

FUNCTIONAL IMPORTANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL CENTER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIO - GEOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS FOR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN MUNICIPALITY NOVACI - AS PART OF THE FLOW OF THE BLACK RIVER IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Abstract: In the scientific paper the chapters on the socio - geographical characteristics, geographical position, historical development of the village are discussed. Novaci, the functional significance of the municipal center, the remoteness of the rural settlements from the central settlements, the rural settlements and the dynamics of the rural population, the institutional infrastructure of the rural settlements, the characteristics of the economic features for the development of the Municipality of Novaci, agriculture, the size of agricultural land in the villages by settlements, animal husbandry, forestry, hunting and fishing, industry, traffic and tourism.

Keywords: settlements, population, agriculture, economy, traffic, tourism.

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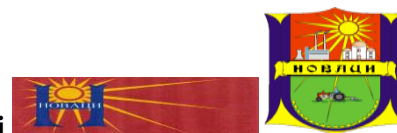
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I. SOCIO - GEOGRAPHICAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. Municipal centers and their function

The creation of new municipal centers is of great importance for rural settlements because of urban, economic and sociological aspects much more advanced than in the past 50 years. Municipal centers are characterized by three features: population - demographic, functional and physiognomic - morphological features. In the municipal centers there are a number of institutions such as: the headquarters of the government: the mayor and council, hospitals, ambulances, police stations, veterinary stations, post offices, schools, faculties, shops, trade companies, cadastres that care and directly influence the development of rural settlements such as: construction of road communications, water supply, sewerage, street lighting, PTT services, trade, etc.

2. Geographical position of the Municipality of Novaci



The Municipality of Novaci is located in the Southern part of the Republic of Macedonia, it covers the southeastern part of the Pelagonija valley, the central part of the stream of Crna Reka, the Bitola part of Mariovo and the border section with the Republic of Greece in the course of Mount

Nidze. The municipality of Novaci covers an area of 753.53 km², according to the 2002 census there are a total of 2 478 inhabitants, and in 2015 3 155 inhabitants and average population density of 4. 71 inhabitants per km². The municipality consists of 41 villages.

Table 1. Overview of the altitude, area of the municipality and population dynamics in the Municipality of Novaci in the period 2002 – 2015

Municipality	Sea level (m)	Area of the municipality in (km ²)	Population	
			2002	2015
Novaci	701	754	2 478	3 155

Source: П.М.Д.3.С. census of the population, households and dwellings in the Republic of Macedonia, definitive data, 2002, Skopje, 2003, Book.X.

The municipality of Novaci in the north borders the municipality of Prilep and the municipality of Mogila, in the west with the municipality of Bitola and the southern and eastern part of the Republic of Greece with a length of the border line of about 60 km. The municipality of Novaci can be divided into: plain; hilly-mountain and border part. The Pelnica region is a relatively economically developed region.

3. Historical development of the municipal center v. Novaci

S. Novaci is first mentioned in the distant 1468. In the Turkish deserts for the Bitola Nakhija, the village is registered with the name Novak, and it is written as Novaki, Novak. Civilization in Pelagonia was from ancient Roman times, while Christianity, according to archaeological sites with remains of Christian temples, was received in the first centuries. After the thousand years of existence of the ancient Macedonians and the Roman Empire in these areas, in the 6th century (697/8) the area was inhabited by the Slavic tribe of Brsjaci. In 1382, Pelagonia fell under Ottoman slavery, which lasted for five centuries. During the Turkish Empire, the OP. Novaci was a police force, with limited powers, while other needs (education, education, police, etc.) were performed through outbreaked units and stations from the municipality of Bitola. Towards the end of 1912, after the collapse of the Turkish Empire, Novaci suffered severe traumas in the Balkan Wars. Immediately after the Balkan Wars, the Kingdom of Serbia established an occupation authority, and from 1914 to 1918, the fiercest fighting in World War I took place in this region.

