

**SOUTH EAST
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Transnational Cooperation Programme



DATOURWAY



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**TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL
DEVELOPMENT OF THE DANUBE AREA WITH
SPECIAL REGARD TO TOURISM
DATOURWAY**

Abstract

TOURISM SURVEY
ROMANIA



February 2010, Bucharest



1. TOURISM RESOURCES NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AREA

1.1. Natural resources

The analysed area along the Danube River includes a large variety of natural resources, offering a variety of relief forms, hydrological networks, vegetation, flora and fauna.

The Danube River - Lower Danube sector (the Romanian), 1075 km in length, begins with a spectacular and impressive gorge (Iron Gates), 144 km long, which crosses south west part of the Southern Carpathians, with a portion of 9 km long (called boilers - Cazane), with steep and calcareous slopes. Between Drobeta-Turnu Severin and Calarasi, the river widens, having the right bank higher and the left one lower, where a broad meadow (with numerous lakes) develops and 4-5 levels of terraces. Various marshes and lakes formed between these channels. In Teleorman, Danube has created near the riverbanks a succession of banks, temporary filled with water (Listeava Mare, Mica, Vasluiului, Lupilor, Lata, La Plopi, Zimnicea). In the Danube riverbed, there are several old,

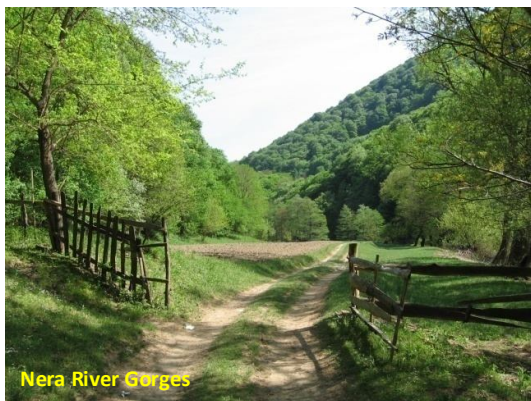


Cazane – Danube Gorges



Rudariei Gorges

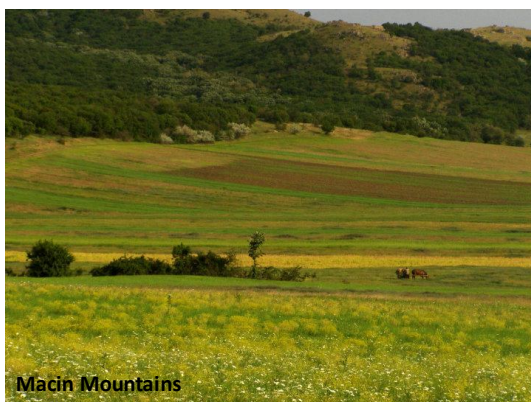
non-floodable banks (Ostrovu Corbului, Ostrovu Mare, Simian Islet, Ada-Kaleh Islet). In the south of Calarasi Municipality, Danube divides into two channels: Old Danube, in the west, and Borcea, in the east, kept between these two being Balta Ialomitei. Near Hârșova, the waters are reuniting. Downstream of Giurgeni (Ialomita County) the Danube splits again into two main branches: the Olt Danube / Măcin Arm, in the east and Cremenea, in the west, both closing Balta Braila. From Braila up to the first area where the Danube divides, known as the first Ceatal (Ceatalul Chiliei, where the Danube branch out into the arms Chilia and Tulcea), the Danube flows in one tub, with large elbows which favour the forming of ice jams during spring. Downstream from Tulcea, Tulcea arm of the Danube divides again in the second Ceatal (Ceatalul Saint George) forming the arms of Sulina and St. George, so that the Danube flows into the Black Sea through three major openings (Chilia, Sulina and Sf. Gheorghe (Saint



Nera River Gorges

George)) forming the Danube Delta. Chilia and Sfântul Gheorghe are suitable only for fluvial transport and Sulina ensures fluvial and maritime shipping to ports Galati and Braila. The Danube hydrological regime is complex, bringing it into the Black Sea, the average water flow of 6.5 thousand m³/s and 79 million tons of silt annually. During the harsh winters, the Danube freezes in some areas. The Danube is navigable from Ulm until the Delta and the river and its channels Main-Danube and Danube-Black Sea provide a navigable link between the North Sea and Black Sea.

analysed territory: mountain, hills, plateaus, valleys, plains. In the west and southwest, the mountains occupy an important part of the territory, starting with Banat Mountains, Ţarcu Mountains, Godeanu and Cerna Mountain in Caras Severin County, and Mehedinti (well known for karst phenomena) and Almaj Mountains in Mehedinti County with altitudes between 600 and 2,200 m. The mountain area continues with the Getic and Mehedinti Plateaus.



Macin Mountains

Nearly all forms of **relief** in Romania mark the Danube Gorge at Iron Gates is one of the longest and most spectacular cross-valleys in Europe and the biggest of the Carpathians. That generated unique limestone landscape; areas of bottlenecks (Coronini, Cozla, Svinița, Cazanele Mari and Cazanele Mici), gorges are major tourism assets. Limestone area of Cazane favoured the development of karst landform: steep slopes, hills, numerous caves (e.g. Ponicoave, Veterani, Fluturilor). The canyon of Danube is a spectacular landscape: steep slopes, ruiniform landscape, alternating with areas of narrowing called the "clisuri".

In the south part of the analysed territory, the landscape includes predominantly Danube meadows, plains (Romanian Plain including more subdivisions) and hills belonging to the Getic Plateau. The Danube Valley is an association of banks, abandoned branches, depressions, and wells, temporarily or permanently filled with water from the great river. During the spring floods, the Danube created a succession of riverbanks, forming the highest part of the meadow. In the southeast part, two other geomorphologic units could be distinguished, Lower Siret Meadow and Lower Prut Meadow. In



Danube Delta – flooded forest

Tulcea County, the oldest region in Romania (Dobrogea Plateau) and the youngest relief form in Romania, namely the Danube Delta, the ground is still developing. In Constanta County, the Black Sea seaside to the north consists of cords of sand that separates the great lakes and in the south stands a steep cliff made of limestone and loess with heights of 15-30 m.

The climate is temperate-continental with very hot summers, with small amounts of precipitation and cold winters, marked by irregular intervals with strong snowstorms and frequent warming. Some particular influences marked the territory, respectively Mediterranean influence in Caras-Severin, Mehedinti and Dolj counties, marine influences in Constanta and Ialomita counties with strong contrasts between winter and summer temperatures. In the southeast part some Russian influences could be felt, cold air coming from the northeast to the southwest, strong winds, bringing very cold winters, sometimes even freezing the Danube Delta over two to three months. The specific climate of the Danube meadow is

individualized in some particular areas (e.g. Calarasi), with warmer summers and milder winters than the rest of the plain. The climate in the valleys of Siret and Prut the climate is specific ones, wetter and cooler in summer, and more humid and less cold in winter.

The hydrographical network: The most important hydrographic artery in the territory is the Danube, having over 300 direct tributaries, of which the most important in Romania are Timis, Jiu, Olt, Arges, Dambovita, Ialomita, Siret and Prut. Danube Valley, with its beaches and lagoons provides valuable scenery with recreational functions.

Other important rivers in the territory are Caras, Nera, Cerna (Caras Severin County), Motru, Cerna, Bahna Topolnița, Blahnița and Drincea (Mehedinti County), Urlui, Călmățui, Vedea, Dimbovnic (Teleorman County), Olteț, Tesluiul, Dârjov (Olt County), Sabar, Neajlov, Ilfov, Câlniștea and Pasărea (Giurgiu County), Carasu Valley, Baciui Valley and Casimcea (Constanta County).

Lakes: The most important lake is the Iron Gates I in the area of Gura Văii (40 ha), formed behind a concrete dam with a maximum height of 60 m. Iron Gates II Lake in Gogosu village was built all in cooperation with Serbia. Danube Valley lakes: Vad Lake, Garla Mare.

Other important lakes, lagoons, oxbows in the territory:

- Braila County: six natural lakes kept for fishing (Jirlau, Ciulnita, Lutul Alb, Plopu, Ianca and Blasova); five artificial lakes prepared for fishing and irrigation (Maxineni, Gradistea, Insuratei, Ulmu, Brotacelu) and three lakes used for irrigation (Galbenu village, Mircea Voda).
- Bucharest-Ilfov: Herăstrău, Floreasca, Tei, Colentina, Cișmigiu, Mogosoaia, Plumbuita.
- Calarasi County: Mostistea.
- Constanta County: natural lakes, lagoons (Oltina, Sinoe, Tasaul, Techirghiol, Mangalia).
- Dolj County: Bistret, Fantana Banului, Maglavit, Golenti, Ciuperceni, Isalnita, Călugăreni, Rast, Maglavit, Fântânele, Buzatu, Vârtop, Caraula and Ripa Rosie
- Galați County: Brateș Lake and Tălăbasca Lake
- Giurgiu County: Comana.
- Ialomita County: meadow lakes (Peach, Bantu), oxbow lakes (Amara) and estuary lakes (Ezer, Strachina, Funda) and marshes Ialomita, Iezerul, Calarasi, Boian.
- Mehedinti County: Ostrovu Mare Lake, Zaton Lake formed in a karst depression.
- Olt County: hydro lakes of Arcesti, Strejesti, Ipotesti, Draganesti, Frunzaru-Rusanesti.
- Teleorman County: permanent or temporary lakes, many of them drained Bercești, Sarat, Balta Lucia, Balta Rosie, Cioara, Balta lui Bran, Suhaia, Vartoape, Calugaru, Calina.
- Tulcea County: South of Sfântul Gheorghe arm is located the Razim lagoon deep entering the county. A network of natural and artificial channels, lakes and ponds and banks form a unique ecosystem. There is an abundance of inland, delta, oxbow and coastal lakes.

To the east, the waters of the Black Sea, a continental sea with large wide-open bays and little peninsulas, bath the Constanta County. The water depth is small in Romania because of the pattern of the shoreline and submarine relief.

The hydrographical network includes also Danube - Black Sea Channel (64.2 km), Poarta Alba - Midia Channel (27.5 km) and other irrigation channels in Carasu Valley.



The **flora and fauna** has specific elements according to the climate and relief forms. In Caras Severin and Mehedinti counties, the specific of the area results from the richness of southern elements, endemic flora and fauna of our country. The Mediterranean influences lead to the acclimatization of the fig tree and of the almond, but also to the acclimatization of some animal species such as horned viper, scorpion and land tortoise. In the Danube gorge, there are species of Mediterranean flora, Illyrian, Central Europe, Moesia (Oriental Hornbeam, Turkish nuts and Banat maple). In the mountain areas, the forests occupy a significant part of the territory. Much of the south part of the analysed territory (e.g. Dolj, Olt, Ialomita) is covered with rich fields with the specific vegetation of the steppe and forest steppe areas. In some parts, agricultural crops replaced steppe vegetation. Tree vegetation is relatively little. The forests consist mainly in the following species: Euro-American poplar, locust, Pedunculate Oak or English oak, white willow, narrowleaf ash, elm, linden, tatarian maple. Rich vegetation is especially in the meadow and the Danube Delta (reed and forests).

