

## Eco-Hotel At The Balige Natural Resort Area

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### ABSTRACT

*With a tourism development discourse in Lake Toba, North Sumatra, the tourism minister is targeting up to 1 million tourists to visit Lake Toba in 2019. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a stay and relaxation that can support tourist activities in Lake Toba. At the moment there is no housing to stay and relax at the same time at Balige. Therefore, it is necessary to design a house to rest and relax in there. The Resort hotels in the Balige Nature Tourism Area are expected to be a destination for local and foreign tourists. The Resort Hotels in the Balige Nature Tourism Area are using the concept of "Ecological Architecture," where with the presence of this resort hotel the balance of nature and relationships between human, environment, and building are maintained in balance. The design of "Resort Hotel in The Balige Nature Tourism Area" is needed research to get an optimal design. Then, on the design of the project used a qualitative methodology. Resort Hotel Design in the Balige Nature Tourism Area can fulfill human needs for vacationing, relax and resting from all the daily activities in the city. The design of resort hotels can also support government programs that promote tourism in the area of Lake Toba.*

**Keywords:** ecological architecture, nature tourism, resort hotel.

### INTRODUCTION

Tourism is the most crucial part of a country regarding improving the economy. Therefore, this sector must be developed to attract tourists to come to Indonesia. This can be relied on to be an excellent income for Indonesia if utilized and managed with well. Many types of tourism in Indonesia, but the central Indonesian tourism is natural tourism.

Indonesia is famous for its abundant natural beauty. This is an inherent tourism potential that can attract tourists to make Indonesia a tourism destination. Indonesia is located on the equator and also a tropical climate with sun exposure for most of the year. Therefore, tourists can visit Indonesia at any time. According to data from the "Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS)" in 2016, North Sumatra ranked 7th in tourist destinations in Indonesia. In 2016, the number of tourists visiting North Sumatra was 7,865,853 of the total of local and foreign tourists visiting Indonesia.

There are several natural tourism potentials in North Sumatra which have become tourist destinations both from within and outside the country, such as Lake Toba and Berastagi. Lake Toba has become a major national tourist destination. Lake Toba is the largest lake in Indonesia, even in the Southeast Asian region. Mountains also surround lake Toba, and there is an island in the middle. Lake Toba has excellent potential to attract tourists.

People who live in urban areas will not find a beautiful and soothing panorama. Job demands in the city will consume energy, mind, energy, and also added air pollution could affect human health and psychic. In natural tourist areas, it requires lodging and even facilities to relax to restore health and also the saturation of all daily activities in the city. Therefore, Resort Hotels will be very helpful in fulfilling these desires (Snyder, 1989).

Designing Resort Hotels with an "Ecology" approach is carried out as a response to the natural potential and climate conditions available. With all the possibilities given by nature, resort hotels are expected to minimize

energy consumption. Balige-Toba Samosir Regency has a beautiful natural panoramic view of Lake Toba and is ideal as a site for Resort Hotel design.

The design of Resort Hotels as lodging facilities is also the next stage of the tourism development program by the government. After the renovation of Silangit Airport and the construction of the highway road (which is still underway), Sibisa and Pelabuhan Airports in Sibolga became the next target of infrastructure development to achieve the government's goal to make Lake Toba a more significant international tourist destination. From these data, the prospects for creating a Resorts Hotel in Balige are excellent.

Resort hotels are a type of housing in a resort area that uses part or all of the building to provide lodging, eating and drinking services, other complementary facilities and services for the public that can support and facilitate the resting activities of guests who aim to travel / relax in the area, and commercially managed (Neufert, 1995).

Resort hotels are different from hotels in city centers, which mainly emphasize the importance of the interior environment, while resort hotels are more concerned with the situation around the location, then create an attractive atmosphere within the hotel environment.

There are 4 (four) characteristics that distinguish the type of hotel: locations; facilities; architecture and atmosphere; and market segment. Beautiful places, mountains, beaches and so on, which are not damaged by the hustle and bustle of the city, crowded and noisy traffic, "Concrete Forests" and city pollution are usually the right locations. At Resort Hotels, proximity to the main attractions and associated with relaxed activities is a significant market demand and will affect the price.

