
TEORETYCZNE ASPEKTY TURYSTYKI

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SOME REMARKS ON THE PROCESS OF FORMATION OF THE TOURISM REGION THEORY

KILKA UWAG NA TEMAT PROCESU FORMOWANIA SIĘ TEORII REGIONU TURYSTYCZNEGO

Introduction

The language of every academic discipline contains usually one or a few key concepts which not only support its tradition and scientific unity but also contribute to its image formation. In the case of geography such a concept is that of a region. Owing in large measure to this, geography is identified as a distinct and independent research field, but what is more important, the region is one of a few concepts geographers are credited among many natural and social sciences for introducing it to the body of overall scientific knowledge.

The region was the first scientific concept used in geography. Its idea paralleled a long process of the discipline development. At the beginning, geography presented one homogeneous research field which over the course of time disintegrated into specialized branches that in turn split into their next parts. As the first, human geography, physical geography and regional geography emerged presenting three main academic disciplines, and then, within each of them more systematic branches appeared. Within the field of human geography, for example, together with other research fields, tourism geography emerged. The first theoretical idea which was successfully applied both within the three main disciplines and within their newly rising branches was the idea of geographical region.

A wide application of the idea was the main reason for the development of its theory. This, in turn, emerged gradually as a consequence of the process of generalization of the results and facts which were gathered within the fields of specialized studies. Soon, as the theory of geographical region crystallized, systematic geographies started to borrow its main assumptions from it to build their own theories. This was also the way in which the theory of tourism region came into being. To understand however the process of its

formation, the theory of geographical region is discussed in the first part of the paper, and then, in its second part, the theory of tourism region is described.

The theory of geographical region

As it was mentioned above, the theory of geographical region developed gradually. There were two main stages to be distinguished in the process of this development: the stage of classification or regionalization, and then, that of the theory formation.

Classification is fundamental to the advance of any science, and generally is used in an early stage of a discipline development. In human geography, as a result of the procedure of classification, the earth's surface was divided into spatial classes which were referred to as regions, and this was the main reason to name the procedure as that of regionalization. This procedure was fully described in another paper by the author¹, and so there is no need to recall its details again. To close the problem, we will just remind that the procedure of regionalization was based on a subjectively defined set of properties, and gave rise to the situation where the regions obtained had a symbolic character. This was true of the two basic types of regions obtained through the regionalization procedure: a uniform region and a functional region. As to the uniform region, its whole area was homogenous with regard to the presence of a particular feature or features (characteristics) in all its places. Functional region was the area in which its places were connected not so much by their similarity, as through functional bonds between them².

After the concept of both types of region (the uniform region and functional one) was introduced into human geography the problem arose of how to reconcile these two different concepts to describe and explain spatial differentiation of the earth's surface. The only way to do this was to define an integrative theoretical framework supporting both concepts with clear arguments for the research situations in which they can be used. This common theoretical background appeared as the response to the hot dispute on the diversity of regions identified by geographers and the problem of their character and mutual relations. In order to cope with the problem the theory of the geographical region was introduced.

The body of the theory of the geographical region was derived from the concept of a geographical space. This was a mental projection or a simplified representation of a real geographical space. The geographical space was composed of (1) a set of empirical objects, that is the objects that can be subject to empirical investigation, selected from among real objects in agreement with a specific, preconceived goal, (2) the time interval within which they exist, and (3) the set of attributes, represented by variables, characterizing the objects, describing their territorial location and spatial separation as well as

¹ L. Mazurkiewicz, *About two concepts of tourism region*, "Zeszyty Naukowe WSTiJO w Warszawie. Turystyka i Rekreacja" 2020, z. 25 (1), pp. 73–85.

² Z. Chojnicki, *Region w ujęciu geograficzno-systemowym*, [in:] *Podstawy regionalizacji geograficznej*, red. T. Czyż, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Bogucki, Poznań 1999, pp. 7–44.

mutual relationships among them. In other words, the geographical space was a spatial set presenting the simplified reflection or representation of a real geographical space³.

According to the theory of geographical region there was virtually an endless number of geographical spaces related to or representing the real geographical space⁴. Their simplest forms were elementary or homogeneous geographical spaces composed of empirical objects of the same kind, for example, of humans, houses, services outlets, transport infrastructure, factories, landforms, vegetation, soils, crops, and so on. On the basis of the concept of elementary geographical space the concept of general geographical space was derived. This was defined as the space consisted of all possible overlapping and closely intertwined elementary geographical spaces.

