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**TOURISM
IN FUNCTION OF DEVELOPMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

Spa Tourism in Serbia and Experiences of Other Countries



**THEMATIC
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**UNIVERSITY OF KRAGUJEVAC
FACULTY OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT
AND TOURISM IN VRNJAČKA BANJA**



MODERN CONCEPT OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND NORMATIVE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL PARKS

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Abstract

During last few decades tourist industry, as one of the key sectors in economy in many countries among which is Serbia as well, is global phenomenon. Negative experience from past had terrible consequences, resulted in deterioration of natural environment and led us to necessary transformations of existing concept of tourism industry. Sustainable tourism means any kind of tourism that contributes to environmental protection, realization of social and economic integrity and improvement of natural resources, but also all manmade and cultural values on an ongoing basis. National parks as most important part of the natural environment, enjoy protection both on international and national level. That idea was followed in Republic of Serbia as well, in Innovated Law on National parks. In the article special focus is put on Law on Nature Conservation that directly regulates management, use and preservation of natural resources because only healthy and well-preserved natural environment allows successful tourism industry in the long run.

Keywords: *tourism, nature protection, national Parks.*

Introduction

One of the key economic sectors in great number of countries, including the Republic of Serbia, is the tourism industry, which in the last decades has taken on a global dimension, since the concept of massiveness is considered a key attribute of the tourism market. From the historical point of view, attention was not paid to the scope and methods of exploitation of natural resources in the initial stages of tourism development, and environmental protection by legal means was done selectively, partially

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and almost always urgently when it was already too late. The multidisciplinary nature of tourism comes from its incorporation in all spheres of economic and social life, and its rapid development leads to enormous use of all natural resources, which had resulted in the disruption of the natural and living environment, especially in the second half of the twentieth century, when the concept of mass tourism was dominant. Since the World War II, tourism has been constantly developing and progressing at the existing pace. In addition to technological innovations, social changes were also significant stimulating factors of the dynamic development of tourism (Ristić, 2012, p.15), especially in economically developed countries. This particularly relates to the increase in living standard of the people and the increase in real wages and paid leave.

Sustainable Development and Tourism

The concept of sustainable development first emerged in the 70s, and after two decades became one of the most important phenomenon of economic development planning. It is actually a dynamic process that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Shelton, 2004). In fact, this is a very complex concept (Todić, 2007), whose most important function is provision of friendly relations between environmental protection interests and economic development interests. On that basis, in addition to the economic and social factor, the sustainable development also includes the factor of environmental protection. Environmental protection is an instrument of great importance for regulation and management of sustainable development, which implies that are prohibited all procedures causing damage to the environment by endangering or harming the protected goods. In late 2004, the Republic of Serbia adopted a series of legal texts, based on which is created a general legal framework for environmental protection. A special place is occupied by the Law on Environmental Protection (Official Gazette of RS no. 135/04, 36/09, 36/09 – state law, 43/11 - decision of the Constitutional Court and 14/16), which regulates the integral environmental protection system that ensures the realization of the human right to life and development in a healthy environment and balanced relationship between economic development and environmental protection in the Republic of Serbia. According to the Law on environmental protection, sustainable development is a harmonized system of technical and technological, economic and social activities in the over all development, for which are used natural and

created values of the Republic based on the principles of cost-effectiveness and reasonableness, with the aim to preserve and enhance the quality of the environment for present and future generations. Sustainable development is achieved through the adoption and implementation of decisions, which enable compliance between environmental protection and economic development interests (Art. 9, paragraph 1, item 4).

In the 1980s, there were also some large changes in the tourism industry. The changes in tourism development appeared as a result of a number of factors that caused the crisis in the so-called mass tourism, which relate primarily to the significant changes in consumer demands and also to the appearance of a series of limiting factors that derive from natural and social environment, since tourism development could no longer take place in conditions of intensive use of resources typical for mass tourism. The establishment of certain measures and standards for tourist services leads to a situation where those tourist services that include high energy consumption and damage the environment are no longer acceptable. This proves that tourism development is closely connected with the environmental protection.

