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Abstract

Tourism has developed into a significant sector with significant direct, indirect and induced economic benefits. The study sought to investigate the impact of transportation on tourism industry in Singapore. Singapore is a thriving hub for tourism and it is known for its excellent food, shopping, and cultural events. Development of the tourist industry is directly related to transportation. Transportation infrastructure is the most important of the three components of the transportation system for the growth of tourism. Singapore continues to innovate and expand its tourism offerings to attract visitors from around the world. Singapore has a well-developed transportation infrastructure, which makes it easy for visitors to access various attractions and destinations. The efficient transportation system in Singapore, including an extensive network of trains, buses, and taxis, has played a crucial role in supporting the growth of the tourism industry. The accessibility and convenience provided by the transportation infrastructure have made it easier for tourists to explore the city-state's attractions, contributing to the overall growth and success of the tourism sector in Singapore. The research used the descriptive research design. The target population was 98 tourism sites in Singapore. The research did sampling of 60 participants that were chosen from the target population of 98 tourism sites in Singapore. Questionnaires were utilized to gather the data. In conclusion, transportation is a critical component of the tourism industry, and investments in transportation infrastructure and services can have a significant impact on the success of destinations in attracting and retaining visitors. Efficient and reliable transportation systems can make travel more convenient, affordable, and enjoyable, which can increase the number of tourists visiting a particular destination. The study recommended that governments and private sector stakeholders should invest in transportation infrastructure, such as airports, seaports, railways, and highways, to improve accessibility to tourist destinations and increase the number of visitors. The tourism industry should work collaboratively with transportation providers to develop travel packages that include transportation and accommodation, which will increase the convenience and affordability of travel for tourists.

Keywords: *Transportation, Tourism Industry, Growth, Singapore*

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1.0 Background of the Study

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the tourism industry in Singapore was a significant industry and economic contributor bringing in more than 20.2 million tourists which is more than three times the country's total population. Over the last several decades, tourism has developed into a significant sector with significant direct, indirect and induced economic benefits (Khan, Bibi, Lorenzo, Lyu & Babar, 2020). It also promotes natural and historical conservation programs and protects the environment. Additionally, it boasts as one of the country with the lowest rates of crime in the whole world. Since English is the most widely spoken of its four official languages, it is often simpler for tourists to comprehend locals while communicating with them, for example, when shopping. One of the world's greatest and most affordable public transit networks is found in Singapore. Singapore's transport comprehensive covers majority, if not all, public venues hence making traveling more easy for visitors (Wu & Tsui, 2020). The second country in Asia-Pacific and the fifth most visited country overall is Singapore.

Singapore is a thriving hub for tourism and is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Southeast Asia (Eijdenberg, Thirumaran & Wong, 2022). The country's tourism industry is diverse, offering a range of attractions and experiences for visitors of all ages and interests. Some of the major attractions in Singapore include: Marina Bay Sands which is a world-class integrated resort with a hotel, casino, shopping mall, and a spectacular rooftop infinity pool; Gardens by the Bay with a stunning nature park featuring super trees, gardens, and conservatories; Sentosa Island which has a popular resort island with beaches, theme parks, and attractions like Universal Studios Singapore; Singapore Zoo with world-renowned wildlife park showcasing animals from around the world; Chinatown which is a vibrant neighborhood with Chinese temples, traditional shophouses, and a bustling street market; Clarke Quay which is a riverside dining and entertainment district with restaurants, bars, and nightclubs and Merlion Park which is a landmark tourist spot featuring the famous Merlion statue, a half-lion, half-fish mythical creature that symbolizes Singapore's history as a fishing village and its emergence as a modern metropolis.

