



# Shortcomings and Problems of Tourist Destinations in Uzbekistan

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## ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the tourism potential of our country and issues of tourism development. Also, tasks and measures to be implemented to increase the place and role of tourism in the growth of our economy and the living standard of the population have been determined.

## Keywords:

Tourism industry, hotels, museum tourism, cultural tourism, pilgrimage tourism, tourists, tourism potential.

## Introduction

Globalization processes, which are becoming increasingly stronger in the world, have a great impact on all aspects of the political, socio-economic, and cultural life of mankind. In this regard, the position of tourism on the world scale is getting stronger as a field that covers all spheres of economy and culture of developed countries.

Nowadays, tourism is one of the promising sectors that bring high income to the national economy. Since the first years of Uzbekistan's independence, tourism has become one of the strategically important sectors of the national economy. In this regard, attention was paid to consistent implementation of complex measures for development of tourism in our country, its diversification and repair of tourism facilities located in the regions, as well as increase of investment attractiveness.

## Materials And Methods

One of the important directions of the reforms being carried out in our republic, the development of the tourism sector was defined as one of the most urgent tasks. In the Address

of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Oliy Majlis on the most important priority tasks for 2019, "we should take comprehensive measures to develop tourism, attract investments in the sector, and increase the capacity of personnel. In our country, tourism is often limited to our ancient cities, historical and cultural monuments. However, the unique nature of our country, national reserves, and mountainous regions have great potential for tourism development. In particular, the development of medical tourism, pilgrimage tourism and ecotourism gives a great impetus to the development of not only the economy, but also the social spheres. In 2019-2025, it is necessary to develop the national concept of tourism development and, on this basis, to increase the number of foreign tourists visiting our country to 7 million people, and the annual income from tourism exports to 2 billion US dollars.[1] In addition, in order to rapidly develop this industry, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 2, 2016 No. PF-4861 "On measures to ensure rapid development of the tourism sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan", February 7, 2017 No. PF-4947 "Further development of

the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Strategy of Actions for Tourism", No. PF-5326, February 3, 2018, No. PF-5611, January 5, 2019, No. PF-5611, "On Additional Organizational Measures to Create Favorable Conditions for the Development of the Tourism Potential of the Republic of Uzbekistan" on additional measures related to development", May 28, 2020 No. PF-6002 "On urgent measures to support the tourism industry to reduce the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic", February 9, 2021 No. PF-6165 PF- of January 28, 2022 "On measures to further develop domestic and pilgrimage tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" Decree No. 60 "On the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022 - 2026" provides for rapid development of the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan, creation of favorable conditions for the development of tourism potential, target parameters for building hotels, promising investment projects, a culture that implements modern information technologies objects and institutions were determined.

## Results And Discussion

Scientific literature related to the development of tourism in Uzbekistan can be divided into two main groups according to the chronological scope and methodological approaches - the first group includes works created during the years of independence, and the second group includes foreign studies. In the years of independence, based on the principles of objectivity and historicity, monographs, textbooks and articles of a number of researchers were published, in which the issues of the history of tourism and factors affecting its development were studied. Various aspects of popularization of the tourism industry in Uzbekistan were discussed in research works on the topic.[2] It should be noted that the economic approach to the study of the tourism sector prevails in these studies. However, it is observed that most of these studies are limited by territorial and chronological frameworks.

A number of aspects in foreign research, including theoretical and methodological issues related to the development of a conceptual

framework for tourism and tourism activity problems, important issues of regionalization of international tourism, information on the provision of various directions of tourism, the theory of tourism culture, new approaches and the concept of tourism development, issues of a sociological approach to the problem of studying risks in tourism were raised. [3]

A brief review of the literature shows that although a number of scientific works on the tourism network have been created in different periods, this problem is still relevant and requires a comparative-historical analysis of the issue of its improvement during the development of tourism in Uzbekistan during the years of independence. Nowadays, it is necessary to show the country's tourism potential to the world based on the innovative ideas used by developed countries and by using the tourism potential that we have.

