

Mine workings in area of Gemer as a tool for development of tourist traffic

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ABSTRACT

Tourist traffic in area of Gemer is not fully developed and its natural and historical wealth is not used. Since this area is known mainly due to its rich historical monuments and localities with mine working, it would be proper to use its history and beauty for development of tourist traffic as well as for possibilities of tourist trips to such monuments. In the article we deal with description of Gemer locality and its mine working with rich history and we will show to the possibilities for applying of tourist traffic through suggested tourist routing.

Keywords: mine workings, tourist traffic, routing, tourism

INTRODUCTION

Interesting about development of tourist traffic in the area of Gemer is very important for villages and communities in this region, since prevalent part of the industry, that had been previously concentrated in this region, now it is transferred to the other regions and in present time communities of Gemer must secure their existence mainly through development of tourist traffic. There is space for creating of proper conditions of tourist traffic development, but there is a problem due to the lack of finances of communities for propagation and enabling of cultural and historical monuments in Gemer. Due to the reality, that Gemer is rich for historic monuments and mine workings, we want to show to the possibilities for tourist traffic development in area of tourism connected with knowing

of the mine working history.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AREA OF GEMER

Our attention will be orientated to the Gemer localities and mainly to the Rožňava city – city with famous mining tradition, schools and crafts, bishop site, administrative and cultural centre of superior Gemer, but we will mention also other cities and villages of Gemer area, that we can use by creation excursion route at the footprint Emanuel Andrassy as “iron comte”. Picture 1 illustrates area of Gemer and cities and villages that are subject of tourist traffic development. These places are very interesting for tourists and visitors of abroad. In this Gemer area we projected excursion route at the footprint Emanuel Andrassy.

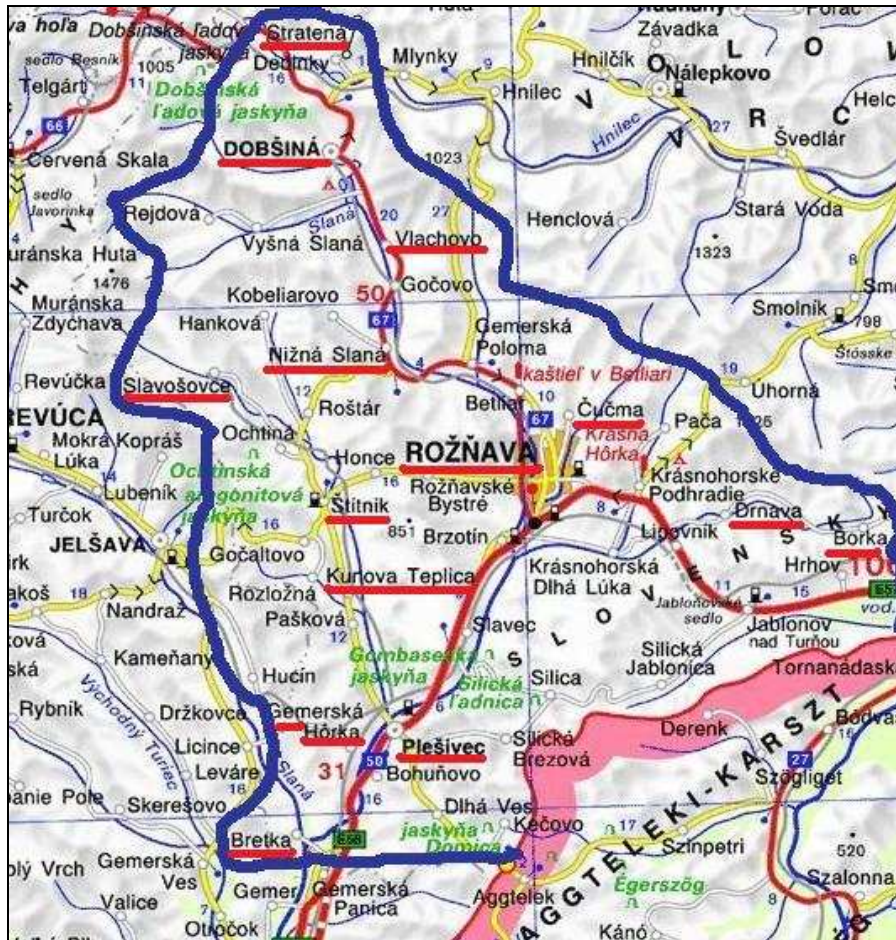


Fig. 1 Map of the Gemer locality, Source: [11]

