



**IN NATURE**

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## **Introduction**

The nature of Prizren region presents a unique opportunity for exploration, leisure and fund for every visitor. Except for its vital importance to the local population, such a nature rich in forests and mountains, waters and fields is irreplaceable source almost for each and every activity sought by visitors: mountains rich in endemic flora, breathtaking landscapes, miracles of nature, lakes, rivers and caves; hiking, mountain biking, skiing, hunting, fishing, bird-watching and wine routes tradition, should by all means be enjoyed and felt.

A person in love with nature and all the goods that it provides, shall find in our tourist attractions, such as Sharri Mountains and Mirusha River, an experience, which he/she will not only wish to remember but also to renew it from time to time.

However, this abundant nature would not have a sense without a rich agriculture. High quality fruits and vegetables, for which festivals are held, can be found all over the place.

By no means one should not forget another product that makes this area proud of, namely the Sharri Cheese, without which a dining table makes no sense.



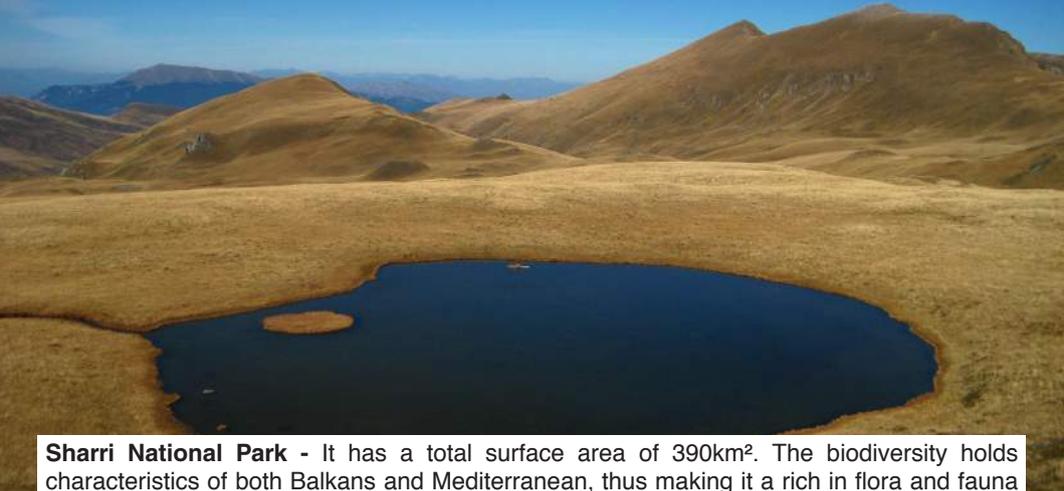
# **ATTRACTIONS**

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## **SHARRI**

**Sharri Mountains** - Has a very strong biological diversity. Flora and the vegetation are rich and diverse. Among those, 86 are of international importance - 26 types in the European “Red List” of threatened plants and animals and 32 are in the “Red List” of threatened plants according to IUCN. According to the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) the National Park Sharr Mountains has been registered in the international list of protected zones. The climate is continental, with long winters and heavy snows and fresh summers.





**Sharri National Park** - It has a total surface area of 390km<sup>2</sup>. The biodiversity holds characteristics of both Balkans and Mediterranean, thus making it a rich in flora and fauna in the sense of rare and endemic types. Because of the action of glaciers, a large number of so called glacier or circular ravines, waves and large amounts of glacial materials have been created. The most renowned are Livadica and Jazhinca lakes. The largest number of glacial ravines is located on the slopes of the highest peaks, southwardly from National Park, of Bistra, Livadica, Çuka e Liqeve. Their biggest presence in numbers is below the Piribreg peak (2.522m), known as Vrima e Berevcit (Berevc Hole). Circular ravines of Çuka e Liqeneve and Livadica are clearly visible

From these circles begin the waves, respectively the former glacial lowlands. Of special importance is the wave of DemirKapija, which goes from the former circle where the Lake of Livadica is today located. DemirKapia which by the end is wider and has fully sloped sides represents the most renowned fossil form of the glacial lowland in Sharr, of 1,5km length. Sharr Mountains National Park has an eastern continental climate

**Sharri Lakes** - Glacial lakes are among the rare sights of the country. They are located at an elevation of over 1900m. Livadica Lake, 2173 m elevation, is of 230 meters length, 120 m width and 7.3m depth. Other lakes: Jazhinca, Gornjasella, Karanikolla, Miskova, Bezdanka, etc. Black Lake is the most isolated lake of the Sharr Mountains. It has the dimensions of a pool, and is of unchanging water 3.5m deep.





