

Tourist Behaviour in Alpine Regions of Switzerland

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Abstract

Within the framework of the National Research Programme 48 "Landscapes and Habitats of the Alps" the Institute for Transport Planning and Systems is working on the research project "Transport Infrastructure, Tourist Behaviour and Spatial Structure in the Landscapes and Habitats of the Alps" which aims at analysing the relationships between the land use, the transport system and the tourist facilities, and their usage by tourists.

The approach of the project is to look at these relationships at two different levels, namely at the national and at the regional level. At the regional level six different tourist regions within Switzerland are chosen as case study areas, which include the Aletsch-area, Verbier, St. Moritz, Scuol, Wengen and Engelberg. These areas are selected to represent contrary characteristics concerning location, national and regional accessibility, style, price level, etc.

At both levels the transport infrastructure and spatial structure are analysed by their provision of large scale and small scale accessibility. The behaviour of tourists is at the national level characterised by destination and mode choices as well as frequencies of visits. At the regional level tourists and their actual behaviour at the destination are described.

In order to collect data about tourist behaviour a survey was carried out in collaboration with the tourism organisations on location. A pretest took place in Engelberg during the winter 2003 whereas the main survey in all six case study areas took place during the following winter season. The survey concentrated on overnight tourists staying in hotels, guesthouses and holiday homes. Through their accommodation the tourists received a self-completion written questionnaire and a self-addressed envelope. The questionnaire consisted of different parts. On the one hand demographic, socio-demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the respondents were collected. On the other hand people were asked to give general information about the ongoing stay at the location and to complete an activity-based diary for one day of this stay. Furthermore data on preferences in winter vacations and on the general travel behaviour were collected. The time required to fill in the questionnaire amounted to approximately ten to fifteen minutes. Altogether 763 questionnaires of a total of 3000 questionnaires were returned. This equals a return rate of 25.4%, which seems to be relatively low. However, it needs to be taken into account that the tourists were not contacted directly but indirectly through their accommodation.

The paper concentrates on the analysis of the tourist behaviour in alpine regions of Switzerland at the destination. In this context the data collection in form of the conducted survey is described. Furthermore the results of several statistical analyses of the data are presented.

Keywords

Tourist Behaviour – Winter Tourism – Swiss Transport Research Conference – STRC 2005 – Monte Verità

1. Introduction

Within the framework of the National Research Programme 48 "Landscapes and Habitats of the Alps" the Institute for Transport Planning and Systems is working on the research project "Transport Infrastructure, Tourist Behaviour and Spatial Structure in the Landscapes and Habitats of the Alps" which aims at analysing the relationships between the land use, the transport system and the tourist facilities, and their usage by tourists.

The approach of the project is to look at these relationships at two different levels, namely at the national and at the regional level. At the regional level six different tourist regions within Switzerland are chosen as case study areas, which include the Aletsch-area, Verbier, St. Moritz, Scuol, Wengen and Engelberg. These areas are selected to represent contrary characteristics concerning location, national and regional accessibility, style, price level, etc. At both levels the transport infrastructure and spatial structure are analysed by their provision of large scale and small scale accessibility. The behaviour of tourists is characterised by destination and mode choices as well as frequencies of visits. At the regional level tourists and their actual behaviour at the destination are described. Figure 1 shows the general structure and approach used within the project.

Figure 1	Structure of the proje	ect
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	Transport infrastructure Spatial structure	Tourist behaviour
National level	Large scale accessibility	Destination and mode choice
Regional level	Small scale accessibility	Behaviour at the destination

In the context of analysing the tourist behaviour at the destination a survey was carried out in the six case study areas in order to collect corresponding data.

The paper concentrates on the analysis of the tourist behaviour in alpine regions of Switzerland at the destination. In this context the data collection in form of the conducted survey is described. Furthermore the results of several statistical analyses of the data are presented.

2. Description of the case study areas

The Aletsch-area, Verbier, St. Moritz, Scuol, Wengen and Engelberg are chosen as case study areas to represent different tourist regions in Switzerland. The Aletsch-area and Verbier are located in the canton Valais, St. Moritz and Scuol in the canton Grisons, Wengen in the canton Berne and Engelberg in the canton Obwalden. Except for Verbier all considered areas are situated in the German-speaking part of Switzerland. Closely connected with the location within Switzerland is the level of accessibility.

In Table 1 different attributes describing the six case study areas are shown. They include the altitude and the size of the respective municipality. Unfortunately, the area of the municipality does not in all cases correspond exactly with the case study area. Largely related to the size is the provision of tourist facilities. As an example the number of mountain railways and lifts as well as the total length of all ski slopes is given. Furthermore to describe the price level in the area the price of a weekly pass for adults during the winter season is added.

