



UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES "KING MIHAI I" FROM
TIMISOARA
"YOUNG PEOPLE AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
IN APPLIED LIFE SCIENCES"



"Young people and multidisciplinary
research in applied life sciences"

16-17 November 2023

STUDY ON TOURISM POTENTIAL IN BIHOR COUNTY

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Abstract: The tourist potential plays an important role in the development and diversification of tourist activities in a country, region or county. Therefore, the purpose of this work is to highlight the tourist potential of Bihor County and how it could lead to the growth of as many tourists as possible. The diversified tourist potential: the Apuseni Mountains, the spa resources at its disposal, the diversity of traditions and cultural events, position Bihor County as an extremely attractive tourist destination for tourists.

• Introduction

The tourist potential of a territory represents the set of natural, economic, cultural and historical elements and presents certain possibilities of tourist exploitation, giving a certain functionality to tourism which is an important element for the development of tourist activity. Bihor County has a considerable tourism potential, both in terms of natural and anthropogenic resources. The combination of natural heritage and an important cultural heritage, namely geographical and ethnographic diversity, gives Bihor County the opportunity to exploit a diversity of attractions.

Bihor is a delightful tourist destination for tourists eager to discover spectacular natural landscapes, rich history and authentic traditions. With an impressive variety of sights, Bihor County attracts visitors from all corners of our country and beyond, offering memorable experiences and exciting adventures.

• Material and method

In order to achieve the research objectives, we consulted various sources of information such as: consultation of literature, various websites in the field, as well as data obtained from the studied area. The data was collected, processed and interpreted, and we managed to highlight the tourism potential of Bihor County.

• Results and discussions

- Situated in the western part of Romania, in the Crișana region, Bihor County borders Hungary to the west and north, Sălaj and Cluj to the east and Arad to the south. It is a county known for its spectacular landscapes and its historical heritage.
- Bihor County has a rich natural setting characterized by a varied relief, containing all forms: plains, hills and depressions and mountains. The mountain ranges in the county are part of the Western Carpathians, more precisely of the Apuseni Mountains group, being represented by the Bihor, Vlădeasa, Plopișului, Pădurea Craiului and Codru-Moma Mountains. These ranges comprise the most extensive areas of karst relief in Romania, including specific formations such as sinkholes, gorges and caves.
- Thus the tourist potential of the area is high, with natural elements such as: thermal springs, mineral waters, caves, gorges and waterfalls, but also man-made elements such as various palaces, fortresses, churches that can be combined in such a way that tourism is varied and to suit all tastes.

The tourist potential is formed by the grandiose landscape of karst rocks, the area being rich in gorges, ravines, waterfalls, caves and avens. In addition to the wonderful natural landscape, Bihor can also boast several man-made resources such as fortresses, churches, palaces and the largest spa resort Băile Felix.

In the following we will present some of the most interesting sights of this region and try to give an overview of the beauty and diversity that Bihor offers to tourists.

Oradea is the cultural heart of the city, the place to come to relax and enjoy an amazing diversity of experiences, such as film evenings, craft workshops, medieval races, premium restaurants, wine tastings, permanent exhibitions, concerts and other events.



Oradea



The Black Eagle Palace



Baile felix

The Black Eagle Palace is the most representative building of the Secession style in Transylvania and can be found in the central area of Oradea, built at the beginning of the 20th century, between 1907-1908. The name comes from the existence of a stained-glass window in the passageway, where an eagle is represented, which is also the symbol of the palace. This passage was built after the famous Vittorio Emanuele Gallery in Milan. Also, the walkway that opens onto three streets is in the shape of a letter Y and an eagle's beak at the same time. The palace was built in a grandiose style, with four storeys, and is divided into two buildings.

Băile Felix is a spa resort located in the north-western part of Romania, about 9 km from the Municipality of Oradea and about 20 km from the border crossing point Boroș, border with Hungary. The resort is loved by both the elderly and the young, due to the numerous leisure facilities and the multitude of procedures for various diseases of the locomotor system and beyond.

It is the largest permanent spa resort in Romania, ranking second after the Black Sea coast in terms of the number of accommodation places in Romania.

You can visit here lakes with water lilies and lotuses where live different species of exotic fish and turtles, thermal water spas, karst relief in the area or the nature reserve Peța stream in Băile 1 Mai, where are protected endemic species in Romania (not found anywhere else in the world) Thermal water lily, Racoviță's red fish.

The Bears' Cave was discovered in 1975 during a blasting operation at a marble quarry in the area. It is one of the main tourist attractions of the Apuseni Mountains, located near the village of Chișcău, at an altitude of 482 m. The interior is distinguished by the diversity of stalactite and stalagmite formations, as well as by the impressive amount of traces and fossils of the cave bear, which disappeared 15,000 years ago.

