

Research Paper: The Role of Coastal and Marine Tourism in the Socio-Economic Sustainability of Rural Areas (Case Study: Coastal Areas of Chabahar in Southeastern Iran)

Mahmood Irandagani¹, Hossein Mollashahi^{2*}, Masoumeh Hafez Rezazadeh³

1. PhD Student, Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Zah.C., Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran.

2. Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Zah.C., Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran.

3. Associate Professor, Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Zah.C., Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran.



Citation: Irandagani, M., Mollashahi, H., & Hafez Rezazadeh, M. (2025). The Role of Coastal and Marine Tourism in the Socio-Economic Sustainability of Rural Areas (Case Study: Coastal Areas of Chabahar in Southeastern Iran). *Journal of Sustainable Rural Development*, 9(2), 273-282. <https://doi.org/10.22034/jsrd.2025.494354.1203>

doi: <https://doi.org/10.22034/jsrd.2025.494354.1203>

Article info:

Received: 21 Nov. 2024

Accepted: 15 Aug. 2025

Keywords:

Marine and Coastal Tourism,
Socio-Economic Sustainability,
Rural Areas, Chabahar Coastal
Areas

ABSTRACT

Purpose: Coastal and marine tourism is one of the most important sectors of the tourism industry, significantly impacting sustainable development dimensions- particularly its social and economic dimensions- in port and coastal regions. Accordingly, this study aims to examine the role of coastal and marine tourism in the socio-economic sustainability of rural areas (Case Study: the coastal areas of Chabahar in southeastern Iran).

Methods: This applied research adopts a descriptive-analytical approach. The study population consists of residents of Chabahar County, with a sample size of 384 determined using Cochran's formula. Data analysis was performed using SPSS software, employing regression analysis, t-tests, and Spearman's correlation.

Results: The stepwise multiple regression analysis revealed a significant relationship $*(P = 0.05)*$ between coastal and marine tourism and rural economic development across all indicators, indicating that coastal and marine tourism is a strong predictor of economic development. Additionally, the one-sample t-test results showed that all social indicators had a mean score above 3, reflecting the positive impact of coastal and marine tourism on the social development of rural areas in Chabahar. Finally, Spearman's correlation analysis confirmed a significant relationship between social development indicators and coastal and marine tourism.

Conclusion: The overall results suggest that marine and coastal tourism, as one of the key sectors of the tourism industry in the study area, has substantial impacts on the economic and social sustainability of rural areas. It has provided numerous economic and social opportunities for local communities.

* Corresponding Author:

Hossein Mollashahi, PhD

Address: Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Zah.C., Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran.

Tel: +98 (915) 1414811

E-mail: h.mollashahi@iaau.ac.ir

1. Introduction

Today, tourism has become a fundamental element in the development of the global economy and one of the primary sources of income for both developed and emerging countries. As a result, tourism has transformed into a robust pillar for the sustainable development of both developed and developing nations (Yousef Jamali et al., 2021: 46). Countries worldwide are expanding their tourism industries because this sector benefits not only itself but also other economic sectors such as transportation, services, construction, and more (Aliman et al., 2016: 173; Ciacci et al., 2021: 3). Tourism is often regarded as a catalyst for national and regional development, community revitalization, and providing benefits to local populations (Shokouhi & Yazdanpanah, 2019: 152), as the growth of tourism has been accompanied by the expansion of travel markets and the diversification of tourist destinations (Fennell, 2020: 45).

Currently, the tourism industry holds a significant position in the economy and plays an active and influential role in enhancing economic, social, and cultural structures. International trade volumes indicate that over 20% of transactions originate from tourism flows, and in some countries, tourism revenue has become a major source of strengthening their growing national economies (Barghi et al., 2013: 95).

