

# Sports-Based Tourism In Bone Bolango, Gorontalo

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**Abstract.** Development sport tourism in Gorontalo Province can be done by utilising sports-based tourism. Bone Bolango is one of districts that has the most tourist destinations in Gorontalo. This study aims to analyse the types of sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango. To achieve the research objectives, a descriptive qualitative method was used, applying observation and interviews with stakeholders. The result of this study shows that there are several types of sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango Regency, such as swimming, snorkeling, diving, river tubing, rafting, hiking and tracking, bike tracking, paragliding, trail adventure, offroad. This research can be used as reference material for further sport tourism research.

**Key words:** sport; tourism.

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## INTRODUCTION

Sport tourism was introduced at the first Sports and Tourism Conference by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 2001. Lately, it is developing rapidly into a global phenomenon (Greenwell, Danzey-Bussel, & Shonk, 2013). It is create opportunities for: 1) sport system development, 2) economic development, dan 3) social and community legacies (Dena, Coward., Matthew, Coyn., Gordon, Goodman., Denise, Hayes., Marion, Lay., Linda, Lee., Graham, McKay., Charles, Parkinson., Richard, Way, 2013). Developing as part of the tourism and sports industry, sport tourism is fast becoming a primadonna for the tourism sector in Indonesia. A Country with rich natural resources, traditions and culture (Soedjatmiko, 2015; Ali, 2018).

In 2020, the Ministry of Youth and Sports revealed that the contribution of sports tourism is still low in the tourism industry (currently 5%). Therefore, Sport-based tourism such as: diving, rafting, cycling, motoGP, paragliding, windsurfing, jet skiing, sailing, and so on, can be optimized for the development sports tourism in Indonesia (Kemenpora, 2020).

Since the government set a target to increase the contribution of the tourism sector twice of the total economy in 4 years, from 4-8% in 2016 to 2020. (Indonesia-investments, 2016). Province Gorontalo established "Worldwide Tourism" in

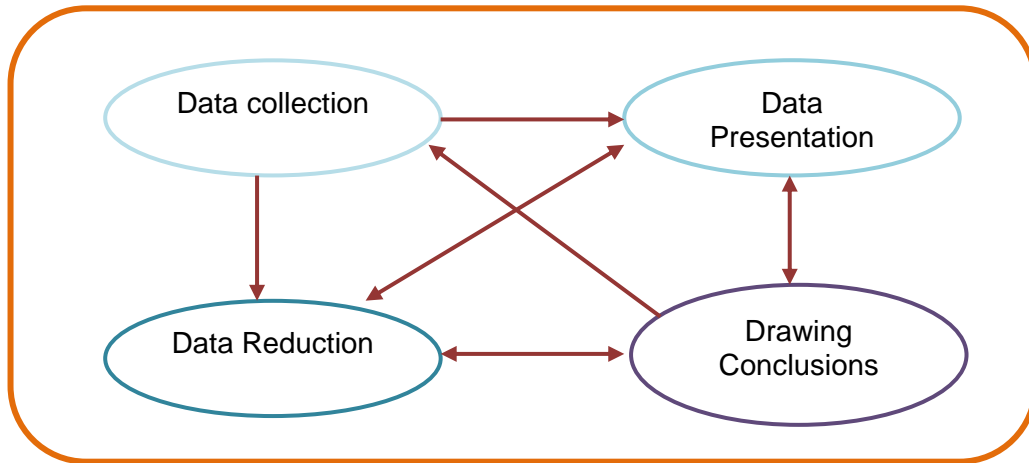
the priority program of Regional Term-Medium Plan Development or called RPJMD of 2018 to 2022. (Humas Pemprov Gorontalo, 2017).

