Tourists don't know where they've been; travellers don't know where they're going.

Paul Theroux, US travel writer

BB Traveller or tourist?



Are you a tourist or a traveller?

As another holiday season approaches, it's time to defend tourists. They need it. Scarcely anyone has a good word for them. They overrun places, ruining them, and among the cultured classes, no one admits to being a tourist. They are all travellers. As if we weren't all tourists most of the time. So, well, the case for the defence:



By Anthony Peregrine

Exploitation

Tourists are renowned for spoiling places. However, travellers are the people that got there first. If they didn't wander off to unexplored spots, writing and talking about them on their return, the rest of us would be in ignorance. Later, at some stage – generally around the opening of the first Holiday Inn franchise – volume turns travellers into tourists. Then travellers get very upset – hear them complaining about the crowds at Machu Picchu. But why would, or should, travellers deny such obviously enriching experiences to others? There is no evidence – merely the arrogance of travellers – to suggest that the quality of appreciation is any the less because tourists turn up in large groups.

Economics

No surprise that the locals worldwide have embraced tourism – going to work in the new hotel, opening guest rooms of their own, and running pleasure trips in their fishing boats. Obviously, they lost something in the process, but they were going to lose it anyway. They gained financial security – their families doubtless have health insurance and flat-screen TVs, just like you and me. It is easy to romanticize shepherds
 and fishermen when you're only passing through. Then you go home, and they're still selling single goats and bringing fresh water from five miles away. By wishing to leave the world untouched, travellers do nothing for economic development. By contrast, tourists – with all their varying needs – bring cash in buckets.

Fun

A short time ago, I saw a documentary following a group travelling around
Mongolia. They were eating yak. This looked to me like the worst holiday ever.
They maintained, though, that they were having a wonderful time. I was thrilled for them – until one started going on about how this was a real experience, far better than the second-hand superficiality of the tourist holiday. Now, as far as I'm aware, there's no moral or qualitative hierarchy of holiday pleasures.
Flying to Alicante is in no way inferior to flying to Ulan Bator. It's just a different departure gate. If people wish to go riding in Mongolia, that's fine, and a matter of personal taste. Just don't let them look down on my holiday activities, for example, playing midnight crazy golf in Benidorm. We all enjoyed ourselves; none of us was a better person for it, just happier – and that's all there is to say.

Conviviality

- Tourists like one another. Travellers apparently don't like anybody, unless they are natives. The presence of other visitors at the temple, mountaintop, or jungle clearing compromises the authenticity. And they get especially irritated if the other visitors are fellow Britons. I'm generally delighted to run into other Britons, especially in places where I don't master the language (in other words, almost everywhere). They represent the possibility of conversation, a considerable relief from pointing at stuff and smiling stupidly.
- And, while travellers are busy standing off from humanity, tourists are having a great time together. The purest expression of the tourist experience is, perhaps, the package holiday reviled by all, except anyone who has ever been on one. I have had the best of times on coach trips throughout Europe. There's no room here to detail the benefits, except one and that's built-in good company. I've lost count of the occasions I've been in a hotel bar after a fine day, sharing most convivial moments with fellow passengers. Across the bar, lone-travelling couples have looked on, as jealous as hell. We coach-trippers have been moved by the Alhambra or Delphi, we're doing our bit for the hotel trade, quite a lot for the bar trade, and generally we are an economic good.

The tourist is me. I feel no shame.

The Daily Telegraph

- c Read the article again. According to the writer, are the following sentences T (true) or F (false)? <u>Underline</u> the parts of the text which show his opinion.
 - Travellers are responsible for places becoming tourist sites.
 - 2 A traveller is better able to appreciate a tourist site than a group of tourists.
 - 3 Local people have lost more than they have gained from tourism.
 - 4 Tourists have benefited the local people more than travellers.
 - 5 The group who were travelling round Mongolia were not really having a good time.
 - 6 The more exotic a holiday is, the more people enjoy it.
 - 7 Travellers are far more antisocial than tourists.
 - 8 It's best to try to avoid meeting other people from your country when you are travelling.
 - 9 Many people think that a package holiday where you travel by coach is the worst way to travel.
 - 10 In fact, travellers are often aware that tourists are having more fun than they are.

LEXIS IN CONTEXT

- d Look at the highlighted phrasal verbs and try to work out their meaning. Then match them to 1–8.
 - 1 keep apart from
 - 2 change sb / sth into
 - 3 meet by chance
 - 4 watch from a distance
 - 5 talk about sth for a long time, often in a boring way
 - 6 stop in a place for a short time, but not stay there
 - 7 appear, arrive
- e Work in groups and answer the questions.
 - 1 Do you agree with the writer's defence of tourists?
 - 2 Do you consider yourself to be more of a tourist than a traveller, or vice versa?
 - 3 Has tourism had a significant effect where you live? Has it been positive or negative?

3 WRITING

▶ p.122 Writing A discursive essay (2): Taking sides. Analyse a model essay and write a discursive essay about road charging or healthy lifestyles.

- b B has the complete sentences 1–7. Read your sentences to B. Keep trying different possibilities until you get each sentence exactly right.
- c Now listen to your partner's sentences. Tell them to keep guessing until they get it exactly the same as yours.
 - 8 It's a very rewarding job that involves working in a team.
 - 9 Lucy seems to be seeing Danny a lot recently. Do you think they're going out together?