In addition to these attractions, Singapore is known for its excellent food, shopping, and cultural events such as the annual Singapore Food Festival and the Singapore Grand Prix Formula One race (Chiu & Leng, (2021). The tourism industry is a significant contributor to Singapore's economy, generating approximately 4% of the country's GDP and employing over 160,000 people. The government has invested heavily in promoting tourism, with initiatives such as the Singapore Tourism Board's "Passion Made Possible" campaign, which showcases Singapore's unique and diverse offerings to international audiences. Overall, Singapore's tourism industry is thriving, and the country continues to innovate and expand its tourism offerings to attract visitors from around the world (Ngoc, Tien, Hieu & Trang, 2023). International tourism is one of the other sectors of the global economy that is significantly affected by transportation due to its involvement in the movement of people and products (Ben Jebli & Hadhri, 2018). Without transportation, the travel and tourism industry cannot exist and individuals will not have the means to go to other areas they want to see. Due to carbon dioxide emissions, pollution and other factors, transportation, a sector of the tourist business has a great deal of negative environmental effects. One of the most crucial elements in the development of the tourist sector is transportation. Tan and Ismail (2020) asserts that as it directly links supply (production) and demand (market), transportation is essential to the tourist sector. In terms of tourism, accessibility is simply the function that transportation plays.

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Many individuals have reported that tourism just cannot exist without accessibility. Accessibility is described as allowing visitors to reach their destinations as well as allowing them to utilize transportation services once they arrive. These accessibility considerations impact visitors' impressions and help determine the general attractiveness of the places.

The ability to travel far, faster, more comfortably and in less time have all been enhanced by new means of transportation, which have completely transformed the tourist sector (Kartsan, 2022). The invention of the railway and the increase of vehicles has altered the nature of regional and interregional travel and set the foundation for the contemporary tourism. Long-distance air transportation advancements made it possible to go to previously inaccessible areas therefore enabling international tourism (Klarin, Park, Xiao & Kim, 2023). Bicycling or walking at the destination might provide visitors the on-site experiences they seek like leisure or adventure even when energy-intensive modes of motorized transportation are favoured for long-haul travel since they save so much time. One of the fundamental components of the tourist infrastructure is transportation. Transportation infrastructure is the most important of the three components of the transportation system for the growth of tourism (Wendt, Grama, Ilieş, Mikhaylov, Borza, Herman & Bógdał-Brzezińska, 2021). The term transportation infrastructure refers to the permanent structures such as buildings that are necessary for transportation. This includes, among other things, roads, airways, rivers and terminals like airports, train stations, bus stops, warehouses, and refueling stations. Without properly planning and managing a destination's transportation system, which consists of a network of routes or modes of transportation and motorized vehicles like cars, planes, and boats, it is impossible to develop tourism and effectively utilize a destination's tourism resources for both immediate and long-term needs (Virkar & Mallya, 2018).

Development of the tourist industry is directly related to transportation (Więckowski, 2021). Additionally, two forms of transportation air transportation and road transportation play a crucial role in the growth of both domestic and international tourism. Therefore, the invention of air travel has shortened the distance between nations and facilitated quick and simple transit from one country to another. Elaborating the significance of transportation for the growth of tourism According to Papatheodorou (2021), the expansion of tourism is mostly attributed to improvements in transportation. Good air and road infrastructure play in the smooth operation of both local and international tourism. As a result, improved road infrastructure makes it easier for tourists to reach destinations spread throughout a nation, while safe air travel makes it possible for visitors to travel smoothly with airplane from one country's borders to other which is miles away. Furthermore, because driving is less expensive than other modes of transportation, more than 70% of tourist journeys in developed nations like cars. International travelers often employ multimodal methods, such as flights and automobiles (Gang, 2019).

The country has a well-developed transportation infrastructure, which makes it easy for visitors to access various attractions and destinations (Wang, Lim, Zhang, Zhao & Lee, 2020). Some of the impacts of transportation on the tourism industry in Singapore include: The efficient and reliable transportation system in Singapore, including the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit) subway system, buses, and taxis, makes it easy for tourists to navigate the city and visit attractions. This accessibility contributes to the overall positive tourism experience, encouraging more visitors to come to Singapore; Singapore's transportation system provides convenience to tourists by connecting various parts of the city and making it easy to travel around. The country has a range

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of transportation options, including public transit, car rentals, and taxis, which provide tourists with flexibility in planning their itineraries; the transportation system in Singapore is relatively affordable, making it accessible to tourists on a budget. Public transit, in particular, is affordable, and tourists can purchase the Singapore Tourist Pass, which offers unlimited travel on the MRT, buses, and selected public transport services. And finally, Singapore encourages sustainable transportation, including walking, cycling, and public transit, to reduce carbon emissions and promote a green tourism industry (Diao, 2019). The government has implemented initiatives such as the Park Connector Network, which connects parks and green spaces throughout the city, encouraging tourists to walk or cycle to attractions.

