

AGROTOURISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF REMETEA VILLAGE

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Abstract

The commune of Remetea is situated in the south-east part of Bihor county. In this paper we present the agrotouristic development of the Remetea commune. Meziad Cave represents a special attraction point for tourists, especially during summer time. Meziad Cave was extensively researched and declared a monument of nature. The cave is at an altitude of 397 meters, and the mouth of the cave has a height of 16 meters and a width of 10 meters.

Key words: Community resources, demographic aspects, population structure by nationality, population structure by religion, agrotourism.

INTRODUCTION

Outdoor walks, hunting, fishing are some of a wide range of leisure possibilities tourists have at their disposal when visiting Remetea commune.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

General aspects. The commune of Remetea is located in the southeast of Bihor County, in the Depression of Beiuș. It is bordered to the north by the commune of Căbești, to the northwest by the Pomezeu commune, to the west by Răbăgani commune, to the southwest by Pocola commune, to the south by the town Beiuș, to the south-east by the Curățete commune.

The commune of Remetea is 9 km from Beiuș and 70 km from Oradea on DJ764 / C.

The commune of Remetea has five villages: Remetea, the village of residence, Dragoteni, Meziad, Petreasa and Șoimuș. The first evidence of the existence of material, spiritual and religious active life on the territory of the present Remetea commune dates back to 1204.

The predominant relief of the commune of Remetea is hilly, piedmont, noting the Meziad Hills. The Remetea commune is situated in a very picturesque area at the foothills of Padurea Craiului Mountains, and the average altitude is between 400 and 800m.

Being located in a karst area, 3 km from Remetea, Meziad is one of the most important caves in the country, namely the Meziad Cave.

Meziad Cave is a large cave, being one of the first caves in the country and long considered to be one of the longest caves in Romania. In 1921 it was visited by a team of geologists headed by the famous Romanian speleologist Emil Racovita. Meziad Cave was refurbished in 1972 and open to tourism.

Community resources. The most important community resources available to Remetea are the following:

- Meziad cave, a monument of nature, many years being considered the longest cave in Romania;

- The Rosia and Meziad Valleys;

- Limestone in the village of Meziad;

- Hardwood and resinous forests with a wide variety of ownership and use: communal, private forests, wooded pastures;

- The drinking water springs in Meziad are sufficient to supply the village of Meziad;

- Furniture factory in Remetea;

- Ostrich farm in Remetea;

- Local gastronomic tradition;

- Surplus of agricultural products: milk, eggs, meat, wheat, corn, fruit;

- Fruit, mushrooms;

- Old wooden churches in Petreasa, Remeta and Dragoteni;

- Private fishing at Meziad and Remetea;

- There are three water mills: two at Remetea and one at Meziad;

- Bakers in Remetea and Meziad;

- Shallow wires for braids;

- Distillers, production of tuna; there are animal husbandry conditions in most households, honey;

- Rich and diverse hunting; qualified human resources; good clay for bricks; women skilled in tissue;

- The days of Remetea village reached 2017 at the 18th edition.

Demographic aspects. According to the census conducted in 2011, Remetea commune population was up to 2906 people, down from the previous census in 2002, when it had registered 3153 inhabitants.

Table 1

Structura populației după naționalitate/Population structure by nationality

Nationality	Number inhabitants	%
Total	2906	100
Romanians	2228	76,66
Hungarians	459	15,79
Romani	166	5,71
Unknown	53	1,84

Sursa: INS 2013

Most residents are Romanians (76,66%). The main minorities are hungarians (15,79%) si Romani (5,71%). For 1,84% of the population, ethnicity unknown.

By nationality, the population structure is shown in Table 1 (Source: INS 2013)

In terms of confessional structure, most of the inhabitants are Orthodox (70,68%), Reformed (11,63%), Pentecostals (6,57%) and Baptists (7,84%). For 3,28% of the population, the religious affiliation is unknown.

Population structure based on religion is presented in Table 2 (Source: INS 2013)

Table 2

Structura populației după religie/Population structure by religion

Religion	Number inhabitants	%
Total	2906	100
Orthodox	2054	70,68
Reformed	338	11,63
Pentecostals	191	6,57
Baptists	228	7,84
Unknown	95	3,28

Sursa: INS 2013

Agrotourism practiced in the commune of Remetea

The picturesque and unpolluted landscape, the microclimatic peculiarities, the existence of numerous tourist sites, make tourists to find in the area optimal conditions of physical and mental comfort. In the village,

although there is the possibility of practicing agrotourism, there are few households to be certified for this purpose. Lately, more and more households are interested in practicing agrotourism. The special natural environment, together with the presence on the territory of the commune of some ethnographic value elements and interesting tourist attractions, are advantages in the development of agrotourism and the related services.

Agrotourism is at home:

- there are large, spacious, detached houses, with a sanitary group, thus fulfilling the necessary conditions for a decent accommodation;
- possibility to provide meals from their own household. Citizens own animals and agricultural land that allow them to obtain the necessary products for the meals.

CONCLUSIONS

The commune of Remetea is located in the southeast of Bihor County, in the Depression of Beiuș. The commune of Remetea has five villages: Remetea, the village of residence, Dragoteni, Meziad, Petreasa and Șoimuș. The Remetea commune has many religious edifices, customs and crafts, natural sights very appreciated among tourists.

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