- 10 We hope to have found a new flat by the end of the year.
- 11 Our plan is to drive to the north of Italy for two weeks in September.
- 12 There's absolutely **nothing to do** in this town. There isn't even a cinema.
- 13 My father was the first person in my family to go to university.
- 14 I really regret not having known my grandfather. He died before I was born.

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8B WHAT KIND OF TRAVELLER ARE YOU? Students A + B

Read about your traveller type. Then compare with a partner. Are the descriptions accurate for you? Would you be good holiday companions?

What kind of traveller are you?

Pampered princess

You're at your happiest when you're relaxing in the spa, indulging in beauty treatments, or simply curled up in a fluffy bathrobe sipping a fruit tea. You've worked hard all year, so it's time to put those freshly pedicured feet up and let everyone else take care of you. After all, you deserve it.



Action addict

You're not the average holidaymaker and following the typical tourist trail is never enough for you. You can't sit still for a minute — even on holiday. Whether it's extreme sports or going right off the beaten track, you see every trip as an adventure.



Hippie at heart

You're a free spirit and love discovering far-flung places. Whether travelling alone or with an equally laid-back companion, it's all about going where the mood akes you. You've got your guidebook and your roll-up mattress and the rest can take care of itself.



Culture vulture

You don't just want to visit a country — you want to immerse yourself in it. You'll see all the sights, learn the language, and find out about the history of a place. If you find the time to sit down, it's because you're sampling the local cuisine — no English menu for you, thanks very much!



Lazy cruiser

You like to take things at a slower pace on holiday – doing as much or as little as you please.
You love being out on the ocean waves and you enjoy exploring new places, but you're equally happy sitting on deck taking in a beautiful sunset.



Beach bum

You're in your swimwear almost as soon as the plane touches down – and once you're on that sun-lounger, you won't be moving far. Reaching for your pina colada is about as energetic as you get, and why not? That's what holidays are for, aren't they?



Нарру сатрег

You like to get away from it all and you'll happily swap your creature comforts for a sleeping bag if it means waking up to birdsong every morning. Whatever you fill your days with, you'll do it at your leisure.

And if it happens to pour with rain, it's all part of the fun.



City slicker

You love the buzz of the city and you'd rather hit the shops than the beach any day. You're happy to take in the famous sights and tick all the touristy boxes – but you've got to bring back a few souvenirs, right? It's the best way to explore a new city...



Travel and tourism



1 VERBS & VERB PHRASES

a Complete the collocations with the verbs in the list.

	extend get away go one recharge sample wander round
set off	(set out) on a journey /
early / late	(w) launah
, conficil college	a trip / a visit (= finish
later than plant	ned)
and the same of the same	camping / backpacking
sightseeing for	r a stroll
i)Britalbren and	holiday / an outing /
a trip / a safari /	a trek / a cruise / a journey
	a trip / a flight / a visit
(= decide not to	go)
us on the mean	(or put off) a trip /
a visit (= resche	dule it for a later time)
	the old town
(= explore in a le	eisurely way)
eir environmen	(unwind) (informal)
after a tiring da	
drining 12	(immerse yourself in)
the atmosphere	
also inventorial con	the local cuisine
rin mit seglethen in	the shops IDM
a sieve stv	from it all IDM

b 427)) Listen and check. What do you think the three idioms mean?

2 DESCRIBING PLACES

a Complete the sentences with the words or phrases in the list.

breathtaking /'breθteikinj/ dull /dʌl/ lively /'laɪvli/
off the beaten track /of ŏə 'biːtn træk/ overcrowded /ˌəuvə'kraudid/
overrated /ˌəuvə'reɪtɪd/ picturesque /ˌpɪktʃə'resk/ remote /rr'məut/
spoilt /spɔɪlt/ tacky /'tæki/ touristy /'tuərɪsti/ unspoilt /ˌʌn'spɔɪlt/

- 1 I think that restaurant's <u>overrated</u>. (= with a better reputation than it really deserves)
- 2 The museum's pretty _____, but the café's good. (= boring)
- 3 The shops are quite ______, but we bought some nice things. (= designed to attract a lot of tourists)
- 4 The seafront has been _____ by all the new hotels. (= changed for the worse)
- 5 It's a really _____ area at night. (= full of life and energy)
- 6 We found a tiny café in the back streets of Venice, right ______

 (= away from where people normally go)
- 7 The hotel pool is always ______. (= with too many people)
- 8 The view is absolutely ______. (= very impressive, spectacular)
- 9 We went to a very _____ little fishing village yesterday. (= pretty, especially in a way that looks old-fashioned)
- 10 The souvenirs were all plastic Eiffel Towers and key rings, really _____ stuff. (= cheap, badly made, and / or lacking in taste)
- 11 The site of the temple is extremely ______ you can only get there on foot and it takes four hours. (far away from places where other people live)
- 12 It's a lovely city, almost completely ______ by tourism.

 (beautiful because it has not been changed)
- b (4 28)) Listen and check.

activation Talk about your last holiday using some of the collocations in 1.

Can you think of a place in your country that you could describe with each of the adjectives in 2?

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