GEO-VISUALISATION OF SELECTED TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN NIGERIA.

Chukwuemeka A. Onyekwelu & Emeka E. Igboeli
Department of Geography,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
Enugu State.
Corresponding Author: emeka.igboeli@unn.edu.ng
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Maureen O. Aruomah & Emeka E. Okonkwo
Department of Archaeology and Tourism,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
Enugu State.

Abstract
This study investigates the revisualization of tourism in Nigeria. It uses spatial data and advanced visualisation techniques to examine tourist hotspots, geographical patterns, and infrastructure. The study aims to improve our understanding of the spatial dynamics of tourism in Nigeria, thus contributing to the field by providing insights into optimising tourism management while promoting sustainable development. The paper proposes the creation of a Geographic Information Systems Warehouse Infrastructure (GISWI) to enable virtual reality maps for easy identification, location, and access via optimal route application. It also offers and promotes genuine facility management strategies for sustainable communities.
Keywords: Geo-visualisation, Tourist attractions, Geographic information systems, Nigeria.

Introduction
Tourism is a social activity in which people travel to places other than their usual environment for leisure on a single occasion. Nigeria's enviable status as a United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) member and Africa's economic powerhouse should impact the tourism industry. Nigeria's tourism industry was in high gear in 1977 when it successfully hosted the African Festival of Arts and Culture in Lagos. This prompted the establishment of the Centre for Black African Arts and Culture (CBAAC). According to records, the federal government institutionalised tourism in Nigeria about 25 years ago, in 1990, when it established a national Tourism Policy. This accelerated the development of guidelines for the full development of tourism in Nigeria and sparked the formation of bodies that shaped tourism activity.

Following this, in 1992 (two years later), the National Institute of Hospitality and Tourism (NIHOTOUR) was established in Baguada, Kano, and in 1993, two parastatals, the National Orientation Agency (NOA) and the National Institute of Cultural Orientation (NICO), were established as sister

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agencies to support tourism in Nigeria. The latter encouraged and raised awareness of tourism as an important activity for economic emancipation as a single resource-dependent nation. The Nigerian government established the National Gallery of Art (NGA) in 1994 to raise awareness and value of ancient and modern antiques among Nigerians.

To help promote cultural and artistic materials for tourism, the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) was established in 2000. The Federal Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and National Orientation was tasked with regulating all allied parastatals to achieve the following goals: (i) to make Nigeria the ultimate tourist destination in Africa and (ii) to make tourism the largest foreign exchange earner (after oil) in an oil-dependent economy.

The pioneer body that was established to promote tourism is the Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC) in 1979, which was charged with the following objectives: promote and propagate African black culture and heritage; preserve creative works of value; locate, identify and assemble all recorded matter, published materials museum artefacts; promote understanding and appreciation of Black and African Arts; produce guides, catalogue, abstracts, indices to facilitate the use of materials at the centre; make facilities at the centre available to the public; organise exhibits, displays; and supplement the materials held at the centre by acquiring copies of material relating to the past and future world, regional or national festivals of black arts and culture.

In light of the awareness of tourism as a derivable revenue source, the National Institute of Hospitality and Tourism was set up thirteen years later (1992) to fill the vacuum that was created by the slow articulation of the objectives of CBAA into the mainstream of the nation's economic goals. Ekenayake and Long (2012) assert that without economic policies to promote tourism in any country, tourism will not be a potential source of economic growth. If properly leveraged, the tourism sector can be a powerful magnet for direct foreign investment, supporting local opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses in developing countries.

Currently, the sector faces poor road network and road quality, epileptic electricity supply, security challenges (such as robbery, banditry, terrorism, herder attacks, and kidnapping), a lack of potable water, a lack of local tourist guide maps and information about sites, an absence of organised tour guides, and a lack of supportive infrastructure and facilities. Despite the fact that Nigeria has vast areas of scenic beauty and tourist sites, Nigerians prefer to travel abroad for trading, shopping, studies, medical tourism, family visits, and business trips. Tourist attractions can be found in all 38 states and Abuja.

Statement of Problem

Nigeria's tourism industry has suffered greatly as a result of the lack of a comprehensive national geospatial database infrastructure. A port-to-tourist site route map is essential, as it has recently become a key factor in hospitality

and sustainability rankings. All budgetary allocations to tourism in Nigeria that should take into account the importance of globally visible 3-dimensional and 360-degree snapshots of tourist attractions are missing. Public journey planning tools such as audio-visual web maps, which allow access to attributes and temporal data associated with tourist destinations, are also unavailable.

Aim

The study aims to create an awareness of sustainable tourist sites through spatial delimitation of hotspots to ignite and promote interest and fine-tune the federal government's efforts in the direction of the tourism industry.

