

International Diploma in

Tourism & Travel Management

This Program is designed to create professionals trained in tourism and travel organisation and management.



The tourism industry and its earnings are very important to many countries worldwide, and tourism is a major force in the economy of the world - it has become an activity of global importance and significance. However, it has also become an industry sector which, unless it is well managed and controlled, can have harmful effects on the cultures and environments of "host" countries. To benefit from tourism its development must be planned, controlled and "sold" using modern marketing methods, the tourism and travel markets and their products, and the needs and expectations of customers - must be understood and satisfied. This Program covers all these matters and more.

Course Contents

Module 1 - The Tourism & Travel Industry and its Products

Definitions of tourism - problems in precise definition Motivations for travel: holidays/vacations culture and religion visits to friends and relatives (VFR) education, training, study new experiences sports, activities and recreation hobbies and special interests health reasons business tourism other reasons for travel Why a knowledge of travel motivations is essential

Travellers and visitors

Types of visitors:

business travellers, tourists and excursionists

The characteristics of a "trip"

Types of tour organisation:

independent and packaged

Components of the tourism & travel industry:

co-ordinating different business activities

Tourism products for:

holidays/vacations, excursions, business travel

The intangible nature of the tourism product

A tourism product as a collection of services

Features of services which set them apart from other products

Types of tourism products:

independent travel and package tours

Tourist destinations

Attractions:

site, event, natural, man-made, nodal, lateral

Promotion of destinations

Amenities and facilities expected at destinations

The importance of accessibility to, from and within destinations:

visa and immigration procedures on arrival

considering the needs of departing tourists

Module 2 - The Importance of Tourism

Economic importance internationally

Visible imports and exports:

effects on a country's balance of trade

Invisible imports and exports:

effects on a country's balance of payments

Economic consequences of tourism nationally:

outgoings necessary to earn revenue from tourism

balancing income from and expenditure on tourism

the spread of income from tourism

Investment for tourism development

Importance of forecasting and planning tourism

The social consequences of tourism:

employment opportunities:

positive and negative features

Effects of "foreign" cultures:

damage to local culture and values

Social "costs" of tourism development:

noise, overcrowding, pollution, etc

exploitation of local inhabitants

the issue of photography

Effects on the environment of tourism development

Financial costs of tourism development

Reasons for tourism development in "developing" countries:

attraction of foreign investment

employment and training

income from:

taxes, customs duties, on earnings and profits

The accelerator factor

The tourist income multiplier (TIM):

direct, indirect and induced income from tourism

The TIM formula

Calculating a country's TIM and its uses

Module 3 - Measurement of Tourism and Tourism Statistics

Factors which can influence demand for tourism:

those which cannot be predetermined or forecast

cultural, social, financial and technological changes

Measuring tourism:

SWOT analysis

data needed by tourism planners and decision-makers

Statistics:

what they are

quantitative and qualitative data

facts about which data is gathered

Tourist expenditure statistics

Arrival statistics:

landing or entry cards:

information commonly required

How tourism statistics provide a country with:
an indication of the effects on its economy and balance of payments
comparisons between years or seasons or with other countries
the ability to identify and forecast trends in tourism demands
data on which to plan advertising, marketing and promotion
information on what tourists spend money
Tourist behavioural patterns
Market intelligence
Sampling
Caution in relying too heavily on tourism statistics

Module 4 - Considerations in Developing Tourism

Framework of tourism: the elements: people who want or need to travel traveller-generating areas tourism destinations transit routes public and private sector organizations The "visitor experience" and the tour Tourist area life cycle or resort life cycle: factors which can affect life cycles Sustainable tourism development: what "sustainable" means in relation to tourism Carrying capacity of a site, facility or destination: factors to be considered in estimations Infrastructure of a country: transport facilities and utilities improvements and investment in infrastructure Evaluation of the market: the meaning of "market" in tourism and travel basing planning on research and forecasts Destination tourism superstructure:

accommodation units

restaurants and other eating places

entertainment, sports, recreational and shopping facilities

development and improvement of superstructure

The people working in tourism:

training, willingness to satisfy tourists

government's role in avoiding resentment,

apathy or antagonism towards tourists

Accessibility:

a mixture of infrastructure and people

minimising customs and entry or immigration formalities

reducing traffic congestion

providing needed escalators, elevators, ski-lifts, cable-cars, etc

Research into demand for types and standards of accommodation

Factors in the selection of sites for hotels, resorts, etc

Tourism effects on flora and fauna

Noise pollution

Positive environmental

Module 5 - The Tourism & Travel Market

Definitions of tourism and travel and tourism product markets:

different markets for different products

Leisure and activities holiday/vacation markets:

lengths or durations

destinations:

scenic areas, sun-sea-and-sand - beaches

activities dependent on interests:

frequent need for "compromise"

amusement parks and theme parks

types of people who buy these products:

conservative and adventurous

types of tours:

mass market

popular market

individual market

affects of budget airlines

Touring/cruising, sightseeing and culture markets:

lengths or durations

destinations

types of people who buy these products

types of products:

cruise ships and liners

coaches, mini-buses and other road transport

variety combinations:

fly-drive and fly-cruise

Common interest markets

VFR markets

Educational holiday/vacation markets

Exotic and unusual holiday/vacation markets

The business travel market:

how it differs from other tourism markets:

timing of business trips

lower level of price sensitivity

duration of business trips

services required by business travellers

Conference/congress and special events markets

Incentive business travel markets

Inclusive (IT) or Package Tours

Common features of ITs:

travel, accommodation, transfers, meals

representatives of tour operators

"all inclusive" packages

Other services which might be included in ITs:

entertainment, sporting activities, health aids

excursions/sightseeing trips, admissions to attractions

couriers and local guides

Special services:

visas, health, travel insurance, foreign exchange

Types of inclusive tours: inclusive tours by excursion (ITX) inclusive tours by charter (ITC) Accommodation offered in ITs The attitude of travel agents towards Its

Module 6 - Structure & Organisation of the Tourism Industry

The components of the industry:

organizations which:

provide essential elements

create demand

fulfil tourists' needs and demands

provide support services

interrelationships and interdependence

Channels of distribution for products:

the traditional channel

The producers in the tourism industry:

carriers, amenity and attraction providers

accommodation establishments

Wholesalers in the tourism industry:

tour operators

travel brokers

Retailers in the tourism industry:

travel agents

Booking or reservations agencies and websites

Vertical and horizontal integration in the industry

Organizations with common interests:

professional and trade bodies

Types of tour operators:

mass market operators

specialist operators

domestic operators

incoming operators:

handling agents

conference/convention organisers

Use of transport and accommodation by tour operators

Economics of tour operating:

types of costs incurred:

direct, selling, administration

factors which can affect profits

forecasts of business levels

Factors involved in setting prices of packages:

reasons for price variations

effects of competition

Other sources of income for tour operators:

deposits received in advance

excursions

transport hire/rental vehicles

travel insurance

sales of "duty free" goods

cancellation charges

Supplements to basic tour prices: singe room occupancy choice accommodation full board all inclusive terms times/seasons of the year festive seasons optional extras Surcharges to quoted tour prices: how and why the need for surcharges arises common factors which affect tour costs and prices action by tour operators to deal with increases in costs: no surcharge guarantees limited surcharge guarantees pass on all costs to customers offer to cancel bookings skills needed for profitable tour operation

Module 7 - Transport

Reliance of tourism on transport and routes Effects of developments in transport on tourism Carriers and effects of competition between carriers

Air Transport:

Importance to the economies of countries
Protection of national airlines: subsidies, pooling arrangements
Scheduled air services:
"traditional" airlines
"low fare", "no frills" budget airlines
competition between the two concepts
Non-scheduled or charter air services
Air taxi services
Regulation of air transport:
international agreements, cabotage routes
the International Air Transport Association (IATA):
aims and organisation, benefits of membership
The effects of deregulation

Rail Transport:

Importance of rail links to some countries Decline in importance in tourism Attempts to regain lost markets

Road Transport:

Coach travel:

scheduled long distance services private hire or charter services tour operations, excursions, transfers qualities of coaches, safety regulations Cars/automobiles: the rise of motoring tourism fly-drive tours hire/rental vehicle businesses

caravanning/RV and camping

response by the accommodation sector

Sea Transport:

Cruising:

reasons for increased popularity types and standards of cruises and cruise ships, ports of call Fly-cruises and 'cruise and stay'

Ferry Services:

why they may be important in tourism developments and routes

Inland Waterways:

excursions and tours on lakes, rivers and canals reasons for the rise in popularity of river cruising vessels, routes, costs, competitive fares

Travel Insurance:

importance to travellers what insurance policies might cover what insurance policies might exclude why tour operators and travel agencies insist tourist have "cover"

Module 8 - The Hospitality Industry: Accommodation and Catering

The sectors of the industry: accommodation; food and beverages; clubs and gaming; arts, entertainment and recreation; transport; visitor information

The Accommodation Sector

Types of non-commercial accommodation: value and importance to the tourism industry Commercial accommodation Major groups of serviced accommodation units: types, styles and sizes of accommodation offered: hotels, motels, inns, guest houses, caravan/RV parks, camping sites Self-catering accommodation: types of accommodation units Alternative serviced/self-catering facilities

Large-scale accommodation units:

hotel/motel chains and consortia, franchising

Vertical integration involving accommodation units:

possible advantages

Location of accommodation:

preferred locations: availability, popularity

factors dictating location otherwise

location to meet requirements of different markets

Rating of accommodation units:

categorisation, classification and grading,

common rating systems

descriptions of accommodation

Demand for accommodation:

problems in forecasting caused by:

seasonality and periodicity

deciding whether to remain open or to close

during the off season

requirements of customers

Forecasting and setting tariffs:

customer compromises between costs and locations

Changing demands for accommodation:

response from the sector

Considerations by tour operators in selecting accommodation units:

costs, sizes, ownership, management experience, amenities

satisfying guests with differing needs

Time-sharing of accommodation

The Catering Sector

Its importance to travel and tourism

Included meals, optional meals, self-catering

Priority of catering operations:

giving value for money

protecting the health of customers

Different dietary and other requirements of guests:

catering for those needs

Variety of catering establishments and menus offered:

how they may influence selection of destinations

or types of accommodation units selected

Module 9 - State Promotion of Tourism

Reasons for State involvement in tourism:

economic and social considerations

environmental protection

Varying degrees of participation by States due to:

differing governmental/political systems and ideologies

differing economic systems

the relative importance of tourism to the national economy

the stage of development of the industry in a country

The State's co-ordinating role in tourism development

Why the State might become involved in running tourism amenities

Advantages and disadvantages of private developers

Non-commercial reasons for State participation in tourism

Development of the infrastructure:

meaning and what might be involved

Planning for tourism:

researching and forecasting

Development of the superstructure:

meaning and what might be involved

By-products of improved infrastructure and superstructure

Providing or arranging finance for tourism development:

financing of capital projects

internal and external sources of finance

forms of financial assistance

control over type, pace and areas of development

Determining markets to support

Safety and security of tourists

Training manpower for the tourism industry

Encouraging the correct attitudes towards tourists

Improving the accessibility of the country or regions of it:

better transport links, relaxing entry formalities, abolishing visas

Areas of State supervision and control

Why and how the State might restrain tourism growth

avoiding damage to attractions

protecting the environment

diverting resources and tourists to other areas

Control over the outwards flow of tourists

Roles and activities of:

national tourist organizations

regional tourist organizations

local tourist organizations

Module 10 - The Marketing of Tourism and Travel

Marketing by the public sector:

its purposes -

and how they differ from those of the private sector

Communications devices making up the "promotional mix":

advertising, personal selling, sales promotion,

public relations (PR), direct mail marketing, point of sale

Public sector aids to the private sector's efforts:

market research, statistics, visits by tour operators/travel agents

tourist information offices

Marketing by the private sector:

definition

activities involved

the importance of marketing to business survival

forecasting and market research:

what data it typically seeks

consumer research:

its purpose

typical questions needing answers

uncovering and fulfilling market opportunities sales planning and forecasting: what is involved, their relationship advertising and publicity: why they are undertaken media which might be used direct and indirect forms factors which influence the extent to which advertising and publicity are carried out travel supplements and guides building customer loyalty: passenger/guest clubs sales promotion campaigns: how they differ from normal advertising and publicity reasons why they are carried out common special offers: price reductions, better value, stopovers, travel incentives, loss leaders merchandising and point of sale advertising public relations (PR) in travel and tourism: its aims, techniques and activities crisis management

