

ANALYSIS OF THE REALITY OF THE TOURIST MOVEMENT IN ALGERIAN COASTAL CITIES. CASE STUDY OF THE CITY OF ALGIERS

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Abstract: Geographical research has been concerned with tourism studies in terms of studying the characteristics of tourist groups: their satisfaction, attitudes and level of awareness. The use of the behavioral approach became preferred by planners to know the desires of tourists to reach a realistic tourism strategy based on the opinions of the tourists themselves. This research aims to study the characteristics of the tourism movement in the city of Algiers, in order to identify the impressions of tourists about the visit and the most prominent problems they face in the development of tourism in the study area. The topic of the research deals with tourism movements by following the descriptive and analytical approach. Accordingly, the study concluded that the most promising type of tourism in the region is ecological, cultural and recreational tourism, and the summer and spring seasons represent the preferred seasons at the level of tourist movement, while tourists are from the northern states. - The central region constitutes the largest proportion of the number of tourists coming to the region, as the group predominates over young women between (26 - 39) years old, the majority of the number of tourists, and cars are the most widely used means of transportation.

Key words: Algiers; the tourist movement; the satisfaction of tourists; the tourist offer; Tourism development

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INTRODUCTION

Tourism is a leading industry to boost growth and active construction of a dynamic structure economically, culturally and socially (Bouadam, 2011). With the global increase in tourist flows, cities are becoming more attractive, but also face a double challenge (Roxana, 2013). Theoretical debates on the rebirth of cities placed a unique emphasis on creativity as a catalyst for urban innovation, regeneration and renewal, thus highlighting it as a key element in contemporary network or knowledge societies (Greg, 2014). Furthermore, the contribution of the tourism sector to both the world GDP and the provision of employment is increasingly high (Abdul, 2018). Urban tourism has emerged as one of the most important types of tourism in the last two decades (Cecilia, 2017). In support of the increase in competitiveness between the world's cities, particularly in terms of tourism, the image of the city as a brand has become a strategy through which the city is created as an urban product (Cheniki and Baziz, 2020). The rehabilitation of urban spaces is a promising operation that contributes socially, economically, physically and aesthetically to the regeneration of local urban environment and leisure activities (Diafat et al., 2002). The city and tourism are historically interconnected (Boualem, 2007). However, tourism impacts the city, particularly historic centers. The phenomenon is the origin of a well-established research axis, to which significant contributions have been made since the 1980s. It also emerges recurrently in the work of major educational institutions for heritage and urban development (María García - et al., 2017).

Algeria is a rich country with a diversified tourism potential, which unfortunately is not properly exploited. Meanwhile, the country aims to become a coastal tourist destination with 1,200 km of coastline that enjoys sunshine all year round (Louardi et al., 2020), this country is one of many countries with an abundant, rich and diversified urban heritage, stemming from the multiple civilizations that succeeded each other and its varied natural environment. This heritage can be exploited through sustainable tourism activities while taking into account the various global requirements of tourism management (Foued and Sawsan, 2019). The coastal area in Algeria is one of the richest geographical entities in terms of resources (economic, landscape, infrastructure, population) (Eleanor, 2020). An important factor contributing to the economic growth and development of cities and societies around the world is the tourism sector (Mohamed, 2015). Indeed, this sector became a major axis of architectural and urban projects in developing countries and is increasingly

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becoming crucial for the economic developments of North African countries. In fact, a huge global demand for tourist areas has emerged (Khetrou and Razin, 2020). The urban tourism is a healthy environment (Mohamed, 2012). In the context of urban tourism, leisure and entertainment zones are presented as a tangible and integrated natural, historical, urban and human attraction, in addition to the existing facilities, services and constructions that could influence the targeted destination of visitors and the duration of their visit (Foued and Sawsan, 2020). This research aims to study the characteristics of the tourism movement in the city of Algiers, in order to identify the impressions of tourists about the visit and the most prominent problems they face for the development of tourism in the study area.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this section, we will describe the elements studied in the field in a precise manner and in a logical order. This description is limited to those elements that allow for an understanding of the study presented in this research, as follows:

SITE OF THE STUDY

Algiers capital of Algeria is expected to modify its image and scope on an increasingly extended and versatile territory. Indeed, the city governed by metropolization process and marked by spatial, socio-economic and political changes, changes its initial functioning (Keltoum, 2018), this city is a territory with a natural site and an urban history. It is located in the northern region of the country with an area of 809.22 km², administratively structured in 13 districts including 57 municipalities. It is limited by the Mediterranean Sea on the one hand and by the Atlas Tellien on the other hand, its layout is also sloping, with the lowest altitudes located on the sea side. This confers Algiers a form of amphitheater, with its coastal part as a stage, and the terraces which are the extensions of the city center, and on the heights certain secondary centers (Linda, 2021). There are many interesting things to see and do in Algiers, and visitors can learn a lot about Algeria’s history and culture the many museums dotted around the city. Algiers’ museums are certainly worth visiting. In addition to the museums, Algiers has many public buildings of interest, including the whole Kasbah quarter, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and the Grand and New Mosques. Algiers is built on the slopes of the Sahel Hills, which parallel the Mediterranean Sea coast, and it extends for some 10 miles (16 km) along the Bay of Algiers. The city faces east and north and forms a large amphitheatre of dazzling white buildings that dominate the harbour and the bay.

