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WHAT ATTRACTS THEM? A STUDY ON PREFERENCES OF TOURISTS IN KARNATAKA STATE SINCE THE PANDEMIC

Sneha KS, Anjali krishna and Dr. K. Rajath

Kannur university Kuniya college of arts and science, Kuniya,

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ABSTRACT

Perhaps no other industry was so badly affected as the Tourism industry due to the pandemic. The pandemic had spelled a doom on the tourism industry and people who are engaged in it. But thankfully the pandemic has ended now but we still feel its impact and influence even now. All governments recognize tourism is an important industry which contributes to the GDP of a nation. Every state government in India has recognized the importance of Tourism and so are promoting their respective states tourism in their own way. Many states have even brand names and terms like “God’s own Country” or “Incredible India”. But the Global Pandemic called Covid-19 has adversely affected the tourism industry. Tourism was directly affected as people have been forced to confine themselves to their homes as part of the Lockdowns imposed at various times. The World Tourism and Travel Council in a report on the future of the industry said the pandemic has shifted travelers’ focus to domestic trips or nature and outdoor destinations. Travel will largely be “kickstarted by the less risk averse travelers and early adopters, from adventure travelers and backpackers to surfers and mountain climbers,” the report says. In the end, the return of full-fledged tourism will likely hinge on what will be a deeply personal decision for many people as they weigh the risk of falling ill against the necessity of travel. This study is confined to the respondents from Bengaluru in Karnataka district. This study is also confined to the middle classes and the upper middle classes from the society of the region. The Indian tourism and hospitality industry have emerged as one of the key drivers of growth among the services sector in India.

KEYWORDS: Tourism, Pandemic, Covid-19, Karnataka

1. INTRODUCTION

The world tourism industry is facing the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. Tourists’ travel risk and management perceptions are crucial matter in their decision to travel destinations during the ongoing uncertainty of Covid-19 epidemic. Tourists’ travel risk and management perceptions can influence their psychological behavior for travel to destinations

The global pandemic, the first of its scale in a new era of interconnectedness, has put 100 million jobs at risk, many in micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises that employ a high share of women, who represent 54 percent of the tourism workforce, according to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Tourism-dependent countries will likely feel the negative impacts of the crisis for much longer than other economies. Contact-intensive services key to the tourism and travel sectors are disproportionately affected by the pandemic and will continue to struggle until people feel safe to travel en masse again. In this context this paper is an attempt to analyze the factors which would attract tourist in India to various tourist destination.

This study focuses on important tourist destination of karnataka State and the preferences of tourist in selecting a particular tourist destination.

About Karnataka

The moment one thinks of the South India Tour, it's the heritage and ancient temples that come to mind, which is true to some extent. However, Karnataka has much more to offer when it comes to visiting the state for the first time. Travellers from across the globe visit Karnataka to explore the glorious sights, amazing history, astonishing craftsmanship in the form of carvings in ancient temples and monuments, [wildlife](#), adventure, and a lot more. Tours in Karnataka have always been the most sought after by all the segments of travellers. The following are some of the places worth visiting in Karnataka state of India.

a. Bandipur

Embark your journey from Bangalore to the Heritage city, Mysore and enrich yourself with the rich heritage, history and culture. Get that adrenaline rush while crossing one of the dense forests in Karnataka for its wildlife. The Jungle stay and safari will mesmerise you with the silence of the forest and the melodious chirping of birds. Get those cameras ready to capture the moment of deer and other animals running, dancing peacocks, group of tuskers or endangered Asiatic wild elephants, reaching the water sources and the main attraction, the Tigers. Other endangered species such as sloth bears, muggers, Indian rock pythons, gaurs, jackals, and four-horned antelopes can be spotted in Bandipur. [Bandipur](#) is also home to other animals like chital, sambar, mouse deer, and the flying lizard. Other fascinations include the diversity of flora and over 200 species of resident and migratory birds. Choose Jungle Lodges and resorts for that memorable stay. The distance between Bangalore to Bandipur is 214 km and takes about 4.30 hours.

b. Mysuru

After soaking up in the serenity of the forest, head out to Mysore or [Mysuru](#), the heritage city and a must-to-do in Karnataka. A day filled with heritage, culture, places of pilgrims, dam, and if you can squeeze in some time, visit the famous and one of the largest zoos in the country, Mysore Zoo. Visit