Within the general geographical space, various geographical subspaces could be distinguished. A geographical subspace was defined as every combination of elementary geographical spaces entering into the composition of the general geographical space.

Geographical region can be defined as a distinctive fragment of the general geographical space and interpreted in terms of the latter as⁵:

- a fragment of a larger spatial set presented by the (general) geographical space,
- a space itself, having the form of a spatial set composed of smaller spatial units (elementary places) within which the relations of both spatial and non-spatial nature among objects were explicitly defined,
- the relations typical of the region as well as its distinct properties were not characteristic of the rest of the objects of the geographical space; in terms of these relations and properties, the region presented a spatial set with a specific extent of closure,
- not entirely closed, in terms of their inner relations and distinct properties, regions may interpenetrate or overlap, at least to some degree, but at the same time any region included no fragments of the geographical space.

According to the above definition, a region may be understood as a cross-section either through all elementary space of which the general geographical space was composed or through the elementary spaces of which a geographical subspace was constituted.

The theory of geographical region turned out to be a proper theoretical framework to integrate the assumptions and major issues of both the concept of the uniform region and that of functional region, and enabled to describe the complicated appearance of the earth's surface which was the main interest of human geographers.

Using the concept of the uniform region, the process of description started with the specification of elementary places, then the phenomena presenting their content were characterized in terms of their properties which were in turn used as the criterion to select and then combine similar places to obtain uniform regions. With regard to the concept of functional region the procedure of regionalization started similarly with the specification of elementary places which might be often the same as in case of the previous approach.

³ K. Dziewoński, *Teoria regionu ekonomicznego*, "Przegląd Geograficzny" 1967, t. 39, z. 1, pp. 33–48.

⁴ Ibidem.

⁵ Ibidem.

The next step was however different. Elementary places were analyzed from the point of view of functional ties among them which took the form of flows of movement (of people, commodities and services) or spatial interactions. There was a specific spatial pattern of this interaction. They were not distributed evenly over the territory of the region, but were subordinated to one or several central points. The network of interaction within a region had a characteristic order which consisted in centering spatial relations on particular nodes. These, together with the territory connected with them through the interaction constituted a functional region. Thus a region might have at the same time both a uniform character when a selection of attributes was taken into account, for example its vegetation, types of agriculture and cultural heritage, and a functional character when another set of attributes was taken into consideration, for example types of economic and social activities performed in elementary places.

The theory of tourism region

The theory of tourism region emerged after the geography of tourism started to exist as a research field within human geography. Its emergence was a gradual process as the tourism geographers expanded the range of their interest and gathered appropriate empirical material. In order to give a proper presentation of how the theory appeared and expanded it is reasonable to begin with the presentation of the concepts that were first introduced and show how they were transformed into the theory of tourism region.

Tourism geography appeared as a reaction to the all-embracing process of mass tourism development, which started in the middle of the previous century. The process found its reflection within a geographical environment, where spatial structures appeared related to the new phenomenon. Attractive places presenting high natural and cultural assets, filled with hotels, restaurants, swimming pools, pubs, entertainment facilities and other elements of tourism infrastructure. These new man-made objects not only overlapped the hitherto existing ones but also exerted strong impact on the natural environment making the appearance of the earth's surface more and more complex. The major purpose of tourism geography was then to describe and explain how tourism phenomena were distributed within geographical space, and how this distribution reflected the complex and different nature of this space.

In order to describe and explain the complicated mosaic of tourism phenomena against a background of the geographical space, tourism geographers applied the methods which did not differ much in its essence from those used earlier by other human geographers investing different patterns of human life and activity in their natural and social surroundings. This was the same method of regionalization which enabled to introduce an order into the complex mosaics of phenomena on the earth's surface. The process of evolution of the regionalization method as applied to tourism phenomena was in fact similar to that in other branches of human geography. As the first, the uniform approach was developed.

Tourism region as a uniform entity

According to it, the complex picture of areal differentiation of the tourism phenomena was generalized by combining small elementary places presenting similar tourism content, into larger areas (tourism regions) homogeneous in terms of total combination of this content in each place. As the content, such elements of the physical environment were first considered as landforms, vegetation, climate, water system, although cultural elements were also taken into account being presented by objects of the cultural heritage.

