BERWISATA OLAHRAGA DI KAWASAN TELUK TOMINI

SPORTS TOURISM IN THE GULF OF TOMINI REGION

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Abstract

The Gulf of Tomini consists of areas in three provinces, namely North Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi, and Gorontalo. Gorontalo region which directly borders The Gulf of Tomini, consists of: Pohuwato, Boalemo, Gorontalo, Bone Bolango, and Gorontalo City. These regions have resources that have been utilized for the development of the tourism sector, thus becoming a destination for foreign and domestic tourists. The developed destinations include sports tourism destinations. This research aims to assess sports tourism activities in the Gulf of Tomini Region, and provide recommendations for the right time to visit the destination. This descriptive qualitative research used literature study and Focus Group Discussion methods to collect data. The main finding of this research is the recommendation of the right time for sports tourism in The Gulf of Tomini Region. Based on these findings, it can be recommended that natural sports tourism in The Gulf of Tomini Region should be carried out during the period December January February, and June July August, marine sports tourism in shallow waters in September October November and in deep waters from October to April.

Keywords: sport tourism, tourist attraction, time of visit, time recommendation, the gulf of tomini


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INTRODUCTION

Tourist destinations using the bay have been developed and received special attention in countries that have bays such as Oman and Qatar (Henderson, 2015), Mississippi and Alabama (Guo et al., 2017), Malaysia (Hanafiah et al., 2021), and also Indonesia (Djunaedi et al., 2021). Bay tourism usually offers beautiful beaches and underwater views (Scott et al., 2017).

The Tomini Bay area is the areas surrounding Tomini Bay, consisting of three provinces, namely North Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi and Gorontalo (SULUTTENGGO). Located in the center of the World Coral Biodiversity Center (Coral triangle) (Banteng, 2022). It has a total bay coastline of approximately 1,350 km (Kamba, 2021; Kotaraya Barat, 2023), and approximately 320 km is in the southern part of Gorontalo. The Gorontalo region, which directly borders Tomini Bay, consists of: Pohuwato, Boalemo, Gorontalo, Bone Bolango and Gorontalo City. These regions have resources that have been utilized for the development of the tourism sector, so that they have become destinations for foreign and domestic tourists. This can be seen from data on tourist visits to Gorontalo Province before the Covid-19 pandemic, which has increased since the last two decades (Pemprov Gorontalo, 2019).

The Gorontalo government has made tourism the main sector (leading sector). This can be seen from the government’s quite ambitious work program in the tourism sector with the slogan "Gorontalo Tourism Goes Global" (Isam, 2020; Syahrir, 2018). Therefore, since 2017 the government has continued to urge people not to vacation outside the region (Pemprov Gorontalo, 2017). Supporting this appeal, the government through the Tourism Department is developing tourist attractions with various attractions. This development is expected to influence tourist decisions (Ramdhani & Andriana, 2023; Susianto et al., 2022) and increase their visits (Andira et al., 2023; Syariful AH & Dwita HR, 2020).

The tourist attractions in Gorontalo Province include: marine, natural, artificial, cultural/religious, historical and special interest tourism (Dinas Pariwisata Provinsi Gorontalo, 2020). Of this number, there are 63 marine tourist attractions and 19 natural tourist attractions that use sports as an attraction (Pauweni, et al., 2022). Such as snorkeling and diving (Mahale et al., 2018; Puluhulawa et al., 2020), explore the forest (Abdussamad & Hurudji, 2022), paragliding (Pauweni, et al., 2021), and white water rafting (Lagalo & Hatibie, 2020; Talib & Usu, 2019).

When traveling for sports at tourist attractions, you should pay attention to the best time period to visit the tourist attraction. Many undesirable unfortunate events occur because tourists do not know and pay attention to this period. For example, tourists are carried away by the current while swimming at the beach (Gopos, 2019; Mano, 2020; Sanga et al., 2020), or while walking along the river (R, 2022) in the Gorontalo Province region.

The time used by tourists to visit tourist attractions, usually long holidays or collective leave, is between June-July and December-January. In the Tomini Bay area or the southern part of Gorontalo, June-July is a period of transition or transition in the plains, and east winds in the waters (Dako & Tamu, 2016). December-January is the rainy season on the plains, and west winds on the waters (Kurniawan et al., 2011) When there are west and east winds, the average waves in the waters are higher (Pandia et al., 2019) The west wind and east wind seasons both have an influence on the seasons on the plains.

