
BIRDWATCHING POTENTIAL IN THE PROTECTED NATURE AREAS OF THE VILLAGES OF OMOLJICA AND IVANOVO, VOJVODINA, SERBIA

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ABSTRACT

This study explores the key motivations and satisfaction factors influencing tourists' intentions to revisit protected nature areas for birdwatching in the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo in Vojvodina, Serbia. The research surveyed 210 domestic tourists who participated in birdwatching excursions organized to mark World Tourism Day in September 2024. Logistic regression analysis revealed that motivations related to socializing and relaxation negatively affected revisit intentions, while satisfaction with transport services positively influenced the likelihood of return visits. The findings underscore the importance of improving transport quality to support birdwatching tourism. This research contributes to a better understanding of tourists' motivations and satisfaction with birdwatching experiences and offers practical insights for the development of tailored tourism offers in protected rural areas.

Introduction

As tourists become more educated and their needs and preferences evolve, tourism products focused on nature, outdoor experiences, and ecological values are gaining in importance (Živković et al., 2024). Among the key trends in the contemporary tourism market, birdwatching has stood out as a significant form of ecotourism and responsible

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travel in destinations, offering valuable contributions not only to visitor experiences but also to ecosystem conservation (Barreira & Cesário, 2024; Mugiarti et al., 2022).

Birdwatching represents a rapidly growing niche within the tourism sector, based on observing birds in their natural habitats (Aas et al., 2023; Fennell & Yazdan, 2020). Birdwatching is a nature-based activity that does not involve the extraction or disturbance of natural resources (Randler et al., 2023). It can raise tourists' awareness and act as a powerful motivator for bird protection, encouraging more sustainable behavior both in the destination and in their daily lives (Borges & Green, 2017). Additionally, birdwatching contributes to the improvement of local environments and infrastructure, increases awareness of bird conservation, and promotes environmental protection in rural areas. This form of tourism supports the development of mountain regions and provides an additional source of income for local communities (Basnet et al., 2021).

The Republic of Serbia offers favorable conditions for the development and promotion of birdwatching tourism. This type of tourism can play an important role in fostering the sustainable management of nature reserves by encouraging outdoor recreation while enriching the experience for visitors in rural areas (Borović et al., 2022). As part of broader rural development efforts, birdwatching is increasingly recognized as a key driver for engaging local resources and promoting sustainable growth (Kosanović et al., 2024). Rural areas are moving beyond the traditional paradigm of being exclusively associated with agriculture and are developing stronger links with tourism (Dimitrijević, 2025, Luković et al., 2025).

The aim of this research is to examine the possibilities for developing of birdwatching as a form of selective tourism in underdeveloped villages in Vojvodina with a well-preserved natural environment. This study was carried out in the context of a birdwatching excursion in the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo, held in September 2024. More precisely, the research was conducted in Ponjavica Nature Park, along the Ponjavica River in the village of Omoljica, and in the Nature Monument Ivanovačka ada, located on the Danube River in the village of Ivanovo.

Destinations must offer activities that align with visitors' motivations to enhance satisfaction and encourage repeat visits (Douglas et al., 2024). Because tourists have diverse motivations, selecting suitable activities and destinations is a complex decision shaped by numerous factors. Addressing this complexity, McKercher and Koh (2017) emphasized that understanding tourists' motives is essential for explaining their destination choices and the level of experience they seek. Besides this, understanding tourists' travel motivations and satisfaction is essential for developing effective and sustainable tourism strategies. Motivations drive the initial choice to visit a destination, while satisfaction with specific aspects of the visit influences whether tourists will return (Bayih & Singh, 2020). In the context of underdeveloped villages with rich natural resources, such as Omoljica and Ivanovo, exploring these factors helps identify what attracts visitors and what keeps them coming back, which is critical for fostering

birdwatching tourism as a sustainable economic activity. Therefore, this study focuses on examining how certain travel motives (1 - nature conservation, 2 - interest in protected birds, 3 - enjoy photographing birds, 4 - recreation and entertainment, 5 - socializing and meeting new people, 6 - relaxation, 7 - physical activity and walking) and satisfaction levels (1 - with excursion organization, 2 - with media promotion, 3 - with the transport services, 4 - with contribution of such excursions to birdwatching development, 5 - with contribution of such excursions to sustainable tourism development, 6 - with guide services and expertise, 7 - overall satisfaction) impact tourists' willingness to revisit these villages for birdwatching purposes. Two hypotheses were formulated to guide this research:

- H1: Certain travel motivations for participating in the birdwatching excursion significantly influence tourists' willingness to revisit the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo for birdwatching purposes.
- H2: Satisfaction with specific aspects of the birdwatching excursion in the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo significantly influences tourists' willingness to revisit these villages.