Gorontalo Province has the potential and diversity of abundant resources, excellence and uniqueness (Mopangga, Fitriaty, Arif & Wiwik, 2019), so that Gorontalo Province can be implemented superior programmes and development priorities in the tourism sector. Bone Bolango is one of regencies in Gorontalo Province that has the most tourist destinations. Assisted by tourism awareness groups (POKDARWIS), tourism in Bone Bolango continues to grow. Most of the tourist destinations which have sport activities. Therefore, this study aims to analyse the types of sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango.

## METHODS

This research uses an analytical qualitative method, which will describe and analyse sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango to be developed as sport tourism. Data collection uses interviews and observation methods. The types of data used are primary and secondary data. Primary data was the result of interviews conducted with government, community members, tourism business owners and academics. Secondary data consists of documents and photo used to support primary data.

Data were analysed using qualitative descriptive analysis technique consisting of; data collection, data reduction, data presentation, drawing conclusions.

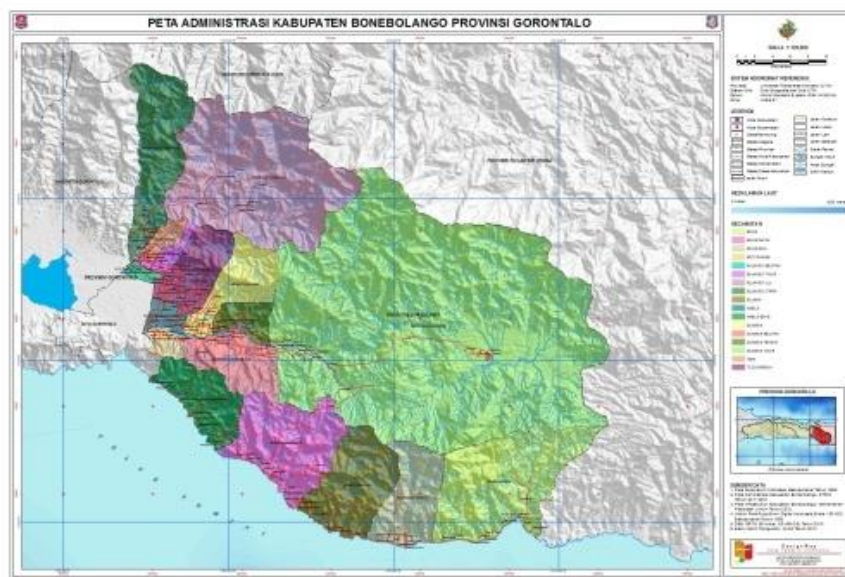


**Picture 1.** Data Analysis Component (Miles, Huberman, & Saldana; 2014)

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Bone Bolango Regency has area 1984,58 Km<sup>2</sup> at altitude of 0-1500 meters above the sea level. Located between 0,27"-1.01' north latitude and between 121.23"-122.44' east longitude. The

southern part is directly adjacent to Tomini Bay, the northern part is adjacent by North Gorontalo Regency and North Sulawesi Province, the eastern part is adjacent Bolaang Mongondow Regency, North Sulawesi, and the western part is adjacent Gorontalo Regency and Gorontalo City.



**Picture 2.** Bone Bolango District Administration Map (Pemerintah Kabupaten Bone bolango, 2021)

The capital or district center is in Suwawa. Bone Bolango Regency consists of 18 sub-districts and 160 villages, namely: Bone (13 villages), Bone Raya (8 villages), Bone Pantai (14 villages), Botupingge (7 villages), South Bulango (10 villages), East Bulango (5 villages), North Bulango (9 villages), Bulawa (9 villages), Kabila (12 villages), Kabilabone (9 villages), Suwawa (10 villages), South Suwawa (8 villages), Center Suwawa (6 villages), East Suwawa (11 villages),

Tapa (7 villages), Tilongkabila (12 villages), dan Pinogu (5 villages).