Materials and Methods

Primary data are geographic coordinates of tourist centres obtained with a GPSR (Global Positioning Satellite Receiver) Germin eTrex 20 xs. The purpose of the coordinate is to situate and ground truth these locations. This will reduce the error margin and establish the integrity of the secondary data obtained from Geographic Information Software (GIS), such as Google Earth satellite images of Nigeria and open street maps. Most organisations spatially capture and store various data to support their operations.

Secondary data was obtained from both published and unpublished materials. These include reports, academic journals, government documents and books, Open Street Maps, and Satellite Images (Google Earth). Shapefiles were generated using primary data supplemented with Nigeria Tourism Industry documents and materials from Nigeria Travel Places.

Data Analysis

In accordance with the study's objectives, the raw data were coded in Excel Comma-Separated Values (CSV) format with the saving option set to CSV (Comma Delimited), allowing the computer to recognise each full worksheet. This format is the most compatible with ArcGIS 10.3. Map digitisation is the process of converting the study area's analogue road map into a digital map that can be accessed via a GIS interface for further analysis. Digitisation entails scanning the analogue map, georeferencing it, and retracing it into a vector format. Overlay operations were used to create maps of various tourist attractions.

Data Geo-coding consisted of transferring information on tourist centers data from a tabular format to a geographic format based on address information. The ArcGIS software version 10.3 was used to carry out the analysis of the spatial distribution of tourist sites across different states of the federations. Then appropriate cartographic colors were applied for easy data visualisation on the various distributions across the state. Geographic Information System (GIS) method was applied in mapping the relative density in the prevalence of different types of tourists' centers while the identification of statistically significant hot and cold spots of the prevalence of these tourists'

sites were done using Getis-Ord Gi Hot Spot analysis. The Getis-Ord Gi Hot Spot (G) which according to Briggs Henan University (2010) is of the form.

$$G(d) = \frac{\sum\sum w_{ij}(d)x_i x_j}{\sum\sum x_i x_j} \quad \text{.. (1)}$$

Where:

d is neighborhood distance, and Wij weights matrix has only 1 or 0 (1 if j is within *d* distance of i, and 0 if it is beyond that distance. Thus, any point beyond distance '*d*' has a value of zero thus, was excluded. Generally, the terms in the numerator (top) were calculated "within a distance ring (d)," and are then divided by totals for the entire region to create a proportion such that (i) if nearby **x** values are both large (indicating "hot" spot), the numerator (top) will be large, and (ii) if nearby **x** are both small (indicating "cold" spot), the numerator (top) will be small.

Results and Discussion

Below are Tables 1 and 2 showing over 232 tourist sites; of which 132 are physical attractions, 66 cultural attractions and 34 social attractions. The letters **P**-stand for Physical Attraction Sites, **C**- refers to Cultural Attraction Sites and **S**-refers to Social Attraction Sites.

Table 1. Frequency of Tourist Sites in Nigeria

STATE	Physical Attractions	Cultural Attractions	Social Attractions	Total Tourist Attractions
ABIA	2	2	0	4
ADAMAWA	5	1	1	7
AKWA IBOM	2	1	0	3
ANAMBRA	9	2	0	11
BAUCHI	5	2	-	7
BAYELSA	1	0	2	3
BENUE	4	3	4	11
BORNO	6	2	-	8
CROSS RIVER	8	1	-	9
DELTA	3	8	-	11
EBONYI	4	1	2	7
EDO	3	6	-	9
EKITI	5	1	1	7
ENUGU	6	1	-	7
FCT-ABUJA	1	-	-	1
GOMBE	-	-	-	-
IMO	1	1	-	2

JIGAWA	2	2	-	4
KADUNA	2	2	-	4
KANO	3	0	0	3
KATSINA	3	0	0	3
KEBBI	-	1	1	2
KOGI	4	1	-	5
KWARA	8	4	1	13
LAGOS	10	4	1	15
NASARAWA	1	-	-	1
NIGER	3	2	-	5
OGUN	1	2	7	10
ONDO	4	1	-	5
OSUN	5	1	1	7
OYO	1	1	-	2
PLATEAU	4	1	-	5
RIVERS	1	3	6	10
SOKOTO	2	1	-	3
TARABA	7	1	5	13
YOBE	1	1	2	4
ZAMFARA	5	6	-	11
Total	**132**	**66**	**34**	**232**

Source: Wonder Mondo (2009); Wikipedia (2013); Nigeria Tourism Industry (2011) & Nigeria Travel Places (2014).