Among these, countries with coastal access that have leveraged the potential of their coastal tourism have managed to attract large numbers of tourists annually, leading to the development of tourism in these regions (Andayesh et al., 2022: 19). Recognizing the importance of coastal tourism for the global economy and its impacts on coastal communities—alongside their physical, socio-economic, and cultural environments—has led to sustainable coastal tourism (Spenceley, 2008: 386). Coastal cities, through proper planning and identifying their capabilities in coastal tourism, can play a significant role in the development of these regions and, consequently, in national economic growth (Barghi et al., 2013: 77).

In this context, Iran, with approximately 3,000 kilometers of coastline in the north and south, has favorable conditions for the prosperity of coastal tourism. However, despite its extensive coastal borders in the north and south, it has yet to provide satisfactory services in marine tourism for visitors. Sistan and Baluchestan Province in southern Iran, with the longest coastline and

as the only province connected to the open seas and the Indian Ocean, possesses immense potential for coastal tourism. Its extensive, smooth, and suitable beaches, pleasant winter climate, and ideal conditions for water and beach sports could position the province as the country's coastal tourism hub. One of the most important coastal lines in Iran and the region, known as the Makran coast, is located in this province. These coasts are highly attractive for cargo transit due to their short distance in the north-south corridor, modern infrastructure, and extensive facilities in various transportation sectors.

Additionally, the coastal area of Chabahar, with its pleasant climate year-round and the presence of a free trade zone, welcomes numerous visitors from both domestic and international regions every year. These coasts boast unique and rare sandy beaches, historical and natural attractions, and wildlife, such as Beris Beach, the Mud Volcano phenomenon, the historic village of Tis, the three Baan Misiiti Caves, sandy shores, the Pink Lagoon, and more, making them an excellent destination for tourists. Unfortunately, Chabahar's marine and coastal tourism has not yet achieved its deserved status due to challenges such as inadequate transportation infrastructure (airport and railway), regional underdevelopment, pollution and poor hygiene, especially in coastal areas, lack of private sector investment incentives, mismanagement of allocated budgets, poorly planned tourism expansion, insufficient strategies for coastal tourism development, and the shortage of quality hospitality and service facilities. These issues have negatively impacted tourist numbers and the growth of marine and coastal tourism.

Therefore, this study aims to conduct a spatial analysis of the effects of marine and coastal tourism on the sustainability indicators of surrounding areas. Given Chabahar's high potential in coastal and marine tourism and the numerous existing challenges, this research can pave the way for tourism development, particularly in the coastal and marine sectors, and attract both domestic and international tourists. This, in turn, could help address the region's economic issues, such as regional development, job creation, unemployment reduction, and income growth. Thus, the present study seeks to answer the following main question: What are the effects of marine and coastal tourism on the socio-economic sustainability of rural areas along the coastal regions of Chabahar in southeastern Iran?

2. Literature Review

Marine and coastal tourism is considered one of the most attractive and popular branches of tourism, having flourished significantly in recent decades and accounting for a substantial portion of the tourism economy (Darbane Astaneh et al., 2018: 229; Motiei Langeroudi et al., 2017: 41; Hall, 2001: 604; Honey & Krantz, 2007: 26). For many coastal regions, marine and coastal tourism plays a vital role in their economies (Deely et al., 2022: 6). Coastal areas, due to their proximity to the sea and the resulting capacities, have always been among the primary tourist destinations (Haghi & Heidarzadeh, 2023: 87). Coastal tourism is a dynamic sector that significantly impacts the environment, economy, and communities of coastal regions (Baitalik & Bhattacharjee, 2023: 2).

Previous research on coastal tourism has emphasized its importance as a dynamic system, focusing on interactions between people and destinations (Mejjad et al., 2022: 12). Coastal tourism has a long history, dating back to the post-World War II era, and is prevalent in renowned destinations worldwide (Arabadzhyan et al., 2020: 2236). Researchers have explored the multifaceted nature of coastal tourism, highlighting its role in shaping local communities, economies, and environments. They argue that coastal tourism systems involve three key actors: tourism operators, residents, and tourists (Baitalik & Bhattacharjee, 2023: 3).

