

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

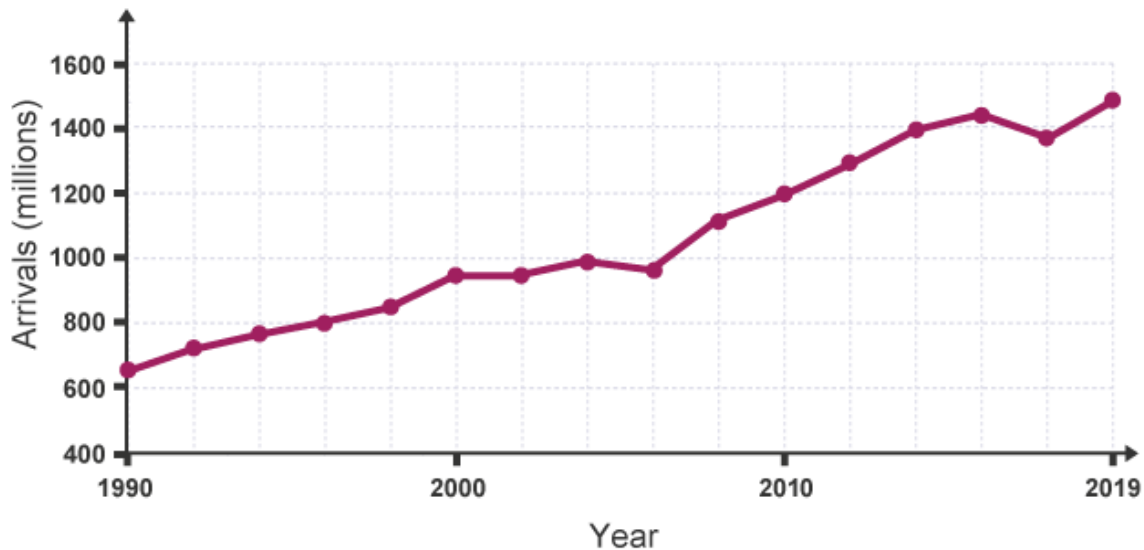


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<https://www.lce-english-department.yolasite.com/>

I. The growth of tourism

Tourism is one of the world's fastest growing industries. In 2010, 940 million people were recorded as arriving in a country from abroad because of tourism. This is worth \$919 billion dollars, making tourism one of the world's largest industries.



The graph shows the growth in tourism measured by international arrivals. Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) In 2010, the Middle East and Asia had the greatest growth of tourists. Europe still has the greatest number of tourists - nearly 500 million in 2010.

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2008	2009	2010
Europe	261.5	304.1	385.6	439.4	485.2	461.5	476.6
Asia and the Pacific	55.8	82.0	110.1	153.6	184.1	180.9	203.8
Americas	92.8	109.0	128.2	133.3	147.8	140.6	149.8
Africa	14.8	18.9	26.5	35.4	44.4	46.0	49.5
Middle East	9.6	13.7	24.1	36.3	55.2	52.9	60.3

	2009-2010 % change
Europe	3.3%
Asia and the Pacific	12.7%
Americas	6.4%
Africa	7.3%
Middle East	14.1%