Literature review

National parks, wilderness areas, and nature reserves represent ideal settings for the development of, especially birdwatching (Freiberg & Callegaro, 2025).

This form of tourism is experiencing rapid growth and shows potential for providing financial incentives to local communities, who play a key role in the protection and conservation of natural areas (Xanthakis et al., 2024). It is particularly beneficial for rural population, helping them to increase their annual income (Xu et al., 2023). In contrast to developed countries, many developing nations lag behind in bird conservation due to the low priority given to such efforts (Vaithianathan, 2024). Maake et al. (2022) identified five main motivations among birdwatching tourists: social interaction, relaxation and escape, lifestyle, photography, and enjoying nature. Additionally, Richter et al. (2021) found that tourists are motivated to engage in birdwatching both by personal interest and by their desire to contribute to nature conservation.

Focusing on leisure activities in general, Walker et al. (2020) explored the relationship between the fulfillment of participants' basic psychological needs and their intrinsic motivation, finding that the need for autonomy was a significant driver of birdwatching among British, Chinese, and Canadian tourists. Randler et al. (2023a) highlight the connection between tourist satisfaction with birdwatching and psychological well-being, especially among those who are not regular birdwatchers. These visitors reported higher levels of satisfaction with such trips. Visitors to bird-rich areas and nature reserves differ significantly depending on whether they identify as birdwatchers or not. Birdwatchers tend to invest more effort into their travel experiences and have higher expectations of their visits (Stemmer et al., 2022). Regarding the sociodemographic characteristics of tourists, research has shown that individuals with higher levels of

education are more inclined to learn about bird appearance, sounds, and related skills, as well as to participate in and pay for birdwatching excursions (Krejić et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2021).

Materials and methods

In 2024, the Citizens' Association Visit Pančevo, a local organisation, organized an excursion for tourists to the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo in Vojvodina as part of the World Tourism Day celebrations on September 27. The Citizens' Association invited local tourism organizations, associations, media, and all interested tourists via its social networks to join a free birdwatching excursion. The excursion was conducted by bus and accompanied by specialized bird guide. The aim of the excursion was to educate participants about rare bird species found in Ponjavica Nature Park (Omoljica) and the Nature Monument Ivanovačka ada (Ivanovo).

At the end of the excursion, 210 tourists completed a questionnaire designed to explore their motivations and satisfaction levels regarding the experience. Data were subsequently analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistical methods, specifically binary logistic regression. The questionnaire consisted of eight questions and was developed based on similar studies by Kim & Park (2024) and Randler & Großmann (2022). Data analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics version 26.0.

Study area

The case study includes the Ponjavica Nature Park in the village of Omoljica and the Nature Monument Ivanovačka ada, in the village of Ivanovo, on the Danube River. These sites represent a green oasis and are located 20 km from Pančevo and 40 km from Belgrade.

The Nature Park Ponjavica is located in southern Banat, Vojvodina. The area of the park covers 302.96 ha. The area of the protection zone around the Nature Park covers 678.57 ha. The Nature Park includes the middle course of the Ponjavica River, which has preserved characteristics of watercourses of plain areas and coastal remains of wetland habitats (Ristić et al., 2024). Among the more important plant species inhabiting the Nature Reserve area are *Potamogeton pusillus*, *Carex acuta*, *Scirpus lacustris subsp. tabernaemontani*, *Zannichellia palustris*, *Potamogeton pusillus*, *Salvinia natans*, *Zannichellia palustris*, *Carex acuta*, and *Scirpus lacustris subsp. tabernaemontani*. The most important bird representatives are *Egretta garzetta*, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, *Ardeola ralloides*, *Chlidonias hybrida*, *Tachybaptus ruficollis*, *Podiceps cristatus*, *Aythya nyroca*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Cygnus olor*, *Anas clypeata*, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, *Acrocephalus palustris*, *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, *Remiz pendulinus*, etc. (The Register of Protected Natural Assets in Vojvodina, 2023).