Table 2: Nigerian Tourist Attraction Centres by States

STATE	**NATURE**	
Abia	**PC**	Azumini Blue River Rose, Long Juju Shrine (Arochukwu), National war Museum (Umuahia), Ohafia War Dance.
Abuja	**P**	Zuma rock
Adamawa	**PSC**	Yola City Landscape, Lake Njuwa Fishing Festival, Lamido's Palace, Sukur World Heritage, Nuhu Wakili's Palace, Old Palace of Harriman Yaji, German Guest House (Kowogol).
Akwa Ibom	**PC**	Ibeno Beach, Oron Museum, Mobil Tank Farm
Anambra	**PC**	Agulu Lake, Ogbunike Cave, Igbo-Ukwu Museum, Uzu-Oka-Awka metal foundry, Ijele Masquerade, Odinani Museum at Nri, Rojenny Tourist Village, Niger bridge, Nkpokiti and Ijele

		Dance Troupes, Eri Grave at Aguleri, Iguedo Grave at Nando.
Bayelsa	**PS**	Edumanom Beaches, Canoe War Regatta & Boat Regatta.
Bauchi	**PC**	Yankari Game Reserve, Wikki Warm Springs, Premier Game Reserve, Rock Paintings in Goji and Shira, Bauchi State Museum. Lame Buira Game Reserve
Benue	**PCS**	Hills of Benue, Ikyogen Hills, Ushogbo Hills, Bassa Hills, Tiv - Ingyouhg, Ange, Anchanakupa and Swange Dances, Idoma- Anumowowo & Obadaru Dances, Kwagh-hir Theatre Folklore Play
Borno	**PC**	Lake Chad Basin, National Park, Nyarinmi Park, Ngeji Warm Sprring, Sambissa Game Reserve, Shehu's Palace, Robeh's Fort, Yamtarra Wala Tomb @ Biu, Jaffi Falls.
Cross-River	**PC**	Obudu Cattle Ranch, Agbokim Waterfall, Oban Forest Reserve, Mary Slessor Tomb, Etanpim Cave Old Residency Museum, Cross River National Park, Kwa Falls, Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, Leboku Festival (Ugep)
Delta	**PC**	Chief Nana's Palace, (Koko), Abraka River Resort, Bible She Araya, Lower Niger Forest Reserve, Adane Okpe, Okere Juju, Iyeri, Ine, Ulor, Ukwata and Ore-Uku Festivals.
Ebonyi	**PSC**	Salt lakes (Okposi uburu), Stone Mining, Ndibe Beach (Afikpo), Pottery works (Ishiagu), Nkwa Umuagbogho Dance Troupe (Afikpo), Nkwa Nwite
Edo	**PC**	Somorika Hills, Emotan Statue, Udo Tourist Center Okomu Wildlife Sanctuary, Ososo Tourist Center (Straddles Edo & Kogi State) Ogba Zoo, Bronze, Brass & Ivory Works (Benin) Oba's Palace, Benin, Museum.
Ekiti	**PCS**	Natural Caves – Ikogosi, Warm Spring, Arinta Falls Ipole-Iloro, Olosunta Hills, Fajuyi Memorial Park Ero Dam & Egbe Dam. Egungu Festival
Enugu	**PC**	Silicon Hills (Nkpologu), Ezeagu Tourist Centre, Nike Lake, Onyeama Mine (old coal mine), Oji River Thermal Power Station, Mmanwu Festival
Imo	**PC**	Mbari Cultural Centre, Gout Lake Holiday Complex Rolling Hills (Kitwe).

Jigsaw	**PC**	Barnum Kudu Rock Painting, Wan Rafi Lake, Jagatai Tourist Camp, Dina Pits (Ringgit)
Kaduna	**PC**	NOK Village, Kutenai Hill (Zaria), Low Lugard's Bridge, Emir's Palace (Zazzau-Zaria)
Kano	**P**	Old City of Kano, Tiga Dam, Gadan Makama Museum
Katsina	**P**	Kasugu Well, Katisna Old City Wall (900 yrs. ago), 1912 Katsina Teachers College Building, Gobaru Minaret 300 years.
Kebbi	**CS**	Kanta Museum & Argungu Fishing Festival (1934),
Kwara	**PSC**	Esie Museum, Kainji Lake Marine Reserve, OwuFalls, Jebba Dam, Borgu National Parks, Imoleboja Rock Shelter, Ogunjokoro, & Agbonna Hills, Awon Mass Wedding Ceremony, River. Moshi Forest Reserve. Pategi Regatta, Awon, Awon and Egungun Festivals
Lagos	**PSC**	Ancient Town Of Badagry, First Storey Building (1842) Slave Trade Relics, Tarkwa Bay, Maiyegun Beach, Victoria/Bar Beach, Coconut Beach (Badagry), Eleko Beach, Kuramo Waters, Federal Palace Hotel, Lekki Peninsula, National Museum, National Arts Theatre, Verekete Shrine, First Pair Of Sato Drums, Eyo Adamu Orisa Festival.
Nassarawa	**P**	Farin Ruwa Falls (Wamba LGA) highest in Africa (Wikipedia)
Niger	**PC**	Dr. Ladi Kwali Pottery Centre, Gurara Falls, Bida Brass Works, Shiroro Dam.
Ogun	**PCS**	Birikisu Sungbo Shrine, Olumo Rock & Cave, Ogun,Gelede, Olumo, Igunnuko, Obalufon, Egungun and Oro Festivals. Home of Aso-Oke and Tie-and-Dye Textile Products.
Ondo	**PC**	Ikogosi Warm Springs, Idanre Hills, Holy Apostles Community (Aiyetoro), National Museum (Owo).
Osun	**PCS**	Ancient City of Ife, Osun-Osogbo Sacred Forest, Sungbo's Erin Ijesha Falls, Osun Shrine, Ooni's Palace, Ife Museum, Osun Oshogbo Festival.
Oyo	**PC**	Agodi Zoological Garden, Old Oyo City
Plateau	**PC**	Traditional Architecture, Jos Wildlife Park, Assop Falls, Wase Rocks Shere Hills

