

THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF TOURISTIC RESOURCES IN THE SĂLAJ COUNTY

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ABSTRACT

Covering an area of 3,850 square kms, the county of Sălaj lies in the north-western side of Romania, as a passage between the Western and Oriental Carpathians. As it borders the counties of Satu Mare and Maramureş in the North, the county of Bihor in the South-West and Cluj in the South and East. Geographically, the county of Sălaj stretches in an alternation of hills and valleys, alongside the rivers of Almaşu, Agrij, Someş, Sălaj, Crasna and Barcău. To the South-West, there are two Northern branches of the Apuseni Mountain Chain, namely Meseş and Plopiş. Valleys are the dominant landscape on this territory and they represent important agricultural and urban areas. Evidence of the Dacian culture and civilization can be found all over the county. The most impressive trace is that of the stronghold built on the heights of Măgurea Şimleului, in Şimleu Silvaniei. Other notable traces of the Roman conquest in this Romanian region would be the Roman „castrum” of Buciumi, Romita (Certinae), Tihău, Sutoru (Optatiana) and Românaşi (Largiana). Besides several fortresses and monuments, the architectural heritage in this region is well represented by more than 70 wooden churches, dating since the 15-18th centuries. Among the most representative spas in the region one can note those of Boghiş, which lay in the valley of Barcău river, 15 km away from Şimleu Silvaniei, appreciated for the miraculous therapeutic effects of its thermal waters (of 42 degrees Celsius), its sulphur, bicarbonate waters and famous for its exquisite landscape. Tourists can take advantage from the excellent mineral waters to be found in the resort of Bizuşa, laying in the valley of Someş, in the middle of a coniferous and leafy forest. Taking into account the need to ensure the existence of an efficient road network in the territory, the main economic and social developing issues in the north-west of Romania and the main traffic flows in the region, plans are being analysed for the achievement of a highway placed on the axis Cluj-Zalău-Oradea-the Romanian-Hungarian border, and of an express road Zalău-Satu Mare-Halmeu.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Situated in the North-western part of Romania, at the juncture between the Oriental and Western Carpathians, Salaj County is known from ancient times as the Land of Sylvania or the Land of the Forests. The county stretches over 3850 square metres and it is neighbouring the counties of Satu-Mare, Maramures in the North, Bihor in the West and South West, and Cluj in the South and South East. Salaj County is a region with hills and valleys along the rivers Almas, Agrij, Someş, Salaj, Crasna and Barcau. The valleys are the areas used for agriculture as well as for living. The Plopiş and Meseş mountains are situated in the South West being a continuation of the Western Carpathians. According to the last census, the population of the county was of 258.109 people, 70.842 of which were living in Zalău. The other towns have a population of around 20.000 people each. Of the total population, 72% are Romanians, 24% Hungarians, 3% Roma, 0,6% Slovaks, and 0,4% other nationalities. At the end of 2005 the active population of Salaj numbered 99.836 people. The number of employees at that time was 42.146 persons, and there were 6090

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unemployed people. The rate of unemployment ranges between 5,9 to 6%. The professions with the most unemployed are the unqualified workers, the mechanics, the carpenters, the merchandisers, lathe operators, teamers, electromechanic workers. The average wage at the end of 2005 was around 200 EURO per month, whereas the minimum wage for the entire economy is around 100 EURO. The town of Zalau, situated on the river with the same name, in the centre of the county, is the capital of Salaj. The first historical records of Zalau date from year 1220, being one of the first towns in Transilvania, although there are traces of dwellings dating back to year 900. The other towns in the county are Jibou, Cehu Silvaniei and Simleu Silvaniei. The county numbers 56 communes and 281 villages. The railway network is well developed, especially in the northern part of the county. Jibou is an important railway node, having links with the major cities of the country. The road network is 1128 km long, of which 227 are national and international roads while the rest are county roads. By train, Zalau is at 159 km from Cluj-Napoca, at 81 km from Baia-Mare and at 124 km from Satu-Mare. By car, Zalau is at 84 km from Cluj-Napoca (DN1/E81), at 90 km from Baia-Mare (DN1H and DN1C) and at 90 km from Satu-Mare (DN1F/E81 and DN19) and 120 km from Oradea (DN1h, DN1). For aerial transport Zalau uses the airports of Cluj-Napoca, Satu-Mare, Baia-Mare and Oradea.

2. OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM IN THE SALAJ COUNTY

The relations in geographic field means motion, the motion requiring thus a series of interventions among which for the cotemporary touring these is established interpersonal, ideation, produced, markets, etc. A marvel of activate a relations of the in of touristy field is interfere the timeliness, stand so relevant in the cotemporary Roumanian touring. Beside timeliness, be due to interfere for the completion and the completeness necessary picture the complementarity and dumpbily as bases of the agreement all the forms of spatial interaction of invoice antropical therefore and touristy. The touristic opportunities as the size is defined as a potential must for a touristic his product touristic job, which identify and capitalization with an advantageous process can generate the profit in future for gestation firm. The principals sizes of timeliness in touring am the economic size, generation of profit, the conceptual were, profitability, the contextual size, with conditional manifestation the situational is the is the size view, a reality futureless. Among the funds opportunities in touring remember them on one scientific, grafted on ample studies and complex, the technological what funds put at hand the necessary instruments of touristic papers, the commercial his funds of the touristic market, the normative funds his which existences can to appear in order to create a large frame the legal maul of touristic activity, the financial funds, the funds informatics, the funds educational and the managerial funds. Aside from funds, sizes, legal frame etc., the opportunities in touring is based and on a series of ideation, such as, an investment with precise target, hobby of an investor, a new product appeared on a niche of the touristic market, but and on chance, experience, competence, required, desire etc. The transferability seen as touristic act the is size is can taken down this in matrix through the of a realization market-research and of a analyses SWOT for diagnostic area of touristic base of the in the county Salaj, through choises of the preferences of current tourists, through the of a identification the parcel of bids and touristic jobs for the potential tourists, through profilation touristic activity of more county on relaxation, thermal waters the is range afferent jobs. The creation of conditions for the installation of foreign investors is an another marvel of functional size, what size offers such in charge where as the is example offer the possibility of the connexions of what in

looks the balneary touring through the thermal waters the one cultural is through festivals, the facilitation of the contacts of national agencies with agents of touring's from foreign countries, the renovation and keep objective the historians and their inclusion a circuits with theme of interest international with insistent about the connexions Transilvaniei with zones from Hungarian and The Austria, quotient and through the of a establishment centre of business and the touring for the coordination of the relations, the facilitation partnerships and the promotion identity county through touristic events. The one three marks have in content the of a construction touristic territorial which his identities individualize touristic local bid his is promote the historic identity the cultural is of the county, what appearance can be secure through complex studies of geography of which his touring join the analyses of physical geography with one ale of human geography that to answer or of guy waves found out the optimum place for touristic the adorn, how we identify and we apply investition nail is addressed his investment the adorn, wherefore he is necessary the intervention and why don't, when this investment shall be absorbed, advantageous and of a real success. Between the principals touristic funds remember them, on one natural, with big notes of accessibility waves I taken down the mountains Mesesului and Plopisului, the zones piscatorial and hunting from Somesului valley, from the forest Lapisului, the lakes, the resorts with thermal waters from Boghis, Bizusa, Ileanda, Mesesenii de Jos, Jibou, Simleu Silvaniei. Also the cultural funds, waves are worthy of mentioned the woody churches in number of seventy approximate situate on whole the territory of the county, the folk folkway, the folkloric zones reserved offer through them addressing a lot of reasons of relaxing and cultural enrichment. The historic funds, such as, the Romanian castes from Moigrad, Românași, Romita, Tihău and Buciumi, the fortresses medieval from Almas, Simleu Silvaniei, Cheud, the mansions from Jibou, Treznea and Zimbor, have the touristic role don't just complementary the whole is the dimensional background which is can prop up the durable development of the touring of the in the county Salaj.

3. THE ROMAN "CASTRUM"

The Roman castrum from Porolissum (fig. 1), most strong fortification with role of defense from of north-west the province Dacia Of the novel. Is seated on hill of Moigrad and massive Pomăt and Citera, really natural bastions of defense, carry constituted developmental the area of the best famous the Rumanian town from northwestern territory of Romania. Northern most town of Dacia, putted in he Carries Mesesului.