## **MIRUSHA**

**Mirusha Waterfall** - Lakes are located alongside the Mirusha river flow, which has carved a 10 km long canyon, and created 12 river lakes with 12 waterfalls. The highest waterfall is the one between the sixth and seventh lake. It is 21 m high. Waterfalls between the lakes, landscape, rocks and caves are a real tourist attraction.

**Mirusha River** – Is 29 km long, and flows into the DriniiBardhë River, which is made up of 38 smaller streams (streamlets). The diversity of natural wealth is an additional argument for the beautiful sights that this country has. What further enrich this landscape is the river of Mirusha and the canyon that this river flows through, as one of the most beautiful sights in Kosovo. The area of Mirusha basin has a total surface of 337.5km<sup>2</sup>. Streams of Mirusha River are: River of Biniq, Stream of the Valley, Malisheva Stream, Stopanica, Bubavec stream and Kijeva stream.

**Mirusha Canyon** – 2 km downstream the Mirusha River a canyon made of 16 karstic river lakes is located. Lakes have various sizes and are linked with waterfalls up to 21 m high. The canyon flanks in some locations are deep and vertical up to 200 m.

**Mirusha Park** – Located on both sides of river Mirusha from the beginning of the canyon and nearly up to the point where it spills into River Drini. The size of the protected territory of Mirusha Regional Park is 556 hectares. The Mirusha River flows throughout the territory of the Mirusha Park which along its course creates 13 waterfalls and 16 lakes that together create a rare morpho-hydrologic phenomenon, that is extremely attractive to visitors. The largest lake is Lake 16 (55m X 45m) with a 5m depth. The highest waterfall is between Lakes 8 and 9, the length of which is 21m. The climate of Mirusha region is continental and mildly influenced by the Mediterranean climate.

**Upper Lakes** – Initially their depth varies between 1-3 m, while by the 8-th Lake reaches 6.5 m. The lakes are connected to each other through straits, thresholds and deeper areas which enabled the creation of waterfalls, which, together with the erosion, make the lakes have a constant deepening tendency. The width of the canyon in the upper part is small from the first lake where water begins to create waterfall and lakes at river width of 0.50-1m which, by the final lake (eighth) reaches a maximum width of 3m.

**Middle Lakes** – The height is around 100m from the 13th lake to the 8th lake. The terrain is very unsuitable for visits due to ravines and sharp formation between the lakes. The depths between lakes 9 and 10 are 6-9 m whereas the height of the water in the shape of a wall between lakes 8 and 9 is 21 m and between Lake 9 and 10 is 9 m.

**Lower Lakes** – Feature varying depths of 50-60m between the two bridges. The largest lakes are lake 13 and 16 (which is also the last) of 5 -7m depths. After Lake 13 the waterfall has a height of 3m with a very swift fall in the shape of a waterfall that runs off into Lake 14 by creating a 14m high waterfall in the direction of Lake 15 with the same kind of height that runs off into Lake 16 where the Mirusha canyon also ends. The dimensions of the lakes from first to the 16th vary depending on the amount of water and precipitation that falls in the water collecting canal of Mirusha.

## **PANORC CAVE**

A few meters below the cave entrance there are two water springs which, in all probability have a hydrologic connection to the cave. In the cave there is a permanent flow of water with strong oscillations. The portion of the cave that has been researched features karst gaps of considerable dimensions, but lacks the special speleological

treasures. Considerable deposits of gravel of heterogeneous lithological composition may be noticed on the floor of the canal. The procedure of making this zone a protected one is underway.

## **DRINI I BARDHË RIVER**

Of a 111 km length spreading throughout the territory of Kosovo and with a flow area of 4860 km<sup>2</sup>, it enters Prizren from the north and continues toward the south west to Albania and into the Adriatic Sea. It creates small lakes within the boundaries of Dobrusha village. It also flows through the Municipality of Rahovec, around 30km, and is serves as administrative boundary of municipalities such as: Prizren, Gjakova, Malisheva and Klina. Rivers-streams which flow into DriniiBardhë are: Ratkoc River, Rimnik, Palluzha, Hoça, etc. DriniiBardhë has created the lime massive called Gradish, by creating a gorge approximately 450 m in length. The Holy Bridge was constructed within the canyon. This Bridge is about 70 m long, and a 30m elevation of the arc from the river body.





