

Historic cities as important centres of development of historical-cultural tourism (on the example of Volyn region)

Volodymyr KROOL^{1*}, Iryna DOBYNDA¹ and Olexander GADELSHYN¹

¹Chernivtsi National University named after Yuriy Fedkovych, Chernivtsi, Ukraine

* Correspondence to: Volodymyr Krool', Chernivtsi National University named after Yuriy Fedkovych, Chernivtsi, Ukraine. E-mail: v.krool@chnu.edu.ua.

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ABSTRACT: The quality and availability of historic-cultural recreational resources in the cities of Volyn region are investigated. The attractiveness of historical cities for the development of regional tourism industry is analyzed. Meanwhile, the most attention is paid to the number of historical and cultural resources, its value and the status of preservation, transport communication, access to hotels and catering objects. The archeological monuments, architecture monuments, monuments of city-building and objects of monumental art seem to be the most valuable for the needs of tourism. Instead, the less valuable are historical monuments that are presented by the memorials and tombstones.

KEY WORDS: archaeological monuments, monuments of architecture and town-planning, historical monuments, worship buildings, attractions, and touristic resources

1. Introduction

The whole economy of Ukraine as well the financial status of its certain regions, in particular Volyn region, requires new ways of their uprising. They suggest finding out of alternative new industrial branches. The tourism and recreational branch constitutes one of the most perspective directions of development. Mostly, the previous assessment studies of recreational resources of Volyn region and other regions of the state concerned the research of natural recreational resources. Consequently, detailed review and further evaluation of historic and cultural recreational resources which constitute valuable tourist objects, is a crucial argument for reinforcement of the economic basis of the national state as well as establishment of the national self-identification of the Ukrainian society. The cities of Volyn' region seem to be the settlements where the majority of architecture and the city-building landmarks, and museums as well as the considerable amount of archaeological findings and precious sacred memorials are concentrated. Accordingly, the potential of such cities is enough to consider them the main centres of historical and cultural tourism.

2. Methods

The investigation of Volyn' recreational resources is mainly limited only by natural recreational resources while the historical and cultural ones are given less attention. This is due to the fact that Volyn tourism industry has been developing for rather recent period. Nevertheless there are printed materials on the historic-cultural resources of the region. In particular, Fomenko (2007) in his work distinguishes and describes cultural and historical resources of Volyn' region alongside with water, forest, and climate ones. Ogneeva and Zlatogorsky (1999) point out the importance of including this resource type into the territorial development programs and their application. Pavlov and Cherchyk (1998) reveal the general structure of regional recreation and the methods of their application. Klimchuk et al. (2002) on the example of Volyn' region have generated the cadastre assessment of recreational territories in Volyn' region to determine ways of use and payment for the recreational resources. Works of Krool et al. (2008) are dedicated to general characteristics of the settlement exploration of historical geographical part of Volyn, with the emphasis on the the evaluation of artefacts of archaeological cultures. The review of settlement level was carried out together with Volyn' region, from Palaeolithic time up to the end of XIV century taking into account all the currently available monuments of archeological cultures which can become potential objects of historical and cultural recreation. The recent works of the authors suggested the research of cultural and historical recreational resources of Volyn region. The units of the cultural and historical district division were offered in these works (Krool and Kovalchuk, 2011). Besides, the potential of cultural and tourism resources of Volyn region was determined (Krool and Kovalchuk, 2011) as well as the potential of land marks of architecture and city building as the basis of historical and cultural recreational resources and their territorial characteristics (Dobynda, 2013; Krool and Dobynda, 2013). Historical and cultural tourism is the object of increased attention of several international organizations, in particular UNESCO (International Convention, 2003). Mathematical, historical, statistical, literal methods, and methods of comparative analysis were applied in the study.

Volyn region as a part of the significant historical and geographical territory of Volyn used to belong to the different territorial formations that was reflected on the culture in general, and the architecture in particular. Mostly, big and ancient cities of the region are most remarkable objects of such peculiarities. Still, only historical and cultural reserves "Old Lutsk" and "Ancient Volodymyr" are involved into the network of tourist routes while other historical are cultural objects of the region cities and towns aren't paid much attention. Accordingly, they deserve special attention and inclusion into tourist routes to cover as large as possible number of tourists and excursionists to get acquainted with sights and historical cities of the region.