Such approach was used at the beginning of the process of the tourism geography formation. The peculiarity of the tourism regionalization then pursued was that (1) not all elements of both physical and cultural character were treated as the criteria of delimitation, but only those having tourism nature, (2) tourism assets (attractions) of physical character presented a decisive criterion in the procedure of regionalization. This found its expression in the way tourism region was defined. The first definitions were more general and emphasized the role of tourism attractions as a whole. According to one of them "tourism region is an area of high tourism attractions which attract the trips made by tourists"⁶. Subsequent definitions pointed out the significance of physical components: "tourism regions are larger areas presenting an identical type of natural environment"⁷.

The above mentioned approach, where tourism attractions of physical character were mostly used as criteria in the procedure of regionalization was over the course of time completed by another approach. It was based on the concept of a tourism landscape and therefore the regions that were delimited were referred to as landscape regions. The concept of tourism landscape was derived directly from the concept of cultural landscape, and indirectly from that of a natural landscape. The landscape can be defined as "a portion of land or territory which an eye can comprehend in a single view, including all the objects so seen, especially in its pictorial aspect"⁸. A natural landscape was such a portion or fragment of the earth's surface where the objects within the range of vision presented primarily physical, virgin nature. Geographers imposed, however, an additional requirement on the definition, according to which, the objects constituting a landscape should present a spatial unity of a particular character on account of their external appearance, and this unity had its borders where the landscape ceased to exist, changing its character into the landscape of another, different nature.

As time passed, the natural landscape was as a rule filled by people and gradually changed into a cultural landscape under the influence of complex interactions between a human group – with its own practices, preferences, values and aspirations – and the environment of the natural landscape. The cultural landscape was defined as "an area

⁶ M. I. Mileska, *Regiony turystyczne Polski. Stan obecny i potencjalne warunki rozwoju*, Prace Geograficzne, Instytut Geografii PAN, Warszawa 1963.

⁷ T. Lijewski, B. Mikułowski, J. Wyrzykowski, *Geografia turystyki Polski*, PWE, Warszawa 2002.

⁸ M. Mikesell, *Landscape*, [in:] *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, ed. D. L. Sills, vol. 8, New York 1968, pp. 575–580.

made up of a distinct association of forms both physical and cultural⁹. This was interpreted as a visible unity related to a fragment of the earth's surface, homogeneous in respect of cultural characteristics within which material objects of cultural heritage were linked into one whole with natural forms of physical environment and depended one on another. Cultural landscape was eventually the result of human activity, at the same time however, the form and character of cultural objects were in large measure the reflection of the conditions of the natural environment.

On the basis of the concept of cultural landscape the concept of a tourism landscape was derived. There were two basic interpretations of the tourism landscape: an objective interpretation and a subjective one. According to the former, the tourism landscape was a fragment of the earth's surface distinguished from surrounding area with regard to the tourism values characteristic of the specific combinations of different forms of animate and inanimate nature as well as visible objects of human material culture.

In a subjective sense, the tourism landscape was the reflection of the landscape that existed objectively within the consciousness of an individual observer. It was thus a mental picture where to the specific values characteristic of the objective landscape, an aesthetic, emotional and cognitive meaning (values) were ascribed by tourists. The significance of this meaning (the extent of values) decided about the degree of attractiveness of tourism landscape.

The concept of tourism landscape was soon applied to the procedure of regionalization. The procedure resembled the uniform approach mentioned earlier when small, elementary places similar with regard to their tourism content, were combined into larger homogeneous regions. This content was then defined very broadly with a particular emphasis put on the physical elements of natural environment. In the landscape approach, on the other hand, not so much physical as cultural aspects were taken primarily into account. A visible landscape played the same role as an elementary place, and a tourism region was defined as an area of the occurrence of the tourism landscape of identical or similar appearance (character).

Uniform tourism regions such as above lacked, however, one important component without which the tourism attractions could hardly be consumed (in terms of visual consumption). This element was the tourism infrastructure, that is the transport facilities enabling tourists to come to a region and to move around, accommodation facilities like hotels, motels, B&Bs, catering facilities, recreation, sport, entertainment facilities as well as different services all these making the staying pleasant, comfortable and useful. The infrastructure not only made it easier to access a region, enabling tourists to be in contact and consume region's tourism attractions but at the same time it constituted an important component of the regional structure. This structure was thus composed of two kinds of elements and relations among them: (1) elementary places (landscapes) uniform in respect

⁹ C. O. Sauer, *The Morphology of Landscape*, The University of California Publications in Geography, Berkeley 1925, pp. 19–54.

of tourism content, and more precisely, of tourism attractions localized there, and the relation of spatial proximity among places (landscapes) securing the spatial coherence of the whole set, and (2) the subset of places where tourism infrastructure was concentrated to satisfy the tourists' accommodation needs as well as the system of spatial interactions among them and other places in the form of flows of trips made by tourists during their staying in the region, and the flows of services of various kinds following tourists.