**TASTE THE NATURE**

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## **MOUNTAINEERING**

There are regular mountaineering-mountain climbing activities in the Municipality of Prizren. Close to the village of Struzha there is a mountaineering house, which operates within the Association of Sharri Mountaineers; provides accommodation and various services related to mountaineering activities. The peaks that are climbed by the mountaineers are: Bistra, Maja e zezë (Black Peak), Kopilica, Vërtopiivogël, Vërtopiimadh, Kara Nikolla, Shkarpa, Oshlaku, KoxhaBallkani, Ostrovica, Qereniku, Konjushka.

## **Konjushka Peak**

At the top of Konjushka is the Lake of Konjushka, which is the highest lake of Sharr Mountains. The lake is approximately 100 m long, 70 m wide and 50 cm deep. Has a beautiful position, located on the slopes of Konjushka peak. Next to the lake there is a hut that was built during the 1970s, that was used during wild goat hunts. Elevation is 2422m.



### **Bistra 1**

It is located on border between Kosovo – Macedonia with a slope facing toward Kosovo in Sharr Mountains. Its elevation is 2651 meters. This elevation makes this the second highest peak in Kosovo, after the Gjeravica peak. The length of the walking path is 13 km.

### **Bistra 2**

It is located on border between Kosovo – Macedonia with its northern face turned toward Kosovo. Is among the rare peaks which, when not covered in snow, is a very

easy to climb, whereas in snow conditions its ridges are covered in ice and the final part just under the peak becomes very dangerous. Its elevation is 2651m.

### **Kara Nikolla**

It is located close to the “Qafa e Bozovices” - a region that connects the Kosovar city of Prizren with the Macedonian city of Tetova. The peak has two slopes. Its elevation is 2409.

## **Guri i Prevallës (The Rock of Prevala)**

Rises above the southern part of the Prevala tourist center; it is situated in an elevation of 1991m. It can be seen from the very starting point of the Valley of Zhupa. The peak is also the beginning of the long spine of Bistrica, which is connected to the ridge of Bistra 2 Peak. One of the slopes of the peak separates the PrizrenBistricariverfrom Lepenc River. The spine between the GuriiPrevallës and the root of Bistra 2 peak may be traversed in 25 min.

## **Shkarpa**

At the beginning of the peak which is located on the Macedonian side, on the southern slope of the peak, there are two lakes, “MaloKaranikolskoJezero“ and “VelikoKaranikolskoJezero“. Elevation: 2479m.

## **Jazhinca Lake**

Located at the roots of peaks Bistra 1 and Maja e Liqenit (Lake Peak).Jazhinca Lake has a deep green color resembling a Safire and is surrounded by great rocks. Its approximate length is 120 m and its approximate width is 80 m. With its very cold water, the lake is not suitable for swimming, although there are those that dare to enter it.

## **Black Lake**

It is located to the north-east of Jazhinca Lake. It is the most isolated lake of Sharr Mountains; it has the dimensions of a pool. The level of water remains the same, of a depth of 3.5 m. the color of the lake is black and this comes as a consequence of the rocks below the water surface. The water of this lake is the coldest of all lakes. Its approximate length is 50m, approximate width 25m. The shape of the lake resembles a heart and is surrounded by huge rocks.

## **Kleçi Peak**

It is located on the border between Kosovo-Macedonia. It cannot be seen from far, because the surrounding peaks prevent this, especially the Kulla Peak. Kleçi Peak is part of the Sharr Mountains.





## **Kulla Peak**

Stretches between the huge valleys of the Radesha River. Its snow doesn't melt until the beginning of summer season. Kulla separates two valleys: the Valley of Zagrejac River and the valley of the Radeshariver. These two rivers join up at the front of Kulla and create the Radesha River. It has a great position for observation, since both on the right and on the left there are two valleys, at the front is the great valley of Radesha and the village of Radesha itself, whereas at the back is where Gropa e Kleçit is located.

## **Lower Lake**

Is approximately 15 meters long and 8 meters wide, with a depth of 70 cm. It is located at the bottom of the GuriiÇarë Peak. Has the lowest elevation.

## **Great Bistrica Waterfall**

Is located approximately a 15 minute walk above the Lower Lake. The Great Waterfall is also the place where the Bistrica waterfalls end, which is made up of numerous small waterfalls. The great waterfall is approximately 13m high, whereas above it there is another waterfall that is around 3m high.

