busiest street (these days it is called Street Tzar Samuel). There are many remains which are found near Dolna Porta. In the past the street was the most important one with a lot of shops, inns, bakeries and craftsmen's shops. In the rough medieval times the town suffered from plague; so close to that gate were placed small hospitals for check-ups and quarantines for the travellers. That is why the first 2 churches that are near St. Nikola and Church Mary Mother of God are called Bolnichki (from the word "bolnica" which means hospital).





## THE CHURCH OF ST. NIKOLA AND CHURCH MARY MOTHER OF GOD BOLNICKI

The church of St. Nikola Bolnicki is characterized by double church bell unique with its form in Macedonia. There is a small path which leads to the only church named after the Patron of Ohrid St. Kliment Ohridski. All 3 churches have extraordinary architectural style and with their icons and frescoes belong to the Local Ohrid Painter's School.





## HOUSES OF THE ROBEV FAMILY

Just above that small cobbled street are the beautiful houses of the famous Ohrid's merchant families such as: Bodlevi, Kackov, Robev, Savinov, Sapundjiev, Krapchev which show monuments of the Ohrid's town architecture from the middle of the 19th century. They share white facades, many windows and wooden terraces. This architecture was admired

by Le Corbusier himself, the father of the modern architecture.

Today the houses of the Robev and Uzunche family are turned into museums with priceless artefacts. The Macedonian Academy of Science and Art was formed in the house of Urania. The houses which are built so tight one to another form shades that allow walk and strolling in the summer heats.







## CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SOPHIA

At the end of the street our view is attracted by the Cathedral Church of St. Sophia, memorable because of its architecture and frescoes from the 11th century. It is dedicated to Christ, the Wisdom of God. It is one of the largest and certainly the most important churches in the region. Raised on the foun-

dation of an old Christian building, during the reign of Tsar Samuil (976 -1014) it was the seat of Ohrid Patriarchate. Later it became cathedral church of the Ohrid Archbishopric, whose ecclesiastical authority in the centuries that followed covered the territories north of the Danube, to the Albanian coast to the west and the Gulf of Thessaloniki to the east.

Today lots of concerts of famous artists are held inside as its acoustics is extraordinary. The 2 hills are divided by Street Ilindenska that leads to the Gal-

lery of Icons and the church dedicated to Mother of God Perivleptos.







## ANTIQUE THEATRE

Half the way to them on the left is the Antique Theatre that tells of the rich cultural life in ancient and Roman times. It is situated below Samuel's Fortress and close to the Upper Gate on the eastern slope of the hill of Ohrid, from which an unforgettable view of the lake and the surrounding mountains can be obtained. The Classical Theatre was built about 2000 years ago, either in the Late Hellenistic period or shortly after the Roman conquest. The

first recorded mentions of the existence of the theatre were made at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. Its first purpose was a scene and space for the spectators of theatre performances but in the 4 century later the citizen Markus Aurelius had rearranged it and made it an area for gladiators fights with wild animals and that is why he transformed the first rows into cages. He made that in honour of the visit of the Emperor Septimus Severus(193-211)

The hypothesis of its existence are dating back in time with centuries ago but the first diggings started in 20 century and is fully reconstructed in the beginning of this century. Many famous musicals, theatre plays and concerts are held here. The first show was "Martolozot: (the Sirdar)" within the Ohrid Summer Festival in 1993 according to the text of Ohrid's Homerus, Grigor Prlichev (1829-1893).





## THE CHURCH MOTHER OF GOD PERIVLEPTOS

The church Mother of God Perivleptos is situated in one area of medieval churches on the east hill known as Deboy. Painted with frescoes in 1295 it is the oldest fresco-monument called "The Renaissance of the Paleologues". The most important treasures of the church, the frescoes are works of the eminent medieval painters Mi-

chael and Eutychios. The faces on the frescoes are full with life strength, pain and gestures; a great amount of attention is paid to each tiny detail. These 2 painters were very talented artists in fresco painting. Today the icons are kept in the Icon Gallery which is considered one of the most treasured galleries of medieval fresco painting together with the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.





## THE ICON GALLERY

The Icon Gallery is in the same art area with its central monument the church Mother of God Perivleptos. There are other churches nearby such as St. Dimitrija, St. Konstantin and Elena, St. Vrachi, St. Nikola and St. Bogorodica Celnica with frescoes dating from 11 to 14 century. The last church is placed right by the town's gate or Chelna Porta or Middle Gate. This gate is the best preserved one.





## THE UPPER GATE (GORNA PORTA)

The Upper gate (Gorna Porta) is built of heavy rock blocks, the door is of massive wood enforced with metal panels.



## SAMUEL'S FORTRESS

The road leads to the highest part of town - the Tzar Samuel's Fortress. By the monumental appearance of the Samuel's Fortress in Ohrid, you can easily imagine the splendour of the magnificent temples in Prespa and Ohrid during the period of the Samuel's Empire (916-1018). This fortress is mentioned early in 290 BC but it has today's form during the reign of Tzar Samuel.

In the last millennium it was destroyed a couple of times, but also rebuilt and repaired. The fortress is placed around 100 metres above the sea level and it offers a stunning view on the town and the lake. The Samuel's Fortress is the trademark of the town Ohrid and it is incorporated in its coat of arms. The castle is just one part of one fortified area 3 km long and circles the Old Towns centre - Varosh.

The fortification has 18 towers and 5 gates - iron gate, east gate, Upper gate, Chelna Gate and Down Gate. Some of them are in function even today. The Citadel known as Samuel's Castle is positioned on the highest top around 100 metres above the lake. The walls are very high (20 metres) and are nice to walk around with magnificent view on the town, the lake and the surrounding mountains. There you can find telescopes that allow the visitors a better look. The archaeological data tells that the oldest walls of the fortification are from the period of the king Philip II of Macedonia and the fort together with the town Lihnid was mentioned for the first time in 209 BC by the antique historian Livie. Today's form and style are probably made in the 4 century a. d. The citadel got todays form at the end of 10 century and the beginning of the 11 c. when it became the capital of the first Macedonian-Slavic kingdom during the reign of Tzar Samuel.