Concept of sustainable tourism development

The concept of tourism development that took into account solely the achievement of economic objectives, i.e. the achievement of maximal profit was abandoned, although the achievement of economic interest nowadays has priority. Because of the negative consequences from the past, the need for necessary transformation of the existing concept of tourism development was aimed at finding appropriate development alternatives that had the task to establish a positive relationship between tourism development and environmental protection, i.e. a complete harmony between economic and environmental interests.

A prerequisite for tourism development, in the first place, is preserved and high quality environment, i.e. healthy environment. Uncontrolled development of tourism has negative effects on the environment, on one hand, and major disruption of the environment leads to the growing awareness of the need for its preservation and protection, on the other hand. The concept of sustainable development of tourism was developed as a result of such relationship.

The sustainable development of tourism nowadays relates to the construction of national parks and protected areas (so-called ecotourism) and it is aimed at the protection and conservation of flora and fauna. According to the data of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the number of national parks in the world is constantly increasing, while in the twentieth century in Europe it was increased from 2 to 300.

Sustainable tourism is considered a form of tourism that has the smallest impact on the environment and local culture, and which at the same time contributes to the opening of new work places, creates economic benefits and conserves local ecosystems. In simple terms, it is a highly responsible tourism, which has friendly relations with natural environment and cultural heritage (Cooper et al., 2008, p. 218). The concept of sustainable tourism incorporates in its content three most significant dimensions of sustainable development, namely: economic, environmental and social dimension, since there is a necessity to improve the quality of life. This means that sustainable tourism is a form of tourism aimed at increasing environmental protection, providing social security and economic integrity and preserving natural, man-made and cultural values on a permanent basis (Bramwell & Lane 1993).

National Parks in the World

The problem of endangering nature and its parts has become more important in the end of the 19th century when, in many parts of the world, people started taking numerous protective measures aiming at protecting it. These activities resulted in rising awareness about the fact how necessary it is to protect parts of nature in order to keep them natural and original. By *selecting* the most precious parts of nature with the view to protect them from degradation and absolute destruction, we take one measure of nature protection.

The term *national park*, as the greatest and most complete way of protecting nature in the history of human kind was used for the first time in the second half of the 19th century. Since then these natural goods have been expanding all around the world and at the same time have become symbols of national pride and prestige in the international community. This, actually, confirms rising of awareness about the importance of protection of certain natural areas, and the very announcement of a *national park* is an actual activity that preserves a certain area in its natural state, at the same time abolishing private usage since it serves for

vacation and recreation both to citizens and tourists. That is why national parks are the most valuable parts of nature, natural wealth and pride of each nation and almost every country that has been endowed with national parks has its favourite among them. For example, each citizen of Canada has to visit their Banff at least once in their lives. People have similar feelings for Yellowstone in USA, Royal in Australia, Tongariro in New Zealand, Gran Paradiso in Italy, Olympus in Greece, Plitvice Lakes in Croatia and the like.

Table 1: Basic data about national parks in some countries

Country	No NP	Area (km ²)	Country area (km ²)	% of NP's area with regard to the total area
Austria	9	2356.08	82445	2.86
B&H	3	404.00	51187	0.79
Bulgaria	3	1930.48	110994	1.74
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	33	22880.50	310813	7.40
Greece	15	7238.10	130647	5.54
Italy	24	15376.00	294140	5.23
Hungary	10	4826.00	89608	5.39
Macedonia	3	1032.00	25433	4.06
Germany	15	10395.58	348672	2.98
Slovenia	1	839.80	20151	4.17
Serbia	5	1593.25	88499	1.80
Croatia	8	979.70	55974	1.75
Montenegro	5	1069.30	13452	7.95
Spain	15	3807.17	498980	0.76
Switzerland	1	170.33	39997	0.43
Total	150	74906.29	2160992	3.47

Source: <http://www.protectedplanet.net/> (visited on February 24th, 2016); <http://www.germany.travel/> (visited on February 24th, 2016); *The Law on National Parks "Official Gazette of RS", No. 84/2015)*

At the 10th General Assembly of IUCN meeting held in New Delhi in 1969, the term national park was defined as: "a relatively large area where one or several ecosystems are not materially altered by human exportation and occupation, where plant and animal species, geomorphological sites and habitats are of special scientific, educative and recreative interest or which contains a natural landscape of great beauty".

