

Landscape Diversity and Tourist-Recreational Potential of the Upper Svaneti Region (on the Example of Svaneti National Park)

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In recent times, physical-geographical (landscape) research has acquired great importance for the purpose of organizing tourism and recreation. A new direction in geographical science has been created - recreational geography, the object of research of which is recreational systems, with closely interacting subsystems: vacationers (recreationists), natural-territorial complexes, technical systems, service personnel.

The main goal of the master's thesis is to assess the landscape diversity and tourist-recreational potential of Upper Svaneti, one of the regions of Georgia distinguished by its natural conditions (using the example of the Svaneti National Park), which is a very relevant problem of modern geography. Naturally, the relevance of the problem is not accidental, since a significant part of people have an average of 100-120 days of free time per year, and its number (in the conditions of modern technologies) is gradually increasing. At the same time, uncomfortable conditions are increasing day by day (especially in large cities), such as traffic noise, air pollution, information overload, etc. All this pushes a person to seek comfort and peace (at least temporarily) in the bosom of nature. It should also be noted that constant proximity and interaction with one's native environment, historical and architectural monuments, and ethnographic objects awakens a sense of patriotism in a person (especially a young person), shapes a person's positive moral qualities, etc.

Although the country's natural and climatic conditions, historical prerequisites for the development of territories, their level of industrial development, tourism development potential, and tourism specialization of regions are different, overall, the tourism industry contributes to increasing the efficiency of the functioning of the existing material and technical base of the tourism and recreation complex, creating jobs in the service sector, and increasing state and local budget revenues.