

## TRAFFIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF PRILEP

**Cane Koteski<sup>1\*</sup>, Zlatko Jakovlev<sup>2</sup>**

*Faculty of tourism and business logistics, Goce Delcev University, Stip, North Macedonia,*  
[cane.koteski@ugd.edu.mk](mailto:cane.koteski@ugd.edu.mk)

<sup>2</sup>*Faculty of tourism and business logistics, Goce Delcev University, Stip, North Macedonia,*  
[zlatko.jakovlev@ugd.edu.mk](mailto:zlatko.jakovlev@ugd.edu.mk)

**Abstract:** With this scientific paper we want to show the key role, i.e. the importance of the traffic infrastructure for the transport of passengers and goods in the city to the villages and neighboring municipalities, in the function of developing tourism and the economy of the municipality of Prilep. The geographical position of the municipality of Prilep within North Macedonia is given. The municipality of Prilep is presented on a geographical map with the areas of all 58 rural settlements as well as the type of roads that pass through the municipality itself and the connection with neighboring municipalities. The scientific paper provides a traffic map for city bus transport in the city of Prilep. Furthermore, the scientific paper covers a growing number of objects and provides an overview of the entire road and rail traffic infrastructure that exists in the municipality of Prilep. The entire road infrastructure is presented both in the city and to 58 rural settlements and neighboring municipalities according to the category of the road, traffic transport companies, bus transport companies, bus stations, car services, auto electrical services, auto tire repairers, road towing services, gas stations, taxi companies and railway transport in the municipality of Prilep. Each transport company has a specific purpose for which it exists, and the management has the responsibility to use and combine organizational resources in the most optimal way, thus achieving the goal of the transport companies.

**Key words:** traffic, infrastructure, companies, goals, profitability, economy, tourism

**JEL Classifikacija:** R4-Transportation economics. R41 Transportation: Demand, Supply, and Congestion • Travel Time • Safety and Accidents • Transportation Noise

### INTRODUCTION

The traffic infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep has a long history, something that is confirmed by the Peutinger map made for the needs of the Roman Empire as early as the 4th century BC, where settlements located in the Pelagonia Valley are included. One of the most developed and most common types of traffic in the studied municipality of Prilep is road, rail and lake traffic expressed through its use and mass of individual cars, buses, vans, motorcycles, bicycles, intercity, public city bus, rail transport and lake traffic on the Prilep Lake. In the municipality of Prilep, by 2024, out of 58 rural settlements, 38 rural settlements will be connected with asphalt, while 20 villages still have dirt road infrastructure. The municipality of Prilep is located in the northern part of the Pelagonia Valley, which is the largest valley in North Macedonia. By area, the municipality of Prilep is the largest municipality in North Macedonia with 1,194.44 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population density of 69.27 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. The municipality of Prilep in 2021 had 69,125 inhabitants, of which 34,208 (49.5%) were men and 38,817 (50.4%) were women. Its borders extend across the central, southern and southwestern parts of the country. Rural areas are spread across the northern and northwestern parts of the upper catchment area of the Raechka River, the southern slopes of the Babuna Mountain, as well as part of the Prilep Plain, to the southeast it extends into the territory of Mariovo, and to the southwest and west it occupies a large part of the Prilep Plain. The municipality of Prilep has a northwest-southeast extension. It borders the municipalities of Krivogaštani, Dolneni and

Čaška to the northwest and north, the municipality of Kavadarci to the east, the Sobota region in Greece to the southeast, and the municipalities of Novaci and Mogila to the southwest and west. The municipality of Prilep has a very favorable geographical position and transport connections.



