Elbasan is called “the belly button of Albania”.

This is an almost complete view of Elbasan on a cloudy day.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urJjKu66-9M

Questions I will be able to answer:

1) Where is Elbasan located?
2) What is characteristic of the town?
3) What language is spoken?
4) Hospitality
5) A brief history
Food is very important in my town. Elbasan is characterized by dishes that no other cities in Albania can duplicate.

1) **Bollokume** = is a cookie that is prepared only for Spring Arrival. This dessert requires a lot of passion and strength because you have to beat the dough by using your hands and not a machine.

   [Image: http://img216.imageshack.us/img216/2320/bollokume12sv.jpg]

2) **Tave me kos** = A dish that has to have yoghurt and one protein like lamb, beef or chicken. There is no Tave Me Kos that has pork in it. This delicious dish is characteristic of Elbasan and certain aspects of the recipe are secret.

3) **Raki** = A strong drink that could be compared to Russian vodka or Japanese sake. It can be prepared at home like some Albanian do or it can be bought in stores. It helps when you catch the flu as well.

Elbasan, also Elbasani, city in central Albania, capital of Elbasan District, on the Shkumbin River, near Tiranë. The city is the terminus of a railroad from Durrës and a market center for the area, where tobacco, olives, fruit, grapes, cotton, grains, and vegetables are grown. Industries include production of olive oil, wine, cigarettes, leather, textiles, flour, and handicrafts. A 15th-century fortress in Elbasan contains a museum of antiquities. The present city was built by the Turks in 1466 on the site of ancient Scampa, on the Via Egnatia.