The beginning of protecting nature in the world is connected to Yellowstone as the first national park, established by the U.S. Congress' act on March 1st, 1872. The term national park was then officially used for the first time, and it is interesting that only two years later, in 1874, Obedska bara (Obedska pond) in Srem was protected. This act provided the pond with a prestige determinant of one of oldest protected areas in the world.

The first national park in Europe was proclaimed by Switzerland and its law in 1914, and it was Engadin, and we now have two types of national parks – American (Yellowstone) and European (Swiss).

The development of national parks and taking care of them in Europe led to founding of Federation of Nature and National Parks of Europe in Sabriken in 1973. Today, the Federation is called EUROPARC federation, the headquarters of which is in Grafenau in Germany.

The first national park in the Republic of Serbia was proclaimed in 1960, and that was National park “Fruška Gora”, and after that, in 1981, National parks “Kopaonik” and “Tara” were proclaimed. Two years later, that is, 1983, National park “Đerdap” was proclaimed, and in 1986 National park “Šar Mountains”.

When we look at the location of those parks, National park “Fruška Gora” is in Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, National park “Šar Mountains” is in Kosovo and Metohija, whereas the remaining three National parks are in central Serbia- National park “Kopaonik”, National park “Tara”, and National park “Djerdap”. The total area of national parks in Serbia is 1502.24 km², which is 1.7% of total area of the Republic of Serbia (88499km²).

From the above listed data, it can be concluded that the largest national park in Serbia is National park “Djerdap”, spreading over 42.46% of the total area of all national parks. After National park “Đerdap”, there are National park “Fruška Gora” with 17.75% and National park “Tara” with 16.64%. National park “Šar Mountains” spreads over 15.18% of the total area of national parks in the Republic of Serbia. The smallest national park in Serbia, when it comes to area, is National park “Kopaonik”, with its share of 7.97% in the total area of all national parks.

Table 2: National Parks in the Republic of Serbia

No	National park	Area (km ²)	%	Altitude (m)
1.	Djerdap	637.86	42.46	70-806
2.	Šar Mountains	228.05	15.18	1220-2640
3.	Fruška Gora	266.72	17.75	100-539
4.	Tara	249.92	16.64	1000-1591
5.	Kopaonik	119.69	7.97	640-2017
Total:		1 502.24	100.00	

Source: *Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Serbia for 2015, p. 271. and The Law on National Parks “Official Gazette of RS“, No. 84/2015)*

Protected areas

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has defined six protected area categories since 1994: Ia – Strict Nature Reserve; Ib – Wilderness Area; II – National Park; III – Natural Monument; IV – Habitat/Species Management Area; V – Protected Landscape/Seaside and VI – Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources (www.iucn.org). The mentioned protected area categories have largely been established by our Law on Nature Protection (Official Gazette RS, no. 36/09, 88/10, 91/10-corrected and 14/16). According to this categorization, national parks in Serbia are classified into categories II, IV and V (Table 1).

According to this, it can be concluded that “Tara” and “Šar Mountains” meet the IUCN criteria which a protected area belonging to protection category II should have – National Park. According to IUCN criteria, national park “Djerdap” meets protection category IV - Habitat/Species Management Area, while national parks “Fruška gora” and “Kopaonik” meet the conditions of V protection category - Protected Landscape.

Table 3: National parks of Republic of Serbia according to IUCN protection level

No.	National Park	Protection category
1.	Fruska gora	V
2.	Kopaonik	V
3.	Tara	II
4.	Djerdap	IV
5.	Šar Mountains	II

Source: <http://blog.protectedplanet.net/>

Regulations which directly regulate management and use of natural resources

Areas which are characterized by significant geological, biological, ecosystem and landscape diversity are declared as protected areas of general interest. According to the scientific and technical basis, the study of protection determines the value of a specific area which is proposed for protection, as well as the management of that area. Depending on the identified natural, created and landscape characteristics of a specific area, that area is classified into a certain category of protected natural areas by the Act of Declaration of Protected Areas, so that a National Park is declared by law, protected area of first category declared by the Government based on the proposal of the Ministry which has jurisdiction, and second category by the Government or the competent authority of the autonomous province in case when the protected area is located on the territory of an autonomous province, while a protected area of third category is declared by the local self-government authority, except in the case when protected area includes the territory and real estate of Republic of Serbia or the autonomous province; in the process of promulgation, the approval of the Ministry is required (Article. 41a).