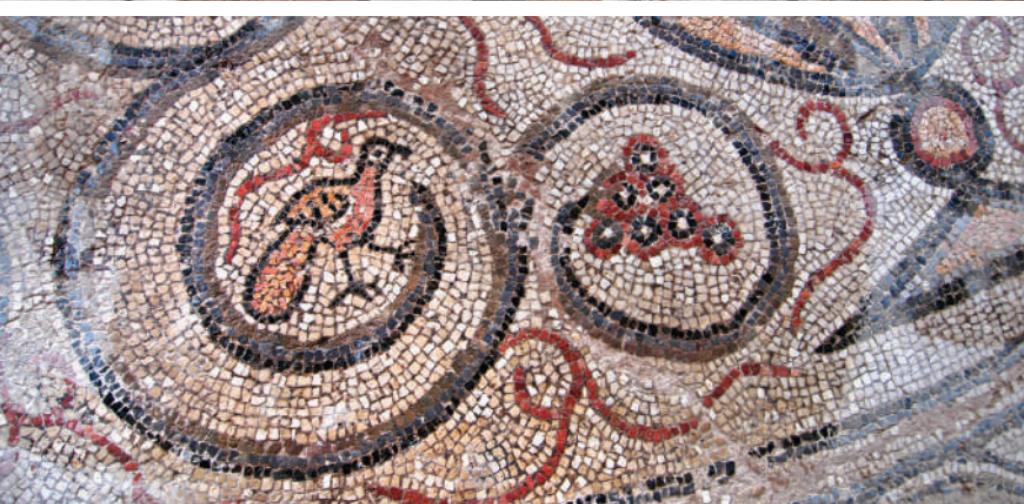
For many years it was invincible but the time has taken its toll. In the beginning of 19 century the Ohrid ruler Djeladin Beg transformed the citadel in his summer house and harem known as Gorni Saray. But after a while the Saray was robbed, partially destroyed and abandoned. The newest archeological discoveries tell of a non-stop life in this area from 6 century BC till these days.



## MONASTERY OF ST. PANTELIMON-PLAOSENK

Passing through this fascinating way we come around thick pinetrees wood to the place named Plaosnik. It is here that St. Kliment Ohridski built the Monastery of St. Pantelimon –the first university of Slavic education and culture. There you can see the tomb of the saint that he built for himself

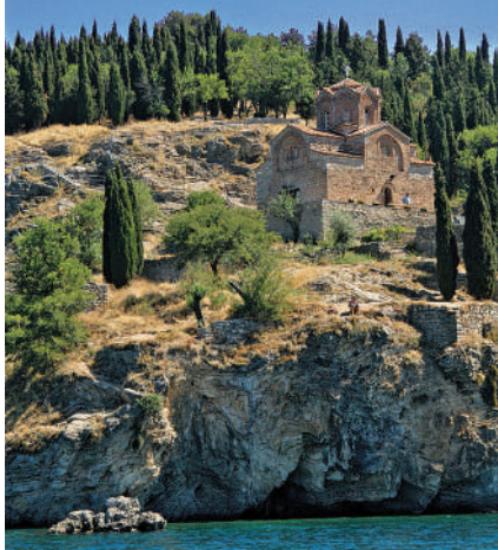
before his death in 916. Plaosnik witnesses the 3 millennium life of this land. During the Ottoman rule there is one Muslim memorial Turbe of Sinan Celebi from 1439. This area represents a real archeological sight and open-air museum full with different remains from various periods and early civilizations that used to inhabit Ohrid.





## THE CHURCH ST. JOHN - KANEO

The paths further on lead to the lake shores and the fishermen settlement of Kaneo. High above the lake is erected one of the most famous churches by its location and looks, dedicated to St. John. The church was built in the 13 century. Standing alone on a cliff above the lake the location of this church is beyond perfect. It affords magnificent views of the lake, it fills your soul with peace and quiet so there is no wonder that the locals have chosen this place to worship the Lord because this is the one and only place if you



want to share your thoughts with God.

Just down under the church lies the fishing settlement of Kaneo and the favorite town's beaches. In the past a fishing settlement, but today with its apartments, food, drinks, boats, it offers everything one tourist can just imagine.



Here you can hire a boat for a tour of the lake or you might simply stroll through the town Square St. Kliment to the Old Bazaar full with small shops.



## OHRID'S SHOPPING DISTRICT

If Square Sent Kliment Ohridski was the heart of Ohrid, then the bazaar is the soul of the city of Ohrid. In fact, this is the center of the city and its trade center; also this area represents the old city core and separates the old hill part of the city with the recently built lowland part. Here are located different small shops of souvenirs, news, crafts works, but there are also new modern shops for clothes, jewelry, food, snacks and beverages etc., as well as many

other providers of services in respond of the diverse needs. The Ohrid Bazaar as the other bazaars built at the Ottoman period has distinctive architectural quality and includes the elements like the Turkish bath popularly known as "Amam" which nowadays is reconstructed and redesigned into a trade center, also there is a Mosque, a fountain and there is thousand years old tree "Chinar" which puts very specific mark of the Ohrid Bazaar. As well there is square that is named according to this century old tree.





## ALI PASHA MOSQUE

There are also very important Islamic monuments Ali Pasha mosque from 1573 and the teke of Ohrid dervishes - Halveti with the mosque built in 1590.



## PLANE TREE

On the other smaller square you will come across the oldest thousand-year-old tree called Chinar or Plane Tree (*Platanus Orientalis*). The legend tells that it was planted by St Kliment in 893.



## TOWN GREEN BAZAAR

One of the main port to Town Green Bazaar is from the small square. Town Green Bazaar is one of the most lively parts of Ohrid, especially on the so called market day- Monday, where numerous customers, as well as food producers, may also buy various handmade items.

You can enjoy all of this just in one day in Ohrid and the rest you can spend in enjoying the surrounding beauties and natural heritage.



## URBAN ARCHITECTURE

Urban planners say the Ohrid house is made to fit nature and natural, and it can be felt sprouting from the soil, from the rock, the hill, the heights. And this same house in its external appearance, by its internal structure and organization, by its ornamental decoration is done to fit man.

Particularly enchanting but rare are the preserved houses from past centuries for their beauty not only outside but also for the internal organiza-



tion of floors, rooms, balconies and stairs. The magnificent residential edifices of the Robe family, Kacko, Bodle families, Uranija, Uzun, Savin, of Krache, remind of little palaces up to these days.

