

Durrës to Orikum

South past the low lagoons and river mouths of central Albania, between Sazan island and the mainland into the Bay of Vlorë, to the marina at Orikum under the Karaburun peninsula.

DATE	Saturday 21 August 2027
DISTANCE	62.7 nm, 7 legs
TIME	11 h 09 min
DEPART	06:30 CEST from Durrës. 35 minutes after sunrise (05:57 CEST).
ARRIVE	About 17:39 CEST at Orikum. In the late afternoon, with about 1 hour 50 minutes of daylight in hand (sunset 19:31 CEST).
TIDES	Range about 0.2 m: no practical effect
WIND	Sea breezes; the bay of Vlorë is sheltered from the west
BOAT	35 to 38 ft sailing yacht, 1.9 m draught, 6 kn under sail, 5.5 kn under engine
CREW	Skipper and 3 crew, 2 watches of 2



Track and waypoints 1 to 6, with ports of refuge as squares.

Go or no-go

Decide at 06:00 CEST. Go only if all of these hold:

- ☐ No wind above force 5.
- ☐ Orikum berth and agent confirmed.
- ☐ Visibility 3 nm or more.

If the weather is wrong, stay at Durrës.

Route and waypoints

Waypoints are planning positions in open water, checked against a 1:10m coastline to be at least 0.8 nm off land except at the harbour ends. Distances and courses are calculated from them. Plot every one on the current chart before use. Courses are true.

#	WAYPOINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	COURSE	LEG NM	TOTAL NM	ETA	NOTES
0	Durrës	41°18.4'N	019°27.2'E				06:30 CEST	Depart.
1	Durrës approach	41°18.0'N	019°26.0'E	243°T	1.0	1.0	06:45 CEST	Out of the bay.
2	Off Cape Lagjit	41°10.0'N	019°20.0'E	209°T	9.2	10.2	08:17 CEST	3 nm off.
3	Off the Seman and Vjosa	40°45.0'N	019°15.0'E	189°T	25.3	35.5	12:11 CEST	8 nm off the river mouth.
4	East of Sazan	40°31.2'N	019°19.8'E	165°T	14.3	49.8	14:33 CEST	Into the Bay of Vlorë from the mainland.
5	Bay of Vlorë	40°27.0'N	019°24.0'E	143°T	5.3	55.1	15:26 CEST	Down the bay along the coast.
6	Orikum approach	40°23.4'N	019°26.4'E	153°T	4.0	59.1	16:27 CEST	Keep clear of the Pastirja point to the west. CHECK ON THE CHART
7	Orikum Marina	40°20.1'N	019°28.3'E	156°T	3.6	62.7	17:39 CEST	Position approximate. CHECK ON THE CHART

Tides and time

DURRËS · SAT 21 AUG · CEST (UTC+2)

HW	06:15	0.2 m
LW	12:07	0.1 m
HW	18:24	0.2 m

From the Otranto station.

ORIKUM · SAT 21 AUG · CEST (UTC+2)

LW	06:02	0.1 m
HW	11:55	0.3 m
LW	18:10	0.1 m

From the Kerkyra station.

Saturday 21 August 2027. **Tides.** The range here is 0.1 to 0.3 m: tides make no practical difference. Wind and air pressure move the sea level more than the tide does.

Durrës uses the Otranto station and **Orikum** the Kerkyra station.

Tide times are predictions made for this plan from the TICON-4 harmonic constants (DGFI-TUM) with the Neaps tide predictor, because the official 2027 tables were not yet published when it was written. Tested against the official APDL table for Leixões on 23 July 2026, the predicted times were within 8 minutes and the heights 0.1 to 0.2 m lower. Heights are above lowest astronomical tide. Check every time against the official 2027 table before sailing.

Daylight. Sunrise at Durrës 05:57 CEST. Sunset at Orikum 19:31 CEST.

Weather

- **A low coast** of lagoons and river mouths, hard to see from offshore.
- **The Bay of Vlorë** is sheltered from the west by Karaburun and Sazan.