The BMKG, Gorontalo Province’s Climatology section, explains that climatologically there are unique seasonal differences in the northern and southern regions of Gorontalo which are caused by geographical and topographical conditions (Ridwan, 2020). The northern part is an area with clear seasonal periods, the difference is between the rainy and dry seasons. Rainy and
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Dry periods occur once a year (Suryantoro, 2017). The southern part is a region with seasonal periods where there is no clear distinction between the rainy and dry seasons. Usually the rainy season occurs twice a year, namely: March April May and September October November (Wahid & Usman, 2017).

In the findings of previous studies, the rainy season period can influence tourist visits and their activities in tourist destinations (Lusiani & Wally, 2020; Siswanto et al., 2012; Suwarto, 2011; Wibowo & Sianipar, 2022). In Iran, since 2005 research has been carried out to identify good times for sports tourism. This research produces recommendations for certain times and types of exercise that can be done at tourist attractions (Tayebi et al., 2020; Gourab & Foroughe, 2010; Ramzaninejad et al., 2020). Based on the literature review, this research aims to: (1) examine sports tourism activities in the Tomini Bay Area, and (2) provide recommendations for good times to visit destinations in the Tomini Bay Area.

METHOD

This research was carried out in October 2022 – March 2023, applying qualitative descriptive through literature review and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) to achieve the objectives. Similar research has been carried out previously by (K C & Thapa Parajuli, 2015) and (Ramzaninejad et al., 2020). They utilize secondary data to provide solutions to tourism activities and the rainy season as one of the factors that influence it.

1. Research flow (Source: Author, 2023)

2. Tomini Bay area (Source: wikipedia.org)
The research flow can be seen in Figure 1. Literature search using the keywords: sports tourism, tourist attractions, high season, tourist visits, tourist decisions, seasons, season patterns, Gorontalo seasons, seasons and tourism. Apart from that, previous research is also a
reference in this research. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) presented 2 experts from the tourism sector, 3 recreational sports experts, 1 social science expert, 2 BMKG Climatology Station experts. The focus of the research is the Tomini Bay area of Gorontalo, namely Pohuwato, Boalemo, Gorontalo, Bone Bolango, and Gorontalo City, which can be seen in Figure 2.

RESULT
Sports Tourism in the Tomini Bay Area

Table 1. Sports tourism attraction in the Tomini Bay area, Gorontalo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Mountains</th>
<th>Plains</th>
<th>Nautical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pohuwato</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boalemo</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorontalo</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorontalo City</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Bolango</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>63</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (Dinas Pariwisata Provinsi Gorontalo, 2020; Pauweni, Rahayu, Winarno, Amali, et al., 2022; Pauweni, Rahayu, Winarno, Setyawati, et al., 2022)

Table 2. Sports tourism destinations and attractions in the region teluk tomini

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Attractiveness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pohuwato</td>
<td>Torsiaje</td>
<td>Dive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lomuli</td>
<td>Climbing, paragliding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marisa</td>
<td>Snorkeling, diving, free diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Libuo</td>
<td>Beach swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boalemo</td>
<td>Bolihutuo</td>
<td>Beach swimming, snorkeling, diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorontalo</td>
<td>Kayu Bulan</td>
<td>Snorkeling, diving, paragliding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lopo</td>
<td>Snorkeling, diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biluhu</td>
<td>Beach swimming, snorkeling, diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorontalo City</td>
<td>Kota Selatan</td>
<td>Jogging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Bolango</td>
<td>Kabila Bone</td>
<td>Beach swimming, snorkeling, diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bone Pantai</td>
<td>Snorkeling, diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suwawa Timur</td>
<td>White water rafting, climbing, exploring the forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suwawa Tengah</td>
<td>Climbing, exploring the forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tilongkabila</td>
<td>Climbing, paragliding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tapa</td>
<td>Climbing, white water rafting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bulango Ulu</td>
<td>Rafting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bulango Utara</td>
<td>Rafting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (Research Data, 2023)
Sports tourism is recognized by the types of sports attractions available at tourist attractions. Secondary data used in this research comes from: (1) Destination Division of the Gorontalo Province Tourism Office (Dinas Pariwisata Provinsi Gorontalo, 2020), (2) Previous studies (Pauweni et al., 2021), and (Pauweni, Rahayu, Winarno, Setyawati, et al., 2022). Based on secondary data, it is known that the number of sports tourism objects in the Tomini Bay area of Gorontalo is 89 objects. Data are presented in Table 1.
The tourist attractions that mostly use sports as an attraction consist of: natural tourism and marine tourism. The types of sports attractions for each object are: (1) Nature tourism, consisting of climbing, jungle exploring, paragliding, white water rafting, jogging, cycling, (2) Marine tourism, consisting of: beach swimming, kayaking, canoeing, snorkeling, diving, free diving. Sports attractiveness data can be seen in Table 2.