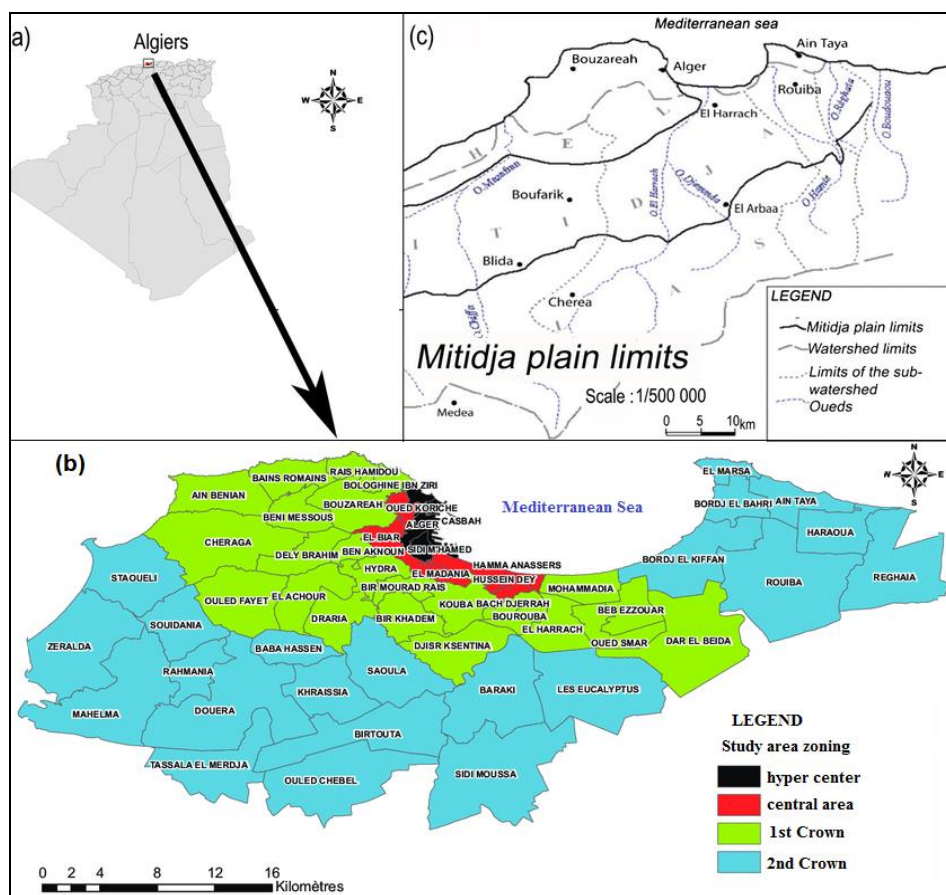


Figure1. Geographic location of the study area, (source: Realized by the authors)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To investigate the reality and characteristics of the tourist movement in Algiers, a field survey was conducted using a questionnaire from 23/05/2021 to 11/06/2021. The studied sample is composed of 150 tourists randomly selected, gathered in four tourist areas of Algiers (Figure 2): Sablat Park, Trial Garden of El Hamma, Martyr's Memorial and the Kasbah old. The reason why we have chosen the tourist sites in figure 01, because they combine history and nature and are also important attractive sites for local tourists, the sites of the Kasbah and the Martyrs Memorial express the role of man, his great abilities and the level of civilization attained

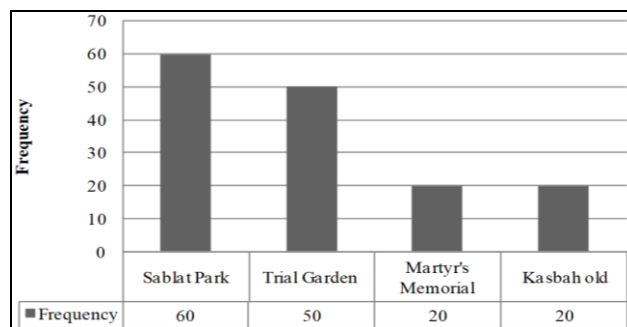


Figure 2. Distribution of tourists in the studied sites (Source: Achievement of authors according to field investigation 2021)

by the peoples, while the Experimental Garden plays a natural role that affects man, his activities and interactions with the environment, while the authorities have realized the Sablat site for entertainment and leisure. According to figure 1, it is clear that the tourist attraction on the experimental garden was in first place compared to the rest of the sites, because of the environmental role played by the natural gardens and preferred by Algerian families to discover biodiversity and nature. The park of Sablat comes in the second class because of its entertainment role especially since it is located at the shore of the sea.