Numerous domestic and international studies have been conducted in this field, some of which are summarized below:

Mousavi Alizadeh et al (2024) conducted a feasibility study on realizing the vision of aquatic tourism development in Khuzestan Province. The results indicate that, under current conditions, the highest feasibility pertains to economic and managerial-infrastructure indicators. The SOAR model output reveals that the most critical executive strategies, according to stakeholders and elites, are: citizen preparedness to host tourists, a tourist-friendly atmosphere, abundant historical-touristic facilities, and the commitment of relevant officials to regional tourism development.

Mahmoudi & Moradi (2024) explored strategies for developing coastal and marine tourism in Bandar Lengeh County. The aggressive strategy (SO) was selected as the optimal approach, with key strategies including: Supporting and diversifying tourism initiatives, expanding water and beach sports, highlighting historical, cultural, and social coastal attractions, adopting

modern marketing approaches, and encouraging public and private sector investments.

Haghi & Heidarzadeh (2023), in their study titled “Strategies to Enhance the Tourism Capacity of Coastal Cities: A Case Study of Bushehr,” demonstrated that 40 examined indicators were categorized into nine factors. Among these, six factors—“urban environmental appeal,” “accommodation and dining services,” “accessibility to attractions,” “diversity of attractions,” “urban charm,” and “pleasant urban experience” played a key role in tourist satisfaction, with a significance level above 95%.

Javaherian (2022) examined the role of coastal tourism in enhancing the tourism industry and sustainable development in Mazandaran Province. The findings suggest that by developing necessary tourism infrastructure in coastal cities and emphasizing both qualitative and quantitative aspects in designing accommodations and recreational facilities, the region can attract more tourists and maximize economic benefits.

Andayesh et al. (2022) analyzed the position of marine tourism and regional development in Khuzestan Province compared to other southern coastal provinces. The results show that Khuzestan ranks second in marine tourism indicators after Hormozgan, followed by Bushehr and Sistan and Baluchestan.

Bonyadi et al. (2022) identified and analyzed barriers to tourism development along the Oman Sea (case study: Sistan and Baluchestan coasts). The study revealed that obstacles to tourism development in these areas stem from economic, promotional, managerial, socio-cultural, sports-infrastructure, and service-related factors. Without addressing these challenges, tourism growth in the region will remain stunted.

Yousef Jamali et al. (2021) investigated the role of coastal tourism in sustainable urban development in the coastal cities of Babolsar, Nowshahr, and Royan. The results indicated that the institutional-managerial index (path coefficient: 0.803) had the greatest impact on sustainable development, followed by economic (0.776), socio-cultural (0.734), physical (0.665), and environmental (0.514) indices.

Nazarpouri et al. (2020) studied factors influencing marine tourism in Khorramshahr Port. The research identified five key variables: welfare-services facilities, safety-security factors, socio-cultural elements, tourist attractions, and accessibility. Performance-importance

analysis highlighted tourist attractions and welfare-services facilities as priority areas for improvement.

Waldo et al. (2023) in “Is Local Fishing Important for Marine Tourism? A Case Study of the Swedish Fishing Village Träslövsläge,” found that while fisheries are vital to the village’s identity, tourism experiences also depend on restaurants and other infrastructure. Deely et al. (2022) in “Foreign Visitors’ Demand for Marine and Coastal Tourism,” concluded that numerous factors—such as country of origin, group composition, and coastal activities—influence visitation decisions and duration.

Dimitrovski et al. (2021) provided a holistic understanding of coastal and marine tourism sustainability in the North European transboundary region. Their mixed-method approach validated the Attitude-Norm-Behavior model for maritime tourists and emphasized cross-sectional dialogue for coastal management.

Merkel et al. (2021) explored the value of marine natural resources and their link to marine tourism, advocating for sustainable, multidimensional resource management.

Alves et al. (2017) found that tourists prefer coastal areas adjacent to populous urban centers with strong social components. They noted that management costs are far outweighed by tourism-generated value-added, justifying local investments.

