

INFLUENCE OF AIR INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNAL TOURISM OF THE DONETSK PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

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Statement of the problem in general. The relevance of the researched topic is grounded by the fact that transport services are one of the key factors of tourism development. Various types of transport are used by tourism organizations to transport tourists while traveling. The main share in the overall structure of transport services belongs to air transport. Most tourists, especially those traveling long distances, use aviation services.

The aim of the study is to analyze the state of the air infrastructure of the Donetsk People's Republic identify positive factors in the absence of air communication in the DPR and the opportunities for the development of the tourism industry in the region, despite the lack of air connections in the DPR.

Statement of the main material of the research. Until 2014, tourism in Donetsk was mainly based on the departure of the local population abroad and the arrival of foreign tourists thanks to the work of the international airport.

In 2013, Donetsk International Airport named after Sergei Prokofiev increased its passenger traffic by 11% to 1.11 million passengers [1].

According to the local authorities, in 2013 75% of passengers used international flights, while 25% used domestic flights. The share of international flights was 59%, and 41% of flights were domestic.

According to the Ukrainian News Agency, in the top three in terms of the number of passengers carried by the end of 2013, the airlines were Ukraine International Airlines, UTair - Ukraine and Aeroflot.

In November 2013, Donetsk International Airport named after Sergei Prokofiev increased passenger traffic compared with November 2012 by 23.2% - up to 90.724 thousand people.

The airport served regular and charter flights, connecting the Donetsk region with the transport hubs of Ukraine, Russia, Western and Eastern Europe.

As of May 2014, 13 airlines operated flights from Donetsk Airport to 17 cities in 12 countries.

Since May 26, 2014, the State Aviation Service of Ukraine, the airport was suspended.

On June 3, 2014, the State Aviation Service of Ukraine revoked the certificate of the airport operator.

In June 2014 - January 2015, during the hostilities, the airport was completely destroyed, it became unsuitable for servicing aircraft.

Considering that most travelers prefer traveling with comfort, the lack of aviation in the Donetsk People's Republic favorably affects the development of outbound tourism. So, tourists from the Republic choose a vacation near the house, thereby reducing the time of travelling to the place of recreation.

One of the possible types of tourism development on the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic is ecological tourism.

According to the official characteristics, ecotourism is “a responsible journey to the natural territories, which contributes to the protection of nature and improves the well-being of the local population” [2].

The current interest in ecological tourism can be explained by the fact that recently people have become more inclined towards personal development. Instead of getting a beautiful tan, it is often more important to gain new knowledge about nature and human.

Another reason is the increased public attention to the protection and preservation of the environment. People strive to see those places of nature that risk in a few decades to disappear from the face of the Earth. And, of course, ecotourism is chosen because they want to get rid of stress, to touch nature.

One of the potential ways for the development of tourist zones is the creation of nature conservation facilities, including landscape parks, in which nature protection is combined with the organization of mass recreation and ecological tourism.

Organization of protected areas and objects is the most complete form of conservation and renewal of natural complexes, characterized by high recreational abilities.

The lack of air connections in the region has a positive effect not only on the development of tourism, but also on the conservation of the environment as a whole. Minimizing air pollution is a major plus for life and tourism in the Donetsk People's Republic.

On the basis of the previously existing reserves "Donetsk Ridge" and "Zuevsky" landscape and recreational parks were created, as well as the Specially Protected Natural Territory of republican significance named "Biosphere", which included two departments of the Kalmius and Khomutov Steppe reserves and parts of the National and Regional Park "Meotida". Tourists from the Donetsk People's Republic are happy to use the infrastructure of the landscape parks, choosing a vacation near the house instead of taking long journey to other cities.

Conclusions. Thus, the study revealed that even in the absence of aviation infrastructure in the Donetsk region, there are good opportunities for the development of tourism. Considering that most people prefer comfort and ease of relaxation, as well as a short way to places of recreation, ecological tourism of the Donetsk People's Republic is a promising direction in the development of tourism in the region.

The list of references

1. Donetsk Airport in 2013 [Electronic resource] URL: [https://www.unian.net/economics/transport/870371-aeroport-donetsk-v-2013-godu-uvlichil-passajiropotok-do-111-mln -chelovek.html](https://www.unian.net/economics/transport/870371-aeroport-donetsk-v-2013-godu-uvlichil-passajiropotok-do-111-mln-chelovek.html) (circulation date 03/20/2020).

2. Babkin A.V. Special types of tourism. Tutorial. Rostov-on-Don: Phoenix, 2008 - 252 p.