The most valuable protected natural areas are *national parks*, which represent areas “with a large number of various natural ecosystems of national importance, prominent landscape areas and cultural heritage where people live in harmony with nature, intended for preservation of the existing natural values and resources, total landscape, geological and biological diversity, as well as meeting the scientific, educational, spiritual, aesthetic, cultural, touristic, health-recreational needs and other activities in accordance with the methods of nature protection and sustainable development” (Article 30 item 1). Therefore, protection of national parks, as the most representative natural areas, the range and uses are more closely defined by a special law, as *lex specialis*.

The Nature Protection Act

The most significant legislation in the field of nature protection in the Republic of Serbia is the Nature Protection Act (Official Gazette of RS ", Nos. 36/09, 88/10 , 91/10 corr. and 14/16), which precisely defines the protection and conservation of nature, biological, geological and landscape diversity as part of the environment. According to this act, nature, regarded as a general interest is subject to special protection.

The main objectives of the Nature Protection Act of the Republic of Serbia are precisely defined in Art. 2, as follows:

- protection, preservation and enhancement of biological, geological and landscape diversity;
- the harmonization of human activities, economic and social development plans, programs, and projects with sustainable use of renewable and non-renewable natural resources and long-term conservation of natural ecosystems and the natural balance;
- sustainable use and/or management of natural resources and goods, ensuring their functions while preserving natural resources and the natural balance of the ecosystem;
- timely prevention of human activities and the activities that can lead to permanent depletion of biological, geological and landscape diversity, as well as disorders with negative consequences for nature;
- establishing and monitoring the state of nature and
- improving the situation of damaged parts of nature and landscapes.

All the foregoing shall not apply in the case of eradication and prevention of imminent danger to life or health of people or property, as well as the rescue of people and property, and only as long as the risk persists (Art.3).

The natural resources under the protection of this Act are:

- protected areas;
- protected species and
- protected mobile natural documents.

Protected areas are all those areas that have a strong geological, biological, ecosystem and / or landscape diversity and, consequently, they may be:

- strict and special nature reserve;
- National park;
- Natural Monument;
- protected habitat;
- area of exceptional importance;
- Nature Park.

In the national park only actions and activities that do not threaten the authenticity of nature are permitted, as well as the performance of activities that contribute to the educational, health, recreational and

tourism needs, continuing the traditional way of life of local communities, and in a way that does not threaten the survival of wild species, natural ecosystems and landscapes, in accordance with the Law on Environmental protection and management Plan adopted by the managing entity.

Forests in national parks are managed by the legal entity that manages the national park. Forests in national parks are not included in the forest management area.

The protected areas have established regimes of protection of the I, II and/or III degree. I degree protection regime - strict protection is carried out in a protected area or part of the original or slightly changed ecosystems of exceptional scientific and practical significance, allowing for a process of natural succession and preservation of habitats and living conditions of communities in the wilderness. II degree protection regime - active protection, carried out in a protected area or part of the partially altered ecosystems of great scientific and practical importance, and particularly valuable landscapes and geological heritage facilities. III degree protection regime - proactive protection is being implemented in the protected area or part of the partially altered and/or modified ecosystems, landscapes and objects of the geological heritage of scientific and practical importance.

The procedure for declaring protected natural areas includes: a category of protected areas, designation of protected areas, protected species and mobile protected documents.

Categories of protected areas, depending on the value and importance of protected areas, include:

- I category - protected area of international, national or great importance;
- II category - protected area of the provincial or regional character, or of high importance;
- III category - protected area of local importance.

The competent minister shall prescribe the criteria and procedure for evaluating the categorization of protected areas.

The declaration of protected areas is based on scientific and/or expertise elements - study of protection, which establishes the value of the areas

proposed for protection as well as a way to manage the area. The protection procedure is initiated when the Institute for Nature delivers a study of the protection project to the competent authority and the Ministry informs the public about the process of launching the protection of natural areas of the I, II and III categories on the website of the Ministry, but also in at least one daily newspaper distributed on the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia and also in the local newspaper of the local government where the area of the intended protection is based. This publication contains all the information about the time and place of public scrutiny and public debate.

After completing the procedure the act of declaration of a protected area is brought and published:

- In the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia when it comes to the national park and protected area category I;
- In the official gazette of the autonomous province when it comes to a protected area category II and
- In the official gazette of the local self-government when it comes to a protected area category III.