3. Methodology

The present study is applied in terms of purpose and descriptive-analytical in terms of method. The foundation of this research is based on fieldwork using a researcher-made questionnaire with closed-ended questions. In this study, 23 indicators (13 economic indicators and 10 social indicators) were measured using a Likert scale. The research indicators were extracted through a literature review (Table 1). The reliability of the questionnaire was confirmed using Cronbach’s alpha coefficient for the economic dimension (0.82), social dimension (0.80), physical dimension (0.79), and environmental dimension (0.76). The statistical population consisted of residents of Chabahar County, with a population of 283,204 people. Using simple random sampling and Cochran’s formula, the sample size was determined to be 384 individuals. Data analysis was performed using SPSS software, employing regression, t-test, and Spearman tests.

Chabahar County, located in the southern part of Sistan and Baluchestan Province, is a coastal region along the Gulf of Oman. Thanks to its stunning and unique natural attractions, it is an ideal destination for tourism. The area features rocky, coral, and sandy beaches, along with a strategic geographical position that allows numerous ships from the Indian Ocean to dock along its shores. Combined with its rich historical and cultural heritage, these factors make Chabahar highly suitable for becoming a major tourist hub. The availability of water sports, recreational activities, and modern amenities further enhances the region’s appeal.

Table 1. Research Dimensions and Variables

Dimensions	Variables
Economic	Increased allocated credits
	Enhanced investment motivation and inclination to strengthen economic activities
	Poverty and deprivation reduction
	Improved access to public and welfare services
	Strengthening economic foundations (increased employment and reduced unemployment)
	Satisfaction with economic status
	Improved living standards
	Increased income and savings
	Job and income security
	Creation of new and suitable job opportunities
	Development and prosperity of local markets and handicraft sales
	Development of industrial infrastructure, especially in fisheries
	Growth of service activities
	Increased awareness
	Enhanced social trust
Social	Increased social participation
	Strengthened solidarity and cohesion
	Increased ethnic convergence
	Improved status of women
	Higher literacy rates
	Increased social order
	Enhanced individual and public security
	Reduced migration

Reference: Mahmoudi & Moradi (2024), Javaherian (2022), Andayesh et al. (2022), Bonyadi et al. (2022), Yousef Jamali et al. (2021), Nazarpouri et al. (2020), Deely et al. (2022).



Chabahar County boasts approximately 300 kilometers of coastline along the Gulf of Oman.

4. Findings

To examine the role of coastal and maritime tourism on the economic development of rural areas in Chabahar, multiple regression analysis was conducted using the stepwise method. The results indicated a statistically significant relationship ($P \leq 0.05$) between coastal and maritime tourism and economic development across all indicators. The findings from Table 1 revealed that coastal and maritime tourism serves as a strong predictor of the economic development of rural areas.

Additional results from Table 2 demonstrated that all 13 indicators studied included in the regression model collectively explained approximately 60% or more of the variance in the economic development variable.

Table 3 displays the values of R^2 , R , and the adjusted R^2 . The adjusted R^2 indicates the proportion of the total variance in variable Y that is explained by the X variables. In this study, the adjusted R^2 was calculated as 0.672, which indicates a relatively high explanatory power of the model.

