



## A STUDY ON THE SUITABILITY OF SANTEN ISLAND AND IT'S SURROUNDINGS TOWARDS NATURE TOURISM

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### ABSTRACT

Nowadays, tourism has faced change leading towards a new paradigm and way of thinking as an impact of urbanization, industrial development and transport technology. The needs for leisure and tourism with a touch of local interaction and its' environment is gradually increasing in line with the trends and the *back to nature* eagerness. As people's awareness of the importance of sustainable development is increasing, quality tourism activities and site attraction is needed and focused on the development, management and the well-being of the site.

This undeveloped site, Santen Island is located in Karangrejo Village in Banyuwangi District whereas this site is composed of an island formation with attractive sceneries and a diversity of ecosystems. The objectives of this research is to seek the possibilities of potentials, to justify the suitability of space with it's' landscape resources towards nature tourism and to know the visitor profile and potential.

In the determination of the unit area sampling, purposive sampling method was used in consideration towards the geomorphologic unit, in catering the landscape unit based on the landform unit. To determine the visitor profile samples, the Sevilla equation was used, where the number of visitors assumed towards the probability of sample depended on the condition of the site itself.

The suitability of urban space through the classification score (Montgomery and Edminster) based on soil limitation factors resulted that all unit areas (Ia,Ib,Ic,IIa,IIb,IIc,IIIa,IIIb and IIIc) were appropriate and suited the development schemes of a camping area, picnic area, recreational buildings, paths and trails, and play ground. The potentials of landscape resources based on the visual landscape judgment by Leopold's criteria (Bureau of Land Management) showed a great potential of landscape and a variety of ecosystems such as a sandy beach, mangrove, small islands, sea grass beds, and open-tide seas, showing a strong typology, resulting good aesthetic forms and scenic views. The majority of visitors were of the male sex (55,8%), young -aged between 18-29 (44,1%) and students or university educated (29,4%). Around 26,16% derived from within the city of Banyuwangi itself showing a local integrated demand structure. In addition to the development process, suggestions, perceptions and expectations were compiled for the possibilities of Santen Island to become a natural tourism object.

Based on the results of this research, it reveals that Santen Island has potential and attractiveness which can be transformed into a natural tourism object, with the consideration of the following factors: 1) natural and man-made attraction, 2) easy accessibility, 3) interesting natural scenic views and landscape, and 4) a unique, traditional, culture blended within its locals.

Keywords: nature tourism, Santen Island, sustainable development, locality

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