3. Results

Cities of Volyn region are the places where the considerable amount of valuable architectural objects is concentrated alongside with the archaeological sites of the whole region. Considering this, such settlements are called historic cities to which ancient cities of the region, first of all, belong. They have accumulated the information about life and way of life of the natives during the centuries. While the majority of Volyn cities have various numbers of objects of historical and cultural tourism, the qualitative and quantitative indices of the sights together with connections

to railway stations, main highways, and the availability of accommodation and the catering units were taken into consideration to determine their attractiveness.

The regional centre, the biggest city of the region - Lutsk has the greatest value in tourist industry among all the populated areas of this type. It was mentioned in the Ipativskyi chronicles for the first time (in 1085) as an economically developed city of Luchesk. Hence, the city can be considered founded in the year of 1000. These were the years when Volodymyr the Great annexed Volyn to the Kyiv Rus and built the fortress in Lutsk which became a crucial obstacle on the way of the invaders. The city became international already at the end of 14 and in the beginning of 15 centuries that reflected in the diversity of the architecture and cult buildings.

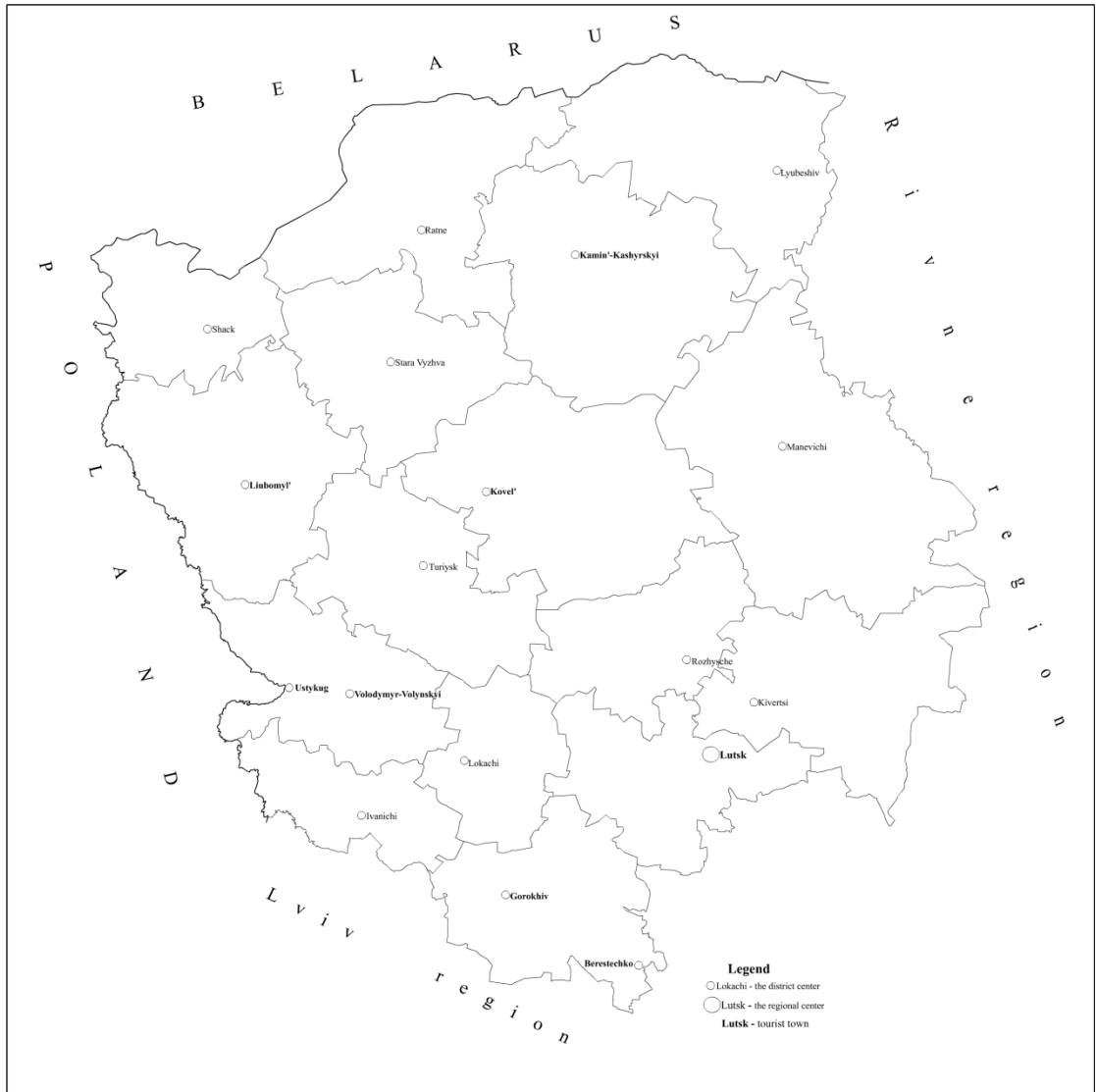


Figure 1 Location of tourist cities of Volyn region.