SITES AFFECTED BY TOURIST MOVEMENT

The eminent tourist sites targeted by the visitors (Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4) are those which combine cultural, ecological and recreational tourism. These sites which form with the city of Algiers a coherent whole can be classified or are likely to contribute to its preservation or its improvement in the same way. The following are the most prominent and famous places that stimulate tourism in Algiers, which they studied:

a) Sablat Park (Figure 3): Is part of the development project of Oued El-Harrach, which is a public facility and a park for the benefit of visitors, as it includes green areas and recreational facilities, in order to provide relaxation and recreation to citizens who go to public places to spend their free time. It includes many tourist facilities, such as green areas dedicated to rest and recreation.

b) Trial Garden of El Hamma (Figure 4): Is one of the most important tourist places in Algiers, where the garden is a natural museum, as the garden includes more than 2,500 species of plants and perennial trees for hundreds of years, as well as more than 25 types of palm trees, as well as a French-style garden and another in the style The British park, and includes the Hama Zoo, while the park is characterized by its wonderful climate and is one of the best tourist attractions in Algeria.

c) Kasbah old (Figure 5): Is a unique kind of medina (figure 4), or Islamic city. It stands in one of the finest coastal sites on the Mediterranean, overlooking the islands where a Carthaginian trading-post was established in the 4th century BC. There are the remains of the citadel, old mosques and Ottoman-style palaces as well as the remains of a traditional urban structure associated with a deep-rooted sense of community. It is the archaeological old part of the capital Algiers, called the old city, and is considered a UNESCO World Heritage site, and expresses the authenticity of Algerian culture. It is characterized by its narrow alleys, adjacent houses, simple shops, the spread of small craft workshops and a number of museums and symbolic places associated with the Algerian revolution

d) Martyr's Memorial (Figure 6): Emblem of the city of Algiers, erected in 1982 in memory of the martyrs of the war of independence overhangs the city of Algiers and more particularly the commune of Belouizdad (ex. Belcourt) with the Garden of test and the national library. Memorial of the Martyr is composed of 3 stylized palms 92 meters high from the ground, topped by a turret of Islamic style with a diameter of 10 meters, a height of 25 m would be topped by a dome of 6 meters. It rests on an esplanade where an eternal flame burns and where we find the museum of combat.



Figure 3. Sablat Park



Figure 4. Trial Garden of El Hamma



Figure 5. Kasbah old



Figure 6. Martyr's Memorial

STUDY INSTRUMENT

Given that the study sample size is unknown, three variables (gender, age, monthly income) were used as key factors to extract the sample size. This was accomplished based on the 0.95 confidence level using the following equation (Martin Terre et al., 2007): $N = (ZS) / D^2$

N: Sample Size

S: Standard deviation

Z: Confidence level probability 0.95

D: Margin of error at confidence level $0.95 \times$

The equation has been applied as follows: The sample size using sex variable: $N = (1.96 \times 0.485)^2 / (0.04)^2 = 565$

Sample size using age variable: $N = (1.96 \times 0.79)^2 / (0.06)^2 = 614$

Sample size using monthly income variable: $N = (1.96 \times 2.77)^2 / (0.22)^2 = 609$.

Once the questionnaires were collected, the data, from 150 questionnaires, were uploaded into the SPSS statistical analysis program, and processed to extract means, ratios, and tables for the results analysis. The questionnaire was designed according to the scope of the study to identify the reality and characteristics of the tourism movement in Algiers and its most important trends. It included 22 questions.

Part 1: consists of general information on the social and economic characteristics of tourists visiting Algiers including variables such as: gender, age, marital status, number of family members, nationality, level of education, occupation, total monthly income of the Algerian family and place of residence.

Part 2: It includes a set of questions about the trip and its characteristics. These include: What is the nature of your visit? How often do you visit Algiers? At what time of day do you prefer to visit Algiers? In what season of the year? What are the resources involved in the visit? What is the duration of your stay in the city? The length of your stay/number of nights and what are the reasons that prompted you to visit and the transportation means used to visit Algiers?

Part 3: It consists of a series of questions about the places visited in Algiers and the willingness to return, impressions of the various services provided during the visit and the degree of satisfaction and evaluation of these services, as well as problems and obstacles encountered during the visit to Algiers.

STUDY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

This part deals with the basic elements of fieldwork, presenting the data that form the basis of its investigation, and is shaped as we have thought.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Figure 7 shows that the economic characteristics and their difference according to the frequency zones of the city of Algiers are as follows:

- **Monthly income (D.dz):** Tourist movements increase during periods of economic growth and decrease during periods of economic decline. The study revealed that the higher the income, the higher the rates of tourist movement and spending on tourist services. According to the results presented in (figure 3.) 42% of the respondents did not answer the question on monthly income. The sample is composed of students and housewives with no specific monthly income, followed by 23.33% of the respondents with monthly income between (20,000 DZD to 50,000 DZD), and followed by 22% of the respondents with income between (50,001 DZD to 80,000 DZD), the majority of who are employees. Followed by 5.3% of respondents whose monthly income is between (80,001 DZD to 100,000 DZD) and 7% of respondents whose monthly income does not exceed the amount of 20000, and 4% of respondents represent whose monthly income is between 1000 000. Tab.1: General information about the tourist movement in the city of Algiers.