Especially fierce were the fighting of Mount Nidje, at its peak Kajmakchalan, where the battles of the so-called Thessaloniki or the Macedonian Front, which, according to some data, involved over 1,200,000 soldiers from both belligerents. Among them, a length of 60 km. on the front, in the Mariovo region, 622,000 troops were engaged by the forces of the Entente, of which: Serbian troops were around 150,000 and Macedonian nationality, French troops 180,000, English troops 120,000, Greek soldiers 130,000, and Italian soldiers 42,000.

On the other hand, the allied forces of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria hired around 600,000 troops. After the battles of the Thessaloniki front, Novaci became a huge tomb of dead soldiers on both sides, and the fears and horrors of these battles were well described by French historians: Yves Johner and Pierre Francois. Novices have not even crossed the fears and trauma of the Second World War. In its revolutionary past, Novaci gave many heroes and revolutionaries.

The most famous among them are the celebrated dukes Gjorgji Sugarev and Tole Pasha.

Novak's liberation took place on November 4, 1944, a date considered to be the day of the liberation of Novaci.



Map 1. Overview of the Municipality of Novaci with settlements and atarities within the Republic of Macedonia. Macedonia

Immediately after the Second World War, Novaci became a municipal center. But in 1965, with the consolidation of the municipalities, the competencies of Novaci were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Bitola. On 16.12.1996, Novaci became again an independent municipality, in an independent Republic of Macedonia. Today, Novaci is one of the municipalities with the largest area in the Republic of Macedonia, which extends to an area of 754 km², in which 41 villages gravitate.

Table 2. Overview of the villages by altitude and distance of the village settlements from the central settlement in the Municipality of Novaci which is at 576m. from 0-10, 10-15, and over 15km.,

N.	Municipality and settlements								
	Municipality of Novaci0-10km	(km)	Above the sea Height (m)	Municipality of Novaci10-15km	(km)	Above the sea Height (m)	Municipality of NovaciНад 15km	(km)	Above the sea Height (m)
1.	Baldovenci	8	600	Armatus	12	840	Bac	18	620
2.	Biljanik	3	580	Dobroveni	15	580	Brnik	24	740
3.	Vranjevci	6	660	Dolno Orehovo	11	720	Brod	16	740
4.	Gneotino	8	577	Tepavci	12	750	Budimirci	42	800
5.	Gorno Aglarci	5	590				Veleselo	19	700
6.	Dalbegovci	8	592				Germijan	21	610
7.	Dolno Aglarci	5	582				Gnilez	17	840
8.	Dobromiri	4	575				Gradesnica	44	800
9.	Meglenci	8	740				Grumazi	17	1090
10.	Novo Selo	8	700				Grunista	44	800
11.	Paralovo	9	820				Dobroveni	22	580
12.	Ribarci	3	540				Zivojno	23	710
13.	Suvodol	6	650				Zovik 1	42	680
14.							Zovik 2	48	680
15.							Iveni	32	940
16.							Makovo	18	700
17.							Orle	22	830
18.							Petalino	29	800
19.							Polog	20	940
20.							Rapes	21	700
21.							Skocivir	19	600
22.							Slivica	21	610
23.							Sovic	29	1080
24.							Staravina	41	850

Source: VGI (1970-1972): Topographic maps with Size 1: 25 000 (Gaus Kriger's projection) for the territory of the Republic of Macedonia. Macedonia (216 sections), Belgrade.