Case study area	Altitude	Population 2000	Number of mountain railways and lifts	Total length of ski slopes	Price of weekly pass for adults 2002
Aletsch-area	1173 m	447 inhabitants	6 mountain railways 6 lifts	239 km	211 CHF
Verbier	1218 m	6130 inhabitants	29 mountain railways 15 lifts	331 km	303 CHF
St. Moritz	1824 m	5084 inhabitants	10 mountain railways 4 lifts	350 km	305 CHF
Scuol	1227 m	2138 inhabitants	4 mountain railways 0 lifts	80 km	284 CHF
Wengen	1006 m	2815 inhabitants	14 mountain railways 1 lift	213 km	254 CHF
Engelberg	1013 m	3452 inhabitants	12 mountain railways 4 lifts	82 km	240 CHF
Total	1243 m	3344 inhabitants	13 mountain railways 5 lifts	216 km	266 CHF

 Table 1
 Case study areas in regard to size, altitude, mountain railways and lifts, ski slopes as well as prices

St. Moritz with above 1800 meters is noticeably the highest area. Concerning the number of inhabitants Verbier is the largest municipality. Then St. Moritz follows. The Aletsch-area is the smallest of the six case study areas. In regard to the provision of tourist facilities like mountain railways and lifts Verbier is also the largest one. Together with St. Moritz it has the most ski slopes. But also the price of an adult weekly pass is highest in these two areas.

3. Survey

3.1 Survey instrument

The survey concerning the tourist behaviour was carried out by means of a self-completion written questionnaire which was tested for operability, comprehensibility and acceptance beforehand.

The questionnaire consisted of different parts. On the one hand demographic, sociodemographic and socio-economic characteristics of the respondents were collected, such as place of residence, gender, age, family status, household size, occupation and income as well as ownership of mobility tools. On the other hand people were asked to give general information about the ongoing stay at the location and to complete an activity-based diary for one day of this stay. The activity-based approach was chosen instead of the trip-based approach due to its greater generality concerning the behaviour of tourists (McNally, 2000). Additionally data on preferences in winter vacations in regard to importance and appraisal by the tourists were collected. To further describe the respondents questions about the general travel behaviour as for instance the number of journeys within the last year were incorporated. Appendix 1 shows the questionnaire used in the main survey.

The time required to fill in the questionnaire amounted to approximately ten to fifteen minutes.

The questionnaire was in each case distributed in two languages. Depending on the predominant language in the particular case study area there was a German or a French version. Besides this an English version was added in each of the six areas.

3.2 Survey administration

The survey of the tourist behaviour at the destination was carried out in collaboration with the tourism organisations on location to establish local references.

A pretest took place in Engelberg during the winter 2003 whereas the main survey in all six case study areas took place during the following winter season. Based on experiences gathered during the pretest the main survey concentrated on overnight tourists staying in hotels, guesthouses and holiday homes. Two reasons were crucial for this decision. On the one hand day tourists were very difficult to reach and on the other hand no further data about this group are available to describe them overall. The overnight tourists received the questionnaire and a self-addressed envelope through their accommodation. All hotels and

guesthouses in each study area were contacted and asked to pass on the questionnaire to their guests. Regarding the holiday homes a random sample of addresses was selected to which the questionnaires were delivered via letterbox.

3.3 Survey response

In the above described way 500 questionnaires were distributed in each of the six case study areas. The number of questionnaires per accommodation was determined according to the number of available beds.

Of the total of 3000 questionnaires 763 questionnaires were returned. This equals a return rate of 25.4%. In Table 2 the corresponding numbers in the selected areas are shown separated for the different types of accommodation.

Case study area	All accommodati	ons	Hotels and guestl	nouses	Holiday homes	
Aletsch-area	distributed:	500	distributed:	250	distributed:	250
	returned:	174	returned:	59	returned:	115
	return rate:	34.8%	return rate:	23.6%	return rate:	46.0%
Verbier	distributed:	500	distributed:	300	distributed:	200
	returned:	67	returned:	41	returned:	26
	return rate:	13.4%	return rate:	13.7%	return rate:	13.0%
St. Moritz	distributed:	500	distributed:	275	distributed:	225
	returned:	89	returned:	45	returned:	44
	return rate:	17 8%	return rate:	16 4%	return rate:	19.6%
Scuol	distributed:	500	distributed:	250	distributed:	250
	returned:	183	returned:	69	returned:	114
	return rate:	36.6%	return rate:	27.6%	return rate:	45.6%
Wengen	distributed:	500	distributed:	400	distributed:	100
	returned:	175	returned:	137	returned:	38
	return rate:	35.0%	return rate:	34.3%	return rate:	38.0%
Engelberg	distributed:	500	distributed:	350	distributed:	150
	returned:	75	returned:	34	returned:	41
	return rate:	15.0%	return rate:	9.7%	return rate:	27.3%
Total	distributed:	3000	distributed:	1825	distributed:	1175
	returned:	763	returned:	385	returned:	378
	return rate:	25.4%	return rate:	21.1%	return rate:	32.2%