**Figure 1.** Geographical location of the municipality of Prilep within North Macedonia.

Source: <https://mk.wikipedia.org>

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

For the purposes of this research, the survey method was used, during which surveys were conducted in all living rural settlements. In the preparation of the scientific paper, the following were used: books, scientific literature, magazines, reports, publications, statistical yearbooks, on-line databases, as well as various published materials on the traffic infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep. A survey questionnaire of 12 questions was developed and more than 98 residents who permanently live in rural settlements and have solid information about the traffic road, railway infrastructure and water and lake traffic were surveyed. The survey questionnaire contains questions on whether the area of the village has: road infrastructure both in the city and to 58 rural settlements and neighboring municipalities according to the category of the road, traffic transport companies, bus transport companies, bus stations, car services, auto electrical services, auto tire repairers, road towing services, gas stations, taxi companies, railway and lake traffic in the municipality of Prilep. To obtain more complete information, discussions were held with the residents of the villages. Research on the traffic infrastructure in the city of Prilep and rural settlements was carried out during 2023 and 2024 and they have been processed and presented in a table.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Traffic infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep and its structure**

Below is the road and railway infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep.



**Figure 2.** View of the road infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep

Source: Geographical and tourist map of the Republic of Macedonia 1: 260 000, Culture, Gizi Map, (16.03.2025), photo: C. Koteski.