4. Village settlements and dynamics of the rural population

When researching rural settlements, a very important element is their size with the number of inhabitants. For more detailed analysis and their study, the village settlements are presented and categorized for the Municipality of Novaci. In the group of villages from 0 to 100 inhabitants are villages: Armatush 41, Baldovenci 0, Biljanik 0, Brnik 2, Brod 57, Budimirci 30, Veleselo 4, Vranjevci 0, Gneotino 32, Gnilje 5, Gradeshnica 89, Gruamazi 15, Grueništa 3 Dobroveni 18, Dolno Orehovo 45, Zovik 1 31, Zovik 2 0, Ivenes 5, Makovo 71, Meglenci 20, Novo Selo 0, Orle 16, Paralovo 5, Petalino 0, Polog 0, Rapes 46, Skocivir 30, Slivica 3, Sovich 0, Staravina 23, Suvodol 2 and Tepavci 25. Out of 100 -200 inhabitants are: Bach 172, Gornoglgarci 185, Dalbegovci 178, Dolnoglgarci 167 and Fishermen 130 inhabitants From 200-300 inhabitants are: Germian 257 and Djibouto 214. Of 300 -500 inhabitants are: Dobromiri 345. From 500-1000 inhabitants have no villages and from 1000-2000 inhabitants is: Novaci 1283. By 2017, in order to stimulate the birth rate, the Municipality of Novaci donates financial assistance of 30,000 denars for each marriage, and for each newborn baby, it provides assistance of 5,000 denars.

Table 3. Institutional infrastructure of rural settlements in the Municipality of Novaci

Municipality and settlements	Primary School until IV grade	Primary School until IX grade	Asphalt to the village	Plumbing local	Sewer	Ambulance	Post office	Shop	Commercial object	Church	Monastery	Mosque
Municipality of Novaci												
Armatush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Baldovenci	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Bac	-	-	-	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biljanik	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Brnik	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Brod	-	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Budimirci	-	-	+	+ tank with pump Mariovo	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
Veleselo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vranjevci	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germian	+	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Gneotino	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Gnilje	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Gornoglgarci	+	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Gradeshnica	-	-	+	+ tank with pump Mariovo	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-
Gruamazi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Grueništa	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
Dalbegovci	-	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-
Dobroveni	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Dobromiri	+	-	+	+ Bitola waterworks	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Dolno Aglarci	-	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Dolno Orehovo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
Zivojno	+	-	+	+ tank with pump	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Zovik 1	-	-	-	+ Bitola waterworks	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
Zovik 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iveni	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
Makovo	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
Meglenci	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
Novaci	-	+	+	+ Bitola waterworks	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
Novo Selo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orle	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Paralovo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
Petalino	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
polog	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Rapes	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Ribarci	+	-	+	+ Bitola waterworks	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
Skocivir	-	-	+	+ tank with	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-

				pump								
Slivica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Sovik	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
Staravina	-	-	-	+ tank with pump Mariovo	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Suvodol	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tepavci	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-

Source: Field Research, June 2003, August - September 2008, and May - 2009.

- The settlements in the Municipality of Novaci are covered by a telephone network, electricity is not only in the villages Brnik and Gruništa.

II. ECONOMIC - GEOGRAPHIC DECISIONS

Today, with regard to the natural wealth and production of environmentally friendly food, the situation in the hilly part of the municipality is even more favorable. Namely, the Mariovo part of the Municipality is one of the ecologically cleanest regions in Macedonia, a region that has huge areas of pastures, forests, waters, diversity of the animal and plant life as a prerequisite for the development of livestock breeding, beekeeping, herbalism and other facilities for ecological production healthy food.

