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## Scope and challenges in tourism a study with special reference of Almora and Bageshwar district

Dinesh Joshi<sup>1</sup>, Bhuwan Ch Joshi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Professor, Department of Commerce, G D Collage Kanda, Bageshwar, Uttarakhand, India

<sup>2</sup> Research Scholar, Department of Commerce, G D Collage Kanda, Bageshwar, Uttarakhand, India

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### Abstract

Tourism in Uttarakhand is a very large industry. The state draws a major portion of its revenue from this sector. With so many scenic hill stations and pilgrim sites, Uttarakhand witnesses a huge crowd all through the year. This state has welcomed adventure seekers, yoga lovers, pilgrims, romantic couples, families, crazy bunch of friends and so on. But then there is always a scope of development in every field. There are many ways in which tourism in Uttarakhand can be promoted.

**Keywords:** adventure seeker, pilgrims, home stay, eco-tourism, spiritual tourism, spiritual yoga

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### Introduction

Uttarakhand is a state in the northern part of India. It is often referred to as the "Devbhumi" (literally 'Land of the Gods) due to its religious significance and numerous Hindu temples and pilgrimage sites found throughout the state. As a result, religious tourism forms a major portion of the tourism in the state. Uttarakhand is known for the natural environment of the Himalayas. 2019 Tourist Arrivals Domestic - 40,000,000 per/year and Foreigner-150,000 per year. Tourism business in Uttarakhand generated ₹23,000 crores during 2013-14.

Tourism plays a prominent role in Uttarakhand's economy. The draw of the Himalayas, the beauty and cool relief of hill stations, and the wealth of Hindu religious pilgrimage sites are a part of the attraction. Corbett Tiger Reserve and the hill stations of Nainital, Mussoorie, Almora, Kausani, Bhimtal and Ranikhet are amongst the most frequented destinations of India.

### Types of Tourism

*Uttarakhand Types of Tourism and Protected Areas (Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board and Protected Planet; United Nations Environment Program World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC); International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN))*

*Note:* The skiing icon on the map is reflective of all/multiple types of adventure tourism.

According to Uttarakhand's draft tourism policy, 44.2% of the domestic tourists visited the state as part of pilgrimages and religious visits while 43.6% of the tourists came for holidays and sightseeing. The most significant draw of the state are the religious sites in the state, specifically the Char Dham Yatra, which includes four religious centres: Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri.

Adventure tourism is a new and emerging area of focus for the state and new infrastructure has been developed to drive this business. Trekking, skiing, paragliding, camping, angling, rafting, mountaineering and rock climbing are services being offered by both government and private players.

Most of the tourist attractions in Uttarakhand are linked to the natural environment such as mountains, rivers and forests. Climate change can potentially alter snow conditions, biodiversity, water levels etc. impacting tourist interest and flow. According to Uttarakhand's state climate plan, tourism is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Climate trends in the state point to hotter temperatures, increased likelihood of floods and landslides, and increased water stress. Hotter temperatures can affect the length and quality of tourism; flood and landslides can impact state infrastructure (roads, hotels, bridges, hospitals, etc.) and services, and also endanger the lives of locals and tourists.

### Extreme Weather Events

Uttarakhand's unique geography and topography make it particularly vulnerable to disasters. The State is prone to earthquakes, landslides, cloudbursts, flash-floods, avalanches, as well as droughts. The flash floods in 2013 in the state resulted in a 30% dip in tourism. Incessant rains, flooding and landslides in the Alaknanda, Mandakini and Bhagirathi river valleys in 2013 caused over 6000 deaths primarily among tourists visiting the religious site of Kedarnath and resulted in significant losses in infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and buildings etc.

The post-2013 disaster reconstruction cost has been estimated at Rupees. 3,964 Crore. Tourism in the state has since picked up and the map above (total tourists) shows a steady rise in tourist inflow post 2013. According to the state government, tourism inflow to Uttarakhand is expected to more than double in the next decade touching around 67 million by 2026.