Nature Monument Ivanovačka ada is a river island (ada) in the Danube, in the territory of the City of Pančevo. It was protected in 2009 as a natural monument because of the

remnants of former lowland forests of the indigenous species of white poplar and willow, which are also the habitat of rare and protected species of plants (*Rorippa sylvestris*, *Vitalis vinifera* L. Subsp. *Sylvestris*, *Erysimum sheiranthoides* L.) and animals (*Alcedo atthis*, *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Picus viridis*) and a large number of birds. It covers an area of only 6.07 ha, with a 50 m wide protection zone (Šćiban, 2015). During this excursion, the guide identified and recorded the following birds: Mute Swan - *Cygnus olor* 14, Wood Pigeon - *Columba palumbus* 1, Common Gull - *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* 5, Great Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax carbo* 20, Grey Heron - *Ardea cinerea* 10, Great Egret - *Ardea alba* 5, Little Egret - *Egretta garzetta* 1, Gul - *Nycticorax nycticorax* 1, White-tailed Eagle - *Haliaeetus albicilla* 2, Kestrel - *Buteo buteo* 1, Kestrel - *Alcedo atthis* 3, Magpie - *Pica pica* 1, Raven - *Corvus cornix* 3.

Results

Of the total number of respondents, 57.1% were female and 42.9% male. The majority of participants were between the ages of 30 and 50, with the largest age group being 30-40 years (31.0%). Educational levels among respondents ranged from high school to doctoral degrees. While a small portion had only secondary education (18.6%), the largest proportion held university degrees (31.4%), followed by master's degree holders (27.1%). Regarding employment status, 55.7% of respondents were unemployed, while 44.3% reported being employed at the time of the survey. This distribution may reflect the inclusion of students, retirees, or individuals temporarily out of work (Table 1).

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of respondents

		Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	90	42.9%
	Female	120	57.1%
Age	<20	19	9.0%
	20-30	55	26.2%
	30-40	65	31.0%
	40-50	48	22.9%
	50-60	13	6.2%
	60-70	9	4.3%
	>70	1	0.5%
Education	High school	39	18.6%
	College of Applied Studies	41	19.5%
	University	66	31.4%
	Master's Degree	57	27.1%
	Doctorate	7	3.3%
Employed	Yes	93	44.3%
	No	117	55.7%

Source: Authors' calculations

When asked how they found out about the excursion, over half of the respondents (51.4%) reported the internet as their main source of information. Word of mouth was the second most frequent channel (39.5%), while tourism agencies and other sources were reported by a small minority (7.6% and 1.4%, respectively). This emphasizes the importance of digital channels and peer recommendations in promoting such events.

As for travel motivations, the most highly rated motives were: *relaxation* ($M = 4.35$), *recreation and entertainment* ($M = 4.28$), *physical activity and walking* ($M = 4.25$). Meanwhile, the lowest-rated motivation was *interest in protected birds* ($M = 3.58$), although still above the scale midpoint, indicating a generally positive orientation toward birdwatching.

Satisfaction levels were generally high. The highest-rated satisfaction items were: *Satisfaction with the contribution of such excursions to birdwatching development* ($M = 4.62$) and *Satisfaction with contribution of such excursions to sustainable tourism development* ($M = 4.54$). *Overall satisfaction* and *guiding services* also received strong ratings ($M = 4.42$ and $M = 4.39$) (Table 2).

