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ANALYSIS OF PRODUCTS IN BEIJING CULTURAL TOURISM MARKET

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Abstract

Through the analysis of the market mix, especially the products and promotion components, we can notice that Beijing's cultural tourism provide tourists with cultural attractions, events, big quantity of accommodation choices and quite well-built infrastructures with different means of promotion, such as social media, large-scale event (mostly for overseas promotion), online websites and mobile, collaborating with other institutions and organizations, etc. The USP of Beijing cultural tourism is suggested to be the cultural heritages and "Peking" elements, which represent the unique identity of Beijing and differentiate it from other destinations.

Key Words: Beijing, cultural tourism, marketing mix

JEL Classification: M31, L83

According to Morrison, "marketing is a continuous, sequential process through which a DMO plans, researches, implements, controls and evaluates programs aimed at satisfying traveller's needs and wants as well as the destination's and DMO's visions, goals and objectives." (Morrison, 2013) As the most official DMO in Beijing city, Beijing Tourism Development Committee's goal is to realize the "diversification of resources, facilitation of services, refinement of management and internationalization of markets" of tourism for building an internationally first-class tourism city and key pillar industries. By 2020, the number of tourists will receive 320 million, total tourism revenue will reach over 700 billion RMB, and the tourism industry added value will account for 8% of GDP. 1.1 million People will be involved in Tourism related jobs. (BTDC, 2016)

Considering the components of Marketing Mix, among which the 7Ps of marketing, products, place and promotion are the vital elements. And the current situations of these 3P are simply summarized:

I. WE PRESENT AN ANALYSIS OF PRODUCTS IN BEIJING CULTURAL TOURISM MARKET:

• *Cultural Attractions* Beijing cultural tourism products are very rich ranging from physical, emotional components to experiential ones. It has 6 World Cultural Heritages (the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, Zhoukoudian Ruins and the Ming Tombs) which attract mass of domestic and foreign visitors. Here is a table of the key cultural tourism Attractions of Beijing:

Categories	Names of Tourist Attractions	
	The Imperial Palace Museum	
World Cultural Heritage	The Great Wall	
	Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian	
	Temple of Heaven	
	The Summer Palace	
	The Ming Dynasty Tombs	
	Guozijian Street	
Famous Historical and Cultural	Yandai Street	
Street in China	Dashilan	
	Di'an Men Nei Street	
	Gubeikou Town, Miyun County	
Famous Historical and Cultural	Jiuduhe Town	
Town in China	Ancient Town at Dongba	
	Wangsiying	
	Cuandixai Village, Zhaitang Town	

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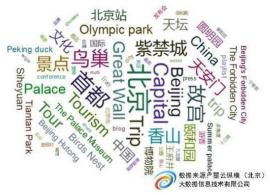
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Famous Historical and	Lingshui Village, Zhaitang Town		
Cultural Village in China	Liuliqu Village, Longquan Town		
	Xinchengzijijiaying, Miyun County		
	Grand Canal		
	Yunju Temple Pagoda		
	Sutra Cave and Stone Sutra		
Candidate World Heritage Sites	Ancient Observatory		
	Beihai Park		
	Marco Polo Bridge		

Fig. 1 Key Cultural Tourism Attractions in Beijing

Source: Beijing Municipal Commission of Tourism Development

In the monitoring cycle for the nine concerns related to Beijing tourism (attractions, restaurants, hotels, etc.), and through the overseas Internet related content analysis found that overseas users of Beijing tourism is most concerned about the attractions, diet, history and Culture, more than 88% of the discussion, far ahead of other concerns, which reflects the rich history, culture and other elements of the attractions can trigger overseas visitors to Beijing to travel behavior.



 $Fig\ 2.\ Hot\ key\ words\ about\ Beijing\ attractions\ from\ Facebook\ Users\ (01.01.2016-31.07.2016)$

Source: Raincent.com

For domestic visitors, with the growth and improvement of tourism products as well as the increment of living quality and spending power of Chinese residents, the structure of tourism products are also encountering a dramatically change. The products of Beijing tourism has changed from the traditional and cultural sightseeing tours into modernized city excursion, recreational and vacation tour, convention as well as business exhibition group which includes high-ended products for Beijing tourism. For this purpose, the products of Beijing tourism are encouraged to integrate traveling with culture, technology as well as sports.

