

ROMANIA-THE LAND OF MYSTERY

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Abstract

In this paper we want to capture the unseen part of Romanian tourism. The haunted places that we are going to talk about, were less publicized and placed in tourist routes, they dating since 13th century. These places belong to the natural environment (forests, hills, ponds) and constructions (castles, monasteries, hotels etc). Due to less developed infrastructure, the Romanian tourism suffers, occupying a slacker place between tourist countries in Europe. Bran Castle is the most visited haunted place in Romania stepping his threshold in 2014 over 560.000 tourists, of which 60% are foreigners. At the opposite is Fire Tower from Bucharest; this museum having no part of so many visitors. However, through this presentations we wish to draw the attention to the willing persons who want to discover something new. In conclusion at this chapter, Romania can be considered a rival. The method by which we want to make known this tourist route is by a StoryMap from ArcGIS Online (www.arcgis.com). In this StoryMap you will find information about address, directions, photos and a short history.

Key words: tourism, Romania, haunted places

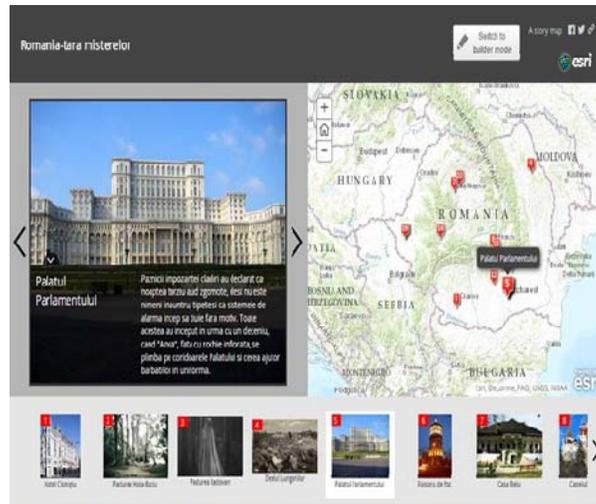
INTRODUCTION

Tourism is an important factor for the development of the country and for people who like adventure. The tourist trail of haunted places in Romania we propose aims to inform and highlighting this places. Who can say that he does not like mysteries? And especially when it comes to places haunted by ghosts, mysterious appearances. Romania has numerous locations. Haunted places caught, always the imagination of all, because of the mystery surrounding them. Often, to attract tourists, castles are advertised as frightening places, with a dark history, from lost prisoners to enemies impaled and ghosts who walk freely in the corridors. Regarding tourism, in 2014 the number of foreigners is

estimated at 1.6 million, they spending in our country up to 755 million euros (0.6% PIB). In Tourism report of European Commission "Trends and Perspectives", in the second quarter of 2014 Romania ranks 10/23 countries in terms of increasing the number of tourist arrivals from Europe.

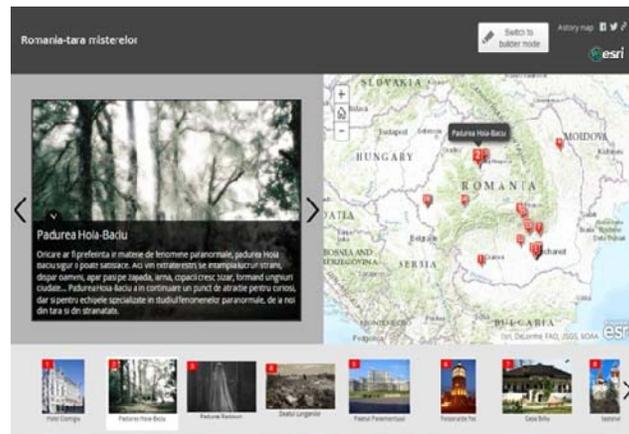
MATERIALS AND METHODS

Story maps use geography as a means of organizing and presenting information. They tell the story of a place, event, issue, trend, or pattern in a geographic context. They combine interactive maps with other rich content - text, photos, video, and audio - within user experiences that are basic and intuitive.