The social characteristics of the study community are shown in Table No. 1, as follows:

- **Gender:** After analyzing the data on the gender variable, the percentage of women is higher than that of men, i.e. 62.7% for women and 37.3% for men. This is due to economic and social liberalization providing women with a greater opportunity to visit tourist areas. In addition, the percentage of female workers is higher and the questionnaire distributed to families resulted in a much higher response rate from wives than from husbands.

- **Age variable:** Based on the data collected, the most involved age group in tourism is 26-39 years old, with 50%. This is due to their employment stability and high income and also to their desire to enjoy their youth by organizing tourist tours with family and children and thereby educate their children to the concept of taste, contemplation and develop a sense of aesthetics. The following age group is the category of < 25 years with 28%. This group includes young people attending universities, colleges and scientific centers, coming from different cities and villages to study in the capital. Therefore, whenever they have free time, they seek to enjoy their stay with friends to relax and escape from academic pressure. However, this age group tends to engage in tourist activities that are less expensive either in transportation or leisure services. Meanwhile, 18% of participants are in the 40-59 age group, considered a small percentage compared to the younger age group. However, most of the senior group's motivations for tourism include enjoying the company of family and children and are characterized by career stability. Furthermore, the last group to participate in tourism is the > 60 years old, estimated at 4% of the total study sample.

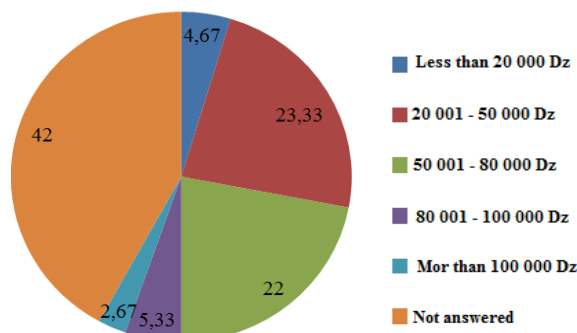


Figure 7. Monthly income of the study community
Source: field investigation by the authors 2021

- **Marital status:** From the marital status variable data presented, it can be noted that there is a discrepancy in the percentage of tourists coming to Algiers. A majority of tourists are married, i.e. 57.3%, due to the availability of family-friendly places with various leisure facilities. These places are designed for children and, therefore, family tourism is prevalent in these areas. Single people account for 40%, most of them are students coming from different provinces for academic and scientific reasons, and also for tourism purposes. Divorced people represent 2%, while the percentage of widows is only 0.7%.

- **Family members:** Upon analysis of the family members, the variable shows that: 53.3% of the sample indicates family members between 4 to 8 members, while 27.3% of the sample indicated less than 3 family members, representing the modern families, i.e. the newly married couples and 9.3% of the respondents reported more than 9 family members representing large Algerian families.

- **Nationality:** Based on the collected data, the capital is visited by a few foreign nationalities; we have found that 93.3% of the tourists are Algerian from the interior of the country. Therefore, the dominant type of tourism is domestic tourism. 0.7% and 1.3% of the respondents with dual nationality are Algerian-Canadian and Algerian-Tunisian respectively. In addition, foreign nationalities include Syrian with 3.3% of respondents, and Egyptian and Sahrawi, with 0.7% of respondents each. The main reason for their presence is study and work purposes, whereas the Syrians' motives are the search for stability, security and escape from the war.

The decline and absence of tourists of foreign nationality is due to the outbreak of Corona disease, which led to the suspension of air transport and hinder the influx of foreign tourists in the country, especially in the city of Algiers, and therefore the tourism movement stopped during this period.

- **Academic level School:** The study indicates that people with higher education levels present more activity and willingness to explore, visit places and enjoy tourism, 66% of the study sample consisted of tourists with university degrees such as PhDs and Master's degree graduates. This indicates an increase in tourism awareness among this category of tourists. 21.3% of the study sample attended high school, 8% attended middle school and 2.7% attended elementary school.

- **Occupation:** When employment opportunities are available, tourism movement increases and tourism spending rises, and conversely. When a person is unemployed and has no income, tourism movement remains stagnant or even non-existent, and as shown in Table 1, it is clear that there is a correlation between employment and tourism since the profession plays a clear role in the incentive and encouragement of travel and tourism. Employees' category represents the highest percentage with 42.7% of the respondents, while the unemployed percentage reaches 28% of the respondents mainly housewives and some groups of unemployed. Students traveling to tourist places amount to 14% of respondents and 12.7% of respondents working in the private sector, while the percentage of retired people is estimated at 2.7% of respondents.

- **Place of residence:** Understanding tourist travel patterns is critical to planning transport development in Algiers and between the provinces.

According to the study in the field, most of the tourists visiting the capital are Algerian, and therefore live in different provinces of the country (Table 2). This implies an active domestic tourism. However, during the study, few foreign tourists were encountered travelling to Algiers for tourism purposes, due to the current circumstances and the epidemic of Covid-19, This resulted in an almost total absence of the international tourist movement in this period, with the exception of a few foreigners residing in Algiers, including Syrians, Egyptians, and Sahrawis who visit to work and seek stability and security.