It should be emphasized that in addition to the access of a considerable amount of sights to the best automobile and railway connection with all Ukraine regions and the "closest abroad" (Poland and Belarus) appears to be an essential issue of modern tourism. Another important condition of city attractiveness is the availability of hotels and catering establishments. Thus, accommodation

services are provided by 13 hotels and catering services - by 208 establishments of different types in Lutsk.

Within the Lutsk area there are 88 monuments of architecture and city-building, among which 23 of national significance and 65 of a local significance. Still, the most interesting and most prepared for the tourist sightseeing is a state historic and cultural reserve "Old Lutsk" founded in 1985. Though not big in area (about 40 hectares) it comprises on its territory a number of valuable monuments and objects of tourism industry. Among the most interesting, one should mention the Liubart Castle (Lutsk or Upper castle) built in the 13-14th centuries, the tower of the Chartoryysky, and the relics of the Okol'nyi castle (16th century). Worship edifices can serve as tourism attractive architecture monuments of Lutsk too. One can include into the tourist list the Cathedral of Holy Apostles Peter and Paul with a Jesuit monastery and a dungeon (1639), a complex of a monastery and Roman Catholic Cathedral of Holy Cross (1752-1755), synagogue (1626), Lutheran kirche (early XX century, built on the place of the Carmelite monastery), Armenian Church (1427), architectural complex of Lutsk brotherhood (1634), Holy Protectress Church (mid. XVII century), Dominican monastery (1390), monastery of Trinitarians (1729), the nunnery of Sisters of Charity (XVI century), and the nunnery of Bridgettines (1624).

A number of fascinating streets in Lutsk can be distinguished by its attractiveness and variety. In particular, the Lesia Ukrainka street is one of the central pedestrian Lutsk streets that is known for the diversity of houses of different epochs and styles. Bogdan Khmelnytskyi Street is built up with the old restored houses dating 19-20 centuries which were constructed in various architectural styles - Modern, Eclectic, Constructivism, and etc. Also there are some memorial signs here, namely these are memorial plaques and St. Nicholas monument. Maidan Rynok (Market Square) is determined to be one of the oldest and most important historical squares which is situated within the historic and cultural reserve "Old Lutsk" filled up with the bricked buildings with cellars of 16-17 centuries. Danylo Galytskyi Street is one of the main streets of this reserve. It is the only reserve's street via which there is a transit city public transportation. It enables a tourist to visit the old part of the city without any difficulties.

The Lutsk Brotherhood of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross played a significant role in the preservation of the cultural heritage of the city. They organized on their own "the old depository" (a collection of ancient items). First of all, worship church articles were taken there for storing as well as random fossil findings. The latter contributes to the interest of both amateurs and experts of archaeology in visiting Lutsk. The first settlements in the city area date back to the late Palaeolithic time. However, the most exciting for a tourist is the natural boundary "Gnidavska Girka" which is situated on the southern outskirts of the river Styr, limited by the river Rudka in the west, while in the north - by the gorge with a height up to 12m above floodplain level. There are findings of the Neolithic epoch (the culture of the line-stripe ceramics or corded pottery), Eneolithic (late Trypillia) and the Bronze as well as ancient Rus' materials. In order to get better acquaintance with the archaeology of both the city and the region one can visit an archaeological museum that is at the History Department of Lesia Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

Lutsk takes part in both event and festival tourism and this is important for the development of Volyn tourism industry. Annual art show "Night in Lutsk Castle" takes place on the area of Liubart Castle. This is a festival of the historic culture: medieval dances, music, cuisine, and traditions. Also, twice a year knight tournaments are carried out. Moreover, the city hosts the international festival "Polis'ke summer with folklore".