Rivers	**PCS**	Issac Boro Park, Masquerade Festivals, Iria (puberty and marriage ceremony) of the Kalabaris, Fishing Festival in Kaiama and Amassaona. Yam Festivals in Ikwerre and Ogba, Burial Rites and Wedding Ceremonies in Degema, War Canoe Displays or Boat Regattas in Bonny.
Sokoto	**P**C	Sultan Of Sokoto's Palace, Othman Dan Fodio Tomb, Gibadi Rocks
Taraba	**PCS**	Rolling Hills of Obudu, Shebshi, Alatika and Mandara, Gashaki/Gumpti Game Reserve, Mambilla Plateau, Karimbela Game Reserve, Nwunyo Fishing Festival, Purina (Chamba), Puje (Jukun), Kuchicheb of the Kutebs (Takum) and Kati of the Mambilla Festivals.
Yobe	**PC**	Biu Plateau, Durbar Festivals, Sallah Ceremonies, Fishing and Cultural Festivals in Jakusko Local Government Area.
Zamfara	**PC**	Kwartakwashi Rock/Water Spring, Kanoma Hills, Kiyawa City Walls, Kuyambana Game Reserve, Namoda's Tomb, Kaura Namoda, Sambo Dan Ashafa's Tomb (Wonaka), Emir of Anika's Palace, Zamfara State Museum, Ruins of Yargoje's Court, Bakolori Dam (Wikipedia).
Kogi	**PC**	National Museum, Lord Lugard's Office, Patty hill, Emirs Palace and Niger Confluence

Source: Wonder Mondo (2009); Wikipedia (2013); Nigeria Tourism Industry (2011) & Nigeria Travel Places (2014).

These various types of attraction were captured spatially in a snapshot as shown in Figure 1 below:

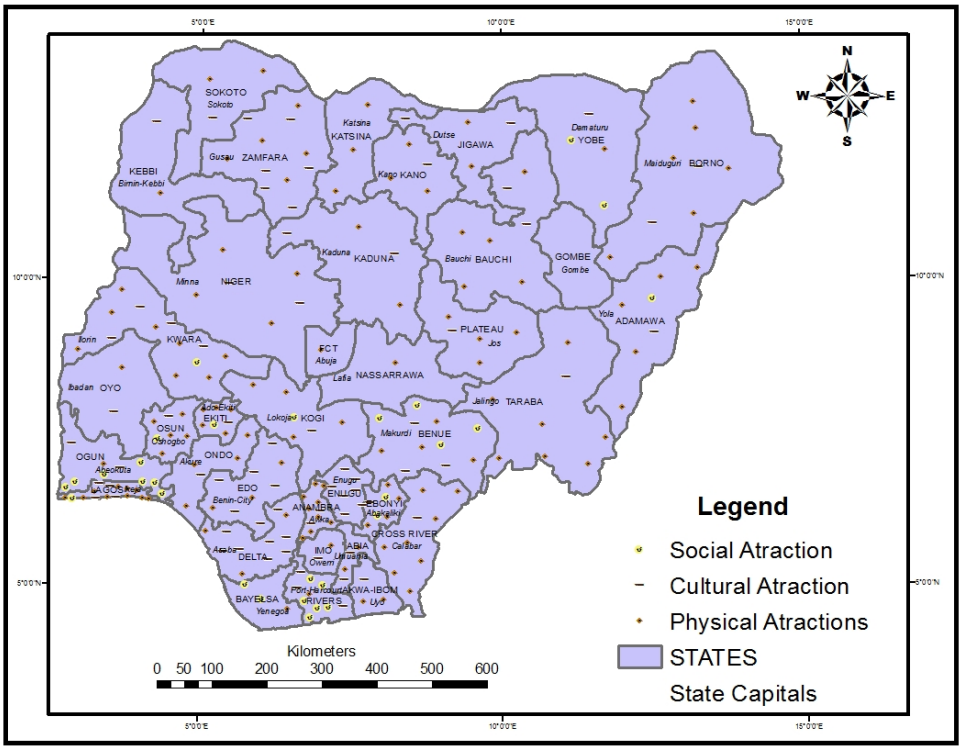


Figure 1: Tourist Attraction Sites in Nigeria
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

Spatial Prevalence of Tourist Attraction Sites in Various States in Nigeria

The spatial prevalence of the various types of tourist attraction sites in Nigeria vary greatly irrespective of region culture and tribe. Though some states have partly endowed with cultural physical and social tourist sites in a bid to preserve their identity or generate income from tourism, many others adopt a laissez- fare attitude about it.

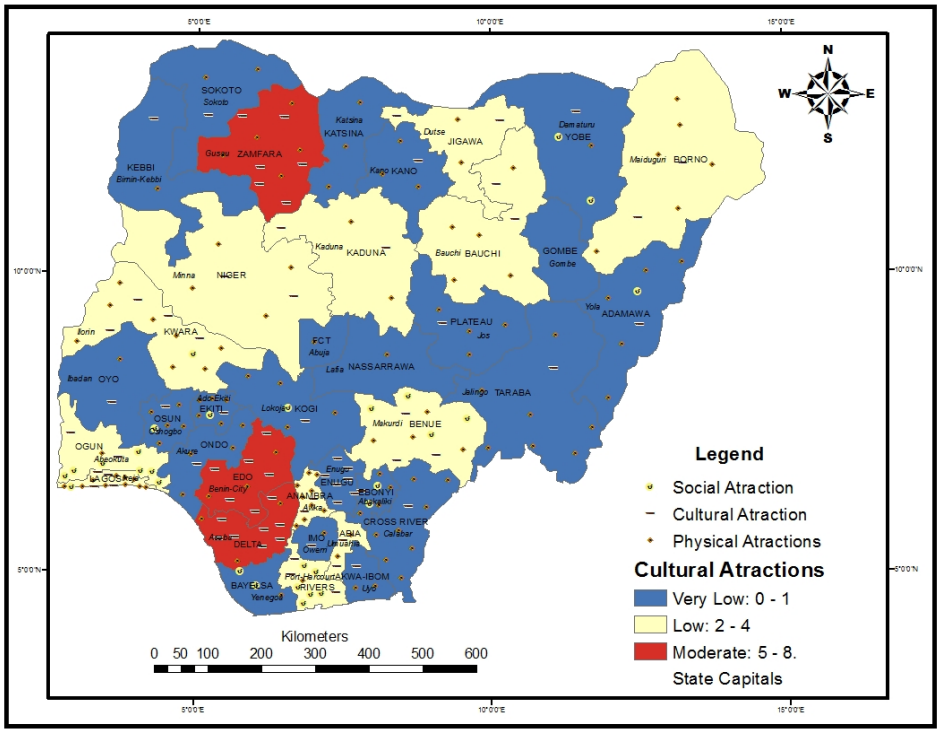


Figure 2: Prevalence of Cultural Attraction Sites
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

From the result in figure 2 there are generally a low number of cultural attraction sites across states in Nigeria. Edo state and Zamfara state recorded a moderate value which ranges from 5-8. of cultural attraction sites in Nigeria though it has the highest number among other states, while the rest recorded a low number ranging from very low 0-1 and low 2-4 as depicted in the map. The target destinations for cultural tourism in Nigeria are Edo and Zamfara states.