They were built in the 19th century and witness the economic power of the Ohrid people and the cultural tradition regardless of the political oppression under the Turkish Empire.

Despite the fact that the internal layout of each house is different, they are all built on the ground floor with rough stone and the upper part with mortar and horizontal wooden beams. The floors are made of wood and mud structure with many windows facing the lake, wide porches and verandas. All rooms have fireplaces with external chimneys. The streets are narrow and steep, paved with stone. The beauty of the Ohrid houses is not only in the bold design and facades, but also in the details - beautiful bars, arches, eaves made of wood, window layout and consoles. While in the house of the Orient people were kneeling, sitting on the floor or lying, in the Ohrid house people were standing or sitting on chairs. The large loggia and other departments for representative acceptances had high eats - minsofas instead of minderlaks. Besides the minsofas there were positioned small, movable tables for serving while the middle remained



empty. The working position is further reflected in the living premises. In the interior the oriental arabesque is replaced with domestic wood carve. The ceilings, closets and doors, carpets and other textile ornament is indigenous - Macedonian.





CULTURE  
HERITAGE



## NATIONAL MUSEUM

The seal of the general museum of the holy and apostolic throne of Justinian the First of Ohrid on which the year 1516 is engraved proves that Ohrid harbored museum tradition from the past, and even far earlier than half millennium years ago, which means that Ohrid had a Museum much sooner than the most important European cultural centers (Brittish Museum

in 1753, Louvre 1793). When exactly the Archbishop museum was formed and which archbishop was in power at the time is not known. It is known that it was used to store old parchments and manuscripts in Greek and Slavonic, icons, relics, religious items and items with nonreligious content, gifts from dignitaries, donors of the church and various items found at random when digging around the city, like marble re-



iefs etc. This points to the fact that the museum had a broader purpose and broader cultural and historical significance. The aim was to show the most significant works of art created during the past centuries. The National Museum's archaeological collections have objects from prehistoric, ancient and medieval periods of the city. There is an extensive collection of Ohrid icons, numismatic col-

lection of over nine thousand coins from the ancient period to the late Middle Ages, objects and documents from the period of Revival, the Ilinden Uprising and the National Liberation War, as well as a Lapidarium and a museum store where copies of valuable artifacts can be found.



## OHRID ISIS

In 1967, during an excavation of foundations for a residential building in the plains, in Karabegomaala, as local residents call this part, the remains of a temple dedicated to the Egyptian goddess Isis and two sculptures of the goddess were discovered, one from the III century BC, and the other from the Roman period (II century AD). How could have ancient Ohrid worshipped an Egyptian deity? Did some Macedonian soldier bring it from campaigns in distant lands here? Who is Isis?

Isis was the the goddess of fertility and motherhood from Egyptian mythology.

She was the sister (and wife) of Osiris, Nephthys and Set; daughter of Nut (the Sky) and Geb (the Earth) and the mother of a child Horus. In the iconography of worship, she is a representation of the archetypal wife and mother. In The Book of the Dead, Isis is men-



tioned as a donor of life and food for the dead; she appears in the role of a judge of the dead. During the Ptolemaic dynasty (Macedonian dynasties in Egypt) she was respected as a protector of sailors.

Apart from the statue of Isis, the Museum also exhibits representations of Dionysus and the Muses, the marble slabs of the Ancient Theater, and there are many interesting bronze figurines of Zeus, Ganymede, Aphrodite, Daedalus and Heracles. The collection is very interesting and leaves no one indifferent.





## THE GALLERY OF ICONS

According to their magnificence, the Ohrid icons belong to the world's treasury of a very precious fine art. Neither an exhibition nor a catalogue or book about the Byzantium painting can be complete without Ohrid icons. These masterpieces of different period are collected in the Gallery of icons, which is located nearby the church The Holy Mother Perivlebtos.

The collection is consisted of numerous icons painted within the period of a millennium, starting from 11 c. up to 19 c. They are an outstanding and indivisible part of the rich cultural and historical inheritance of Ohrid, the town where the Slavic literature and culture were born.

In the premises of the former school St. Kliment Ohridski, built in 1840, today modernized and protected, there are exhibited about thirty icons. Some of them were painted in



the Ohrid middle centuries art workshops and some of them were donated by wealthy donors and brought from capitals such as Thessaloniki and Konstantinopol. The earliest Ohrid icons are same with the frescoes depicted according to that time trends of those painting schools.

They are monumental, characteristic for the stiffness and odd calmness that shines from the Saints' faces. The oldest icon in Macedonia is also there. It shows 'St. Vasilius the Great' and 'The forty martyrs' – the oldest known icon with that theme. Characteristic for both icons is the same painting style with that of the frescoes in the Cathedral church St. Sophia.

According to its characteristics the icon 'Communion of the Apostles' can be also added to this period. Two separate pieces of the composition 'The annunciation' dated from the second half of XII c. where the



image of the Holy Mother is represented in an elegant way whilst that of the Archangel Gavrilius with a fluttering and anxious expression.

In XVIII c. there were painted many outstanding icons in which the trend of Byzantium art, such as frescoes and paintings, can be vividly recognized. Chronologically follow the icons of The Holy Mother Oditria and the domestic St. Varvara who is a patron of the Ohrid families. From this peri-





od is also a more vivid picture of Christ with a prescription that it was painted in 1262 – 1263. It is the oldest icon with a prescribed date of painting as well as the name of the donor, the Ohrid Archbishop St. Constantine Kavasila. From the end of this century is also the procession icon showing the Gospel priest Mateus on the one side and Crucifixion of Christ on the other. These icons refer

to the organized processions of the religious people as a ceremony of worshiping the God. Both icons are connected with the earlier art work of the zograph Michael and Eutihius

The icons, same as the paintings of Ohrid churches, support the cult of the Slavic Educators St. Kliment and Naum. In the church of The Holy Mother Perivleptos it was found a double procession



icon showing vividly St. Clement on the one side and St. Naum on the other. The icon is considered to be one of the miraculous as the local people believed that the patron of the town can protect them against some faithful events Ohrid had faced. It is assumed that the author is John Theoranos who was creating the paintings and icons in the churches in Ohrid in the end of XIV c.