Table 2. Descriptive statistics

	Mean	Std. deviation	Variance
Motive 1 - Nature conservation	4.0238	1.01868	1.038
Motive 2 - Interest in protected birds	3.5762	1.02430	1.049
Motive 3 - Enjoy photographing birds	3.5333	1.18254	1.398
Motive 4 - Recreation and entertainment	4.2762	0.89116	0.794
Motive 5 - Socializing and meeting new people	3.6095	1.08045	1.167
Motive 6 – Relaxation	4.3476	0.91668	0.840
Motive 7 - Physical activity and walking	4.2476	0.91013	0.828
1 - Satisfaction with excursion organization	4.2571	0.83039	0.690
2 - Satisfaction with media promotion	4.1048	0.91687	0.841
3 - Satisfaction with the transport services	4.3190	0.87393	0.764
4 - Satisfaction with contribution of such excursions to birdwatching development	4.6238	0.63878	0.408
5 - Satisfaction with contribution of such excursions to sustainable tourism development	4.5429	0.61135	0.374
6 - Satisfaction with guide services and expertise	4.3952	0.81902	0.671
7 - Overall satisfaction	4.4190	0.59954	0.359

Source: Authors' calculations

Finally, the participants were almost evenly split in their willingness to revisit the same protected areas for birdwatching, with 51.4% expressing a positive intention and 48.6% a negative one.

To test the hypothesis H1: *Certain travel motivations for participating in the birdwatching excursion significantly influence tourists' willingness to revisit the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo for birdwatching purposes*, a binary logistic regression was conducted. This method was used to examine whether specific travel motivations significantly

predict the willingness to revisit the Vojvodina region for birdwatching. The dependent variable was a binary response to the question: *Would you consider coming again to the Ponjavica Nature Park in the village of Omoljica and the Nature Monument Ivanovačka ada, in the village of Ivanovo for birdwatching?* (0 = No, 1 = Yes). The independent variables included seven motivational factors, each measured on a 5-point Likert scale (1 = not important at all, 5 = extremely important).

Table 3. Logistic regression – model summary

	Value
-2 Log Likelihood	271.302
Cox & Snell R ²	0.089
Nagelkerke R ²	0.119
Chi-square (model)	19.649
Df	7
Sig. (model)	0.006

Source: Authors' calculations

The overall model was statistically significant ($\chi^2 = 19.649$, $df = 7$, $p = 0.006$), indicating that the set of motivational variables reliably distinguishes between tourists who are willing and those who are not willing to revisit the region for birdwatching. The Nagelkerke R² of 0.119 suggests that approximately 11.9% of the variance in revisit intention can be explained by the model (Table 3). The Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test was not statistically significant ($p = 0.403$), suggesting that the model adequately fits the data (Table 4).

Table 4. Hosmer and Lemeshow test

Chi-square	df	Sig.
8.316	8	0.403

Source: Authors' calculations

Based on the logistic regression results, only two motivational factors, socializing and relaxation showed a statistically significant relationship with the intention to revisit the area for birdwatching purposes. Both emerged as negative predictors, indicating that the more importance respondents place on these motivations, the less likely they are to express interest in returning for birdwatching.

Respondents who rated socializing as an important travel motivation were less likely to express willingness to revisit the region for birdwatching ($p=0.023$, $\text{Exp}(B)=0.721$). This finding may suggest that birdwatching is perceived as a quiet, solitary activity, less compatible with motivations focused on group interaction or social engagement.

Participants who considered relaxation to be an important motive were less inclined to return for birdwatching experiences ($p=0.030$, $\text{Exp}(B)=0.648$). This could indicate that birdwatching is not perceived as sufficiently restful or aligned with passive leisure preferences.

Other motivational variables, such as nature conservation, interest in birds, bird photography, recreation, and physical activity, did not show statistically significant effects on revisit intentions ($p > 0.05$), suggesting that they do not meaningfully predict tourists' likelihood of returning to these sites specifically for birdwatching (Table 5).

Table 5. Logistic regression coefficients

	B	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(B)
Nature conservation	-0.197	0.148	1.777	0.183	0.821
Interest in birds	-0.046	0.149	0.093	0.760	0.955
Bird photography	-0.094	0.134	0.492	0.483	0.910
Recreation	0.230	0.211	1.194	0.274	1.259
Socializing	-0.328	0.144	5.163	0.023	0.721
Relaxation	-0.433	0.200	4.718	0.030	0.648
Physical activity	-0.089	0.191	0.217	0.641	0.915
Constant	3.424	1.221	9.168	0.002	40.703

Source: Authors' calculations

Based on the results of the logistic regression analysis, the hypothesis H1 was partially confirmed. While not all travel motivations proved to be statistically significant predictors of revisit intention, two variables, socializing and relaxation showed a significant negative effect. This indicates that specific motivational dimensions do influence tourists' willingness to return to the protected areas for birdwatching purposes.

