

Abstract

The master's thesis deals with long bus tours and role of tour leader. The theoretical core is interdisciplinary definition of tourism as a specific assemblage of practices with a relationship to people, objects, practices of others and self. The concept of the third space makes it possible to overcome the established definition of tourist within the traditional dichotomy (self – Other, home – away etc.). Therefore, the tourist is regarded as a metaphor of both these opposites simultaneously. The tourist experiences are concerned here as psychological phenomenon consists of expectations, perception of tourist events and tourist memory. The main objective of this paper is to explore formation of tourist experiences during specific conditions of long bus tours from Belarus to EU countries, and to reveal the importance of tour leader within this process.

Keywords: bus tour, tour leader, tourism, tourist experiences, anthropology of tourism