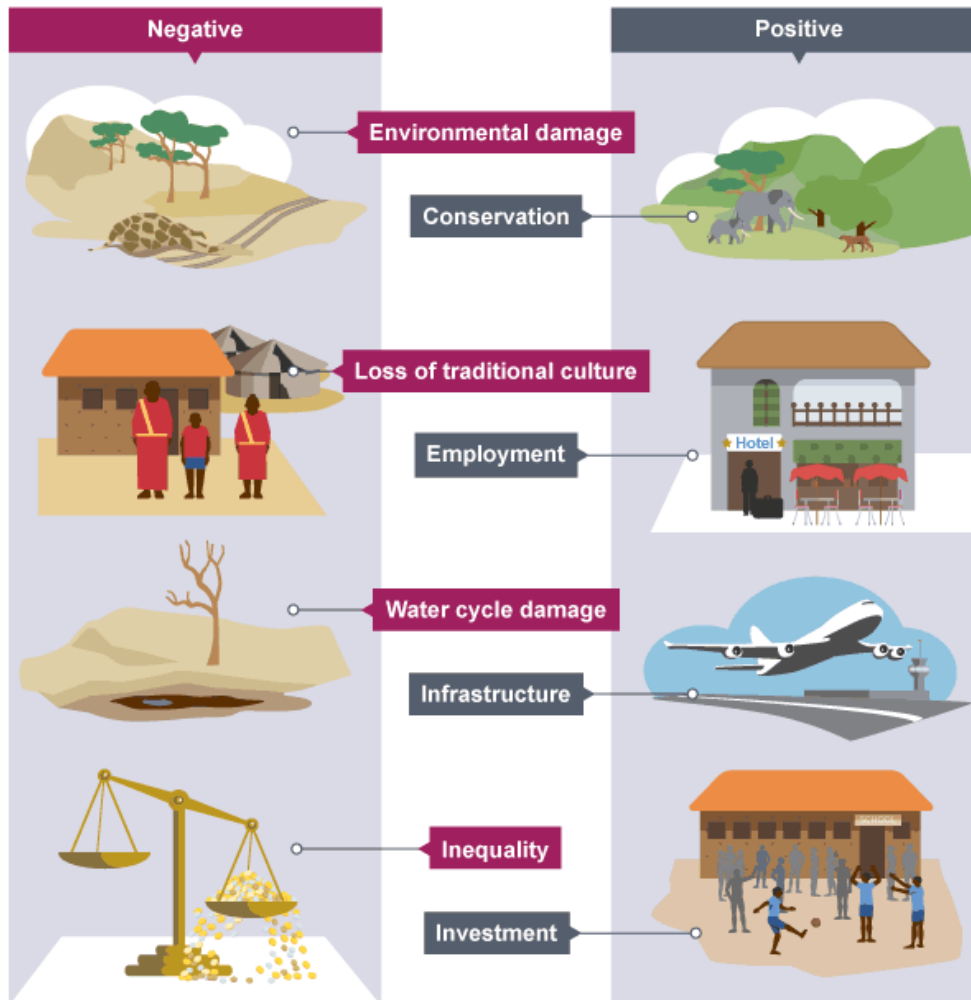
QUESTION:

Explain the growth of tourism over the last years? Which factors have contributed to this growth?

II. Impact of mass tourism

Mass tourism means that there are hundreds of thousands, if not millions of tourists who will descend onto a variety of tourist resorts each year.

In the UK, tourism makes up nearly 10% of the total GDP which means that tourism has **cultural**, **economic** and **environmental** impacts.



Cultural impacts

Positive impacts	Negative impacts
Tourists learn about other cultures.	Some traditional roles (such as farming) will be lost in order to provide tourist services.
Rich and poor can learn from each other.	Tourist behaviour can lead to locals feeling that their culture and beliefs are minimised.
Tourists bring money which can breathe new life into neglected areas.	Local languages might be lost as people prefer to use international languages such as English.
Local crafts might be revived to be sold to the tourist market.	Crime and anti-social behaviour might rise as more and more tourists visit a place and bring their own social problems with them.

Environmental impacts

Positive impacts	Negative impacts
Many tourist organisations are trying to create a more sustainable ethos for tourism. This helps to protect the animals and local environment and will be funded by the tourists who visit.	Overcrowding can impact fragile environments and soil will be eroded away. Damage to the ecosystem might totally change the characteristics of a place.
Provides money that can help local people to protect their environment.	Overcrowding can cause congestion and pollution. It will increase the carbon emissions in an area.
Can also help raise awareness of different issues such as water shortages or endangered animals.	Tourists will increase the amount of waste and sewage in an area and this will need to be dealt with in a sustainable manner.
Improvements and investment in derelict areas and spaces that cannot be used for any other purpose.	More pressure on delicate water supplies. Many tourist facilities require increases in the use of water and this can lead to local people losing access to clean drinking water.