Table 2 reveals that tourists from the provinces of the North Central region ranked first in terms of tourist movements and visits to the study area by 57.3% of respondents. This is due to the short distance between these provinces and Algiers, unlike the provinces of other regions of the country. The provinces of the Highlands region come in second place with 12% of respondents, with the largest influx coming from the province of Setif. In third position, with 9.3% of respondents, are tourists from the provinces of the North-West region, while the fourth position is for tourists from the North-East region with 8.7% of respondents. In fifth place came the tourists from the provinces of the Central Highlands and the provinces of the Southeast region with 4% of respondents, and tourists from the provinces of the Southwest region flowed to the capital with 3.3% of the study sample, and finally the last ratio reached 0.7% of respondents were recorded for each of the tourists from the provinces of the Western Highlands and the Deep South regions.

The survey data analysis enables to conclude that the movement of tourists in the southern provinces is very low compared to the central plateau and eastern provinces, due to the distance between the southern regions and the study area on the one hand and the high cost of travel on the other hand. Despite these difficulties, there is an influx from most of the country's provinces to Algiers, due to the province's rich natural and historical features that attract the tourist movement.

Table1. The social characteristics of the study community (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

Variables	Frequency	%
- Gender		
- Female	94	62.7
- Male	56	37.3
- Age Group		
- Younger than 25 years old	42	28
- From 26 to 39 years old	75	50
- From 50 to 59 years old	27	18
- Older than 60 years old	06	04
- Marital status		
- Unmarried	60	40
- Married	86	57.3
- Widow	1	0.7
- Divorced	3	02
- Family members		
- Less than 3 persons	41	27.3
- From 4 – 8 persons	80	53.3
- More than 9 persons	14	09.3
- With no children	15	10
- Nationality		
Algerian	140	93.3
Algerian – Canadian	1	0.7
Algerian – Tunisian	2	1.3
Syrian	5	3.3
Egyptian	1	0.7
Republic Saharan	1	0.7
- Academic level School		
Primary	4	2.7
Middle School	12	8
High School	32	21.3
University	99	66
Other Colleges	3	2
- Occupation		
Students	21	14
Employees	64	42.7
Private Sector	19	12.7
Retired People	04	02.7

Table 2. Distribution of the study sample by place of residence (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

Provinces	Region	Frequency	%
(Guelma - Souk Ahras - El Tarf - Constantine - Mila - Annaba – Skikda)	Northeast Region	13	8.7
(Tipaza-Algérie-Blida- Bouira - Boumerdès - Ain Defla - Tizi Ouzou - Chlef - Bejaia – Medea)	North Central	86	57.3
(Mostaghanem - Tlemcen - Guéizian - Ain Temouchent – Oran)	Northwest Region	14	9.3
(Sétif - Tébessa - Batna - Khenchela - Bordj Bou Arreridj)	Eastern Hautes Plaines Region	18	12
(Djelfa - Al-Masila)	Central Hautes Plaines Region	6	4
(Tiaret)	Western Hautes Plaines Region	1	0.7
(OuedSouf - Biskra – Ghardaïa)	Southeast Region	6	4
(Tamanrasset)	Great South Region	1	0.7
(Tindouf - Bachar – Adrar)	Southwest Region	5	3.3
The influx of tourists from 37 Wilayas	Total	150	100

CHARACTERISTICS OF EXCURSIONS IN ALGIERS

The study aimed to provide information on the nature of tourist trips in terms of transportation, number of visits, place of residence, and length of stay. We have noticed from the results of Table 3 the following:

- **Nature of visits:** The study revealed different nature of visits to Algiers, with 74% of respondents visiting leisure and nature areas with their families and friends. Individual visits account for 14.7% mainly including workers and students. Group tourism is estimated at only 6%.

- **Number of visits:** As for the variable number of visits, tables 3 demonstrates the pattern of tourist demand and frequency of visits to Algiers. The results point to a discrepancy in the number of visits. 86.7% of the respondents visit Algiers more than 3 times due to important natural, archaeological and historical features frequented by tourists, especially during vacations and weekends. 8.7% of the study sample visit Algiers twice a year while 4.7% of respondents visit once a year.

- **The right time to visit:** Tourists' visiting hours vary throughout the day: 46.7% of the respondents prefer the morning when the weather is nice and the air is clean. Then, 26% of the study sample prefer to walk in the evening to avoid the burning sun and enjoy the fresh air and the sunset. 20% of the study sample prefer to walk at night to experience the charming night atmosphere in restaurants, concerts and other activities abundant in Algiers in summer. Some tourists do not have a specific time of day to visit destination sites accounted for 7.3% of the respondents. Through previous analyses, it is noted that whether the visit is individual, in a group or with family and friends combined with leisure time and the psychological situation of tourists are the factors that determine the right time of day for the visit.

- **Nature of staying:** Accommodation facilities are one of the most important factors in attracting tourists. This is because they increase the frequency of tourists in the area, which stimulates the tourist movement. According to Table3: It can be seen that 30% of the tourists use other accommodations, such as university residences for students, corporate housing for citizens. 24.7% of the respondents prefer to stay with friends or relatives throughout their visit to Algiers, while 20% of the tourists prefer not to sleep in Algiers given the proximity of their place of residence and the tourist areas visited in Algiers and also because the capital does not have hotels and accommodation structures in large quantity and in terms of absorption capacity. 12.7% of tourists prefer to spend their stay in Algiers in both hotels and apartments, and this percentage is very low, because the prices are high in hotels and also the prices of renting apartments are very high.