In addition to these sights presented in this paper, Bihor County has a lot more to offer, from impressive historical buildings, numerous Orthodox and Greek-Catholic monasteries, to cultural and sports activities and events and themed festivals.

•Conclusions

By what is presented during the paper, we can affirm that Bihor county has a great tourist potential, represented by the beauty of natural resources and man-made resources. Bihor, with an impressive variety of sights, attracts visitors from all over our country, but also from outside, all year round, offering memorable experiences and adventures.

In conclusion, we can say that Bihor County represents a special land worth visiting and listening to its stories.

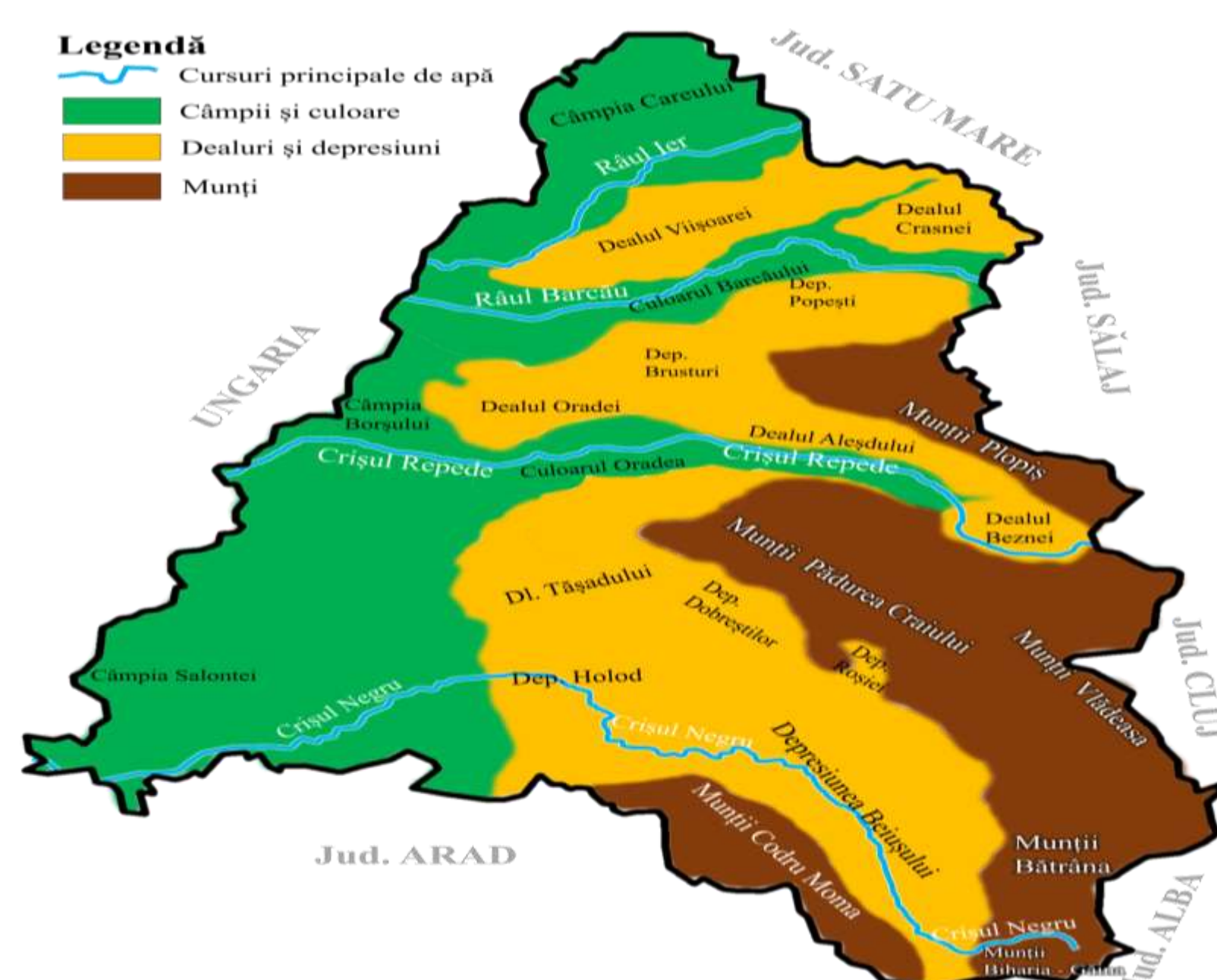


Figure 1. Existing relief units in Bihor county