

Marek Więckowski

Instytut Geografii i Przestrzennego Zagospodarowania PAN w Warszawie

Selected aspects of transboundary tourism development close to the external border of the Schengen zone.

Borders determine the nature of the tourist landscape and its elements that will develop in frontier regions. First of all the borders constitute spatial barriers for tourism development. Their impact as barriers for tourism depends on the degree of formalization and permeability. The action of boundary as a spatial barrier is most often expressed through institutions. The gradual reduction of frontier as a spatial barriers is envisaged, progressing along with spatial integration processes.

The type of border has an important influence to the tourist development. The Polish borders with Ukraine, Belarus, Russian Federation after Poland's accession to the European Union and to the Schengen Zone change their status, and come to existence as the close border on. These borders appear as barrier to travel freely in borderlands. The borders will probably remain a marginal tourist destination, excepting some cases.

The borderland areas are ideal location for protected areas and tourism development. In most cases the national parks constitute very important tourist regions. They are the attractive areas in terms of nature, landscape, and tourism, owing to which anthropogenic pressure is amplified, along with the tourist traffic, while, on the other hand, there exists a strongly developed need protecting of this areas.