The natural resources of Bone Bolango Regency are abundant. 5 sub-districts (Bone, Bone Raya, Bone Pantai, Bulawa, Kabila Bone) in the southern region are directly adjacent to Gulf of Tomini. One village in Kabila Bone, Olele, is a marine conservation area. In the northern and eastern parts there is the Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park which is the largest land national

park in Sulawesi, covering an area of 282,008, 757 hectares. Entrances to the park are at Tulabolo village in East Suwawa, Bilungala village in Bone Pantai, Lombongo village in Suwawa, and Lonuo village in Kabila.

Gulf of Tomini is located in the Coral Triangle. Rich of biota, there are 500 types of hard coral reefs which make it richer than the sea in the Caribbean. Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park has potential of flora and fauna. Beside the unique and rare plants, in this national park there are endemic animal of Sulawesi island such as black monkey/yaki (*Macaca nigra nigra*), dumoga bone monkey (*M. Nigrescens*), tangkasi (*Tarsius spectrum spectrum*), Sulawesi weasel (*Macrogalidia musschenbroekii musschenbroekii*), big anoa besar (*Bubalus depressicornis*), anoa kecil (*B. Quarlesi*), babirusa (*Babyrousa babirussa celebensis*), maleo (*Macrocephalon Maleo*).

The great potential of Bone Bolango provides opportunity for the government, society, and related agencies to developing tourist destinations. Hariyanto (2016) destination is one or more geographical areas within an administrative area that have attractiveness, tourism facilities, accessibility, and society roles that complement each other to realize tourism.

**Table 1.** Bone Bolango Regency Tourism Destinations in 2018 and 2020

Types of Tourism	2018	2020
Marine	6	8
Nature	8	11
Artificial	1	2
Historical	1	1
Total	16	22

(Source: Data 2021)

Since 2020, tourist destinations of Bone Bolango have developed into 8 Marine tourism destinations, 11 nature attractions, 2 artificial tourism, and 1 historical tour.

Sports-based tourism found in tourist destinations in Bone Bolango, consist of beach swimming, snorkelling, diving, river tubing, rafting, hiking and tracking. These condition and natural beauty provide opportunities for the society to continue to develop their interest, thus providing space for sports-based tourism such as bike tracking, trail adventure, offroad, paragliding can also doing in villages that have potential. In fact, in 2017 the Region 6 Indonesia Offroad Federation (IOF) National championship

was held in Bone Bolango.

**Table 2.** Sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango

No	Types of Sport	Types of Tourism	Description
1	Beach swimming	Marine	7 beach point
2	Snorkeling	Marine	4 beach point
3	Diving	Marine	19 dive site
4	River tubing	Nature	2 village
5	Rafting	Nature	3 village
6	Hiking and tracking	Nature	5 tracking
7	Bike tracking	Nature	6 tracking
8	Trail adventure	Nature	2 tracking
9	Offroad	Nature	2 tracking
10	Paragliding	Nature	1 point to take off

(Source: Data 2021)

Some of this sports-based tourism in Bone Bolango is potential that can be developed into nature-based and marine sport tourism. Sanusi (2020) sport tourism that offers challenges, has the aim of getting excitement and eliminating the boredom due to work. The attraction of sport tourism can invite tourist to visit because they are interested in the destinations offered. The main challenge in developing sports tourism is government support from provinces, districts, sub-districts and villages. Given that sports such as paragliding, diving, snorkeling, rafting, require facilities that meet safety standards, skilled and licensed tour guides, as they are high-risk tours. In addition, the essence of tourism, namely community involvement to increase economic growth.

## CONCLUSION

Beach swimming, snorkeling, diving, river tubing, rafting, hiking and tracking, bike tracking, paragliding, trail adventure, offroad, are the types of sports that are done in tourist destinations in Bone Bolango. Diving, snorkeling, paragliding, offroad and trail adventure must be done with a licensed tour guide. These types of sports are called special interest tourism. Other studies need to be conducted to identify each type of sport, along with stakeholder involvement for the growth of the tourism sector in Gorontalo. This research is expected to help the development of sports

tourism in Gorontalo, and further researches.

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