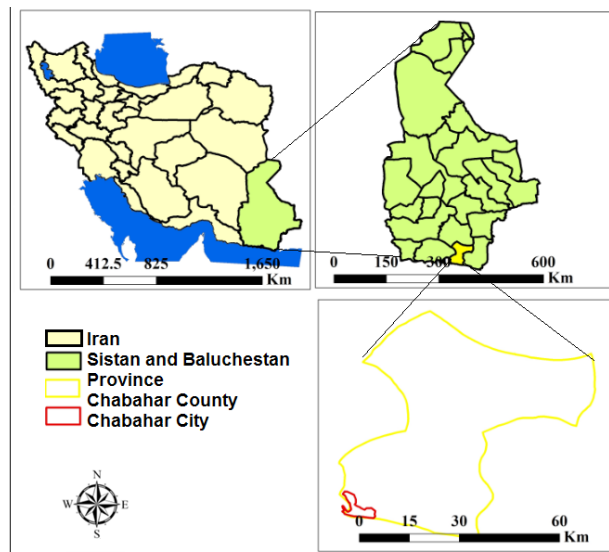


Figure 1. Geographical Location of the Study Area



Table 2. Results from multiple regression

Economic Development Variables	R	R ²	Adjusted R ²	Significance Level (F)
Increased allocated credits	0.689	0.592	0.586	0.001
Enhanced investment motivation and inclination to strengthen economic activities	0.631	0.624	0.621	0.000
Poverty and deprivation reduction	0.633	0.625	0.612	0.000
Improved access to public and welfare services	0.764	0.754	0.721	0.000
Strengthening economic foundations (increased employment and reduced unemployment)	0.616	0.614	0.592	0.001
Satisfaction with economic status	0.612	0.601	0.587	0.001
Improved living standards	0.703	0.689	0.673	0.000
Increased income and savings	0.748	0.739	0.724	0.000
Job and income security	0.852	0.841	0.816	0.000
Creation of new and suitable job opportunities	0.718	0.706	0.684	0.000
Development and prosperity of local markets and handicraft sales	0.619	0.609	0.586	0.001
Development of industrial infrastructure, especially in fisheries	0.758	0.769	0.743	0.000
Growth of service activities	0.591	0.583	0.568	0.001

Reference: Research findings, 2024



Table 3. Adjusted Regression Values

Standard Error of Estimate	R Values
0.211	0.674

Reference: Research findings, 2024

Next, 13 variables were tested to predict the independent variable. As shown in Table 4, all the proposed indicators—with obtained effect sizes above 0.5 and a significance level of 0.000—demonstrate the substantial impact of coastal and marine tourism on the economic development of rural areas in Chabahar.

The study then employed a one-sample t-test to assess the impact of coastal and marine tourism on social development in rural areas of Chabahar (Table 5). The analysis revealed that social indicators scoring above the Likert scale midpoint (3) demonstrate favorable social conditions attributable to coastal and marine tourism, while scores below 3 indicate unfavorable conditions. Results showed that most social indicators significantly exceeded the threshold of 3 ($p=0.000$). Thereby confirming the positive role of coastal and marine tourism in strengthening social development across Chabahar’s rural communities. The findings provide robust statistical evidence that coastal and marine tourism contributes meaningfully to enhancing social welfare and community well-being.

Finally, the Spearman correlation test results were applied to examine the relationship between the variables of

rural social development and coastal and marine tourism (Table 6). The results indicate a significant positive relationship across all indicators. Among them, the migration reduction index ($r=0.611$, $p<0.05$) and the women’s status improvement index with a correlation coefficient of 0.607 (both significant at $p<0.05$) displayed the strongest correlation, while the women’s status improvement index ($r = 0.507$, $p < 0.05$) showed the weakest, though still statistically significant. These findings further confirm that coastal and marine tourism plays a crucial role in enhancing social indicators in Chabahar’s rural areas.

5. Discussion

Today, tourism has emerged as one of the world’s fastest-growing economic sectors, particularly in developing countries. Intense competition exists among nations to attract tourists, and the tourism industry, as a dynamic sector with unique characteristics, has become a vital component of economic and productive activities, especially in developing and developed countries. Among various tourism types, coastal and marine tourism stands out as particularly valuable for developing maritime regions and recreational hubs to achieve broader regional objectives.

