

# Identification Of The Characteristics Of Park Visitors To NostalgiaUrban Park

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## Identification Of The Characteristics Of Park Visitors To Nostalgia Urban Park, Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara Province

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### ABSTRACT

Urban park is one form of green open space. Taman Nostalgia is one of the city parks located in the center of Kupang city and become the one of the representative public park in the Kupang city area. This research aims to identify the characteristics of Taman Nostalgia's visitors and the correlation between the variables. Data were collected through questionnaires distributed to 152 park visitors. A quantitative descriptive method with chi square analysis was employed for the analysis. The result shows that there is a relationship between the radius of residence of park visitors and the mode selection, as well as the relationship between the mode selection variable and the frequency of visits to the park. However, there is no correlation between the distance from visitor settlements and the frequency of visits to Nostalgia Park. Most of the visitors used private vehicles to access the Nostalgia Park. This study emphasizes that the facilities for public transportation need to be facilitated to increase the park visitors.

**Keywords:** characteristics, park visitors, Nostalgia urban park

## INTRODUCTION

Green open space has an important role in providing freedom of movement of its users, because the activities and development of the city are increasingly developing in accordance with the demands and needs of humans living in it (Krisnawati 2009). Spatially, public space is defined as a place where everyone has the right to enter without having to pay entrance fees or other money. Public spaces can be in the form of roads (including pedestrian path), pavements, public squares, and parks. This means that public open spaces such as roads and parks, as well as public non-green open spaces such as plazas and public squares can function as public spaces. According to the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia No. 1 of 2007, urban green open space is a part of the open space within an urban area that occupied by vegetation and plants, aimed at enhancing ecological, social, cultural, economic, and aesthetic function. Based on the Project for Public Spaces in New York in 1984, public space is an area of open space used by humans together that can accommodate joint activities. This area can be in the form of plazas, parks, streets, squares, etc. (Project 1984 quoted by Hartoyo and Santoni, 2018).

Urban park is one form of green open space, in addition to the function of the urban park includes green open space in general, the existence of urban parks has a great influence on environmental sustainability and also the aesthetic function or beauty of the city. Urban parks are also used by the community or visitors including as a means of recreation, sports, and social benefits. The existence of urban parks is important in an urban area mainly because of its functions and benefits as a protection area, a means to create the beauty of the environment and a means to socializewith other visitors. Urban green open space should have a greenish proportion of 70% to accommodate the socio-cultural, economic, aesthetic, and Disaster Mitigation functions on a provincial scale green areas (70%) in urban green open space should be utilized in developing several types of vegetation such as stratification of hard trees with large sizes, medium-sized trees, small trees, shrubs, bushes, and groundcover.

However, to achieve all benefits, urban green spaces must be accessible to the public, as accessibility is a key indicator used to evaluate the effective social and ecological functioning of cities (Chen and Chang, 2015). The accessibility of urban parks mainly relates to three factors: residential location, park location, and the accessibility and connectivity of public transportation that connects residential areas to parks (Chang et al., 2019). Park accessibility is identified as one of the major factors in influencing park utilization (Wang et al., 2015). Spatial identification—

park proximity or accessibility—relies on measuring the relative distance between parks and other neighborhood amenities based on location theory (Wang et al., 2015). Spatial proximity-based research has asserted that the closer a park is to a resident, the more likely they will visit that park (Chen et al., 2019).

Kupang city initially had several representative public spaces including the Fatululi exhibition arena and Nostalgia Park. However, some public open spaces have turned into private open spaces (Liem and Lake, 2018). Nostalgia Park is one of the green open spaces in the form of an urban park in the city of Kupang. Taman Nostalgia is located in Kelurahan Kelapa Lima, Kelapa Lima district, precisely in the center of Kupang city and become the one of the representative public park in the Kupang city area. Nostalgia Park is equipped with several supporting facilities, including basketball courts, jogging tracks, gazebos, and park benches. However, the maintenance and care of facilities and plants in Taman Nostalgia are not yet optimal, resulting in the neglect of many plants and facilities (Ruba et al., 2015). Therefore, Taman Nostalgia was chosen as the study area. Various studies regarding the park's condition and utilization have been conducted (Ruba et al., 2015; Liem and Lake, 2018), but research on the characteristics of park visitors still limited. This research aims to understand the characteristics of Taman Nostalgia's visitors and the correlation between the variables.

