



TRAINING SCHOOL

FACULTY OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND FOOD
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA

Street Pasi Vodica, 1029. Tirana, Albania

TITLE: ASSESSING ACRYLAMIDE HAZARDS: STRATEGIES FOR
RISK MITIGATION AND LEGISLATIVE APPROACHES ACROSS
DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

**CA21149 - Reducing acrylamide exposure of consumers
by a cereals supply-chain approach targeting
asparagine (**ACRYRED**)**

Date: **17-19 September 2025**

Venue: Agricultural University of Tirana (**AUT**) and Food
Safety and Veterinary Institute (**ISUV**)

Abstract for the Training School

Acrylamide is a chemical compound that forms naturally during high-temperature cooking of flour-based foods such as bread, biscuits, and other baked goods. Its potential link to cancer has raised growing concern among food safety authorities worldwide.

This training school focuses on two core themes: **risk mitigation strategies** and **regulatory approaches across countries**. Participants will explore how food businesses can reduce acrylamide levels through process optimization, ingredient selection, and monitoring, while also gaining insight into the legal frameworks that support these efforts.

A key part of the programme will cover **analytical methods used to determine acrylamide content in food**, equipping participants with the tools to evaluate both compliance and risk.

Through expert-led lectures and real-world case studies, the course will examine how different European countries interpret and enforce acrylamide regulations, highlighting both best practices and practical challenges. Special attention will be given to the role of **small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** and the importance of **harmonized standards** in ensuring food safety and fair market conditions.

By bridging science, regulation, and practice, this training aims to give participants a clear understanding of how acrylamide risks are managed and communicated—ultimately contributing to a **safer and more transparent food system across borders**.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CURRENCY / EXCHANGE

- The Albanian currency is Lek (**ALL**). Exchange offices are located all around the city center (exchange offices and banks). Current exchange rate is ~ 98 ALL for 1 Euro.

CREDIT CARDS

- All major credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, and Amex) are accepted almost everywhere in Tirana by restaurants, hotels, and shops around the city center. Cash may be taken from ATMs installed in all major malls, bank branch offices and in public places 365 days in a year, 24 hours a day.

ELECTRICITY

- The electrical power supply voltage in Albania is **220-230 Volts** and Frequency **50Hz**.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

- Coffee during official coffee breaks will be served in designated catering stations in AUT and ISUV.
- Light meals during official lunch break will be organized in AUT and ISUV
- Tirana sightseeing will be **FREE** and organized by AUT. Your interest will be surveyed via MicrosoftFORM or Google Forms.

GALA DINNER

- Gala Dinner will be held in one of the restaurants in Tirana. Your interest will be surveyed via MicrosoftFORM or Google Forms.

Travel:

GUIDE TIRANA

Tirana (Albanian: *Tiranë*) is the bustling and relatively modernised capital of **Albania**. It is the most important economic, financial, political and trade centre in the country. The city was announced as the **European Youth Capital for 2022**. Tourists often find the city charming, with both cosmopolitan and small-town feelings, and a lively night life.

More info: www.visit-tirana.com

Get in

By plane

[Tirana International Airport Nënë Tereza](#) (Rinas International Airport [TIA](#) ^{IATA}), Airport Rd Rinas ([17 km from the centre of town](#)). Albania's main airport with numerous connections to all over Europe and a few connections to Asia and the Middle East.

Buses connect the airport to Tirana, Durres, Shkoder and Fier.

Note that for legal reasons, mobile boarding passes are not accepted for boarding at Tirana Airport as of 2025, e. g. airline apps or PDF files on your phone. You need to present a printed boarding pass, which can be issued by the airline or a self-printed PDF. When you completed your check-in online, several airlines will issue a printed version at the check-in or service counter for free despite otherwise incurring a charge for this.

Update from March 1, 2025 – Travel with a e-boarding pass to the Schengen area

Starting from March 1, 2025, passengers with an electronic boarding pass on their phone can travel from Tirana International Airport to **Schengen countries** without needing to print their ticket anymore!

FROM AIRPORT TO TIRANA CENTER

By bus

LU-NA shpk offers a shuttle service from TIA to Tirana and vice versa. The bus is stationed behind the National Theatre of Opera and Ballet. The rate for a single fare is **400 Albanian Lek** (Around 4 Euro).

Service Hours:

Tirana - Rinas (Airport) - Tirana

To serve the passengers, there is a regular bus line that offers 24 hour service 7 days a week. The bus is parked in Tirana behind the Palace of OPERA and BALLET. The journey takes 30 minutes.

