



Abstract

A Study on the Pedestrian Characteristics of Urban Special Tourist Districts : Focused on the Suwon Hwaseong Special Tourist District

A special tourist district (STD) is an area designated to attract tourists both foreign and domestic as well as a specialized district facilitating tourism consumption by vitalizing related business interests, including shopping, entertainment, and accommodations. This study analyze spatial configuration properties through the integration and choice (betweenness) value of space syntax in order to identify the pedestrian characteristics of urban special tourist districts (USTDs). The results have been compared with selected tourist movement patterns to derive implications for improving tourism consumption environments. Furthermore, the pedestrian accessibility of the tourist attractions and facilities in the study area have been measured quantitatively to identify vulnerable areas that require improvement for purpose of enhancing tourism convenience. The Suwon Hwaseong STD was chosen as the key study area.

Analyzing the spatial configuration of the Suwon Hwaseong STD showed a high level of spatial vitality regarding the inner areas of the

four gates of Suwon Hwaseong Fortress. In addition, the roads around Hwaseong Haenggung Palace indicated a high possibility of vehicular traffic, as they were calculated to be roads with high-choice value. Assuming a ten minute walking distance as the critical distance, the integration value (on the local scale) was calculated and determined to have high accessibility for walks around a nearby traditional market area as well as Haengridan-gil. The four gates of Suwon Hwaseong Fortress was expected to be highly utilized by pedestrians, as the choice value was relatively high.

The integration value of tourist attractions in the Suwon Hwaseong STD was the highest at Paldalmun Gate, with the expectation of a high concentration of tourists. Paldal Park, meanwhile, was expected to have a lower possibility of pedestrian inflow than other tourist attractions. The integration value of the tourist market showed the highest level of accessibility, but its tourist information facilities had relatively lower accessibility than tourist facilities elsewhere. A tourist market's accessibility is an advantageous condition for encouraging tourist spending, and so an optimal facility layout design is required to increase tourists' stay times. However, the low accessibility of tourist information facilities can reduce tourist satisfaction, making it advisable to provide tourism information through a mobile application instead.

Among the results of tourist movement patterns in the Suwon Hwaseong STD in 2019, there were more domestic tourists in their 50s (21.7%) and 60s or over (18.7%) than young people. Additionally, in terms of stay time, 14:00-18:00 was highest (26.8%) followed by 11:00-14:00 (19.8%), but 21:00-24:00 was the lowest, indicating that strategies were required to revitalize the night tour program. Foreign tourists accounted for only 0.7 percent of the total, drastically less than the number of domestic tourists. Among foreign tourists, Chinese

tourists (57.3%) accounted for more than all other groups, indicating that the inbound market needs to be more diversified.

Improving the pedestrian accessibility of the USTDs is vital because doing so can enhance tourism convenience and boost consumption. Based on the pedestrian characteristics of tourists, it would be possible to achieve such a goal by developing a differentiated commercial district from the optimal layout of the facilities. In this regard, this study has recognized the spatial configuration of USTDs as spaces for tourism production and consumption and has also quantitatively analyzed the characteristics of pedestrian movement.

Keyword

urban special tourist district, pedestrian accessibility, space syntax