Fig. 1 *Porta Praetoria*

The appearance of the fortress is incident to strategic present the Roumanian (Roma) army in zone, Porolissum in the same time an emporium of big importance. For Porolissum have the certainty be of a placement dacic with same name. Existed to a certain distance of the area which erect in the central nucleus of Roumanian defense, respectively big fortress from the hill " Pomat", and the others fortifications and the Roumanian town. The dacic placement was placed on the hill Măgura desisted from else exists soon after the Roumanian conquest. The Roumanian (Roma) town it has the origin in the civil agglomeration from besides the erect fortifications of which troops stood to Porolissum. This thing is confirmed of the way which in is willing the placement in ground, immediate in approach the fortifications. Conceivably, according as he demonstrates it material a typical of invoice dacic, as the Roumanian took over and a good part of the population from the placement dacic from " Măgura", can and from another close places from zone. From ancient shadow less placement temples, amphitheatres, necropoles, and bathes etc., what appearances indicates an intense the cultural life this in part country. The fortress from Buciumi is placed to the eastern half of eastern northern boundary Roumanian Empire, be a fortress of average sizes. The strategic role multiple age, give the a very good possibility supervisions about of a sector of limes very stretched, the simultaneous check duo transient importance's and the of a assurance very good connections with whole line of castre situate of Agrijului valley, Brebi, Românași, Tihău. A strong point fortified the in the defensive system of Daciei novels, assuring the defense of the zone Porolissum. The fortress obturate he built the in the year 114 d. Hr., and age the center of the garrison Cohorts II Augusta Britton. The fortress from Romanasi, he is placed between one from Buciumi and complex of services from Porolissum and assures what road binds the colony from Napoca of the town Porolissum. The fortresses from Tihau and Sutor, they had a major importance in the defensive system of the province. The fortress from Romita, he has impressive sizes for an auxiliary fortress, what I burn be permitted one little companion two military concomitant .The role blocked the access in the province Dacia from skidoo Agrij, but diminished possible with the whole constitution of the defensive system from Porolissum.

4. THE WOODEN CHURCHES

In the county Salaj are a near 70 of woody true churches historic monuments of the churches ansamble and of rhea folk architecture, from which 44 the gate Holy keepsake of Archangels Mihail and Gavril. The churches from Skidoo Agrij, meet them to Răstolțu Mare, a church builded and what in 1840 lives one else old which the inhabitants gave the community from Carries of Salaj. The which elements attract the by-pathes an wooden beautiful ornate gate with geometric elements which is tacked down big the what year 1857 calls to mind the appearance olden church, beside table of which altar on the lateral parts has inscriptions with Cyrillic what letters mentions the year 1879. To Rastoltu Desert were rise the in the doorway drain. Of Xix, with hramul" Adormirea The nun of the gentleman" and he is of sizes the little maul the which gift keeps better the original elements. In Bozna, the church with keepsake of " Sf. Apostles Petru and were" builded last I drain. Were, restored ante 1990 is taken down in the category of rectangular formal shelters with absida decrosata square. In the locality Păușa the church is erect to the year" 1730 after day August". Full Ciumărna has the teeny woody church with the keep side of" Sf. Mihail and Gavril" were builded in the beginning I drain. Of XVIII. Woody churches this in part of the county of the maul is to Poarta Sălajului, Chichișa, and Romita (Fig. 2). Famous by-path and the woody churches from common Creaca, from full Borza, the church" Sf. Archangels

Mihail and Gavril” built the in the rectangular plan, with decrosata, square” begined wall up it in a year 1758”, to Brebi the church” Sf. Archangels Mihail and Gavril” with the inscription on what porch the date” 1759 in that weather this church was constructed”, also in Creaca the church” Sf. Hierarch Nicolae” moved on the spot current to 1600, in Jac the church” Sf. Archangels Mihail and Gavril” keeps the inscription 1756, in Prodănești the church” Sf. Gheorghe” were, enjoined in the year 2000 and leaded to a workshop in Salt works Sugatag for repairs. Famous he is and his church Horea from Cizer that is his Vasile Nicula Ursu which church is a paragon of architectonical a folkway from Maramureș and Transilvania and is full in full wooden even the nails and the key from entrance, having yes the year 1773.