Apart from this, every year Beijing holds lots of national and international cultural, sport and business **events**. The National Day Army Parade is one of the grandest events which attract thousands of tourists every year. Beijing is also known as "Peking" by foreigners. Thus, the Peking operas and ducks and other folk art festivals and museums with the brand of "Peking" are important selling points in Beijing cultural tourism.

• Accommodations and travel agencies. As of 2017, Beijing had 530 star-rated hotels, including 75 five-star hotels, 2, 544 travel agencies registered officially and 41,827 certified tour guides. Scattered star hotels and hostels are everywhere in this city. Besides the hotels, Beijing also had 141 star-rated folk villages, 4,008 folk households, 647 distinctive business and 33 distinctive tourist towns and villages (UNWTO, 2017). There are some examples of Top 10 hotels and travel agencies in Beijing according to the online ranking.

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Fig 3 Top 10 Travel Agencies in Beijing

Source: Qunar.com

Source: Quintition					
Name of Hotel	Number of Comments	Mark			
Beijing Rosewood Hotel	392	9.4			
Four Seasons Beijing	225	9.3			
Beijing NUO Hotel	853	9.2			
Hotel ECLAT Beijing	544	9.2			
Beijing Shichahai Sandalwood Boutique Hotel	334	9.2			
Beijing Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts	303	9.2			
Beijing New World Hotel	2,209	9.1			
Beijing CHAO Hotel Sanlitun	540	9.0			
Beijing Pan Pacific Hotel Groups	242	9.0			
Beijing Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts	139	9.0			

Fig. 4. Statistics about Top 10 Hotels in Beijing

Source: Booking.com

Summarizing the development of hotels, travel agencies and tourist attractions, the chart below can easily show the trend of the market. The statistics that can be found only till the year of 2015.

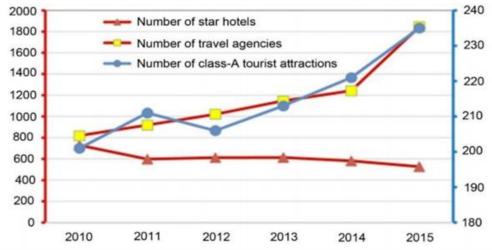


Fig 5 Beijing star hotels, travel agencies, A-level scenic spot changes (2010-2015)
Source: Beijing Municipal Commission of Tourism Development

It is obvious that the star hotels decrease. According to the report for Beijing tourism development, the increase of various other kinds of accommodations such as the budget hotels, motels, rural homestay and so on also affect the growth of star hotels.

Category	Numbers	Proportion
2- star and below	9,053	61.5%
High-end Chain Hotel	1,311	8.9%
Hotel Apartment	1,130	7.7%
Budget Chain Hotel	1,073	7.3%
3-star	753	5.1%
Inn	499	3.4%
4-star	442	3.0%
5-star	196	1.3%
Boutique Hotel	163	1.1%
Youth Hostel	103	0.7%
Total	14,723	100.00%

Fig 6 Accommodation Supplies in Beijing

Source: POI Information Point Data. Beijing Tourism Development Report (2017)

• *Transportation*. The convenient transportation and multiple accommodation choices allow Beijing to accept millions of visitors every year. It is northern China's main transportation hub. Beijing Capital International Airport has flight connections to some 88 domestic and 69 foreign cities. 4 modern railway stations operate 700 trains per day including high-speed trains connect Beijing with almost every corner of the country.