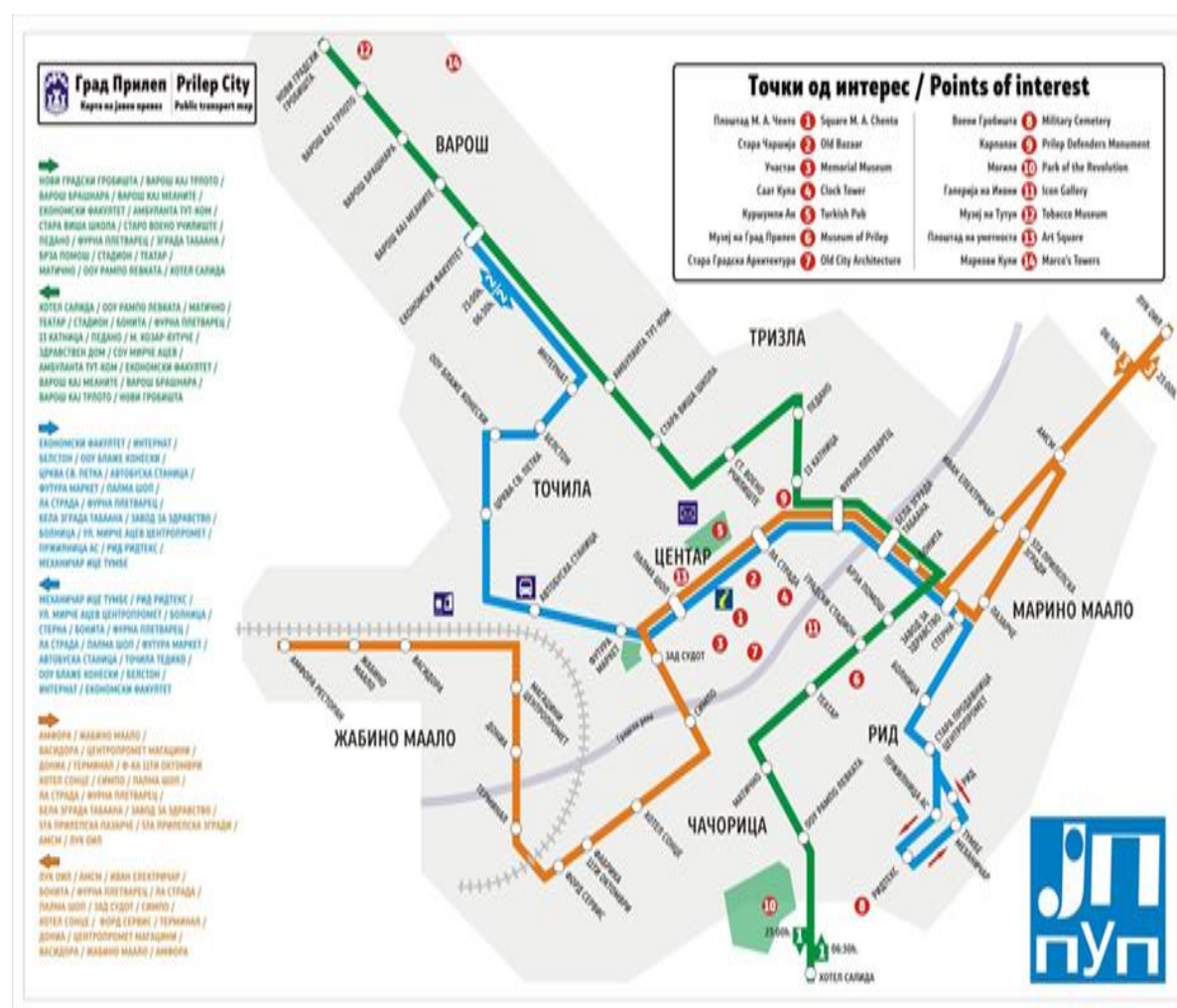


Figure 3. Overview of bus transport and routes in the city of Prilep

The following roads pass through the municipality of Prilep:

A roads:

- A1: Gradsko-Prilep section.
- A3: Ohrid-Resen-Bitola-Prilep-Veles-Stip-Kocani-Makedonska Kamenica-Delchevo-Bulgarian border.

R1 regional roads:

- Regional road 1101: Prilep-Bitola-Makazi-Tsarev Dvor.
- Regional road 1107: Gradsko-Rosoman-Kavadarci-Vitolishte-Novo Lagovo.
- Regional road 1303: Prilep-Makedonski Brod-Kicevo.

Despite the territorial size of the municipality of Prilep, it still does not have a department for the development of urban and rural tourism..

- Regional road 1306: Prilep-Krivogastani-Krushevo-Sladuevo.
- Regional road 1312: Veles-Izvor-Prilep.

R2 regional roads:

- Regional road 2338: Medzitlija-Germijan-Staravina-Gradesnica-Besishte.
- Regional road 2339: Novo Lagovo-Galicani-Obrsani-Buchin-Graishte.

R29 regional roads:

- Regional road 29172: Belovodica-Dunje.
- Regional road 29374: Varosh-Monastery of the Holy Virgin (Treskavec).

**Railway traffic in the municipality of Prilep:** Prilep is connected by railway line to Veles to

the north and Bitola to the south. In addition to the city of Prilep, there are railway stations in the villages of Galicani, Zagorani and Trojkrski. In the period before World War II, due to the economic development in the region, many activities were undertaken to build the railway network. During that period, the Prilep - Bitola railway was put into operation on 07.04.1931, and somewhat later, the Veles - Prilep railway on 20.01.1936.

In the further part of the scientific paper, the entire road, rail and lake traffic and infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep will be presented in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Overview of the traffic infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep

No.	Types of traffic infrastructure and services	No.	Places where there is and is not traffic infrastructure
1.	Asphalt road	38	Alinci, Belovodica, Berovci, Beshishte, Bonche, Veprchani, Veselchani, Vitoliste, Volkovo, Galichani, G. Radobil, G. Konjari, Dunje, Erekovci, Zagorani, Kadino Selo, Kalen, Kanatlarci, Klepach, Krushevica, Lenishta, Lopatica, Mazuchishte, M. Konjari, Manastir, Novo Lagovo, Oreovec, Pletvar, Podmol, Prilep, Prilepec, Selce, Staro Lagovo, Topolchani, Trojkrsti, Chanishte, Chepigovo, Shtavica.
2.	Dirt road	20	Vrpsko, Guđakovo, Dabnica, Dren, Živovo, Kokre, Krstec, Mal Radobil, Malo Ruvci, Marul, Nikodin, Pēstani, Polčište, Prisad, Rakle, Smolani, Toplica, Trojaci, Carevic, Chumovo, Sheleverci,
3.	Transport companies in the municipality of Prilep	17	Amigos, AN-D Spanex, Arslan Tours, Va-N Travel, VIB Racing, Dino Travel, EU Lindy, Lasta Tours, Noki Trans Nova, Rama Tours, Roz-Rub, Runa Mak, Stella, Tam Trans, Tram Tours, Uni Tours, Chibuk Travel.
4.	Bus transportation companies	9	Adnan Reisen Dahl, Benetton, Bran, Byzant Tours, City Transport, Pelagonia Trans, Roman, Uni-Tours, Chibuk Travel.
5.	Bus stations	2	New Bus Station, Old Bus Station.
6.	Multi-storey garages	2	Prilep 2-Old bus station, city market.
7.	Car services	24	Autoservice Dragi, Autojoker 2007, Auto Control, Auto Antonio, Auto Dino, Auto Krsteski, Auto Sashe, Auto Stella, Ae Ivan Komerc, Alfa Auto, Angromehanika, Ace Zdravche, AMSM-AMD Prilepec, Babarko, Bal-Tal, Bojo i Goce, Bojan Pilot, Bushmano DS, BM. 12-ti Avgust, Vlatko.Nov Servis Johnny-Berovci, Kanatlarci 2 services, Novo Lagovo 1
8.	Auto-electrical services	21	Automoto Zoki, Auto-Stella, Ae Ivan Komerc, Anna Marie, Drexler Mayer, I-S-I, Climatronic, Macheto, Peco, Sime Komerc, Fil-Zo, Champion, Schema Elektronik, Autoelectronica Vego 2018, Autoelectronics, Autohouse Tome, Autolux KTN, Auto Control, Autohouse Vace, Auto Style, Kanatlarci 1.