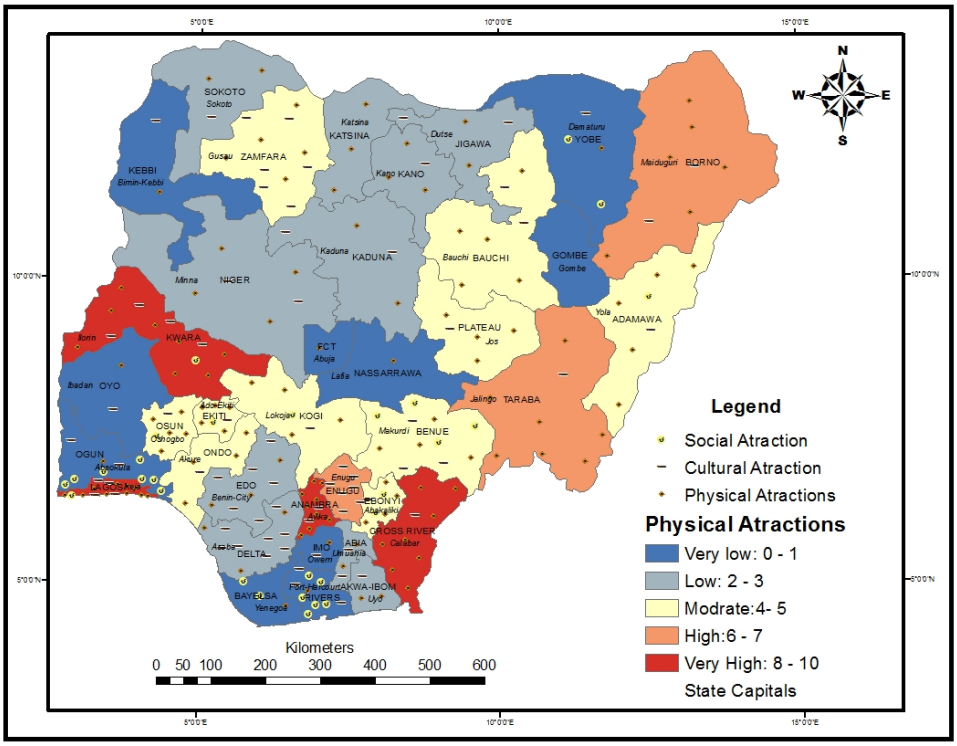


Figure 3: Spatial Prevalence of Physical Attraction Sites in Nigeria
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

From the result in Figure 3, Kwara, Lagos, Anambra and Cross River States recorded a very high number of physical attraction sites within the range of 8-10 and the following Taraba, Enugu and Borno States recorded a high number within the range 6-7 comparatively with other states. These physical attraction sites are free gifts of nature although a lot of maintenance is required and a little level of technology to preserve it for sustainability. The states within this category are required to improve on these gifts for revenue generation.

Some other states like Plateau, Niger, FCT, Gombe, Kebbi, Nassarawa, Oyo, Bayelsa, Imo, Rivers and Ogun as depicted in the map recorded within moderate range to a relatively very low value of 4-5, 2-3 and 0-1 respectively.

The regions with high Physical Attractions in Nigeria namely Kwara, Lagos, Anambra and Cross-River states are target destinations for tourists who are generally interested in the overall potentials of tourism in Nigeria.

Social Attraction:

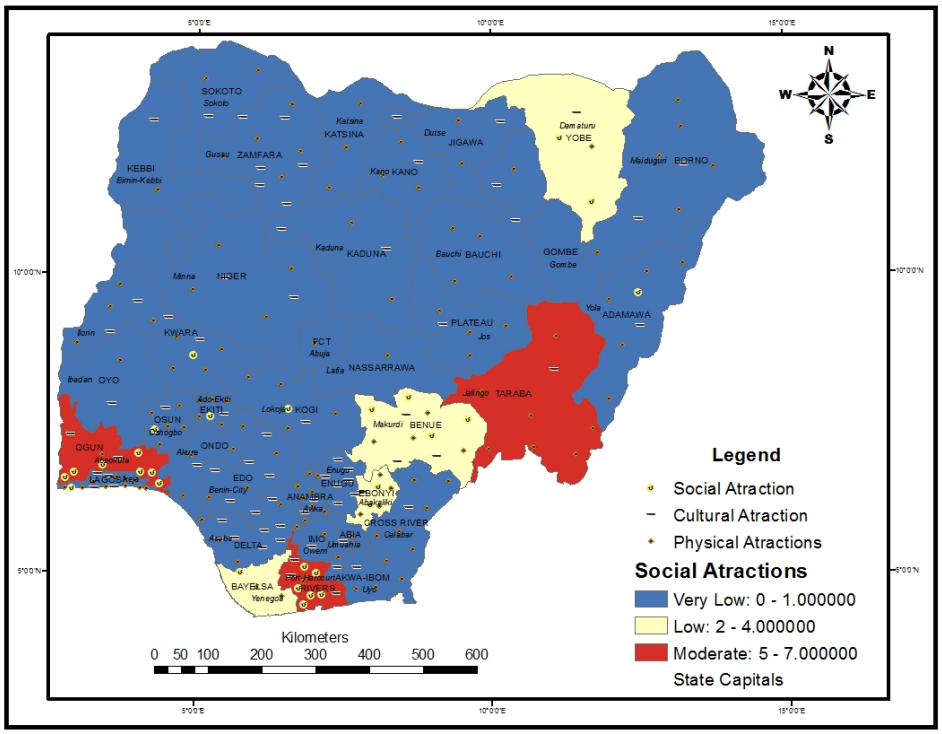


Figure 4: Spatial Prevalence of Social Attractions in Nigeria
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

