

FACTORS INFLUENCING MEMORABLE TOURISM EXPERIENCE OF VISITOR AT A' FAMOSA SAFARI WONDERLAND, MALACCA

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FACTORS INFLUENCING MEMORABLE TOURISM EXPERIENCE OF VISITOR AT A' FAMOSA SAFARI WONDERLAND, MALACCA



A Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Park and Recreation Science in the Faculty of Forestry
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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this Project Report to
All the person that involved directly or indirectly during my research.

To my beloved family

To all my coursemate and friends

Faculty of Forestry

A' Famosa Safari Wonderland

All the respondents that involved in my research

Thank you for your encouragements support and the sacrifices that you have given.

Thank you for everything.



ABSTRACT

Memorable tourism experience is an important aspect to visitors. The study was conducted in A' Famosa Safari Wonderland (AFSW) to explore visitors' memorable tourism experience based on different activities. The purpose of the study was to determine the factors influencing memorable tourism experience of visitors and also explore the relationship between eight factors that influencing visitors' memorable tourism experience and intention to revisit A' Famosa Safari Wonderland. A total of 400 respondents participated in the questionnaire survey. The study utilised the questionnaire to determine scores of memorable tourism experience of visitor in AFSW. Results indicated that highest mean score is meaningfulness which is 3.98. The lowest mean score is adverse feeling which is 2.02. One-way ANOVA analysis showed that the visitor with lower income have significant different on novelty and knowledge; whereas student have significant different on meaningfulness. Multiple linear regression analysis showed that the novelty, local culture, refreshment and involvement influenced the intention to revisit of visitor.

ABSTRAK

Pengalaman yang tidak dapat dilupakan ialah satu aspek yang penting kepada pelawat. Kajian ini dijalankan di A'Famosa Safari Wonderland (AFSW) untuk meneroka pengalaman pelancongan yang tidak dapat dilupakan berdasarkan pelbagai aktiviti. Tujuan kajian ini adalah menentukan mempengaruhi pengalaman pelancongan pelawat dan juga faktor yang meneroka hubungan antara lapan faktor yang mempengaruhi pengalaman pelawat yang tidak dapat dilupakan dan niat untuk melawat AFSW semula. Seramai 400 responden mengambil bahagian dalam kajian soal selidik. Kajian ini menggunakan soal selidik untuk menentukan skor pengalaman pelancongan pelawat yang tidak dapat dilupakan di AFSW. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa purata mata min yang tertinggi adalah bermakna iaitu sebanyak 3.98. Purata mata min yang terendah ialah faktor perasaan tidak menyenangkan iaitu sebanyak 2.02. ANOVA satu hala analisis mununjukkan bahawa pelancong yang berpendapatan yang rendah mempunyai perbezaan yang signifikan terhadap kebaharuan dan pengetahuan, manakala pelajar mempunyai perbezaan yang signifikan terhadap faktor bermakna. Analisis regrasi mununjukkan bahawa kebaharuan, budaya tempatan, penyegaran dan penglibatan mempengaruhi niat pelawat untuk melawat semula.

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APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project report entitled "Factors Influencing Memorable Tourism Experience of Visitor at A' Famosa Safari Wonderland, Malacca" by Leong Lai Wan has been examined and approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Park and Recreation Science in the Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

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Date: June 2019

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MTE Memorable Tourism Experience

AFSW A' Famosa Safari Wonderland

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Science

ANOVA Analysis of Variance



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Department of Statistic Malaysia recorded the domestic visitors increase from 189.3 million in 2016 to 205.4 million in 2017 (Department of Statistic Malaysia, 2018). This is due to the income of the population increase and who hoping to purchase more on entertainment and culture (eTurboNews Group, 2018). There are few popular types of tourism in Malaysia which are cultural and heritage, ecotourism and agro tourism, medical and educational (Pillai, 2018).

Tourism product can be referring as tourism destination which includes service, activity and goods (Mok, Sparks & Kadampully, 2013). Experience is the main outcome of the services or product that provided in tourism industry (Yuan & Wu, 2008). Understanding the component and result of tourism experience is important because most of the experience is gain from the services (Fernandes & Cruz, 2016). The experience economy is growing very fast, visitors' desire for a variety experience compared to experience in the past (McColl-Kennedy, Cheung & Ferrier, 2015). This is due to the visitors seek for useful and hedonic components which involve emotion, physical and intellectual in their trips (Fernandes & Cruz, 2016) The special experience created in tourism enhances the value to the visitors, and therefore create

visitor's loyalty and spread good feedback to others (Bolton, Gustafsson, McColl-Kennedy, Sirianni & Tze, 2014). This is the reason why tourism organizations are progressively concentrating on design new product or improve the existing product to generate experience for the visitors (Tung & Ritchie, 2011).