2.0 Literature Review

Khan, Qianli, SongBo, Zaman and Zhang (2020) conducted study to examine how computable general equilibrium (CGE) models have been used in empirical investigations to determine how transportation issues affect tourism. The publications included in this study were found using the search engines Google Scholar, Web of Science and Scopus. They were published between 1960, when Johansen initially introduced the CGE model, and 2015. All of the studies that were assessed used CGE models to analyze how variables such as transportation, tourism and economics interact. It was found that only three papers looked at the direct relationship between transportation and tourism, while forty used CGE models to evaluate the relationship between tourism and the economy. Twenty-three papers looked at the relationship between transportation and the economy, while four focused on interactions among factors relevant to transportation, such as the interaction between oil prices and tourism. The study makes the case that future studies should take into account transportation accessibility elements in CGE models in order to accurately determine how transportation affects tourism.

Fang, Li and Li (2019) performed study to ascertain whether the region's water and road infrastructure were unsuitable for safe transportation and for tourism development, examines the impact of transportation infrastructure on tourism management in Hong Kong with a greater emphasis on road and water transportation. Both primary and secondary sources of data were utilized to compile the results. Primary sources were obtained via in-depth reading in various institutions' archives and libraries and through facilitated interviews with competent sources. Regarding secondary sources, travel, infrastructure and tourism-related literature was evaluated. Tables, charts, and simple percentage analysis were utilized to analyze the data acquired. The results indicated that a developed water and road transportation infrastructure opens up the area for the growth of the tourist sector, providing relevant authorities with an interest in tourism with greater access to destinations and heritages to effectively manage the nation's tourism. It is suggested that the government should maintain an ongoing routine inspection of the nation's water and road transportation infrastructure while improving collaboration among stakeholders and engaging the local community for sustainable tourism.

Markus, Perovic, Pekovic and Popovic (2019) noted that recently, tourism has become a significant component of tourist strategies and leisure behavior internationally in the last ten years. The role that transportation plays in the expansion of the national socioeconomic complex and the intensification of international interactions are both key components. International tourism, like many other parts of the global economy, benefits greatly from the ease of transportation. The

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tourist industry and people's ability to travel to other locations would collapse without reliable and accessible modes of transportation. Thus, the expansion of transportation may be explained by the expansion of tourism; as the number of international travelers grows, so does the number of international flights. There are four primary options for tourists to select from when deciding how to travel to their destinations.

Rahmanov, Aliyeva, Rosokhata and Letunovska (2020) reported that the travel and tourism business is crucial to the country's economy. Many nations are able to reduce deficits because to gains in tourist earnings. This is why the tourist industry is sometimes compared to a factory without a chimney. However, the tourist industry is distinct from others due to its own special characteristics. Similar to other service industries, tourism relies on customers traveling to service providers. The tourism business, in reality, would collapse without reliable modes of transportation. Transportation is the most important factor in attracting tourists to a place. This research looks at the actual transportation situation in Azerbaijan and other countries to see how it affects the tourism business. Statistics from both Azerbaijan and other nations have been used, and the importance of the tourist sector has been underlined.

Hopkins (2020) argued that tourism may create returns on investment very quickly. One of the major industries is tourism. Since travelers weigh both price and wait time when making decisions, having access to sufficient transportation options is a must for the growth of the tourism industry. The system is affected by how one chooses to visit tourist locations and how they use transportation. The most significant result of this research is to investigate how sustainable tourism and transportation relate. According to the study's findings, the growth of transportation infrastructures is somewhat reliant on tourism, as it can be observed from the perspective of the sector's opposite side. However, this sector's growth is strongly linked to that of industry. Using the Spearman correlation test, structural equation modeling demonstrated that there is a significant relationship between the multiplicity of decision-making and the country's underdevelopment of the tourism industry. There is also a significant relationship between poorly managed sportinfra structures tourism services and tourism development in the specificity where proven cheats have been observed. Additionally, the five-year association between tourism and transportation was recognized by internal and external elements. With the help of the sample SWOT strategies used for the questionnaire, the findings, proposed techniques for developing a strategy, and data from field studies and library research were all gathered via the use of questionnaire design.

