

**INTERNATIONAL VETERANS FOLK – DANCE FESTIVAL
“OHRID WAVES”****from 14 till 17 June 2012**

Organizers: MAKFOLK Association
“TALIJA” Art Co.
Culture Centre – Struga

The intention of our invitation is to celebrate life, love and friendship through dance and music. The festival light motive is to gather all veteran groups from all over the world and remind ourselves of the events worth remembering.

The International Veterans Folk-Dance Festival “Ohrid waves” will be held for the 5th time in Ohrid from **14-17 June, 2012.**

Ohrid, an immortal town, a magical hill that links ancient and modern times forever. Ohrid has been a living town for 2400 years, notable for having 365 churches, one for each day of the year, and is referred to as the Macedonian Jerusalem. Through the activity of St. Clement of Ohrid, the first pan-Slavonic university on Europe was situated here. Today Ohrid is a cultural, spiritual and tourist centre. And finally, as the crowning glory of its values, Ohrid and Lake Ohrid have been named a world cultural and natural heritage listed city under the protection of UNESCO since 1980.



Lake Ohrid is one of Europe’s deepest and according to most experts the oldest lake in Europe. The importance of the lake was further emphasized when it was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1979. Feel Ohrid for once in your life and you already know why you will return and why it simply cannot be retold.

St. John Kaneo church 13th c. – most known for its scenic location, standing on a cliff over Lake Ohrid. Notable about the cute architecture is Armenian influence in the zig-zag line of the roof of the dome. (There are only few frescoes left inside, but the feeling of standing in centuries used sanctuary is worth the entrance).



St. Naum, one of the most beautiful monasteries in Macedonia and an important pilgrimage place. Breathtaking setting on a plateau over Ohrid Lake and Galicica Mountain towering from behind. It was founded in the 910 by St. Naum, but the present-day church was built in the 16th c. Of the original church just the side chapel with the grave of St. Naum still stands.

General rules

The International Veterans Folk-Dance Festival “Ohrid waves” is a non-competitive sample of traditional and modern dances and music performed by folkloric groups.

On the festival may participate folk groups, modern dance groups, vocal groups, instrumental groups and soloists, choirs as well as groups and performers from other art styles. The Groups should perform approximately 15 minutes either with live music or CD and should have flag and sign with the name of the group for the defile.

During the Festival each Group will have one or two performances in Ohrid and its area according to the program of the Festival. The performances will be in the evening hours so you can plan the day ahead and use it for visiting the historical part of the city, excursions or simply enjoying on the beach.

The Organization will organize a meeting with the local authorities and a farewell dinner where you can exchange gifts.

The festival fee is 75 euro per persons. It covers organizational expenses, accommodation in a Hotel for 3 nights with 3 meals per day, dinner party on a Boat (3 hours cruise on the Ohrid Lake). On every 25 participants, one person is free of charge.

Participation fee can be paid via bank transfer or on the day of arrival. Advance payment of 10 euro per person should be made after receiving the official invitation.

Accommodation

The accommodation of the participants is in Hotel Galeb, Struga located on the lake coast, with own beach, on a full board basis (3 meals per day). The Hotel is only 10 min walking from the centre of city Struga and only 15 km from Ohrid. If the group shows interest in extending the stay then the group leader should contact the organizers when applying to the festival (full board accommodation in Ohrid, the price is 20 euro per person).



Transport and travel conditions

The groups should pay the travel expenses by themselves to Ohrid and back.

The groups coming by bus should use their own transport all the time during the festival and the small journeys and excursions around the city.

The festival will organize the transport for the groups coming by plane by picking them up from Ohrid airport, during the festival days and back to the same Ohrid airport. The cost of the transportation will be covered by the group and will be additionally agreed according to their number. You can also arrive through Skopje, Tirana or Thessaloniki Airport which are only 200 km from Ohrid.

The participant group has to arrive in Ohrid on 14th of June 2012 (starting with lunch) and leave on 17th of June 2012 after having breakfast.

During your free time the Organizer will organize free excursion to the historical old part of Ohrid to visit the most famous ancient churches, basilicas, and monasteries where Saints Kliment and Naum (students of Cyril and Methodus) wrote their teachings and formulated the Cyrillic alphabet.

We will appreciate if you can send us your **application by 30 March 2012**. After receiving your application we will send you the official invitation for participating on the Festival. We will also assist you in obtaining visa for Macedonia if necessary. Each member must have travel insurance policy.

The organizer reserves the right to any changes in the program, and the participants will be informed on time. The copy right of all video materials and pictures are ownership of the Organization of the Festival. By applying you confirm that you accept all festival conditions.

Every Group will be rewarded with a Certificate for attending on the Festival.

Welcome!

Organization Council:

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