

Definition of a Tourist

- ***Tourists are people who travel to and stay in places outside their usual environment for more than twenty-four (24) hours and not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.***

(UNWTO, 1995)



Definitions of “Tourist”

Travellers

Any person who is taking a trip within or outside his/her own country of residence irrespective of the purpose of travel, means of transport used, even though he/she may be travelling on foot.

Tourist

A tourist is a person who travels to destinations outside his/her residence and working place, and stays for at least 24 hours, for the purpose of leisure or business.

Visitors

Any person traveling to a place other than his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of trips is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Tourism is concerned by the activity of visitors

Traveler Terminology for Tourism.

- All types of travelers engaged in tourism are described as **visitors**.
- **International visitors** are persons who travel for a period not exceeding twelve months to country other than the one in which they generally reside and whose main purpose is other than exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.
- **Internal visitors** are persons who travel to destination within their country, that is outside their usual environment, for a period not exceeding twelve months.



Two Classes of visitors:

Tourists: Temporary visitors staying at least 24 hours, whose purpose could be classified as: Leisure, Business, Family, Mission and Meeting.

Excursionists: Temporary visitors staying less than 24 hours in the destination visited and not making an overnight stay, including cruise travelers but excluding travelers in transit.



TOURIST DEFINED AND TYPES OF TOURISTS

▣ What is a Tourist?

- Is a person who travels away from home for leisure, business or other purposes for longer than a day e.g. 24 hours but less than a year. An excursionist is a person who arrives at the destination and departs on the same day.

Tourists are classified, according to their needs and their reasons for travelling, into four broad categories:

- ▣ business and professional tourist
 - ▣ leisure and holiday tourists
 - ▣ tourists travelling to visit friends and relatives (VFR)
 - ▣ Youth tourists, including backpackers and gap year travellers.
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- ▣ The tourism industry tries to meet the needs of all types of tourists by providing suitable facilities and services for each category.

1.1 Tourists travelling for business and professional reasons

• **Business tourist:** travel is related to business and the world of work. **MESE** which stands for meetings, exhibitions and special events. These are all part of the business world. All major cities have conference centres that cater for the needs of business tourists. An example of a business tourist would be a salesman who travels to another city to attend a trade show and promote the products he sells.

• **Education tourists:** travel to attend a place of learning in another town, city, or country, in order to study for or improve a qualification. They may also be people that attend workshops to learn new skills or improve existing ones. A clinic nurse who travels to another province to attend a workshop about infectious diseases is an example of an educational tourist.

• **Incentive tourists:** are people who are rewarded in the form of a company paid holiday for their hard work, or for achieving goals set by their company. This incentive to travel motivates employees to work harder, improves work relationships, and builds team spirit. A salesman who receives a holiday package for achieving the most sales in the company is an example of an incentive tourist.

• **Health or medical tourist:** travel because they want to visit a holiday spa, needs medical special treatment that is only available away from home, undergo procedures that are cheaper in another country, or are recovering from an illness in a healthier climate. Many tourist come from overseas countries to South Africa to have plastic surgery.

Tourist travelling for leisure and holiday

reasons

- ❑ Adventure tourist: want an unusual and exciting experience. They want to participate in activities that may be dangerous, such as rock climbing, river rafting, skydiving, shark cave diving and bungee jumping.
- ❑ Cultural tourist: want to experience different cultures, such as San rock art, or cultural related festivals such as the National Art Festival in Grahams-town, or the International Jazz Festival in Cape Town. They would also want to experience the World Heritage Sites in the country.
- ❑ Eco-tourists: travel to experience nature such as traveling to Bonita Gardens in Bloemfontein South Africa
- ❑ Leisure tourist: want to rest and relax and have a break from the usual routine. Examples of this type of tourism are a cruise on a cruise liner, a trip on a Blue train, attending a special music special music performance or relaxing on the beach.

- ▣ Tourist visiting friends and relatives (VFR) want to stay in contact with friends and relatives and travel away from home to visit them. These tourist may travel to attend a wedding, funeral, or birthday celebration of friends or relatives.

1.4 Youth travel: backpackers and gap year travellers

- ▣ Backpacking or youth tourist: generally have little luggage, are on a budget, want to experience adventure and excitement, tend to travel independently, enjoy meeting other traveller, and have flexible travel schedules. A group of young tourists on a weekend walking tour in the mountains, or a student touring around the country by bus are examples of this group of tourist.
- ▣ Gap year travellers: do not study further or enter job opportunity after school, instead they take break called a gap year. They travel, work and earn money, learn new skills or do volunteer work in another country. During this time they gain skills and life experience before starting tertiary education. These young people are also known as "gappers".