From the map above in Figure 4 one can infer that there is a generally low number of social attraction sites across states in Nigeria. Taraba and Ogun state recorded a moderate number (ranging from 5-8) social attraction sites in Nigeria. This though can be said to be the highest number among other states. The other states recorded low values ranging from very low 0-1 to low 2-4 as depicted in the figure above. This implies that there is a dearth of social attractions in Nigeria. The various state governments have to step up the number of social attraction sites in their domain as this will help alleviate stress and other stress-induced ailments among the populace. From the foregoing results it is evident that Taraba and Ogun states have emerged as target destinations for social tourism in Nigeria.

Prevalence of Major Tourist Sites in Nigeria:

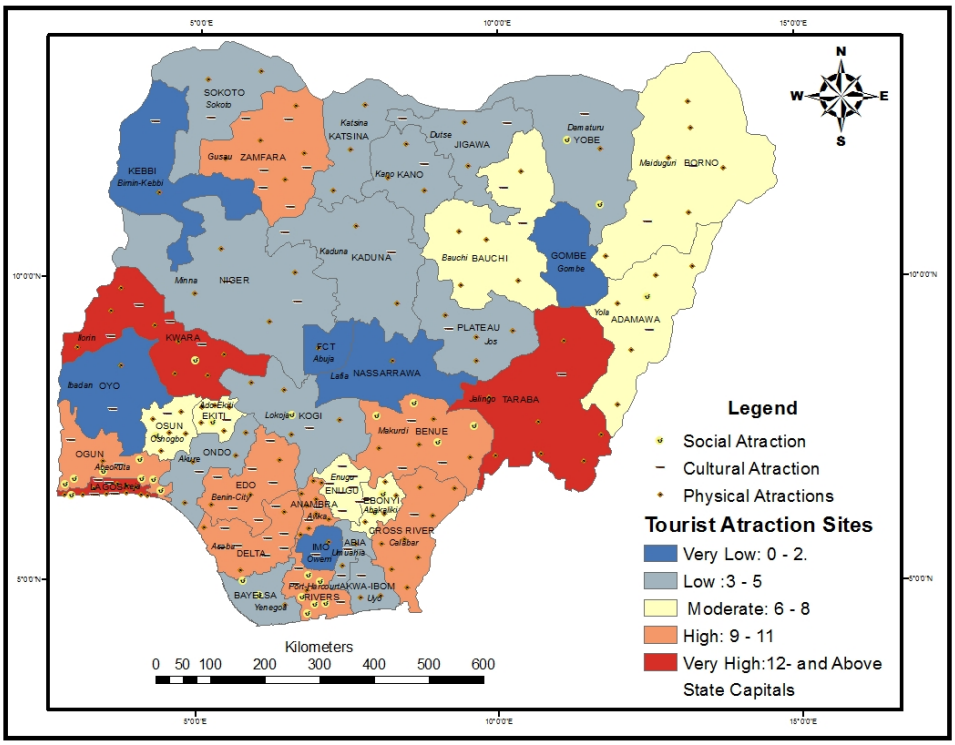


Figure 5: Spatial Prevalence of Major Tourist Sites in Nigeria.
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

The result in Figure 5 shows the prevalence of total attraction sites in Nigeria. Taraba, Kwara and Lagos State recorded comparatively a very high number of sites ranging from 12 and above while States like Edo, Benue, Ogun, Cross River and Rivers State recorded a high number of attractions. These states have great potential for tourism development and diversification. The rest of the states recorded moderate to low and very low figures, ranging from 9-11, 3-5 and 0-2 respectively. The tourist destinations for major tourist sites in Nigeria have been collapsed into Lagos, Kwara and Taraba states. This is followed by Edo, Benue, Ogun, and Cross River states.

Hotspot of Tourists Sites Across Various States in Nigeria

The hotspot (G. Bin) results showed significant cold and hot spots of attraction sites across the states of the federation in Nigeria.