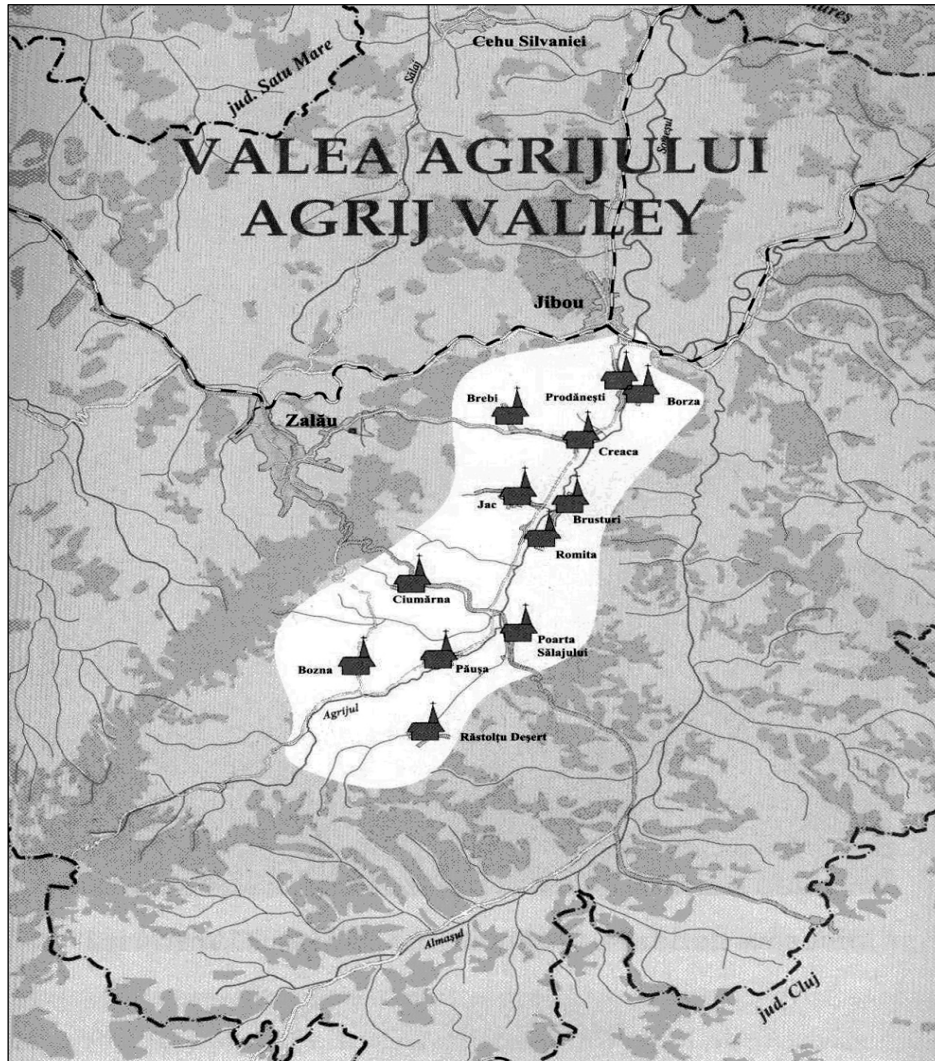


Fig. 2 The spatial distribution of wooden churches in the Agrij valley

5. THE ABBEYS

The holy ABBEYS Crooked Abbey, whereat began the construction of the abbey flapped the century XV, rather from the year 1470. After break activity for precinct 280 of years, firm in 1993 her reestablishment. The name comes seemed from a crooked faithful the lame which bequeathed the place church. The location was found out to the brim of the village Păduriș what appertains common Hida (fig. 3), be alone friary from the county Salaj again alone building the ex monastic which ensemble is kept and today is the wooden church, with the keepsake" Adormirii The nun Of the God", that after the year 1996 he built a new monastic which were holy in 15 August 2002.



