

Green Tourism

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Introduction. Historically, green tourism is a kind of travelling that is environmentally welcoming or a kind that is universal. This form of travelling also does not concern itself with economic or cultural elements of the destination.

Materials and methods. Green tourism is a pastime in the rural environment, which is inherent in the respective buildings, village life, beautiful landscapes and the like. Green tourism involves hiking and horseback riding, sports and recreational trips (even hunting and fishing) in rural areas and green nature.

In scientific and popular literature the term “eco-tourism” is frequently used. Eco-tourism is an important phenomenon in the global tourism. It is no accident UN has declared 2002 the year of ecotourism.

The essence of eco-tourism comes down to the organization of tourism in human landscapes without harming the environment. This area includes national and landscape parks, where there are no environmental harm to nature. As ecotourism and rural green tourism are aimed at preserving ecosystems, there is a parallel between ecotourism and rural tourism. Recently, there was even a new concept – ecotourism. It combines the use eco-house as the main tourist accommodation, facilities that are involved in rural green tourism, and ecotourism programs. According to researchers, rural green tourism differs from ecotourism by the main purpose – appropriate use of free time: rural tourism is a kind of free time as a fixed holiday in the countryside with small radial routes and ecotourism is leisure route, when people are acquainted with the natural or historical and cultural attractions of the territory.

Results. Green tourism has a long tradition. Even during the Roman Empire, there was a tradition of departure from Rome for a vacation in the countryside. At this stage the phenomenon was spread especially in the second half of the XX century. The demand for rural recreation was also caused by an increase of public awareness and the development of transport infrastructure, especially high-speed network of highways, railways, and modern air transport.

Conclusion. Socio-economic importance of rural green tourism is that it encourages the development of farms engaged in green tourism; promotes the development of local infrastructure; promotes the sales of agricultural surpluses, increasing farmers additional income and deductions to the local budgets; activates the local labour market, employment increases, delaying young people in rural areas, decreasing the need for foreign migrant workers; promotes the protection of tourism resources, especially the preservation of ethnic and cultural identity; creates opportunities for meaningful leisure poor people; contributes to the cultural level of the villagers and raises environmental awareness. Green tourism has been increasingly promoted over recent years due to growing concerns about environmental sustainability in many different industries worldwide.

References

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