The geographical forest distribution, 2008

No.	County	Forest areas (ha)	Timber harvested (thou mc)	The geographical forest distribution
1.	Brăila	25,854	50.1	In isolated areas (20 ha), the likely flood-affected meadow of the Danube river (71% of the total forest area), the interior Buzau and Siret river meadows (representing 16% of the total forest area) and 11.5% on the terrace
2.	Caraș-Severin	386,177	649.8	Well-represented in hilly and mountainous areas and well in the plain area
3.	Călărași	20,346	133.6	The Danube lakes southeast region (81%), Baragan Plain (13%) and inlands of the Danube (6%)
4.	Constanța	38,306	61.9	Meadows and isles: 6,667 ha and plain: 26,501 ha
5.	Dolj	87,600	187	The meadow of Danube and the Jiu river: 10%, the plain (forest steppe and forestland): 65% hill: 25%.
6.	Galați	37,000	55	Specific plain forestry, with interferences of meadow, steppe, hills and hillocks
7.	Giurgiu	32,904	126.4	3,350 ha in the meadow area and 29,554 ha in the plains
8.	Ialomița	25,863	110.3	19,348 ha in the Danube and Ialomita river meadows and 6,515 ha in the plain
9.	Mehedinți	125,291	169.07	Mountain: 42,335 ha, hill: 73.131 ha, plain: 9,805 ha
10.	Olt	33,472	88	Meadow: 8,720.2 ha, plain: 9,489.6 ha and hill: 14,466,2 ha
11.	Teleorman	27,261	54.4	Forest land levels (50%) and forest steppe (50%)
12.	Tulcea	90,825	237	Hills, hillocks: 77.9% of forest area in the county and meadow and delta: 22.1%
13.	Bucharest-Ilfov <i>in which Ilfov</i>	20,413 19,663	40	In the forest land (the main form of relief being the flat plain) and in a smaller extent in the river interior meadows (Arges, Ialomita)

Source: Forest Departments on 31.12.2008

The number and surface of the hunting fund, in the counties analysed

No.	County	The number of the hunting funds	The total surface of the hunting funds (ha)
1.	Brăila	50	462,955
2.	Caraș Severin	76	827,445
3.	Călărași	49	483,725
4.	Constanța	56	658,344
5.	Dolj	77	693,149
6.	Galați	44	418,312
7.	Giurgiu	43	327,431
8.	Ialomița	44	424,427
9.	Ilfov	22	157,752
10.	Mehedinți	40	481,719
11.	Olt	57	492,073
12.	Teleorman	62	563,094
13.	Tulcea	54	598,701
	TOTAL	674	6,589,127

Source: Order no. 193/2002

Fauna includes steppe and forest animals, plain forest and meadow birds. The fauna includes species of interest for hunting out of which: boar, rafter, pheasant and rabbit. In ponds and lakes, there are wild ducks and geese. The most representative species for the meadows of Danube are the coot, the stork, the egret and some species of rodents. Danube river attracts many species of birds, including The Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*), protected by law. Fish that inhabit the waters of lakes and swamps are: crucian carp, carp, bream, perch, pike-perch, northern pike, roach, catfish etc.; in the waters of the Danube are *Silurus glanis*, sturgeons and Danube shads.

In some parts, terrestrial and aquatic fauna has changed from excessive hunting and fishing, many of the species that inhabited the territory of Dolj County has survived in small numbers or disappear altogether.



Danube Delta - Pelicans

Natural therapeutic factors for balneal treatment:

- Therapeutic mud of salt lakes, spring waters is the base for the spa treatment in Chișcani, Vișani, Movila Miresei (Braila County).
- Sulphurous waters, containing sodium chloride and magnesium, salt waters in lakes Amara and Fundata (Ialomița County) are excellent in treating rheumatism.

- Sulphurous depth waters (over 100 m), deep thermal waters (over 3,000 m) (in the Giurgeni village, Ialomita County).
- Spring waters for treatment in Baile Herculane (Caras Severin County).
- Mineral waters from Bala (Mehedinti County) are as good as those of Herculane, and in some respects even better and stronger than them, but unfortunately mineral reserves are underused.
- Therapeutic mud, salt lakes, spring waters in Techirghiol, Eforie, Mangalia, Nuntasi (Constanta County).
- Black Sea Coast: The natural resources give high quality to spas cures: orientation of the beach to the east-southeast, long duration of sunshine during the summer (10-11 hours per day), thermal stability from day to day, rare precipitation, breezes, seawater, healing mud/sludge.

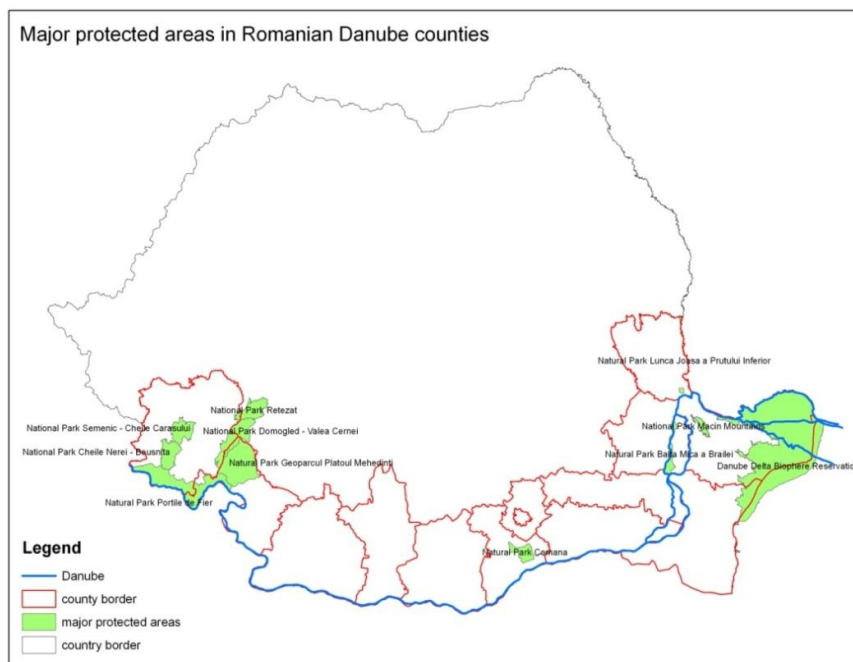


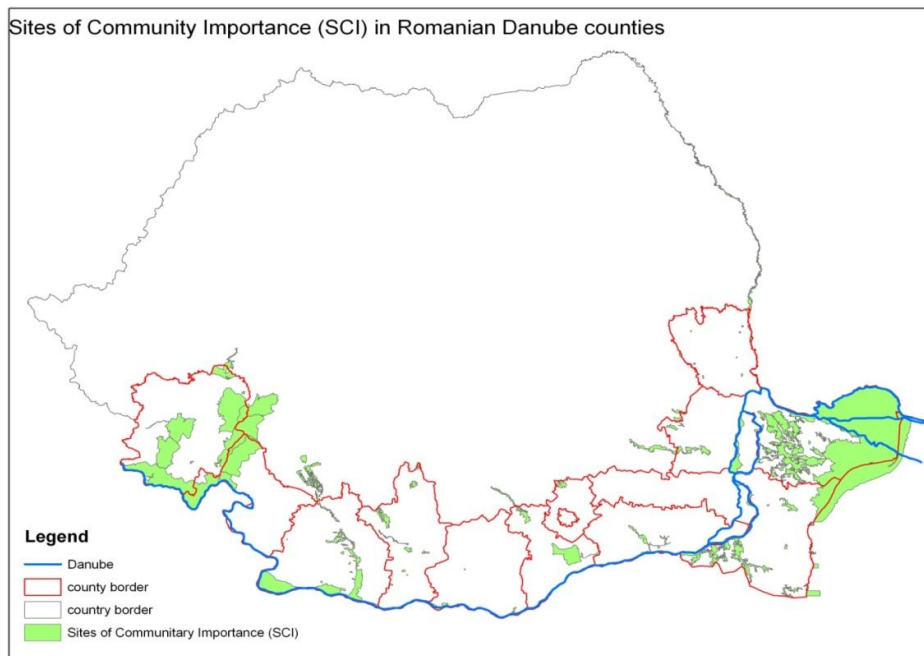
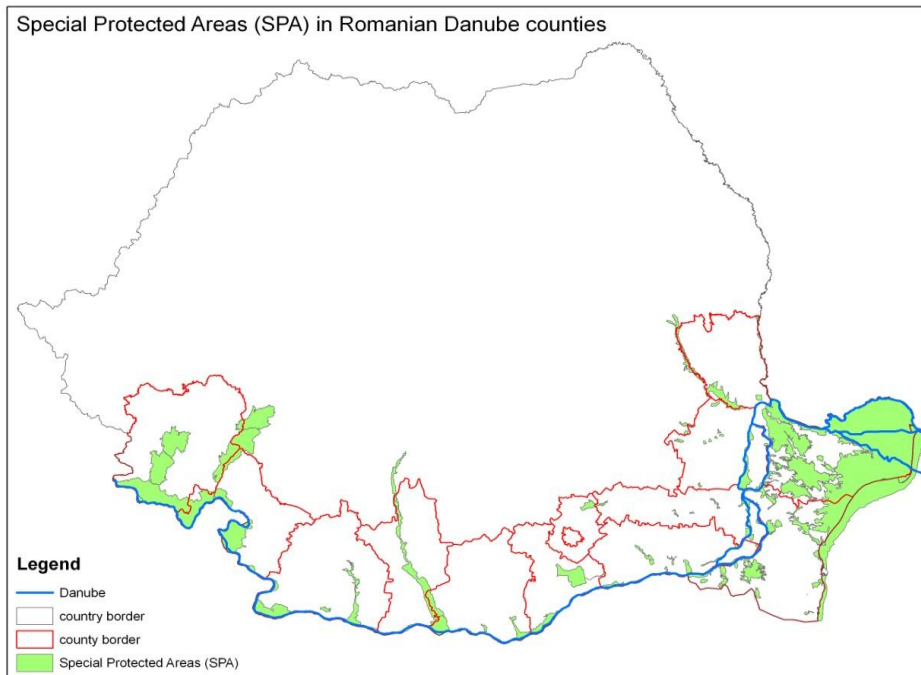
1.2. Nature conservation (nature protection areas, Natura 2000, ecological network)

In the counties bordering the Danube River are recorded:

- 11 out of 28 existing major national protected areas, National Parks, Natural Parks and Biosphere Reservations, (63.4% of their surface);
- 68 out of 273 Sites of Community Importance (SCI) established at national level (44.6% of their surface);
- 60 of the 108 Special Protection Areas for Bird (SPAs) established at national level (52.5% of the surface).
- 162 scientific reserves, natural monuments and nature reserves (category I, III and V IUCN).

Ten of the eleven major protected areas have their own management structure. The only exception is Natural Park Lunca Joasă a Prutului Inferior. Most of the parks have developed management plans, but because of inconsistencies in national legislation any of these plans wasn't approved.





1.3. Heritage protection

Protected heritage

In the 422/2001 Law on Protection of Historical Monuments, published in Official Gazette no. 407 on July 24th, 2001, with subsequent modifications and additions, the following categories of historical monuments of protected patrimony is defined monuments, ensembles, historic sites. Each of them has the following categories: archaeology, architecture, public monuments and memorial-funeral. Historical monuments are classified in two groups:

- Group A includes national and historical monuments of universal value
- Group B includes historical monuments representative for the local cultural heritage.