9.	Auto vulcanizers	12	Algos Commerce, Best Auto, Goce, Dunlop, Euro Tip-Top, Indra Plus, Motocentar, Nikola 2020, Pirelli, Tabay Protect, Togo Trade, Chizmata.
10.	Towing services	6	Angromekanika, AMSM-AMD Prilepec, Vulko Prilep, Malibro, Palma Shop, Shinde.
11.	Gas stations	13	Bm Oil-Prilep, Bm Oil-Topolchani, Bm Oil-Prilep, Bm Oil-Prilep, Eco Petrol-Pletvar, Lukoil-Prilep, Makpetrol-Buchila-Berovci, Makpetrol-Kanatlarci, Makpetrol-Prilep, Makpetrol-Prilep, Makpetrol-Prilep, Makpetrol-Prilep, Matador 2002-Prilep, Medio Petrol.
12.	Taxi companies	11	At-Iva, Millennium 13-373, Nova 13-311, Pet-13-777, 13-888, Roman, Sg Isidora, Taxi Prilep 13-131, Daniel, Radio Taxi Nova 133 11 Taxi Leader, V Tahi.
13.	Railway stations	4	Prilep, Galicani, Zagorani and Trojkrsti
14.	Lake traffic	1	Prilep Lake
15.	Sports airport	1	Village of Malo Konjari
Total		181	

Source: Field research by the authors in the period 2023-2025.

According to the data in Table 1, we conclude that the following traffic infrastructure exists in the municipality of Prilep: 38 villages are connected by asphalt roads, 20 villages still have dirt roads. In the municipality of Prilep, there are 17 transport companies, 9 are bus transport companies, 2 are bus stations, 2 multi-storey garages, 24 car services, 4 of which are located in the villages, 21 auto-electric services, 1 of which is located in the village, 6 towing services, 13 gas stations, three of which are in the villages, 11 are taxi companies, 4 are railway stations, three of which are in the villages, 1 lake facility for lake traffic that takes place on the Prilep lake with several private speedboats and boats, and 1 sports airport.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The necessary measures that need to be taken in the coming period for a more successful development of the traffic infrastructure, the transport of passengers, goods, and a more successful development of the economy and tourism in the municipality of Prilep are: 1. To asphalt all 20 dirt roads to the villages in the municipality of Prilep; 2. Connection with neighboring municipalities and countries through the construction of new expressways and highways; 3. Increasing the number of multi-storey garages, parking lots and bus transport companies; 4. Greater marketing and improvement of services and increasing the number of auto mechanic and electrical services in the city and villages; 5. Mapping and preparation of a new traffic tourist map for the municipality of Prilep in several foreign languages; 6. It is necessary to increase and improve the overall road signaling infrastructure in the municipality of Prilep; 7. Placing road signs on the roads in several foreign languages; 8. Improvement and increase in the number of new towing services, gas stations, taxi companies especially in the villages; 9. Greater marketing and presentation of the sports airport in the village of Malo Konjari with various sports. 10. Better development of passenger and goods transport, economy and tourism both at the local and national level.

