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Address

• Vikram Nagar, Boudhi Chouk, Latur.
• Tq. Latur, Dis. Latur 413512 (MS.)
• (+91) 9922455749, (+91) 8999250451

Email

• aiirjpramod@gmail.com
• aayushijournal@gmail.com

Website

• www.aiirjournal.com

CHIEF EDITOR – PRAMOD PRAKASHRAO TANDALE

Sports Tourism in India: A New Industry

Dr.Yeshwant Patil

PWS College,
Kampti, Nagpur (MS)

Abstract

Sport tourism is a relatively new concept in terms of contemporary vernacular, its scope of activity is far from a recent phenomenon. India has many tourist attractions that have healing abilities capable of providing rewarding experiences of life. India has the Himalayan ranges in the north, a long coastline surrounded by seas in the West to south. In addition, India is rich in varied landscapes, enchanting historical sites and royal cities, clean beaches, serene mountain retreats, rich cultures and festivities to enjoy.

Introduction

The first connections between sport and tourism emerged in the early to mid- nineteenth century with English competitive sports as a central pillar of modern western sports (alongside German exercises and Swedish gymnastics), which document themselves in the contemporary alpinism and its relationship to the colonial mentality of conquest. Standeven and de Knop (1999, 14-28) also provide an overview of the historical developments and the relationship between sport and tourism. Standeven and de Knop (1999,) also provide an overview of the historical developments and the relationship between sport and tourism. The term 'Sports Tourism' basically means tourism that is based on the theme of sports. It refers to a specific travel outside the usual environment for either passive or active involvement in competitive sport. Sport is the primary reason for travel whereas the leisure element may reinforce the overall experience.

Sports tourism in India

People from different parts of the globe have started looking towards India as a world class holiday destination with top of the line sporting infrastructure. Sports tourism in India is also being encouraged by the tourism providers in India. It means that vacations to India are sports-oriented. Travelers book tickets on flights to India not only to enjoy some of the world's finest attractions but also to experience a vacation that is sports-oriented. Sports tourism in India is an absolute must for all the thrill and adventure seekers. The Historical and geographical diversities of India open up great avenues for adventure sports and activities. India has many tourist places that have healing abilities capable of providing rewarding experiences of life. India has the Himalayan ranges in the north region , a long coastline surrounded by seas in the west-south region . In addition, India is rich in varied landscapes, enchanting historical sites and royal cities, clean beaches in west-south region specially in Goa , Maharashtra , Karnataka , Tamilnadu and Kerala , serene mountain retreats, rich cultures and festivities to enjoy and rejuvenate. In any part of the year, India can offer a wide selection of destinations and experiences. In summer, there are lovely retreats amidst the heady beauty in the Himalayas or the lush-heights of the Western Ghats with cool trekking trails, tall peaks, or stretches of white water for the adventure seekers.

Classification of Sports Tourism

The following classifications on sport tourism are as .

Hard Sport Tourism

Hard sport tourism is a quantity of players or athletes participating at competitive level sport events. Olympic Games, Asian games, commonwealth games, international and national level games FIFA World Cup, F1 Grand Prix and regional events such as NASCAR Sprint Cup Series could be described as Hard Sports Tourism.

Soft Sport Tourism

Soft Sport Tourism may be definition as a is relatively the tourists travel for participating on recreational sporting to entertain, or signing up for leisure interests. Beach volleyball, beach kabaddi, Hiking, Skiing and Canoeing can be described as the Soft Sports Tourism.

Sport Events Tourism

Sport event tourism refers to the people or visitors who visit the city with the purpose of watching the sports related events or tournament. Olympics, commonwealth, Asian games are the good examples of *Sport Events Tourism*. Each Olympics, commonwealth, Asian games host city receives an immense amount of tourism.

Nostalgia sport tourism

Nostalgia sport tourism involves traveling to famous sport-related spots. Visitors to Visits various sporting hall, beloderm, swimming pools, indoor halls, basketball courts, multipurpose halls. Furthermore, sports museums in different places.

Active sport tourism

The competitive athletes who travel to participate in different sporting tournaments comprise the active sport tourism category. These tournaments can take on a wide variety of forms in a wide variety of sports. Chess, football cricket, hockey, Kabaddi, Basketball Golf, kayaking, tennis, fishing, snow-mobiling and surfing are just a few examples of the sports that people travel to participate in the above tournaments.

Adventure Site of sports in India:

Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, ChandigarhGoa, Andaman and Nicobar, Kerala, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Sikkim, Lakshadweep. These sports spot scope for sports lover and enthusiasts from the entire part of the world.

Sports to attract for sports tourism

Beach Volleyball, Softball ball, Handball, Mountaineering, rockclimbing, scuba diving, water rafting, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, surfing, water scooting. Aero sports like: ballooning, paragliding, hand gliding. These sports offer scope for sports lover and enthusiasts from the entire world.

Conclusion

Sports tourism is endless in India because of its diverse topography and climatic condition India has many tourist places that have healing abilities capable of providing rewarding experiences of life.

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