Amba Vilas Palace or popularly called Mysore Palace built-in 1912 will leave you in awe. The marvellous architecture with all modern amenities showcases the rich heritage of the state. Plan your itinerary to include Chamundeshwari Hills, St Philomena Church and Krishnarajsagara Dam built across River Cauvery and the Brindavan Garden. Do not forget to soothe your taste buds with lip-smacking Mysore Masala Dosa and Mysore Pak. The distance between Bandipur to Mysore is 72 km and takes about 1.25 hours.

c. Hassan

The ancient Hoysala city, Hassan is located 934 m above sea level and is a city of ancient temples. The Chennakeshava Temples of [Belur](#) and [Halebidu](#) are examples of marvellous architecture. The intricate carvings depicting various stories of the kingdom, Ramayana and Mahabharata will leave you spell-bound. The floating or the submerged [Shettihalli Church](#) will amaze you with its ruins. Take about 600 steps to reach the famous Jain temple at Sravanabelagola, the highest statue of Jain God Bahubali in the world. The distance between Mysore to Hassan is 112 km and takes about 2.30 hours.

d. Hampi

Hospet or Hospete is another heritage town in Karnataka with its rich culture and ancient structures. Hampi, on the banks of the Tungabhadra River, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and is the main attraction of the town. The Chariot at [Virupakshe Temple in Hampi](#) is the highlight to which tourists, researchers, and students flock. The monuments and the remains of once the rich princely state Vijayanagara Empire are the attractions of Hampi. The distance between Hassan to Hospet is 310 km and takes about 6 hours.

e. Aihole – Pattadakal

The twin hub of temples from the era depicts the Dravidian and Chalukyan architecture. [Pattadakal](#), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, located on the banks of the Malaprabha River is a testimony to the richness of Chalukyan architecture during the 7th and 8th centuries and is renowned for its intricately carved temple. A mix of Dravidian and Aryan architecture makes the Pattadakal temple one of its kind in India.

Aihole, a Dravidian temple architecture is serene on the banks of the Malaprabha River. Nestled here are hundreds of temples but the most noteworthy among them is the Durga Temple composed of a semi-circular apse, an elevated plinth and a gallery encircling the sanctum. Durga temple is the primary attraction in Aihole and the most spectacular representation of Aihole temples. The other attractions are Lad Khan Temple the chosen abode of the Muslim leader Lad Khan, Huchimalli Temple with a sculpture of Lord Vishnu sitting atop a cobra, the Ravalphadi Cave Temple, the

Umamaheswari Temple, the two-storied Buddhist temple, the Konti Temple Complex, and the Jain Meguti Temple,

The distance between Hospet to Aihole is 125 km and takes about 2.30 hours. The distance between Pattadakal to Aihole is 13 km and takes about 20 minutes.

f. Badami

Just 23 km away from Pattadakal, Badami cannot be missed for its exquisite sculptures and sandstone cliffs of [Badami](#) bring forth many a tale from the yesteryears. Famous for its four rock-cut caves adorned with ancient carved pillars and bracket figures cut out of red sandstone, Badami dates back to the 7th Century with the outer mantapa added in the 11th century during the late Kalyani Chalukyan age. Dedicated to Shiva's form as the god of souls, spirits and ghosts, the Bhutanatha Temple, the caves overlook the Agastya Theertha Lake. The golden hour or the sunset is the best time to visit Badami Caves as it captures the rust-red tint of the sandstone.

The distance between Pattadakal to Badami is 21 km and takes about 30 minutes. The distance between Badami to Bangalore is 450 km and takes about 8.30 hours. You can travel back to Bangalore by night train or State Roadways buses. Although seven days are too less to visit and absorb the rich heritage and culture of Karnataka, however a compact above itinerary can enrich you with the must-to-do places in Karnataka highlights. There is a lot more like adventure, beaches, wildlife, temples and misty hills that can be covered in your next trip.

II. RESEARCH PROBLEM

The purpose of this study is to find out the Factors affecting the choice of a tourist destination in Karnataka State of India and to compare the interrelated variables affecting the choice of a tourist destination since the pandemic or Covid-19. So, the present study is entitled as: "What attracts them? A study on preferences of tourists in Karnataka State since the pandemic"

III. Research Objective

1. To find out if People are willing to take a vacation since the pandemic
2. To find out the factors which affect the choice of a tourist destination since the pandemic?
3. To find out the influence of Shopping centers in attracting tourist to the tourist destination.
4. To find out if distance is a factor that affects the choice of a tourist destination.
5. To find if accessibility of the tourist destination affect the choice of a tourist destination.