- **Length of stay:** It turns out that indicates that the duration of tourists' stay varies, 39.3% of the sample visit for more than 15 days since their stay is related to work or studies, requiring a longer period of stay. 28% of the respondents spend between one to 7 days in the study area. This short term tourism is intended for different purposes such as leisure, enjoying nature or medical visits. These tourists choose to stay in a hotel or in apartments. 21.3% of the respondents were tourists who do not prefer to stay overnight when visiting Algiers as their home is within the vicinity of the capital. They arrive in the morning and leave in the evening using their personal cars. 10.7% of the respondents stay in Algiers for 7 to 15 days in groups of friends and families.

VISIT REASONS

It is important to understand the purpose of tourists' visit to any area to identify the main tourist attractions and develop them while sustaining the tourist movement activity. Upon examining the results of data analysis regarding the nature of the visit to the study area (Table.4), the survey revealed that local citizens and tourists visit Algiers for several important reasons including: comfort and leisure, natural sites and forests, beaches and swimming, whereas foreign tourists visit Algiers seeking safety, stability and also work. 9.33% of visitors visit the capital for leisure and relaxation, and 10.67% of tourists visit during the summer to enjoy swimming. Indeed, the city enjoys several charming beaches that attract tourists from different provinces of the country and abroad, thus encouraging leisure tourism. Also, 9.33% of the interviewees visit Algiers to enjoy the forests and nature, including parks such as the Parc de l'Expérience, Ben Aknoun Park, Bainem forest and other natural attractions in Algiers. This suggests a growing trend of eco-tourism in the region. 30% of tourists visit to enjoy historical and archaeological sites, such as the Old Kasbah and national museums 6.67% visit Algiers for scientific and study reasons, 7.33% of visitors came for work, and 12% came in search of security and stability, most of them foreign nationals, including Syrians living in Algiers. Then, 18% of the visitors came for various reasons such as therapeutic tourism or to visit family and relatives. Finally, 4.7% of the respondents visited the study area to discover religious monuments, and 2% of the respondents chose the capital for the low prices of tourist services.

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION USED

Transportation is one of the most important factors determining the tourist movement pattern in tourist areas. An increase in private tourist cars contributed to the growth of internal tourist movement. the analysis of Figure 8 indicates that 55.3% of the respondents use their personal cars to travel from their homes to the study area.

Table 3. Characteristics of tourist trips in the city of Algiers (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

Variables	Frequency	%
a) Nature of visits		
- Single	22	14.7
- A group of friends and family	111	74
- Group of tourists	9	6
- Others	8	5.3
b) Number of visits		
Once	7	4.7
Twice	13	8.6
Three times or more	130	86.7
c) The right time to visit		
- Morning	70	46.7
- Evening	39	26
- Night	30	20
- All the time	11	7.3
f) Nature of staying		
Hotel	19	12.7
Apartment	19	12.7
With friends and relatives	37	24.7
Sleepover	30	20
Others	45	30
g) Length of stay		
Sleepover	32	21.3
From one to 7 days	43	28.7
From 7 days to 15 days	16	10.7
More than 15 days	59	39.3

Table 4. Reasons for visiting Algiers by the respondents (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

Reasons of visit	Frequency	%
For its historical and archaeological monuments	30	20
To visit religious corners and monuments	7	4.67
Because of the low prices of tourism services	3	2
Because of stability and security	18	12
For comfort and leisure	14	9.33
For surfing and swimming	16	10.67
Scientific ans study reasons	10	6.67
For working	11	7.33
Enjoyment of forests and nature	14	9.33
For other reasons	27	18
Total	150	100

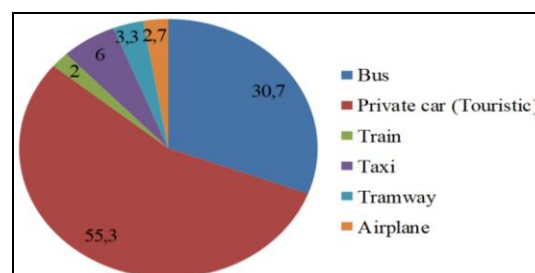


Figure 8. The means of transportation used by the respondents (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

In fact, the use of personal cars is more comfortable for family trips as it is a fast and economical mode of travel allowing tourists to enjoy their visit for a much longer time. 30.7% of the tourists prefer to travel by bus because they live in remote areas and prefer comfortable buses for long trips. 6% of the respondents use cabs, and 3.3% use trolley cars located in the urban area that facilitate the movement between the municipalities of the study area. 2.7% of tourists use air transportation (airplane) mostly from the southern provinces.

- **The areas visited by tourists in Algiers:** Algiers has several important sites that tourists want to visit and enjoy.

The analysis of the results in table.5 reveals that the tourism movement trends in Algiers are divided into four sections:

- **Cultural, historical and archeological tourism:** popular among visitors who want to learn about the region's history and enjoy archeological sites (the old Kasbah, the national museums, the Martyr's Square).