To test the hypothesis H2: *Satisfaction with specific aspects of the birdwatching excursion in the villages of Omoljica and Ivanovo significantly influences tourists' willingness to revisit these villages*, a binary logistic regression analysis was conducted. The overall model was statistically significant, $\chi^2(7) = 16.09$, $p = 0.024$, indicating that the set of predictors collectively contributed to the prediction of the dependent variable. The model's explanatory power, as indicated by the Cox & Snell R^2 and Nagelkerke R^2 values, was modest (0.074 and 0.098), which is typical for logistic regression models in social science research (Table 6). Additionally, the Hosmer and Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test showed a non-significant result, $\chi^2(8) = 14.06$, $p = 0.080$, suggesting that the model fits the data adequately (Table 7). These results confirm that the logistic regression model is appropriate and reliable for testing the second hypothesis.

Table 6. Logistic regression – model summary

	Value
-2 Log Likelihood	274.863
Cox & Snell R^2	0.074
Nagelkerke R^2	0.098
Chi-square (model)	16.087
Df	7
Sig. (model)	0.024

Source: Authors' calculations

Table 7. Hosmer and Lemeshow test

Chi-square	Df	Sig.
14.057	8	0.080

Source: Authors' calculations

The results of the logistic regression analysis indicate that, among the various satisfaction variables included in the model, only satisfaction with the transport services was found to be a statistically significant predictor of tourists' willingness to revisit the protected areas for birdwatching ($p = 0.024$). The regression coefficient ($B = 0.484$) and the odds ratio ($\text{Exp}(B) = 1.622$) suggest that higher satisfaction with the transport services increases the likelihood of a positive revisit intention. Conversely, dissatisfaction with the transport services may be a barrier to returning for birdwatching purposes. Other satisfaction variables, such as satisfaction with excursion organization, media promotion, guide services, and the perceived contribution to birdwatching and sustainable tourism, did not reach statistical significance ($p > 0.05$). However, some predictors showed trends toward significance, particularly satisfaction with the excursions' contribution to sustainable tourism ($p = 0.114$) and excursion organization ($p = 0.119$), which may need further investigation in future studies with larger or more targeted samples (Table 8).

Table 8. Logistic regression coefficients

	B	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(B)
Satisfaction with excursion organization	-0.343	0.220	2.429	0.119	0.710
Satisfaction with media promotion	0.134	0.171	0.615	0.433	1.143
Satisfaction with the transport services	0.484	0.214	5.011	0.024	1.622
Satisfaction with contribution of such excursions to birdwatching development	0.100	0.260	0.148	0.701	1.105
Satisfaction with contribution of such excursions to sustainable tourism development	-0.394	0.249	2.493	0.114	0.675
Satisfaction with guide services and expertise	0.116	0.200	0.335	0.562	1.123
Overall satisfaction	0.087	0.269	0.105	0.746	1.091
Constant	3.377	1.671	4.085	0.043	29.291

Source: Authors' calculations

Overall, these findings partially support the hypothesis H2, suggesting that while not all satisfaction elements significantly impact revisit intention, certain logistical aspects, particularly satisfaction with the transport services, do play a meaningful role in shaping future behavioral intentions related to birdwatching tourism.

Discussion

Previous studies highlight that birdwatching motivations can be diverse, resulting in varying tourist behaviors (Großmann et al., 2025). There are visitors who travel specifically for the purpose of birdwatching (Aas et al., 2023; Randler & Großmann, 2022; Ryan & Deci, 2017). Additionally, some tourists join such trips for activities like bird counting, recognizing their personal value and practical contribution to nature conservation and physical wellbeing (Guilfoos et al., 2024). The results of this study indicate that relaxation is the primary motivation for participating in birdwatching excursions, which aligns with the findings of Maake et al. (2022). More broadly, contemporary tourists are drawn to destinations that offer a wide range of recreational opportunities (Arsić et al., 2025). In addition, other important motives were identified, including recreation and entertainment, physical activity and walking. This has important implications for creating tourism products that combine educational and recreational elements, thereby attracting a broader segment of domestic tourists.

