

# RESOURCE AND RECREATIONAL POTENTIAL OF KHMELNYTSKYI REGION

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**Abstract:** The paper discusses that tourism is travel for pleasure; also the theory and practice of touring, the business of attracting, accommodating, and entertaining tourists, and the business of operating tours. Tourism may be international, or within the traveler's country. Today, tourism is a major source of income for many countries, and affects the economy of both the source and host countries, in some cases being of vital importance. Recreation is an activity of leisure, leisure being discretionary time. The "need to do something for recreation" is an essential element of human biology and psychology. Recreational activities are often done for enjoyment, amusement, or pleasure and are considered to be "fun" Khmelnytskyi Oblast also referred to as Khmelnychchyna – Ukrainian is an oblast (province) of western Ukraine. The administrative center of the oblast is the city of Khmelnytskyi.

**Key words:** tourism, recreation, Khmelnytska oblast.

## Introduction

Nowadays, tourism and recreational activity as a massive social economic phenomenon is becoming an important stimulus for regional development. The scopes and effectiveness of this activity depend on many factors, and the leading place among them is occupied by the presence of strong recreational potential in the regions. The recreational resources are the prerequisite for the formation and effective functioning of strong territorial recreational complexes at the national and regional levels.

## Background

Analysis of researches about this problems. Significant aspects of resource and resource recreational issues are thoroughly investigated in works of domestic scientists: O. O. Beydyk, Zh. I. Buchko, O. O. Lyubitseva, M.P. Malska, V.I. Matsola, I. H. Smirnov, I. V. Smal, V. I. Stafyichuk, I. T. Tverdokhlebov, N.V. Fomenko, I.M. Yakovenko and others.

## Aim and tasks

Thus the main task of the paper is to define the resource and recreational potential of khmelnytska region, also to explore the touristic possibilities of this area.

## Results

An important part of recreational resources are natural resources, which include landscapes, nature components, which are used in recreation and tourism sphere (geological, orographic, climatic, hydrological, soil-planty, faunistic).

One of the main factors is the relief, which determines a stage of territory's suitability for recreational activities. The whole area of Khmelnytska oblast is a raised plain, however, there are different landforms. Among them there are flat and waved uplands, broad valleys and narrow canyons, sloping hillsides and rapid ledges, detached hills and massifs (Hilber, 2013, p. 22).

The region has a temperate climate, with a warm summer, mild winter and a sufficient amount of precipitation. The average annual air temperature varies from 6,8°C in the north and center of the region to 7,3°C in the south. July is the warmest month, and January is the coldest. The highest indexes of annual air temperature in summer are observed in the southern part of oblast (18,8°-19,3°C), and the lowest – in the north (18,5°C), and in the west (18,3°C). The annual air temperature in January is the lowest in the central part of the region (-5,4°C), because this area is the highest woodless part of the upland. The northern part has a bit higher indexes of temperature (-5,5°C), as well as the southern part (-0,5°C). Continental air masses cause the great fluctuations of air temperature during all the seasons. The air can heat up to +34°C in summer (absolute maximum in August 2000) and cool to -31°C in winter (absolute minimum in January 1987). There is a sufficient

amount of precipitation on the territory of the oblast (530-670 mm per year). The annual amount of precipitation is 643 mm, the greatest index – 901 mm (Lyubitseva, 2003, p. 130).

Climatic peculiarities of the region also help to build climatic-therapeutic institutions, to relax and to improve health using climatic resources. Climatic conditions are favorable for summer and winter relaxation.

Khmelnitskyi oblast takes sixth place among the other regions of Ukraine for freshwater resources. The rivers of this area belong to the watersheds of such rivers as Dniester, Pripjat (Dnipro), Pivdennyi Buh. Khmelnytskyi region has numerous groundwater resources which consist of subterranean waters and also groundwater resources. The subterranean waters are situated at the depth of 4-10 m. The groundwater resources are situated in 3 aquifers at the depth of 16 m, 30-40 m and 60-80 m. There are more than 3 hundred rivers with the overall length of 10 000 km and there are about 120 rivers with the extension of more than 10 km in Khmelnytskyi oblast. Among these rivers 10 have the length more than 100 km. The biggest river recreational resources are situated in the central and north areas and the most crucial are Pivdennyi Buh and Dniester with its inflows. There everyone can takes part in water kayaking tours and organizes the tourism competitions (Zhurba, 2014, p. 189).