Among other historic cities, one should point out the ancient Volodymyr-Volynskyi (the first name - Volodymyr). Archaeological findings indicate that the adjacent to the city territories were

populated already in the Eneolithic times (4-3 millennium B.C.) as the tribes of Malytska culture inhabited Village Zarichia, while Volyn-Lublin, bailer-type utensils and the late stage of Trypillia cultures inhabited village Zymne. These settlements are 1 and 8 km away from the city correspondingly. However, the territory of Volodymyr-Volynskiy itself was inhabited by the cave people in the Bronze epoch and namely, these were the tribes of Gorodots'ka-Zdovbyts'ka culture.

Yet, the first chronicles mentioning of Volodymyr was a narration of events of 988 in "Tale of the Years Gone" by Nestor the Chronicler. Still, according to the Hungarian chronicles "Bele Regis Notarius" the city already existed in 884 under the name Ladomyr. The first annals, mentioning about the latter, date back to year of 866. This indicates that the development of the city and the Volyn region coincide with the onset and further dynamics of the Kyiv Rus and the Galytsko-Volynske Principality. Favourable geographical position reinforced its rapid development. In the 11-12th centuries Volodymyr was one of the largest cities of Kyiv Rus. In those times it had become a powerful trade hub and also a military-defensive outpost on the western borders of the Kyiv Rus state. Archaeological findings on famous ancient landmarks indicate the high level of handicraft skills in Volodymyr. Armoury, jewellery crafts, pottery, and stone building were developed in the city in 10-12 centuries. The export of arms and jewellery was widely spread.

According to the chronicles and archaeological findings the principality period was marked by a considerable economic development of Volodymyr, with the building development alongside. In the city there were built 8 stone temples (X-XIII centuries) and together with the wooden ones - more than 20 temples and palaces. Local architectural school was formed in Lutsk in the 12th century. The Volodymyrskiy Castle, only ramparts of which are left now, was built in the 40-70s of the 15th century according to the order of Polish King and Great Prince of Lithuania Kazymyr IV Jagailowych. It was situated above the floodplain of the river Luga and was surrounded by the moats filled with its water and the tributary of the river Smoch. Within the castle area there were situated some buildings, and namely - a wooden king palace, a wooden church and 12 houses as well as dwelling - house-holding premises.

The city of Volodymyr itself during its more than a millennium history was included into many state formations (Kyiv Rus, Volyn Principality, Galytsko-Volynsk, Lithuania, Poland and Russia) and was completely ruined several times. Still, all the events didn't prevent Volodymyr-Volynskiy from becoming one of the most tourist attractive historic and cultural parts of Volyn. It is also worth mentioning that basing on the majority of these objects, to be more exact, 6 monuments of national significance and 19 of a local one, in 2003 there was formed a state historic and cultural reserve "Ancient Volodymyr".

In general, on the territory of Volodymyr-Volynskiy there are 23 monuments of architecture and city-building (8 of national significance), 2 monuments of archeology (1 of national significance), 15 historic monuments (1 of national significance). Namely, the Dormition Cathedral (years of building 1156-1160), Church of St. Basil or a rotunda (XIII-XV centuries), Roman-Catholic Cathedral of Yakym and Ann, monastery of Capuchins (1752), Cathedral of Christ's Nativity (former Jesuit church of Christ's Heart), built in 1755-1770, and Mykolaivska (St Nicholai) church are the most valuable and most attractive for a visitor.

Volodymyr-Volynskiy is interesting for a tourist not only due to its architecture. In the south-western suburbs of the city there is a memorial complex "To Victims of Fascism" built in 1963 and a number of other monuments and monument-tombs commemorating heroic deeds of soldiers during WWII.

There are many archaeological findings within the city area but only ancient city of Volodymyr is the most valuable of them. Ancient Volodymyr was situated in the southern part of a

contemporary city and looked like an irregular pentagon (file-angular figure) which was strengthened by ramparts and moats. It was in the triangle between river Luga (old name "Lug") and its tributaries which also were the elements of the old fortification constructions. Up to nowadays there have been left only defence ramparts which show the location where the pre-ancient city with archaeological monuments of 11-13 centuries was located.

Historic and cultural heritage which was formed in the region for centuries will attract both Ukrainian and foreign tourists as there is Customs nearby. Considering this, Volodymyr-Volynskyi has significant prospects for the development of historic and cultural tourism. Still, unfortunately, there is only one hotel and 15 eateries that greatly decrease the comfort of visitors' staying there. But in the vicinity (18 km away) of Volodymyr-Volynskyi there is another rather large, but young city - Novovolynsk. It hasn't got even a century-old history but there are 2 hotels and 42 eateries which would somehow compensate their small amount in a millennium-old Volodymyr-Volynskyi. Taking into account not only the amount but the value of monuments and the convenience of their location as well, Volodymyr-Volynskyi should be included into the highly attractive inhabited areas of the region.

