General information

Alternative mountain tourism

The alternative mountain tourism is a mild form of sustainable tourism development and multilateral activities in the mountainous area, which:

- Brings visitors closer to nature with outdoor activities which may be involved, work out, be entertained and feel the joy of browsing and knowledge, to know the mountains and natural beauty in mountainous rural areas, to get acquainted with agricultural occupations, local products, traditional cuisine and daily life, cultural figures and original features of the area.

- Activates productive, cultural and developmental forces of the place thus contributing to sustainable environmental, economic and social development of these upland areas. It can stimulate the local market by local production of agricultural and livestock products, creates jobs and eventually keep the population in rural areas by enhancing the income of rural familie.

The categories of businesses that can join the alternative mountain tourism are:

- Companies / firms that undertake the organization and implementation of programs of outdoor activities and ecotourist interest
- Agrotourism accommodation-hostels
- Production and sales of traditional products
- Business for restaurants and recreation
- Farms
- Workshops folklore
- Flight Simulator

A few of the aforementioned ideas are analyzed in the following paragraphs:
1) **Flight Simulator**

**Aim:** Provide a realistic flight experience

**Implementation:** The simulator will be the basic attraction of an interactive flight museum
**Description:** Flight simulator is not just a game...it’s an experience. The technological evolution permits the development of high tech simulators that provide a very realistic flight experience, without the painful accelerations and of course without the enormous costs of the necessary fuel. They provide the lovers of the skies the capability to fly with a wide range of airplanes, modern or classic. You can push yourself to the limits or have a nice journey above familiar landscapes, with no danger engaged. The interactive museum will also host many famous airplane models that have prevailed in the skies for many years and moreover a few real static airplanes borrowed by the local airclub.
2) Teleferic

**Aim:** An easy and fast way for the air athletes to access the departure points

**Implementation:** The teleferic will connect the city with the inaccessible points of the mountain.
**Description:** Teleferic is a contemporary, attractive and financially efficient transportation means using aerial wire lines that is suitable for extremely sharp slopes. It is characterized by good stability on the air and high levels of reliability and security.

It is used wherever the slope is steep at mountains and ski resorts. Also it is used in building blocks located on steep slopes. Additionally to air athletes the skiers could also use the teleferic in order to reach ski runs.

**Probable drawbacks:** Teleferic is an expensive means of transportation and demands frequent service. Thus, its function could be supported in areas with high tourist activity.
3) Air modelling

**Aim:** Provide appropriate and secure runways for the small airplane models

**Implementation:** It could be constructed in collaboration with the airclub of the city providing technical support by specialists
**Description:** Not only kids have fun flying with air models. It is a rapidly developing hobby of many people throughout the world. The mountain landscape of Drama facilitates the construction of fully equipped runways specially adapted to the needs of the air modeling. Additionally, it could keep a unique and enjoying company to the kids of the air athletes.
4) Special market with traditional sweets, pasta and drinks.

**Aim:** Provide support and leisure facilities to the air athletes and tourists

**Implementation:** The special market will be installed very close to the runway and the flight museum, offering to the visitors immediate access to its goods.
Description: There is a great demand for Drama's local commodities. More specifically, the traditional cuisine of Drama emerges the magic of centuries of gastronomy. Delicious plates and unforgettable sweets will travel you nostalgically to the past. Additionally, the Drama's valleys offer an ideal climate for the growth of rare vineyards leading to the production of fine wines.