A famous masterpiece of Dicho Krstev – a zographer from XIX c. is the icon dedicated to the Holy Mother with the little Jesus ‘Panthocora’ which is placed in the church St. John Bogoslov – Kaneo. This painter had been working for the needs of the churches in Ohrid for a long time.



## MEMORIAL HOUSE OF GRIGOR PRLICHEV MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The Memorial House of the great poet and orator Prlichev is reconstructed in 1998 – 2000 replacing the same old decrepit and destroyed native house, located at the street that bears his name on the move between the “Dolni Saray” I “Gorni Saray” – Samuil

Fortress (literally translated on English Lower Saray – Upper Saray - Samuil Fortress). In this House is positioned a permanent exhibition – memorial bust which makes this house Memorial Museum and place fulfilled with interior that provides constant presence of the poet and orator Grigor Prlichev spirit and place available for holding the appropriate cultural events.



## THE HOUSE OF HRISTO UZUNOV

The House is located at the street "Samoilova" number 49. It was built in the early 19 century by Hristo Uzunov, the grandfather of the well-known Ohrid revolutionary Hirsto Uzunov (1878 - 1905) and this is the House where lived several generations of this recognized and credited Ohrid

Family. In 1976 the house was recovered and designed for maintaining events and permanent exhibitions with materials that witnesses the national freedom movement of Ohrid and the region of Ohrid. In addition, inside the House there is a memorial room dedicated of the great teacher and revolutionary from the Ilinden period and before.



## THE BAY OF BONES “PLOCHA MICHOV GRAD” MUSEUM ON WATER

The Ohrid Lake is rich in remains from prehistoric peg settlements on water. There is an evidence for that which lie on the bottom of the lake.

The first settlements above the water peg houses as a specific way of living are characteristic for the neolithic and eneolithic time are found

by the lake. When the basis for one of the hotels were built, old pegs were found from a prehistorical settlement. After the analysis were made in Munich, Germany in the Centre for Dendrochronology we can say that the oldest peg settlement in Europe is situated under Ohrid from 5500 BC

On the east shore of the Ohrid Lake from the suburb Ohridati till Letnica, around 300 metres long and 100 metres wide is placed a prehis-



toric peg settlement from the mezolit period exactly from 6 millenium BC which is the only one in Europe.

But that is not the only one peg settlement at the shores of Ohrid Lake. In the Bay of Bones on the spot named "Plocha Michov Grad", south of the Gradishte Peninsula, a prehistoric peg settlement is discovered from the late copper and early iron period from 12- 7 BC. On depth of around 3-5 metres remains of

wooden sticks are found and above them there was a platform where 20 wood houses were built. The width of this area was around 8500 square metres.

Considering that these objects were built of wood mud and reed, the settlements could easily catch fire and were frequently repaired (lots of remains of burnt trees and coal were found). The platform was connected to the shore by moving bridge which during



the night was lifted for protection of animals and enemies. Many artefacts were found such as: pottery, stone and copper tools and objects. Also tools and weapons of animal bones were discovered.

This prehistoric sight today is reconstructed and turned in an attractive museum complex with various contents: settlement with 7 tiny cottages built on a platform based on 1200 pegs with inside decora-

tions that gives a rather interesting visit and picture of the life in that period. In the museum the founded objects are placed and an aquarium is put under the water. There is a scuba-diving part where the scuba lovers and divers can dive and explore the remains under water by the help of a local diver guide. We can see there too a restored castrum from the roman period from 2 century situated on the highest top of the hill Gradishte.



### SINAN (JUSUF) CHELEBI TURBE

In the vicinity of the newly rebuilt monastery church of St. Kliment and Panteleimon there is a tomb where Sinan (Jusuf) Chelebi was buried in 1493.



### ALI PASHA MOSQUE

Close to the chinar, at the beginning of “St. Kliment Ohridski” street in the charshija, over numerous shops, dominates the minaret of Ali-pasha mosque built in 1573 by Suleyman pasha. In 1823 an adaptation was undertaken by the vazir Ali-pasha, whose name the mosque carries today. At the beginning of the 21st century new constructing adaptations were undertaken on this mosque in Ohrid.





## ZEYNEL ABEDIN PASHA - TEKKE

Tekke of the Ohrid Dervishes from the Halvets was situated at the intersection at the Chinar. In 1590 the mosque which was built at this place by Zeynel Abedin-pasha as his dedication, carries his name. By the way, the first Sheh (ruler) of the Ohrid dervishes was Hadji Muhamed hajati, with an origin from Persia. His grave is at the front in the turbe, which is part of the contemporary tekke.



## THE OHRID CLOCK TOWER

The existing Ohrid clock tower dates back from 1726 and it was a gift from the nobleman Suleyman Aga. Up to the year 1912 the clock stroke at each hour by the former 'a-la-Turca' time measuring.

The clock tower was built high above the church of The Holy Mother of Kamensko,

in Mesokastro, below the Fortress of Varosh and the locality Deboy. Being positioned eastwards, it is visible from all sides, mostly from the Sycamore, i.e. the busiest part of the Old Ohrid Bazaar. The clock face was marked with Roman numbers. The city clock has been mentioned in numerous travel books as a significant moment of the everyday life at the time. At one autumn night in 1965 a sudden fire emerged, caused by a certain handicapped person whom the city tower had been a shelter. That fire destroyed nearly all wooden elements from the stairs to the roof. The reconstruction works of the Tower commenced in 1979. The aim was to save from forgetfulness this profane architectural cultural edifice with 'giving it a new feature, at noon to play several strokes of the song Biljana platno belleshe', which would remind of the past times and old music, passing enjoyable messages to the future.



## PONIK CHESHMA

The public street tap at the Sycamore was open in 1820. It was an act equal to a feat so it was immortalized by beautifully written verses carved on a white marble plate positioned opposite the tap in a residential facility. The author of this unusually long poem of 7, i. e. 14 lines was the Czarigrad poet hodja Sulaiman Fehim who in his poem enshrines the master

of Ohrid of the time, Dzeladin Bey, son of Ahmed Pasha, with very lascivious epithets, comparing him even with Alexander the Great. The verses mention what Alexander the Great didn't achieve, to find the spring of immortal water, in which Dzeladin succeeded! He brought the people of Ohrid water which meant life, "pure cold water".



## HAMMAMS

The traveler Evliya Celebi passing through Ohrid wrote that there were two hamams or baths - one in the Bazaar and one in the Voska neighborhood.