 Table 2
 Number of distributed and returned questionnaires

The return rates vary from study area to study area as well as depending on the accommodation type. Scuol, Wengen and the Aletsch-area show responses above average. At the same time tourists staying in holiday homes returned noticeably more questionnaires than tourists staying in hotels and guesthouses. This is probably due to the indirect way of distribution through the accommodation in the latter group.

4. Results

4.1 Description of persons and households

Persons and accordingly households which participated in the survey of the tourist behaviour at the destination are described below in regard to different attributes. In Table 3 the proportions of tourists disaggregated for the country of origin are shown. For the missing proportion up to the complete 100 percent there are no data available.

Case study area	СН	D	GB	NL	В	F	Ι	Others
Aletsch-area	84.5%	9.8%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.1%
Verbier	31.3%	6.0%	10.4%	3.0%	13.4%	17.9%	0.0%	11.9%
St. Moritz	52.8%	28.1%	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	1.1%	6.7%
Scuol	85.2%	8.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Wengen	41.7%	10.9%	30.3%	4.6%	2.3%	0.0%	0.6%	3.4%
Engelberg	54.7%	29.3%	5.3%	5.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	2.7%
Total	63.6%	13.5%	8.8%	2.2%	2.0%	1.7%	0.5%	3.1%

Table 3 Persons in regard to nationality

CH = Switzerland; D = Germany; GB = Great Britain; NL = Netherlands; B = Belgium; F = France; I = Italy

The composition of tourists concerning the nationality varies very strongly in the six case study areas. Scuol and the Aletsch-area show a high proportion of Swiss tourists, followed by a considerably smaller proportion of German tourists. Other nationalities are nearly not represented there. A similar distribution but with less Swiss and more German tourists occurs in Engelberg and St. Moritz. In Wengen just under one third of the tourists are from Great Britain. Verbier is in obvious opposition to the other five areas. The higher proportions of tourists from France and Belgium are probably influenced by the French version of the questionnaire.

Table 4 shows the shares of male and female persons, the average age as well as the size and the overall gross income per month of the households.

In terms of the gender the six areas are quite similar. Altogether more men than women participated in the survey. However, with respect to the age of the respondents significant differences occur. Thereby it is possible to identify two groups. Verbier, Engelberg, the Aletsch-area and Scuol form one group whereas Wengen and St. Moritz belong to a second

group in which persons are a little older. The average values for both the household size and the household income are also significantly distinctive for the different areas. For the number of persons per household these varieties are based on differences in the number of children rather than in the number of adults. The highest income is determined for St. Moritz. Engelberg shows a noticeably lower than the average value. The other four areas lie in the middle range. And again for the missing percents apply that no data is available.

Case study area	Gender		Age	Number of persons per household	Monthly income per household
Aletsch-area	57.5% 42.5%	male female	46.6 years (12.6 years)	3.0 persons (1.3 persons)	9671 CHF (4307 CHF)
Verbier	58.2% 38.8%	male female	45.5 years (14.7 years)	2.7 persons (1.7 persons)	9406 CHF (4797 CHF)
St. Moritz	59.6% 36.0%	male female	53.9 years (13.4 years)	2.6 persons (1.3 persons)	11098 CHF (4296 CHF)
Scuol	56.3% 43.2%	male female	47.6 years (15.0 years)	2.7 persons (1.4 persons)	9434 CHF (4507 CHF)
Wengen	61.7% 36.0%	male female	50.9 years (14.3 years)	2.7 persons (1.2 persons)	9921 CHF (4556 CHF)
Engelberg	52.0% 46.7%	male female	46.4 years (13.9 years)	3.2 persons (1.4 persons)	8189 CHF (4264 CHF)
Total	57.9% 40.5%	male female	48.5 years (14.2 years)	2.8 persons (1.3 persons)	9658 CHF (4491 CHF)

Table 4 Persons in regard to gender and age as well as households in regard to size and income

Values in brackets: standard deviation

4.2 Description of stays

Table 5 illustrates the average duration of the ongoing stay in the different case study areas. Furthermore the number of persons in the travelling party and the number of rooms which are available in the accommodation are included.

