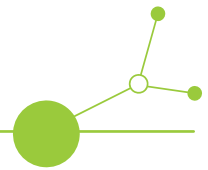


Questionnaire

Understanding tourists' impacts and attitudes
towards nature and protected areas

Activity 3.1



Final Version

07 2023





Questionnaire

Understanding tourists' impacts and attitudes towards nature and protected areas

Dear visitor,

This questionnaire is part of the three-year Interreg Central Europe project **HUMANITA**, with the purpose of fostering positive human-nature relationships and producing innovative solutions for environmental safeguarding.

Xxx (fill in with the name of the specific PA) carries out this survey to understand tourists' attitudes and behaviors in nature, in particular within Protected Areas (PAs), analyzing current interactions with nature.

Filling in the questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes.

This is an anonymous survey. All data will be kept confidential and used for research purposes only.

All data collected through this questionnaire will be presented only in aggregated and anonymous form or rather in such a manner that it is impossible to identify the individuals.

We thank you for your precious collaboration and time! Your contribution will be crucial in achieving progress results in making Protected Areas more sustainable environments for all.

Place: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Age

- 18-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- ≥ 60

2. Gender

- Male
- Female
- Diverse
- I would prefer not to answer

3. Where is your home located?

Country _____

City _____

4. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? If currently enrolled, the highest degree achieved.

- No schooling completed
- Primary education
- Secondary education
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Professional degree
- Doctorate degree

APPROACH TO THE PROTECTED AREA

5. Are you aware that you are within a Protected Area?

- Yes
- No

6. How did you find out about this location? Please select max 3 answers

- Web
- Social media
- Outdoor/Fitness apps
- Word of mouth/Friends



- Travel books/Travel agencies
- Sports club
- Newspaper
- Television
- By accident
- Other, please specify _____

7. *What means of transport did you use to reach this area? Select all those you used from the beginning of the journey to this destination.*

- Bike
- Private car
- Car sharing
- Caravan
- Bus
- Train
- Flight
- Other, please specify: _____

ABOUT TODAY'S VISIT

8. *Which kind of visit/vacation have you had or planned within this Protected Area? Please select max 3 answers*

- Walking
- Hiking
- Bike touring
- Trekking (more than one day)
- Search for peace/solitude
- Cultural tours
- Guided visits
- Photography
- Other, please specify _____

9. *How long were you planning on staying?*

- Half day
- One day
- 2-3 days
- 4-5 days
- ≥ 6

10. *How did you plan the itinerary for today's route and destination?*

- I followed a route that is already well-known or familiar to me or regularly used by me (e.g. everyday/week/month or seasonally)
- I discovered and followed a new route on-site
- I planned my own route on the map at home, referring to the official trail network
- I have not planned any itinerary
- I considered other factors, namely:



11. *Please select the sentence that better describes your situation:*

- This is my first time visiting this site
- I have already visited this site (1-5 times)
- I have already visited this site more than 5 times

12. *Did you plan to use apps or digital devices (such as GPS tools) for orientation and/or tracking today's activity?*

- Yes
- No

If yes, which one(s)? More answers are allowed

- Outdooractive
- Strava
- Komoot
- AllTrails
- GPSies
- Trailforks
- Mapyx
- Garmin
- Suunto
- Other, please specify: _____

13. *What did you value most when you planned today's visit? Please select max 3 answers*

- Natural beauty/heritage
- Cultural/historical heritage
- Sports/recreational activities
- Guided excursions
- Educational activities
- Chance to see wildlife
- Other, please specify _____



HUMAN - NATURE INTERACTIONS

14. In your opinion, which of the following sentences better describes the role of a Protected Area?

Please select just one answer

- Conserving biodiversity in the face of human pressure on natural resources
- Conserving biodiversity in the face of human-wildlife conflicts and tourism pressure
- Conserving biodiversity in the face of climate change and environmental hazards

15. Which one of these species in the wild would limit your leisure activities in this area? Please

select max 3 answers

- Eagle
- Deer
- Wolf
- Capercaillie
- Hawk
- Bear
- Lynx
- Viper
- Fox
- I don't know
- Other
- None of the above

16. Did you happen to observe any kind of environmental hazard/distress/threat (e.g. rubbish left, overtourism, damaged tracks, etc.) within the area you visited?

- Yes
- No

If yes, could you please describe it?

17. Do you think that today's activity/excursion may have had an impact on the natural environment?

- Yes
- No

18. If yes, which of the following possible environmental interactions do you associate with your activity/excursion? Please select max 2 answer

- Impacts on vegetation (e.g. trampling)
- Impacts on soil (e.g. displacement, compaction, muddiness, erosion)
- Impacts on the water environment (e.g. rubbish left next to streams or rivers)
- Impacts on wildlife (e.g. disturbance, habitat fragmentation)
- Introduction of invasive species (e.g. plants, animals introduced through tourist circuits)



19. *What kind of attention do you usually pay when you are in a natural environment/Protected Area? Please select max 3 answers*

- I respect the restrictions of visitable areas during the wildlife breeding season
- I am careful to not disturb the wildlife in certain areas or when I become aware of their presence
- I limit noise/avoid loud activities
- I do not leave designated paths
- I take home/pack out waste
- I report if I observe anything abnormal in the environment (animals in distress, environmental damage, waste, unlawful behaviors such as illicit harvesting of plants...)
- None of the above
- Other, please specify: _____

20. *How important do you consider the following aspects when planning a visit to a destination/site? Using a scale from 1 to 5 (1 - not at all important; 5 - extremely important)*

Reputation and high tourist attendance at the site

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Possibility of practicing different outdoor activities and moving freely with no prohibitions or limitations

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Lack of wild animals such as large carnivores and protected species

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Good accessibility and possibility to park close to the area

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Presence of active biodiversity protection programmes

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

21. *In your opinion, what are the main challenges and threats this site is facing?*

Challenges: Please select max 3 answers

- Limited resources
- Encroachment (unauthorized entry and resource extraction) within the boundaries of the protected area
- Conflict among stakeholders
- Economic volatility
- Unclear boundaries or management practices
- Lack of community support
- Changes in conservation target quality
- Overtourism
- None of the above
- Other, please specify _____



Threats: Please select max 3 answers

- Drought
- Wildlife poaching
- Logging and deforestation
- Legal or other stakeholder conflicts
- Floods
- Fires
- Human-wildlife conflicts
- Soil erosion
- Waste management
- Car parking problem
- None of the above
- Other, please specify _____

22. Do you feel that your attitude towards nature, its ecosystems and its limits has been influenced after visiting this site?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

If yes, on which of the following topics do you feel more aware? Please select just one answer

- Flora and fauna, protected and valuable species
- Protected area values
- Earth science and soil elements
- Cultural values, traditions
- Other, please specify _____

23. In case some parts of the area were periodically closed to allow restoration activities (e.g. monitoring, revegetation, cleaning up trash), would you still be willing to visit it?

- Yes
- No

24. Would you be willing to pay an entry ticket to support and strengthen the protection of the area's biodiversity (e.g., scientific research, monitoring and protection activities and instruments, informative signage)?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how much would you pay?

- Up to 5 €
- 6-10 €
- 11-15 €
- More than 15 €



The HUMANITA project partnership thank you for your valuable cooperation and contribution!

If you are interested in staying informed about the project activities, please ask the operator about official channels to follow or:



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