The hammam or Turkish bath is actually a type of a steam sauna usually consisting of six parts - shadrvan (ward-

robe), kapaluk (space for rest and sanitary facilities), hazna (water tank), kjulhan (firebox), meydan (elevated pedestal for sweating) and Halveti (bathing space with marble tubs and edges). The hammams were covered with domes and arches and the lighting was zenithal. They were richly decorated with colorful marble and mosaics, and tea and





hot drinks after bathing were served there.

The Bazaar Hammam had two wooden gates - one was entry and the other exit which led to across the hammam bashchi - garden for relaxation. The hammams were in use until the fifties of the last century and were actively used by the whole population of

the flatland part. Ohrid hammams worked only in the winter months, there was a special order service and using schedule. In the place of the Bazaar Hammam a shopping complex was built. The Voska hammam is an art gallery where are occasionally holds ethnological and art exhibitions.





# AROUND THE LAKE

## LAKE OHRID

Lake Ohrid came into being about three million years ago according to the latest scientific researches. It was formed in remote geological ages as a result of tectonic shifts. There are only a few lakes in the world today whose antiquity can be compared with that of Lake Ohrid. It is possible that only Tanganyika in Africa and Titicaca in South America came into being in the same geological period. The nature of Lake Ohrid's formation is also of interest. It came about as a result of the vertical sinking of the land. Only a relatively small number of lakes have been formed in this fashion. Lake Baikal in Siberia in Russia, the deepest lake, which is several hundred times larger than Lake Ohrid, was formed



in this way. The waters of the two lakes are inhabited by similar flora and fauna. Lake Ohrid lies in a basin surrounded at all sides by mountains with peaks of over 2, 000 meters. To the east there are Mount Petrino and Mount Galicica with the Magaro peak (2, 275m) which separates the Ohrid basin from that of Prespa. To the south Mokra and to the west Jablanica mountain. Lake Ohrid covers an area of 358 square kilometers. Two thirds of its surface area belong to the republic of Macedonia and one third to Albania. The Lake is 30 km long, and its width varies

from a maximum of 15 km, to an average of 11 km. Lake Ohrid has been found to be deepest 286 m. about 5 km from the shore, in the section between the fishing villages of Pestani and Trpejca. Its average depth is 151 m. The rare clarity of the water in Lake Ohrid, whose transparency may reach down to depth of 22 meters, is due to numerous underwater springs all along the south and the east shores. Much of this water comes from Lake Prespa, which lies at a greater altitude and is also the outcome of a tectonic shift.





## THE BILJANA SPRINGS

The most famous springs are those at Studencista, better known as Biljana's Springs, in the immediate vicinity of the city of Ohrid.

People have sung many songs about the clear water of Biljana's springs, but only

one legend is retold even today which is associated with the creation of the Ohrid boat. Namely, once in the palace under the lake Studencista lived the fairy Ezerka, daughter of the old Karaorman. Fairy Ezerka reigned over the lake and disturbed the fishermen, turned over their boats and

returned the fish in the lake. She was very envious and one day she grabbed the beautiful girl Biljana, the granddaughter of the old Chun. She took her in the court to play with her. Beautiful Biljana cried all night and her tears turned into springs, later called Biljana's springs. Old Chun made a

great boat to beat Villa Ezerka. On one side 6-7 people rowed and only one kept direction. Fairy Ezerka was unable to turn this big boat over and old Chun rescued the beautiful Biljana. So after the great grandfather Chun, the big fishing boat was named chun, unique in the world by its looks.





## THE NATIONAL PARK GALICHICA



The National Park Galichica offers numerous recreational and tourist attractions for the visitors. For those who want to recreate and enjoy in its exceptional natural beauty, we suggest using the marked pedestrian, bicycle and hiking trails. As a visitor, if you are in Ohrid and somewhere near the petrol pump in the area named "Biljanini Izvori" (Biljana's Springs) you can walk to the village of Velestovo. If you are in good shape, you can go on further the locality named "Krstetc", from where you can enjoy the stretches a beautiful view of the large stony area called "Jaffa" (area which is popularly known in our country as "Karstni Polina - Jaffa") and the huge part from the massif of the mountain. To climb one of the highest peaks on Galichica – "Magaro" you should follow the trail that starts near the place called "Baba", on the regional road Ohrid - Trpeja



- Customs - Resen. Additionally, besides the exceptional natural views along the trail you will have the opportunity to see the two round flows of water called "Cirkovi" – geomorphological phenomena that witness the last ice age on our planet. Also, on this part of the mountain you can walk through the natural pastures that are extremely opulent with endemic flora, fauna and animal species, some of which can be found nowhere else. In

suitable weather circumstance, beautiful views across the lakes and neighboring mountains can be seen from the Galichica peaks, especially from Magaro from where visitors can enjoy panoramic view of both Ohrid and Prespa lakes - such as palm.

The unique beauty and the diversity of the "Mount Galichica"- landscape, are a result of the huge alpine grasslands that occurred due to human impact. If you have your



own transport, bicycle or car, disconnect from the regional road Ohrid - Trpejca -Customs - Resen and following the asphalt road to the north head for to the locality named "Dva Javori". From this point there is another marked trail that takes you first through another large stony area named "Suvo Pole". After that you will arrive to the mountain house in the area called "Asan Djura". From

"Asan Djura" the trail divides into two separate paths, one going to the top "Gog" and the other to the cave "Samatska Dupka". Entering the cave is possible only with a park guide with previous appointment. On the other hand, if you decide for climbing to the top "Gog" you will have the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful view of the two lakes, lakes of Ohrid and Prespa.



Very often, many of the visitors decide to make a one-day trip to the area "Korita" which is located along the regional road Ohrid - Trpejca -Customs - Resen, on the western slopes of the mountain above the village Trpejca. To this area you can also arrive on foot following the footpath marked from the village of Pe-shtani.





