

A Study on the Impact of Climate Types on Tourism Activities and Travel Patterns

1. Two Different World Climates and Their Tourism Characteristics

Tropical Climate

Characteristics:

Close to the equator, the climate is often called tropical because it rarely gets very cold (about 25°C to 30°C) and it remains warm all year round (Cavallaro, Irranca Galati and Nocera, 2020). Humidity and lots of rain are the main features in these regions, which often have wet and dry seasons. Some places included are the Amazon Basin, Southeast Asia, and certain areas of the Caribbean.

Tourism Characteristics and Activities:

Because the climate is tropical, there is plenty of lush vegetation, many types of ecosystems, and easily accessible coral reefs, which are great for eco-tourism, beach trips, and outdoor activities. Many people like to participate in snorkelling, scuba diving, rainforest trekking, wildlife safaris, and visits to tropical villages (Gühnemann, Kurzweil and Mailer, 2021). Because it does not get cold, the year-round warmth draws tourists who want to get away from colder regions in winter. The wet season may discourage tourists because of the heavy rain and greater chance of being hit by a tropical storm.

Mediterranean Climate

Characteristics:

Mediterranean climates tend to occur in areas along the Mediterranean Sea, some places in California, South Africa and southern Australia (Cavallaro, Irranca Galati and Nocera, 2020). Summers here are hot and dry, regularly reaching 30°C and winters are wet and mild. The climate is not very unpredictable or varied.

Tourism Characteristics and Activities:

Thanks to its great summer heat and lovely coasts, this climate welcomes many tourists looking for beaches, culture and wine (Gühnemann, Kurzweil and Mailer, 2021). Most tourists spend time sunbathing, swimming in the sea, sailing, jogging along the shore or looking at ancient ruins and rowing houses. A lot of tourists come in summer because it's sunny and warm. Although winter visiting is modest, because the weather is not too cold.

2. The Nexus Between Climate and the Tourism Industry

Tourism Demand:

Climate helps decide when and how many people travel to a location for tourism (Carrillo et al., 2022). Regions with cold winters typically look for spots with a warm climate, which drives demand when the weather is pleasant. Northern Hemisphere winter is the busiest season for tourists in the tropics of the Caribbean, though in the Mediterranean it's generally summer (Cavallaro, Irranca Galati and Nocera, 2020). Seasonally extreme temperatures (both hot and cold) harm demand. Also, the impact of uncertain events on tourism, such as hurricanes or floods, tends to cause changes in tourist numbers (Ngxongo, 2021).

Destination Appeal:

The climate at a destination matters a lot for its appeal. A lot of tourists decide where to go by looking for places with the right weather for both activities and comfort outdoors (Gühnemann, Kurzweil and Mailer, 2021). Tropical regions attract people with their beautiful, plentiful nature and Mediterranean areas attract guests with their cultural life and sunny weather. Besides, the seasonal activities and festivals are affected by the weather which makes the destination even more appealing. More emphasis is being put on climate resilience to help destinations survive changes caused by climate threats.

Travel Patterns:

When and how tourists travel depends on the climate. Peaks in travel come when people have school holidays and the weather is good, sometimes caused by seasonal climate changes (Ngxongo, 2021). Ski resorts get busy in winter because of cold weather and snow, whereas beach resorts are most popular in summer. How it travels can be affected by climate—a pleasant climate invites you to go on road trips and explore the outdoors, but a harsh climate makes it harder to get around or urges you to stay indoors (Carrillo et al., 2022). With climate change, people now look for other places to travel since their usual vacation sites are often dealing with climate issues.

References

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