Fig. 3 *The wooden churches of the Crooked Abbey*

The abbey" Sf. Third" from Bic (fig. 4), is placed to five kilos of the town Simleu Silvaniei and carries the keepsake" Cut head Sf. Joan the Baptize" were putted the in the year 1720, the new church and the larders. He is alone abbey duration in Salaj after the year 1700. From spring until the snow put on the hills of Salaj the courtyard of the abbey is flower, I carry yes give birth to of a true cascades of colors and another fragrances abbeys are to Rus in the passage of the valley of Somes and to Bălan on Skidoo Almas.



Fig. 4 *The abbey" Sf. Third" from Bic*

6. THE BALNEARY RESORTS

On the territory of the county Salaj can find some locations which offers through the natural availabilities the human of which dispose or were endows with conditions among most good for practication of the touring of the balneary resorts scilicet to Boghis, waves the resort disposes so watery cold how much the watery thermal. The resort is placed in conjointly Nuşfalău on the district road 191D offering the treatment for the apparatus witch help for walking, for the nervous system the peripheral etc. He is endowed with three shadows less basins, a covered basin, base of treatment, and hotel with 50 of places and cottages with a capacity of accommodation of 120 of places. To Şimleu Silvaniei thermal water has a flow of 5 l /s (Buta, I., 1978), is adequate in affections for rheum, articulate, digestive the one of nervous system peripheral. Disposes of the shadow less basin and cabins and the access is done from the national road 1H. On skidoo Salt, in around the town Jibou with access from DN 1 H, I can doctor the affections of rheum's, the one for entrails, gynecological specific what is met fractionally and to Crişeni on same route artery. Cold sulphurous water helps the apparatus helps you to walk is found at Zalnoc in conjointly Bobota with access from DJ 110B, to Top Mesesenii de Jos and to Zăuan Bathes in conjointly Ip on DJ 109P. The resort Bizusa Bathes, is placed on DN 1C on the left versant of Secatura valley. This resort benefits of a placement extremely beautifully, in a garden firry and broad-leaved trees and which the big years the number the visitor by reason of the large range of affections which in his waters minerals have a favorable effects. Is a resort with permanent character, waves were putted the obvious in strate plutonic aquifer with thin waters minerals. Sparkling water springs from the many maul places from under the rocks from skidoo. The varlet, from the warehouses Oligocene wagons begin in a continental facies, constituted complex of grey clays fossils, which in is lasted a layers of lignite, sandstones, step with concreturide which pyrite give the minerality of the waters of Bizuşa. Sparkling water is nameable as the adorning interestedly local from 1932, be capture in duo springs by dint of a Bunkie stations. Water is thin sulphurous, very thin chlorine, calcium, sodium etc. For this waters deposit is present gas up H₂S and CO₂. The hydrogen sulphide (H₂S) he has the values of 0, 7 mg l in derricks and of 4, 2 mg l in springs and is composed carry confers the different these qualities waters, incite for internal cure in affections hepatic, nutritional and urination, and in external cure in affections ale the which apparatus helps with the motion, rheum generative, sechele postreumatice and affections ale the nervous system of the peripheral. As decorations for the operation of the base of treatment exist a swimming place as have inside decorations. As spaces of accommodation and massage, the resort Bizusa offers 110 places of accommodation in the hotel Ceres of a star, in modernize rooms which dispose of all the comfort, pavilions with base of treatment, cottages, and massage maybe be eased in the restaurant of his hotel of the in garden estival.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The study follows the presentation vendible form the principals funds truly potential touristic for the county Sălaj (Pop, C.C., 2008). From the natural funds to one with a more load antropic the geographic what space this designees the county disposes of elements among most unpublished, variously, unique what I can be offered the athirst for tourist culture, beautifully and spirituality. The study feels like offers and a scientific origination in the future shares so that to is satisfied the requirements tourists, to is in concordantly complete with the programs development and promotion that to answer just economic

activize of the county. Succeeded this in the demarche is the necessity of the implication local communities through the taking of measures for the preservation local authenticity and the patrimony, is the necessity also of valorize the scenario and the productive systems of special in the context of espousal of The European Union.

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