

## BANAT TOURISM ANALYSIS

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*Banat area is 28 526 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 18 966 km<sup>2</sup> belong to Romania, and about 1/3 to Yugoslavia (9 276 km<sup>2</sup>), while a corner in the north-west to the confluence Mures Tisza, the Hungarian (284 km<sup>2</sup>).*

*Banat is characterized by a remarkable tourist potential, represented by the natural abundance objectives and those of special cultural invoice. Thus, the Banat Mountains, through the variety and originality of the natural morphology of the whole, the particular climate, fauna and flora, which define specific fund natural tourism in this, area represents an area, with a very important potentially in tourism activities development.*

*Natural fund travel of Banat is represented by the entire physical and geographical elements, able to exercise an attraction on the potential tourists, ensuring recovery of the tourist area. Geomorphologic aspects, Banat are characterized by a wide variety of forms: mountains 65.4% 16.5% depressions, hills and plains% 10.8% 7.3.*

**Key words:** European countries, possibilities, villages, Agrotourism

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High tourism potential in this area prompted the organization and development of various tourism products. The picturesque of mountain areas, the variety of flora and fauna, mineral water springs and spa, rich hunting and fishing fund combined with elements of architecture, folk art and folklore provides the possibility to practice tourism.

Currently, small businesses in tourism field exist in Brebu-Garana area (those two are considered tourist villages), Oravita, Bozovici, Teregova, Domasnea, Poiana Mărului (in Țarcu Mountains) tourism complex Semenice, existing tourism potential, are still poorly capitalized, due to low financial resources of population. Also, in places of contact with the Lugojului Hills with Țarcu Mountains (Nădrag, Tomești, Fard, etc.) tourism is an opportunity for the emergence and development of SMEs in tourism activities.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### 1. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AREA

Banat's limits have known frequent oscillations in time and space according to historical circumstances, precisely because of his placement in a zone of interpenetration of the interests of countries and empires more or less neighbors. Between 1924-1950, the Banat included, counties Timis-Torontal, Caras-Severin, and part of Arad county situated at south of Mures. Historical territory of Banat territory lies on three countries: Romania, Serbia and Hungary and is now divided as follows:

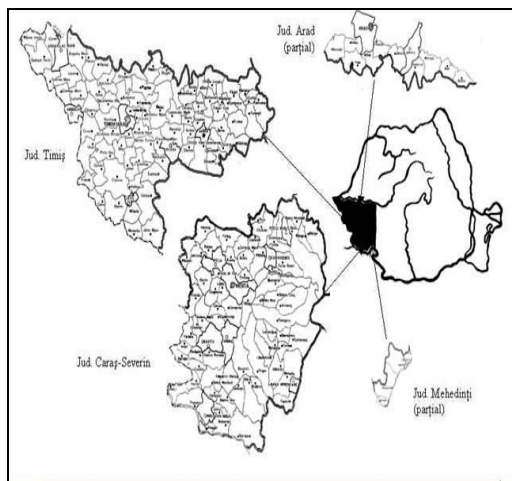


Figure 1 **Romanien Banat**



Figure 2 **Historical territory of Banat**

#### 1. Romania

- Timis County
- Caras-Severin County without localities: Bucova, Cornișoru, Bouțarii de Jos and Bouțarii de Sus and Preveciori
- Arad County, just south of the Mures part
- Mehedinți County, but only Baia Noua, Dubova, Eibenthal, Ieșelnița, Orsova and Svinița. Several other villages from this area have disappeared under the lake accumulation waters Porțile de Fier.
- Hunedoara County, only localities Salciva and Pojoga. 1
- Serbia

<sup>1</sup> Feneșan C., *Administrație și fiscalitate în Banatul imperial 1716 - 1778*, Editura de Vest, Timișoara, 1997, P. 78-79

- Vojvodina, with the Banat part situated on east of the Tisza and divided in: North Banat District (Serbian side-Severn Banat) without villages Ada, Senta and Kanjiza, situated on west part of the river Tisza.
- Central Banat District (Serbian side-Srednje Banat).
- South Banat District (Serbian side-Južni Banat).
- Central Serbia: a small part of Banat, situated at of Pancevo and west of the Timis River (most part of the village Palilula, known as “Pančevački Rite”) was attached to the Belgrade metropolitan area.

