

Congress and fair tourism of Slovakia – its quantification, spatial differentiation, and classification

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Congress and fair tourism are two of the most profiting types of tourism from the perspective of economic benefits. According to the research in the field of tourism, they are part of meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) tourism. Developed countries with developed tourism focus on the importance of MICE. They also compete with one another. From the perspective of congress tourism, Slovakia is an attractive country due to its location in Central Europe, membership to the EU and Schengen, good transportation accessibility, and political stability. This paper evaluates the development and importance of congress and fair tourism as well as briefly evaluates the history of the development and potential of Slovakia, and characterises the accommodation infrastructure of this type of tourism in Slovakia. The conclusion summarises the most important findings of the analysis of congress centres as well as the findings of the identification of the main resorts of fair tourism in Slovakia.

Introduction

Congress and fair tourism are two of the most profiting types of tourisms from the perspective of economic benefits. Both the types of tourisms are part of MICE tourism. Countries with developed tourism focus on the importance of MICE. These international destinations also compete with one another. Congresses are characterised by relatively high economic benefit and represent a way to promote cities (often on an international level) or countries that host them. This type of tour-