All three variables show significant differences for the six areas. Concerning the duration of the stay two groups are distinguished. In Engelberg, Scuol, the Aletsch-area and Wengen the duration averages to nearly ten days whereas tourists in St. Moritz and Verbier tend to stay longer than two weeks. The size of the travelling party is greatest for Engelberg with an average of six persons and a standard deviation of eleven persons. In the other five areas the party comprises three to four persons. The number of rooms available in the accommodation

is very strongly related to the number of persons as well as to the type of accommodation, whether it is a hotel or a guesthouse or a holiday home.

Case study area	Duration		Party size		Accommodation	n size
Aletsch-area	9.9 days	(3.8 days)	4.3 persons	(5.0 persons)	2.5 rooms	(1.0 rooms)
Verbier	16.5 days	(33.0 days)	4.2 persons	(6.3 persons)	2.1 rooms	(1.1 rooms)
St. Moritz	14.4 days	(13.3 days)	3.0 persons	(2.1 persons)	1.9 rooms	(1.1 rooms)
Scuol	9.1 days	(4.4 days)	3.3 persons	(1.8 persons)	2.2 rooms	(1.1 rooms)
Wengen	10.0 days	(7.8 days)	3.9 persons	(4.0 persons)	1.9 rooms	(1.1 rooms)
Engelberg	8.2 days	(5.2 days)	6.0 persons	(10.9 persons)	2.4 rooms	(1.2 rooms)
Total	10.7 days	(12.0 days)	4.0 persons	(5.1 persons)	2.2 rooms	(1.1 rooms)

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Values in brackets: standard deviation

4.3 Description of activities

The activities were recorded by means of an activity-based diary for one day of the ongoing stay. The respondents were asked to fill in every activity in which they participated outside of the accommodation. Figure 2 shows the distribution of the number of activities per person.

The mean value amounts to 3.3 activities per person and the standard deviation to 1.5 activities.





Concerning the number of activities a model using the Poisson regression for discrete variables is estimated. In Table 6 the results are shown. Significant variables are marked depending on the particular level.

Men show less activity than women whereas persons in education tend to be more active. The ownership of a car increases activity. Skier and snowboarder also show on average higher numbers. The number of holiday journeys within the last year has a positive influence. Furthermore the extent of facilities is of some importance. The size of the municipality encourages activity as well as the number of passengers of mountain railways and lifts during the winter season. The price of the weekly pass shows likewise a positive effect. The same applies for the total length of all ski slopes in the area. The adjusted Rho-squared is relatively low but the Chi-squared test indicates that the model overall is significant.

Influencing variable	Coefficient		Significance
Place of residence in Switzerland	+ 0.055		0.277
Gender: male	-0.088	*	0.056
Age	+0.003		0.144
Person in education	+ 0.243	*	0.062
Partnership / marriage	+ 0.123		0.104
Monthly household income	+ 0.000		0.192
Driving licence ownership	- 0.202		0.192
Car ownership	+ 0.216	**	0.050
Skier and snowboarder	+0.140	**	0.017
Duration of stay	+0.001		0.540
Days in winter holidays in the year 2003	-0.007		0.187
Number of holiday journeys in the year 2003	+0.047	***	0.008
Population of the municipality 2000	+ 0.000	***	0.002
Number of mountain railways and lifts	- 0.005		0.493
Number of passengers of mountain railways and lifts during winter	+ 0.000	*	0.074
Total length of ski slopes	+ 0.000		0.138
Price of weekly pass for adults during the season 2002	+ 0.003	***	0.000

Table 6 Poisson regression for number of activities

N = 683 persons $\rho^2 = 0.076 \quad (Pearson)$ $\rho^2 = 0.071 \quad (adjusted)$

Table 7 illustrates the proportions of activities which are assigned to different categories.

As expected, the highest proportion with approximately 41% is connected to winter sport activities. Then meals and breaks follow with about 27%. Furthermore hiking and walking show a share of 12% and shopping a share of 9%. All other categories lie under 5%. Regarding this distribution of activities the six case study areas are relatively similar.