Changes in the field of tourism are one of the strategic directions of the development of the national economy, which ensures the rapid development of regions. Between 2016 and 2019, there was a significant increase in the number of international tourists visiting Uzbekistan. For comparison, in 2016, 2 million foreign tourists visited the country, and in 2022, their number will increase by 3.3 times to 6.7 million. It is noteworthy that the increase in the number of tourists is happening differently in different regions. For example, the number of visitors from Central Asian countries increased by 22-25 percent annually, while the annual increase among citizens of distant foreign countries was 50 percent. More than 144,200 foreign tourists from 95 foreign countries visited Kashkadarya region in 2022, an increase of 1.7 times compared to 2021. The number of domestic tourists will reach 1 million in 2022. 650 thousand people have increased by 150 thousand compared to 2021.

More than half of the 107 regulatory legal documents adopted in 1991-2021 regulating the activities of the tourism network in order to create favorable conditions for local and foreign tourists, diversify the type of tourist products and, most importantly, improve the legal basis of the industry by improving its investment attractiveness - 90

document - signed after December 2016, thus tourism received the status of a strategic branch of the economy. Simplification of the visa regime between the countries will ensure the mobility of citizens, as well as reduce the costs of registration and increase the flow of foreign tourists. In 2018, Uzbekistan introduced a visa-free regime for citizens of 9 countries, and by 2021, Uzbekistan has established a visa-free regime with 90 countries of the world. "Citizen", "Student", "Academic", "Medical" and 5 new types of visas have been introduced, such as "Ziyarat". The simplification of the visa regime has shown its positive results: in 2019, the growth in the number of foreign tourists was 26 percent on average, while the growth rate among the countries where the visa-free regime was introduced reached 58 percent.

During the years of independence, there were ample opportunities for the restoration and repair of historical and cultural heritage sites and the development of international and local tourism along them. In order to develop museum tourism, Uzbekistan's museum-reserves actively participate in tourist fairs and organize mobile exhibitions with interesting exhibits, booklets, photo collections and models of historical monuments. New tourist destinations have been developed to increase the flow of tourists. In the museum and exhibition halls, exhibits are constantly changed, expositions are updated and new exhibitions are organized. Electronic versions of expositions and exhibition collections, multimedia products were prepared. Opportunities to use modern information technologies have been created for tourists. It is aimed to raise the museum tourism of Uzbekistan to the level of the requirements of world standards, to form new directions of tourism, which are renewing the appearance of museum expositions.

However, it should be noted that the potential of 122 museums in our country is not fully utilized in the development of tourism. More than 2.5 million items are preserved in museums, 112 thousand of which are unique not only in our country, but also in the world. For example, tourists from all over the world

come to the Savitsky, Termiz archaeology, Uzbekistan state art museums. Unfortunately, during inspections of museums, it was noted that more than 3,000 rare and rare cultural treasures were looted in 14 museums across the country. In particular, it was found that 81 cultural treasures worth 31.5 billion soums were exchanged for fakes in the Bukhara State Museum. A total of 101 museum objects in the "Ichan-Kal'a" state museum fund were found to be unoriginal. In general, the amount of damage caused to cultural heritage objects in 30 years exceeded 4 trillion soums. Therefore, in the video selector dedicated to the field of tourism held by the head of our state on April 26, 2022, we will thoroughly review all museum exhibits and create their electronic database by the end of the year, turn more than 4.5 thousand archaeological monuments into open-air museums, and 2.5 thousand unique exhibits in museums. the tasks of selecting, preparing and selling their copy were set.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, it should be noted that today in our country, great progress has been made in terms of development of the tourism industry and legal regulation and systematic development by the state. The main factor in the development of the sector was the creation of great privileges and opportunities for entrepreneurs in order to develop this sector. Pilgrimage tourism, historical-educational tourism, MICE tourism have become the main directions of international cooperation. The analysis shows that along with traditional types of tourism, in 2017 new and promising directions such as gastronomic, medical, ethnographic, pilgrimage tourism, business tourism and film tourism, education and transit tourism began to develop. At the same time, some shortcomings and unused opportunities and problems are also visible: insufficient quality service that does not meet international standards, problems with the structure of transport, high prices of air flights, underdevelopment of roadside infrastructure, low level of advertising in Uzbek tourism, bright brand unavailability, high tax rates imposed on the basic and additional services of

hotels and other businesses, the lack of travel agencies in large foreign cities to provide tourist services, it is important to eliminate them and effectively use the positive experiences of developed foreign countries in this way.

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