The city Ustylug which is another perspective area for a development of tourism activity is 12 km away from Volodymyr-Volynskyi, it belongs to low attractive settlements of Volyn'. The first written document mentioning the city dates back to 1150 and is also connected with the Mstyslavowych family. The international automobile crossing with Poland - Ustylug-Zosyn was opened in the early 90s of the 20th century there.

All the mentioned features enable both Ukrainian and Polish tourist to visit this region without problems. Within the city area one can find a site of ancient settlement of 9-12 centuries, a house (1906) of Russian composer of Ukrainian origin Stravinskyi I. a number of architecture monuments, Roman-Catholic Cathedral of the 18th century, a chapel of the first half of the 19th century, customs of the year 1908, Petropavlivska Church of 1920, timber framing (fachwerk) mill of the year 1924.

Kovel is one of the largest cities of Volyn region according to the population number. In the other turn, the historical-cultural potential is not known to the public, though it should be added to average attractive regional cities. Tourists relate it with the Lesia Ukrainka house which is in Kolodiazhne village. Within the city area there are known settlements existing since the Bronze times, but its foundation date is unknown. Only information about granting the Magdeburg rights (1515) to the city is available. Through its multi-centennial history the city was rich in monuments, but most of them were destroyed by wars. 23 monuments of architecture and town-planning, 20 history monuments, and 1 monument of sculpture arts of local significance are known for today in the city. The building of the former drugstore of Friedrikson of the 19th century in the Veterans' Street and Independence Street are valuable in the architectural aspect.

As in the majority of populated areas, the worship buildings in Kovel belong to architectural monuments. These are St. Ann Roman-Catholic Cathedral, built in 1771, Annunciation Church (1877), and Resurrection Cathedral (1549). Also, the visitor's attention will be drawn by the edifice of the former Jewish synagogue of the 19th century. One could attribute Sviato-Mykolaivska church (1903) which is a sample of Volyn monumental architecture, great Martyr Pantheleimon Cathedral, St Dmytriy Solunskyi Cathedral, and Greek-Catholic Cathedral of Blessed Mykolai Charnetskyi to the precious architectural and artistic examples of sacred architecture.

The memorial in honour of the workers of locomotive depot, perished in the years of Civil War and World War II, Memorial Complex of Glory, a memorable sign to fighters for liberty are the most known among the history monuments. There are also monuments to famous personalities of Ukrainian history and culture - Bogdan Khmelnytskyi, Taras Shevchenko, and Lesia Ukrainka in

Kovel. While Kovel is a prominent railway centre of the region, it has a monument to the train in front of a railway station that is also a landmark of architecture and town-planning of the 20th century.

Kovel is called a city of railway workers and it has railway connections not only with Ukraine cities but with Poland and Belarus as well. It enables easy arrivals not only for a Ukrainian tourist, but also for a foreigner. There are 6 hotel establishments and 42 eateries in Kovel. Kovel is located 70 km away from the automobile crossing Jagodyn-Dorogusk (Poland) and Domanove-Mokransy (Belarus) that contributes to the good automobile connection.

Berestechko is a small city in the south of Volyn region. People started to explore the territory people already in the Bronze times. The history of Berestechko is connected with the Kyiv Rus city of Peremysl, while constituting its suburbs. For the first, being mentioned as a separate settlement in 1445, it was the Berestky village. The city is famous to every Ukrainian for a great battle at Berestechko that took place in 1651. Still, the museum of this battle is found on the Rivne region's territory.

The bricked-up column which stands on the grave of a former owner of the city Olexander Pronskyi (XVI century) is the most remarkable among architectural monuments. Special attention among worship shrines may be given to the St. Trinity Roman-Catholic Cathedral and St. Trinity Cathedral. The first one was built by the Polish in the 17th century, and the second temple - at the beginning of the 20th century. Another entity that may be interesting to a tourist is a bricked-up chapel of St. Thekla of the 17th century, which is a monument of national significance.