Activity	Aletsch- Area	Verbier	St. Moritz	Scuol	Wengen	Engel- berg	Total
Winter sport activities with ski and snowboard	40.7%	38.5%	34.1%	36.3%	41.7%	29.2%	37.9%
Other winter sport activities	2.3%	1.4%	1.5%	2.9%	4.2%	4.7%	2.9%
Hiking and walking	14.7%	7.8%	17.0%	8.9%	10.8%	12.7%	11.8%
Trips and excursions	0.5%	0.0%	1.1%	1.6%	3.1%	2.1%	1.6%
Accompanying services	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.9%	2.5%	0.8%
Meals and breaks	25.6%	30.3%	28.0%	26.7%	26.2%	27.5%	26.9%
Shopping	10.2%	8.7%	9.5%	8.1%	6.3%	11.4%	8.7%
Wellness	1.1%	3.2%	4.2%	12.4%	1.6%	3.8%	4.8%
A. with other persons	0.9%	0.9%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	2.1%	0.8%
Cultural activities	0.5%	0.5%	1.5%	0.6%	3.3%	0.8%	1.3%
Nightlife	2.5%	8.7%	2.3%	1.3%	1.6%	2.1%	2.5%
Other activities	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.1%

Table 7Categories of activities

In Table 8 the average duration of the activities disaggregated for the different categories is shown. There are always two values given, one for the single activity and one for the activity summarised over the whole day. In addition the number of respective activities is shown.

The durations are significantly different from one another. There are three groups. The winter sport activities besides being the most frequent ones are also the longest ones. The shortest activities with one to one and a half hour are shopping, accompanying services as well as meals and breaks. The other activities take up about two hours. For the whole day the sequence is quite the same.

Activity	Duration of the single	activities	Duration of the summ	arised activities
Winter sport activities with ski and snowboard	190 minutes	(105 minutes) 940 activities	294 minutes	(91 minutes) 607 activities
Other winter sport activities	120 minutes	(78 minutes) 73 activities	139 minutes	(94 minutes)63 activities
Hiking and walking	109 minutes	(78 minutes) 293 activities	135 minutes	(92 minutes) 237 activities
Trips and excursions	109 minutes	(84 minutes) 39 activities	150 minutes	(102 minutes) 28 activities
Accompanying services	58 minutes	(50 minutes) 20 activities	72 minutes	(54 minutes) 16 activities
Meals and breaks	85 minutes	(53 minutes) 667 activities	113 minutes	(72 minutes) 501 activities
Shopping	51 minutes	(30 minutes) 215 activities	56 minutes	(35 minutes) 196 activities
Wellness	129 minutes	(61 minutes) 119 activities	132 minutes	(65 minutes) 116 activities
Activities with other persons	127 minutes	(58 minutes) 20 activities	127 minutes	(58 minutes) 20 activities
Cultural activities	107 minutes	(81 minutes) 33 activities	114 minutes	(81 minutes) 31 activities
Nightlife	139 minutes	(112 minutes) 61 activities	152 minutes	(112 minutes) 56 activities
Other activities	120 minutes	(60 minutes) 3 activities	180 minutes	(170 minutes) 2 activities

Table 8Durations of activities

Values in brackets: standard deviation

Figure 3 shows the distribution of the duration in 30-minutes-intervals for the winter sport activities with ski and snowboard.

The distribution is not clearly unimodal. Further maxima besides the range of two to three hours are observable in the range of six to seven hours. This is probably connected with the fact that part of the participating tourists did not indicate all breaks. Therefore the mean value of the single winter sport activity duration is supposedly too high.

Figure 3 Duration of winter sport activities with ski and snowboard



In Table 9 the results of a linear regression for the general duration of activities are shown. Besides the non-standardised coefficients and the standardised coefficients the level of significance is indicated.

Men tend to participate in longer activities than women. Age affects the duration in a positive way, but this influence diminishes with increasing age. A higher number of activities carried out shortens the duration of each activity. This interrelationship is very strong. As already shown in Table 8 the categories of activities influence the duration. Activities with ski and snowboard as referential category are the longest ones, therefore the negative coefficients of all other categories. The number of persons who participate in the activity increases the duration. The size of the municipality results too in longer activities whereas the number of mountain railways and lifts, the total length of ski slopes as well as the availability of a ski bus have a negative effect.