1. Agriculture and industry: Agriculture in the pre-war period and after the Second World War was the main activity, with the main feature of a major backwardness, poor use of mechanization and chemicalization, the soil was processed with wooden rails and iron plows, and the goods were used for their traction. From cereal crops sow: wheat, barley, rye, corn, garden, industrial and forage crops: sunflower, tobacco, sugar beet, oilseed rape, industrial tomatoes, forage crops: poppy, hops, soybeans, chickpeas, alfalfa. Orchard is represented by: apple, pear, quince, cherry, nuts, hazelnut, chestnut and almond, strawberries, berries, etc. Viticulture has been present since the Turkish period and after the Second World War the areas with vines have increased. The stock fund is made up of sheep, goats. To meet the domestic needs in the villages are also grown: chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys, pigs, horses, mules, etc. On the territory of the Municipality of Novaci there are 800 tractors and connecting machinery, part of the economic activities is carried out by the largest agricultural plant in Macedonia - The Agricultural Combine Pelagonija was founded in 1963, today it employs 850 workers and is grouped into 8 production units. The farm is engaged in farming and growing large and small cattle. With autumn sowing are sown 8 000 ha with wheat, 3-4 000 ha barley, 4 000 ha, with corn. The farm also has two fishponds with carp and Californian trout, sheep breeding is represented by over 8000 sheep, 2 000 sheep with cattle and a pig farm. The total agricultural area of the Municipality of Novaci is about 70,000 ha, of which 23,000 ha are cultivated, 17,000 ha are forests and pastures are 30,000 ha, something that is an essential prerequisite for the development of agriculture, animal husbandry and the production of healthy food. Especially in the last period of the period, the cultivation of large cattle is gaining, and in that direction we see the further development, but due to the weak economic power of the population and lack of adequate favorable loans, this sector is not sufficiently used. From the domestic breeds of cattle, the most famous is the bush. In co-operation with neighboring municipalities, the thinking about opening of processing facilities for horticultural and livestock-animal products is even more present, for which there are excellent preconditions for providing raw materials. In the Municipality of Novaci in Mariovo is known the Mariovo bee and the quality Mariovo honey.

In order to provide bigger yields in this sector it is necessary to solve the problem of irrigation and drainage of agricultural land. We have initiated an initiative to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, but due to the lack of financial resources, things are left only for a good idea. The fishery is represented on the rivers: Crna, Gradeska and Bela River.

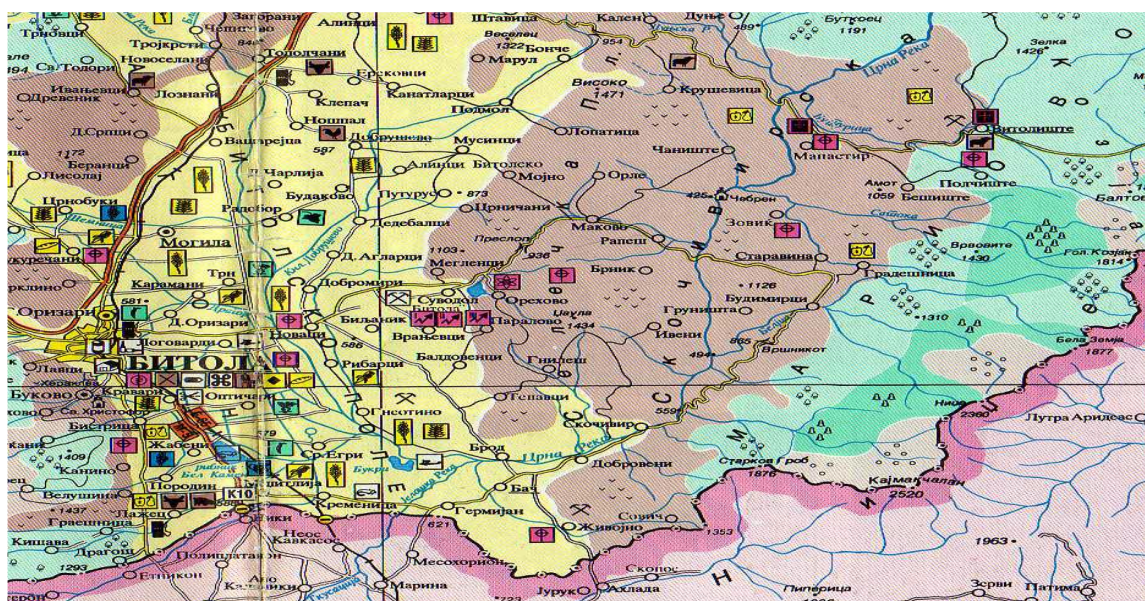
Table 4. Overview of the Land Fund for Cultures in the Municipality of Novaci in 2007.

