

Selection and Organization of Geological Routes: Case Studies from Serbia and Romania

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Establishment of georutes is based on the two general premises: 1) what we intend to present to the visitors and 2) which information the visitors expect to obtain. This last aspect is more complex and varies, depending on visitor's profile: age, scientific background and interest for particular natural phenomena. However, georutes should be scientifically informative and aesthetically attractive in order to achieve visitor's attention. They have to include the sites with clear and expressive geological facts (rocks, minerals, fossils, stratigraphic or tectonic contacts/boundaries, structures of different origin, etc.) that are popularly explained.

In Serbia, the two distinctive georutes are proposed to set up with tentative titles: "In the Limestone world" in Boljevac vicinity (eastern Serbia) and "In search for disappeared sea" in Mokra Gora (western Serbia). The route "In the Limestone world" includes diverse valuable geosites that would enhance visitor knowledge on geodiversity of Boljevac vicinity. The georoute "In search for disappeared sea" in Mokra Gora mainly entails the sites that provide an insight to the Upper Cretaceous marine life and habitats (paleoecosystems).

In Romania, the two georutes have been established within the Hateg Dinosaur Geopark: the "Valley of Dinosaurs" and "Volcanoes route". Both routes expose the major geological events from the end of Cretaceous (Maastrichtian) in southern Transylvania (e.g. paleobiologic, tectonic, sedimentary and volcanic occurrences).

Organizer of georutes has to take in consideration the two important issues: 1) the sites should be expressive and complementary and visitors should be able to understand explanations provided 2) at the end of tour, visitors' knowledge on different geologic phenomena and demands for their protection should be improved.

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