In the analysed territory, there are around 8,450 historical monuments of which 6.1% of category A and the rest of category B. The highest number of monuments is in Bucharest (2628), of which 259 category A and 2,369 category B. Important number of historical monuments category A, could be encountered in Constanta (255), Caras Severin (112), Tulcea (114), Mehedinti (70), Dolj (64), Teleorman (62), Olt (59). Analysing by type, the architectural monuments are the most representative.



The volume of investments in culture has suffered a reduction, thus leading to the degradation of the cultural heritage, degradation of areas and buildings with cultural destination, or to cultural institutions that function in inadequate buildings and to a lower quality of cultural and arts production.

Cultural events

The cultural events taking place annually (international, national, inter-county, county and local) in the riverside Danube counties are turned into county attraction points that, along time, have raised their awareness, some of them becoming tourism attraction events.

In all the counties in the riverside Danube, one can notice the preoccupation of the local culture institutes to stimulate the creativity of artists by organising some creation camps and competitions. There is an active cultural life and annual well-known events. The cultural events which have contributed to the bettering of the cultural life of the counties are including music (pop, canto, folk, classical, choral, jazz) and dance festivals, theatre festivals, literature festivals (poetry, prose, essay), caricature, comedy and humour festivals, film festivals, ethnic festivals, art competitions, book fairs. In Bucharest-Ilfov, the cultural events with national and especially international fame stimulating the exchange of cultural values and the circulation of the creators are in the largest number (see *Table Cultural Festival and Events*). These activities aim at capitalizing the artistic creation and at promoting the local culture. Some of the cultural events, having a high cultural value, are representative for the culture of our country, forming a varied programme and inciting the interest of a large audience, formed of persons of all ages and nationalities.

The municipalities or larger towns especially organize most of the cultural events with important community impact and international resonance. The artistic events are relevant for the regional creative potential being constant cultural events taking place at fixed dates, capitalizing the inhabitants' talents. The intellectual, cultural-spiritual life of some counties is in bloom, reflected in the diversity of the complex cultural events.

The current cultural facilities satisfy the needs of the population in a small percent, at the level of the counties the public interest towards the organized culture activities becoming lower, because of the mass-media impact on everyone's time for permanent education. Also, negative aspects have appeared in the recent years, reflected in the fact that the cultural events cost more and in the lack of funds for finalizing infrastructure investments in the culture field. The events are organized, mainly for the local population and not as a potential means of communication to attract potential visitors. The cultural practice equipments are unequally distributed and non-functional with reference to the requirements of communication, of stimulating public access and participation in cultural life or they do not exist in some rural areas. Other problems concern the lack of good communication and a common approach between public institutions and local business offices concerning some common efforts to attract cultural and artistic activities organized at the national level, both during the season and during the off-season.

Table *Cultural Festival and Events* that take place annually (international, national, inter-county, county and local cultural events that become tourist attraction events)

No.	County	Cultural event
1.	Brăila (7)	The George Grigoriu Pop Music International Festival
		Hariclea Darclee International Canto Festival and Competition
		“European Theatre Days and Nights” International Theatre Festival
		Balcanica Festival – The festival of the Balkan Poets
		Chira Chiralina National Folk Festival
		“Omul cu o chitara” (man with a guitar) National Folk Festival
		Caricature International Festival.
2.	Calarasi (10)	Ștefan Bănică National Theatre Festival,
		„Flori de mai” Romanian Pop Music National Festival
		„7 Arte” Film (Inter)national Festival
		Dictatorii Râsului International Caricature Festival
		Alexandru Odobescu National Literature Festival
		Ștefan Bănulescu National Prose Prize
		„Chitara Dunarii” National Folk Music Festival
		Mihai Eminescu National Young Poetry Festival
		„Toti suntem credinciosi” Religious Themes National Symposium
		National „Thalia in 7 zile” Adult and Children Amateur Theatre Festival
3.	Caras Severin (8)	Garâna International Jazz Festival, one of the most important events of this type organised in the south-east of Europe
		Lia Ponoran Choral Music Inter-County Festival
		Timotei Popovici National Choral Music Festival
		“Ritmuri in Mileniul III” Pop Music National Festival-Competition
		“Ceaunul de Aur” Inter-County Festival of the Serbian Community
		Rromani County Festival
		The Fanfares National Festival
		Antoniou Seqvens Choral Music Inter-County Festival
4.	Constanta (10)	Mamaia National Pop Music Festival
		Callatis Festival
		“Festivalul Tineretii” International Pop Music Competition
		“Stelutele Marii” Children and Youth International Pop Music Festival
		Music and Dance International Festival
		“Delfinul de aur” (Golden Dolphin) Pop Music International Festival
		“Remember” International Pop Music Festival
		“Dan Spataru” National Pop Music Festival
		Antique Theatre National Festival in Constanta
		Ovidius Book Fair
5.	Dolj (8)	Zilele Marin Sorescu Theatre Festival
		W. Shakespeare International Theatre Festival
		European Film Festival
		Ioana Radu Romances Festival
		“Sărbătoarea Prichindeilor” Children Theatre and Marionette Mini-festival
		Elena Teodorini International Opera, Operetta and Classical Ballet Festival
		“Craiova Muzicala” Classical Music International Festival
		“Floare de Ger” Folk Music Festival.
6.	Galați(9)	Miniatura Romantica International Competition for the Pupils of the Music High-schools
		Nicolae Mantu Visual Arts National Competition

No.	County	Cultural event
		“Învie și luminează” National Naive Art Exposition
		Iosif Ivanovici International Fanfare Festival
		“Ceata lui Pițigoi” Children Pop Music International Festival
		Axis Libri Book National Fair
		Costache Conachi Poetry Festival – competition
		National Comedy Festival
		Gulliver Marionette International Festival
7.	Giurgiu (4)	“Dans pas cu pas” (dance step by step) Children and Youth Dance Festival
		“Stelele Dunării” Children and Youth International Pop Music Festival
		Danube Theatres International Festival
		Dimitrie Bolintineanu National Literary Creation Contest
8.	Ialomița (4)	Ionel Perlea Lied Singing National Festival And Competition
		Francofolies French Theatre County Competition
		ARTE E CULTURA International Competition
		“Trofeul Tineretii” Romanian Pop Music Singing National Festival-Competition
9.	Mehedinți (5)	Mihai Eminescu International Poetry Festival
		Iulian Andreescu Pop Music Inter-County Festival-Competition
		“Sensul iubirii” National Literature Festival
		“Fereastră spre noi” Ethnic Festival
		Autumn National Book Fair.
10.	Olt (7)	Gheorghe Cucu National Choral Festival
		“Zilele poeziei” in Olt Festival-Competition (the Ion Minulescu Literary Creation Contest – Slatina, Drăgănești-Olt, Virgil Carianopol – Caracal, Virgil Mazillescu – Corabia)
		‘Corabia de Aur’ National Festival-Competition
		Radu Șerban Pop Music National Contest
		“Oltenii & Restu Lumii” National Humour Festival-Competition
		Eugen Ionescu National Festival
		Eva National Photographic Art Competition
11.	Teleorman (2)	“Ghiocelul de Aur” Romanian Pop Music Festival – competition, the oldest festival of this type in the country
		Complex annual programme of cultural events reunited in the Zilele Eminescu in Teleorman and the final round of the Mihai Eminescu poetry national competition for pupils and young people.
12.	Tulcea (10)	Panait Cerna Poetry and Essay National Competition
		Constantin Găvenea Watercolour National Competition
		Tragos Theatre International Festival
		George Georgescu International Classical Music Playing Festival
		Danube International Festival
		“Anonimul” International Independent Film Festival
		“Copiii Cântă Marea” National Musical Creation (pop music) festival-competition
		Sulina National Musical Creation Competition
		“Scriitori Români din Diaspora” Literary Creation Camp,
		Far-est Plastic, Photograph and Multimedia Creation Camp in Sulina
13.	Bucharest – Ilfov (22)	George Enescu International Festival And Competition
		EUROPA Fest International Festival
		Aurelian Andreescu Pop Music Festival – competition
		“Flori de gheata” National Pop Music Festival
		“Floarea de tei” National Romances and Party Theme Songs Festival

No.	County	Cultural event
		B'estfest
		DaKINO International Film Festival
		Betting on Shorts - More than a Eurovision of Short Film short reel festival
		KINOdiseea Children Film Festival
		FEST'ASIA Asian Film Festival
		Anim'est Animation Film Festival
		George Constantin International Pupil Theatre Festival
		Buftea National Youth Theatre Festival
		B-FIT in the Street! International Street Theatre Festival
		Eugène Ionesco National Absurd Theatre Student Festival
		'Viata e frumoasa' Music Show Art International Festival
		Circus Art International Festival
		Gaudeamus International Book Fair
		Bookfest Book Fair
		Art Boulevard
		"Vara pe ulita" Creation Camp
		Souvenir and Presents International Exposition.



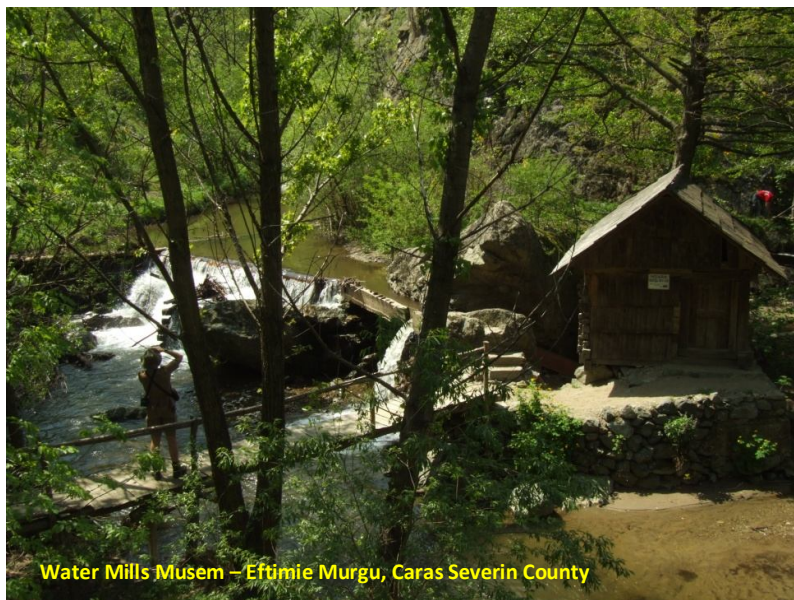
Ethno-folkloric areas, through their intrinsic characteristics, represent the general context of development and promotion of rural tourism and rural areas, designating the ethno-cultural specificity and the area of development for the tourism offer, in a natural environment also with tourist attractions (NIRDT, 2002). In the thirteen counties of analysis, some ethno-folkloric areas could be delimited, referring to:

- Olteniei Plain (sub-area Segarcei Plain): situated in the inferior basin of Jiu with the following representative villages: Dăbuleni, Gighera.
- Valea Bistrei being a part of the old territory of Severin, a component part of Banat, situated in the northeast part of Caraș-Severin. Representative villages: Marga.
- Teleorman: situated in the South Muntenia in the Central of the Romanian Plain with

the following representative villages: Drăgănești-Vlașca, Suhaia.

- Tulcea overlapped almost entirely on the Danube Delta, having the following representative localities: Crișan, Murighiol, Sfântu Gheorghe.