IV. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

The hypotheses proposed to be set for the study are the following

H01. There is no significant relationship between the Pandemic and tourism.

H02.There exists no significant relationship between infrastructure and choice of a tourist destination

H03.There exists no significant relationship between Shopping Centers and choice of a tourist destination.

H04.There exists no significant relationship between distance and choice of a tourist destination

H05.There exists no significant relationship between accessibility of the tourist destination and its choice.

V. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Many studies have been conducted in the area of the research topic

1. Rahman MK et al., (2021) studied the *Effect of Covid-19 pandemic on tourist travel risk and management perceptions*. This study aims to explore the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on tourists' travel risk and management perceptions. Driven on the effect of the pandemic, we investigate tourists' travel risk and management perceptions and its effect on society using a sample of 716 respondents. The data was collected through social media platforms using a representative sampling method and analyzed applying the PLS-SEM tool. The findings reveal that Covid-19 pandemic has greatly affected travel risk and management perceptions. Travel risk and management perception had a significant association with risk management, service delivery, transportation patterns, distribution channels, avoidance of overpopulated destinations, and hygiene and safety. The results also identified the mediating effect of travel risk and management perceptions. The finding of this study contributes to tourism crises and provides future research insights in the travel and tourism sector and response to change tourists' travel risk and management perceptions in the post-covid recovery period.
2. Neuburger L., & Egger R. (2020) conducted a study on Travel risk perception and travel behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic 2020. The study examined the relationship between perception of COVID-19, travel risk perception and travel behaviour among travellers in the DACH region (Germany, Austria, Switzerland) – an important tourism market and, after Italy, the second region in Europe that was impacted by COVID-19. Data were collected at two points of time: the sample of the study in Period 1 (n = 1158) was collected at a critical point in time in the beginning of March 2020, when Italy was already massively affected by COVID-19; the sample of the study in Period 2 (n = 212) was collected two weeks later, when Europe has seen immense impacts and COVID-19 was declared a pandemic. Cluster analysis was performed and defined three unique clusters in both periods with distinctive characteristics. In addition, results revealed a significant increase in risk perception of COVID-19, travel risk perception and travel behaviour over a short period of time.

3. Elizabeth A., et al., (2021) conducted a study on the Perceived impacts of COVID-19 on risk perceptions, emotions, and travel intentions. This study examines the relationship between perceived impacts of COVID-19, risk perceptions, emotions, and travel intentions within selected higher education institutions of the Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR). The paper argues that hospitality and tourism recovery strategies should focus on specific internal market segments by understanding their cognitive appraisal of the current situation, their emotional state, and possible responses to future travel. Through an online survey, data were gathered using convenience sampling of 412 respondents comprising students and workers of three Macau Higher Educational Institutions – which form a segment of Macau’s domestic tourism market. The results indicate that a high perceived risk of travelling during COVID-19 has increased negative emotions and reduced intentions to travel. Nonetheless, most students and workers of these institutions in Macau do not feel vulnerable to the virus due to the stringent health and policy measures in place. As government strict measures ‘protect’ internal customers within the city but ‘paralyse’ travel outside the city, promoting domestic travel becomes a practical way to reset tourism but would require understanding the perceptions and risk concerns of specific market segments.
4. Wen J et al., (2020). Studied the impact of COVID-19 on Chinese citizens’ lifestyle and travel. This paper aims to examine how the outbreak may alter Chinese tourists’ lifestyle choices, travel behaviour and tourism preferences in the short and long term. Design/methodology/approach - This paper is based on the synthesis of news broadcasted by several media outlets to be supported by an overview of the related literature on tourism marketing, tourism management and tourist behaviour. The authors’ experiences investigating trends in tourism and hospitality at the local and international level have also contributed to the study. Findings - This paper predicts that COVID-19 will likely affect Chinese travellers’ consumption patterns, such as the growing popularity of free and independent travel, luxury trips and health and wellness tourism. New forms of tourism including slow tourism and smart tourism may also drive future tourism activities. Such changes are likely to force businesses to reconsider their service designs and distribution channels. Research limitations/implications - While Chinese and other potential visitors rethink how they travel, professionals, too, should reflect upon how to bring positive or negative changes to the tourism industry following this pandemic. Subsequent research should also consider how to mitigate the effects of similar public health crises in the future. Practical implications - Recommendations for industry practitioners and policymakers focus on tailoring travel arrangements to tourists’ backgrounds. The suggestions may help to alleviate outbreak-related stress, offer travellers newly enriching experiences and partially mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on the tourism and hospitality industry. These recommendations can also apply more broadly to global tourist markets.