- **Religious tourism:** Based on visits to religious sites such as sanctuaries, mosques and churches.

- **Ecotourism:** It relies on the scenic beauty that tourists enjoy seeking peace and comfort.

- **Leisure tourism:** where tourists visit national parks, amusement parks, and other attractions...

The study indicates that most of the tourists (29.33%) prefer ecotourism by visiting natural sites such as the park experiences, forests and beaches. 22% tend to practice leisure tourism by visiting attraction areas such as Al-Sablat park. 35.33% of the respondents prefer historical and archeological tourism by visiting historical sites and areas such as the Kasbah, the Martyrs Memorial, and several national museums in an attempt to learn about the history of the region. Finally, religious tourism accounts for 13.33% of the respondents.

Table 5. The areas visited by tourists during the trip to Algiers Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021

Visited Areas	Visited Places	Frequency	%
(Kasbah -Martyr's Place- National museums)	Historical and archaeological Places	53	35.33
(Ketchaoua Mosque - Great Mosque - Cathedral of the African Lady)	Religious monuments	20	13.33
Experiment Park, Ben Aknoun Park, Benam Forest -Coasts-	Natural areas	44	29.33
(Al-Sablat Park – Trade centers -Maritime Pine Park)	Leisure areas	33	22
Total		150	100

TOURISTS' OPINIONS AND IMPRESSIONS ABOUT THE TOURIST TRIP

Tourists are good evaluators of the tourism reality of the visited area. Considering their opinions and impressions helps identify the quality of tourism services. This is achieved by identifying the positive and negative points, the weaknesses and proposals for improved services and offers. In fact, the tourist's opinion can be useful to develop new plans and strategies to improve services, promote the tourism sector and increase the number of entries, which leads inevitably to the revitalization of the tourism movement in the study area. Tourists' opinions on tourist services range from {excellent, good, average and poor. Table 6 displays a degree of satisfaction between average and below average. This satisfaction is associated with food and beverage prices in restaurants by 44%, hotel and accommodation services by 42%, banking services by 35.3%, archaeological services in museums and districts by 34.7%, followed by security services, and water and sanitation facilities by 31.3%. Therefore, the public opinion rate reached 33%. While tourists' opinion is below average regarding traffic jams by 70.7% and road and transport network services by 47.3%, followed by service prices and coastal cleanliness by 39% each, and finally health services by 37.3%. Thus, the overall satisfaction of tourists was unacceptable at 31.52%, while we only recorded a good satisfaction of tourists in relations with locals at 46%.

Table 6. The degree of tourists' satisfaction about the tourist facilities in Algiers (%) (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

The opinion --- Interrogation variable	Excellent	Good	Average	Low	Don't answer
Hotels and accommodations in Algiers	4.7	15.3	42	26.7	11.3
Museums and archaeological areas	18.7	31.3	34.7	8	7.3
Security services	27.3	22.7	31.3	4	14.7
Health services	9.3	16	29.3	37.3	8
Road and communication network	6.7	11.3	30.7	47.3	4
Traffic and street congestion	1.3	4	19	70.7	4.7
Prices of services	2	16	36.7	39.3	6
Food and drink prices in restaurants	1.3	13.3	44	37.3	4
Banking services	2	21.3	35.3	31.3	10
Cleaning coasts	1.3	18.7	34	39.3	6.7
Dealing by local people	20.7	46	22.7	7.3	3.3
Water and sanitation facilities	2	10	31.3	52	4.7
Tourist trip in Algiers In general	11.3	38.7	38	9.3	2.7

PROBLEMS FACED BY TOURISTS WHILE VISITING ALGIERS

The results of Figure 9 indicate that 124 of the respondents, or 82.7%, stated that they did not encounter any problems or difficulties during their visit to Algiers. While 26 of them, representing 17.3% of the visitors, were exposed to some problems and obstacles during their visit to the study area, including:

- Suffocating traffic jams delaying the arrival of tourists to different tourist areas.
- Lack of transportation means rendering difficult the movement of the tourist between the tourist places of the city.
- High prices of tourist services, which may not be suitable for all tourists, especially those with medium and limited incomes.

- Abuse of foreign tourists, which negatively affects the development of tourism in the region.
- Access difficulties to tourist facilities for people using public transportation and the absence of orientation signs.
- Insufficient security in tourist areas, especially at the beach.
- Weak communication and Internet network in Algiers, especially in some hotels.
- Lack of restaurants and cafes near tourist facilities, and if any, they are expensive, unwelcoming and crowded.
- The important shortage of restrooms and sanitation facilities.
- Lack of social controls and inappropriate behavior with families.
- Unprofessional relations with tourists.
- Overcrowded popular markets.
- Expensive entrance tickets to parks, zoos and amusement parks such as Al-Hama Experimental Garden, where two tickets are required, one for entering the park and the other for entering the zoo, leading to a significant financial expense for tourists in a single tourist facility.
- Absence of signs indicating the locations of the study area and lack of information about the tourist sites.
- Insufficient facilities for people with disabilities.
- Exposure to theft, especially in crowded areas.
- Lack or absence of parking in tourist areas.
- Lack of hygiene and increase of garbage and solid waste in the streets and beaches, damaging the landscape and discouraging tourists from visiting the area.
- The propagation of bullying, regionalism and disrespect for differences.
- The abuse of cab drivers for foreign tourists.
- The lack of public lighting at night in tourist areas, particularly at the beach.
- Increase in begging and child labor, which limits the tourist movement in the region.