Module 11 - Tour Brochures and Websites

why they are needed and used:

by tour operators

by travel agencies

by prospective travellers and customers

Types and sizes of publications:

leaflets: single-sheet, folds, variety of uses pamphlets: numbers of pages, possible uses booklets: the popular conception of 'brochures'

pocket-folders Categorising tours: specialist brochures

cost and convenience benefits

Importance of quality of production:

attracting favourable attention to the brochure

eye-catching, multicoloured, illustrated front pages/covers

enhancing the operator's reputation for:

quality, care and reliability

dangers of poor presentation, poor paper or poor printing

Selecting and designing the layout of contents:

making text visually interesting

colours, photographs and illustrations

Providing convenience for readers:

colour coding of sections

Booking or reservation instructions:

avoiding ambiguity

Booking or reservation forms:

attachment within the brochure, separate sheets

instructions and guidance on completion

keeping booking procedures simple

Importance of the accuracy of information provided

Range of information needed about each tour featured

Dangers of inaccurate or incomplete information

Deciding what really is essential advance information:

name and contact details of the operator

names of destinations/resorts

mode(s) of transport used

itineraries and durations of tours

types and locations of accommodation units

meals

tour prices: what is and is not included

supplements and surcharges

representatives, couriers, guides

special dietary or other requirements

limitations and special needs

additional information

booking/reservation conditions

travel insurance requirements

Sales promotion and special offers in brochures

Websites:

The impact of the Internet on the marketing

of tourism and travel products

The increasing importance of websites to the industries

Advantages of Internet marketing:

to tourism, travel and hospitality businesses

to travel agency and tourist information office staff

to prospective customers

Personalisation through product categorisation

Market variations

Design and construction of websites

Uses of websites by:

NTOs, RTOs and LTOs

carriers: booking, payment, confirmation, online check-in

tour operators and travel agencies: booking, payment

hotels and other accommodation units: booking, payment

Online travel agencies (OTAs)

Travel websites and comparison websites:

methods of operation

Online bookings/reservations and payment methods

Customer and guest reviews:

importance in customers' research and reservations

Special and "last minute" offers

Accuracy of website information

Providing adequate but not excessive information

Module 12 - Social Media and Viral Marketing

The advent and rise of social media:

consumer-generated media

effects on the marketing of travel and tourism

types of online forums

Community building and social media:

e-marketing and online marketing

Viral marketing:

definition and reason for its description

encouraging people to "pass along" messages

creating quality "viral" and "seeding":

appeals to various motivations for passing on messages

online bulletin boards

Marketing opportunities:

social bonding

user communities

business-to-consumer and business-to-business markets

A Tourism & Travel Promotional Campaign

An example of the planning and implementation of a campaign for a fictitious holiday/vacation and convention resort, covering:

campaign planning

business review:

consumer review

competition review

SWOT analysis: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats

campaign strategy:

setting predetermined objectives

audience targeting:

push and pull strategies

marketing communication activities:

importance of the campaign theme

value of logos and slogans

integrated marketing communication

advertising media:

consumer advertising

trade advertising

co-operative advertising

direct response messages

printed literature:

information packs

visitor guide and maps

accommodation guide

attractions guide

visitor information offices

the website:

e-tourism strategy

dynamic information and virtual tours

facility to download and/or email for information pack social media and social sharing links to other websites inter-business relations: passing on business "leads" consumer promotions trade activities: trade shows and fairs trade missions familiarisation trips public relations and media relations international programmes