There are increasing number of literature that explored about the experience of visitors and develop the measurement for the visitors' experience (Kim, Ritchie, & McCormick, 2012). Memorable tourism experience (MTE) and tourists' experience is related to each other (Zhang, Wu, & Buhalis, 2018). The importance of understanding the MTE by tourism provider is to improve the services with special and valued memory (Tung & Ritchie, 2011). Another importance of MTE is to know the satisfaction of the visitors about the tourism setting and recreation activity (Tung & Ritchie, 2011). Besides, provide memorable experience by entertaining the customers can increase the customer loyalty (Tung & Ritchie, 2011). The experience of consuming the service or tourism product can create the bonding to the charm of the tourism destination and behavioural intention (Tsai, 2016). The overall image of the experiences affects the intention of visitors to recommend to others (Prayag, Hosany, Muskat, & Chiappa, 2017). The MTE adds value to influence the visitors to revisit the same tourism destination (Coudounaris & Sthapit, 2017).

1.2 Problem Statement

The memorable tourism experience (MTE) begin from the moments tourist gets information about a destination, during the visitation to the time a tourist recall back the memory after some time. Nevertheless, the experience during the visitation to the destination is the most important stage (Horvath, 2013). After the visit, the tourist will share their memory to the others by sharing their experience. In order for visitors to revisit a destination, the management of a tourism destination should create positive MTE (Kim et al., 2012). This is because negative experiences may affect tourists' impression towards a destination. The tourist might have pleasant positive tourism experience and unhappiness negative experience during their trip (Komppula & Gartner, 2013).

The positive and negative tourism experience is shared by tourists' through internet such as through social media, blog or the destination official website. For example, the reviews provided by tourist through tourism review websites such as TripAdvisor gives an indication of the memorable experiences that tourist gained from visiting a destination. One destination in particular, tourists reviewed that they had negative tourism experiences in A' Famosa Safari Wonderland (AFSW). Among the reviews were the tourist that visits the wildlife tourism in AFSW would like to get the services that worth to their entrance fees (Trip Advisor, 2018). They also would like to see the animals that is in healthy condition and do not want to see the animal suffer by using

chain (Trip Advisor, 2018). Other sources such as Free Malaysia today (2016) citing that animals such as elephants are being exploited by offering elephant ride may also impact on visitors' perception about a place.

Additionally, if a destination has no new attractions, customers are unlikely to visit. Jang and Feng (2007) research shows that revisit intention are related to novelty. This is true for AFSW as comments make in TripAdvisor stated that they would not revisit a place if the destination has no new attractions (Trip Advisor, 2016). This is because the customers will like to explore the new destination even though they have high satisfaction with the previous tourism destination; hence the customers will not revisit the same previous destination which offer the same tourism experience and will decrease the repeat market (Zhang et al., 2018). The destination marketing and management can increase the repeat customers by creating diverse experience to fulfil the customers in their next visit, the diverse activities can enhance memorable experience (Zhang et al., 2018).

According to Akama and Kieti (2003), the tourist satisfaction includes the product, its price and also value of product. According to Tung and Ritchie (2011), the experience created through the quality of services is provided by the management of the company. When the visitor shares their experience by storytelling about the service of destination, this will give an overall impact to a company. The tourist prefers to share their experiences, whether

memorable or not, through social media. One previous research show that 40% of the respondents agree to share tourism experience, such as writing negative reviews by sharing photos or videos through social media to avoid people from consuming the bad products (Munar & Jacobsen, 2014). Similarly, the negative reviews regarding AFSW in tourism review website will affect the decision of other visitors whether to visit that destination or not.

Consequently, tourist wants to enjoy their experience in a destination to satisfy them. MTE comes after purchasing the experience in the destination. Given that there is limited studies relating to MTE relating to nature and wildlife based tourism in Malaysia, this study aims to explore the factors that influence the MTE among the tourist in AFSW. This is because, the positive and negative components of MTE will assist the management of AFSW in enhancing or retaining the good tourism services offered to the visitors.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this study are:

- a. To determine the factors that influence the visitors' memorable tourism experience in visiting A' Famosa Safari Wonderland.
- b. To explore relationship between visitors' memorable tourism experience and intention to revisit A' Famosa Safari Wonderland.

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