The motivation of visitors to have fun by filling their spare time requires the availability of basic facilities as well as indoor and outdoor relax facilities. The central facility is the bedroom as a private area. Outdoor unwind facilities include swimming pool, tennis court, and landscape arrangement.

Tourists who visit Resort Hotels tend to look for housing with a unique architecture and

atmosphere that is different from other types of hotels. Tourist resort hotel users tend to choose a comfortable atmosphere with an architecture that supports the level of comfort by not leaving an ethnic image.

The targets to be reached are tourists and visitors who want to take a vacation, have fun, enjoy the natural scenery, beaches, mountains and other places that have a beautiful panorama.

### **Ecological Architecture**

The term ecology was first put forward by Ernst Haeckel (1834-1914). Ecology studies are living things as units or systems with their environment. Ecology is the study of the interaction between organisms and their environment and others. Derived from the Greek words *oikos* ("habitat") and *logos* ("science"). Ecology is the study of interactions between living things and interactions between living things and their environment.

Ecological architecture is an environmentally sound development, which makes the most of natural potential. Eco-Architecture Planning Patterns always utilize nature as follows: the roof, the roof of a building by its duties, must protect heat, wind, and rain; the high intensity of energy contained in building materials used when construction must be as seminal as possible. The building must lead to an east-west orientation with the north-south part receiving natural light without glare, and the walls of the building must be able to protect against heat. Heat absorption and thickness of the wall according to the climate/room temperature requirements in it. Buildings that pay attention to natural air refresher can save a lot of energy.

### **METHOD**

The design of "Resort Hotel in The Balige Nature Tourism Area" is needed research to get an optimal design. Then, on the design of the project used a qualitative methodology. Qualitative research methods are research that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subject for example behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc. Holistically, and by way of description in the form of words and languages, at a time unique natural context by utilizing various methods natural (Nazir, 1986).

Qualitative procedures for conducting research do not have a particular system. Research developed according to the conditions in the field and based on the needs of researchers. The research stages qualitative are as follows: formulate problems as a research focus; collect data in the area; analyze data; formulate study results, and prepare recommendations for decision making.

To obtain relevant data to the research there are several data collection techniques to be carried out: site survey, researchers visited the site to do a study to the field to collect fact data in the area; literature study, researchers, read literature, scientific papers, journals and books concerned with the research being carried out. Local regulatory data, BPS or local Bappeda usually provides data. Some government regulations that apply to design, including RTBL, RTRW, RDTR.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Resort Hotel in Balige Nature Tourism Area is the name of this project. This project status also fictitious. This project is on the Patuan Nagari road in the Balige area. The existing function of this site is empty land. This site is bordered to the north by a river, to the east by vacant land, to the south by Patuan Nagari street, and the west by empty land (Figure 1).

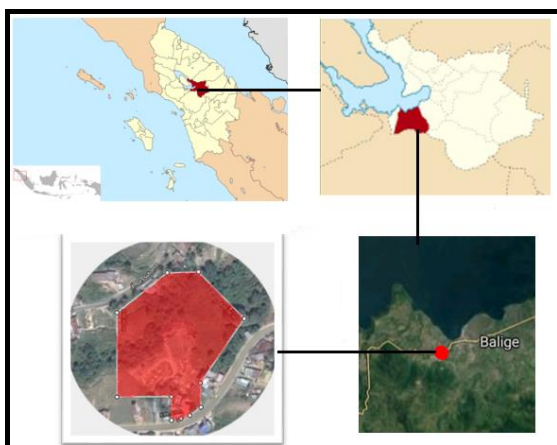


Figure 1. Site Location

Site design has  $\pm 2,5$  Ha wide area. This site has local regulation (GSB) for building limit to the Patuan Nagari street 6 m, to the empty land 2 m, to the residential area 2 m, and the building height is maximal for the 2-floor building. The

site has several potentials: located on a crossroad, smooth and good traffic, and located in a contoured area, so the view site directly faces to the Lake Toba (Figure 2).