Table 4. Regression Residuals

Variables	Impact Coefficient	T-value	Significance
Increased allocated credits	0.573	2.684	0.001
Enhanced investment motivation and inclination to strengthen economic activities	0.604	3.541	0.000
Poverty and deprivation reduction	0.609	3.549	0.000
Improved access to public and welfare services	0.731	3.901	0.000
Strengthening economic foundations (increased employment and reduced unemployment)	0.586	2.683	0.001
Satisfaction with economic status	0.572	2.681	0.001
Improved living standards	0.667	3.576	0.000
Increased income and savings	0.705	3.821	0.000
Job and income security	0.772	3.968	0.000
Creation of new and suitable job opportunities	0.685	3.589	0.000
Development and prosperity of local markets and handicraft sales	0.562	2.652	0.001
Development of industrial infrastructure, especially in fisheries	0.731	3.901	0.000
Growth of service activities	0.567	2.675	0.001

Reference: Research findings, 2024



Table 5. One-Sample T-Test Results

Variables	Mean	T-value	Sig. (2-tailed)	95% Confidence Interval	
				Upper	Lower
Increased awareness	3.74	24.365	0.000	3.96	3.51
Enhanced social trust	3.18	23.713	0.001	3.34	3.05
Increased social participation	3.41	24.121	0.000	3.56	3.29
Strengthened social cohesion	3.19	23.568	0.001	3.28	3.03
Improved ethnic convergence	3.02	23.087	0.001	3.12	2.78
Women’s status improvement	3.06	23.254	0.001	3.16	2.89
Increased literacy rate	3.34	24.154	0.000	3.51	3.11
Enhanced social order	3.26	23.986	0.000	3.38	3.16
Improved personal/public safety	3.21	23.873	0.001	3.29	3.08
Reduced migration	3.88	24.542	0.000	3.99	3.79

Reference: Research findings, 2024



Table 6. Spearman’s correlation test results

Dimension	Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	Spearman’s Correlation	Significance (p-value)
Social Development	Increased awareness	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.604	0.000
	Increased social trust	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.517	0.001
	Increased social participation	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.596	0.000
	Increased solidarity and cohesion	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.518	0.001
	Increased ethnic convergence	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.512	0.001
	Enhanced status of women	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.507	0.001
	Increased literacy rate	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.581	0.000
	Increased social order	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.574	0.000
	Improved individual & public security	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.521	0.001
	Reduced migration	Role of coastal and marine tourism	0.611	0.000

Reference: Research findings, 2024



Coastal areas, with abundant natural resources, have long attracted economic actors, including tourism operators. Coastal tourism represents one of the oldest forms of leisure activity, and with continuous improvements in facilities and services, the number of coastal tourists grows annually. This remarkable growth in coastal tourism, alongside other economic activities that benefit from coastal resources, necessitates a comprehensive management approach- one that applies systems thinking to integrate tourism components while ensuring sustainable development.

This study examined the role of coastal and marine tourism in supporting socioeconomic sustainability within rural areas of Chabahar County. Stepwise multiple regression analysis revealed significant relationships

($p < 0.05$) between coastal/marine tourism and rural economic development across all indicators, confirming tourism’s predictive power for economic development. All economic indicators showed impact factors exceeding 0.5 with significance levels of 0.000, demonstrating coastal tourism’s substantial influence on Chabahar’s rural economic growth.

One-sample t-tests indicated mean values above 3 for all social indicators, reflecting tourism’s positive impact on social development in Chabahar’s rural communities. Spearman’s correlation tests further confirmed significant relationships between social development indicators and coastal/marine tourism.

Iran’s southeastern Makran coasts, located beyond the Persian Gulf with access to the Indian Ocean’s open wa-

ters, hold crucial geopolitical and economic importance for regional development. This exceptional position has profoundly impacted local rural communities' livelihoods and economies. Recently, the region has attracted foreign investments (particularly from India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan) and government-supported infrastructure, industrial, and tourism projects.

Key developments such as Chabahar Port, transportation network expansions, and free trade-industrial zones highlight Makran's economic and geopolitical potential. These initiatives should generate employment, improve living standards, and enhance socioeconomic welfare. Moreover, Makran's unique natural attractions - including pristine beaches, mountains, and mangrove forests - position it as a prime tourist destination that could boost local incomes.

However, rapid large-scale development requires careful sustainable planning to mitigate environmental and social risks. Balancing economic growth with ecological preservation and cultural integrity remains a critical challenge.