Influencing variable	Non-standardised coefficient		Standardised coefficient		Significance
Gender: male	+ 9.808	***	+ 0.052	***	0.004
Age Age * age	+ 1.076 - 0.014	* **	+0.162 - 0.202	* **	0.068 0.026
Number of persons per household	- 3.284	**	- 0.046	**	0.012
Duration of stay	- 0.215		- 0.026		0.125
Number of activities	- 22.035	***	- 0.355	***	0.000
Categories of activities:					
Winter sport activities with ski and snowboard	Referential category		Referential category		
Other winter sport activities	- 74.602	***	-0.132	***	0.000
Hiking and walking	- 68.999	***	-0.234	***	0.000
Trips and excursions	- 45.896	***	-0.058	***	0.001
Accompanying services	- 118.840	***	-0.113	***	0.000
Meals and breaks	- 92.122	***	-0.435	***	0.000
Shopping	- 123.369	***	- 0.366	***	0.000
Wellness	- 65.733	***	-0.148	***	0.000
Activities with other persons	- 45.633	***	-0.043	***	0.010
Cultural activities	- 61.838	***	-0.079	***	0.000
Nightlife	-48.370	***	-0.076	***	0.000
Other activities	- 100.678	**	-0.040	**	0.017
Number of persons at the activity	+ 1.929	***	+0.085	***	0.000
Population of the municipality 2000	+0.017	***	+0.298	***	0.000
Number of mountain railways and lifts	- 0.489	*	- 0.053	*	0.093
Total length of ski slopes	- 0.132	***	- 0.134	***	0.000
Ski bus	- 39.691	***	- 0.177	***	0.000
Constant	+ 270.902	***			0.000

Table 9 Linear regression for duration of activities

$$\begin{split} N &= 2120 \text{ activities} \\ \rho^2 &= 0.425 \\ \rho^2 &= 0.419 \quad (adjusted) \end{split}$$

5. Representativeness of the survey sample

In the course of the analyses the representativeness of the sample is verified. For this purpose the data of the tourists are compared with corresponding data of other surveys.

In this context data of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (2003) are used which provides the number of all tourists staying in hotels during the winter season 2003 disaggregated for the land of origin. Table 10 illustrates the differences between the two samples. Thereby it is necessary to take into account that the persons who participated in the survey at the destination include tourists in guesthouses. But this proportion is very small compared to the tourists in hotels. Persons staying in holiday homes are not included in the figures. Furthermore the considered areas differ to a slight extent.

Case study area	СН	D	GB	NL	В	F	Ι	Others
Aletsch-area	-9.4%	+ 6.2%	+ 0.6%	+ 4.9%	+ 1.2%	+ 0.9%	+ 1.3%	-0.6%
Verbier	+ 9.6%	+ 0.7%	+ 9.9%	+ 0.9%	-13.0%	-11.4%	+ 2.4%	+ 10.5%
St. Moritz	-9.1%	-9.8%	+ 1.3%	+ 1.3%	- 1.0%	+ 3.3%	+ 12.4%	+ 6.1%
Scuol	-0.3%	+ 3.4%	+ 0.3%	+ 0.4%	+ 0.1%	+ 0.2%	+ 1.3%	+ 1.7%
Wengen	-2.8%	+ 4.1%	- 14.7%	+ 3.5%	+ 0.4%	+ 7.3%	+ 3.0%	+ 2.8%
Engelberg	+ 34.9%	- 31.4%	-4.7%	-3.7%	+ 0.8%	+ 1.8%	+ 0.5%	+ 4.8%
Total	- 3.6%	+ 0.8%	- 7.1%	+ 0.9%	- 1.3%	+ 1.6%	+ 6.1%	+ 7.8%

Table 10 Comparison of persons in regard to nationality

CH = Switzerland; D = Germany; GB = Great Britain; NL = Netherlands; B = Belgium; F = France; I = Italy

Overall the composition of overnight tourists in regard to the nationality is relatively similar. Some more Swiss persons participated in the survey of the tourist behaviour, probably due to the national reference of the survey. Greater deviations occur on the one hand for the British tourists. The noticeably higher share in the survey is presumably connected to the distribution of an English version of the questionnaire. On the other hand the sample of the survey includes no Italians which in general account for over 6% of the tourists. The other nationalities are also not fully represented in the survey. This fact is possibly based upon linguistic reasons and linked with this upon the lack of other foreign-language questionnaires.

In particular case study areas the differences are considerably higher. This especially applies for Verbier where the influence of the language of the questionnaires which included a French and an English version, is quite obvious. There are less Swiss and German persons in the sample whereas French and Belgian tourists are overrepresented. In St. Moritz higher proportions of Swiss and Germans occur because of the absence of Italians in the sample. Engelberg also shows large deviations for Swiss and German tourists.

Further on the data from the tourist survey are compared with the Swiss National Travel Survey of the year 2000 (Beige and Axhausen, 2005). These two data sets differ very strongly from one another, especially concerning the age structure of the respondents. Persons from the survey at the tourist destinations are on average ten years older. Hence, a lower proportion of persons in education as well as a higher proportion of employed persons and retired persons occur. Correspondingly the household income in the sample of the tourist survey is considerably higher.