5. Chang C. L. et al., (2020) conducted a study entitled “A charter for sustainable tourism after COVID-19”. The aim of this study was to describe public attitudes towards certification, and its possible impact on uptake of testing and vaccination, protective behaviours, and crime. Method A search was undertaken in peer-reviewed databases, pre-print databases, and the grey literature, from 2000 to December 2020. Studies were included if they measured attitudes towards or behavioural consequences of health certificates based on one of three indices of Covid-19 status: test-negative result for current infectiousness, test-positive for antibodies conferring natural immunity, or vaccination(s) conferring immunity. Results Thirty-three papers met the inclusion criteria, only three of which were rated as low risk of bias. Public attitudes were generally favourable towards the use of immunity certificates for international travel, but unfavourable towards their use for access to work and other activities. A significant minority was strongly opposed to the use of certificates of immunity for any purpose. The limited evidence suggested that intention to get vaccinated varied with the activity enabled by certification or vaccination (e.g., international travel). Where vaccination is seen as compulsory this could lead to unwillingness to accept a subsequent vaccination. There was some evidence that restricting access to settings and activities to those with antibody test certificates may lead to deliberate exposure to infection in a minority. Behaviours that reduce transmission may decrease upon health certificates based on any of the three indices of Covid-19 status, including physical distancing and handwashing. Conclusions The limited evidence suggests that health certification in relation to COVID-19 – outside of the context of international travel – has the potential for harm as well as benefit. Realising the benefits while minimising the harms will require real-time evaluations allowing modifications to maximise the potential contribution of certification to enable safer access to a range of activities.
6. Parady, Giancarlos & Taniguchi, Ayako & Takami, Kiyoshi. (2020). Conducted a study on Travel behavior changes during the COVID-19 pandemic in Japan: Analyzing the effects of risk perception and social influence on going-out self-restriction. This article analyzes factors affecting travel behavior changes at the individual level in light of the COVID-19 pandemic in Japan, in the context of non-binding self-restriction requests. In particular, this study focuses on the effects of risk perception and social influence. A panel web-survey was conducted targeting residents of the Kanto Region, including the Tokyo Metropolis. In addition to describing the observed patterns in behavioral change, we modeled behavioral changes of four key, non-work-related activities: (i) grocery shopping, (ii) other types of shopping, (iii) eating out, and (iv) leisure. For eating-out and leisure the distinction was made between going alone or in groups. Based on the observed distributions of these activities, regression models of going-out frequency were estimated for shopping, while for eating-out and leisure, which showed considerably smaller frequencies, a discrete choice approach was used. Findings showed that as a measure of social influence, the perception of degree of self-restriction of others was associated with small reductions in shopping

frequencies, and moderate yet non-negligible increases in going-out self-restriction probability for eating-out and leisure activities. Risk perception, measured as COVID-19 dread, was also associated with higher probabilities of going-out self-restriction for eating-out and leisure. These findings suggest that in the context of non-binding requests, soft measures such as campaigns to promote a reduction of non-essential travel might be more effective if they (i) properly convey the severity of the threat posed by COVID-19 as well as its coping mechanisms, and (ii) appeal to the group, rather than the individual, emphasizing the behavior (or at least the perception of behavior) of others.

7. SingalaM (2020) in the paper entitled, “Tourism and COVID-19: Impacts and implications for advancing and resetting industry and research” The paper aims to critically review past and emerging literature to help professionals and researchers alike to better understand, manage and valorize both the tourism impacts and transformational affordance of COVID-19. To achieve this, first, the paper discusses why and how the COVID-19 can be a transformational opportunity by discussing the circumstances and the questions raised by the pandemic. By doing this, the paper identifies the fundamental values, institutions and pre-assumptions that the tourism industry and academia should challenge and break through to advance and reset the research and practice frontiers. The paper continues by discussing the major impacts, behaviours and experiences that three major tourism stakeholders (namely tourism demand, supply and destination management organisations and policy makers) are experiencing during three COVID-19 stages (response, recovery and reset). This provides an overview of the type and scale of the COVID-19 tourism impacts and implications for tourism research.