Modern tourists are often quite disconnected from nature, making this an important way for them to actively and meaningfully spend time outdoors. Additionally, there are tourists whose primary motivation is to spend time in nature, and who find observing wildlife both enjoyable and educational. Tourist activities play a key role in visitor satisfaction and loyalty (Padrón-Ávila et al., 2022), as well as in satisfaction and tourism expenditure, where satisfaction is a determinant of tourist spending in destinations (Perles-Ribes et al., 2021).

The expectations of birdwatching tourists are closely related to the quality of services provided at the site. Upon arriving at a birdwatching location, tourists expect all necessary amenities to be available to meet their needs, including food, accommodation, transportation, binoculars, cameras, tour guides, bird feed, camping equipment, and more (Govindarajo & Khen, 2020). Regarding tourists' satisfaction with different aspects of the excursion, research results showed that satisfaction levels were generally high. The highest-rated items included satisfaction with the contribution of such excursions to the development of birdwatching.

The logistic regression analysis revealed interesting findings regarding tourists' motivations and satisfaction factors influencing their willingness to revisit protected areas for birdwatching. Specifically, socializing motivation was a significant negative predictor of revisit intention, which may reflect the perception of birdwatching as a quiet, solitary activity less appealing to those whose primary travel goal involves social interaction. In a similar vein, relaxation motivation also showed a negative effect, indicating that birdwatching might not be viewed as sufficiently restful or fitting well with preferences for more passive leisure activities. Moreover, although relaxation was the highest-rated initial motive for joining the excursion, it did not translate into a stronger desire to return. This suggests that while birdwatching may initially attract tourists with general leisure motivations, long-term engagement may require a deeper interest in or connection to nature. Among satisfaction factors, only satisfaction with the transport services

significantly influenced tourists' willingness to return, with higher satisfaction increasing the likelihood of revisit. This finding aligns with Okello and Yerian (2009), who emphasize that satisfaction with the transport services is crucial not only for accessing national parks and nature reserves but also for locating wildlife and enabling various tourist activities. Therefore, satisfaction with the transport services quality can be a key determinant of tourists' behavioral intentions in wildlife tourism contexts. Understanding the interplay between motivations, satisfaction, and revisit intentions is essential, as noted by Dybsand et al. (2021), who highlight the importance of such analyses for improving the management and development of birdwatching tourism.

Conclusions

Birdwatching is a growing niche in nature-based tourism, offering both recreational and educational benefits while supporting biodiversity conservation. Understanding tourists' motivations and satisfaction factors is crucial for developing sustainable birdwatching tourism, especially in rural and protected areas.

The results of this study highlight the importance of various motivations and satisfaction factors in shaping tourists' willingness to revisit protected areas for birdwatching. Special attention should be given to improving infrastructure and services related to transportation, as satisfaction with the transport services was found to be a statistically significant predictor of revisit intention. Other satisfaction aspects, such as event organization and contribution to sustainable tourism, were not statistically significant but showed trends that could be relevant for future research with larger samples. These findings emphasize the need for a better understanding of tourists' diverse motivations in order to tailor the birdwatching offer more effectively to visitor expectations.

However, the study has several limitations, primarily the sample size, which may affect the statistical power of the analyses. Additionally, the sample was focused on domestic tourists in specific rural areas, which may limit the generalizability of the results to other populations and destinations. Furthermore, the use of only quantitative methods might miss deeper insights into tourists' motivations and experiences, so a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches in future studies could provide more comprehensive understanding.

The scientific contribution of this work lies in advancing knowledge about the motivations and satisfaction factors of tourists interested in birdwatching in rural areas. The practical significance is that these findings may serve as a foundation for creating future birdwatching tours, excursions, and tourism offers in similar rural areas. It is recommended that future research include more tourists and further investigate factors such as the organization of excursions and their contribution to sustainable development in the context of birdwatching, which showed potential importance in this study.

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Conflict of interests

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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