Ethnography and folklore: peasant folk architecture, traditional handicrafts, furniture, folk costumes, peasant museums, traditional folk events.



Folklore festivals

In the envisaged area, there are many folklore festivals (see *Table Folklore festivals taking place on the Romanian side of Danube area*). Most of them are taking place in Caras-Severin County (14), but also in Mehedinti (10) and Olt (9) counties. All the counties along the Danube have their own festivals celebrating the folklore and the local traditions.

The folklore festivals celebrate the traditional music and dances (e.g. hora, calusari), habits and customs (e.g. New Year, Christmas, Easter, Lasa Secului), traditional costumes, they being organized in all the season of the year. In some parts, the festivals stimulate the continuous creativity of the regions through contents for the artists, youth; other festivals are in memoriam of great artists (e.g. Maria Tanase, Dan Moiescu, Ion Albesteanu). Some festivals are dedicated to the Danube. Minorities' traditions are also celebrated through various festivals taking place in Tulcea, Caras-Severin counties etc.

Table Folklore festivals taking place on the Romanian side of Danube area

No.	County	Folklore festival
1.	Brăila (1)	Danube Espanada, International festival of folk music "Love song along the Danube", Braila.
2.	Calarasi (3)	"Danubian Tradition" - Inter-county folklore festival
		Hora Mare International Folklore Festival
		International folklore festival "Danube traditions"
3.	Caras Severin (14)	Parade and balls of the spring masks that marks the so called festival "Lasata Secului"
		Spring procession' - folklore festival of customs and traditions of spring
		Hercules - International Folklore Festival
		Gypsies Festival
		Dance of "Calusari" festival
		Parade and balls of the spring masks that marks the so called

No.	County	Folklore festival
		festival "Lasata Secului" Almasul Wine Festival. Folklore festival Traditional music festival-contest „Sandu Florea” Traditional music festival-contest „Luță Ioviță” Festival of traditional songs and dances "Summer Danube" Dance of "Calusari" festival Festival of Ethnic Communities from Banat National Peasant Fanfare Festival "Song of November" Folklore festival „Afilon Lațcu and Ioan Muntean”
4.	Constanta (6)	After Ancestors Traditions - festival of customs and habits for winter where singers from Dobrogea are meeting National Festival of Romanian Folk Song and Dance, Mamaia – Constanta Festival of Romanian Authentic Song - the promotion of young singers, Topalu National Contest-Festival for the Interpretation of Song, Dance and Folk Costumes "Dan Moisesescu", Topalu Folklore Nights on the Seaside. Balkan folklore festival, Constanta Folk Music Festival - "Dor" (Longing) for Romanian sing, Cumpăna
5.	Dolj (4)	Acacia Tree Festival International Folklore Festival for Children and Youth National Festival of Romanian Folk Song Performers “Maria Tănase” National Festival “Marin Chisar”
6.	Galați (7)	Festival of Traditions and Customs for the Christmas and New Year's Eve "Tudor Pamfile" Folklore festival of interpretation for youth "Magic Little Whistle" Folklore Festival for Children "Festival of Hornicean song and dance" International folklore festival Doina Covurluiului The program "Earth and Soul" "Village of us" Festival of the Habits and Customs of Christmas and New Year's Day"- December
7.	Giurgiu (4)	On the Edge of the Danube - the interpretation festival for folk music Peony Festival- a traditional feast that marks the flowering of peony County Festival - "Calusul" from Vlasca International Folk Festival for Children and Youth
8.	Ialomita (5)	"Zarzarica Flower from Baragan - International folklore festival "Ion Albesteanu" - national festival of folklore music bands “Zarzarica Christmas Carols "Sub zare de soare"
9.	Mehedinți (10)	Mountain, Mountain, Nice Fir - pastoral folklore festival, Baia de Aramă Pots and "sarmale" (pork meat rolls in cabbage) for the third millennium - pottery festival Danube villages festival - folklore county festival

No.	County	Folklore festival
		Topolita Cave Feast - traditional festival Songs of Romanians from everywhere. Contest of young folklore singers Traditional music festival contest "Constantin Gherghina" Inter-ethnic festival for songs and traditional dances "Otto Alscher" Plaiul Closani folklore festival Lilac Festival "Primavara-n floare dorul" - Folk Festival of "Danubius" Ensemble - Cultural Centre Mehedinti
10.	Olt (9)	Romanian "Calusul" – folklore festival and traditional ceremonial which take place at Pentecost fest - 50 days after Easter Romanian "Calusul" – folklore festival and traditional ceremonial which take place at Pentecost fest - 50 days after Easter Bread Fest – Ethno-folkloric show that marks the end of Harvest Romanian "Calusul" – folklore festival and traditional ceremonial which take place at Pentecost fest - 50 days after Easter Romanian "Calusul" – folklore festival and traditional ceremonial which take place at Pentecost fest - 50 days after Easter From Draganesti to the Valley - contest festival of “doina” and “balada” type songs “Iilor” celebration - celebration of the popular costumes from Romanati area Inter-county festival "The Songs of Danube" "Calusul" Festival for Children
11.	Teleorman (3)	National Festival of Romanian folklore music “On the hill to Teleormanel” “Easter - Faith and Traditions” “Traditions - Vein of Romanian Identity”
12.	Tulcea (5)	Folklore Festival for Children "Golden little fish" Delta’s Festival – festival of songs and folk costumes of the minorities in Danube Delta Lipoveni Russian Festival International Festival of Danube Beidaud - Shepherding Festival
13.	Bucharest – Ilfov (1)	National Festival of Folklore Music taking place in Cismigiu park (starting with 2007), Bucharest

Arts and crafts market is relatively well developed in some counties like Olt, Galati, Caras Severin and even in the Bucharest where most of the traditional arts and crafts products are commercialized. Some traditional crafts and arts are more representative in the territory like: native painting, furriers, sewing, weaving, pottery, musical instruments, wood sculpture, popular masks, glassware, woodworking, cooperage, handicrafts, blacksmith, farriery, wicker, carving



wood and bone, sheepskin manufacture, spinning, stone carving, folk painting on wood and glass, jewellery, tinker and so on (see *Table Arts and crafts market*).

The trade with handicrafts is not so well developed in all the counties, most of arts and crafts products being found in Bucharest and some in the cities or some tourist resorts.

In some counties, periodical exhibitions and crafts fairs are organized, the artisans and the artists having the opportunity to present their creations in an organized framework. Thus, in Constanta, Dolj, Teleorman, Tulcea counties, craftsmen fairs, exhibition of icons, folk crafts fairs are organized. Most of these fairs are organized in Bucharest where the arts and crafts market is more developed.



Table Arts and crafts market

No.	County	Locality	Arts and crafts market
1.	Braila	Braila	Naive painting
2.	Caras Severin	Resita	Naive painting
		Domasnea	Furriers
		Obreja, Zervesti (Turnu Rueni)	Sewing, weaving:
		Beniş (Doclin)	Pottery
2.	Constanta	Canlia (Lipnița)	Popular Crafts Center
3.	Dolj	Măceșu de Sus Trepezița	Weaving – Oltenian rugs Musical instruments - clay ocarinas
4.	Galati	Galati	Wood Sculpture, naive painting, masks, handicrafts
		Pechea	handicrafts
		Berești, Targu Bujor, Bursucani, Baleni, Buciumeni, Corod, Cudalbi, Drăgușeni, Hanu Conachi, Piscu, Scânteiești	Woodworking, cooperage
		Târgu Bujor, Băleni, Berești-Meria, Toflea, Cavadinești, Cudalbi, Ivești	Blacksmith, farriery
		Berești, Cavadinesti, Ivești, Pechea, Piscu	Furriers
		Berești, Berești-Meria, Cavadinești, Cudalbi (fabrics from traditional loom), Drăgușeni, Adam, Fârțanești, Fundeni, Ivești, Nămoloasa, Pechea, Piscu, Vânători	Sewing, weaving
		Braniște	Pottery
		Fârțanești, Ivești, Tulucești	Wicker
		Șivița (Tulucești) ("Vatra cu dor" workshops)	Craft Workshop

No.	County	Locality	Arts and crafts market
5.	Giurgiu	Clejani, Oncesti, Oinacu	Folk Music Centre: The famous Taraf de haidoucs
6.	Ialomita	Fierbinți, Dragoesti, Gura Ialomitei, Ghimpati, Alexeni, Reviga, Smirna, Suditi	Sewing, weaving
		Fierbinți, Ghimpati	Wicker
		Fierbinți, Dragoesti, Gura Ialomitei, Suditi	Woodworking
		Fierbinți, Gura Ialomitei	Blacksmith
7.	Mehedinti	Gogoșu / Balta Verde	Wood, cooperage
		Sisesti	Weaving, sewing
		Orsova	Sculpture
		Sisești	Pottery
8.	Olt	Chilia	Sculpture
		Osica	Popular Masks
		Câmpia Boianului	Carving wood and bone
		Brîncoveni	Blacksmith
		Corbu	Folk painting on wood and glass
		Oboga, Romania, Corbeni	Pottery
		Vădastra, Caracal, Vișina	Sheepskin manufacture
		Priseaca, Curtisoara, Icoana, Cezieni	Sewing, spinning
9.	Teleorman	Videle	Naive painting
10.	Tulcea	Tulcea, Niculițel	Woodworking, flutes, bagpipes, icons
		Tulcea	Wood and stone carving
		Tulcea	Glassware
		Dorobanțu, Cârjelari	Pottery
11.	Bucharest – Ilfov	Enisala	Traditional household
			Painting, naïve painting, woodworking: furniture, small furniture, wooden handicrafts, wooden toys and various household articles of wood , spoons, forks, trays, bread baskets, blacksmith, glassware (glass processing centre-the historic Bucharest), jewellery making (master goldsmiths, silversmiths), tinker (brandy boilers, boilers, pans, copper kettle), combing (make combs and various ornaments of bone), stonemason - stone polishing and processing in strings, bracelets, earrings, rings, flowers, etc

Table Exhibitions and craft fairs

No.	County	Exhibitions and craft fairs
1.	Constanța	Children's Craft Fair – May
		Traditional Art and Craft Fair - July
2.	Dolj	Craftsmen Fair – October, Craiova

3.	Teleorman	Exhibition of icons based CCPPTC – April, Alexandria
4.	Tulcea	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture Tulcea organized Folk Crafts Fair, with national participation – Annual, Tulcea
5.	Bucharest - Ilfov	National Art Centre "Romanian Youth" - National Centre for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture organizes exhibition of icons - April
		Village Museum - Museum of Romanian Peasant - Easter in Romania, April-May
		Village Museum – Pottery Fair - May
		Village Museum - Exhibition / painting contest on the Children's Day- June
		Cuckoo Festival - Carnival – June, Brănești / Ilfov
		Museum Village - Crafts Fair - June
		Village Museum - Creation Camp ("Vara pe ulita") for children who want to learn from masters artisans painting, sculpture - July to August
		Palace Hall Cultural Centre - National Exhibition of traditional crafts - organized by the National Centre for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture - November
		Village Museum - National Salon of Contemporary Folk Art - "Metamorphosis wood" - November to December
		Village Museum - Carols for Christmas and New Year - December
		World Trade Plaza - Festival of the end of the year - Exhibition of handicrafts, naive paintings, etc - theme Christmas and New Year – December
		Romanian Peasant Museum - Peasant Fair is a small market for vendors, where you can buy local products from different regions and Romanian traditional food, etc. – Weekly

Institutions promoting culture and traditional arts

The promotion and preservation of Romanian culture and traditional arts, crafts, traditions, customs is an important task of the cultural institutions and people of culture. In the rural areas along the Danube riverside counties, different traditions, popular customs, folk music and dances, costumes could be encountered from various ethnographic regions Banat, Oltenia, Dobrogea, Muntenia and some Moldavian influences.