Tourism region as a functional and dynamic entity

Thus, tourism region possessed a dual nature. It had a uniform character presented by places (landscapes) similar in their external appearance, and at the same time, it had a nodal nature resulting from a spatial organization of both a tourism infrastructure and tourists' behavior. The uniform and nodal aspects presented the two sides of the same regional homogeneity. On the one hand, tourism region was homogeneous within the limits defined by the criteria of delimitation being applied, and on the other hand, it was homogeneous in respect to its spatial organization. This dual nature found its expression in defining a tourism region. "As a tourism region one can consider an area performing a tourism function on the ground of both the homogeneity of its natural environment and the internal set of spatial interaction of service nature"¹⁰.

At the time, when the concept of tourism region was formulated within the geography of tourism, there already existed the theory of geographical region (where a region was interpreted as a cross-section through elementary space of either the geographical space or its subspace) widely accepted and applied in the science of geography. This was soon adopted for the needs of tourism geography to give more sound theoretical background to the concept of a tourism region. The first step to adopt the concept, was to define the concept of a tourism space, which could play the same, analogical role as the concept of geographical space did in the theory of geographical region.

Tourism space was defined as a fragment (subspace) of the (general) geographical space. "Tourism space is a functionally distinct subspace within the geographical space, the latter being understood in a wide sense (*sensu largo*), that is as a space which is composed of natural elements of the earth's surface (a natural environment) and man-made material objects within which human activity of economic character (an economic environment) and of social character (a social environment) take place. [...] The space defined like this [...] is identified on the basis of functional premises only. This means that every geographical subspace within which a tourism activity is developed can be treated as a tourism space"¹¹.

As before, when a geographical region was described using the concept of geographical space, a tourism region was analogically defined in terms of the concept of a tourism space.

¹⁰ J. Warszyńska, A. Jackowski, *Podstawy geografii turystyki*, PWN, Warszawa 1978.

¹¹ S. Liszewski, *Przestrzeń turystyczna*, "Turyzm" 1995, t. 5, nr 2, pp. 87–103. See also: idem, *Przestrzeń turystyczna miasta*, "Turyzm" 1999, t. 9, nr 1, pp. 52–53.

It was defined as a spatial subset within a larger set, which was the tourism space. As such, tourism region was a space itself composed of smaller spatial units (tourism landscapes) among which spatial relations were explicitly defined in the form of the flows of travelling tourists and the flows of products and services to satisfy their needs. The tourism properties of both the landscapes and spatial relations were typical only to the region, and at the same time were not characteristic of the rest of the landscapes of tourism space. In terms of these properties and relations, a region presented a spatial set with a specific extent of closure. When not entirely closed in terms of their inner relations and distinct properties, tourism regions might interpenetrate or overlap at least to some degree, but at the same time, some fragments of tourism space were not included by any region.

According to what is explained above, the tourism region could in fact be interpreted as a cross-section through all elementary geographical spaces within which a tourism activity developed. This means nothing more than tourism regions existed where the flows of tourists movement found their ends¹². Since tourism regions could be distinguished on the basis of such concrete phenomenon as tourist flows of trips, a fundamental question raised whether tourism regions were, as it was mostly assumed, merely subjective, mental constructs, or rather they existed as concrete, real world objects? The latter point of view was shared certainly by those who pursued the functional approach. According to them, the homogeneity of geographical space should not be the main, decisive characteristic of tourism region. More important (significant) were another two characteristics: (1) a spatial contiguity of a region and (2) its functional cohesion based on internal links in the form of tourism movement. The latter played in fact a decisive role to identify tourism regions, and therefore, a tourism region was defined as a part of the general geographical space where tourism movement was concentrated¹³.

Tourism region formulated in such a functional vein lacked, however, some aspects so characteristic for a uniform approach. There was, first of all, neither physical (natural) nor cultural content taken into account nor tourism land use considered. Their existence was replaced by the assumption that tourists knew where to move and moved to places which attracted them by the values characteristic of their overall content and infrastructure. Thus, to define a tourism region, the most important was to know or to assess the size (scale) of tourism movement, its structure, intensity, range and seasonality. As a result, this made it possible to define the size of a region, its spatial and functional cohesiveness as well as its hierarchical rank within the broader regional structure. Perhaps the most peculiar characteristic of tourism region defined in such a way was its seasonality, the phenomenon which consisted in a cyclical emerging and disappearing tourism function and in consequence, emerging and disappearing the region itself¹⁴.