## RESEARCH METHODS

### Time and Location

This study was conducted for 5 (five) months, from March to July 2022. The location of this study was Taman Nostalgia Kupang. The eastern side of the park is connected to the location of the Kupang representatives' office, the northern side is adjacent to residential areas, the western side is bordered by the police station and a carnival statue, while the southern side is bordered by Frans Seda road, the state finance building, and the inter-city bus terminal.

The scope of the area in this study is Nostalgia Park with an area of 5.56 Ha and is located in the Fatululi area, Kelapa Lima district, Kupang city. Administratively Taman Nostalgia is located in Kelapa Lima district, and has the following boundaries:

1. North Side: Savu Sea
2. West: Kupang Regency
3. South: Oebobo District
4. East: Alak District



Figure 1. Location Map of the Research Area

### Data Collection

Data were collected through questionnaires distributed to 152 park visitors. The population size in the form of park visitors' data is unknown, therefore the Lemeshow formula (unknown population) was employed to determine the sample size (Lemeshow, 2013).

Lemeshow Formula:

$$\frac{Z^2 P(1 - P)}{d^2}$$

where n is the sample size, Z is the statistic corresponding to level of confidence, P is expected prevalence (that can be obtained from same studies or a pilot study conducted by the researchers), and d is precision (corresponding to effect size). The level of confidence used in this study was 95% (Z score is 1.96). The absence of data on the number of visitors to the Nostalgia park so that it is assumed that the number of population who visited the Nostalgia Park as much as 50% with information that is, the assumption of 50% of the population 50% (p = 0.5), for precision using 10% (d = 0.10).

Based on the calculations conducted, the minimum sample size is 96 respondents. In this study, the sample size is 152 respondents, which exceeds the minimum requirement.

### The Data Analysis Method

This study used a Likert scale to measure respondents' perceptions. The construction of Likert (or Likert type) scale is rooted into the aim of the research. Sometimes the purpose of the research is to understand about the opinions/perceptions of participants related with single 'latent' variable which is expressed by several 'manifested' items in the questionnaire (Joshi et al., 2015). In this study, a symmetric scale was employed, with the position of neutrality (neutral/don't know) precisely situated between the two extremes of strongly disagree and strongly agree (Joshi et al., 2015). This approach allows participants to select any response in a balanced and symmetrical manner in either direction, providing them with independence in their choices. This study used a closed statement with a range of assessment scales are: strongly disagree (SDA): 1, disagree (D) : 2, neutral (N) : 3, agree (A) : 4, and strongly agree (SA): 5. Based on the value obtained, calculated the index of each questionnaire answer. To get the index (%) = (total score/maximum score) x 100%. Analysis techniques used from the data that has been processed, namely using quantitative descriptive method through crosstab analysis or cross tabulation analysis to analyze data by describing the results of the data. It is also used to identify and determine two or more variables between rows and columns with the statistical method used, namely chi-square (Purnomo, 2016).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### The Characteristics of Nostalgia Urban Park Visitors

The ease of accessibility of an area is also one of the determining factors for behavioral patterns of park use, especially for park users who want to do activities in a short duration such as just walking or just jogging. Urban parks is closely related to the activities of its users. Activity is also closely related to human behavior itself. It has become a natural thing because as a public open space, the space can certainly be accessed by anyone and for anyone. However, in practice, this freedom becomes a conflict that is quite difficult to find a way out, especially for areas that have low awareness. In getting to the place to be visited, distance and travel time is one important component in visiting a place. If the place is close according to the visitors, then it is likely to have many visitors. Basically, Taman Nostalgia is located in the center of Kupang city so that many visitors come without considering the proximity of Nostalgia Park. Based on the Table 1 the majority of visitors (53%) come from settlements around Taman Nostalgia (within <5km), as

many as 31% of visitors have a distance of 6 km – 10 km, as many as 9% are come from (> 10 km - 15 km) and as many as 8% of visitors come from > 15 km.

**Table 1. Distance distribution from residence to Nostalgia Park area**

NO	Distance between Respondent Residence and Parks	Total	%
1	< 5 km	80	53%
2	6 km-10 km	48	31%
3	>10 km- 15 km	13	9%
4	> 15 km	11	8%
5	Other	0	0%
TOTAL		152	100%

The location of Nostalgia Park in the middle of the city allows many visitors to come. Therefore, the modes of Transportation used by visitors to Nostalgia Park are quite diverse. In this study look at some of the modes that look often located or just passing on nostalgia Park. Based on the results of field observations, the modes that are often used are using private vehicles, public transportation, cycling and walking. It can be seen from the Table 2 that the various modes of Transportation used by visitors to get to Nostalgia Park are very diverse. Therefore, in this study collected a variety of modes that are often used by visitors. From some of these modes the results show that visitors who use private vehicles more than some other mode of choice that is the percentage of 63%.