## ST. NAUM SPRINGS

The most visited destination in the National Park is the tourist complex at the Monastery of St. Naum, near the border with Albania. Each year, over 200 thousand tourists come to take pleasure in this place, where natural beauty, cultural and spiritual heritage of Macedonia is combined into one harmonious whole with extraordinary beauty. Thus, depending on your in-

terest and time, you can go by boat to St. Naum springs which form a picturesque small lake with two islands. This small lake is filled by the 45 springs located at the bottom or at its shore. Moreover, nearly half of the clear cold water of the Lake comes from the Prespa Lake through underground rivers flowing through the limestone of Galichica. Their water first



forms a picture-esque little lake in which in the course of the centuries two islets have been formed. The crystal clear water then flows in a small, fast-flowing river into Lake Ohrid. The Crn Drim river flows out of Lake Ohrid at Struga (14 km from Ohrid) making its way through Albania and finally enters the Adriatic Sea.





## CHURCH HOLY MOTHER OF ZAHUM

In the foothill of the mountain Galichica, in a place with a hard access from the road, on the very shore, under a hill which lowers into to the lake, there is a monastery named Zahum. The church Holy Mother of Zahum is situated there. It is a temple which witnesses the art achievements from the beginning of the second half of XIV c.

According to the preserved inscription and according to its architecture, the founder was a nobleman from Ohrid, titled



tzar Grgur Golubovich of Zahum region in Herzegovina.

The church was built in a form of a cross with a dome which is supported on four columns in a similar way as the churches in Ohrid "Holy Mother Perivlebtos" and "St. John Kaneo". The outer portico on the west (lake) side is demolished. The church is characterized by typical architecture and distinguishes from the other monuments of that time in this region.

Zahum has a hoisted vertical column which gives the church an elegant look because

the vertical and the flexibility are the basic characteristics of the architecture of this monument. It is decorated with frescoes - artworks of unknown painters. The paintings are dated back to 1361 and the man who ordered them was Grigorius Devolski, a dignitary of the Ohrid Archbishopric. In the many scenes of the painted composition, an outstanding character is the one of Anna, Holy Mother's mother. She is shown very realistically nourishing her new born child, in her human and natural size, which was unknown for the Byzantium Art.

There are also images of the rarely shown fresco, – Holy Mother and the Apostle John as well as the impressive figures of St. Kliment and Naum of Ohrid. It is significant that this is the oldest picturesque portrait of St. Naum from 1361, in which he is shown frontally in his natural size, standing between St. Kliment and St. Stephen Noviot. Other portraits

of St. Naum can be found in the churches The Lesser St. Kliment and Holy Mother of Pe-shtani.

St. Naum was treated as a healer of insanity. In the middle ages his portraits remained only in the Ohrid and Devol region, not spreading to other regions. The creation of this portrait of St. Naum was made due to the vicinity of the Monastery St. Naum. The frescoes are of great magnificence for studying the Art of the second half of XIV c, too.







## ST NAUM OF OHRID

Built on a cliff, on the south part of Ohrid Lake, in a landscape with a rare natural beauty, there is a monastery dedicated to St. Naum. This monastery complex has an enormous importance for the cultural history of Ohrid and Macedonia, as well as for the whole region which was under jurisdiction of the Ohrid Archbishopric.

It is well known that St. Naum, the student of the Holy teachers Cyril and Methodius, was a teacher from 893, and

in 900 he built a church dedicated to the Holy Archangels Michael and Gavril. He was buried there as a Head of the monastery in 910.

The archeologists found out that this church had the same construction as the one that St. Kliment had dedicated to St. Pantheleimon. Later it was rebuilt, then destroyed and it got its today's look probably in XVI and XVII c. taking into consideration that it was built in many phases.

From the period of St. Naum there are preserved frag-



ments of lives of saints frescoes, several epigraphs with Glagolic and Cyrilic letters which are one of the oldest epigraphic monuments in Macedonia.

The frescoes on the walls of the church were painted in 1800 and 1806 but without any special skill. However they are witnesses of the high theological culture of the painter Trpo from Korcha.

The iconostasis, dated from 1711, is of a precious value and the shallow carving is gold – plated. The old guest house with rooms and the enclosed porches, named after the donors from Ohrid, as well as the surrounding premises, the school and chapter house, were destroyed by fire in 1875. Most of the treasury was looted during the wars.

The monastery complex today is a cult place for many visitors from different countries and different religions who believe in the healing power of this Miracle Maker.







## CULTURE

### FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The tradition of Ohrid being a very important cultural center in Macedonia still lives today. Top names in music, drama, literature, art and sport from all over the world gather in this city especially during the summer months. Among the variety of festivals and events that take place throughout the year are:



## OHRID SUMMER FESTIVAL

The Ohrid Summer Festival is one of the largest and most important music and drama festivals in Macedonia. The first concert took place in 1961 in the church of St. Sophia, with its exceptional acoustics. The festival in Ohrid has a particular by international significance because of the participation of a large number of leading musicians and ensem-

bles from the best known European and world music centres. During the festival the city becomes the place for meeting of a great number of music and theatre artists from all around the world who enrich Ohrid's tourist offer with the presentation of their performances with high artistic values. Performers from over 50 countries in the world, have performed at more than 1200 concerts and



plays so far. Some of the most prominent among them are: Aldo Chiccolini, Andre Navarra, Raavi Schankar, Henryk Sherring, Leonid Kogan, Victor Tretyakov, Ivo Pogorelic and many more. In the last several seasons the Festival has hosted the stars of the Russian opera and ballet, the world's famous tenor Jose Carreras and the famous conductor, maestro Zubin Mehta.

As an equal member of the European Association of Festivals it has a great reputation in the world and during the summer months it becomes the main centre of the whole cultural living in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia and broader.





## BALKAN FESTIVAL

Within the history of cultural development of Ohrid and Macedonia, the cultural event Balkan Festival of folk songs and dances contributes to a great extent. It is held every year from 5th to 10th of July.

The festival was first held on July 20th-August 15th, 1962 then named "Balkan Festival of folk songs and dances". Due to its conception and accomplishment it is highly appreciated and respected through the world. On this basis in 1977 and 1979 it became a member of the UNESCO Association

tions CIOFF (The International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Art) and IOF.

So far, more than 50 000 independent artists from Australia, Austria, Albania, England, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Egypt, India, Italy, Canada, Cyprus, Columbia, Leetonia, Moldavia, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, the USA, Slovenia, Serbia, Turkey, Hungary, Finland, France, Netherlands, Croatia, Check Republic, Slovakia, Sweden, Spain and Macedonia have taken part in it.