Some institutions have the aim the preservation and promotion of culture and traditional arts such as popular schools of arts and crafts, national and county centres for preservation and promotion of traditional culture, culture and creation centres, folk art museums and other associations (see Table *Institutions promoting culture and traditional arts*). These institutions aim to teach and promote traditional crafts and occupations, conservation, recovery and transmission of moral, artistic and technical aspects of the local community and national cultural heritage. To achieve its objectives art

and crafts school has the following activities: organizing and performing art education in all fields (music, plastic arts, choreography, drama, arts) and of acquiring traditional handicrafts; organizes performances, exhibitions, creation camps; promoting customs and folk traditions specific to the region and contemporary folk creation. The museum exhibits important number of collector's items characteristic for one ethnographic region or country. These institutions organize events, finish research works to promote popular arts and traditions aiming the preservation of the cultural traditions and values, the rediscovering the ancient roots.

Table Institutions promoting culture and traditional arts

No.	County	Institution
1.	Braila	Popular School of Arts and Crafts
		National Centre for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
2.	Calarasi	Culture and Creation Calarasi County Centre
3.	Caras-Severin	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
4.	Constanta	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
		Folk Art Museum
5.	Dolj	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
6.	Galati	"Lower Danube" Cultural Centre
7.	Giurgiu	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture - - promotes and preserves traditions of Vlasca ethno cultural area and is the initiator of the folkloric ensemble Doina Dunarii.
8.	Ialomita	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
9.	Mehedinti	Mehedinti Cultural Center recovers, preserves and promotes Romanian traditions
		Portile de Fier Region Museum - in the festivities occasioned by "Severin Days" organizes craftsmen fair, where involves the craftsmen from South-West Oltenia Region.
10	Olt	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture River
11.	Teleorman	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
12.	Tulcea	County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture
		Museum of Ethnography and Folk Art Tulcea
		Artistic Ensemble "Ballads of Delta" Tulcea
13.	Bucharest - Ilfov	Centre for Conservation and Promotion of tradition and popular creation of Bucharest
		Village Museum Bucharest
		Romanian Peasant's Museum Bucharest
		Craftsmen League of Gypsies in Bucharest - The Association aims to inform its members and promote about craft fairs, caravans and wants to

		make making famous the Kromany culture, art and craft.
		County Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture Ilfov

2. TOURISM SECTOR

2.1. Tourist attractions

The Danube riparian counties have important tourist attractions, represented by historical monuments, spa resources, hunting and fishing funds, protected areas and different nature monuments that enrich the tourist offer of the region.



Caras Severin County – Herculane Climbing Open

Most of these attractions can be found in Constanta and Mehedinti, being recognized as important tourist centres. In addition, the lovers of cruises can visit Bucharest (the capital of the country and important cultural, recreational, business centre) but also a tourist point for cruises lasting for about 4 days. The cruises vary from short visits in Drobeta Turnu Severin and inside the Danube Delta until longer one-day visits in Bucharest from Giurgiu/Oltenita (Master Plan for the Development of National Tourism 2007-2026).

The historical monuments have an extraordinary cultural value, classified by the Official Monitory as having national or international importance or of local and/or regional importance. All tourists, who were attracted either by the archaeological sites or by the architecture monuments, or by the public and memorial ones, have admired them. Some of these monuments date from the IV millennium BC, others were built in the past century but they are equally attractive for tourists. As cultural proofs of the past times we have the archaeological sites with important value, the resistance of the stone helping them last till nowadays (see *Table Cultural Monuments of Tourist Interest*).



Bucharest – Mogosoia Palace

The desire to keep cultural items symbolic for certain stages of the Romanian culture and civilisation has made the analysed counties create a museum system with remarkable values from the historical, scientific, artistic and cultural point of view. Thus, history, ethnography, art, nature science museums lie in general in the cities – county residences and represent important attraction points for tourists although in some of these locations the way to present the items is less attractive and dynamic for the visitors.

In the Oltenia County, the religious tourism represents one of the forms, which has been affirmed in the recent years. Thus, the great number of religious edifices (churches, monasteries, hermitages) holds an important role for the organisation of spiritual life. Many of these host museums or church museum collections, being visited by Christians and tourists from the country or abroad. There are also religious edifices belonging to other beliefs (Roman-Catholic, Muslim, mosaic, etc), all living in harmony, for many centuries.



Constanta Casino

Due to the natural and/or cultural resources, which can be found in the areas, the technical-urban and tourist infrastructure, some towns have been declared tourist resorts (see *Table List of the tourist resort*).

The Danube offers infinite recreational possibilities, especially for hobby fishing in a fishing fund which includes running waters and still waters (natural or artificial lakes), sport which attracts an important number of participants from the analysed and contiguous counties.



Mamaia seaside resort



Tulcea County – Danube Delta

Cultural Monuments of Tourist Interest

No.	County	Cultural monument
1.	Braila	County Museum in Brăila – profile: history, ethnography, art, nature sciences;
		The Buna Vestire Greek Church in Brăila (1862-1872);
		The „Maria Filotti” Dramatic Theatre in Brăila (XIX century).
2.	Caras Severin	The Banatul Montan Museum in Reșița – profile: archaeology, numismatics, history, history of technique (mining and metallurgy), photo collection, memorial archive, plastic art;
		The Locomotive Museum in Reșița;
		The Coal-bearing Mining History Permanent Exposition in Anina – profile: history, mining technique, archive and memorial photo collection;
		The History permanent exposition in Băile Herculane – profile: archaeology, history;
		The Ethnography County Museum of the Border Region in Caransebeș – profile: local ethnography, numismatics, archaeology;
		The Teiuș Monastery in Caransebeș (1999);
		The Călugăra Monastery in Ciclova Montană (1859);

No.	County	Cultural monument
		<p>The Wind Mills Ethnographic Reservation in Eftimie Murgu;</p> <p>The Aesthetic Minerals Collection in Ocna de Fier.</p>
3.	Calarasi	<p>The Dunărea de Jos Museum in Călărași – profile: archaeology, numismatics, ethnography, modern Romanian art;</p> <p>The St. Nicolae orthodox cathedral in Călărași (1838);</p> <p>The Church of the Former Negoești Monastery (1648-1649);</p> <p>The Church of the Former Plătărești Monastery in Fundeni (1642);</p> <p>The St. Gheorghe Monastery in Boșneagu (1991);</p> <p>Balta Coslogeni in Dichiseni – archaeological site;</p> <p>Măriuța – La movilă in Mănăstirea - archaeological site of 6.000 years old;</p> <p>Sultana – Malul Rosu – archaeological site (IV millennium BC);</p> <p>Păcuil lui Soare in Ostrov – archaeological site (X century).</p>
4.	Constanta	<p>The Cathedral of the Tomis and Dunărea de Jos Eparchy in Constanța (1883-1885);</p> <p>The Hunchiar Big Mosque in Constanța (1867-1868);</p> <p>Marea Moschee (Big Mosque) in Constanța (1910-1912);</p> <p>The Jewish Temple in Constanța (1908);</p> <p>The Greek Church in Constanța (1868);</p> <p>The Constanța Casino (1904);</p> <p>The Șuțu Villa in Constanța (1899);</p> <p>Farul Genovez (Genovese Lighthouse) in Constanța;</p> <p>Farul Nou (new lighthouse) in Constanța;</p> <p>The Roman Edifice with Mosaic in Constanța (III-IV century);</p> <p>The Roman Baths in Constanța (III century);</p> <p>The Tomis Citadel Ruins in Constanța (III-IV);</p> <p>The „Profesor Ion Borcea” aquarium in Constanța - museum with nature sciences profile;</p> <p>The Nature Sciences Museum Complex in Constanța (the dolphinarium, aquarium, planetarium and astronomic observatory, the Sea Museum, mini zoo, the exposition of exotic birds);</p> <p>The Popular Art Museum in Constanța – profile: ethnography;</p> <p>The Military History Museum in Constanța;</p> <p>The National History and Archaeology Museum in Constanța – profile: archaeology, numismatics, history;</p> <p>The “Ion Jalea” Sculpture Museum in Constanța;</p> <p>The Romanian Marine Museum in Constanța - profile: science and</p>

No.	County	Cultural monument
		<p>technique, the history of transports, the history of Romanian marina and commercial fleet;</p> <p>The Art Museum in Constanța – profile: plastic art;</p> <p>The Esmahan Sultan Big Mosque in Mangalia (1590);</p> <p>The Ruins of the Ancient Callatis Town in Mangalia (IV century);</p> <p>The Callatis Archaeology Museum in Mangalia;</p> <p>The Main big mosque in Medgidia (1859-1865);</p> <p>The Art Museum in Medgidia – profile: plastic art , Romanian contemporary art;</p> <p>Pestera Sf. Andrei Monastery in Ion Corvin (1990);</p> <p>The Sf. Maria Monastery in Techirghiol (1951);</p> <p>The Tropaeum Traiani Monument Complex in Adamclisi (109 AD);</p> <p>The Ruins of the Histria Citadel in Istria (VII century);</p> <p>The Ruins of Harsova Citadel (103 AD);</p> <p>The Viticulture Museum in Basarab – profile: nature sciences.</p>
5.	Dolj	<p>The Oltenia Metropolitan Cathedral in Craiova (1651-1652);</p> <p>The Cosuna Monastery in Craiova (1752);</p> <p>Casa Băniei in Craiova (1699);</p> <p>The Art Museum in Craiova – profile: painting, graphics, sculpture;</p> <p>The Ethnography and Popular Art Museum in Craiova;</p> <p>The Oltenia Museum in Craiova – profile: history, archaeology, ethnography and nature sciences;</p> <p>Câmpia Băileștilor Museum in Băilești– profile: ethnography;</p> <p>The Amza Pellea Culture Institution in Băilești (2008);</p> <p>The Village Museum in Bechet – profile: ethnography;</p> <p>The Art and Ethnography Museum in Calafat;</p> <p>The History Museum in Sadova – profile: history, ethnography;</p> <p>The Sadova Monastery (1530);</p> <p>The Architecture Complex in Coțofenii din Dos: church (1928), manor house (1653), park</p>
6.	Galați	<p>The Adormirea Maicii Domnului Mavromol Church in Galați (1669);</p> <p>The Adormirea Maicii Domnului Precista Church in Galați (1645-1647);</p> <p>The Sf. Nicolae Orthodox Cathedral in Galați (1906-1917);</p> <p>The Art Museum in Galați – profile: plastic art;</p> <p>The Nature Sciences Museum in Galați;</p> <p>The History County Museum in Galați – profile: history, ethnography;</p>