### **Tourism**

The tourism industry in Uttarakhand is poised for phenomenal growth. Bageshwar district has been offering ample opportunities for developing the tourism sector for the interest of both domestic and international tourists. The tourism industry offers multifaceted tourism resources in the district. This would offer growth in economy and intensification of the industry in the coming years. Tourism development may be harnessed by extending and improving tourism facilities at the main tourist points. Kausani, Baijnath, Bageshwar, Kapkot and Glaciers such as Pindari, Kafani, Sunderdunga, temples of Shikher, Kotbhamery, Pandu spot, Sama etc. are the attractive tourist spots generating considerable amount of revenue.

Almora is a hill district in eastern part of Uttarakhand i.e. the Kumaon Division. This district is surrounded by Pithoragarh district to the East, Garhwal Division to the West, Bageshwar district to the North and Nainital district to the South. Almora district has a total area of 3139 sq.km. of which around 1309 sq.km is forest area. District Almora spiritual heritage, beautiful landscapes, handicrafts, and cuisine. It is an important centre for art and culture of Kumaon region. According to renowned historian E.T Atkinson, Almora city was established by the 43rd ruler of the Chand Dynasty, King rule several architectures like Cantonment, Churches, and Circuit House etc. were built. Formed in 1864 AD, Almora municipality is the oldest municipality in Uttarakhand. The disforest covered high mountains and fertile valleys. the main rivers flowing through the district. The district is also known for its scenic landscape, rich forests and wildlife. Figure 1: Image Source: <https://almora.nic.in/> 1

### **Literature Review**

Almora is a hill district in eastern part of Uttarakhand i.e. the Kumaon Division. This district is surrounded by Pithoragarh district to the East, Garhwal Division to the West, Bageshwar district to the North and Nainital district to the South. Almora district has a total area of 3139 sq.km. of which around 1309 sq.km is forest area. District Almora is known for its rich history, cultural and spiritual heritage, beautiful landscapes, handicrafts, and cuisine. It is an important centre for art and culture of Kumaon region. According to renowned historian E.T Atkinson, Almora city was ruler of the Chand Dynasty, King Bhisim Chand in 1530AD. Under British rule several architectures like Cantonment, Churches, and Circuit House etc. were built. Formed in 1864 AD, Almora municipality is the oldest municipality in Uttarakhand. The dis forest covered high mountains and fertile valleys. Saryu, Ramganga, Kosi, Gagaas the main rivers flowing through the district. The district is also known for its scenic landscape, rich: Image Source: <https://almora.nic.in/> Almora is a hill district in eastern part of Uttarakhand i.e. the Kumaon Division. This district is surrounded by Pithoragarh district to the East, Garhwal Division to the West, Bageshwar district to the North and Nainital district to the South. Almora district has a total area of 3139 sq.km. of is known for its rich history, cultural and spiritual heritage, beautiful landscapes, handicrafts, and cuisine. It is an important centre for art and culture of Kumaon region. According to renowned historian E.T Atkinson, Almora city was in 1530AD. Under British rule several architectures like Cantonment, Churches, and Circuit House etc. were built. Formed in 1864 AD, Almora municipality is the oldest municipality in Uttarakhand. The district has snow and Saryu, Ramganga, Kosi, Gagaas, and Suyal. Almora also known as Cultural Capital of Kumaon Known for its cultural diversity, Almora, this bewitching hill station is situated at an average elevation of 1,638 meters and is spread across a 5 km ridge atop Kashyap Hill. Being surrounded by the dwindling pines and old oaks, the city has a divine aura that is enough to allure the backpackers. To make the scenery even more mesmerizing, the snow-capped Himalayas stand in utmost grandeur to please the visitant from Almora.

The place owes its name to "kilmora" a tiny plant found in the nearby regions, used for washing utensils of Katarmal sun temple. The people who use to bring the plant was referred to as Kilmori or Almora. Hence, the town came to be known as Almora or Almoda.

Almora is situated on a horse shoe shaped ridge of a mountain, the eastern portion of which is called the Talifat and the western one is known as Selifat.

