

SPECIFIC TOURIST RESOURCES THAT CAN SUPPORT RURAL TOURISM FROM BIHOR AREA

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Abstract: *The purpose of this research is to bring in light the rural area of Bihor County, at least some of the villages: Carpinet, Budureasa, Chiscau. Carpinet commune has a number of elements of tourist, ethnographic and cultural interest worthy to be taken in consideration. The location of the commune near the Apuseni Mountains offers tourists the opportunity to enjoy the mountain landscapes and the many nearby objectives: the Monks' Spring and the Izbuc Monastery, Ghib's Taulus and the Campeneasca Cave. Budureasa is located in the southeastern part of Bihor County, at the foot of the western slope of the Bihor Mountains. Although it is a small village, over time it has been a real place of Romanian culture in which church books have been written for the church. Both in the commune and in the surroundings, those who wish can choose wonderful places of recreation and leisure. Among the occupations of the inhabitants of the commune are: cattle breeding, agriculture, fruit growing and wood processing. The reasons why Chiscau holds an important place on the map of rural tourism potential at county level could be: Bear Cave (1.0 ha), location near Apuseni National Park, in a charming natural setting, Sighistel Valley, Wooden Church from Bradet, Tapu Mountain and Groapa Ruginoasa, Cheile Galbenei, Padis Plateau.*

Key words: *tourism resources; rural area; rural tourism; Bihor County area*

INTRODUCTION

The attractiveness of rural tourism in the near future will have to be analyzed. The development of villages and rural tourist areas must bring direct income to the peasants and all citizens of the locality, [9,10,11,12,15] and the local public administration to use directly the local budget to create new facilities and a standard of living as high as possible for the community.

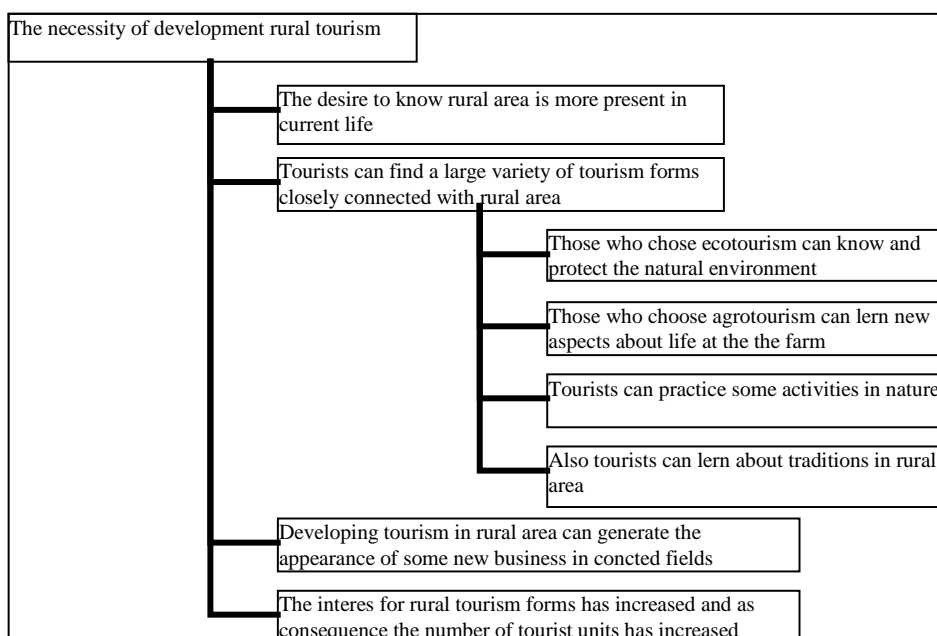


Figure 1. The necessity of development rural tourism

We emphasize that through the current declared organizational forms of tourism [8], through the current conception of marketing and management in this field, it will be possible to obtain the level of the international standard in rural tourism.

Rural areas offer great opportunities for the development of rural tourism, its practice being even necessary in the current period.

The development of rural tourism [6,7] is required in the rural area, both economically and socially [1,2]. Taking in consideration as starting point the current trend of an increased interest for organic products, it can be an opportunity for rural area to capitalize this type of products through tourism activities [3,4,13,14]. The capitalization of all aspects that characterize "the life in rural area" can bring several benefits for those who live in rural environment [5] and for those who live in urban environment.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The target of this research is to bring in light the rural area of Bihor County, at least some of the villages with potential for rural tourism future development. In order to achieve this target, we have used as method of reserach the multi-criteria analysis, presenting three rural villages in terms of rural resources. To do that we undertake several steps: data collection, processing, analysis, observation and their interpretation.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The location of the research has great possibilities for the development of tourism in many areas, and its practice in rural areas is necessary at the present stage [8]. The incomes realized from this activity - following the interest of the villagers for practicing tourism by renting houses and selling natural products or training tourists in agricultural or domestic activities - can contribute substantially to raising the standard of living and civilization, to attracting young peoples in rural areas. In this scientific paper, we chose to highlight some areas with rural tourism potential: Carpinet, Budureasa, Chiscau.

Carpinet-specific features and representative rural tourist resources. The first documents attesting the Carpinet locality date from 1588. The Carpinet commune includes four villages: Carpinet (the village of residence), Calugari, Izbuc and Leheceni, being surrounded by a superb mountain landscape. Some of the houses of the locals still keep traditional motifs carved on the facades.



The traditional occupations that outline rural life are located on the border between profession and craft, because they involve dedication, passion and the art of making things

beautiful. Ceramic items are distinguished by the elegance of shapes and ornamentation. Leheceni village, located in Carpinet commune, represents a gem of Romanian folk pottery. A large number of ceramic pieces are still made here today, especially the richly and exquisitely decorated plates. In the potters' workshops you can follow the working phases of the craft, the way in which they take over, preserve and enrich the local tradition. The skill of the talented potters here is famous.

