

THE AGRITOURISM IN BIHOR COUNTY

Cozac Elena*

*University of Oradea, Faculty of Environmental Protection, 26 Gen. Magheru St., 410048 Oradea, Romania, e-mail: elena_cozac@yahoo.com

Abstract

The agritourism constitutes a form of manifestation of rural tourism, that is unfolded especially in highly populated areas and therefore with agricultural activities better valorized, whether we are talking about livestock, grain, fruit growing and vinicultural.

Bihor County is a complex territory from the point of view of landforms, on its territory we meet mountains, hills and plains, which causes a varied range of agricultural activities to which is added a cultural potential, folkloric and ethnographic which until currently didn't know big differences from the past.

Key words:: agritourism, rural tourism. folklore

INTRODUCTION

The agritourism is the type of tourism practiced in rural areas, based on ensuring, within peasant household, accommodation services, meals, entertainment.

By agritourism Bihor county has the opportunity to capitalize in a superior manner most part of the rural environment, natural and anthropogenic resources of the area, contributing to raising the living standards of the rural population.

Choosing a tourist destination is not easy, due to the existence of the multitude of offers of diverse needs and preferences. An important role in choosing a tourist destination have the following elements:

- natural factors: geographical location, relief, climate, hydrography, vegetation and fauna;
- cultural factors: language, folklore, religion, art and science;
- the human element: the mentality and hospitality reflected in the attitude of the local population, of providers to tourists;
- general infrastructure: telecommunications, transport facilities, water supply, sewage systems, structure and appearance of villages.

Terms of rural tourism and agritourism implies the presence of certain features of the tourism product. For example, a visit to a factory in a rural area or a day at a theme park in a rural area, doesn't represent rural tourism in the actual sense of this notion. In this context, Bernard Alnea, Director of Rural Tourism Development Programme at Bristol University, considers that rural tourism and agritourism is not synonymous with tourism in a rural area, but must have certain specific features, such as openness to nature, the absence of agglomeration, tranquility, feelings of stability and national history, the possibility of a better knowledge of the area and place.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In order to surprise agritourism in Bihorcounty we must study its rural areas because it represents the deployment framework of tourism act.

Rural settlements in Bihorcounty are well coagulated and include 91 communes and 430 villages, distributed in all relief units.

The population of rural settlements numbered in year 2015, 300.156 inhabitants, ie 48.4% of Bihor County.

The rural population has experienced higher ponderosity exceeding the urban population from year 1930 until 2003.

The functions of rural settlements are conditioned primarily by the possibility of using complexes natural resources.

Thereby in the plain area appear settlements of the cereal culture and livestock breeding. In this category are included almost all rural settlements from the territory of Câmpiei Crișurilor.

Besides the main function may occur some trends of specialization, which contributes to a better use of human and natural potential. For example, at Cefa as secondary occupation appears the fish breeding practiced in the farms from the area this village.

In the hills and mountains areas, is amended also the character of settlements. Appear trends of horticulture and viticulture specialization, especially at the contact of the plain with the hilly; in mountainous areas due to the relief the basic specialization lies in animal breeding.

A defining element that makes up the structure of rural tourism is the sustainable development of entertainment services and rural recreation, so that the number of tourists who prefer such holidays will also increase. Residents in rural area must be the main element in the agritourism activity in order to be the main beneficiaries. The traditional hospitality of

the peasant must be accompanied by a training specific to tourist accommodation activity; private initiative must be integrated into a collective plan of global development and the infusion of each must contribute to the installation of tourist products, offering the visitor-consumer satisfaction of civilized accommodation, accompanied by the appropriate services and at the same time, the possibility of discovering places and new people.

The farm, the village, rural area, are reasons for which tourists come to spend their holidays in the country.

On Bihor county territory are distinguished some agritourist areas which are characterized by specific elements of folklore (popular costume, pottery, furniture, wood pieces), households configuration, ethnic associations. Within the daily life from rural environment of the county are distinguished also the traditional crafts that even if in recent years are in a obvious crisis contributes to customize agritourism areas in the county. We have to mention that 3-5 decades ago these have contributed to forming a complementary economy that bring additional income for many rural communities.

Active craft centers are:

- in pottery domain at Vadu Crișului, Săliște de Vașcău;
- wooden dowry chests at Budureasa;
- in the field of interior textiles at Bratca, Borod.

There are some cultural events by which the county is distinguished:

- Feast of St. George (SÂNGIORZUL) at Vașcău, Beiuș Chișcău;
- Easter egg painting at Rieni Budureasa Dobrești;
- Solar fires lighting for the living and the dead at Câmpani, Săliște de Vașcău (din village Criștioru de Jos).

Bihor County villages are known for particularly tasty cuisine but which is slightly valued in the restaurants in the county, but is still well preserved in households. Among the most popular dishes are: Bihor brandy, wines (vineyards Diosig), pies (Vărzari) with cheese and dill, plums, potatoes, chicken soup with homemade noodles, holopchi, cakes, etc.

The most important agritourism area of Bihor County is Beiuș depression, followed by Vad-Borod depression and mountainous area of the county represented by the Apuseni Mountains.

In addition to these agritourist areas consecrated and well-known by tourists, development possibilities appear in Diosig area (on the viticulture) and Cefa (the fishery). Although the county has many tourist attractions specific to rural environment agritourism is not well developed in the county. This situation is determined on the one hand by the fact that many townspeople still go on weekends to country to parents where they also carry out work in the household, so they are not interested holidays in the rural area, and on the other hand are preferred consecrated tourist destinations from Turkey, Greece, Malta and Bulgaria.

From the moment of knowing the ethnographic heritage more interested in spending a vacation in the country are foreign tourists who appreciate country life more than we do.

CONCLUSION

Agritourism in Bihor county although dispose of a complex heritage doesn't constitute a permanent tourist activity, but just seasonal one being more sought in two periods of the year: the winter holidays and Easter.

It has been determined that there is a retention of householders in putting available for tourists their farm, the most common reason being the lack of free time that they should make available to tourists.

Agritourism is not a form of tourism practiced by a large number of participants in Bihor County.

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