The findings of the present study are consistent with previous research by Mahmoudi & Moradi (2024), Javaherian (2022), Yusef Jamali et al. (2021), Nazarpouri et al. (2020), and Deely et al. (2022).

Based on the obtained results, the following recommendations are proposed:

- Strengthening and facilitating private sector investment in coastal and marine tourism.
- Utilizing local capacities in rural tourism to promote economic and social development.

Ensuring sustainable security along coastal areas to achieve economic growth and the development of rural tourism.

Acknowledgements

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

References

- Aliman, N.K., Mohamed Hashim, Sh., Mohd, W., Siti, D., Harudin, S. (2016). Tourists' Satisfaction with a Destination: An Investigation on Visitors to Langkawi Island, *International Journal of Marketing Studies*, 8(3): 173-188. DOI:10.5539/ijms.v8n3p173
- Alves, B., Ballester, R., Rigall-I-Torrent, R., Ferreira, Ó. & Benavente, J. (2017). How feasible is coastal management? A social benefit analysis of a coastal destination in SW Spain. *Tourism Management*, 60, 188-200. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2016.12.004>
- Andayesh, Y., Afghah, S.M., AbasNezhad, Gh. (2022). Study of Tourism Status of Khuzestan Province in Comparison with Other Coastal Provinces of Southern Iran With Emphasis on Marine Tourism by TOPSIS Method, *Journal: Iranian Economic Development Analyses*, 8(2): 19-44. 10.22051/ieda.2021.36560.1281
- Arabadzhyan, A., Figini, P., García, C., González, M. M., Lam-González, Y. E., & León, C. J. (2020). Climate change, coastal tourism, and impact chains - a literature review. *Current Issues in Tourism*. 2233-2268. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13683500.2020.1825351>
- Baitalik, A., Bhattacharjee, T. (2023). Beneath the sun and sands: Appraising coastal tourism impact through community perceptions in West Bengal, India. *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, Volume 68, 30 December 2023, 103273. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2023.103273>
- Barghi, H., Dehghan Hesampoor, M., Toosi, R., & Jamini, D. (2013). Planning of tourism sustainable development in the Persian Gulf (case study: Qeshm Island). *Spatial Planning*, 2(3): 75-94. 20.1001.1.22287485.1391.2.3.7.1
- Bonyadi, T., Tayebnia, S. H., & Hamidianpour, M. (2022). Identifying and Analyzing the Challenges Facing the Development of Tourism in the Sea of Oman (Case Study: Sistan and Baluchestan Province). *Geographical Studies of Coastal Areas Journal*, 3(2): 27-47. doi: 10.22124/gscj.2022.20612.1104
- Ciacchi, A., Ivaldi, E., Ivaldi, E., Mangano, S., Marco Ugolini, G. (2021). Environment, logistics and infrastructure: the three dimensions of influence of Italian coastal tourism, *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(2): 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2021.1876715>
- Darbane Astaneh, A., Ferdowsi, S., & Shahmohammadi, H. R. (2018). Identifying the most desirable locations for the construction of Marine Tourism Sites: Case study: Tonekabon. *Scientific- Research Quarterly of Geographical Data (SEP-EHR)*, 27(106), 229-239. doi: 10.22131/sepehr.2018.32344
- Deely, J., Hynes, S., Cawley, M. (2022). Overseas visitor demand for marine and coastal tourism, *Marine Policy*, Volume 143, September 2022, Article number 105176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2022.105176>
- Dimitrovski, D., Lemmetyinen, A., Nieminen, L., Pohjola, T. (2021). Understanding coastal and marine tourism sustainability - A multi-stakeholder analysis, *Journal of Destination Marketing & Management*, Volume 19, March 2021, 100554. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdmm.2021.100554>
- Fennell, D. A. (2020). *Ecotourism*" (5th ed.), Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/Ecotourism/Fennell-Fennell-Fennell/p/book/9780367364601?srsId=AfmBOoqAcPC2FI0n6VxERrs4ciPA5wnROW3a93RmtLfzTBHqan-4sD67>