3. Hungary with south eastern corner of Csongrád County, situated at south of Mures and east of Tisza, is part of the historical territory of Banat.

In present The Banat include Timiș County, Caras-Severin County and the southern part of Mures from Arad County.

## **2. MATERIAL BASE AND TOURISM ACTIVITY BANAT**

Tourism in this region of Romania is much less developed than in other parts of the country, such as the Prahova Valley, southern Transylvania with two poles Sibiu and Brasov, Black Sea, and Bukovina.

It is noted the presence of traditional spas (Baile Herculane Geoagiu-Bai, Moneasa, Lipova, Buziaș) in the region. Reserves and protected areas recognized from the area are: national parks – Nera-Beusnita Keys, Caras-Semenic Keys, Domogled - Cerna Valley, natural parks - Porțile de Fier). Tourist services offer is of characterized by a poor quality (poor quality of tourism products offered, poor staff training, network failure).

Spatial analysis of accommodation capacity in service of Romanian Banat shows a slight predominance of mountain Banat (53.85%), compared to the plain Banat (46.15%) the great variety of tourism potential from the mountain area being almost matched by location in plain area of the main regional pole, Timisoara.

Analyzing space differences in the structure by type of units of accommodation capacity in operation, it is found that mountain area has primacy for hotels and motels, cabins camps students, rural pensions and Agro pensions. Plain area has on the first place hostels, urban cottages, campgrounds, inns.

Overview of accommodation capacities in service by type of accommodation unit underlines the concentration of accommodation places in hotels (73.27%), far, the site II, are urban hostels (7.54%). The same situation characterize the plain area, where the city's share of hostels is higher (11.27%), while the mountain area have a slightly different hierarchy, on ranks II, with 5.68% , being students and preschool camps.

In the region, tourism is not working as it should, given the fact that the strategy at central level is inconsistent for this part of the country, is changing constantly and development and promoting of tourism priorities are not part of local authorities, only a few exceptions.

High agro-tourist potential of the rural region prompted the organization and establishment of hostels and appropriate tourism products. The pitoresque of mountain areas, the variety of flora and fauna, mineral water springs and spa, fund

rich hunting and fishing combined with elements of architecture, folk art and folklore provides the possibility to practice rural tourism.

## CONCLUSIONS

In recent years, traditional mountain tourism, spa, and weekend city tourism is in a marked decline, which in a number of competing factors:

a) mountain tourism:

- No advertising;
- Tourist facilities (hotels, motels, tourist stops) are damaged, or not repaired;
- Damage and failure markings on mountain paths;
- Cable tourist transport facilities, old and unproductive;
- Lack of telecommunications infrastructure;
- Accessibility unmodernised.

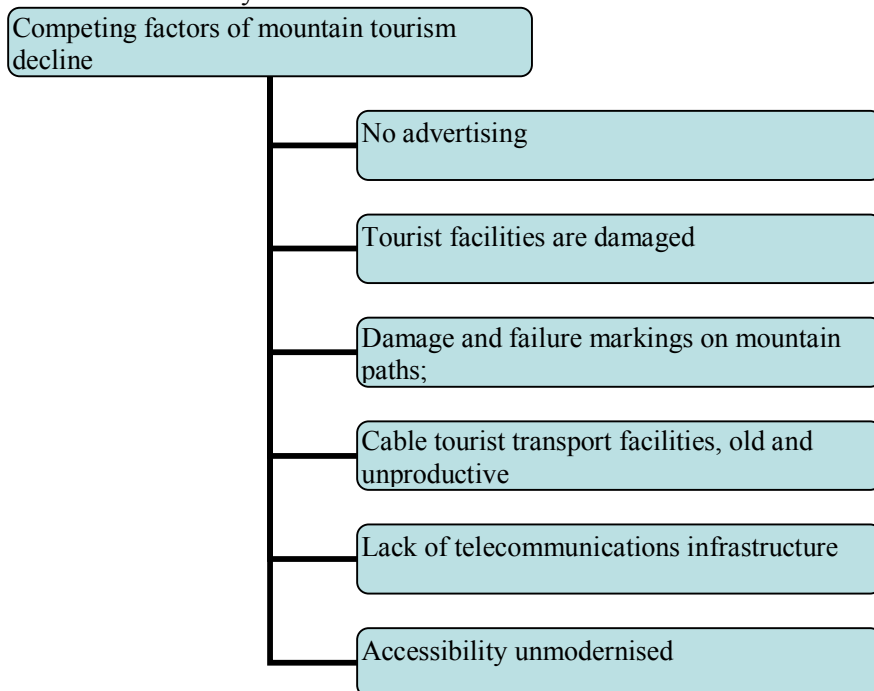


Fig 3 **Competing factors of mountain tourism decline**

b) in spa tourism:

- High degree of wear, deterioration and even destruction of facilities (hotels, villas, treatment bases, canteen-restaurant);
- Network accommodation and catering is surrounded with few qualified personnel as a result of reduced activity and departure of qualified personnel;

- Poor management of the of the resort administration.

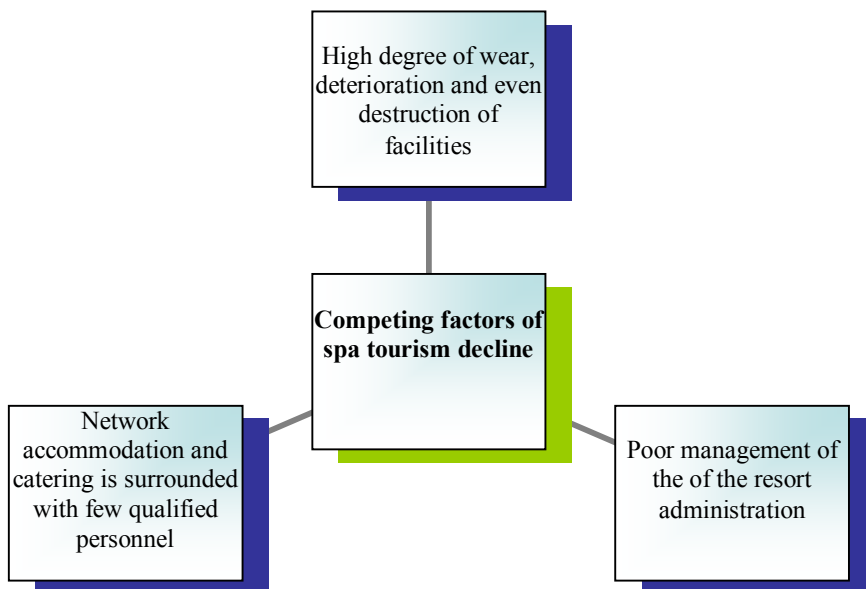


Figure 4 **Competing factors of spa tourism decline**

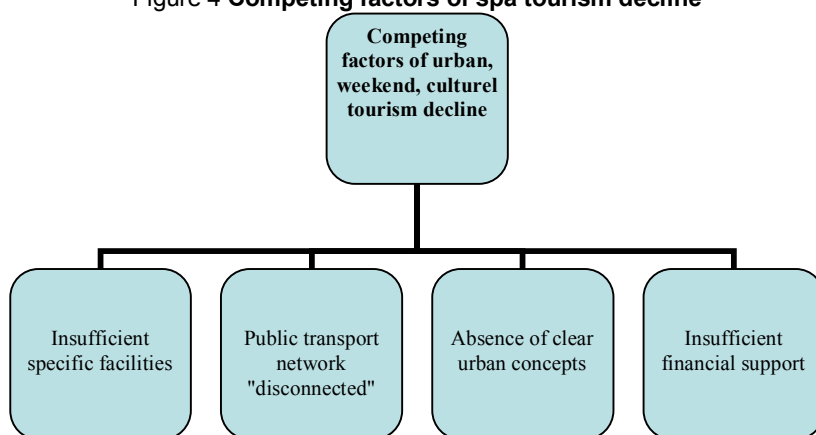


Figure 5 **Competing factors of urban, weekend, cultural tourism decline**

c) Urban, weekend, cultural tourism:

- Insufficient specific facilities (cottages, motels, parks, pools, entertainment places, etc.)
- Public transport network "disconnected" from these goals;

- Absence of clear urban concepts, with the firm application of discipline in engineering, resulting in the emergence of construction of holiday homes located far chaotic;
- Insufficient financial support for installation, conservation and introduction in the tourist circuit of the historical and architectural monuments;
- Failure of road access routes to the specific objectives of this type of tourism (no markings, no equipped parking with the minimum of comfort, lack of tourist information).

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