A comparison with the Travel Market Switzerland indicates that the tourists surveyed show higher journey frequencies than the respondents of the Travel Market Switzerland (Bieger and Laesser, 2002). This is presumably based upon the way the tourist survey was carried out. Since the questionnaires were distributed at the destination instead of at the place of residence the probability of reaching persons with a disposition for travelling is much higher. Contacting the tourists in Switzerland also explains the higher proportion of holiday journeys with Swiss destinations in the sample of the survey concerning the tourist behaviour.

Altogether, statements about the representativeness of the survey sample are only to a small extent possible. One reason is the lack of comparable data, especially about activities of tourists at the destination.

In regard to the composition of the tourists concerning the nationality the influence of the different languages of the questionnaire becomes obvious. However, it is not clear whether this bias in the sample affects the other results as well or whether those are relatively independent of the respective country of origin.

References

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- McNally, M. G. (2000) The activity-based approach, in D. A. Hensher and K. J. Button (Eds.) Handbook of Transport Modelling, 53-69, Elsevier Science Ltd, Oxford.
- Swiss Federal Statistical Office (2003) Schweizerische Tourismusstatistik, Sektion Tourismus, Bern.

Appendixes

A 1 Questionnaire

Part 1: Your Stay in Engelberg

Please write down the dates of your journey to and from Engelberg.

Date	of	arrival
Dale	UI.	aniva

Date of departure

Which means of transport do you mainly use for your journey to and from Engelberg? Г

То	From	
		Car
		Motorbike
		Train and Bus
		Coach
		Aeroplane
		Others:

Please provide a short description of all persons accompanying you on your trip. How are they related to you?

Person	Age	Relationship of this person to you	Exa	nples of relationships of a person to you
1	years		v	Vife / Husband
2	years		F	Partner
3	years			Children
4	years		F	Parents
5	years		0	Grandparents
6	years		0	Other relatives
7	years		F	riends
8	years		F	ellows
9	years		0	Colleagues
10	years			
11	years			
12	years			

How many rooms do you and your party occupy in your accommodation?

1 room

2 rooms

3 rooms

more rooms

Part 2: **Your Activities in Engelberg**

The following pages contain an activity diary in which we would like to ask you to record all activities in which you participate outside of your accommodation during one day of your stay in Engelberg.

If you stay more than three days, please fill in the activity diary for the third day of your stay in Engelberg.

If you stay less than three days, please fill in the activity diary for the second day of your stay in Engelberg.

You will find an example of a completed activity diary on the page following your activity diary.

Please fill in first the date of the day for which the activity diary is completed.

Date	
Dale	

If you did not leave your accommodation on this particular day, please give the reasons here.

I did not leave my accommodation, because	
---	--

Diary of activities taking place outside of your accommodation

1 st activity:		with	other persons	
What time did ye	ou start and finish this activity? from	to		
Where did this a	ctivity take place?			
Which means of	transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?			
То:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 📃 On foot	
From:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	
2 nd activity:		with	other persons	
What time did ye	ou start and finish this activity? from	to		
Where did this a	ctivity take place?			
Which means of	transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?			
То:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	
From:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	
				
3 rd activity:		with	other persons	
What time did you start and finish this activity? from to				
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
То:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	
From:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	
4 th activity:		with	other persons	
What time did ye	ou start and finish this activity? from	to		
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
То:	Car 🔲 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Sn	owboard 🗌 On foot	

5 th activity:	with other persons			
What time did you start and finish this activity? from	to			
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
From: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
6 th activity:	with other persons			
What time did you start and finish this activity? from	to			
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
7 th activity:	with other persons			
What time did you start and finish this activity?				
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways. Lifts	Ski. Snowboard D On foot			
From: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
8 th activity:	with other persons			
What time did you start and finish this activity? from	to			
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?	J			
To: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard 🔲 On foot			
From: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
9 th activity:	with other persons			
What time did you start and finish this activity? from	to			
Where did this activity take place?				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			
From: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts	Ski, Snowboard On foot			

Please fill in first the date of the day for which the activity diary is completed.