No.	County	Cultural monument
		The Buciumeni Village Museum - profile: history, ethnography;
		The Costache Negri Memorial Museum in Costache Negri;
		The Tecuci Municipality Museum – profile: paleoethnology and archaeology.
7.	Giurgiu	The Giurgiu County Museum – profile: history, ethnography, nature science;
		The Ruins of the Medieval Citadel in Giurgiu (1409);
		The Clock Tower in Giurgiu (1700);
		The Friendship Bridge in Giurgiu (1952-1954);
		The Comana Monastery (XV century);
		The Neajlov Monastery in Clejani (1492-1493);
		The Argedava Citadel in Mihăilești (II-I BC);
		The Village Museum in Data – profile: archaeology, ethnography;
		The Popular Art Museum in Herăști;
		The Câmpia Română Museum of Ethnography and Popular Art in Stoenesti.
8.	Ialomița	The Dridu Monastery (1851);
		The Sfintii Voievozi Monastery in Slobozia (XVII century);
		The Agriculture Museum in Slobozia – profile: ethnography, science and technique;
		The County Museum in Slobozia – profile: archaeology, history, art and ethnography;
		The Ionel Perlea Memorial House in Ograda – profile: memorial documents, music history;
		The Marghiloman Manor House in Hagiești (1869-1874);
		The Hagianoff Manor House in Manasia (1899).
9.	Mehedinți	The Vodița Monastery in Drobeta Turnu Severin (1370);
		The Maioreasa Church in Drobeta Turnu Severin (1842);
		The Grecescu Church in Drobeta Turnu Severin (1868);
		The Archaeologic Complex in Drobeta Turnu Severin (103-105 BC);
		The Porțile de Fier Region Museum in Drobeta Turnu Severin – profile: history, archaeology, nature sciences, ethnography;
		The Strehaia Monastery (1500);
		The Gura Motrului Monastery (1515);
		The St. Ana Monastery in Orșova (1924);
		The Roman-Catholic Cathedral in Orșova (1972-1977);
		The Topolniței Hermitage in Izvorul Bârzii (1646);

No.	County	Cultural monument
		The Sf. Apostoli Petru si Pavel wood church in Brebina (1757);
		The Sf. Treime Lordly Church in Cerneți (1660);
		The Parish Museum (Muzeul din Ape) in Eșelnița;
		The Ruins of the Trikule Fortress in Svinița (XVI century);
		The Porțile de Fier (Iron Gates) Hydroelectric Station Exposition in Porțile de Fier - county museum, profile: archaeology, the history of navigation in the Porțile de Fier area and of the Hydroelectric station building;
		The Gheorghe Rădulescu Motru memorial house in Butoiești – profile: memorial, history of literature;
		Cula Cuțui in Broșteni((tower-like house) (XVIII);
		Cula Tudor Vladimirescu (tower-like house) in Șimian (1802-1806);
		Cula Nistor (tower-like house) in Șimian (XIX century);
		The Ruins of the Ada Kaleh citadel in Șimian (XV century).
10.	Olt	The Brâncoveni Monastery (1494);
		The Căluș Monastery (1516-1521);
		The Clocociov Monastery in Slatina (XVI century);
		The History Museum in Slatina;
		The Strehareț hermitage in Slatina (XVI century);
		The Intrarea in Biserica a Maicii Domnului lordly church in Caracal (XVI century);
		The Romanașilor Museum in Caracal – profile: history, archaeology, numismatics;
		The Vestiges of the Sucidava Citadel in Corabia (106 AD);
		The Archaeology and Ethnography Museum in Corabia;
		The Ruins of the Romula Roman Town in Reșca (II-III century);
		The History Museum in Scorniceșt
11.	Teleorman	The Orthodox Cathedral in Alexandria (1869-1898);
		The History County Museum in Alexandria – profile: archaeology, history, ethnography;
		The History and Plastic Art Museum in Turnu Măgurele – profile: history, Romanian plastic art;
		The Turris Roman Citadel in Turnu Măgurele (IV century);
		The Ruins of the Mircea cel Batran citadel in Turnu Măgurele (II-IV century);
		The History Town Museum in Roșiorii de Vede - profile: history, archaeology, ethnography, numismatics;

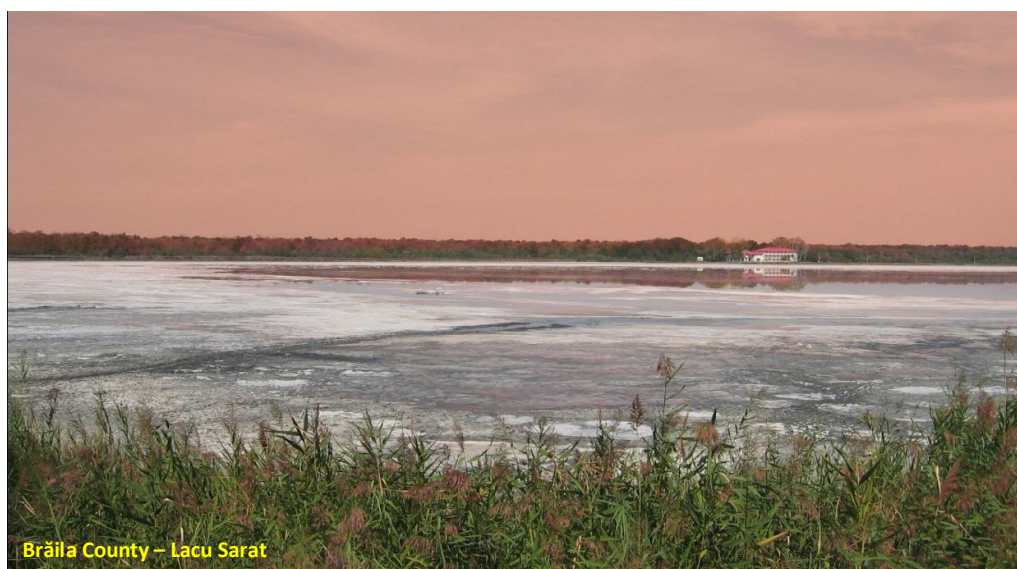
No.	County	Cultural monument
		The La Ziduri Fortified Complex in Tătăraștii de Sus (XVIII century);
		The Marin Preda Memorial House in Siliștea Gumești;
		The Zaharia Stancu Memorial House in Salcia.
12.	Tulcea	The St. Nicolae Orthodox Cathedral in Tulcea (1865);
		The Azzizie Big Mosque in Tulcea (1924);
		The Eco-museum Research Institute in Tulcea – includes: the Popular art and ethnography museum, the History and archaeology museum, the Art museum, the ‘Delta Dunării’ Nature Sciences Museum;
		The Celik-Dere Monastery in Slava Cercheză (1841-1844);
		The Vovidenia Monastery in Slava Cercheză (XVII century);
		The Cocoș Monastery in Niculițel (1833);
		The Sf. Atanasie Church in Niculițel (1833);
		The Dunărea de Jos European Commission Palace in Sulina (1860);
		The Old Far in Sulina (1802);
		The Big Mosque and Tomb of Ali Gaza-Pașa in Babadag (XVI century);
		The Ruins of the Noviodunum Roman Citadel in Isaccea (369 AD);
		The Ruins of the Troesmis Citadel in Turcoaia (IV century BC);
		The Vestiges of the Dinogetia Roman Settlement in Jijila (I century)
13.	Bucharest	The Parliament Palace (1984-1989);
		The Triumph Arch (1935-1936);
		The Romanian Athenaeum (1886-1888);
		The Romanian Academy (XIX century);
		The Cotroceni Palace (1893);
		The Victoria Palace – the Government headquarters (1937-1944);
		The Justice Palace (1890-1895);
		The Senate Palace (1938-1948);
		The Romanian National Bank Palace (1884-1890);
		The CEC Palace (1896-1900);
		The Știrbei Palace (1833-1835);
		The Royal Palace (1928-1937);
		The Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development Ministry Palace (1895-1896);
		The Vorvode Palace or Curtea Veche (XIV century);
		The University Central Library (1895);
		The National library (1910);
		The National Military Circle (1912);

No.	County	Cultural monument
		The Lens-Vernescu House (1820);
		The Dealul Mitropoliei Architecture Complex (1906);
		The "Sf. Iosif" Roman-Catholic Cathedral (1883);
		The Antim Monastery (1713-1715);
		The Plumbuita Monastery (1559-1568);
		The Radu Voda Monastery (1568);
		The Batiștei Church (1764);
		The Bucur Church (XVII century);
		The Colțea Church (1698-1702);
		The Curtea Veche "Buna Vestire" Church (1558-1559);
		The "Sf. Nicolae" One-Day Church (1702);
		The Doamnei Church (1683);
		The Domnița Balașa Church (1881-1885);
		The Kretzulescu Church (1722);
		The Mărcuța Church (1587);
		The Mihai Vodă Church (1594);
		The Negustorii (merchants) "Sf. Nicolae" Church (1726);
		The Russian "Sf. Nicolae" Church (1905-1906);
		The "Sf. Gheorghe Nou" Church (1670);
		The "Sf. Ioan Nou" Church (1766);
		The "Sf. Spiridon Nou" Church (1852-1858);
		The "Sf. Spiridon Vechi" Church (1680);
		The Silvestru Church (1743);
		The Stavropoleos Church (1722-1724);
		The Terul Doamnei Church (1833);
		The Big Synagogue (1849);
		The Jewish Choral Temple (1864-1866);
		The National Theatre (1967-1970);
		Sala Palatului (1959-1960);
		Hanul lui Manuc (Manuc's Inn) (1808);
		The Carul cu Bere Restaurant (1875-1879);
		Moara lui Asan (Asan's mill) (1855);
		The Dissescu House (1910-1912);
		Melik House (1760);
		Casa Presei Libere (1949-1953);
		Casa Scriitorilor (Writers' house) (XIX century);

No.	County	Cultural monument
		<p>The Bucharest University (1857-1869);</p> <p>The Botanical Museum;</p> <p>The Art Collections Museum;</p> <p>The “Prof. Dr. Nicolae Minovici” Popular Art Museum;</p> <p>The “Grigore Antipa” Natural History Museum;</p> <p>The History and Art Museum of the Bucharest Municipality;</p> <p>The George Enescu Museum – profile: memorial, music history;</p> <p>The Romanian Literature Museum – profile: memorial, literature history, library;</p> <p>The National Military museum – profile: history, plastic art, archaeology, science and technique, numismatics, decorative art;</p> <p>The Cotroceni National Museum – profile: decorative art, plastic art, history;</p> <p>The National Art Museum of Romania (national gallery, oriental decorative art halls, Romanian medieval art section, graphics section);</p> <p>The National History Museum of Romania - profile: archaeology, history, numismatics;</p> <p>The Firemen Museum (Foisorul de Foc) – profile: history, science and technique, numismatics, archaeology;</p> <p>The Village Museum – profile: ethnographic;</p> <p>The Romanian Peasant Museum - profile: ethnographic;</p> <p>The Romexpo Exposition Complex;</p> <p>The George Bacovia Memorial House – profile: memorial, literature history;</p> <p>The Tudor Arghezi Memorial House – profile: memorial, literature history.</p>
14.	Ilfov	<p>The Snagov Monastic Complex (XV century);</p> <p>The Țigănești Monastery (1812);</p> <p>The Church of the Former Bălteni Monastery (1626);</p> <p>Lord Ghica’s Palace in Căciulați (XIX century);</p> <p>The Căldărușani Monastery in Gruu (1825);</p> <p>The Cocioac Church in Gruu (1825);</p> <p>The Balamuci Monastery in Balta Neagră (1630-1631);</p> <p>The Mogosoara Palace (1702);</p> <p>Barbu Știrbey’s Palace in Buftea (XIX century);</p> <p>The Samurcășești Monastery in Ciorogârla (1808);</p> <p>The Pasărea Monastery in Brănești (1813);</p> <p>The Cernica Monastery (1608).</p>

List of the tourist resort

No.	County	Resort	Type
1.	Braila	Lacu Sărat (lake)	Spa tourist resort of local interest
2.	Caras Severin	Băile Herculane	Spa tourist resort of national interest
		Crivaia	Climate tourist resort of local interest
		Semenic	Climate tourist resort of local interest
		Trei Ape	Climate tourist resort of local interest
3.	Constanta	Cap Aurora	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Costinești	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Eforie Nord	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Eforie Sud	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Jupiter	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Mamaia	Seaside and climate resort of national interest
		Mangalia	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Neptun-Olimp	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Saturn	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Techirghiol	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
		Venus	Seaside and spa resort of national interest
4.	Ialomita	Amara	Spa tourist resort of national interest
5.	Ilfov	Snagov	Tourist resort of local interest



2.2. Tourist infrastructure

Accommodation

The accommodation represents one of the main infrastructures sustaining the development of the tourism sector, being the most significant element of total tourist expenditure. Tourism accommodation is a sub-sector of the international hospitality industry, being enormously fragmented and diverse (Pender and Sharpley, 2006).