Law on National Parks

The legal basis for the adoption of the Law on National Parks - Djerdap, Tara, Kopaonik, Šar Mountains and Fruška Gora is contained in Art. 30, paragraph 7 of the Nature Protection Act according to which measures to protect the national park and the manner of its use is specified in Article 41a, paragraph 1 of the law according to which "a national park is proclaimed by the National Assembly of the law."

Accordingly, on 6 October 2015, the Law on National Parks was adopted (Off. Gazette of RS, no. 84/15), which regulates the goals, values, size, boundaries and regime of protection, management and sustainable use of national parks to the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Since the tasks of protection, development and management of a national park are of general interest (Ristić et al., 2014, p. 337), it is provided by this Act that a national park is managed by a public company that implements the protection arrangements in a national park and manages natural resources, construction land, buildings and other real estate (Ristić et al., 2013, p. 344).

Table 4: *Surface and protection regimes of national parks*

National park	Area in hectares	Regime of protection		
		I degree	II degree	III degree
Fruska Gora	26 672.00	800.16	17 870.24	8 001.60
Kopaonik	11 969.04	1 481.77	3 583.53	6 903.74
Tara	24 991.82	3 336.41	8 514.71	13 140.70
Djerdap	63 786.48	5 109.30	13 714.09	45 154.45
Šar Mountains	22 805.43	7 359.31	2 998.91	12 447.20
in total	150 224.77	18 086.95	46 681.48	85 647.69
%	100	12.04	31.07	57.01

Source: *Law on National Parks ("Off. Gazette of RS ", No. 84/2015)*

With the Law on National Parks becoming official, the provisions of Articles 6 and 7, as well as the description field of the National Parks Law on National Parks ceased to apply ("Off. Gazette of RS", Nos. 39/93, 44/93 - correction, 53/93 - dr. law, 67/93 - dr. law, 48/94 - dr. law 101/05 - . the law and 36/09 - dr. Act).

The provisions of the Nature Protection Act are applied in the management, use, preservation and presentation of the National Park, if the Law on National Parks as a *lex specialis* does not specify otherwise.

Table 5: *The percentage share of areas under regime I, II and III level of protection in national parks (in %)*

National park	I degree	II degree	III degree	TOTAL
Fruska Gora	3	67	30	100
Kopaonik	12.38	29.94	57.68	100
Tara	13.35	34.07	52.58	100
Djerdap	8.01	21.5	70.79	100
Šar Mountains	32,27	13,15	54,58	100

Source: *Law on National Parks ("Off. Gazette of RS ", No. 84/2015)*

The protection and development of the National Park is carried out according to a National Park Management Plan (hereinafter: Plan). This Plan applies for a period of 10 years and for it's adoption it is necessary to have the approval of the Government of the Republic of Serbia with the prior opinion of the competent ministries.

As for the National Park Management Plan for "Fruška gora", the approval is given by the Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. Local governments and local residents have an active role in the process of adoption of the Plan. The plan is realized by an annual program management, in which the local government and local residents also have a primary role, which includes:

- activities that are envisaged for implementation;
- dynamics of execution of work;
- amount of the necessary funds, as well as the financial plan, which must be in accordance with the regulations.

Given that the management of the national park is of general interest, the management is entrusted to the public company that implements the protection arrangements in a national park and manages natural resources, construction land, buildings and other real estate.

In the process of planning and implementation of plans and programs for national park management the public company is obliged to provide the participation of local governments, interested public, as well as the citizens residing in the area of the national park.

The objectives of this law should ensure that:

- preserve and enhance the value of biodiversity, geo-diversity as well as cultural and historical value;
- preserve and promote ecologically important areas and the diversity of landscapes;
- preserve geological heritage facilities;
- preserve and improve habitat, types of habitats and populations of wild flora and fauna;
- preserve the cultural and historical heritage;
- preserve the traditional way of life;
- enable and facilitate the preservation and promotion of an adequate quality of life in the National Park through the development of social, cultural and economic activity;
- provide visitors an impressive experience of nature, education and possibility of research, and
- preserve natural processes and maintain a balance between natural processes and human activities.

The realization of the activities above should ensure sustainable development of national parks.