## INTERNATIONAL SONG FESTIVAL “OHRID FEST – OHRID TROUBADOURS”

This is an annual international festival of folk and pop music that takes place in Ohrid every summer. The festival began in 1994 as a summer music show for Macedonian folk songs inspired by the songs of the famous Ohrid troubadours who used to sing in the past at the serenades, in the cafes and on the family feasts and celebrations. In 1997, a pop eve-

ning was introduced to motivate Macedonian lyricists and composers, as well as artists. In 2003, an international evening was added to the program, which consists of foreign artists performing their songs along with the best ranked songs from the pop evening. The festival has become prominent within the Balkan region which led to its broadcast in different countries such as Albania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece.





## OHRID INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING MARATHON

The Ohrid International Swimming Marathon was held for the first time in 1962. During recent years, many domestic and foreign swimmers have participated in the marathon. The course is 30 km long, starting at St. Naum and finishing at the Ohrid port.

In 1998 the Ohrid Swimming Marathon entered the World Swimming Club of 12 marathons in the world, under protection of FINA - World.





## SAILING REGATTA

The Sailing Regatta is one of the oldest sport events that Lake of Ohrid has. The first glider was made back in 1940, and the first regatta was organized in 1952. Since then until today, the famous Ilinden international regatta, was continually organized with several exceptions through all these years.

The Sailing Federation of Macedonia based in Ohrid consists of 8 full-membership clubs. The Federation is part of

the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), as well as, part of The Macedonian Agency of youth and sport, Macedonian Olympic Committee (MOC) and other organizations.

Sailing is a healthy and ecological (green) sport, considering that the wind is the main resource for driving (moving) of the glider. The most suitable weather circumstances for sailing are in the period beginning with October until April, but also in the other months when there is a great wind for sailing.





## ST. KLIMENT, THE PATRON OF THE CITY

December 8th

The Macedonian Orthodox Church celebrates with special attention the feast-day of its patron-St. Kliment of Ohrid, its first archbishop and founder of the Ohrid Literary School. The city of Ohrid celebrates St. Kliment as its patron

saint and protector, and this day is celebrated as the city's holiday when a lot of guests and delegations from Ohrid's sister cities come and join city authorities in the celebrations.

According to the tradition, when the city was threatened by some danger or disaster, the spirit of St. Kliment would appear and save his city from suffering.



## OHRIDSKA SOFRA

Home traditional recipes for preparation of food are real wealth and an inexhaustible opportunity for tourism promotion of Ohrid, but for more important for the rural settlements in the municipality of Ohrid. One of the most popular traditional food products for visitor and tourists is our gjomleze.

An organized promotion of traditional food products and offer is an exceptional opportunity for development of the rural tourism segment, travel and stay of guests and tourists in passive rural areas of the municipality.

Events of this kind are traditionally held in places and they bring together the spirit and faith with tradition and modernity. The goal is to send the message that our wealth is in the culture, tradition and the beautiful nature.





## EPIPHANY - January 19th

Epiphany is celebrated as one of the biggest Orthodox holidays as on this day, according to the religion, Jesus Christ was baptized by St. John the Baptist in the Jordan river.

The main event on this day is throwing the cross in the water. In Ohrid the cross is thrown in the Lake by the clergy after they pray. Mostly young boys jump in the lake to catch the cross. The winner is awarded with a prize. It is believed that this ritual makes the water holy and therefore healing so that all present at the event take a little water in bottles and keep it all year long.







## THE OLD TOWN SONG TROUBADURE

With the rise of the city in the 19th century comes the influx and influence of the West European music and traditional oriental blend. It was then that the famous Ohrid traditional song that we marvel at even today was born. Ohrid had numerous chalgia groups (some prefer to call them troubadours) and their song instrumental performances cheered the city during the holidays, hearty celebrations, family celebrations and name days, christenings, weddings. They were invited not only

by Macedonians, but by Muslim families in the city and the nearby area. An invitation of a chalgia musician or a whole group, depending on how much money one could spend on such a caprice, when going to a fair in the monasteries was considered to be a special experience ("Fanche is gone to Kalista at Fair"). There was a special loggia on the boat for the musicians and whole families would head towards the aimed destination, while the song and the sound filled the air reinforced by the echo of the lake. But the musicians were not only performers and entertainers. The lack of radio, television, internet and newspapers at the time meant they were the ones that by song would inform citizenship about the interesting events from everyday city life ("We will kidnap Despina, no one would know" "What's been heard, granny", "Frosina is sitting on the loggia", "Antica, poor soul, having no luck" "Come to the





window..."). The songs quickly became popular and acceptable for the lyrics and content but also because of the wonderful melody - mainly playful Waltz by European trends.

As a proof that these musical works were real masterpieces is the fact that today they are part of the repertoire of the numerous new Ohrid ensembles, and have a prominent place on the program of the radio stations and tele-

vision. Also they celebrated the glory of the city of Ohrid not just out of Ohrid, but out of the borders of Macedonia and the Balkans. Records of the most popular Ohrid songs were even released in Broadway, New York (Klime Sadilo & Orchestra). It is these traditional songs that were and today are an inspiration to many domestic and foreign authors in creating vocal and instrumental works.







TRADITIONAL  
CRAFTS





## OHRID PEARLS

For more than 90 years the Ohrid pearl has been a leading souvenir in the city of Ohrid, updated by each new generation, becomes a part of the jewelry collections of many people in Macedonia and worldwide. The secret

of preparations of the emulsion has been transferred from generation to generation. The emulsion used to cover the Ohrid pearl has natural origin and it is made by taking out the silver from the skin of the *plashica* fish, which exists only in Lake Ohrid.

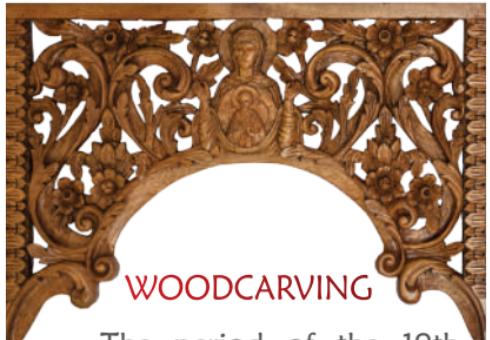
## FILIGREE

Filigree is knitting a very thin, already processed wire. Sometimes the thickness of the wire resembles the thickness of a hair. The original filigree is made by placing the silver wire as a pattern and that forms the base. The base is formed of thicker wire to give the re-

quired strength to the object. Then the empty space between the small spirals, which are made of the thinnest wire, is filled.

