

**INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FOLK – DANCE FESTIVAL
"OHRID WAVES" 2012
from 15 till 19 August**

Organizers: MAKFOLK Association
In cooperation with: Culture Centre – Struga

The intention of our invitation is to celebrate life, love and friendship through dance and music. The Festival's light motive is to present the cultural tradition of different countries and regions, and to provide an opportunity for the members of groups to get together and create long-lasting friendships.

The International Folk - Dance Festival "Ohrid waves" will be held for the 8th time in Ohrid during the period from **15 - 19 August**.

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 in 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.

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.
- Boat Trip to St. Naum (**7€ per person**), a full day boat trip from Ohrid to St. Naum (lunch packet on Boat)

General rules

The International Folk and 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 children and youth folklore dance groups, modern dance groups, vocal groups, instrumental groups and soloists, as well as groups and performers from other art styles. The participants cannot be over 21 years old.

During the Festival each Group will have at least two performances in Ohrid and its area according to the program of the Festival. Groups should perform approximately 10-12 min either with live music or CD. 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 festival fee is 90 euro per person. It covers organizational expenses, accommodation in a Hotel for 4 nights with 3 meals per day. On every 25 participants, one member 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 3*** Hotels in Struga located on the lake coast, with own beach, on a full board basis. The Hotels are walking distance from the centre of city Struga and only 15 km from city Ohrid. Not all of the rooms are equipped with TV and fridge.

If the group shows interest in extending the stay the organizers should be informed during the application process (for full board accommodation in Struga the price is 22 euro per person per day).

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 Struga on 15th of August 2012 (starting with lunch) and leave on 19th of August 2012 after having breakfast and leave the rooms till 11:00.

The number of participants is limited. Therefore, we will appreciate if you can send us your **application by 10 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.

In 2010 on "Ohrid waves" Festival participated **980 children** from: Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Bulgaria, Russia, Ukraine, North Cyprus, Turkey, Romania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Lithuania.

Organization Council:

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