Presumably the most important achievement of the functional approach was to consider a tourism region as a dynamic entity. This became possible when a theory was formulated

¹² S. Liszewski, *Region turystyczny*, "Turyzm" 2003, t. 13, nr 1, pp. 43–54.

¹³ Ibidem, pp. 43–54.

¹⁴ S. Liszewski, *Przestrzeń turystyczna miasta...*, op. cit. (1999), pp. 52–53.

describing the process of changes to which every tourism area was subject¹⁵. The basic idea of the theory, referred to as the tourism area lifecycle theory, was borrowed from the concept of a product lifecycle, which was then widely used in economy. The concept assumed that products went in their markets through various stages of development ending finally in the stage of decline. There were four such stages: the stage when a product was introduced to a market, the stage of growth marked by the process of increasing the number of customers buying the product, the stage of maturity when the market was saturated by the product and the stage of decline when the number of purchases of the product diminished. Since a tourism destination could also be considered as a product that was developed and marketed, it should also proceed through stages similar to those above mentioned ending its market life by a decline in the arrivals of tourists.

Five stages have been distinguished in the tourism area lifecycle theory. These are the stages of exploration, involvement, development, consolidation and stagnation. In the stage of exploration, a destination is visited by merely a few tourists. There are simple and poor amenities to fulfill tourists' needs and wants, and a natural environment is clear and unspoiled. Local communities are not familiar with tourism and their social and economic structures are undisturbed by the influence of guests from outside. In the stage of involvement, the number of tourists arriving to the destination area increases and the local community starts to involve (engage) in tourism. Tourist facilities are built and more and more local people are employed in tourism industry. In the development stage, tourist amenities in the destination are developed which stimulate a larger number of tourists to arrive. In the consolidation stage, the volume of tourist is still growing but at a declining rate, and tourism becomes an important branch of local economy. At the stage of stagnation, the highest number of tourists come to the destination area. The area starts to be overcrowded, no longer fashionable and there appear problems with environment, cultural and everyday life of local people¹⁶.

The tourism area lifecycle theory is applied mainly to rather small and homogeneous areas like tourism resorts for example. At the same time larger areas are not susceptible to use the theory. The reason is a more complicated nature of their structure, considerably diversified in the type and degree of tourism development. Such areas are composed of different places, which present distinct character in terms of the level to which tourism activity is developed, or in other words, as to the stage of their lifecycle. In order to overcome this complexity, all places presenting the same degree of tourism function development, or the same stage of their lifecycle, present a fragment of tourism space being at a particular stage of its lifecycle. Such a point of view permits to see tourism space in its dynamic context. This dynamism manifests in the form of its evolution in time.

The process of the evolution of tourism space resembles that of the evolution of tourism destination area. This is composed of five stages each one having its own name. There are

¹⁵ R. W. Butler, *The concept of a tourism area cycle of evolution: implications for the management of resources*, "The Canadian Geographer" 1980, vol. 24 (1), pp. 5–12.

¹⁶ Ibidem.

the stage of exploration, penetration, assimilation, colonization and urbanization. Within each stage, tourism space assumes a different form which is named by the name of the stage. There are thus tourism exploration space, tourism penetration space, tourism assimilation space, tourism colonization space, and tourism urbanization space distinguished¹⁷.

The space of exploration is formed on the basis of a potential tourism space which the only one possessing all suitable natural and cultural conditions to attract tourists but being untouched by them yet. The exploration space starts to exist when tourists visit the potential tourism space. These are either individual or small groups of adventurers, explores and nature observers. Sometimes these are painters or writers looking for new, unknown places to find inspiration. All they discover the first places within the space stimulating the later tourism movement. This tourism is relatively small at the beginning, and the existing facilities, mainly in the form of what local people offer, are sufficient for tourists to fulfill their needs during their stay there. As a result, no permanent investment is made in a tourism infrastructure and rather small ecological impact exerted by tourists left natural environment untouched and unspoiled. Local people, unfamiliar with tourism, took on, in the face of its little environmental and social impact, rather positive attitude to tourists as well as their presence and behavior¹⁸.