**Recommended Time to Visit the Tomini Bay Area**

Based on the conclusions of the Focus Group Discussion results, a formula for recommendations for good times for visiting tourism and sports tourism in the Tomini Bay area was found. This recommendation is divided into two areas, namely: (1) water areas, and (2) plain areas. The formula is presented in Figures 9 and 10.

**DISCUSSION**

Types of sports tourism, namely: mountain sports tourism, plains sports tourism and marine sports tourism (KONSULAT JENDERAL REPUBLIK INDONESIA DAVAO CITY REPUBLIK FILIPINA, 2018). Based on these references, secondary data on sports tourism objects from (Dinas Pariwisata Provinsi Gorontalo, 2020), (Pauweni et al., 2021), and (Pauweni, Rahayu, Winarno, Amali, et al., 2022), classified into mountain, plain and marine sports tourism. Mountain and plain sports tourism is included in natural tourism.

Based on the recommendations for good times for marine sports tourism in the Tomini Bay area in Figure 9, it is known that there are differences in time periods between beach swimming, snorkeling, canoeing and kayaking, diving and free diving. This is because the 4 sports attractions mentioned at the beginning include shallow water sports, while the other 2 types of sports attractions include deep water sports.

Shallow water sports tourism is strongly influenced by water waves. Water waves are also called sea surface waves, a complex, easily changing phenomenon with characteristics that are difficult to understand (Sri Suharyo, 2018). Tomini Bay is a semi-enclosed deep-water area (Yusuf, 2020). Furthermore, (Habibie et al., 2018) also stated that open or open waters have higher waves than closed waters, but the waters of Tomini Bay are one of the unstable waters in Indonesia. Unstable waves are a dangerous factor for shallow water sports tourism (Taofiqurohman & Ismail, 2020; Triyantoro & Suradi, 2016). Waves in the December January February period were higher than those in June July August, and weakened in the period between the two. This transition period is known as the shade season (Kurniawan et al., 2012).

Meanwhile, deep water sports tourism is strongly influenced by the upwelling phenomenon. Upwelling is the movement or movement of food sources (nutrients) from the seabed to the surface (PPID IPB, 2022). This phenomenon is very beneficial for fishermen, because the catch is abundant. But it is dangerous for divers. Because when this phenomenon occurs, the sea water becomes murky, affecting and reducing divers’ visibility. For divers, the parameters taken into account when visiting a diving point at a tourist attraction include the brightness of the waters (Adi et al., 2018). Besides that, (Mustikasari et al., 2015) confirmed that during the period October to April there was a weak upwelling phenomenon in the waters of Tomini Bay, Gorontalo.

Recommendations for good times for sports tourism in nature, such as jogging, cycling can be done every day of the year by paying attention to the daily weather, while white water rafting, climbing, forest exploring, paragliding, can be done in certain periods, namely the period December January February and June July August. The plains of the Tomini Bay Area, Gorontalo Province, which is in the southern part, have unique seasonal periods. In simple terms, it can be explained that this plain area rarely experiences a dry season, and in one week there are 3-5 days of local rain (Ridwan, 2021). Furthermore, (O'Mahony & McMurray, 2008)
stated that rain is a natural phenomenon that can influence tourist activities, both directly and indirectly (Kim et al., 2017). Rain influences tourists' decisions to visit tourist attractions (Nurmailis & Suyuthie, 2021; Suwarto, 2011; Wibowo & Sianipar, 2022).

Further explanation is also stated (Kemenparekraf RI, 2023) related to the classification of types of sports tourism attractions into 2 categories, namely: (1) medium risk activities, and (2) high risk activities. High risk sports tourism activities consist of: diving, white water rafting, rock climbing, paragliding (Dian Laksmi Dewi, 2018). Medium-risk sports tourism can suddenly turn into a high-risk activity if done at the wrong time, as happens to tourists who swim at the beach during periods of high waves (Triyantoro & Suradi, 2016), or tourists who go along the river during the rainy season (Suhartono et al., 2019).

CONCLUSION
Based on the study of the results and discussion, it can be concluded that sports tourism in the Tomini Bay area consists of nature tourism and marine tourism, has the attraction of mountain sports, water sports in rivers and at sea which consists of sports in shallow water and deep water. There are different recommendations for good time periods for sports tourism in the plains and waters of the Tomini Bay area, namely: (1) Sports tourism in nature, recommended during the periods December January February, and June July August, (2) Sports tourism in shallow waters, recommended during the period September October November, and March April May, (3) Sports tourism in deep water, recommended during the period October to April.

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