FORECASTS TO CHECK

- Croatian DHMZ forecast for the South Adriatic (meteo.hr); Greek forecasts for the North Ionian (Hellenic National Meteorological Service, emy.gr).
- NAVTEX Kerkyra: station K on 518 kHz in English, at 01:40, 05:40, 09:40, 13:40, 17:40 and 21:40 UTC, with weather at 05:40, 09:40, 17:40 and 21:40.
- Albanian weather broadcasts on VHF: [CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

Hazards

- **Sazan and Karaburun.** The Karaburun-Sazan National Marine Park (2010) covers about 125 km²; its zoning and anchoring rules could not be found, and local permission may be needed. Sazan has been a military exclusion zone and has a naval post. Keep 1 nm off.
- **Pasha Liman** is an active naval base on the Bay of Vlorë beside Orikum, at 40°19.4'N 19°25.2'E. Keep well clear; any exclusion zone could not be checked.
- **Orikum Marina** says it is an official port of entry with customs and immigration help and over 600 berths. Older cruising reports say an agent comes from Vlorë.
- **River mouths.** The Shkumbin, Seman and Vjosa build shoals offshore. Keep 8 nm off.

Ports of refuge

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Durrës	Start	Within the first hour	Port.

PORT	FROM THE ROUTE	USE IT WHEN	NOTES
Vlorë	4 nm north of Orikum	Alternative	Port of entry. CHECK THE PILOT BOOK
Orikum	Destination	First choice	+355 68 603 9888.

Pilotage

LEAVING DURRËS

1. Leave the port and the bay, then head south, 3 nm off and then 8 nm off the river mouths.

INTO ORIKUM

1. Enter the Bay of Vlorë east of Sazan and follow its west side south.
2. Keep clear of Pasha Liman and call Orikum Marina (+355 68 603 9888) for a berth. VHF:

[CHECK THE PILOT BOOK](#)

LIGHTS ON THE WAY

Cape Durrës	Fl(2) 10s, 126 m
Sazan	Fl 10s, 193 m
Shën Vasil	Fl(3) 8s, 75 m
Kep i Pasha Liman	Fl(2) 5s, 21 m

Communications

Orikum Marina	+355 68 603 9888 · info@marinaorikum.com
Emergency at sea, Albania	VHF 16 · 125
Albanian coast guard working channel	VHF 11
Police	129

Contingencies

- **Wind rising from the south.** Shelter in the Bay of Vlorë.
- **Person overboard.** Shout, point, throw the danger buoy, press MOB, DSC distress alert, Mayday on 16.

Before leaving

- ☐ Forecasts read and logged before the go or no-go time

- ☐ Albanian notices to mariners checked for the route
- ☐ Waypoints entered and checked against the chart
- ☐ Ship's log started in UTC
- ☐ Crew briefing: route, watches, safety gear, MOB, fog
- ☐ Orikum berth booked
- ☐ Agent arranged for the next stops

- ☐ Fuel for 11 hours under engine, plus a reserve
- ☐ Water, food and hot drinks for 12 hours
- ☐ Lifejackets with crotch straps, jackstays rigged, harnesses
- ☐ Liferaft, grab bag, flares in date, handheld VHF
- ☐ Radar, AIS and navigation lights tested
- ☐ Passports, boat papers and insurance aboard

Sources

- Karaburun-Sazan, Sazan and Pasha Liman: English Wikipedia.
- Orikum Marina: marinaorikum.com.
- Montenegro and Albania formalities: noonsite.com (cruising reports, dated); Portonovi: portonovi.com; Orikum Marina: marinaorikum.com.
- Albanian and Montenegrin lights: Lighthouse Directory (ibiblio.org/lighthouse), characteristics and heights only.
- Tides: predictions from TICON-4 harmonic constants (Hart-Davis, Dettmering and Seitz, DGFI-TUM, 2025, doi 10.17882/109129) with Neaps (openwaters.io). Check against the Instituto Hidrográfico 2027 tables.
- Sunrise and sunset: calculated (NOAA method).
- Lights: The Lighthouse Directory (Rowlett), ibiblio.org/lighthouse, Portugal pages revised August 2024. Cross-check with the IH List of Lights, volume I.
- Pilot: RCC Pilotage Foundation, Atlantic Spain and Portugal, 9th edition (2025).

A planning exercise to RYA Yachtmaster standard. Not for navigation: use current official charts, the pilot book and the forecasts on the day.