	Index	Unit	2014	2015	2016
Investment	Fixed Assets Investment in Transportation Industry	Billion Yuan	98.8	112.23	88.4
	Municipal Fixed Assets Investment in Transportation	Billion Yuan	50.82	50.75	61.02
	Operating Lines Mileage	Kilometer	1248.1	1268.6	1269
Railways	Passenger Special Lines	Kilometer	139.1	139.1	139.1
Airlines	Runways of Capital International Airport	1	3	3	3
	Airport stands of Capital International	/	362	353	338
	Airport				
	Total Mileage	Kilometer	22,025.6	21,885.0	21,848.5
Roads	Highway	Kilometer	1,012.9	981.9	981.9
	Roads in the City Zone	Kilometer	6, 373.5	6, 423.3	6, 425.9
	Urban Freeway	Kilometer	390.3	383.2	383.2
City Roads	Urban Main Roads	Kilometer	970.3	969.3	965.3
	Bus Lanes	Kilometer	851	740.7	394.8
Passenger	Passenger Terminal Stations	/	9	9	9
Terminals	Bus Terminals	/	8	8	8

Fig. 7 2014-2016 Beijing Transportation Supply Statistics

Source: Beijing Transport Institute. Beijing Transportation Report (2017)

• Entertainment Services. On the whole, accommodation and catering service facilities accounted for the largest proportion, accounting for more than 64% of the total, which laid a solid foundation for the Beijing tourism service system; tourism and entertainment service facilities accounted for 19% and 13% respectively (Wang, 2017). Recently, Beijing has been dedicated into exploring and developing the tourism consumption services. Tourist Consumption is one of the main incomes of profits in tourism industry. Beijing focused on what the tourists must buy, must eat, must see and must stay and is cultivating various kinds of tourist products. In gastronomy, Beijing developed "The Taste of Beijing" Festivals in local restaurants.

Dimension	Category	Number	Proportion
	Snack and Fast Food	1, 251	8.6%
	Beijing Cuisine	741	5.1%
	Northeast China Cuisine	740	5.1%
	Xinjiang Cuisine	728	5.0%

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	Sichuan Cuisine	728	5.0%
	Jiangsu and Zhejiang Cuisine	726	5.0%
	Hunan Cuisine	714	4.9%
Catering	Western Food	706	4.9%
	Northwest China Cuisine	698	4.8%
	Muslin Food	687	4.7%
	Buffet	683	4.7%
	Cantonese Cuisine	677	4.7%
	BBQ	638	4.4%
	Home Cooking	635	4.4%
	Korean Food	621	4.3%
	Other Minor Food	/	24.4%
	Shopping Mall	148	33.1%
	Gift and Souvenir Shop	82	18.3%
Shopping	Chain Supermarket	77	17.2%
	Antique Store	55	12.3%
	Walking Street	44	9.8%
	Flee Market and Bazar	41	9.2
	Internet Café	748	12.4%
	Billiards Club	746	12.3%
	Bath Center	718	11.9%
	DIY handicraft studio	709	11.7%
Entertainment	Bar	696	11.5%
	Foot massage	687	11.4%
	KTV	670	11.1%
	Arcade	623	10.3%
	Other Minor Services	449	7.5%

Fig. 8 Tourist Entertainment Service Supplies in Beijing

Source: POI Information Point Data. Beijing Tourism Development Report (2017),

Viewed from all dimensions, the number of fast food in catering services is the largest, and Beijing Restaurant, Sichuan Restaurant, and Northeast China Restaurant are at the second level. Other tastes and cuisines belong to the third level. The taste of dishes basically covers all kinds of needs. Tourist shopping is still dominated by large shopping centers, and the number of special gifts and specialty stores opened by tourists is second. In the entertainment dimension, there are not a number of prominent supply players, and entertainment facilities such as Internet cafes, billiards, baths, bars, amusement and entertainment facilities account for a considerable proportion.

In addition, Beijing also launched the program of "Beijing Gift" with chain operations of franchise stories in different corner of Beijing. A mount of new souvenirs and specialties have been created to attract visitors. Most of them are blended with Chinese royal and Beijing traditional elements.



Fig. 9 Souvenir and Specialties in Beijing Tourism Market

Source: www.vcg.com

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II. CONCLUSIONS

In the monitoring cycle for the nine concerns related to Beijing tourism (attractions, restaurants, hotels, etc.), and through the overseas Internet related content analysis found that overseas users of Beijing tourism is most concerned about the attractions, diet, history and Culture, more than 88% of the discussion, far ahead of other concerns, which reflects the rich history, culture and other elements of the attractions can trigger overseas visitors to Beijing to travel behavior.

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