### **Why Visit Almora Hill Station?**

Almora is famous for its alluring beauty, panoramic view of the Himalayas, rich cultural heritage, unique handicrafts, and delicious cuisines. The picturesque landscape of Almora attracts hundreds of tourists each year as it is one of the business hubs of the Kumaon region.

It is famous for its temples like Chitai and Nanda Devi, magnificent snowy peaks of the Himalayas, quaint cottages, and the abundance flora and fauna. Chitai Golu Devta Temple and Nanda Devi temple are the famous temples of Almora. Other important temples of Almora are Katarmal (an 800-year old Sun Temple), Jageshwar and Kasar Devi, built on a mountain peak near Kalimat.

Almora city has several shopping centers which also includes the 200-year-old Lala Bazaar. Almora is also popular for Angora clothes, made from Angora rabbit's fur and Almora's special copper vessels.

You can also enjoy the beauty of sunrise and sunset at Bright End Corner, which is 2 kms from Almora. It was here that Swami Vivekananda stopped en route to the upper Himalayas.

**Activities in Almora**

Almora offers a vast array of activities for tourists and backpackers alike. If one is traveling between October and March, the mesmerizing panorama of the snow-clad peaks of Himalayas is complementary.

**Adventure Activities**

The rugged terrain and undulating hills of Almora makes it a perfect spot to try some adventure activities to test your strength and endurance. Rock climbing, Burma Bridge and Spider Web are some of the activities that one can partake in.

**Cycling**

Cycling is a fun and healthy way to explore the nearby surroundings at Almora. One can cycle through the dense forest area of Binsar Wildlife with family and friends.

**Shopping**

Being a commercial hub, Almora has one of the largest markets in the Kumaon region and a perfect spot for shopaholics. Apparels made from Angora wool are quite popular in Almora.

**Nature Walks**

The natural beauty that encompasses the vicinity of Almora is quite breathtaking. The possibility of exploring this beautiful region would be hard to resist. Nature walk to the nearby villages and hiking are quite popular at Almora.

There are 13 tourist spots in Almora where travellers can spent their leisure time. Here you will find list of all the Almora sightseeing options which you must visit and plan your itinerary accordingly. Explore the hidden gems of Almora through this well-researched list, learn about the most happening places, things to do, famous picnic spots for a memorable vacation in Almora.

Almora has many notable temples, including Kasar Devi, Nanda Devi, Doli Daana, Shyayi Devi, Khakmara, Asht Bhairav, Jakhandevi, Katarmal (Sun Temple), Pataal Devi, Raghunath Mandir, Badreshwar, Banari Devi, Chitai, Jageshwar, Binsar Mahadev, Garhnath and Baijnath. Kasar Devi temple was visited by Swami Vivekananda and this area has a Chabad House. Rudreshwar Mahadev Temple, near Sanara Ganiya, is dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is beside the river Ram Ganga. A sun temple (only the second in the world) is at Katarmal, a short distance from the town. The temple of Manila Devi, Devi Maa, the family goddess of the Katyuri clan, lies around 85 km from Ranikhet. Udaipur a temple of Golu devta is 5 km. from Binta near Dwarahat. Dunagiri has the highly revered temple of Shakti or Mother Goddess. Dunagiri is known as the birthplace of modern-day Kriya Yoga. There is a notable temple in Almora district which is in the village of Chaura near Bhaisor Gaun, Someshwar. This temple is dedicated to Lord Golu who is considered as a lord of justice in Uttarakhand. This temple is about 40 km from Almora town. Another temple of Almora district is Airdau which is in Someshwar. Someshwar is a small town in the Almora district, which is very rich in agricultural ways. Pandu Kholi is another ancient temple in the Almora district. According to Hindu mythology, Pandavas spent some time here to escape from Duryodhana. The distance of this temple from Almora is about 80 km. Another very ancient and holy Shiva temple in Someshwar town is known as Khakeshwar Mahadev temple. It is in Bhaisor Gaun village, on the bank of a river.