- Haghi, M. R., & Heidarzadeh, E. (2023). Strategies to Improve the Tourism Capacity of Coastal Cities: The Case Study of Bushehr City. *Urban tourism*, 9(4):87-103. doi: 10.22059/jut.2022.314727.860
- Hall, C. M. (2001). Trends in ocean and coastal tourism: the end of the last frontier? *Ocean Coast Manage, Trends Ocean Ind.* 44, 601-618. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0964-5691\(01\)00071-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0964-5691(01)00071-0)
- Honey, M., Krantz, D. (2007). Global Trends in Coastal Tourism, Marine Program World Wildlife Fund. Center on Ecotourism and Sustainable Development. <https://www.responsible-travel.org>
- Javaherian, M. (2022). Studying the role of coastal tourism in promoting the tourism industry and sustainable development (case study: Mazandaran Province), Fifth International Conference on Management, Tourism and Technology, <https://civilica.com/doc/1573457>
- Mahmoudi, S., & Moradi, A. (2024). Coastal and Marine Tourism Development Planning Using SWOT and QSPM Model (Case Study: Lengeh Port). *Geographical Engineering of Territory*, 8(2), 49-72. doi: 10.22034/jget.2024.172393
- Mejjad, N., Rossi, A., Pavel, A.B. (2022). The coastal tourism industry in the Mediterranean: a critical review of the socio-economic and environmental pressures & impacts, *Tour. Manag. Perspect.* 44 (2022), Article 101007. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2022.101007>
- Merkel, A., Säwe, F., & Fredriksson, C. (2021). The seaweed experience: exploring the potential and value of a marine resource. *Scandinavian Journal of Hospitality and Tourism*, 21(4), 391-406. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15022250.2021.1879671>
- Motiei Langeroudi, S. H., Ferdowsi, S., & Shahmohammadi, H. R. (2017). Explain the effects of tourists' Satisfaction in nautical tourism marketing (Case Study: Coastal areas of Golestan province). *Regional Planning*, 7(26): 41-54. 20.1001.1.2251673 5.1396.7.26.4.9
- Mousavi Alizadeh, S. M. A., Zeinivand, M., Ahadian, J., Amanpour, S., & Moradi, H. (2024). Feasibility Study of Achieving the Water Tourism Development in Khuzestān Province (Case Study: Shushtar and Gotvand Hydraulic System). *Geographical Studies of Coastal Areas Journal*, 5(1), 77-97. doi: 10.22124/gscj.2024.24439.1234
- Nazarpouri, A. H., Feli, R., & ZiaeeMehri, A. (2020). Identification and Importance - Performance Analysis Factors Affecting Maritime Tourism (Case Study: Khorramshahr Port. *Journal of Tourism and Development*, 9(3): 137-152. doi: 10.22034/jtd.2019.169581.1640
- Shokouhi, M., Yazdanpanah, M. (2019). Effect of Empowerment on Residents' Support for Tourism: The Case of Kamar-dough Tourism Region. *MJSP*; 23 (1):151-168. <http://hsmmp.modares.ac.ir/article-21-26097-fa.html>
- Spenceley, A. (2008). *Responsible Tourism* (pp. 386), USA: Earthscan. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781849772396>
- Waldo, S., Blomquist, J., Sundström, K., Waldo, Å. (2023). Are local fisheries important for marine tourism? A case study of the Swedish fishing village Träslövsläge, *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, Volume 61, July 2023, Article number 102888. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2023.102888>
- Yousef Jamali, S., Motavi, S., Malekshahi, G., Rajabi, A. (2021). An Analysis of the Role of Coastal Tourism in Sustainable Urban Development (Case Study: Coastal Cities of Babil-sar, Noor, and Royan). *MJSP*; 25 (4): 45-70. <http://hsmmp.modares.ac.ir/article-21-56844-fa.html>