VI. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

It deals with the precise descriptions of the sample to be taken for the study, tools to be used for collecting data and variables.

i. Methods:

Survey method is used for collecting data. Questionnaires are were used to tap information from the residents of Bangalore city in Karnataka. A sample of 50 respondents from Bangalore was selected using stratified random sampling technique.

ii. Variables:

In the present study the preference of a tourist destination is the dependent variable and the various factors affecting the choice of a tourist destination like Proximity, Infrastructure, cleanliness etc are the independent variables.

iii. Tools to be used for collecting data:

The researcher has used a questionnaire designed by himself as a tool for this study.

iv. Statistical techniques to be used

The major statistical techniques used for analysis of data in the study are Arithmetic mean, Standard Deviation using SPSS 21.

VII. ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION.

Table 1 Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Demographic Factors

Gender				
	Freque ncy	Percent	Valid Percen t	Cumulati ve Percent
male	29	58.0	58.0	58.0
Female	21	42.0	42.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	
Occupation				
Teacher	20	40.0	40.0	40.0
IT	15	30.0	30.0	70.0
Business	15	30.0	30.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	
Income				
upto 50000 per month	15	30.0	30.0	30.0
50000 to 100000 per month	30	60.0	60.0	90.0
More than 100000 per month	5	10.0	10.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	

The above table shows the descriptive statistics of the respondents. 29 respondents were male and 21 females. Among this 20 were teachers, 15 were from the IT Sector and 15 were engaged in business. 15 respondents were earning an income of upto 50000 Rupees per month 30 were earning an income

ranging from 500000 to 100000 Rupees. 5 were earning an income of above 10000 per month.

Table 2 Mean and Standard Deviation of the Reponses

		Pandemic Restricted travel	Infrastructure Matters	Shopping Centers matters	Distance is a hindrance	Accessibility is important	Cleanliness matters
N	Valid	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		1.0000	1.6000	1.4000	1.7000	1.2000	1.0000
Std. Deviation		.00000	.92582	.67006	.64681	.40406	.00000

Table 3. Respondents' opinion regarding Pandemic and travel

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Yes	50	100.0	100.0	100.0

All the respondents agreed that the Pandemic restricted their travel. It is a problem common in most of the states in India and all over the world. The pandemic curtailed the movement of the tourists.

Table 4. Respondents' opinion regarding Infrastructure

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Much	35	70.0	70.0
	May be	15	30.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0

70% of the respondents agreed that Infrastructure matters very much and for 30% it didn't matter much. So, Infrastructure is important.

Table 5 Respondents opinion regarding Shopping centers

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very much	35	70.0	70.0	70.0
Valid Not at all	10	20.0	20.0	90.0
maybe	5	10.0	10.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	

70% of the respondents felt that shopping centres in the tourist destination matters very much. For 20% of the respondents, it didn't matter at all. The other 10% were not sure about it. Shopping centres plays a vital role in attracting tourists. Most of the tourist liked to take a souvenir back home.

Table6 Respondents opinion regarding distance as a hindrance

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	20	40.0	40.0	40.0
No	25	50.0	50.0	90.0
Valid Maybe	5	10.0	10.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	

50% of the respondents felt that distance of the tourist destination was not a hindrance to travel.40% of the respondents felt that distance was a hindrance in the time of pandemic. The other 10 % felt it may be a hindrance.

Table 7. Respondents' opinion regarding accessibility of the destination

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
yes	40	80.0	80.0	80.0
Valid No	10	20.0	20.0	100.0
Total	50	100.0	100.0	

80% of the respondents felt that accessibility of the tourist destination was a constraint to travel. 20% felt that it was not a hindrance at all. Since some attractive tourist destination in Karnataka does not have transportation facilities, this might be a hindrance to any tourist.

Table 8. Respondents' opinion regarding Cleanliness

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Yes	50	100.0	100.0	100.0

All the Respondents agreed that cleanliness was very important when they considered to travel to that tourist destination. The need for a clean environment has increased post pandemic.