**Table 2. Distribution of the modes of transport used to get to Nostalgia Park**

No.	Mode of Transportation	Total	%
1	Private vehicle	95	63%
2	Public transport	34	22%
3	Walking	23	15%
4	Bicycle	0	0%
5	Other	0	0%
TOTAL		152	100%

It can be seen from the Table 3 that the frequency of visitors to visit nostalgia Park within one week is quite diverse. However, the intensity of the most dominant visit occurred that ranged only 1 time in one week with the most percentage of 54% or about 83 people from the total number of respondents who have been obtained.

**Table 3. Frequency of Visits**

No.	Frequency of visits	Total	%
1	1 time in a week (rarely)	83	55%
2	2-3 times a week (sometimes)	56	37%
3	4-6 times a week (often)	9	6%
4	7 times a week (very often)	4	3%
TOTAL		152	100%

Source: Authors, 2022

### **The Correlation Between the Variables of Nostalgia Urban Park Visitors' Characteristics**

#### **Chi square analysis between the distance of the residence to the Nostalgia Park and the frequency of visits.**

The following is a Chi-Square analysis table that explains that the results of the variable distance of residence to Nostalgia Park and the frequency of visits show the results with the value of asymp. Sig is 0.386 or greater than 0.005 which means there is no correlation in both variables. From these results, it can be concluded that the distance of residence to the Nostalgia Park and the frequency of visits were not significantly correlated or had no relationship. The results of this study differ from other research that indicates a relationship between distance from home and park visits. The park visits increased when the distance from home to the park decreased (Rossi et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2017). This might occur because the Nostalgia Park operates at a city-level service scale and is the only public park accessible to the community. As a result, visitors come to Nostalgia Park without considering the distance from their homes.

**Table 4. Chi Square Test between the distance of the residence to the Nostalgia Park and the frequency of visits**

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	12.772	12	0.386



### Chi square analysis between residence distance to Nostalgia Park and mode of Transportation

The following is a Chi-Square analysis table that explains that the results of the variables between the distance of residence to Nostalgia Park and the mode of Transportation show the results with the value of asympt. Sig is 0.000 or the value is less than 0.05 which means there is a correlation in both variables. Then, in the chi square table results are 30,829 or greater than the corresponding value. <sup>11</sup> Based on the results, it can be concluded that the two variables are between the distance of residence to nostalgia Park and modes of Transportation significantly correlated or have a relationship each other.

**Table 5. Test Chi Square between the distance of the residence to the nostalgic Park and the mode of Transport**

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	30.829	8	0,000

### Chi square analysis between frequency of visits and mode of transport to Nostalgia Park

Based on the statistical analysis of Chi-Square frequency of visits and modes of transportation to Nostalgia Park shows that the Sig is 0.003 or the value is less than 0.05 which means there is a correlation in the two variables. Then in the chi square table results are 19,829 or greater value then related. Based on the result, it can be concluded that the two variables are between the frequency of visits and modes of transportation to nostalgia Park correlated significantly or have a relationship each other. This is in line with Zhang and Zhou (2018), which states that the <sup>12</sup> number of bus stops was positively correlated with park visits, suggesting that improved accessibility through public transportation results in higher visitation rates. Other studies have stated that enhancing accessibility would be more effective than expanding existing parks in increasing park visits (Tu et al., 2019). <sup>7</sup>

Table 6. Chi Square Test between frequency of visits and mode of transport to Nostalgia Park

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	19.829	6	0,003

## CONCLUSION

Nostalgia Park is located in the city center. Based on the respondents' profiles, about 53% of the visitors came from the surrounding residential area which is within a 5 km radius, 63% of visitors use private vehicles to access the park and 55% of visitors go to Nostalgia Park once a week for recreation. There is a relationship between the radius of residence of park visitors and the mode transportation, as well as the relationship between the mode transportation and the frequency of visits to the park. This study emphasizes that the facilities for public transportation need to be facilitated to increase the park visitors. However, there is no correlation between the distance from visitor settlements and the frequency of visits to Nostalgia Park. The visitors come to Nostalgia Park without considering the distance from their homes.

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