Khmelnitska oblast is not considered to be one of the lake regions of Ukraine. There are less than 50 natural reservoirs with the area with of 1 hectare or more. There are about 200 lakes in Khmelnytskyi region. Podolsky lakes are situated in 3 aquifers such as Horyn, Pivdennyi Buh and Dniester. There are a lot of conditions for the development of such recreational activities as boating, catamaran sailing, swimming, traveling, sun and air bathing.

The largest reservoirs are Shedrivske (1258 ha) and Anastavske (1168 ha) on the river Buzhok in Letychivskyi region, Kuzmynske (765 ha) on the river Sluch in Krasylivskyi region, Malomolynetske (330 ha) in Khmelnytskyi region, Novosyniavske (270 ha) in Starokostyantynivskyi region, Mysliatynske (302 ha) in Iziaslavskyi region. The highest number of small reservoirs and ponds is located in the watersheds of Pivdennyi Buh and Horyn and they are built on the cascade principle. The lowest number of them is in Dniester watershed (Topchiev, 2005, p 342).

Small reservoirs and ponds, are valuable and interesting natural objects, which are needed to use more for recreation and leisure.

Bogs are distributed mainly in the north in floodplains Gorin, Vilia, Sluch, Homora and others.

Mineral waters. Valuable minerals are mineral waters, they are used in the balneology and the thermal waters are studied as an energy source. Mineral underground waters have medicinal properties due to high content of bioactive components. In Ukraine was discovered a fairly significant resources of different types of mineral waters. Right Bank Geological Expedition discovered and explored 6 deposits of different types of mineral water in Khmelnytskyi, they are Zbruchanske, Zaychykivske, Makivske, Teofipolske, Polonsky, Shepetovsky and 4 deposits are in the exploration stage, Kamenetz-Podolsk, Volochiske, Spasivske and Lenkovetske. Medicinal properties of water have been studied and continue to be studied (Dolynska, Shorobura, 2014).

As of 01.01.2016. Land Fund of Khmelnytskyi region is 2062.9 thousand hectares, it is approximately 63% of the area is agricultural land. The soil area is characterized by considerable diversity. The most common is the black soil and steppe podzolized soils, which occupies small areas of meadow, meadow-black, light gray and gray forest, others.

The most suitable for rest and recovery among plant resources are forests. Besides aesthetic qualities, forest performs health and hygiene function. As of 01.01.2006. there were 1603.7 thousand hectares of forest lands in the region. The main part of the forests are concentrated in the region of Polissya. The most common forest tree species: pine, oak, hornbeam usual, maple, birch, sessile oak, aspen, black alder.

These species occupy about 4/5 of the area covered by forest. Pine forests cover about 30%, and oak - 40% of the forest land. There are 269 objects of the nature-protected areas in the region, including 8 monuments of landscape architecture (Antonynskyi, Holozubynetskyi, Maliievetskyi, Myhailivskyi, Novoselytskyi of Polonskyi district, Novoselytskyi of Starokostyantyniv district, Polonskyi, Samchykivskyi parks). The National Park "Podolski Tovtry" is located in the region. Smotrych canyon is the nature recreation area in the valley near the Smotrych river. The famous cave is located in the village Cherche (Matsola, 1997, 201).

There are 3 natural reserves in the region (National Historical and Architectural Reserve "Kamianets", State Historical and Cultural Reserve in Kamianets-Podilskyi, State Historical and

Cultural Reserve “Samchyky”) and 9 museums. The total number of monuments of archeology, history, architecture, town planning and monumental art in the Khmelnytsky region is 2,015 units.

The objects of the nature-protected areas include:

- The landscape reserve of national importance “Soyvi Yar”, located in in the valley of the Studenytsia river. It is located on the territories of Kolodiivska, Krushanivska, Kytaihorodska, Kalachkovetska village councils of Kamianets-Podilskyi district;

- Botanical nature monument of national importance “Tovtra Samovyta”, located near Zaluchchia village of Zaluchanska village council of Chemerovetskyi district;

- Hydrological reserve of national importance “Bashta”, located in the Southern Buh flood plain between the villages Stavnytsia, Trebuhivtsi and Holovchentsi in the Letychiv district.