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A review of the Land Fund for Cultures in the Municipality of Novaci in 2007							
Municipality	Total area (ha)	Rocks, gardens and home gardens (ha)	Livadi (ha)	Pastures (ha)	Orchards (ha)	Vineyard (ha)	Nursery (ha)
Novaci	3319.03	2982.72	175.06	141.60	7.56	8.08	4.01

Source: SSO. Census of agriculture, 2007, Book.II, Skopje, 2008.



Map 2. Economic map of the Municipality of Novaci showing the economic potentials of agriculture: cereals, tobacco and orchards, fishing, forests: coniferous and deciduous, pastures: high mountain and hilly pastures from the energy economy: coal deposits, thermal power plants, sites of nuclear raw materials, from the non-metal industry. Source: Economic map of the Republic of Macedonia in size 1: 442 00

Industry: The Municipality of Novaci has a remarkable potential for natural resources as a precondition for the development of the economy. Namely, in the central part of the municipality there is the largest coal basin - Suvodol with 195 million tons of geological reserves, then the three blocks of REK "Bitola" are installed with power of 3X 210MW - the factory is also part of the plant for equipment and parts (FOD), which are part of ESM - EVN, the largest power plant in the Republic of Macedonia. Macedonia that gives 60% of the electricity needs in the country. The factory employs about 3,200 workers, and produces about 4.2 gigawatt hours of electricity. there are 8 sites for exploitation of mineral water and gases, two sites for exploitation of sand, quartz and other non-metals. In the Municipality of Novaci there are other important private companies such as: DOO Stenton Construction, Mariovo Invest, Gulevski - Company and others.

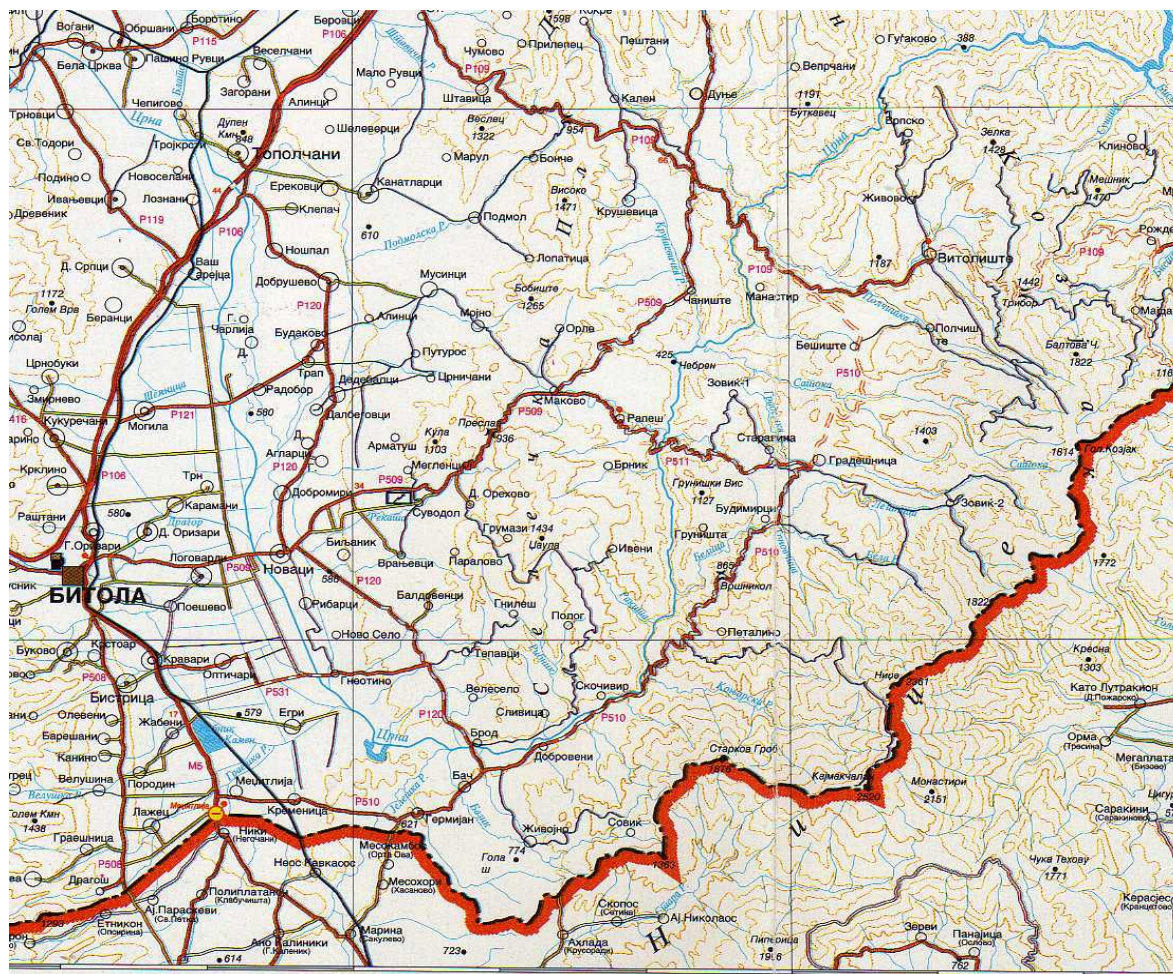
2. Characteristics of the traffic network in the Municipality of Novaci