## **Source of Bistrica**

Located in a wide groove or hole, above which is the location of Gushbaba peak, and Bistra 2 is located to its left. The water from this spring is naturally very cold, so cold that one can't even drink a half glass in one go.

## **GuriiÇarë Peak**

Is the peak closest to the village of Prevala; located to its southwest. Has the shape of a pyramid. It has a back which is connected to the Konjushka Peak, and Prevala may be seen to the left. The largest groups of wild goats inhabit these peaks. This peak stretches entirely within the territory of Kosovo.

## **Maja e Vogël (Small Peak)**

Located in a close vicinity of the Black Peak, and stretches on the border between Kosovo and Macedonia. It was named so due to the fact that when seen from the Gropa e Konjushkës looks rather small compared to the other surrounding peaks.



## **MOUNTAIN BIKING**

Dragash is one of the Municipalities that offers numerous possibilities for mountain biking. Of special importance are: (258) Brod – Shutman trail; (259) Restelicë – FYR of Macedonia trail; (260) the trail surrounding Brut. In Opoja there is a village exploration trail, starting from (261) village of Bellobrad, which is 11.5 km long.

## **MOUNTAIN HIKING**

### **Hiking in the Koritnik Mountain**

During the major part of the year, the peak is covered in snow. The trail starts after the village of Raçça; starting elevation: 950 meters; highest point: 2395 meters; length: 13.07 km.

### **Hiking along the River Radeshë**

Follows a river through a beech wood until the end of one side of the gorge and further emerges along a divided river that springs from a gorge close-by. The trail follows a loop and provides an opportunity to end the hike by going through the main part of Radesha. The start is at the village of Radesha, initial elevation: 1350 meters; highest elevation: 1550 meters; length: 4.95 km.

### **Hiking between Brod–Çule Mountain**

The hike begins with an immediate climb and has some flat areas. There are numerous smaller trails that branch from the main trail used by shepherds. Çule Mountain may be seen at all times, thus facilitating navigation in the right direction. Start: Brod village; initial elevation: 1384 m; highest elevation: Çule Mountain - 2220 m; distance: 5.76 km.

### **Brod–old border crossing with FYROM**

Challenging hike, with an opportunity to end the hike sooner, through a shorter trail. Start: Çule Mountain (long hike); initial elevation: 1384 m; highest elevation: 2265 m; length: 15.76 km.



### **Baçka - Brod**

Baçka has a small number of families that live there during winter, since the others work abroad. Start: Baçka village; initial elevation: 1250 m; highest elevation: 1470 m; distance: 7.34 km.

### **Brod - Shutman Lake**

One of the most renowned hikes in the region of Brod. This hike may be combined with two other hikes in the region: Vracë Mountain or the 3 Peaks hike, which begin and end at the Shutman Lake. Start: Hotel "Arxhena"; initial elevation: 1384 m; highest elevation: 2120 m; distance: 8.82 km.

**BIRD WATCHING** - Territories used for watching are: the delta of Drin River, Sharr Mountains (Prizren), Brod (Dragash), Guriidollocit (Suhareka), Zatriq Mountain (Rahovec), Mirusha Waterfall (Malisheva). In Limth by the Guriizi is where a camping spot has been built. Most distinguished birds: Mountain eagle, ACCIPITRIDAE family, Aquila chrysaetos type; European nightjar, CAPRIMULGIDAE family, Caprimulguseuropaeus type; Wall creeper – SITTIDAE family, Tichodromamuraria; Owls, ACCIPITRIDAE family, Buteo type; Grey heron, ARDEIDAE family, type Ardeacinerea; White stork, CICONIDAE family, type Ciconiaciconia; Grey partridge, PHASIANIDAE family, type Perdixperdix, GREY PARTRIDGE.



## HUNTING

The southern region is considered being relatively rich in wild hunting animals and big game. Hunting is allowed between 15 October and 15 February. Animals that may be hunted are: wild boar, rabbit, fox, wolf, feral chicken, field and wood partridge, pheasants. The most distinguished hunting spots are: Trumshi, Planej, Pashtrik (Prizren); Gurra e Zezë, Kushnin (Prizren); Prevala (Prizren); Kodra e Pikëllimës (Rahovec); Kodra e Zatriqit (Rahovec); Grejkoc village (Suhareka); Duhle village (Suhareka); Malet e Trepezës (Malisheva); Vargmalet e Berishës (Malisheva); parts of Opoja and Gora that are outside of the National Park.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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