Service hours:

Tirane - Airport : 24/7

Airport - Tirane: 24/7

Frequency; Every Hour

Price: 400 Leke (Around 4 Euro)

Contact: Luna shpk

E-mail: info@luna.al

Book your ticket now:

<https://book.distribution.com/landing?marketingCarrierCode=LNSH&retailerPartnerNumber=215022&locale=en>

Major info and travel to other cities, visit this link:

<https://www.tirana-airport.com/en/transport-and-directions/15/By-Bus>

TRAVEL TO AND FROM TIA BY TAXI

The fastest way to get to TIA is by taxi which is accessible in all cities and urban areas. The journey from Tirana International Airport to Tirana's center takes 20–25 minutes, depending on traffic, and costs about 2200 Lekë one way (**Around 22 Euro**).

More info: <https://www.tirana-airport.com/en/transport-and-directions/13/By-Taxi>

ELECTRIC TAXI:

This is a cheaper option to travel from TIA airport and vice versa (**11 to 15 Euro**), but also in the city of Tirana, since in Tirana the majority of Taxi Service are electric cars.

Below are some providers:

Taxi Lux Albania: <https://taxiluxalbania.al/>

MerrTaxi: <https://merrtaxi.com/>

City Taxi: <https://citytaxi.al/>

Speed Taxi: <https://speedtaxi.al/>

Note: at the arrival at the airport the only Taxis in the front of the arrival are the official Taxis of the airport, and for the others you should go outside of the airport, or if you book online the driver can pick you up on arrival. Check with the Taxi service provider.

Language:

- Official language: Albanian (**Shqip**).
- English and Italian are widely understood in tourist areas.

Currency

- Albanian **Lek** (ALL) is the official currency.
- Credit cards are accepted in bigger hotels and restaurants, but cash is preferred in most of the places, and they accept Euros.

Exchange Currency

In general, **there is no fee for exchange, but it is recommended to ask**. At the airport there are two Exchange offices, and the rate is not the best, but in the city are recommended the following offices, since they have the best rate of conversion Euro to Albanian Currency (Lek, ALL).

- **WesternUnion Offices** (**you can check the rate online**):
https://www.westernunion.com/it/en/currency-converter/eur-to-all-rate.html?cust_src=organic_search
- **Iliria'98 Money Exchange:** <https://iliria98.com/convert>

Day 1 and 3

Venue: Agricultural University of Tirana. Faculty of Biotechnology and Food

(Direction Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/ee6Jg2oSw94hhJTY9>)

Reaching the Venue



Front View of Agricultural University of Tirana (from the Entrance)

Reaching Agricultural University of Tirana (In Albanian: Universiteti Bujqësor i Tiranës) from Tirana Center (**Distance: around 7 km**)

There are two buses departing from the City Center:

1. **5B Instituti Bujqësor** (Departs from station 9 Katëshet B), and you will get out at the last station. **Trip time 40 – 50 minutes depending on the traffic.** You pay inside the Bus (Cash) and one trip costs 40 Lekë (around 0.4 Euro).
2. **Bus Tirana - Kamëz** departing behind the Palace of OPERA and BALLET (Bus Station: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/VB5LWG7QG4qAZrW5A>). You pay inside the Bus (Cash) and one trip costs 40 Lekë (around 0.4 Euro).

By Taxi

You can use the Taxi service provider indicated above, and the trip is around 30 minutes, and the taxi may cost **around 10 Euro**.

The Event will take place at Faculty of Biotechnology and Food, Building next to Rectorate.



Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Building

Look for the Sign for the Venue Room

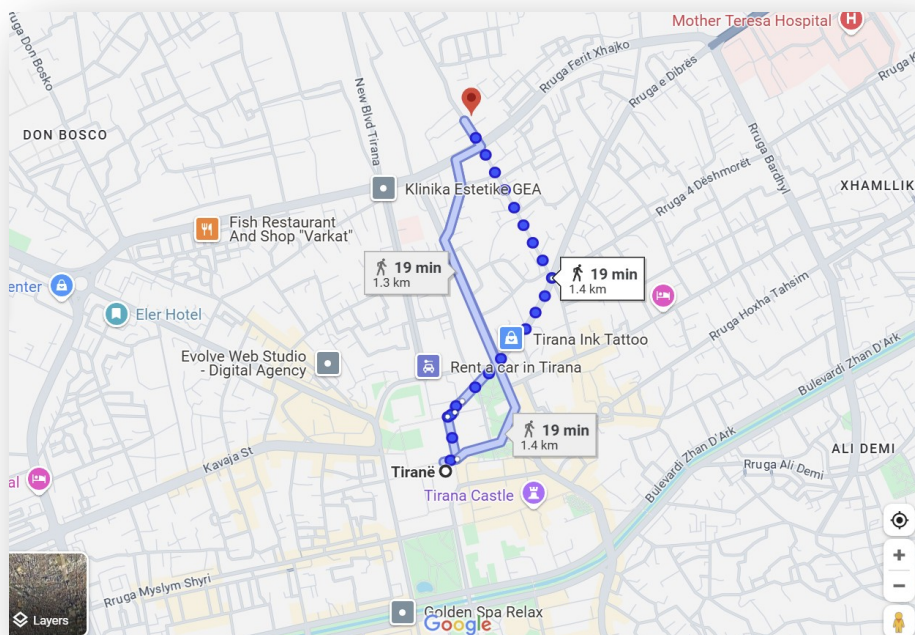


ACRYRED

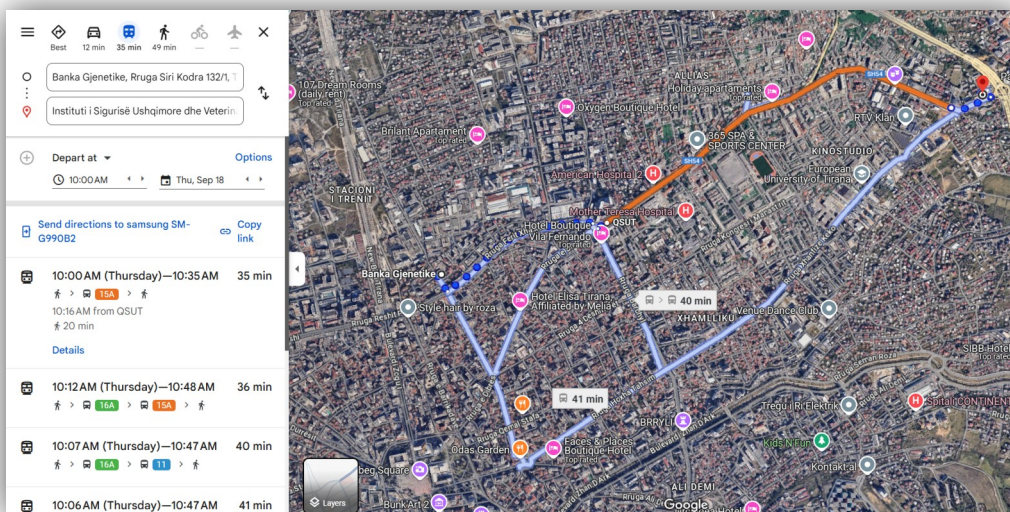


DAY 2

Visit to [Institute of Plant Genetic Resources \(IRGJB\)](https://maps.app.goo.gl/DwpALjGRfyo1aZH37), known as Banka Gjenetike, which is around 1.4 km from the Center of Tirana, and it is around 20 minutes walk (**Direction Google Maps:** <https://maps.app.goo.gl/DwpALjGRfyo1aZH37>).



Reaching the 2nd Day Venue (From IRGJB): Food Safety and Veterinary Institute (ISUV)



HOTEL OPTIONS FOR TRAINING SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

This document provides hotel options for participants of the Training School on “Assessing Acrylamide Hazards: Strategies for Risk Mitigation and Legislative Approaches Across Different Countries” on 17-19 September 2025.

The training will be held over three days:

- **Day 1 & 3:** [Agricultural University of Tirana \(UBT\)](#). Street Pasi Vodica 1029. Tirana.
- **Day 2:** [Institute of Plant Genetic Resources \(IRGJB\)](#) at Street Siri Kodra 132/1 and [Food Safety and Veterinary Institute \(ISUV\)](#), Street Aleksandër Moisiu 82, Tirana.

The table below includes the hotel name, star rating, distances from key locations, and official website where you can take information needed.

No.	Hotel	Stars	From TIA (~km)	From City Center (~km)	To UBT (~km)	Genetic Bank (~km)	Website
1	Rogner Hotel	5★	19	0.9	9.4	2.4	www.rogner.com
2	The Plaza Hotel	5★	20	0.35	7.2	1.4	www.plazatirana.com
3	Sky Hotel	4★	19	0.75	8	2.3	www.skythotel.al
4	Tirana International Hotel	4★	17	0.15	6.5	1.3	www.tiranainternational.com
5	Opera Hotel	4★	17	0.3	6.5	1.1	www.hotelopera.al
6	Eler Hotel	4★	16	1.3	5.2	1.7	www.elerhotel.com
7	Mondial Hotel	4★	20	2.5	6.7	3.5	www.hotelmondial.al
8	Oda Garden Boutique Hotel	3★	17	0.6	7.1	1.0	Booking.com
9	Arber Hotel	3★	16.5	0.5	6.6	1.1	Booking.com

For an overview of Tirana visit Wikivoyage: <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Tirana>

Recommended Books:

1. *Rebels, Believers, Survivors: Studies in the History of the Albanians* by **Noel Malcolm**.
2. *The Palace of Dreams* by the most well-known Albanian author in the world, **Ismail Kadare**.

For any questions regarding the organization, you may contact the Local Organisers, **Alketa Shehaj** (E-mail: ashehaj@ubt.edu.al) and **Fatjon Hoxha** (E-mail: fhoxha@ubt.edu.al).

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AT THE TRAINING SCHOOL IN TIRANA IN SEPTEMBER 2025!