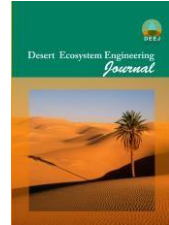




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## Zoning and Assessment of Tourism Climate of Iran's Desert Regions

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### Abstract

Climatic characteristics adapted to human comfort are the functions needed for tourists to choose a tourism destination. This parameter has a major role in preparation of tourism calendar. Desert tourism is one of the important destination so Eco-tourist. Iran has unique capabilities in this field because of its geographical-climatic condition. In this article we have tried to provide a tourism calendar proportional to climatic conditions in order to activate this environmental capability. So, in this study, tourism comfort climates of 11 provinces which are located in desert regions have been evaluated by using tourism climate index (TCI). In this regard, TCI index was calculated for 72 synoptic stations on a monthly basis and then the results were zoned on GIS software environment through the interpolation method. Ultimately, 12-month tourism climate map of Iran's desert regions were drawn separately. The results showed that in the winter months' southern regions and provinces of the country have ideal condition. In the summer, in spite of remarkable reduction of quality of tourism climate index of the region, desert provinces which are located in higher latitudes have more suitable condition. Meanwhile in the spring and autumn tourism climate index (TCI) mainly offers very ideal and convenient condition in large part of the area of study. Therefore, according to the results, in terms of tourism climate index, desert regions of the country are considered as valuable potentials in tourism and attracting tourists in cold seasons. Thus, officials and tour guides who are active in field of tourism can plan effectively in order to flourish tourism industry and consequently provide required context toward economic growth and prosperity for the residents of this part of the country.

**Keywords:** Tourism Climate Index, Geographical Information System, Tourism Climate, Iran's Deserts.

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