**Bageshwar - The Land of Shiva**

The city of Bageshwar bedecked on the confluence of Saryu and Gomati rivers and is situated at an elevation of 1004 metres with numerous famous temples dedicated to Gods and Goddesses in the proximity of Bageshwar.

Bageshwar is a place of extreme religious and historic significance. The towering mountains of Bhileshwar and Nileshwar are dotted on the east and west side of Bageshwar, while the north and south are marked by the Suraj Kund and Agni Kund respectively.

The Pindari Glacier is determined in the higher reaches of the Kumaon Himalayas, to the southeast of Nanda Devi, Nanda Kot. The most without problems handy of all glaciers Pindari are over 3.2km in size & 1.5 km huge and offers upward thrust to the Pindari River which meets the Alakananda at Karnaprayag in the Garhwal district.

The nearby proudly refer to it as the soul of Kumaon. It is located in the spellbinding Kumaon Himalayas, Pindari glacier is the most on hand of all glacier treks and attracts novice as nicely as skilled trekkers. The path to attaining the glacier crosses the villages of Saung, Loharkhet, crosses over the Dhakuri Pass, continues onto Khati village (the remaining inhabited village on the trail), Dwali, Phurkia, and ultimately Zero Point, Pindar, the cease of the trail. Though most of the path is alongside the banks of the Pindari River, the river is typically hidden till after Khati.

Trekking in India is incomplete if you have now not trekked the Pindari glacier. It is located at an altitude of 3,500mts above sea degree in the Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand. The Pindari Glacier path presents for a ninety km (56 mi) round-trip trek that most humans locate blissful to the whole in six days. The Pindari Glacier is additionally well-known for different journey sports activities like ice mountaineering and mountain biking.

**Details of Tourism Potential in Bageshwar District Year No. of Tourists Revenue generated (Rs.in Lakh)****Employment**

2007 2008 (up to October)

57569 5.69

76000 N.A

5.55

1000

Source: Tourism Department, Bageshwar, Year-2008

Tourist inflow during the year 2007 was almost 76000 which generated revenue to the tune of about Rs. 5.55 lakhs. The tourism sector has been improving over the years which is evident from table 5.20 i.e. during the first 10 months of year 2008, the tourism sector has generated revenue of Rs. 5.69 lakhs. Till now, the State Government had laid emphasis on providing the necessary infrastructure in the State through the public sector. However, with the fast changing economic scenario, there is now a need to involve the private sector in development of tourism infrastructure and adopt the approach that will ensure best possible utilization of resources of the district and State in the long run. The Bageshwar District is endowed with huge number of temples. The ancient Baijnath temple, dedicated to lord Shiva is flooded with devotees on the occasion of Shivarati. This place has a cluster of temples. Prominent among these are Bhairav temple, Dattatreya Maharaj, Ganga Mai temple, Hanuman temple, Kalika temple, Thingal Bhairav temple, Panchnam Junakhara and the Vaneswar temple. Apart from these, the district has Chandika temple, Shri Haru temple, Gauri Udiyan, Nilesar Dham, Swarg Ashram, Jwaladev, Bhikshwar Dham, Suraj Khund, Golu, Venu and Mahadev temples which attract sizable number of tourists throughout the year.

**Excursions**

The district of Bageshwar has plenty of excursions spots. Few of them are as follows: Kanda This picturesque place is a treat for nature lovers and is located at 25 Km from the town on Bageshwar Ghaukori road at the height of 1500 mt-1900 mt. above sea level. Ancient Bhadrakali temple is situated near Kanda. Vijaypur It is situated at the distance 30 Km from the town and offers beautiful views of the snow covered Himalayan ranges. Bharari Kapkot This place is about 25 Km from Bageshwar. It is the first night halt for trekkers to the Pindari glacier. This place nestles among the mountains. Baijnath It is located on the Bageshwar- Almora- Gwaldam road on the banks of river Gomti at the distance of 26 Km from Bageshwar. Many temples with idols of Shiva and Parvati can be seen from here. Pandusthal According to the legends, Pandusthal was the battleground, where Kauravas and Pandavas had fought. There exists a natural ground half a Km in breadth. It is accessible by bus from Garud to Jakhera and from Jakhera it is 20 Km trek through the mountains. Kausani It is a holiday resort at the height of 1890 mt and is situated at 39 Kms from Bageshwar. It has scenic beauty in the lap of nature. Gandhiji stayed here in 1929 and the Ashram is built here in his memory.

