



## FACTS ABOUT THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

- ✓ Ohrid and Lake Ohrid are UNESCO natural and cultural heritage sites.
- ✓ Alexander the Great was born in 356 BC in Pella, the capital of ancient Macedonia.
- ✓ Mother Theresa of Calcutta was born in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia.
- ✓ There are four national parks in Macedonia: Galichica, Mavrovo, Pelister and Jasen, which cover an area of approximately 110,000 hectares.
- ✓ Approximately half the population of Macedonia is under 30 years of age.
- ✓ The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia became an official member of the United Nations Organization on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1993. The vote was unanimous and it became the 184<sup>th</sup> member.
- ✓ Macedonia is known for its vineyards that cover approximately 74,000 acres.
- ✓ Approximately 700,000 tourists visit Macedonian lakes and mountains every year.
- ✓ More than 400,000 people visit the 22 or more Macedonian museums every year.



- ✓ The Macedonian documentary film 'Dae' directed by Stole Popov was nominated in the 1980 Academy Awards. The film 'Before the Rain' from Milcho Manchevski, obtained the Golden Lion of the Venice Film Festival, and was also nominated in the 1995 Academy Awards.
- ✓ The first Macedonian opera took place in 1926. One of the most renowned operas is 'Goce', by Kiril Makedonski, which performed on May 24th, 1954.
- ✓ Gligor Smokvarski's ballet 'A Macedonian Story' first performed in 1953.
- ✓ Macedonia is known for its cultural and artistic scene, and has over 99 cultural, artistic, and educational associations presenting performances in Albanian, Turkish and Roman.

- ✓ There are over 99 amateur cultural, artistic and educational associations presenting concerts, music, theatre and art exhibitions.
- ✓ Macedonia is known for its antique churches, monasteries and frescoes. Among its most famous churches are St. Sophia and the Holy Virgin of Perivleptos in Ohrid.
- ✓ Macedonia has archaeological sites from the classical period in the towns of Stobi, Bitola, Scupi, and Bargala.
- ✓ The annual Ohrid Summer Festival of Music and Drama hosts musicians from all over the world, and the Balkan Festival of Song and Dance also takes place in Ohrid. Other internationally known events in Macedonia include the Struga Poetry Evenings, which is attended by poets from over 50 nationalities. Furthermore, the World Gallery of Cartoons, the May Opera Evening and the Open Youth Theatre Festival take place in Skopje .

## Video

*Ohrid City of Lights  
Macedonia Timeless*



### **Other sources of information**

- ✓ For more information on the Natural and Cultural Heritage of Ohrid in Macedonia visit:  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99>
- ✓ For more information on Alexander the Great visit:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/alexander\\_the\\_great.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/alexander_the_great.shtml)
- ✓ For more information on Mother Theresa of Calcutta visit:  
[http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/1979/teresa-bio.html](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1979/teresa-bio.html)
- ✓ Visit the CIA World Fact book for more information on the History, Geography, Government, and Economy of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:  
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mk.html>