Date

 $10^{\rm th}$ of February 2004

Diary of activities taking place outside of your accommodation				
1 st activity: Skiing with 3 other persons				
What time did you start and finish this activity? from 09:15 to 12:00				
Where did this activity take place? Schneehorn				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: 🔄 Car 🔄 Taxi 🔄 Train 🕱 Bus 🔄 Mountain railways, Lifts 🔄 Ski, Snowboard 🔄 On foot				
From: Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts X Ski, Snowboard On foot				
2" activity: Having lunch with 5 other persons				
What time did you start and finish this activity? from 12:00 13:15				
Where did this activity take place? Alpstübli				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: 🛛 Car 🔄 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 🔄 Mountain railways, Lifts 📉 🔀 Ski, Snowboard 🗋 On foot				
From: Car Taxi Train Bus 🕱 Mountain railways, Lifts Ski, Snowboard On foot				
3' activity: Walking with 1 other persons				
What time did you start and finish this activity? from 13:30 to 14:45				
Where did this activity take place? Bergsee				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: 🔄 Car 🔄 Taxi 🔄 Train 📑 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts 🔄 Ski, Snowboard 🕱 On foot				
From: 🗌 Car 🔄 Taxi 🔄 Train 🔄 Bus 🔝 Mountain railways, Lifts 🔄 Ski, Snowboard 🗋 On foot				
4" activity: Going to the sauna with 0 other persons				
What time did you start and finish this activity? from 15:30 to 17:00				
Where did this activity take place? Hotel Edelweiss				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: 🔀 Car Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts Ski, Snowboard On foot				
From: 🕱 Car 🔲 Taxi 💟 Train 🗌 Bus 📄 Mountain railways, Lifts 🔄 Ski, Snowboard 📄 On foot				
5 th activity: Having dinner with 3 other persons				
What time did you start and finish this activity? from 19:15 to 21:00				
Where did this activity take place? Restaurant Bergblick				
Which means of transport did you mainly use to get to and from this activity?				
To: Car Taxi Train 🕱 Bus Mountain railways, Lifts Ski, Snowboard On foot				
From: Car 🕱 Taxi Train Bus Mountain railways, Lifts Ski, Snowboard On foot				

Part 3: Your Preferences in Winter Holidays

		Importance	Appraisal
		very important important less important not important	very good good bad very bad
Snow reliability			
Possibilities for Skier	and Snowboarder		
Variety of other poss	ibilities for winter sport		
Diversity in the gene	ral leisure facilities		
Tranquillity and relax	ation		
Beauty of the landsc	ape		
Experiencing nature			
Activities shared with	relatives and friends		
Child-friendliness of	the area		
Après-Ski / Nightlife			
Cultural activities and	devents		
Parking supply in the	area		
Prohibition of cars in	the area		
Quality of public tran	sport in the area		
Accommodation facil	lities		
Shopping facilities			
General price level			
Others:			
How often have yo	u been so far to Engelbe	erg during winter holida	ays?
never	once or twice	three to ten times	more than ten times
How many days di	d you spend during the	year 2003 in winter holi	days?
no days	less than three days	three to ten days	more than ten days
Please describe th that you took durin	ne holidays (summer an ng the year 2003?	d winter) <u>with more th</u>	an four overnight stays
Month	Destination of	the holiday	Duration of the holiday
			overnight stays
			overnight stays
			overnight stavs
			overnight stays
			overnight stays
	L		v

How important are the following points for your winter holidays in general? And to what extent were your expectations satisfied in Engelberg?

Part 4: About Yourself

Please fill in the country and the postal code of your place of residence.

Country and postal code of place of residence				
Are you				
male female				
In which year were you born?				
Year of birth				
Are you				
in apprenticeship, education, training	job-seeking			
full-time employed	home duties			
part-time employed				
Are you married or do you have a partner?				
yes no				
How many persons including you live in you	our household?			
Persons of 18 and older	Persons under 18			
How many cars are in your household?				
Cars				
Do you own a driving licence for cars?				
yes no				
How often is a car for driving available to y	/ou?			
always frequently	infrequently never			
Do you own one or more of the following tickets of public transport?				
No				
Yes, namely:				
General pass for all public transport modes (Generalabonnement / Jahresnetzkarte)				
Discount tariff pass (Halbtaxabonnement / BahnCard / VORTEILScard)				
Regional or local yearly, monthly or weekly pass				
Others:				
How high is the overall gross income per month of your household?				
under 2'000 CHF / 1'350 €	6'001 to 8'000 CHF / 4'051 € to 5'400 €			
2'001 to 4'000 CHF / 1'351 € to 2'700 €				

4'001 to 6'000 CHF / 2'701 € to 4'050 €

B'001 to 10'000 CHF / 5'401 € to 6'750 € 10'001 CHF / 6'751 € and more

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!

Yours sincerely, Sigrun Beige (IVT, ETH Zurich)