- Geological nature monument of national importance “Smotrytskyi Canyon”, located in the territory of the Smotrych river canyon from Holoskiv village to Tsybulivka village of the Kamianets-Podilskyi region;

- Unique for Ukraine and Europe geological nature monument of national importance “Cave Atlantis”, which is located on the outskirts of Zavallia village in Kamianets-Podilskyi district;

- unic azonal natural complex in the north of the Khmelnytska oblast - hydrological natural attraction of the national importance “Lake Sviate”, which is situated on the territory of Radoshiv Village Council of the Isiaslav Rayon (Vuytsyk, 2012, p. 99).

In addition to the above-mentioned territories and objects of the Ukraine Nature Reserves, there are two wetlands of the international importance: “Bakota Bay” on the area of 1590 ha and “The Lower Reaches of the Smotrych” on the area of 1480 ha, which were founded to protect the population of rare species of waterfowl (Figure 1).

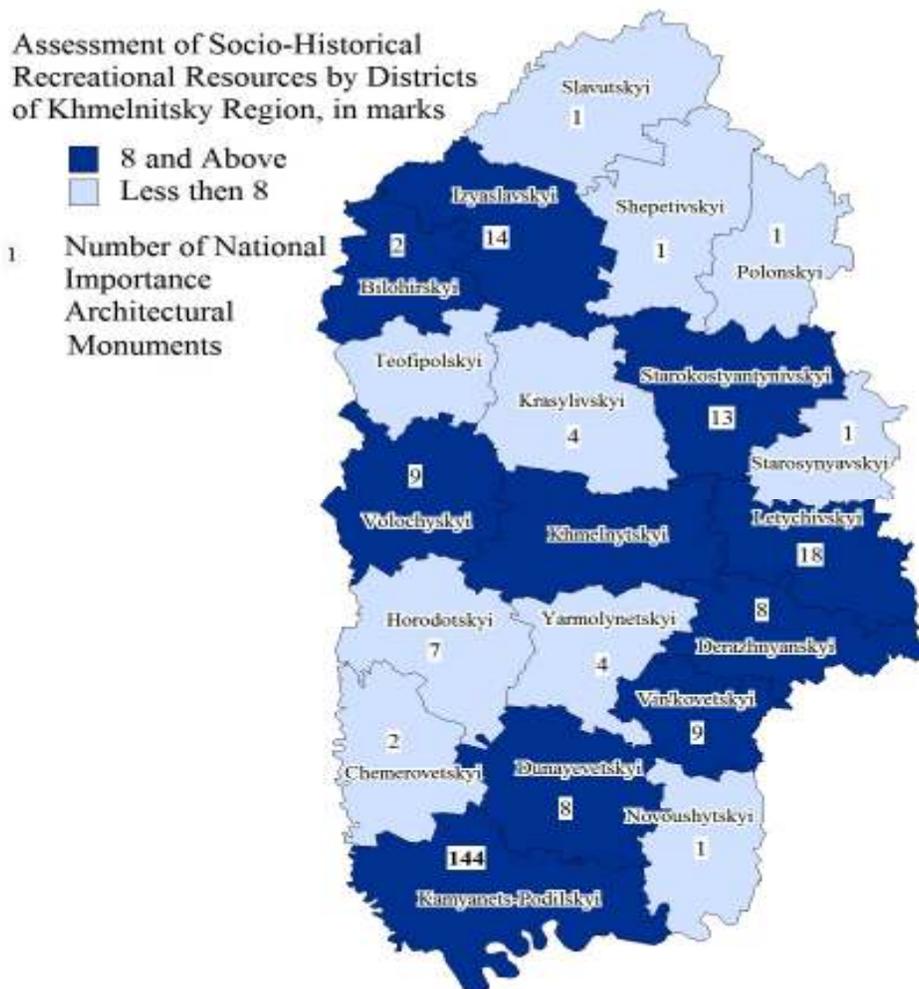


Fig.1. Assessment of socio-historical recreation resources of Khmelnytsky region

Summing up the ratings of aesthetic of the administrative regions rayon territories, evaluation according to their provision of climate, water and forest resources and considering the indexes of recreational burdens, the integral mark estimation of the region territory provision of nature recreational resources.

Socio-historical recreational resources - are objects and anthropogenic phenomena involved in the field of recreation and tourism. The social and historical resources include historical and architectural, biosocial and resources of the event (Hilber, 2013, p. 76).

The importance of social and historical recreational resources in the formation of the territorial-recreational complex in Khmelnytsk region defined by the presence of monuments, archeology, history, culture and ethnography.

Archaeological monuments. Currently, the accounting department of protection of culture monuments Khmelnytskyi Regional Museum has over 2 thousand archaeological sites, of which 226 are under state protection.

