Abstract

Tourism is an important element in the rational utilization of leisure. Tourist and recreational programmes should be formulated in terms of the different kinds of holiday tourists undertake. Excessive concentration of tourist movement in time and place could pose a serious threat to the natural environment as well as to the holding capacity of the various infrastructural facilities in the tourist sector. It has been observed that overutilized infrastructural facilities yield diminishing returns. The aim of the article is to evaluate the structure of tourism in the Busko-Zdrój powiat with regards to the principles of sustainable tourism, in addition to paying special attention to the efforts being undertaken by the local authorities to develop this segment of the economy which, potentially, in the absence of an industrial base, possesses the most appropriate attributes (amongst them, the unspoilt natural environment) that can be harnessed to achieve the economic development objectives of the region.