**Trekking**

Bageshwar district has couple of trekking routes, as listed below: Pindari Glacier Pindari glacier is a trekker's paradise and is best known trekking route in Kumaon. It is situated between the snow capped Nanda Devi and Nandakot mountains. The river Pindari originates from glaciers of Nandakot (6860 mt), Chhanguch (6322 mt) and Nandaghunti (6310 mt). Kafni Glacier It is situated at an altitude of 3852 mts. near Pindari Glacier. Many breathtaking views of Himalayan ranges are visible during the trek. It is accessible from a side road of Pindari. Sunder Dunga Glacier It is located at an altitude of 3880 mts. The entire trek route is endowed with natural and picturesque views of many Himalayan ranges. Kailash Mansrovar Bageshwar is situated on the way to Kailash Mansrovar, which is a Hindu pilgrimage. Thousands of Hindu pilgrims pass through Bageshwar every year for seeking salvation at the lotus feet of Lord Shiva.

**Wild Life Sanctuaries**

Bageshwar, the 'Abode of Gods' is an important pilgrim and tourist centre. It is located about 90 kms from Almora on the confluence of the rivers Saryu and Gomti. The town is famous for ancient Bagnath Temple and the annual Uttaraini fair held in January. The beautiful town is also a delight for adventure sport lovers. The famous Pindari, Sunderdunga and Kafni glaciers can be reached via Bageshwar. Bageshwar gets its name from this ancient temple of Lord Shiva set in the heart of the town. According to mythological legends, sage Markandey lived here and Lord Shiva in the form of Bagh or tiger visited the place.

**Table 1:** Tourist Statistics from 2000 to 2002 of Major Tourist Destinations

Sl. No.	Name of Tourist Destination	Year 2000			Year 2001			Year 2002		
		Indian	Foreigner	Total	Indian	Foreigner	Total	Indian	Foreigner	Total
1	Dehradun	450391	9321	459712	442828	12667	455495	700518	9672	710190
2	Rishikesh	230857	6414	237271	224792	6536	231328	268882	4573	273455
3	Massoore	847191	3555	850746	888870	3068	891938	988481	2863	991344
4	Pauri	113982	276	114258	124979	160	125139	72800	29	72829
5	Srinagar	108634	109	108743	113603	237	113840	118590	166	118756
6	Kotdwar (Swaragasram, Chilla)	99283	34	99317	99102	13	99115	223840	8586	232426
7	Rudraprayag (without Kedarnath)	242370	570	242940	304062	963	305025	359642	376	360018
8	Kedarnath	300000	0	300000	191465	2163	193628	167520	1697	169217
9	Gopeshwar (Nandprayag, Mundoli, Tharali etc.)	277707	1420	279127	145444	529	145973	148842	558	149400
10	Joshimath (Govindghat, Ghanghariya)	406228	1143	407371	214581	1060	215641	337303	515	337818
11	Badrinath	695332	0	695332	430044	21	430065	448517	80	448597
12	Auli	8323	407	8730	6459	167	6626	14148	221	14369
13	Hemkunt Sahib	327550	0	327550	210980	0	210980	340578	0	340578
14	Velly of Flower	1089	12	1101	2349	132	2481	1500	15	1515
15	Tehri	388615	7321	395936	373755	6111	379866	533378	6570	539948
16	Uttarkashi (Harshil, Gangnani etc.)	263379	1178	264557	265308	731	266039	279284	660	279944
17	Gangotri	208407	0	208407	131311	188	131499	118221	153	118374
18	Yamunotri	88672	0	88672	54015	59	54074	53976	47	54023
19	Haridwar	5316980	7659	5324639	5502273	6276	5508549	5518270	6029	5524299
20	Almora	64989	3633	68622	67108	1664	68772	71709	2398	74107
21	Ranikhet	62487	842	63329	65747	663	66410	63941	510	64451
22	Kausani & Bageshwar	67480	722	68182	66577	733	67310	65176	761	65937
23	Pithoragarh	63929	504	64433	70805	444	71249	135412	914	136326
24	Champawat	33820	81	33901	33171	90	33261	35097	212	35309
25	Nainital	250947	7589	258536	356941	5793	362734	412440	4224	416664
26	Kathgodam	40642	266	40908	42899	251	43150	43813	256	44069
27	Corbett National Park	57877	3624	61501	57113	3775	60888	61712	3678	65390
28	Udham Singh Nagar	61673	86	61759	62203	207	62410	68428	211	68639
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11078814</b>	<b>56766</b>	<b>11135580</b>	<b>10548784</b>	<b>54701</b>	<b>10603485</b>	<b>11652018</b>	<b>55974</b>	<b>11707992</b>