Jibai (2021) noted that sustainable tourism is tourism that does not negatively impact the local economy, environment, or community in which it is hosted. In addition, all relevant stakeholders need to be actively engaged in an educated manner for sustainable tourism development to be a reality. However, sustaining sustainable tourism is essential to ensuring a high level of visitor pleasure, giving them a novel experience, and increasing their understanding of and support for sustainable tourism practices. In its widest sense, the research tries to examine Lebanon's transportation system's sustainability. This was accomplished by examining the issues and potential solutions for the transportation industry. This study assisted in closing gaps to enhance Lebanon's transportation industry since there is a shortage of sustainable transportation. The research focused on a qualitative approach, including questionnaires for residents and tourists and an expert in the topic who was specifically targeted in an interview. The key conclusions made in

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the study include the relationship between transportation and tourist sustainability and the issues with and remedies for Lebanon's transportation industry.

Han (2021) conducted study which provided an overview of transportation and tourism in the perspective of sustainability. Every traveler needs transportation to go to their destinations; the tourism business cannot prosper without it. By utilizing the transportation options at the location to look into how the two variables interact, the research shows how transportation-related to tourist's satisfaction towards tourism transport, factors affecting tourist's mode of transport and tourist mobility. To sort the most appropriate article for review purposes, chosen keywords were utilized to locate publications in Web of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar. According to the study, assessing how well the transportation system performs both at the research destination and in other circumstances was crucial. The research also discovered that the destination's current means of transportation will have an impact on how tourists move about, particularly with regard to the planned route of travel and accessibility to the locations of the tourist attractions. In a nutshell, the study suggests that new technologies should be used as a prospective analytical tool that would considerably enhance transportation in the tourist industry. In general, the study also sought to pinpoint the factor or quality connected to realizing the concept of sustainable development.

Yusof, Ghazali, Mohamad, Hassan, Abdullah, Syed Azmi and Azmi (2021) performed study to explore the performance of Terengganu's transportation industry and its impact on the tourism sector in Malaysia. The research utilized a qualitative methodology that included interviews and document analysis. Utilizing inductive thematic analysis, the data were examined. The results indicate that most respondents are content with the transportation system in and around Kuala Terengganu's primary emphasis regions, but they also advocate for expanding public transit to more desirable locations beyond the city. The investigation, however, reveals that the telecommunications networks in the locations of tourist attractions are the primary flaws that need attention. Tourists have fewer options for finding economical transportation due to the absence of internet connection. The study's results could contribute to existing travel and tourism literature. Additionally, it can be advantageous for Terengganu's public and private tourist organizations.

Gao, Su and Wang (2019) conducted study to investigate the impact of high-speed rail (HSR) on city tourism is estimated in this study. To determine the causal influence, we analyze tourist results using Tencent migration big data population movement data and create daily panel data for two national holidays from May 2014 to June 2018. Empirical results show that HSR connections improve intercity tourist traffic, which is supported by a variety of robustness tests. The influence on tourist outflow is bigger during the Labor Day holiday than during the National Day holiday, while the impact on tourist influx is stronger during the first part of the vacation. We also discovered that the HSR link improves the number of visitors who travel by rail. Our findings give substantial evidence that transportation improvements contribute to city tourism.

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3.0 Research Methodology

The study used the descriptive research design. The target population was 98 tourism sites in Singapore. The study did sampling of 60 respondents that were selected from the target population of 98 tourism sites in Singapore. Questionnaires were used to collect the data.