## LITERATURE

Dimitrov, N., & Koteski, C. (2016). *Spatial planning*. LAP Lambert Academic Publishing GmbH&Co.KG, Saarbrücken, Germany,, Saarbrücken, Germany. ISBN 978-659-83361-8.

- Koteski, C. (2023). *Учебник по Меѓународен туристички сообраќај*. Faculty of Tourism and Business Logistics Goce Delchev University of Shtip, Stip. ISBN 978-608-244-974-6.
- Koteski, C., & Gorgieva, T. (2020). Искуството и мотивацијата на христијанинот како патник во патниот сообраќај во манастирскиот туризам од источна Македонија. *Bulletin of Papers ASA - 2014-2015* (30-31). pp. 49-60. ISSN 0352-3497.
- Koteski, C. (2018). *The Role of the City Transport in Prilep and Its Application in the Tourism in the Republic of Macedonia*. *Journal of Tourism and Hospitality Management*, 6 (3). pp. 109-129. ISSN 2328-2169.
- Koteski, C. (2017). *Сообраќај во туризмот*. Универзитет „Гоце Делчев“ - Штип. ISBN 978-608-244-395-9.
- Koteski, C., Dimitrov, N., Jakovlev, Z., & Petrov, N. (2016). Cruise as part of water transport - development and challenges. In: *Proceeding papers of the Fifth International Scientific Conference "Geographical sciences and education"*, 4-5 Nov 2016, Shumen, Bulgaria.
- Koteski, C., Dimitrov, N., & Jakovlev, Z. (2016). Состојба на македонската сообраќајна мрежа и нејзиното влијание врз меѓународниот сообраќај. *Bulletin of Papers ASA - 2008-2009*. pp. 53-69. ISSN 0352-3497.
- Koteski, C., Jakovlev, Z., & Koteski, G. (2014). *Монографија за Прилеп* - Working Paper. Друштво за наука и уметност Прилеп и Локална самоуправа Прилеп.
- Koteski, C. (2013). *Thematic atlas of Mariovo and Raechka valley in Macedonia*. *Geografija - Tematska kartografija*. LAP Lambert Academic Publishing GmbH&Co.KG, Saarbrücken, Germany, pp. 1-222. ISBN 978-3-659-38483-7
- Koteski, C., Jakovlev, Z., & Kitanov, V. (2013). *Demographic and infrastructure problems of villages in the hilly - mountainous areas of Prilep*. In: *Scientific symposium with international participation: Demographic and infrastructure problems of villages in the hilly - mountainous areas of Prilep*, 12-15 Sept 2013, Ohrid, Macedonia.
- Koteski, C. (2006). *Touristic map of Prilep*. ГЕОМАП ДОО, Трговско друштво за издавачка дејност, картографија, градежништво и услуги, Скопје.
- Koteski, C., Jakovlev, Z., Angelkova, T., Mitreva, E., & Kitanov, V. (2014). *Преглед на патничкиот и товарниот сообраќај во Република Македонија во периодот од 1982-2010 г.* *Bulletin of Papers ASA - 2010-2011* (26-27). pp. 49-55. ISSN 0352-3497.
- Koteski, C. (2010). Settlements in Mariovo Raechka Valley and their thematic cartographic representation. *Bulletin of Papers ASA - 2008-2009* (24-25). pp. 253-263. ISSN 0352-3497.
- Mitreva, E., Jakovlev, Z., Koteski, C., Kitanov, V., & Angelkova, T. (2012). The stimulus for creativity of the employees in the travel companies in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In: *International Scientific Congress on current trends in tourism Management and tourism policy*, 15-16- February 2012, Athens, Greece.
- Mitreva, E., Prodanovska, V., Jakovlev, Z., Koteski, C., & Angelkova, T. (2011). Measuring business outcomes within Macedonian travel companies. In: *Contemporary trends in tourism and hospitality*, 29-30 Sept 2011, Novi Sad, Serbia.
- Mitreva, E., & Koteski, C. (2010). Потребата од методологија за трошци на квалитет во македонските компании кои се занимаваат со транспортни услуги. In: *IV Congress of Geographers of The Republic of Macedonia*, 7-10.X.2010, Republic of Macedonia, Dojran 7-10.X.2010.