Economic impacts

Positive impacts	Negative impacts
Increased employment. Over 400 million people around the world are employed in the tourism industry.	Many tourism services are of little value to the locals.
Brings huge amounts of foreign currency into a country. This can help stabilise an economy and prices in a country.	The cost of investment in roads or infrastructure will have to be borne by the local people.
Tourism companies make a profit which can either be invested into new facilities in a country or back into the business.	The character of a place might change. Local shops might be displaced by shops that cater solely for tourists.
Improvement in general infrastructure can help locals.	Traditional jobs will be lost as an area switches focus in providing for tourists needs.
	Profits may 'leak' out of an area and back to the headquarters of a multi-national tourism organisation or hotel chain.

TASK:

Learn how to write an essay.

Write a pro / con essay on the topic of tourism.

Make sure you respect the basic rules of essay writing.

Make sure you use linking words in your essay to create coherence!

Responsible tourism

This is any form of tourism that is conducted in a more responsible manner.

Tourists will do their best to minimise any negative social, environmental or economic impacts on the local people and will aim to enhance any community that they come into contact with.

The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has prepared a special booklet called 'Tips for a responsible traveller'.

This booklet emphasises the point that travellers should ensure that travel is as rewarding and gratifying for the traveler and for the people they meet and the places they visit.

1. **Honour your hosts and our common heritage:** Make sure that you know local customs, traditions, social conditions and try to use the local language. Make sure you have permission before taking photos.
2. **Protect our planet:** Be a guardian of natural resources, respect wildlife by not using products that might endanger plants or animals. Only visit places open to visitors and avoid protected areas, leaving as small a carbon footprint as possible.
3. **Support the local economy:** Buy locally-made goods and pay a fair price, make sure that all products are acceptable within national and international law. Use local guides who have an in-depth knowledge of the area.
4. **Be an informed traveller:** Make sure that you take the right health and safety precautions on your trip, know how to access medical care and choose tour operators with a proven track record in sustainability and community projects.
5. **Be a respectful traveller:** Observe all national laws and regulations, ensuring that you respect human rights. Refrain from giving money to people who beg on the streets but support local community projects. Take photos instead of bringing cherished cultural objects home.

TASK:

Design a flyer about responsible tourism.

The flyer will be available at your local travel agent's.

Make sure the layout is appealing and there are no spelling mistakes.

Ecotourism

Ecotourism is a type of sustainable development. The aim of **ecotourism** is to reduce the impact that tourism has on naturally beautiful environments.

Any tourist destination can be harmed by increased levels of tourism. If areas are damaged or destroyed, they might not be available to future generations.

Ecotourism is environmentally sound so that natural environments and wildlife are protected; natural resources are protected in a sustainable way and that tourism is socially appropriate.

The ecotourism approach

- Ensuring that tourism does not exploit the natural environment or local communities.
- Consultation with local communities on planned developments.
- Making sure that infrastructure improvements benefit local people and not just tourists.

Ecotourism now has the backing of the United Nations, which made 2002 the International Year of Ecotourism.

Guidelines for ecotourists

Ecotourism sets out guidelines for how tourists should behave when visiting fragile environments:

- **Protect the environment** - keep to footpaths, don't leave litter or start fires.
- **Don't interfere with wildlife** - don't scare or feed the animals.
- **Protect resources** - don't take too many showers or use air conditioning.
- **Support local communities** - stay in locally owned accommodation and buy produce from local people.
- **Eat local food and drink** - avoid products that have been imported from MEDCs.
- **Respect local customs and traditions** - some communities are offended when tourists wear inappropriate clothes in religious places, strip off on the beach or behave in a rowdy manner. Locals appreciate tourists who try to learn the language and show an interest in their culture.

Ecotourism is increasingly popular and many people appreciate remote locations, small numbers of tourists and less sophisticated facilities.

If a resort becomes overdeveloped then they will choose alternative destinations.

Case study: Ecotourism in the Maasai Mara, Kenya

Tourism brings income to Kenya and gives tourists a greater understanding of the area's animals and plants.

The **Maasai Mara** is especially popular for safari holidays, offering tourists the chance to observe the annual migration of the wildebeest and zebra.

Tourism can also have negative impacts on the area. These need to be managed carefully to ensure that the natural environment isn't damaged for future generations.

The Kenyan government has set up very strict rules about how hotel chains can ensure they balance the needs of the tourist and the needs of the local community.

Ecotourism Kenya runs a standards scheme where 86 facilities have received 23 Gold, 43 Silver and 20 Bronze standard eco-rating certificates.

