

Additional material

Physical features:

The name of Shabla lake stands for two separate, but closely located lakes connected by an artificial canal. The northern one is known as the Ezerete lake and the southern one is actually the Shabla lake. Both of them lie in an ancient river bed, dug in Holocene limestones. Right below the lakes a horizon of sand 4-5m thick is to be found overlying rich peat layer. This is evidence of a long marsh period in the evolution of the firth. Limestone form huge Karst fields to the southwest of the wetland. To the east the lakes are separated from the sea by a 30-50 m wide sand strip. The lake is fed exclusively by underground waters. The average depth of the Shabla lake is 4.6 m and the maximum 9.5 m, the corresponding numbers for the Ezeretc lake are 3.5 m and 9m. Both of the lakes are stagnant and semi-saline (0.56 - 0.600).