In Romania, large variety of accommodation units is available for tourists, of which some are localized in the counties along the Danube River. The accommodation units are highly diverse in terms of size, style, location, ownership and the type, variety and level of services provided. The types of accommodation identified in the study area are referring to hotel, hotel for youth, hostel, motel, inn, villa, chalet, urban tourist boarding house, rural tourist boarding house, camping, tourist halting place, holiday village, bungalow, schools and pre-school camp, house-let type unit, ships accommodation space, private accommodation (renting room and apartment). From the total of 4,884 accommodation units existing in 2008 in Romania, over 31% were located in Danube riverside counties, including Bucharest – Ilfov (see Table *Accommodation units by types in the analyzed area, in 2008*).

Hotels are the most significant overnight accommodation, 521 units being included in this category. A significant number of villas (397 units), bungalows (212 units) and urban and rural tourist boarding houses (208 units) are located in the analyzed area. The territorial distribution of the accommodation units indicates that the large majority are placed in Constanta County, 65.6% respectively, namely in the seaside resort on the Black Sea Coast. Over 100 accommodation units are localized in Bucharest-Ilfov (230 units), Caras Severin County (119 units) and Tulcea County (107 units) where the tourist attractions (e.g. spring waters, Danube Delta, mountain, historical monuments) supported the development of the sector. These four counties register also heterogeneity in the forms of accommodation. The smallest number of tourist accommodation is in Calarasi (8), Olt (9), Teleorman (9).

The size and diversity of the accommodation offer is not necessarily related to the Danube River and the large majority of these units being localized in county towns, the main pole of tourism attraction along with the tourism resorts.

The total number of bed-places in the analyzed region is 162,713 representing almost 50% of the total accommodation capacity existing in Romania, over 74.5% being in Constanta County. The large concentration chain of resorts (Mamaia, Eforie Nord, Eforie Sud, Techirgol, Costinesti, Olimp, Neptun, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, Mangalia) with high accommodation capacity built before 1990 transforms this region in one of the most important tourism area in the country. The second, third and fourth counties offering important share of bed-places from the total number existing in the analyzed area were, as in the case of accommodation units, Bucharest-Ilfov (11.8%), Caras Severin (4.4%), Tulcea (2.3%). The rest of the counties counter less than 2% of the total accommodation capacity. The statistical data reported two ship accommodation spaces offering 328 bed-places in Giurgiu and four ship accommodation spaces with 72 bed-places in Tulcea.

The occupancy rates indicate a relatively low efficiency of the utilization of the accommodation capacities, below 50%, except for Ialomita County (51%). The second and the third positions in the ranking efficiency of the accommodation capacities were occupied by Braila (48.7%), Constanta (45.3%). The lowest average occupancy rate was in Teleorman (15.5%). The hotels remain the most efficient accommodation type, with occupancy rates in general around 40%, much higher in Caras-Severin (59.3%), Braila (57.6%), Ialomita (53.3%). Ships accommodation spaces in Giurgiu have the high rate of efficiency, the occupancy rate reaching 79.7% (see Table *Occupancy rates in different types of accommodation in the analyzed area, in 2008*).

Table Accommodation units by types in the analyzed area, in 2008

-number-

	Total	Hotels	Hotels for youth	Hostels	Motels	Inns	Villas	Chalets	Hunting / fishing Chalets	Urban tourist boarding houses	Rural tourist boarding houses	Camping	Tourist halting places	Holiday villages	Bungalows	Schools and pre-school camps	Houselet -Type units	Ships accommodation spaces	Private accommodation
Caras Severin	119	19	2	2	5	1	15	7	0	29	24	0	4	0	2	7	1	0	1
Mehedinti	20	5	2	3	2	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dolj	22	7	3	2	3	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olt	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teleorman	9	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Giurgiu	12	2	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Calarasi	8	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ialomita	17	7	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Galati	21	9	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Braila	23	13	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0
Constanta	1021	333	6	6	4	0	315	1	0	43	33	18	0	0	206	12	29	0	15
Tulcea	107	17	0	0	0	1	52	1	0	8	14	1	2	1	1	1	2	4	2
Bucharest	185	89	1	4	0	0	2	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62
Ilfov	45	5	0	0	3	0	6	0	1	4	10	0	2	0	3	5	2	0	4
Bucharest-Ilfov	230	94	1	4	3	0	8	0	1	31	10	0	2	0	3	5	2	0	66
Total	1618	521	14	20	34	3	397	17	1	123	85	20	9	1	212	33	37	6	85

Source: Romanian National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Tourism

Table Bed-places by accommodation types in the analyzed area, in 2008

- number -

	Total	Hotels	Hotels for youth	Hostels	Motels	Inns	Villas	Chalets	Hunting / fishing Chalets	Urban tourist boarding houses	Rural tourist boarding houses	Camping	Tourist halting places	Holiday villages	Bungalows	Schools and pre-school camps	Houselet type units	Ships accommodation spaces	Private accommodation
Caras Severin	7234	4488	62	78	264	16	277	460	0	521	423	0	150	0	30	435	10	0	20
Mehedinti	1243	678	57	200	127	0	34	0	0	113	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Dolj	1290	695	204	64	171	0	98	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olt	507	469	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teleorman	692	529	0	0	8	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135	0	0	0
Giurgiu	809	203	0	32	246	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	328	0
Calarasi	527	283	0	0	202	0	0	0	0	8	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ialomita	2528	2100	0	15	116	0	26	0	0	0	12	34	0	0	0	120	105	0	0
Galati	1552	921	0	33	0	0	109	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	489	0	0	0
Braila	2101	1399	0	0	64	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	84	0	0	416	98	0	0
Constanta	121208	78479	495	288	104	0	7156	40	0	1045	775	18194	0	0	3432	7900	3036	0	264
Tulcea	3806	1485	0	0	0	20	558	8	0	150	253	730	95	74	20	170	151	72	20
Bucharest	17149	16568	29	54	0	0	18	0	0	213	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	267
Ilfov	2067	1205	0	0	84	0	50	0	24	60	138	0	64	0	83	265	82	0	12
<i>Bucharest-Ilfov</i>	<i>19216</i>	<i>17773</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>273</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>265</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>279</i>
Total	162713	109502	847	764	1386	56	8346	508	24	2226	1649	18958	393	74	3565	9930	3482	400	603

Source: Romanian National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Tourism

Table Occupancy rates in different types of accommodation in the analyzed area, in 2008

- % -

	Total	Hotels	Hotels for youth	Hostels	Motels	Inns	Villas	Chalets	Hunting / fishing Chalets	Urban tourist boarding houses	Rural tourist boarding houses	Camping	Tourist halting places	Holiday villages	Bungalows	Schools and pre- school camps	Houselet type units	Ships accommodation spaces
Caras Severin	44.1	59.3	41.3	16.1	30.5	46.3	17.1	10.3	0	21.3	12.1	0	19.1	0	21.2	28.4	0	0
Mehedinti	31.8	38.4	50	24.6	16.2	0	4.3	2.6	0	23.8	11.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dolj	28.5	33.9	11.6	13	35.7	0	22.7	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olt	27.0	27.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teleorman	15.5	14.4	0	0	0	26.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0
Giurgiu	43.6	8.3	0	15.9	37.8	0	0	0	0	9.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79.7
Calarasi	28.3	31.2	0	0	28.1	0	0	0	0	23.5	6.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ialomita	51.0	53.3	0	38.7	22	0	63.6	0	0	0	12.5	22.7	0	0	0	12.6	0	0
Galati	43.3	43.3	0	43.2	0	0	43.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Braila	48.7	57.6	0	0	3.5	0	21.4	0	0	17.9	0	0	23	0	0	9.4	1.9	0
Constanta	45.3	48	37.7	4.8	12	0	39	92	0	33.6	35.3	25.6	0	0	34.9	31.1	27	0
Tulcea	31.5	30.7	0	21.9	0	8.8	45.4	88.7	0	23.6	37.5	7.9	23.3	37.1	0	59.8	79.7	19.3
Bucharest	34.9	34.9	59.1	30.5	0	0	20.3	0	0	28.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ilfov	32.3	36.2	0	0	33.2	0	11.2	0	9.5	31.9	15.8	0	46.4	0	16.3	0	1.5	0
Bucharest- Ilfov	34.6	35	59.1	30.5	33.2	0	13.9	0	9.5	29.2	15.8	0	46.4	0	16.3	0	1.5	0

Source: Romanian National Institute of Statistics

Services offered by the accommodation units

The accommodation units offer beside lodging services other types of services like food facilities in restaurants and other types of units, pool and sauna, halls and sports field, conference rooms, medical treatment halls. An important number of facilities offered is in the accommodation units in Constanta, Caras Severin, Tulcea counties and Bucharest (see *Table Services offered in the accommodation units 2008*). In Caras Severin, especially Baile Herculane resort is the highest number of medical treatment halls (15), followed by Constanta (14) which is offering treatment services in the seaside balneal resorts (e.g. Mangalia, Eforie, Neptun). Over 266 conference rooms are in the hotels and similar establishments, especially in Constanta and the seaside resorts and Bucharest. Over 775 restaurants and similar establishments represent the food and beverage sector of which almost a half are in Constanta County, followed by Caras Severin (88 units) and Bucharest (79 units). For recreational purposes, the guests have also the possibility to enjoy the pools and sauna (224 units) and the halls and sports field (134 units).