4.0 Research Findings and Discussion

4.1 Correlation Analysis

The findings presented in Table 1 describe the correlation analysis

Table 1: Correlation Analysis

		Tourism Industry	Transportation
Tourism Industry	Pearson Correlation	1.000	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Transportation	Pearson Correlation	.235 **	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000

The correlation results from Table 1 show that the transportation was positively and significantly associated with tourism industry ($r=.235$, $p=.000$). This concurs with Fang, Li and Li (2019) who reported that government should concentrate more on transportation infrastructure while improving collaboration among stakeholders and engaging the local community for sustainable tourism.

4.2 Regression Analysis

The section consists of model fitness, analysis of variance and regression of coefficient. The findings in Table 2 show the model fitness

Table 2: Model Fitness

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.235a	0.217	0.114	0.000755

The results from Table 2 reveal that transportation was noted to be satisfactory in explaining the tourism industry in Singapore. This was supported by the coefficient of determination, known as the R square of 0.217. This implies that transportation explain 21.7% of the variations in the tourism industry in Singapore.

Table 3: Analysis of Variance

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	8.12	1	8.12	69.40	.000b
	Residual	11.43	98	0.117		
	Total	19.55	97			

The result in Table 3 indicates that the overall model was statistically significant. The results show that tourism industry is a good predictor in explaining the transportation in Singapore. This was supported by an F statistic of 69.40 and the reported p-value of 0.000 which was less than the conventional probability significance level of 0.05.

Table 4: Regression of Coefficient

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	0.213	0.055		3.87	0.039
Transportation	0.326	0.113	0.529	2.88	0.009

Based on the results presented in Table 4, it was found that transportation was positively and significantly related to tourism industry ($\beta=0.326$, $p=0.004$). This was supported by a calculated t-statistic of 2.88 that is larger than the critical t-statistic of 1.96. The findings indicates that when transportation improves by one unit, the tourism industry in Singapore will increase by 0.326 units while other factors that influence the tourism industry remain constant. Markus, Perovic, Pekovic and Popovic (2019) articulated that increase in both worldwide tourism and the associated expansion in the demand for transportation services go hand in hand. As the number of international travelers grows, so does the number of international flights.

5.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, transportation is a critical component of the tourism industry, and investments in transportation infrastructure and services can have a significant impact on the success of destinations in attracting and retaining visitors. The development of new, effective modes of transportation, such as airplanes and quick trains has opened up new opportunities for the tourist industry. Regarding travel and tourism, each and every form of transportation has its own unique qualities. The impact of transportation on the tourism industry is significant and undeniable. Transportation plays a crucial role in facilitating the movement of tourists from one place to another, and the availability and quality of transportation services can greatly affect the tourism experience. Efficient and reliable transportation systems can make travel more convenient, affordable, and enjoyable, which can increase the number of tourists visiting a particular

destination. Inadequate or poorly maintained transportation infrastructure can discourage potential visitors and negatively impact the tourism industry. Furthermore, transportation options can also shape the types of tourists that a destination attracts. For example, destinations with well-developed air travel connections tend to attract more long-haul tourists, while those with extensive road networks may attract more domestic and regional tourists. In conclusion, the impact of transportation on the tourism industry in Singapore is significant. The country's efficient, convenient, and affordable transportation system contributes to the overall positive tourism experience, making Singapore a popular destination for visitors from around the world.

6.0 Recommendations

The study recommended that governments and private sector stakeholders should invest in transportation infrastructure, such as airports, seaports, railways, and highways, to improve accessibility to tourist destinations and increase the number of visitors. To enhance the tourism experience, transportation services such as public transit, taxi, car rental, and tour buses should be efficient, affordable, and safe. Encouraging sustainable transportation modes, such as walking, cycling, and public transit, to reduce carbon emissions and preserve the environment. Promote green tourism initiatives that prioritize environmentally friendly transportation options. Transportation can be a tourist attraction itself. Develop transport-related activities such as boat tours, cycling tours, or train journeys to enhance the visitor's experience. The tourism industry should work collaboratively with transportation providers to develop travel packages that include transportation and accommodation, which will increase the convenience and affordability of travel for tourists.

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