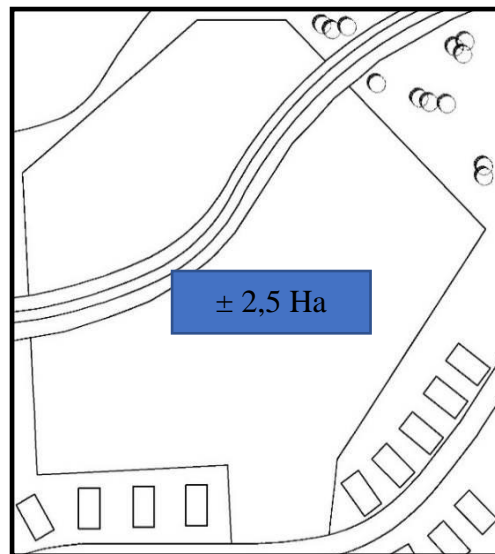


Figure 2. Site Area

The main idea underlying the resort hotel design project is the need to take a vacation, relax, and relax. Humans want to physical and spiritual refresher after undergoing daily routines in the city. In the city, you cannot find a design location with beautiful, cold and fresh air. The design of resort hotels is also expected to help government programs that want to make Lake Toba as one of the main tourist destinations for local and foreign tourists.

The Resort Hotel in Balige Nature Tourism Area has 3 (three) main building which has its parking lot. Parking lots are separated to avoid overlapping parking lots that are similar to urban parking lots. Each building has its shape and different functions (Figure 3).



**Figure 3.** Siteplan/Keymap

Resort hotel rooms have 3 clusters. Each cluster consists of 2 hotel rooms. The hotel building has a box shape with a roof that changes from the roof shape of "Rumah Bolon." On the side of the building, the roof is made to extend to cover the stairs that are beside. The stairs are access to the hotel room on the 2nd floor (Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** Hotel Rooms

The management office is a reflection of the design of this resort hotel because all the activities in the resort hotel originate from this building. Therefore, the management office building is designed to attract interest and attention to visitors. The facade of the management office building uses a "Toba's Gorga" carving combined with a wall in the form of wide openings. This aims to eliminate the impression of monotony from the shape of the box of this office management building (Figure 5).



**Figure 5.** Resort's Office

Souvenir shops are part of resort facilities. The souvenir shop building has gable and canopies which are characteristic of buildings in the tropics (Figure 6).



**Figure 6.** Souvenir Outlet

The concept used in this resort hotel is "Ecological Architecture." "Ecological Architecture" aims to maintain natural balance and sustainability. By maintaining inherent stability and endurance, the relationship between humans, nature, and buildings can work well.

Some of the concepts of Ecological Architecture in this building are air conditioning created through the "Cross Ventilation" system; usage "ingul" wood (*Toona sinensis*) as the wall of a hotel room. "Ingul" wood is a type of wood found in the outskirts of Lake Toba; usage of straw as a partition for wood wall partitions. To reduce noise from the rooms next to the hotel building using the straw.

## CONCLUSION

Resort Hotel Design in the Balige Nature Tourism Area can fulfill human needs for vacationing, relax and resting from all the daily activities in the city. The design of resort hotels can also support government programs that promote tourism in the area of Lake Toba.

Resort Hotel Design can also be a new landmark and a new holiday destination for visitors, with a variety of natural beauty on offer and an attractive atmosphere and even with various activities presented.

Resort hotel buildings fulfill the need to relax and rest in Balige with various activities. For outbound relax facilities (as in the design) in this area, there is not yet, so the existence of this facility is expected to help meet the needs of relax and rest in the area.

Hotel resort buildings apply the concept of ecology architecture to maintain natural balance and nature conservation. Utilization of natural resources is also considered so as not to damage the environment around resort hotels. That way, even though there is a new building in Balige's natural tourist area, the relationship between humans, nature, and structures is well maintained. The concept of ecology architecture applied to resort hotels also aims to unite people with nature. Therefore, the aims and objectives of the resort hotel design can be achieved.

### **Acknowledgment**

This research is aim to learn about the resort hotel and provide solutions for developing tourism in Balige.

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