

# Cultural and Historical Heritage of Fruška Gora as Complementary Attractions to the Future Geopark

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In spite of attractive and significant geological and geomorphologic heritage, geotourism is still relatively new and undiscovered trend in Serbia. In recent years, the concept of geotourism has gained more and more attention which is proved by numerous projects conducted by experts and authorities. Consequently, Fruška Gora mountain is proposed by authorities as future member of Global and European Geopark Network.

Fruška Gora is an isolated, narrow, island mountain in Pannonia plain in south Vojvodina. Owing to its unique and very rich deposits of fossil fauna and flora, Fruška Gora is called the 'mirror of geological past'. Also, in order to provide its permanent protection and to improve its natural resources and beauty, in 1960, Fruška Gora was proclaimed a National Park. Except for its natural beauty and uniqueness, this mountain "hides" 16 orthodox monasteries famous for their specific architecture, treasuries, libraries and frescoes and numerous archeological sites from pre-historic and historic times as well. That is why this mountain is also known as the third Holy Mountain apropos Mount Atos and Mount Sinai. All previously stated

have resulted with the initiative to nominate and proclaim Fruška Gora a geotourism destination.

The aim of this paper is to present cultural and historical heritage of Fruška Gora as one of geotourism's benefits to local communities as it brings them pride that comes with deeper knowledge of their own natural and cultural heritage.

**Keywords:** Fruška Gora, Vojvodina, geotourism, cultural and historical heritage, monasteries

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