DESCRIPTION OF EXCURSION ROUTE

Excursion route at the footprint Emanuel Andrassy – „iron compe“ is route by car and it starts at village Vlachovo in locality Dobšinská Píla, where there is monumental high furnace Karlova Huta, that had been inherited by Emanuel Andrassy from his father Karol. Karlova Huta is only one from the Gemer that is considered as world technical monument. It is situated at the right side of the primary road direction Dobšiná – Rožňava. When we come out from the Dobšiná, there is a field path and we must turn to the right to the bridge above Slaná River. Through field path it is around 500 m to the Karlova Huta. Next the rout continues to the Nižná Slaná, part Mine of Nižná Slaná to other technical

objects. We come back to the direction Nižná Slaná and go through Vlachovo village, Gočovo and we come to the Mine of Nižná Slaná. Here there is technical monument – high furnace Etelka and technical object Mine Siderite. In mine there will be possibility to make excursion across its reserved parts with guider. Route continues by primary road and it leads through village Nižná Slaná, Henckovce, Gemerská Poloma. Then we stop at the Betliar village, where there is other technical object connected with Emanuel Andrassy – areal of former Iron – Works. Final stop on the map is mining museum in Rožňava. Museum documents mining and metallurgy at Gemer, thus also activity and business of Emanuel Andrassy – „iron comte“. Here the route finishes. Length of excursion route is 24 km. It presents

excursion by car, by which it is possible to get to all technical objects. At the route there will be distributed educational tables that will inform about individual objects. Tourists can see individual objects also from inside together with guider.

At the end of the route, mainly in Rožňava there are various accommodation and catering establishments that are available for the tourists. On this route we can visit some mining objects, that they are very interesting for tourists.

ANALYSIS OF MINING OBJECTS BY EXCURSION ROUTE

This part of the article deals with the analysis of mining objects in Gemer area and with possibility of their integrating to the tourist rout due to the development of tourist traffic.

Locality: Nižná Slaná, part of mine Nižná Slaná (Fig. 3)

Mining activity had been performed in Nižná Slaná since long time and it had been developed in younger iron period. First data about mining are from 1360, but according physical documents there has been widespread mining yet from the beginning of 13th century. There had been mined in past time ore – silver, cooper, mercury, but mainly iron ore – limonite and siderite, that started to be utilized only from 18th century, when there had been installed ore roasting. From 1669 mining in Nižná Slaná had been connected with magnate feudal family Andrassy that significantly helped to develop mining and ironmongery in area of river Slaná. Mined iron ores in mining field Ignác and Gampel had been melted in two Slovak furnaces in Nižná Slaná and they had been elaborated in bloomers hammer in Gočovo according documents from 1779. In 1867 compe Emanuel Andrassy built at the Ignac layer high furnace Etelka. Ores had been mined at mining field Holy Trinity from dike that is continuation of layer Manó from the east (appendix B 2).

Layer of siderite ore Manó had been regularly mined from 2nd half of 19th century. Production of high furnace pellets from mined siderite had been final product from the plant. Plant Nižná Slaná, State Corporation had been passed in 1995 under administration in Želba, State Corporation, that had been transformed in November 1997 at Želba, stock company. In June 2003 SIDERIT, limited liabilities company, purchased property from Želba at the auction sale. From August 2003 Glomeron Trading Limited from Cyprus owns former plant Nižná Slaná. Plant is in present time closed, there is no mining in the plant.



Fig. 3: Mine Siderit Nižná Slaná, Source: [1,7]

Locality: Mine Rožňava, south - west part of the city Rožňava (Fig. 4)

Rimamuráň – Šalgotarian ferrous joint-stock company had built in 1901 hereditable tunnel Sadlovský for elaboration of siderite ores. Siderite from layer Rožňavské Bystré, Rudná, Malý vrch and Drnava had been elaborated in the finishing mill. Mainly this cableway served for transport of ores from layer. Cableway had been built in 1946. It had been working during 1946 – 1975 and its length was 5,7 km. Only its tower is well preserved from the cableway, which is at the courtyard of former mining sector Sadlovský..