Ecotourism can play a large part in helping to ensure that there are many social and economic positives coming from ecotourism.

These include:

- **Providing well-paid, stable jobs for the locals** - these jobs include a wide range of services for tourists.
- **High quality education and staff training** - many employees and their families will be supported through their education and will be encouraged to continue to learn through their career development.
- **'Community Development Projects'** - many of local hotels and safari lodges and camps have set up their own 'Community Development Projects' where they will support the local community by helping to build homes and infrastructure, wells and water supplies, telecommunications and electricity. Many are also involved in helping improve the healthcare of local communities and will work closely with doctors and health organisations to improve the health of local people.
- **Education** - some organisations will also support local schools and make sure that they are provided with all the provisions that will encourage children to go to school.

However, perhaps the largest impact that ecotourism can make is in how it can help to impact the environment. These include:

However, perhaps the largest impact that ecotourism can make is in how it can help to impact the environment. These include:

- **Supporting local conservation efforts** – the money that tourists pay will help to pay for local guides and rangers who will be tasked with helping to protect the land and the wildlife in a particular area. This might also enable scientific research that might help to sustain animal numbers. Training will be given to local guides so that they do not disturb the animals. Jeep and minibus numbers will be kept to a minimum to ensure that new tracks are not created which can cause soil erosion.
- **Sustainable buildings** – any new building for a hotel or safari lodge needs to be planned carefully so that it integrates into the environment easily. Local products should be used so that they do not need to be transported long distances.
- **Water** – water management systems should be developed to ensure that new building will not take too much water away from the local ecosystem. Grey water (from washing) and black water (from toilets and sewage) needs to be filtered and reused.
- **Electricity** – should be generated from a sustainable source such as solar panels.
- **Waste** – should be recycled as much as possible so that there is very little that needs to be incinerated. Strategies for managing waste and for encouraging recycling should be emphasised within every resort.

As a result, any new tourism development in the area should not have any negative environmental impact on the local environment and if anything, should have a positive impact.

SOURCE: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpfd4qt/revision/1>

TASK:

Summarise the main ideas of this text in your own ideas.

TEST YOUR SKILLS:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpfd4qt/test>

Venice bans cruise ships from historic centre

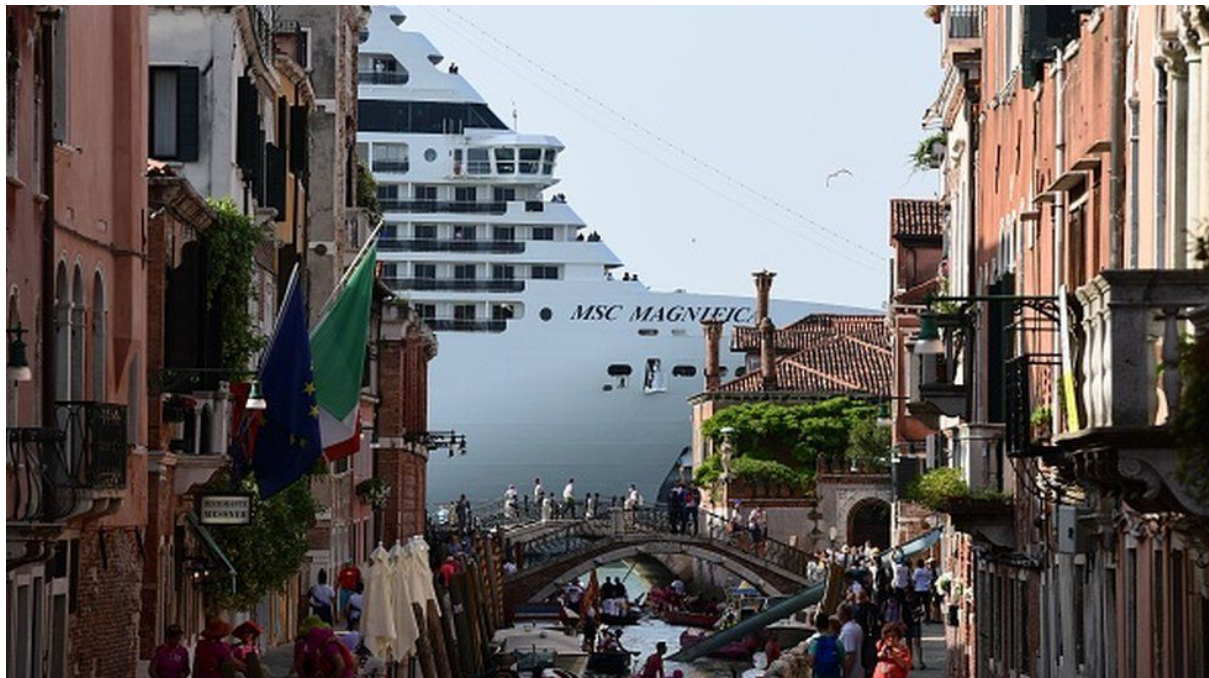
Italian authorities have approved a ban on cruise ships entering the historic centre of Venice.