When the space of exploration appears to be an attractive tourism destination, the number of tourists coming there starts to develop. The process begins of transforming the space of exploration into that of penetration. Arrivals have mainly the form of either sightseeing tours to learn tourism assets of both natural and anthropogenic nature or of short leisure time. The time spent on staying is however not long and some tourists do not even stay overnight. Most trips take no more than two or three days during the weekend. The first tourist facilities appear to satisfy tourists' needs. These are mainly very modest amenities but their influence, together with that made by the rising number of tourists, on a natural environment as well as social situation of local people turns sometimes out to be rather uncomfortable although not harmful yet¹⁹.

By reason of its still attractive natural and anthropogenic environment as well as not yet overload environmental capacity, the number of tourists visiting the space of penetration is growing. The most characteristic of this process is extending the time of stay and changing a purpose of visit. Trips are made for much longer than weekend and take, as a rule, a week or more. Their purpose is not only to rest in an unspoiled, picturesque rural (countryside) surroundings but first of all, to assimilate with local people. Tourists get in touch with them, take advantage from services they offer, try to understand and assimilate their customs and culture, adapt to the way people live in their setting.

The space of penetration changes into the space of assimilation. The most visible sign of this transformation is the adaptation of local homesteads to a form suitable to

¹⁷ S. Liszewski, *Przestrzeń turystyczna...*, op. cit. (1995), pp. 87–103, and: idem, *Przestrzeń turystyczna miasta...*, op. cit. (1999), pp. 52–53.

¹⁸ S. Liszewski, *Przestrzeń turystyczna...*, op. cit. (1995), pp. 87–103.

¹⁹ Ibidem.

entertain tourists. The homesteads are extended gaining a better, more aesthetic external appearance. The prevailing form of tourism is agrotourism. This is environmentally safe activity and as a result, the capacity of natural environment is not exceeded and the relations with the local community are not disturbed²⁰.

With time passing, the space of assimilation is visited by a growing number of tourists. What attract them is still a clean and not overloaded environment and friendly people. The number of tourists coming is however much larger than previously and this has its consequence in expanding tourism infrastructure. This is the main reason of transforming the space of assimilation into that of colonization. The transformation has the form of the process of permanent occupation and development of land and changing its use by tourism and leisure facilities. In Poland, the space of colonization has taken two forms. On the one hand, it has been made up of large objects such as hotels, holiday homes and holiday centers established with a full base service covering usually large areas that have assumed mainly recreational character, while on the other hand, it has been composed of second homes localized in suburban surroundings, where good conditions for recreation exist. The space of colonization has become a strange structure within the current landscape, not only by reason of its spatial scale but also of the rate of its growing and irreparable changes made in the local natural and socio-cultural environment²¹.

The last stage in the process of the tourism space evolution takes the form of the space of urbanization. This starts to exist when the tourists visiting the space of colonization decide to leave their urban setting and settle in the places of their current vacation. Thus, the process of the tourism urbanization takes place when city dwellers leave their homes and settle in the country usually near large urban areas. In practice, this process ceases tourism activity within a destination area²².

The concept of tourism space evolution facilitates describing the dynamics of a tourism region, as different tourism spaces, of which the region is composed, present different stages of their evolution. Each space develops in its own way according to the evolution mechanism which pushes it to move to next stages. At the same time, a territorial range of each space changes. In order to describe the dynamics of tourism region, both the stage of evolution presented by each space as well as its territorial range are to be recorded in subsequent points of time.

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²⁰ Ibidem.

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²² Ibidem.

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Streszczenie

Celem artykułu jest przedstawienie teorii regionu turystycznego z punktu widzenia procesu jej formowania. Pojawiła się ona nie jako niezależne, intelektualne przedsięwzięcie, ale wyprowadzona została z szerszego, teoretycznego założenia, jakim jest teoria regionu geograficznego. W tekście omówiono najpierw tę ostatnią jako niezbędną podstawę poznawczą dla zrozumienia, w jaki sposób kształtowała się teoria regionu turystycznego, a następnie przedstawiono jej osiągnięcia, w szczególności proces ewolucji regionu.

Słowa kluczowe: region geograficzny, przestrzeń turystyczna, region turystyczny, krajobraz turystyczny

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to present the theory of the tourism region from the point of view of the process of its formation. The theory has not emerged as an independent intellectual product. Instead, it has been derived from a wider theoretical context which was the theory of geographical region. In order to understand how the theory of tourism region has been developed, the theory of geographical region is first presented and then that of tourism region is discussed.

Keywords: geographical region, tourism space, tourism region, tourism landscape

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