In Carpinet there is the purest limestone quarry in Europe and one of the few places where the locals still make lime in traditional varnishes.

Carpinet commune has a number of elements of tourist, ethnographic and cultural interest worthy of consideration. The location of the commune near the Apuseni Mountains offers tourists the opportunity to enjoy the mountain landscapes and the many nearby sights.

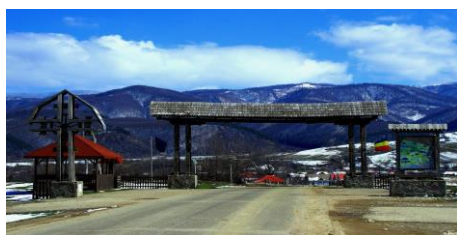


In Carpinet commune there is Calugari Spring and the Izbuc Monastery, Ghib's Taulus and Campeneasca Cave. Near Carpinet commune is found Izvorul Boiu (it has a strong flow of water that never freezes), the Holy Trinity Waterfalls (waterfalls from here produce an air ionization phenomenon, a fascinating phenomenon for tourists, who experience a unique sensation) , The Gates of Bihor (here is a unique karst phenomenon, consisting of an avenue accessible at the base) and Vartop - Arieseni (famous for practicing winter sports).

Beyond the village of Calugari, in a beautiful mountain setting surrounded by beautiful forests and meadows, an intermittent spring gushes from the cracks of the rocks. No traveler who has reached this karstic source has passed on without feeling its miraculous power. Calugari Spring or Apa Momii, as the locals called it (after the name of the Codru-Moma Mountains), is valued as a holy place. The locals consider him to be blessed and with miraculous healing powers for some diseases.

Tourists who have found out about the blessed water of Izbuc come here to worship. Also here is a miracle-working icon of the Mother of God, which was brought to the Izbuc Monastery, the oldest in the area, to the establishment of which the scientist Simion Mehedinti contributed.

Budureasa-representative tourist area as potential for Bihor County. Budureasa commune is located in the south-eastern part of Bihor County, at the foot of the western slope of the Bihor Mountains.



Budureasa commune consists of the villages: Budureasa-center of the commune,

Burda at a distance of 2 km, Stana de Vale resort at a distance of 15 km, Saca at a distance of 4 km, Teleac at a distance of 9 km and Saliste de Beius at a distance of 17 km.

Although it is a small village, over time it was a real place of Romanian culture in which church books were written for the church, important church works were copied. The church collected a series of old Romanian prints. In the village of Saliste de Beius, in its eastern part, is the birthplace of the late poet Gheorghe Pitut.

Both in the commune and in the surroundings, those who wish can choose wonderful places of recreation and leisure. Among the occupations of the inhabitants of the commune are: cattle breeding, agriculture, fruit growing and wood processing. Wipes, tablecloths and bags are still woven in the wars. Many of the citizens have land located in particularly picturesque places where holiday homes can be built.



Among the traditional, inviting dishes are: cheese and potato pie, walnut cake, balmos, poultry soup with homemade noodles, sarmale, lamb soup, pancakes, grilled bacon, mushroom sauce and natural fruit juices forest or plum brandy.

Chiscau on the map of the county's tourist potential. Chiscau is a village in Pietroasa commune, Bihor County. The locality is located at the foot of the Bihor Mountains, being crossed by the Craiasa river. The toponymy of the name comes from Hungarian, meaning small oven (kiss = small, koh = oven), being documented with this name since 1588, or with the name of Alsokoh at that time operating an iron smelter here.



The reasons for having an important place on the map of rural tourism potential at county level could be:

- The Bear Cave (1.0 ha), located in Chiscau in the southeast of Bihor County, at the foot of the Bihor-Vladeasa Mountains, is a tourist point of great value. The visitable part, over 1,500 m long, houses important bones of "Ursus spaeleus"; arranged to modern standards, the cave amazes and delights with its beauty, along the three main galleries: the "Bones" gallery, the "Emil Racovita" Gallery and the "Candles" Gallery.

- Located at the western border of the Apuseni National Park, in a charming natural setting, the town offers easy access to its beauties.

- An just 300 m from the famous "Bear Cave" Aurel Flutur founded a sensational private ethnographic museum. The founder of this museum with over 2000 objects began to collect objects over 30 years old, managing to save from extinction a series of objects of folk art, historical and ethnographic vestiges.

-Other tourist attractions nearby: Sighistel Valley, Bradet Wooden Church, Tapu Mountain and Groapa Ruginoasa, Galbenei Gorges, Padis Plateau.

CONCLUSIONS

In order that the tourist offer from the rural area to have a high value, it is necessary for the economic value of the adjacent activities to be at a high level. This principle aims not only at the attractiveness of the rural environment, but also at the specific activities of country life. So, rural tourism is a development alternative, for various reasons:

- the possibility of achieving a long-term development policy, which will bring a new development at local and regional level;
- encouraging traditional local activities, which can lead to the development of a specific trade and the creation of new jobs;
- increasing the incomes of the inhabitants of the rural settlements, generated by capitalizing on local resources, ecological agri-food products for tourists' consumption or selling to them and the existing tourist potential (for leisure, excursions, etc.);

For Bihor rural area, our future recommendations are related to:

- the need for the existence of approaches so that actions to protect the area appear, relying on the certification of authentic, original, local, “organic” products;
- reducing those activities that bring about the degradation of unique resources;
- a greater emphasis on capitalizing through rural tourism those aspects, local resources, with a typical local character, which will ultimately support the local economy.

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