This object is existing also in present time, it is relatively in good condition, but it is gradually losing its keeping value.

In 1905 single deck building for mining technicians and officers of the mine had been built. In 1905 – 1909 there had been housings for workers – totally 26 building

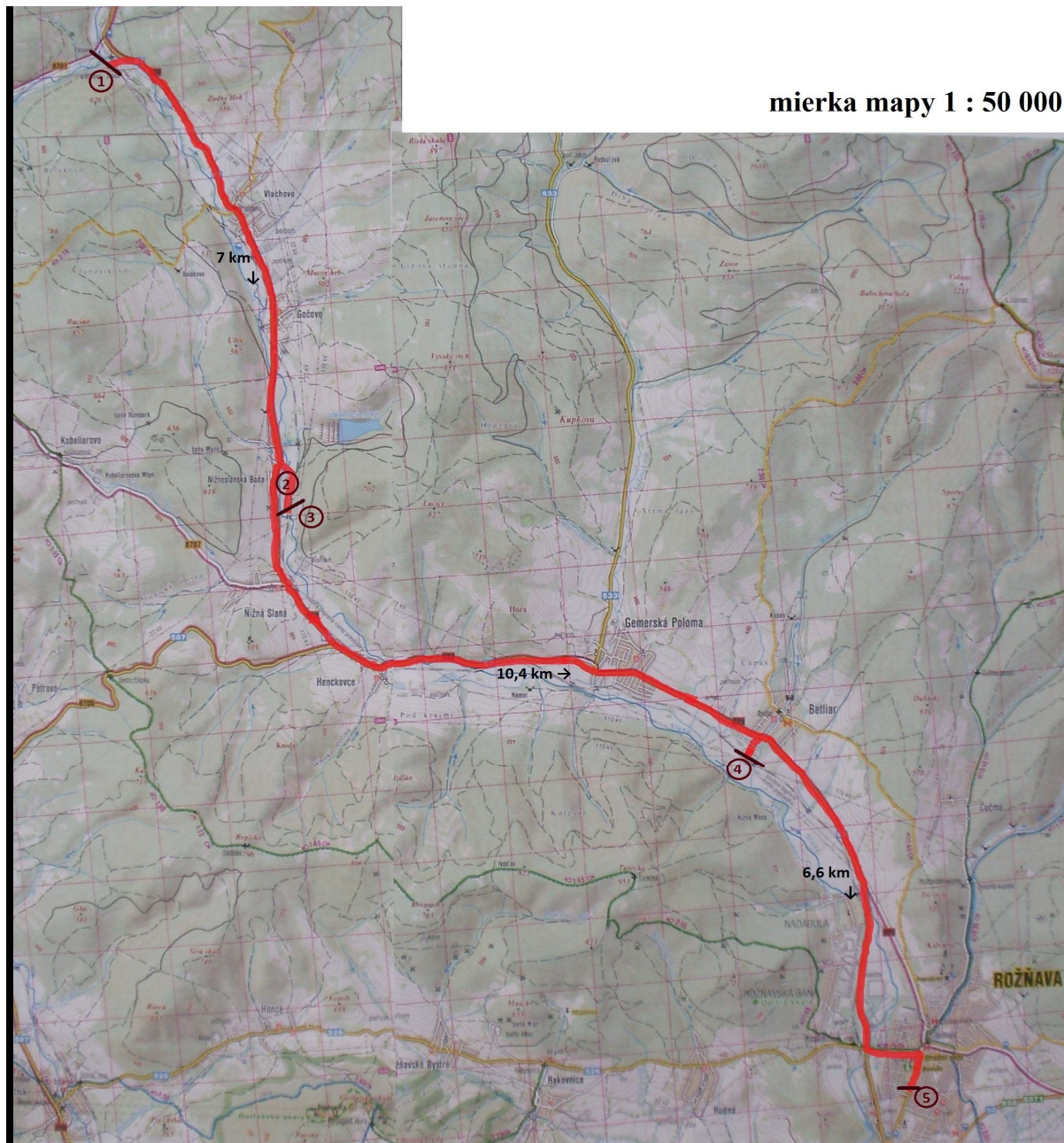


Fig. 2 Map of excursion route at the footprint Emanuel Andrassy – „iron compe“; Legend: 1 High furnace Karlova Huta – Vlachovo, part of Dobšinská Píla, 2 High furnace Etelka – Nižná Slaná, part of Mine Nižná Slaná, 3 Mine Siderit – Nižná Slaná, part of Mine Nižná Slaná, 4 Areal of former Iron – Works – Betliar, 5 Mining Museum – Rožňava, **Source:** [12]