**Table 2:** District wise details of registered units under Home Stay scheme March 2019

S.No.	Name of District	Category	Urban Area			Rural Area		
			No. of registered units	No. of Seats	No. of Beds	No. of registered units	No. of Seats	No. of Beds
1	Nainital	Gold	23	81	154	70	254	492
		Silver	16	55	106	31	92	176
		Bronze	0	0	0	9	20	40
		<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>708</b>
2	Uttarkashi	Gold	0	0	0	1	6	12
		Silver	2	7	14	21	93	186
		Bronze	4	15	30	32	117	234
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>432</b>
3	Bageshwar	Gold	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Silver	1	5	10	3	15	30
		Bronze	0	0	0	25	88	150
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>180</b>
4	Tehri Garhwal	Gold	0	0	0	21	92	196
		Silver	2	8	16	81	365	851
		Bronze	0	0	0	1	4	8
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>1055</b>
5	Pauri Garhwal	Gold	0	0	0	5	17	34
		Silver	0	0	0	8	22	44
		Bronze	0	0	0	8	30	60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>138</b>
6	Dehradun	Gold	42	212	461	6	25	50
		Silver	56	293	606	20	94	188
		Bronze	84	419	857	3	8	16
		<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>1924</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>254</b>
7	Haridwar	Gold	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Silver	7	33	66	1	3	6
		Bronze	5	26	52	0	0	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
8	Rudraprayag	Gold	0	0	0	6	27	44
		Silver	3	10	20	25	49	108
		Bronze	0	0	0	23	72	142
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>294</b>