Table 6: Area and forms of property in national parks of Serbia

National park	Area in hectares	State property		Private property and other types	
		ha	%	Ha	%
Fruška Gora	26 672.00	19 308.00	72.39	7 364.00	27.61
Kopaonik	11 969.04	9 862.60	82.4	2 106.98	17.6
Tara	24 991.82	13 588.51	54.37	11 403.36	45.63
Djerdap	63 786.48	45 454.87	71.26	18 331.60	28.74
Šar Mountains	22 805.43	10 359.00	45.42	12 446.00	54.58
in total	127 272.16	89 365.37	702	37 064.21	29.1

Source: Law on National Parks ("*Off. Gazette of RS*", No. 84/2015)

Protection regimes in the area of the national park include regimes of protection I, II and III, which are directly subjected to prohibitions and restrictions on work and activities that are determined by the regulations on the protection of nature, which may be detrimental to the basic characteristics and other properties by the national park.

Management and sustainable use of the national park includes:

1. determine the management of the national park;
2. implementation of concrete actions in order to protect and improve the natural values of the national park;
3. adoption of the following acts:
 - Management Plan,
 - Annual program control,
 - Spatial plan of special purpose areas,
 - Specific plans and programs,
 - Urban plan for the national park,
 - Report on the state of natural resources and created value for the previous year.

Management of national parks of Serbia is entrusted to:

- Public Enterprise "Fruska Gora National Park" to manage the National Park "Fruska Gora";
- Public Enterprise "National Park Kopaonik" to manage the National Park "Kopaonik"

- Public Enterprise "National Park Tara" to manage the National Park "Tara"
- Public Enterprise "National Park Djerdap" to manage the national park "Djerdap"

In the process of adopting active role of the local government , the local population , citizens' associations and all other interested parties have an active role in adopting the national parks management Plan for a period of ten years (hereinafter: the Plan). The Plan is adopted in order to achieve: conservation, improvement and sustainable use, development and presentation of natural and other values of the area of the national park, which include:

- prohibition measures and limitations of works and activities in accordance with official protection regimes;
- incentives and other benefits for the local population and local authorities in order to develop those activities that favor the preservation of national parks;
- defining the ways of implementation of the works and activities of legal and natural persons performing activities in a national park.

The Annual national park management program makes the realization of the Management Plan possible in the year for which it is passed. Local governments, local residents, civic associations and other interested parties have an active role in the decision making. The adopted national park management program shall be submitted to the competent ministry for approval. The Annual management program includes:

- Activities and dynamic execution of operations;
- Necessary financial means and
- The financial plan.

The Spatial plan of special purpose for the national park area defines the regimes of protection I, II and III. The Act clearly established the rights and duties of the national park in the implementation of tasks of protection, promotion and development of the national park.

The Law on National Parks predicts the existence of:

- the National Park Experts Council and
- the National Park users Council.

The National Park Experts Council is a professional and consultative body, composed of five experts in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, which monitors and analyzes the plans, programs and projects in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

The National Park Users Council makes recommendations, significant at the local level, relating to the national park in order to ensure not only the interests of users of the national park, but the local population as well. This council is composed of representatives of local governments, organizations and associations whose activities take place in the area of a national park or in a protected zone.

Conclusion

The negative effects that the mass tourist movements left to certain destinations have influenced the new phase of tourism development which is characterized by substantial changes to the environment.

Tourism needs hardly reach saturation point, because one can always visit a new destination, or use another form of accommodation, transport ... In addition, the specificity of tourism demand are: heterogeneity, mobility, inability storage of tourism services, the seasonal nature ... All this has, compared to the last century, influenced the emergence of new trends on the demand side, which is reflected in the need for individuals to seek for more diverse and attractive vacation, while the increased use of new technologies leads to better and faster information to potential tourists of the most diverse tourist offers (Ristić, 2013). Investing in construction and human resources training, in modern conditions, is becoming a key competitive advantage (Djurić et al., 2013).

Certainly the most valuable protected areas are national parks, which are the symbol of national pride and prestige of any country because they serve for recreation of both local population and tourists, but their resources are permanent capital for all members of the society. Innovative legal texts directly regulate the management, use and storage of the "most important" parts of nature as the confirmation of the fact that only healthy and well-preserved nature enables successful tourism business in the long run.

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