The traffic is not a production activity, however, without the development of traffic, the development of the economy in the Municipality of Novaci can not be imagined. Within the municipality, road communication is carried out through municipal and regional roads. The residents of the municipality with the center of the municipality of Novaci and Bitola are connected with bus traffic.

Table 5. Overview of the road network in the Municipality of Novaci by road routes and types of roads: Regional, local and streets, as well as the type of substrate in 2017.

Municipality	Regional road routes				Local road network			Local streets		
	R-509	R-510	R-120	R-531	Asphalted roads in km.	Tamponated in km.	Earth Road	Asphalt in km.	Tampo nated in km.	Earth route in km.
Novaci	Bitola-Novaci - Makovo - Staravina with a total length of 53 km (40 km are asphalted, from rapes to Staravina 13 km in length are only composed	Connection M - 5 - Kremenica - Bac - Skocivir - Staravina with a total length of 55 km (30 km is asphalted, 25 km is macadam.	Topolcani - Dobrushevo - Novaci - Ship with a total length of 40km (22km are asphalted, 18km to Novaci is macadam.	Brod - Gneotino 11 km long is a dirt road.	20.5km	25km	91km	13km	6km	58km

Source: Municipality of Novaci



Map 3. Overview of the road infrastructure of the Municipality of Novaci. Source: Road map of the Republic of Macedonia in size 1: 400 000

3. Conditions for development of tourism in the Municipality of Novaci

With its specific cultural - historical, geographic and natural characteristics. The natural factors for the development of tourism play a very important role in the geomorphological, hydrographic (mineral waters in the villages of Medzitlija, Kremenica and Germian), the rivers Belichka and Gradeska, the Black River canyon near the village of Skochivir and biographical motives that give good conditions for tourism development such as the Mariovo eagle. Mountains Nidze, Kozjak rich in diverse game such as wild boar, deer, badger, rabbit, partridge, wolf and fox, forest

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complexes and clean air, natural ambient, snow cover, water courses, sports hunting and fishing, plants and herbs provide a good basis for developing seasonal tourism both in the summer and winter months. The socially important factors play an important role in the anthropogenic - providing excellent opportunities for the development of cultural and historical monuments, archaeological sites and sites, churches and monasteries, ethnological wealth of the population, village tourism in the village Staravina, the bridge in the village Zovik from the Roman times, various festivals and manifestations, traffic lanes, vehicles and travel agencies.



Map 4. Overview of tourist sites in the municipality of Novaci. Source: Tourist Card of the Republic of Macedonia Size 1: 300 000

Conclusion: In the Municipality of Novaci there are good conditions for the development of rural and cultural manifestation tourism.

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