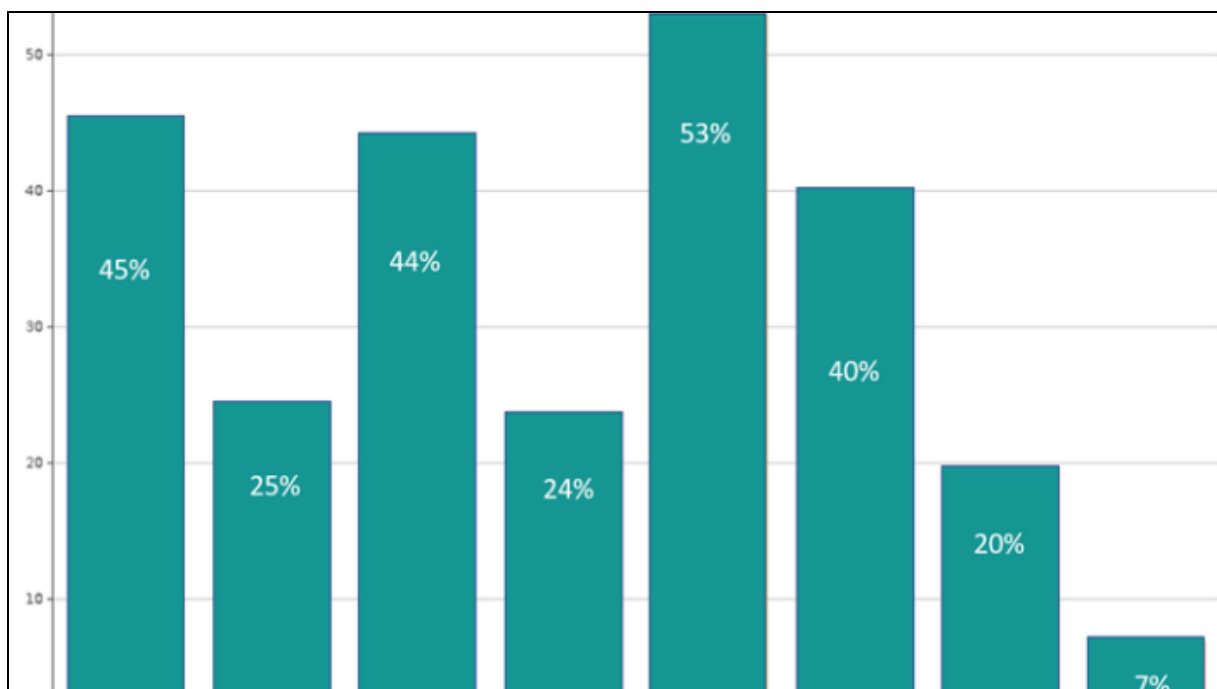
**Table 3:** Tourist Statistics Year 2021 of Major Tourist Destinations

Sl. No.	Name of Tourist Destination	Year 2021		
		Indian	Foreigner	Total
1	Dehradun	2866107	1675	2867782
2	Rishikesh	291230	1576	292806
3	Mussoorie	1229528	280	1229808
4	Pauri	7350	0	7350
5	Srinagar	209555	0	209555
6	Kotdwar (Swaragasram, Chilla)	108362	638	109000
7	Rudraprayag (without Kedarnath)	46479	36	46515
8	Kedarnath	242985	27	243012
9	Gopeshwar (Nandprayag, Mundoli, Tharali etc.)	10163	53	10216
10	Joshimath (Govindghat, Ghanghariya)	167369	12	167381
11	Badrinath	199406	3	199409
12	Auli	127487	1	127488
13	Hemkund Sahib	19909	0	19909
14	Valley of Flowers	10383	15	10398
15	Tehri	490512	2300	492812
16	Uttarkashi (Harshil, Gangnani etc.)	80593	140	80733
17	Gangotri	33771	0	33771
18	Yamunotri	33311	0	33311
19	Haridwar	12717825	616	12718441
20	Almora	38027	171	38198
21	Ranikhet	54265	0	54265
22	Kausani & Bageshwar	45807	8	45815
23	Pithoragarh	53433	73	53506
24	Champawat	15704	7	15711
25	Nainital	325626	633	326259
26	Kathgodam	107932	177	108109
27	Corbett National Park	287324	6813	294137
28	Udham Singh Nagar	182262	156	182418
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20002705</b>	<b>15410</b>	<b>20018115</b>

