

THE ROLE OF HOTELS AND HOSTELS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

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Xojaqulova Nargiza To'ychi qizi

Student, 1st year University of Science and Technologies

Abstract

This article analyzes the role of hotels and hostels in the tourism industry and their impact on the national economy. The study examines, based on scientific sources, how the development of hotel and hostel systems contributes to economic growth, increases employment levels, and expands tourism infrastructure. In addition, the importance of this sector is highlighted through scholars' opinions and practical examples. The article also considers the current situation of the tourism sector in Uzbekistan, demonstrating that the development of hotels and hostels is one of the key factors in the country's economic development.

Keywords

Tourism industry, hotel, hostel, economic development, employment, investment, service sector, infrastructure, national economy, tourist flow.

Introduction: The tourism industry is one of the most important and rapidly developing sectors of the global economy. Hotels and hostels play a special role in this field. They provide temporary accommodation for tourists and form a core part of tourism services, contributing significantly to national economic development.

Hotels have historically developed as places serving traders and travelers, while modern hostels emerged in the early 20th century as affordable and convenient accommodation facilities. Today, hotels are characterized by high-quality services and comfort, whereas hostels are known for their economic affordability and social environment.

The main difference between hotels and hostels is reflected in the type of service, level of comfort, and pricing policy. Hotels generally offer private comfort and a wide range of services, while hostels are characterized by low prices and shared facilities. Therefore, hotels and hostels are key components of the tourism industry, not only satisfying tourists' needs but also contributing to job creation, development of the service sector, and increasing state budget revenues.

Main Part: Today, hotels and hostels play a very important role in the development of the tourism sector. Many scholars have also expressed their views

on this issue. For example, economist Stephen Page, in his book “Tourism Management” (p. 112), describes the hotel industry as one of the main driving forces of tourism [1]. According to him, high-quality accommodation services increase tourist flow and strengthen a country’s competitiveness in the international tourism market. I agree with this view, because nowadays tourists primarily consider living conditions and service quality when choosing a destination.

Currently, demand for hostels is especially increasing among young people. Walker J. R., in his book “Introduction to Hospitality Management” (2021, p. 86), emphasizes that hostels and budget accommodation systems play an important role in attracting young tourists [2]. The scholar notes that hostels contribute to the popularization of tourism and reduction of travel costs. I believe that the development of hostels is very important in expanding youth tourism, as students and young travelers tend to choose affordable accommodation.

In Uzbekistan, the economic impact of the hotel business has also been studied. Researcher Amirova D. A., in her 2025 article “The impact of the hotel industry on the economic growth of Uzbekistan’s regions” (p. 47), states that the hotel industry directly influences regional economic growth [3]. She emphasizes that hotels create new jobs and develop the service sector. I agree with this opinion, as the number of hotels is increasing in cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva due to tourism development.

The impact of tourism on the economy has also been confirmed through statistical data. Jumanova Z. T. and Abdikayumov J. K., in their 2025 article (p. 69), demonstrate that the development of the tourism sector strengthens economic activity [4]. In my opinion, this further confirms the important role of hotels and hostels in the national economy.

In addition, Kuvandikov S., in his 2025 article (p. 115), states that hotel performance efficiency depends on tourist flow and infrastructure [5]. According to him, modern hotels play a key role in attracting foreign tourists. I believe that comfortable and modern hotels significantly improve tourists’ impressions of a country.

The government of Uzbekistan is also paying great attention to the development of tourism. In his speech at the meeting on January 18, 2024, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev described tourism as an “engine of the economy” [6]. He also emphasized the need to expand hotel infrastructure and improve service quality. I believe that such attention will greatly contribute to the future development of tourism in Uzbekistan.

The importance of hotels is also highlighted in academic literature on tourism infrastructure. For example, Qudratov O', in his book "Fundamentals of Tourism" (2021, p. 94), defines hotels as one of the main components of tourism [7]. According to him, the quality of hotel services directly affects tourists' impressions of a country. I agree with this view because the first impression of tourists is often formed by accommodation conditions.

Furthermore, Ergasheva Sh., in her book "Hotel Management" (2022, p. 57), extensively discusses service quality and customer service issues [8]. She emphasizes that high-quality service is one of the key factors of hotel success. I believe that hotels and hostels with high service quality increase the likelihood of repeat visits and positively influence tourism development.

Conclusion: In conclusion, hotels and hostels are among the most important components of the tourism industry. By providing quality and comfortable accommodation services, they not only contribute to the development of tourism but also have a direct impact on the overall growth of the national economy. As tourist flows increase, the hotel and hostel business also expands, leading to job creation, development of the service sector, and increased state budget revenues.

Moreover, this sector plays an important role in shaping a country's international image, as tourists' first impressions are often determined by accommodation conditions and service quality. Therefore, the more developed hotels and hostels are, the higher the likelihood of repeat tourist visits. This, in turn, increases the country's attractiveness as a tourist destination. In Uzbekistan, recent attention to the tourism sector, especially reforms aimed at expanding hotel infrastructure and improving service quality, demonstrates that this field has strong future potential. At the same time, several important directions should be further developed to use existing opportunities effectively.

In particular, expanding the hostel network to create affordable accommodation for young and budget tourists, developing hotel infrastructure in regions, continuously improving staff qualifications, and introducing digital technologies are among the most urgent tasks. In addition, developing eco-friendly hotels and hostels in the field of ecotourism is also important for ensuring environmental sustainability. Overall, if these proposals are implemented, the hotel and hostel system will be further improved, significantly contributing to the economic development of Uzbekistan and increasing its tourism potential.

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