The country's culture minister said on Wednesday that the decision came in response to a request from UN cultural body Unesco.

Large ships will now have to dock at the city's industrial port until a permanent solution is found.

Critics argue the ships cause pollution and erode the foundations of the city, which suffers from regular flooding.

On Wednesday, Italian ministers agreed that large cruise and container ships would no longer be able to enter the city's Giudecca canal, which leads to the historic St Mark's Square.



Culture Minister Dario Franceschini hailed the move, which he described as "a correct decision, awaited for years".

The government will hold a "call for ideas" for an alternative cruise terminal in the city.

Cruise ships are currently unable to enter Venice due to coronavirus restrictions but their absence since has been credited with improving water quality in the lagoons.

Pressure to pass a ban on large vessels mounted in 2019 after a cruise ship crashed into a harbour in the city, injuring five people. However, no permanent solution was found.

Previous initiatives to stop cruise ship traffic have also failed. In 2013, the government banned ships weighing more than 96,000 tonnes from the Giudecca canal, but the legislation was later overturned.

Other plans to divert cruise ships from the centre of Venice were announced in 2017 but were never fully implemented.



TASKS:

1. *Make an oral presentation on a tourist destination affected by mass tourism.*
2. *Imagine you were an inhabitant of Venice.*
 - a) *Write a letter of complaint to the Italian Ministry of Tourism!*
 - b) *Prepare an oral presentation with your greivances!*

Some of the strangest places in the world

1. Spotted Lake, British Columbia, Canada

Spotted Lake has long been revered by the native Okanagan (Syilx) people and it's easy to see why they think of it as sacred. In the summer the water of the lake evaporates and small mineral pools are left behind, each one different in colour to the next. The unique lake can be viewed on Highway 3, northwest of the small town of Osoyoos, although visitors are asked not to trespass on tribal land. If you're looking to explore more waters, read our selection of 20 breathtaking lakes around the world to inspire your travels.



Spotted Lake in Okanagan valley, Canada © sebastienlemyre/Shutterstock

2. Pamukkale, Turkey

A remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Site in southwest Turkey, a visit to [Pamukkale](#) (Cotton Palace) also takes in the ancient ruins of Hierapolis, the once great city that was built around it. Water cascades from natural springs and down the white travertine terraces and forms stunning thermal pools perfect for a quick dip. We recommend [joining a small group tour to have a guide with you](#). You may have never heard of Pamukkale in Turkey until now, and you may have never known about these [facts about Turkey](#) either.



Pamukkale's striking terraces © Shutterstock

3. The Hand in the Desert, Chile

Chilean sculptor Mario Irarrázabal is responsible for this very weird work of art rising out of the sand in the middle of Chile's Atacama desert, 46 miles south of the city of Antofagasta. Irarrázabal is known for his works associated with human suffering and this huge unnerving sculpture captures a feeling of loneliness, exacerbated by its desolate and secluded location. If you're a creative type, check out our selection of artwork around the world, you won't have to travel far for some of these.



The bizarre Hand in the Desert is one of the weirdest places in the world © Ksenia Ragozina/Shutterstock

SOURCE: <https://www.roughguides.com>

TASKS:

- 1. Make a powerpoint presentation about a strange / weird tourist destination.*
- 2. Shoot a video of yourself making a presentation on a bizarre tourist destination.*