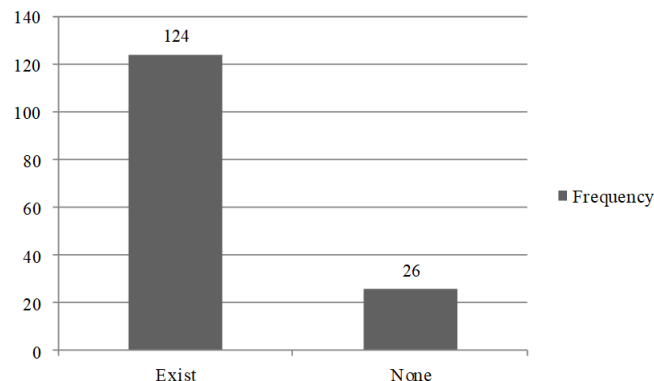


Figure 9. Problems faced by tourists while visiting Algiers (Source: Achievement of researchers according to field investigation 2021)

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study presented a survey of the reality of tourism movements in the city of Algiers, through the analysis of field results that included 150 samples. The results indicated that, the majority of tourists visiting Algiers are women (62.7%) and 57.3% of them are married with an average of 4 to 8 family members (53.3%). Tourists of Algerian nationality constitute the majority in the local tourist movement with a 93.3% rate of respondents, their level of education varies, and most of them are employed (42.3%) in all economic sectors. Most of these tourists are from the North Central provinces due to the proximity. Tourists flock to the study area in the presence of a family in the form of a group of friends and family, they visit Algiers more than three times annually. The tourist movement increases during the summer and spring seasons, as most tourists prefer these seasons, and they like to visit in the morning. Friends are the most important means of media for visiting Algiers, and they prefer to stay with family and friends, and there are those who prefer to stay in different places such as workplaces or university residences, etc., and their stay period extends for more than 15 days. In terms of visit reasons, the majority of tourists flock to the study area for the purpose of rest and leisure in order to enjoy the forests and nature, they use private transportation (their own cars) and there are those who use buses, the percentages of their users, respectively, were **55.3%** and **30.7%** of the study sample. The study also showed that the trends of tourism movement in the region were represented in the eco-tourism movement by **82%** of the study sample, the leisure tourism movement by **79.3%**, as well as the historical and rich tourism movement by **70.7%** of the respondents. The study showed that there is a decline in the level of tourism and public services alike, as tourists expressed their impressions about tourism services with dissatisfaction and the lack of these services reaching the required and excellent level. The study also showed that **82.7%** of the study samples were exposed to problems and obstacles that limit their tourism trip in Algiers.

Through the results of the field study, the researcher recommends a number of proposals, namely:

- Developing the transportation network and working to link it with the tourist areas, with allocating places for parking lots and buses, especially in tourist places such as gardens, parks and beaches.
- Working on developing infrastructure and addressing sewage problems, and the problem of continuous water interruption, especially in the current period, as well as working to reduce pollution.
- Encouraging the religious tourism movement, by exploiting the ancient corners and mosques, and trying to promote tourism in the media.
- Improving the legal, legislative and banking system so that it responds to international tourism competition, and considering tourism as an industry.
- Encouraging investment in the tourism field, with the integration of the national and foreign operators in the promotion of the tourism industry, in order to provide job opportunities in the region and increase the entrances.
- Raising the level of tourism services, developing them, and controlling prices to suit those with limited incomes, as well as to suit the desires of tourists.
- Developing training programs to raise the efficiency of workers in the field of tourism with the establishment of institutes and educational institutions for tourism.
- Working on spreading tourism awareness among citizens and setting up radio and television media programs on the landmarks that Algiers abounds in, in order to increase tourist attractions and develop the tourism movement in the region.
- Establishment of special facilities that help the category of people with special needs to enjoy and conduct tourist tours.
- Reducing the phenomenon of beggary, this distorts the aesthetic view of the area, as well as disturbing tourists.
- Working on organizing festivals and special parties during the seasons in which the tourism movement flourishes, in order to attract a large number of tourists and benefit from them in promoting tourism through them.
- Establishment of new facilities and centers for amusement and recreation, gardens and parks that attract tourism, especially in the east and west of Algiers, given that most of the recreational centers and parks are located in the center of Algiers.
- Exploiting the natural seasons and climate of the study area, in which there is little tourism in Europe as a result of snow and storms, and attracting them to Algiers.
- Improving the communication network and increasing the flow of the Internet in Algiers, which facilitates the process of communicating tourists with their families and relatives.
- Encouraging the local and international tourist movement by providing tourist attractions such as tourist services and establishing tourist villages and resorts with price reduction.

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