Fig. 4: Mine in Rožňava tower of cablway
Source: [9,10]

with 156 housings. Further two housing units for technicians and engineers, building for plant administration, health care, trade with gaming house and elementary school had been built. Whole area had been separated from production part by alley at both sides of main road. Area has preserved till present time basic city planning structure of three lengthwise blocks built over slope Turecká. During 2.half of 20th century original city planning has been destroyed by many spontaneous invasions – new buildings, restructuralization and terrain adjusting, during which some very interest production objects had been totally destroyed, for example power plant or ore roaster. New family houses has been added and mainly many gardens and fruits plantation. City Rožňava realizes in present time in this space building of industrial park, that will change basically present planning structure by rebuilding or by pulling down of old objects and by building of new ones. Such objects are in present time in majority social housings, houses and various small production services. Such objects has loosed its keeping value due to the rebuilding, several of them do not exist in present time yet.

Locality: Nadabula, city part of Rožňava

Tunnel Lukáč – Ladislav (Fig. 5) started at 1905. In 1912 it achieved 2698m, this year is considered also as a year of its origin. Adjusting complex had been

constructed before tunnel infall, and it consisted from roaster furnaces and gravitation finishing mill. Afterwards tunnel got new name – tunnel Stephen according ore dike.

Tunnel infall creates concrete portal with naming Stephen, that is in present time walled. [9]



Fig. 5 Tunnel Lukáč-Ladislav (Stephen)
Source:[3]

Locality: Rožňava Mine, Rožňava

In 1900-1907 at the Mining site there had been hammered in Sadlovský tunnel (Fig. 6) that had 2300m. Its name is from John Sadlovský, mineworker from Nadabulá. In 1752 he obtained license to mine this dike. Iron ores had been mined here since 1907 till 1993, since from 1993 tunnel is closed. There is winding machine from former staple shaft Sadlovský I. HANA 2500/800, therefore tunnel is not visitable. It get off at altitude 294,5m at Mining site. At the infall it is considered as important monument, since its keeping value is preserved. At the infall there is also concrete portal with naming Sadlovský 1900-1907, in present time it is walled. Tunnel is not used, but it is relatively in good condition.

Mine Mária (Fig. 7) is situated approximately 1,5 km to the north from centre of Rožňava city. It is considered as one of the oldest mine working at Gemer. Mining of ores from ore dike started here since 1498. Mining had been catch also at the table painting from Metercium. Layer consisted from main dike Mária with length 1 km and it characterized with considerable rate of copper ore, silver dike with high rate

of silver and other.

All these objects still exist, but they are abandoned and gradually they are deteriorating. Several people, that deal with this problem elaborated project for using of these objects as mining open – air museum.



Fig. 6 Sadlovsky tunnel, Source: [6]



Fig. 7 Mine Mária in Rožňava, Source: [3]

Locality: Drnava

Object raised around 1900; it was opened by Rimamuráň – Šalgótarian ferrous company. The title is from the original owner – compte Dionýz Andrassy. It is situated at the forest crop, overgrown with vegetation; it is abandoned and threatens by ruining. Despite of all problems portal is preserved in original state and architectonic expression. Due to its rescue it would be proper to demount object and deposit it in the museum.

CONCLUSION

Development of tourist traffic in area of Gemer is very important for the locality. There is very rich potential of cultural and

historical monuments, education route, tourist attractiveness, but they must be properly popularized and purchased. And it is a task of individual villages and communities in this region. Villages and cities must try to obtain financial sources from EU funds and to use them for development of tourist traffic in mentioned locality. Importance of historical monuments and visitations of historical cities will always be sought attractiveness for tourists, but there must exist the way how to popularize properly such tourist routes and to make them visible mainly for foreign clientage. Presented suggestion of tourist route could be one of the possibilities how to develop tourist traffic at the Gemer.

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