Services offered in the accommodation units 2008

Services County	Restaurants and similar	Pool and sauna	Halls and sports field	Conference rooms	Medical treatment halls
Caras Severin	88	30	16	30	15
Mehedinti	17	1	4	11	1
Dolj	20	1	0	6	0
Olt	6	3	0	3	0
Teleorman	8	0	0	0	0
Giurgiu	11	4	0	2	0
Calarasi	6	1	2	3	0
Ialomita	14	4	3	5	3
Galati	16	5	8	6	0
Braila	18	4	2	4	2
Constanta	387	96	35	84	14
Tulcea	83	44	34	49	0
Bucharest	79	23	19	56	6
Ilfov	22	8	11	7	0
Bucharest - Ilfov	101	31	30	63	6
TOTAL	775	224	134	266	41

Source: Romanian National Institute of Statistics

Spas and thermal baths

There are some spas and thermal baths in the envisaged area. The most famous spa is Baile Herculane resort (Caras Severin County) with internationally recognized thermal baths and one of the oldest spas in the world with a length documentary certified over 1848 years since Roman times. Tourists could enjoy recognized thermal baths specially mud baths and warm water from Amara Lake (Ialomita County), Lacul Sarat resort (Braila County), Bala (Mehedinti County). On the Romanian seaside, there are some relatively new resorts specialized in mud treatment such as Saturn, Techirghiol and Mangalia. These combine seaside tourism with medical treatment.

Outside these resorts there are also spa services provided by different accommodation providers or independently units in the mountain resorts of Caras Severin County (Poiana Marului and Muntele Mic), Murighiol locality (Danube Delta), Mamaia resort and Eforie Nord (Constanta County). Also in Bucharest some up-scale hotels provided spa services as well as several independently spa salons (see *Table Operating spas and thermal baths*).

Operating spas and thermal baths

No.	County	Locality	Spas and thermal baths
1.	Braila	Lacu Sarat	Warm baths and mud baths
2.	Caras Severin	Baile Herculane	Spas and thermal baths
		Poiana Marului	Spa (Mili Pension)
		Muntele Mic	Spa (Dor de munte Chalet)
3.	Constanta	Mamaia	Spa (Iaki Hotel)
		Eforie Nord	Spa (Europa Hotel)
		Saturn	Mud treatment
		Techirghiol	Mud treatment
		Mangalia	Mud treatment
4.	Ialomita	Amara	Thermal baths; mud baths and warm water
5.	Mehedinti	Bala	mineral waters
6.	Tulcea	Murighiol	Spa (Morena boarding house)
7.	Bucharest	Bucharest	Spa (Marriott Grand Hotel, Crown Plaza, Hilton, Radisson SAS)

Horseback riding

There are some horseback riding services within accommodation units and six stud-farms where horse-back riding can be practiced. Horseback riding services provided by different private accommodation establishments are in Danube Delta and Baile Herculane resort. Most of the horseback-riding centres (5) are in Ilfov, near Bucharest. According to the National Hipic Authority, there are six stud farms in the analysed area (see Table *Horseback riding*).

Horseback riding

	County	Locality	Horse-back riding
1.	Braila	Ramnicelu	Stud farm
2.	Bucharest-Ilfov	Baneasa	Riding Club Bucharest
		Corbeanca	HipoCan Corbeanca
		Mogosoia	Ecvestra Mogosoia Academy
		Snagov	Asil Horse Farm
		Voluntari	Horseland
3.	Caras Severin	Baile Herculane	Calypso boarding houses
4.	Calarasi	Perisoru	Jegălia Stud farm
		Dor Mărunt	Stud farm
5.	Constanta	Mangalia	Stud farm
6.	Galati	Tulucești	Stud farm
7.	Olt	Slatina	Stud farm
8.	Tulcea	Dunavatu de Jos	Egreta Hotel
		Sfantu Gheorghe	Green Village Complex
		Uzlina	Cormoran Cmplx

Golf

There is only one golf course located in Bucharest at Clubul Diplomatilor (Diplomatic Club) near Herăstrău Lake. In Romania, golf has a tradition of 90 years, continuously maintained at Diplomatic Club in Bucharest and the existence of Romanian Golf Federation.

Golf course

No.	County	Locality	Golf-course
1.	Bucharest	Bucharest	Diplomatic Club

Aqua-parks

There are only three aqua-parks, one located in Mamaia resort being the main attraction of the seaside resort (Constanta County), one in Saturn resort and the other one located in Otopeni town (Ilfov County), at 10 km from Bucharest.

Aqua - parks

No.	County	Locality	Aqua-parks
1.	Constanta	Mamaia	Aqua-park
		Saturn	Aqua-park
2.	Ilfov	Otopeni	Aqua-park

Tourism Information Centres

National Tourist Information and Promotion Centres: These function in the subordination of local and county councils, in collaboration with the Tourism Ministry, which does their accreditation. The centres can sell products and services like: tickets to cultural and sports events, information materials (e.g. maps, town plans, tourist guides, books, video tapes, CD-s, DVD-s, posters, cards, town brochures), souvenirs (e.g. flags, shawls, t-shirts, umbrellas, badges, ceramics objects, traditional art products and others). Inside the centres there must be a mini-stand presenting the art and popular products with local specific, samples of flora, which are representative for the geographic area or promotion materials concerning local specific fauna, flora and gastronomy, as well as other tourist attraction elements with local and regional specific. In the analysed area, there are eight tourist promotion national centres (see *Table Information Centres*).

Visiting Centres and Information Points inside the National and Natural Parks: Inside the protected areas there are visiting centres and information points, with an important role in promoting the information activity, education and awareness concerning the conservation measures of the natural species/habitats in Romania by the public. Generally, a building, which functions as a visiting centre, includes exposition spaces tourist information point, conference hall, park administrative offices and accommodation spaces. In the analysed area, there are three information points, one information and promotion centre of tourism, four information-documentation centres, three information centres and three information and sociologic education centres inside seven national or natural parks (see *Table Information Centres*). Still, they have a limited uniformity of the services offered and a limited program for working with the public. Unfortunately, the quality of the experience and training of employees in the tourist information centres with reference to the communication techniques and specific tourist information techniques is not so high. Still, new visiting centres and information locations could be set up as well as centres that already functioning, through European funds, already mentioned in the management plans of the national and natural parks which do not have such facilities yet.

Information Centres

	County	Location	Type of Information Centre
1.	Caras Severin	Resita	National Tourist Information and Promotion Centre
		Domogled - Valea Cernei National Park / 7 Springs Area	Information Point
		Domogled - Valea Cernei National Park / Baile-Herculane Resort	Visiting Centre
		Cheile Nerei - Beusnita National Park / Sasca Montana Main Village	Information and Promotion Centre of Tourism
		Iron Gates Natural Park / Berzasca	Information - Documentation Centres

		Main Village	
		Iron Gates Natural Park / Moldova Noua Town	Information - Documentation Centres
		Semenic- Cheile Carasului National Park / Comarnic Cave Area	Information Centre
2.	Constanta	Constanta	2 National Tourist Information and Promotion Centres
3.	Galati	Lunca Joasa a Prutului Inferior Natural Park / Galati Municipality	Information Centres
		Lunca Joasa a Prutului Inferior Natural Park / Oancea Main Village	Information Centres
4.	Giurgiu	Comana Natural Park / Comana Main Village	Information Point
5.	Ialomita	Slobozia	National Tourist Information and Promotion Centre
6.	Mehedinti	Iron Gates Natural Park / Drobeta Turnu Severin Municipality	Information-Documentation Centres
		Iron Gates Natural Park / Orsova Town	Information-Documentation Centres
		Dubova Main Village	Information Point
7.	Tulcea	Tulcea	2 National Tourist Information and Promotion Centres
		Sulina	National Tourist Information and Promotion Centre
		Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation / Tulcea Municipality	Information and Sociologic Education Centres
		Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation / , Crisan Main Village	Information and Sociologic Education Centres
		Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation / Sulina Town	Information and Sociologic Education Centres

2.3. Guests

The number of tourists arrived in the analysed area reached around 2,587 thousand persons representing 36.3% of the total tourists accommodated in Romania in 2008 (see *Table Number of tourists and overnights in the analyzed area, in 2008*). The highest number of tourists lodged in Bucharest-Ilfov (40.1%), followed by Constanta (37.8%), Caras Severin (4.0%), Tulcea (3.7%), the ranking being similar as in the case of accommodation capacity. Other counties accounted lower market share in the analysed area: Braila (2.46%), Mehedinti (2.22%), Dolj and Galati (2.21%), Ialomita (2.02%). The other counties registered 29 thousand tourists, representing less than 2% of the tourists arrived in the Danube riverside counties including Bucharest-Ilfov region. Analysing the arrivals' number on the accommodation type, the statistical data indicated that tourists preferred hotels (87.7%), followed by pensions or rural and urban tourist boarding houses (2.38%), camping (2.30%), villas (2.09%).

Regarding the foreign tourists, their number reached 720 thousand persons, the large majority preferring Bucharest-Ilfov region (80.6%) especially for business purposes. Counties like Constanta and Tulcea attracted 9% and 2.4% respectively from the total number of foreign tourists arrived in the analysed area. As an average, from the total number of tourists arrived in the region, 27.9% were foreigners. The counties with the highest percentage of foreign tourists were Bucharest-Ilfov (55.9%), Giurgiu (35.3%), Galati (20.4%). Opposite, the lowest number of foreigners in total arrivals was

counted in Teleorman (3.2%), Caras-Severin (4.8%), Constanta (6.7%).

The total number of overnights in the case study region reached 8,068 thousands nights spent of which almost 1,729 thousands of the foreign tourists. Regarding the overnights, the situation changes in favour of Constanta County (55%), where tourists prefer to stay longer, spending their vacation on the Black Sea. Bucharest-Ilfov counted 27.4% of the overnights, followed by Caras Severin (8.8%), Ialomita (3.8%), Braila (3.6%). The percentages of the overnights in the case of the last three counties is higher than the arrivals because of the balneal resorts existing in each of these counties (Baile Herculane, Lacu Sarat, Amara) where the average stay is higher for treatment reasons. The situation of the foreign overnights is different from the arrivals concerning the percentage in total overnights in the county. Thus, for Giurgiu and Bucuresti-Ilfov, the majority of the overnights were of the foreign tourists, 70.4% and 54.3% respectively. Significant percentages of foreign nights spent as compared with the arrivals were registered in counties like Galati (31.4%), Olt (28.7%), Calarasi (21.5%), Tulcea (18.2%), Dolj (15.3%).

Table Number of tourists and overnights in the analyzed area, in 2008

	Total tourists	Foreign tourists	% Foreign tourists	Total overnights	Foreign overnights	% Foreign overnights
Caras Severin	104,292	4,985	4.8	707,483	15,573	2.2
Mehedinti	57,551	7,624	13.2	148,393	13,113	8.8
Dolj	57,279	8,326	14.5	137,874	21,048	15.3
Olt	17,538	1,652	9.4	43,907	12,608	28.7
Teleorman	19,917	643	3.2	33,361	1,095	3.3
Giurgiu	28,314	10,008	35.3	90,042	63,373	70.4
Calarasi	15,946	2,151	13.5	53,191	11,444	21.5
Ialomita	52,481	4,304	8.2	304,068	7,875	2.6
Galati	57,242	11,685	20.4	141,391	44,358	31.4
Braila	63,600	6,173	9.7	292,635	14,571	5.0
Constanta	977,975	65,052	6.7	4,435,702	289,978	6.5
Tulcea	96,334	17,440	18.1	175,000	31,906	18.2
Bucharest	952,336	546,272	57.4	2,012,173	1,116,572	55.5
Ilfov	85,825	34,350	40.0	200,719	85,020	42.4
Bucharest-Ilfov	1,038,161	580,622	55.9	2,212,892	1,201,592	54.3
Total	2,586,630	720,665	27.9	8,068,456	1,728,534	21.4

Source: Romanian National Institute of Statistics