VIII. FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

- i. All the respondents agreed that the Pandemic restricted their travel. So, it is obvious that the pandemic has affected tourism in India also.
- ii. 70% of the respondents agreed that Infrastructure matters very much and for 30% it didn't matter much. Majority of the respondents consider infrastructure very important. So, the government should improve the infrastructure like roads, accessibility, toilets etc.
- iii. 70% of the respondents felt that shopping centers in the tourist destination matters very much. For 20% of the respondents, it didn't matter at all. The other 10% were not sure about it. Tourists want to take a souvenir when they returned from their trip. The government could take some initiative to promote the local handicrafts in such destination
- iv. 50% of the respondents felt that distance of the tourist destination was not a hindrance to travel. 40% of the respondents felt that distance was a hindrance in the time of pandemic. The

other 10 % felt it may be a hindrance. For the adventure seeking young tourists' distance was not a constraint. So, people are willing to travel to see a good tourist destination.

- v. 80% of the respondents felt that accessibility of the tourist destination was a constraint to travel. 20% felt that it was not a hindrance at all. The way to reach a destination, like Airport, Railway station etc. mattered for the majority. The government should increase the accessibility by improving the mode of transport.
- vi. All the Respondents agreed that cleanliness was very important when they considered traveling to that tourist destination. Cleanliness is considered to be the most important criteria for visiting a tourist destination. The government should improve its famed 'Swachh Bharat' mission especially in tourist destination for attracting domestic and international tourists.

IX. DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The present study is an attempt to find out the Factors affecting the choice of a tourist destination in Karnataka State of India and compare the interrelated variables affecting the choice of a tourist destination during the pandemic.

There is certain delimitation for the study.

- i. Due to the current situation of Covid -19 pandemic samples could be collected only through google form.
- ii. The sample size is only 50 due to time constraints.
- iii. The study is confined to respondents in Bangalore city of Karnataka State

X. FUTURE RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS

This study is confined only to the respondents from Mysuru district in Karnataka State of India. Studies could be conducted from the whole state or India as a whole. Only a few factors which affect the choice of a tourist destination have been taken up in this study. More variable could be taken up to give comprehensive information to various stake holders.

XI. CONCLUSION

COVID-19 cases are currently low across the country. Though some states have seen a small rise in cases. India's overall caseload continues to remain low. Indian States have relaxed restrictions, including night and weekend curfews, and reopened educational institutions. There still might be the requirement to present COVID-19 negative tests to enter some states or provide proof of vaccination, there may be random testing, thermal screening in public areas including at airports, stations and temperature checks at malls and restaurants. You should monitor local media and follow any procedures put in place by local authorities. Before undertaking inter-state travel in India you should

check the latest entry requirements and other testing/quarantine restrictions.

Many of the COVID-19 restrictions are now being eased though people are encouraged to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour such as maintaining social distance, wearing face masks, hand washing, and avoiding crowds. Rules on wearing masks in public places vary across states in India but masking is still recommended. Some restrictions may vary between states. You may be penalised if you violate restrictions.

Domestic flight operations resumed on 25 May 2020 but some states may have restrictions on flight operations during COVID-19 waves. Check with airlines before booking flights Some states may have quarantine requirements in place and these may differ between states. Follow the advice of the local authorities.

All regularly scheduled international flights have resumed. All train and metro rail services have resumed. All essential services (including groceries, pharmacies, ATMs) continue to function. Hotels have resumed operations. There may be some requirements like providing proof of vaccination or negative test reports when you check-in. Check specific requirements before making reservations. Restrictions may differ between states. Regular international flights to and from India have resumed from 27 March 2022 in view of the decreasing cases of Covid-19. This means termination of air bubble arrangements and restoration to the pre-Covid level of services.

The pandemic has definitely affected the tourism industry in Karnataka State and in India as a whole. Infrastructure and Shopping centers will attract more tourists and will also help to promote handicraft industry. The entire null hypotheses were rejected. The most important fact is that cleanliness of a tourist destination seemed to be a major factor in attracting domestic tourists and perhaps international tourist too. The government has a major role to play in promoting tourism. This is also an opportunity to revive the tourism industry as the Pandemic has only increased the quest for travel and the hunger to see new places.

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