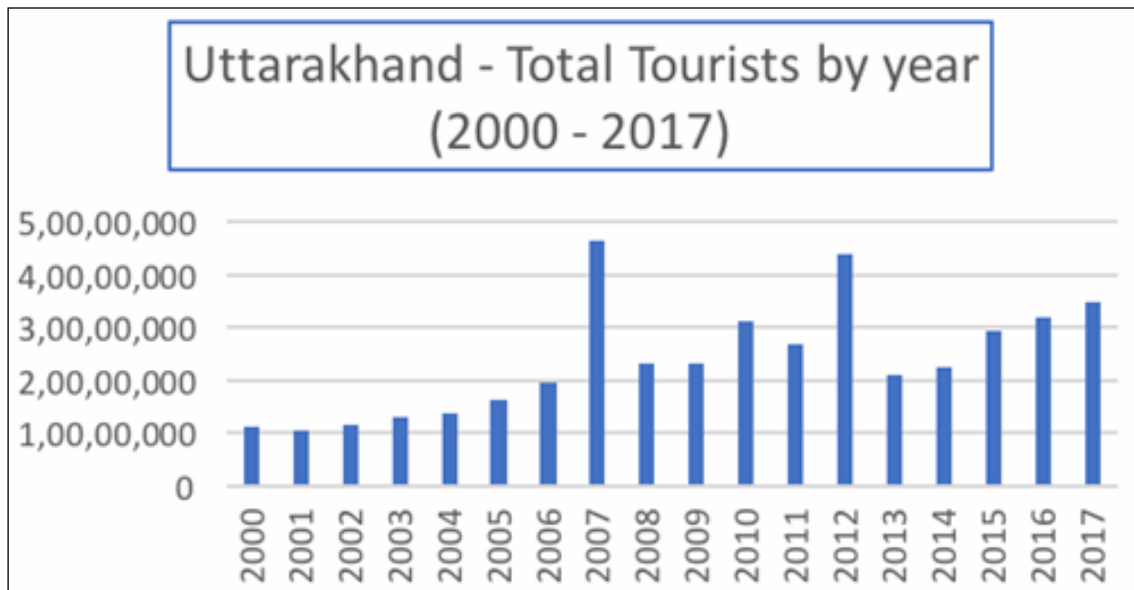
**The three major areas of tourism management are**

- Business administration (finance, human resources and marketing activities);
- Management theories and principles; Tourism industry (travel accommodation, environmental factors and tourism organizations)

Economic uncertainty' highlighted as biggest challenge facing the travel industry. 'Sustainable travel' and 'climate change' listed as second and third biggest challenges. Gaps in technological skills' identified as fourth biggest challenge facing industry.

**Fig 1**

A recent survey carried out by Travel Technology Europe has revealed ‘economic uncertainty’ as the biggest challenge currently facing the travel industry, with 53 per cent of those polled putting it at the top of the list. This was closely followed by issues surrounding ‘sustainable Travel’ and ‘climate change’, with 45 per cent and 44 percent of Respondents respectively, highlighting these as key challenges entering 2020.



**Fig 2:** The graph displays total number of tourists (domestic and international) to visit Uttarakhand from 2000-2017.

### Climate Change and Tourism

Most of the tourist attractions in Uttarakhand are linked to the natural environment such as mountains, rivers and forests. Climate change can potentially alter snow conditions, biodiversity, water levels etc. impacting tourist interest and flow. According to Uttarakhand’s state climate plan, tourism is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Climate trends in the state point to hotter temperatures, increased likelihood of floods and landslides, and increased water stress. Hotter temperatures can affect the length and quality of tourism; flood and landslides can impact state infrastructure (roads, hotels, bridges, hospitals, etc.) and services, and also endanger the lives of locals and tourists.

### Extreme Weather Events

Uttarakhand’s unique geography and topography make it particularly vulnerable to disasters. The State is prone to earthquakes, landslides, cloudbursts, flash-floods, avalanches, as well as droughts. The flash floods in 2013 in the state resulted in a 30% dip in tourism. Incessant rains, flooding and landslides in the Alaknanda, Mandakini and Bhagirathi river valleys in 2013 caused over 6000 deaths primarily among tourists visiting the religious site of Kedarnath and resulted in significant losses in infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and buildings etc.

### Methodology

The data is gathered in this research is through the secondary source of data in which different articles, books and website. Different interviews of leaders in which they are talking and reviewing about the progress in tourism development in Uttarakhand especially in Almora & Bageshwer District.

### Conclusion

In Uttarakhand future or tourism industry is very fast-growing industry, few of the points where we can work, like Home stay tourism is fast growing part or tourism, and the second one spiritual yoga, many foreigner came to India for particular kind of yoga. If government of Uttarakhand gives proper support of and little bit advertisement for that kind of tourism which we can support fast growing product for Uttarakhand tourism. Last but not least there are so many options for growing the industry of tourism by the help of Uttarakhand govt. and people of Uttarakhand.

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