From the thin wire priceless items that testify to the centuries old tradition of the Macedonian people are made.





## WOODCARVING

The period of the 19th century becomes a century of Macedonian woodcarvers and fresco painters (zografi). Gathered in a number of teams they would leave their villages Galicnik, Lazaropole, Gari, Osoj and Tresonice in spring time and would work on the Balkan in order to earn for living. Late in autumn they would come back on the slopes of the mountain Bistra and other mountains in the valley of Radika river. The Macedonian woodcarvers from Debar vicinity decorated with wood carved iconostasis the churches of Hl. Mother of God Bolnicka and Hl. Mother of God Kamensko in Ohrid. They are considered among the more significant accomplishments. By working on the iconostasis,

the woodcarvers as unique artists in the Christian east region, pondered in the heart of the wood searching for its most melodic expression. With their tools they revealed the magnificent forms of the massive pillars of nut tree, thus imagining and carving the scenes of the Old and New Testimony.

In the period before and after the First World War the craft of woodcarving began to decline sharply. In 1928 in order to renew this artistic activity the academic sculptor Branislav Jovancevic founded the artistic woodcarving school in Debar. In 1930 this school was transferred to Ohrid.

Woodcarving in Ohrid was launched again in the second half of the 20th century. Thus, in the course of many years of work in the artistic atelier for woodcarving school in Ohrid and Debar as true followers of the rich woodcarving traditions in Macedonia, a number of pieces with an extraordinary artistic value were created.



## COPPER PRODUCTS

The tradition of the Macedonian cultural values is woven into the unique tendency for presentation of the artistic achievements of rare people who have the gift to transmit their skillfulness into unlimited durability of the amazing and precious creation – copper reliefs engraving. Through the copper reliefs the Macedonian heritage is presented with designs from the city of Ohrid,

religious and traditional designs. The unique handmade products from copper, silver and the gold-plated products are very valuable due to their artistic value and their unlimited durability.

In 1914 in Ohrid the copper workshop was founded. Several century long tradition is used successfully in this craft: they manufacture copper and brass items and jewelry by hand carving and hammering.



## HANDMADE PAPER

The tradition of making paper in Macedonia begins from the second half of 16th century in the monastery of "St. Naum". It was used for internal needs in limited quantity. The National Workshop for

Handmade Paper "St. Kliment Ohridski", Ohrid continues this tradition. It started with work from 23. 10. 2002. The workshop is situated in the magnificent part of the old city, next to the National Museum Robev family house.

## MANUFACTURING LEATHER PRODUCTS

The unique handcrafted leather in Ohrid and book-binding products are made to satisfy every taste. It is the only place in Macedonia where you can find handmade leather carved souvenirs.

In the old Ohrid bazaar there is a well known workshop for manufacturing leather items.

In their creative opus are souvenirs of leather, dancing shoes and some other products.







INSTITUTIONS	Telephone Number
General Information	188
Police	192
Fire station	193
Ambulance	194
Center for crisis management	195
Auto moto association of Macedonia	196
Public revenue office	198
Municipality of Ohrid	+389 46 262 493
Municipal inspektorate	+389 46 273 366
State market inspektorate	+389 46 261 320
PC Sports centre "Biljanini izvori"	+389 46 231 535
PC Galicica	+389 46 261 473
Bus station	+389 46 260 339
Airport	+389 46 252 820
Red cross	+389 46 261 909
Post	+389 46 273 150
Port authorities	+389 46 260 451
NI Centre for culture "Gligor Prlicev"	+389 46 261 063
NI Institute and Museum Ohrid	+389 46 262 498
General hospital	+389 46 267 267
Ohrid summer festival	+389 46 261 304
NI Library "Gligor Pricev"	+389 46 262 064
Archives of Macedonia-branch of Ohrid	+389 46 252 104
Consumer organization of Ohrid	+389 46 252 833

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The tradition of Ohrid being a very important cultural center in Macedonia still lives today. Top names in music, drama, literature, art and sport from all over the world gather in this city especially during the summer months. Among the variety of festivals and events that take place throughout the year are:

- January 19, Epiphany-baptism of the Ohrid Lake water.
- February 6, Prlichev's orations-days of the Ohrid poet Grigor Prlichev.
- June 21, Day of Lake Ohrid.
- June/July, Ohrid Film Festival
- July 5-10, Balkan Folklore Festival-an international review of folk songs and dances, established in 1962.
- July 12 - August 20, Ohrid Summer Festival-a traditional musical and theatrical cultural manifestation, held each year in Ohrid since 1960.
- August 2, International sailing regatta held on occasion of Ilinden, national and state holiday.
- August, Macedonian Language, Literature and Culture Seminar-when linguists from all over the world who study Macedonian language gather in Ohrid.
- August, Ohrid International Swimming Marathon that was held for the first time in 1962.
- August, Ohrid Fest-international festival of pop and folk music.
- August, Zivko Chingo nights, Velgoshti
- August, Velestovo poetry night
- August, Ohrid choir festival
- December 8, Municipality day, feast day of St. Kliment of Ohrid, protector and patron saint of the city.

## NATIONAL MUSEUM

Samuilova nn

### **Working hours**

Open daily, except Mondays,  
9. 00-17. 00 hrs

### **Contact**

+389 (0)46 267 173

## THE HOUSE OF HRISTO UZUNOV

Samuilova 49

### **Working hours**

Open daily, except Mondays,  
9. 00-17. 00 hrs

### **Contact**

+389 (0)46 262 498

## THE GALLERY OF ICONS

### **Working hours**

Open daily, except Mondays,  
9. 00-17. 00 hrs

### **Contact**

+389 (0)46 251 935

## THE BAY OF BONES

Gradishte

### **Working hours**

Open daily, except Mondays,  
9. 00-17. 00 hrs

### **Contact**

+389 (0)46 262 498

## MEMORIAL HOUSE OF GRIGOR PRLICHEV

### **Working hours**

Open daily, except Mondays,  
9. 00-17. 00 hrs

### **Contact**

+389 (0)46 262 498