Zhvanets village went down in history thanks to the famous battle of the regiments of Bogdan Khmelnitsky against Polish army in the years of national liberation war of the XVII century. About that time remind the remains of the fortress. Besides, this settlement lies on the international highway Vaskovychi-Porubne and borders the Chernivtsi region. Through this village includes several tourist routes. However, the main object is the fortified settlement of Trypillya culture in the tract Schovb. It was here in the early 70-ies expedition of the Kyiv archeologist T. Movshi found a unique pottery complex, which consists of Bunk stoves and space for mixing clay. Pottery kiln located three rows above the slope of the plateau (Beydyk, 2001, p. 254).

A lot of interesting archaeological information keeps Teremetska mountain. In it downhill northwestern slope - Trypillya settlement. Nearby -cave. Then - beautiful rock with strange reconciliation. In the West - the remnants of flint production. The top of the mountain in ancient times was a fortified settlement one of the three settlements of the capital Ponyzzya - Bakota. Near the village found a unique bronze hooks horse harness of Scythian time.

Dunayevtsi region is intended to illustrate the protection system of the Eastern border of Galicia in the interval between the Dniester and Bolohivska ground. In the area of the Sokilets village, a complex of ancient monuments: the settlement in the tract Son-mountain, twelve settlements and two burial ground. According to Galician Polish researcher, the settlement is the remains of the ancient city Sokolyne Gnizdo. Considerable scientific scales to this complex provide two burial mounds, (late XI century) and paplite (XII-XIII centuries).

Historical and cultural heritage of Khmelnychchyna is a powerful socio-cultural environment not only Slavic but also the world's spirituality. Historical and cultural monuments are buildings, memorable places and objects connected with historical events in the life of the people, the development of society and the state, the material and spiritual works of art, which have historical, scientific, artistic or other value (Dolynska, Shorobura, 2014).

Khmelnytsky region is rich in historical and cultural monuments of national importance. There are 3020 monuments of history and culture, which are registered on January 1, 2016 and under the state protection , including: 2442 – of history, 105 – of archaeology, 473 – of art. 17 of them are included in the list of historical, monumental art and archeology of national importance: 4 - of history, 12 – of archeology, 1 - of art. The bulk of them concentrated in Kamianets-Podilskyi.

Due to the unique combination of historical, architectural, city building heritage and canyon's landscape of Smotruch River , ancient Rus and medieval part of the city declared a state historical and architectural reserve. Number of monuments XV-XIX centuries counts about 200 buildings. Powerful fortifications "Old Town". Fortress and its bridge, combination of cult constructions of different religions produce an inimitable impression (Zhurba, 2014, p. 190).

No less famous fortifications are built in Medzhybizh and in Starokostiantyniv also. Medzhybizh is famous in its own way, where the tomb of the founder of one of the biggest movement of the Jewish faith - Hasidism - Baal Shem Tov is situated , that is a kind of Mecca for religious Hasidic pilgrims (Figure 2).

Iziaslav - one of the oldest Ukrainian cities of contemporary Khmelnychchyna. The real adornment of I ziaslav during four centuries was the palace ensemble of princes Sanhushko. There are remains of the castle buildings in the region: Letychiv, Chornokozyntsi and Sataniv fortresses.

These sacred buildings are important among the historical and cultural monuments of Khmelnychchyna: Pokrovska church-fortress in Sutkivtsi, Synagogue in Sataniv, Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Kamianets-Podilskyi, St. Michael Church in Zinkiv.

Natural and Recreation Resources Potential by Districts of Khmelnytsky Region, in marks

- 16 and Above
- 13 - 16
- Less than 12



Fig. 2. Natural and Recreation Resources Potential

**Conclusion**

Analysis and evaluation of natural recreational resources and historical and cultural heritage show that, in the perspective, there can be developed a strong territorial and recreational complex on the territory of Khmelnytsky Region. In order to promote territorial recreational complex, we need to protect, restore, maintain the condition, increase the number of nature reserve objects and objects of historical cultural heritage. Because many monuments are in disrepair, requiring reconstruction and recovery. Government budget revenues are limited because of the difficult economic situation in the country. Most of the monuments are not included to the tourist routes, and therefore they are not involved in the travel process. That is why, detection, carrying out of advertising campaign, preservation and complete usage of natural resources, historical and cultural heritage of the region are one of the most urgent tasks.

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