The district centre of Gorokhiv is 25 km away from Berestechko. Gorokhiv is included into some excursion routes, but there are no outstanding historical and cultural objects here. Among the most valuable places one should mention the District Folk Historical Museum which was founded in 1967 as a museum of revolutionary, battle, and labour glory. Sviato-Mykolaiivska (St. Nicholai) church dated 1814 is one of the old edifices. Later, in 1844 Voznesens'ka (Ascension) church was built with the help of community money. Historical and memorial complex functions in the city, which includes the Hill of Glory with an obelisk to the fallen warriors, Heroes Alley, and Marble Stella. Also, as in any other city of Ukraine, there is the Taras Shevchenko monument and a Memorable Cross to the fighters for freedom and independence of Ukraine. Gorokhiv has a favourable transport position, while being situated on the automobile highway Lutsk-Lviv, 50 km away to the southern west from the nearest railway station Gorokhiv in the town Marianivka. This enables convenient connection both with a region centre and other settlements of the region as well as with western Ukraine regions. Berestechko and Gorokhiv, are low attractive settlements in response to their tourist potential.

Kamin-Kashyrskyi is another town of Volyn founded by the Kyiv Rus princes, namely by Roman Mstyslavowych. Due to its historical and cultural recreational resources, it refers, as the two previous cities, to the low attractive cities of Volyn and may be visited by tourists together with other settlements of such a kind. There are remnants of the ancient settlement site "Castle" situated on the right bank of the river Styr, in the centre of Kamin-Kashyrskyi. Also the most precious and the oldest sights of architecture and city-building are Dominican Roman-Catholic Cathedral and a chapel built in the first half of the XVII century, the church of St Prophet Illiya (1700) and the Nativity of the All-Holy Mother of God Church (1723). One can find here also the monuments to the fallen Jews of Kamin-Kashyrskyi and the memorial complex in honour of the soldiers of the Soviet Army. Kamin-Kashyrskyi has an automobile connection with Kovel and Lutsk where tourists can get by train from other regions of Ukraine as well as the "nearest abroad".

The city Liubomyl is included into the list of historic inhabited areas of Ukraine. It was mentioned for the first time in 1287. The core of the historic-cultural value is the oldest in the city church of

St. George built in 1280 by the Prince Volodymyr Vasylykovich. It is the earliest type of a three-segment domeless construction making it the architecture and city-building monuments of national significance. The Saint Trinity Roman-Catholic Cathedral, the oldest among Roman-Catholic cult edifices of Volyn has been kept up to nowadays on the territory of Liubomyl. Firstly, it was built in wooden style in 1409, and already in 1412 it was constructed in the Gothic style. But due to the fact that during all its history the Roman-Catholic Cathedral served as both worship and defence building, it has been often rebuilt. Nowadays, two styles - Baroque and Renaissance coexist in its architecture. In addition to worship buildings, relics of the Branytsky palace built in 1782 and also a site of ancient settlement "Zamchyshe" refer to the sights of national significance of Liubomyl. Actually, on the territory of the latter there is a castle mountain formed in the 14th century on the place of "detynets" of the ancient Liubomyl in the 13th century. A tourist can get interested in a wooden church of the Nativity of the All-Holly Mother of God built in 1880-1884 (according to historical documents since 1510), up-building of the city central square (former Rynok Square) which reflects the architecture of the late 18-early 20 centuries, and Bogdan Khmelnytskyi monument (1954).

There are 4 hotel type establishments and 3 catering ones in the city. Liubomyl has a good bus connection with main rail road region centres (cities Lutsk, Kovel, Volodymyr-Volynskyi) and it is situated 15 km away from the border with Poland and about 50 km off Belarus that increases its tourist potential. Considering the infrastructure and the availability of a negligible amount of monuments, Liubomyl is a low attractive city.

4. Conclusions

The major part of Volyn region cities - 8 out of 11 or 72,7% have historic and cultural recreational resources, but the majority of them (5) are low attractive inhabited areas of the investigated region. This is determined by the number of historical and cultural recreation resources as well as urban infrastructure (hotels, catering objects and transport communication). The most of the cities are centres of administrative districts, besides Berestechko. Only Lutsk and Volodymyr-Volynskyi among the cities are considered to be highly attractive. Their historical and cultural recreation resources are highly involved in the tourism industry. The city of Kovel also possesses a big deal of historical and cultural objects. Still, most of them are historical monuments which are the least valuable for the tourism. From the other side, because of convenient transport communication with Ukrainian cities and abroad, the city refers to the average attractive type. One can distinguish also Berestechko for the aims of cultural and historical tourism because of a number of historical and cultural resources. In addition, not all of the cities use their historical and cultural potential to the full extent. That seems to be one of the largest obstacles in the development of recreation and tourism industry with historic and cultural specialization.

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