

Castleton Case Study

Castleton is a honeypot site in the Peak District National Park. A honeypot site is an attractive place which is very popular to tourists. National Parks have been defined as areas of national beauty that has to be preserved and enhanced for the public's enjoyment of the scenery. The Peak District is surrounded by three big cities, Sheffield, Leeds and Manchester. We went there to find out if tourism is a benefit to the people of Castleton.

Castleton has lots of scenery surrounding it and also the caverns. A lot of people go there to go to the Blue John caverns. This means that they stop in Castleton on the way through for some dinner or to have a walk round and look at the scenery. Because the location is in some of the most stunning scenery in the country people come from all over. We did a survey when we were there and there were people from as far away as London.

Tourism has lots of advantages to the people of Castleton. Because of the tourism they can have souvenir shops and jewellers. While we were there we saw 5 different gift shops, a hotel, a car park and a cafe. These are all tourist services and you wouldn't really find them in other villages. They also had a petrol station, 2 local shops, craft shop and 2 pubs. I considered these as mixed services because local people would use them as well as tourists. The locals also had services such as Church, Garage, School, Post office and an off licence. These are services that tourists wouldn't really come to use.

Other advantages would be to the council. They can charge money for use of things like car parks which because of the amount of tourists would be a massive income each year. The shops of which some used to be houses but have been converted on the down stairs to gift shops and most of them sell Blue John.

However with the advantages comes disadvantages. The amount of tourism has a massive effect on the environment. This was noticeable as you could see pathways cut up the middle of hills and crunched rocks where tourists had walked. Also when interviewing

some of the local people all of them said that litter was a big problem in Castleton. However while we were there i didn't remember seeing many litter bins.

I also considered pavement conjection to be a problem so at 8 different points in Castleton i stood for 2 minutes and counted how many people wlked past. This wasn't very succesful as we went on a weekday and its wasn't very busy but in some places even on a weekday we recorded up to 15 people. In the places I stood I also recorded the attractiveness, maintanence of buildings and things like beches and unsightly objects like car parks. This again may have been affected but the litter seemed to be one of the biggest problems.

There was only unsightly objects near point two where there was the carpark and the Castleton main road which was quite noisy. I could imagine it wouls be very loud on a weekday.