

STUDY ON THE NATURAL AND ANTHROPIC CADRE EXISTING IN THE COMMUNE BRATCA, BIHOR

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Abstract

Bratca commune is located in northwestern of Transylvania, on Oradea-Cluj-Napoca railway, 60 km from Oradea and 90 km from Cluj-Napoca. The commune is located 2.5 km from DNI.

In this paper is presented the natural and anthropic cadre of Bratca commune. Many religious buildings, the variety of customs and crafts preserved, make commune Bratca a destination appreciated by tourists.

Key words: Hydrographic potential, cultural edifices, specific local folk architecture, traditions, customs and specific crafts.

INTRODUCTION

Landscapes of rare beauty, the Transylvanian hospitality and well preserved ancient traditions offer visitors the privilege to spend their free time in a pleasant way. In the commune there are various possibilities for leisure in a unique natural environment.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

General. Bratca commune is located in the depression Vad - Borod in the eastern part of Bihor County. To the south the commune Bratca is surrounded by mountains Pădurea Craiului and to the northeast by Plopișului mountains.

The commune Bratca is bordered on the north by Borod, to the east by commune Bulz, to the west by commune Șuncuiuș, to the south by communes Roșia and Căbești.

The commune Bratca extends over a area of 136.48 km² and includes six villages: Bratca - village of residence, Beznea, Valea Crișului, Lorău, Ponoară și Damiș.

Hydrographic potential. The commune Bratca is crossed from east to west over a distance of 3.5 km by the river Crișul Repede. The main affluents of the river Crișul Repede on the territory of the commune Bratca are: Valea Iadului, Valea Boiului, Valea Beznii, Valea Brătcuței și Valea Negruță.

On the Bratca commune territory there are temporary lakes that forms at great rainfall or in spring at snowmelt: Balta Bivolilor, Lacul Toaia, Lacul de la Întorsuri.

Climate. From a climate perspective, Bratca commune has a temperate climate with mild winters and cool and wet summers. Annual rainfall exceeding 1000 mm, and average annual temperature registers values of 4,5 ° C.

Vegetation. In Bratca commune vegetation is represented by: broadleaf forests - beech, holm, hornbeam, birch, pine forests - spruce, fir, pine, shrubs - hazelnut, corn, blackthorn, various grass species making up the existing meadows and pastures. There are rare plants protected by law: Globe-flower (*Trollius europaeus*).

Religious buildings. In the Bratca commune we meet the following religious buildings: Wooden Church of St. Archangels Michael and Gabriel from Beznea since 1723, historic monument; Wooden Church of St. Archangels Michael and Gabriel from Valea Crișului since 1785, historic monument; Stone Orthodox Church from Damiș 1878, historic monument.

In the villages Damiș and Beznea it has been raised a monument dedicated for fallen heroes who defended the homeland. In the villages Bratca and Lorău there is one crucifix dedicated to the national heroes.

Cultural edifices. On the territory of Bratca there are the following representative institutions for culture: Bratca communal library, two school libraries, six community centers.

House proverbs in the Beznea locality. At House proverbs students can learn about the following activities: obtaining butter from cream, baking bread in the oven, art sewing, making horseshoes for horses and other activities. In this location schoolchildren are taught to carry out the following activities: manufacture of cages for birds, various knitwear, tapestry, paintings on bark, shaping in gypsum handwork on the embroidery frame and other activities that involve creativity and respect for the work.

Specific local folk architecture. In the commune Bratca there are rural technical installations: the watermill from Bratca, two watermills at Damiș.

Traditions, customs and specific crafts.

- At national and international festivals, local customs, olden dances and port are highly appreciated: Vergelul, Burzucanul, Wedding from Beznea, Țuraleisa.

- Folk dance ensemble "Brățuța" is known across Europe and represents the commune in various cultural events with the habit "Burzucanul" - women olden dance, pairs folk dances and wedding traditions, valorizes art and popular culture.

- There are many traditions: for Christmas, New Year - Vergelul, Epiphany, Easter, funeral, birthday.

- Theatre Unwritten

- Costumes. Men wear black homespun peasant trousers, shirt, black boots, and women have skirts rich in bright colors and kerchief.

- The crafts which are still preserved in villages of the commune Bratca are: spinning, weaving, seams with folk motifs, wrought of bead collars, bagpipe manufacture.

CONCLUSIONS

Bratca is a commune located in the eastern part of Bihor County is composed of six villages: Bratca - village of residence, Beznea, Valea Crișului, Lorău, Ponoară and Damiș.

Bratca commune has a beautiful natural environment, numerous religious edifices, customs and crafts very appreciated among tourists.

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