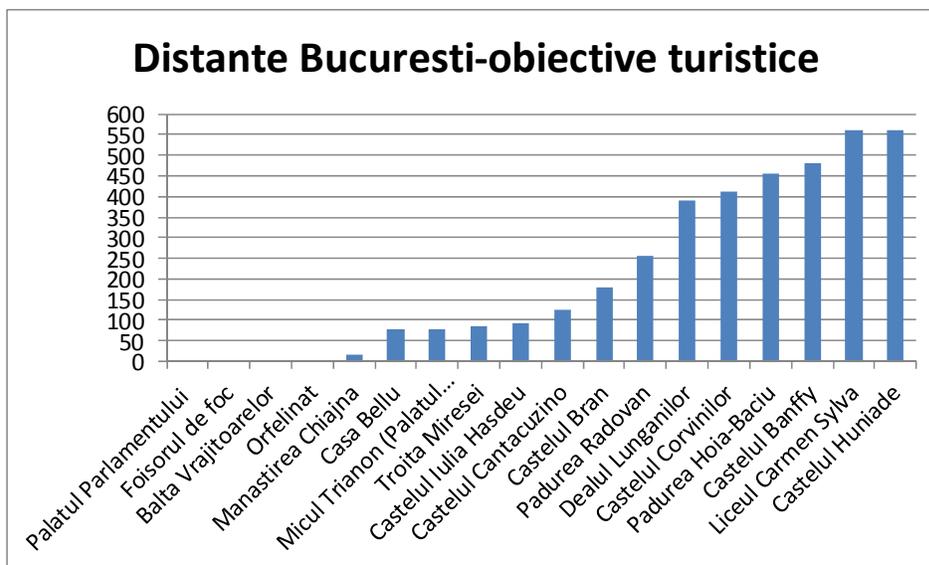
For the most part, story maps are designed for general, non-technical audiences. Many story maps are aimed at everyone, that is, anyone with access to the Internet and a curiosity about the world. However, story maps can

also serve highly specialized audiences. They can summarize issues for managers and decision makers. They can help departments or teams within organizations to communicate with their colleagues.



Although story maps can incorporate analytical tasks, they are not intended to do the heavy lifting of geographic information systems. They use the tools of GIS, and often present the results of spatial analysis, but don't require their users to have any special knowledge or skills in GIS. Story maps use interactive web maps created with ArcGIS Online, Esri's cloud-based mapping and GIS

system. ArcGIS web maps let you combine your own data, including spreadsheets and GIS data, with authoritative content and thematic maps from Esri and the GIS community, on top of our beautiful basemaps. The web maps support visualization, queries, analytics, and pop-ups for map features with rich content including photos and graphs.



Bran Castle has made this year a total of over 490,000 visitors, according to estimates by Alexander Priscu Director's castle. He told MEDIAFAX that in the period from January to November, Bran Castle had a total of 477,004 tickets by paying; the estimate for December being 17,290 visitors. Parliament House was visited last year by 141,000 tourists, of which 80% were foreigners. Out of curiosity visits were received in 2011 more than 500,000 euros, according to Romania Libera. Tourists pay for a tour of the largest office buildings in the world large amounts of between 25 and 40 lei. According to information provided by the General Secretariat of the Chamber of Deputies, 2,276,322.12 lei institution earned from tourism last year, and most of the guests are Japanese, Americans, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and Israelis.

One of the architectural treasures of Romania, Bánffy Castle (Bontida) called once Transylvanian Versailles is bypassed by tourists. The foundation which manage the palace one day allowed free visit of the complex, but very few have shown interest Cluj offer. In three hours of opening the castle, only five people visited the former noble residence. Over 200,000 tourists visited Corvin Castle (Hunedoara) in the first nine months of 2014, 40% more than the same period in 2013, the castle museum director Constantin Sorin T inca, saying it would need investment of about 60 million. "The number

of visitors is growing at Corvin Castle, percentage, compared to last year, 40 percent more. The exact figures, in July-August, peak season, we had 107,000 tourists, and in August we recorded 3,200 tourists a day. Without October, there are 205,000, "said Tinca.

CONCLUSIONS

Romania holds many haunted places waiting to be discovered so by the Romanian tourists and foreigners. Unlike last century they began to be much visited by tourists, especially foreign ones.

With the application that we realized we want to make known these places, to draw the attention of all fascinated people of mystery. Also we will provide the access routes to get there.

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