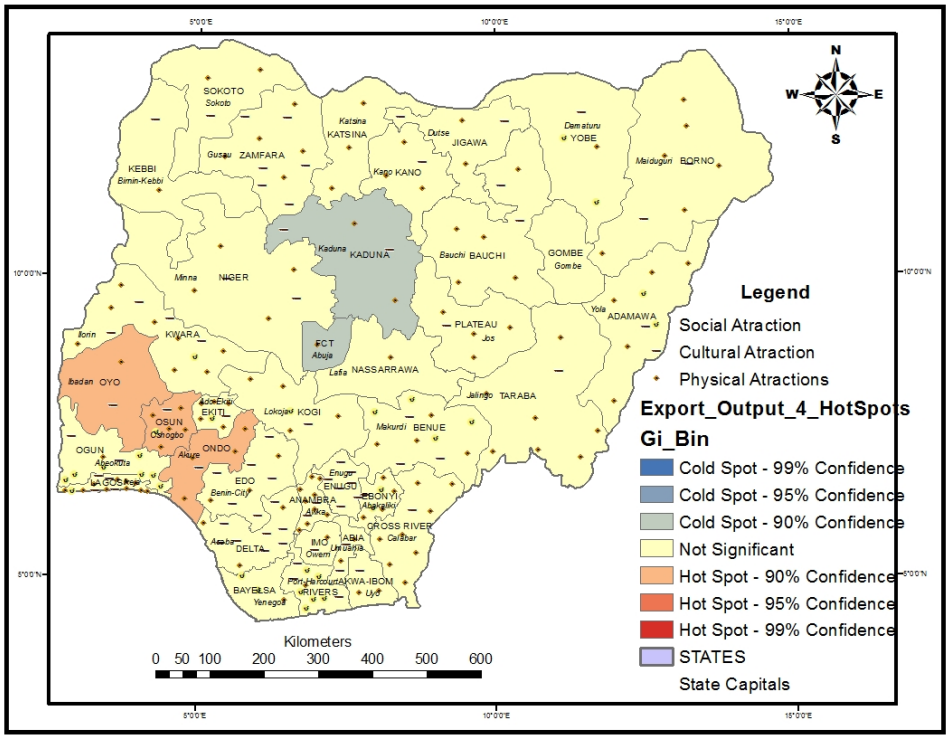


Figure 6: Hotspot Map of Tourist Sites
Source: Fieldwork (2019)

The result in figure 6 shows that there are significant cold spots at 95% confident level along in Abuja and Kaduna states. These states recorded an agglomeration of low values of attraction. The other states like Ondo, Osun and Oyo States, have significant Hotspots at 90 % confident level and recorded an agglomeration of high values of total attraction sites. The rest of the States are insignificant, there no clustering of high values or low values within the study area.

Discussion

From the hotspot analysis of tourist sites in Nigeria, the states of Oyo, Osun and Ondo have been tagged as Tourist hot spot zones. This infers that these states have witnessed over the years the largest volume of traffic in mainstream tourism in Nigeria. These states have a combination of physical cultural and social attractions ranging from the Idanre Hills in Ondo state to the Ancient City of Ife and the Old Oyo Empire in Oyo state where the ancestral Head of the Yorubas -Oduduwa resided. He was said to be married to Olokun a Water goddess.

Conclusion

It is recommended that a Geographical Information Systems Warehouse Infrastructure be generated. This will form a general database for

tourists and tourist destinations. Open street zoomify maps will make it easier to detect locations, apply routes, and manage facilities. In line with the United Nations Charter on policy guideline development especially for long term sustainability has garnered a lot of attention. This has raised concerns about the low level of development in sections of most of the host communities. Efforts should be put in place to enhance and ensure that the environmental, economic, socio-cultural and climatic parameters are in harmony with each other. Respect should be accorded to socio-cultural authenticity of host communities, conserving their natural pristine state as well as livelihood-cum-cultural heritage. In the same vein traditional values should be preserved and contribute to inter-cultural understanding and tolerance.

Currently Ondo, Osun and Oyo states are the only states that can be referred to as hot spot states of tourism in Nigeria while Abuja and Kaduna record low values as cold spots of tourism in Nigeria. Towards a sustainable tourism environment, the government of other states should take full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts as well as the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities (UNEP & UNWTO 2005). In so doing all levels of tourists must be considered, individual tourists, family tourists, group tourists etc. as well as all types of tourist destinations. In this light, various niches of tourism are also taken into consideration as observed in the spatial prevalence maps.

It is imperative that government should ensure a step-up of the collaboration with the Ministry of Works and Transport and the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and National Orientation to spearhead a viable long-term economic tourist linkage, that will encourage public and private sector partnership on a level play-ground. This will no doubt guarantee full dividends derived from the huge investment undertaken by stakeholders. To a large extent will ensure equitable distribution of economic benefits to all stakeholders as well as leisure satisfaction to all tourists through well-appointed hotel and guest house facilities. This will usher a high-end customer satisfaction. The availability of hospitable and client-friendly tour guides, travel guide maps showing hotels and security posts, transportation and route maps for all modes of transport ranging from motorcyclists, tri-cyclists, taxi cabs, boat or canoe, rail and air-plane services which are fully registered with the state or local registry authority.

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