

# Factors Affecting Tourist Satisfaction with Traditional Craft Tea Villages in Thai Nguyen Province

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## **Abstract**

*Data collected from a survey of 215 visitors in 3 traditional craft tea villages in Thai Nguyen province were analyzed by using multivariate data analysis (test for the reliability of the scales, exploratory factor analysis and multivariate regression analysis) to determine the factors that affect tourist satisfaction with the villages as tourism destinations. The results showed that natural characteristics, infrastructure, service quality, government support, and emotional values are major factors that influence tourist satisfaction. Based on that, the study proposed some solutions for the local government, tourism enterprises and the local communities to improve tourist satisfaction and develop traditional craft tea village tourism in Thai Nguyen province towards a sustainable manner.*

**Keywords:** Affecting factors, Thai Nguyen province, traditional craft tea villages, tourist satisfaction;

**JEL code:** C38P.

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## 1. Introduction

Tourism is one of the world's fastest-growing sectors. In 2017, travel and tourism sector were predicted to add nearly USD7.9 trillion to the global economy, or 10.2 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP) (World Travel and Tourism Council, 2017). In Vietnam, in 2017, the direct contribution of tourism to GDP was estimated to be 6.8%. Direct, indirect and spillover effects of tourism, in total, was estimated to be 14% of GDP (Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam, 2017). Tourism development can help to develop many other sectors in the economy such as transportation, construction, traditional crafts, food and beverage production, etc. and help to conserve natural and cultural heritages and resources, create job opportunities and improve the living standard of people at tourism destinations.

Among many tourism categories, a general consensus has emerged on the role and potential of community-based tourism and craft village tourism in the national as well as provincial tourism development strategies. Community-based tourism at craft villages has been considered a sustainable approach for tourism in which local communities are directly involved in tourism activities.

Thai Nguyen is a province in the Northern Midlands and Mountainous Region of Vietnam. The province is not only well known for its famous tourist spots such as Nui Coc Lake, Phuong Hoang Cave, Dinh Hoa Safety Resistance Zone but also known as the "Tea Capital" of Vietnam with its distinguished tea product quality, attractive, beautiful green tea hills and valleys and many unique cultural features of the traditional craft tea villages. Thai Nguyen

en traditional craft tea villages are situated in charming landscape regions with kind and hospitable tea farmers. This is a good condition to attract tourists to the tea villages.

Recently, Thai Nguyen province has launched "Program on Developing Culture, Sports and Tourism, Period 2017-2020" which determines "promoting tourism to become a key economic sector of the province" (Thai Nguyen Provincial People's Committee, 2017). Based on the exploitation of available resources, Thai Nguyen has developed unique types of tourism in the province, developed eco-tourism and back-to-the-origin tours associated with traditional craft tea villages as special destinations including: i) The Museum of Ethnic Culture of Vietnam - Tan Cuong Tea Cultural Space (visit Tan Cuong Traditional Craft Tea Village) - Nui Coc Lake (boat trip on Nui Coc Lake); ii) The Museum of Ethnic Culture of Vietnam - La Bang Tea Cultural Space (visit La Bang Traditional Craft Tea Village) - Nui Coc Lake (boat trip on Nui Coc Lake) - Tan Cuong Traditional Craft Tea Village and some other traditional craft tea villages. Therefore, tourism in Thai Nguyen province has brought about remarkable economic and social benefits. To be more successful, the village communities, the tourism enterprises, and the local government organizations must know to what extent the visitors are satisfied with the traditional craft tea villages as tourism destinations, and what are the factors influencing their satisfaction. By knowing the factors that create tourist satisfaction, they could make appropriate adjustments in their tourism development policies and management, provide powerful marketing programs and investment to enhance the com-

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petitiveness of the tourism destinations.

Tourist satisfaction is a major key to the success of the tourism industry because it can create both revenue and profit (Dmitrovic et al., 2009). Unfortunately, only a few academic studies have focused directly on satisfaction among tourists since these studies have faced several difficulties on conceptual and practical grounds (Zabkar et al., 2010; Sadeh et al., 2012; Aliman et al., 2016). There are a more limited number of studies that have focused on tourist satisfaction with tourism destinations in Vietnam. Especially, there has been no research so far to study visitors' satisfaction with the traditional craft tea villages as tourism destinations, to explore factors affecting the satisfaction, and draw out suggestions for the local communities and concerned organizations to further develop the community-based tourism in the traditional craft tea villages. Hence, a study of the factors affecting the satisfaction of the visitors with the villages is really an urgent need.

## **2. Theoretical background**

### **2.1. Customer satisfaction**

Consumer satisfaction can be defined as the individual's perception of the performance of a product or service in relation to his/her expectation. A consumer whose perceptions match/exceed or fall below his/her expectations will be satisfied/very satisfied or dissatisfied respectively (Khatib & Al-Ali, 2011). Hence, satisfaction of a customer can be measured based on the difference level between expected value and the perceived value of a product/service that the customer consumes at a certain price.

### **2.2. Tourist satisfaction with tourist destinations**

Ugurlu (2010) simply defined "Tourism is a collection of activities, services and industries which deliver a travel experience comprising transportation, accommodation, eating and drinking establishments, retail shops, entertainment businesses and other hospitality services provided for individuals or groups traveling away from home".

*Tourist satisfaction* is the extent of tourist fulfillment pleasure that results from the trip experience about a product or service feature that fulfills the tourist's desires, expectation and wants in association with the trip. Satisfaction is created for the tourist by the comparison of his/her expectations before travel and his/her perceptions or experiences after travel (Severt et al., 2007).

Some studies have focused on the topic of tourist expectations of a travel destination in relation to the tourist's choice of the destination. These studies assumed that the tourist does not have enough personal experience relating to a tourism destination, therefore he/she makes the decision to visit the site based upon his/her image of this destination rather than its reality (Chon, 1990). The extent to which the tourist is satisfied with the destination depends on how far the tourist's expectation (or expected value before the travel) differs from his/her real experience when and after the visit to the destination (the perceived value of the tourism destination).

Previous studies have posed arguments but there is no complete universal cause-and-effect model found specifically for measuring tourist satisfaction with tourism destination (Aliman et al., 2016).

Meng et al. (2011), used the two variables

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including image and perceived value of the destination, to predict tourist satisfaction.

According to the American Customer Index (ACSI) model, there are three antecedents of the satisfaction of the visitors: customer expectation, perceived quality and perceived value. In the last decade, the model has been widely used in different regions (Aliman et al., 2016). Um et al. (2006) when studying Hong Kong tourism applied this model to investigate the impact of customer expectation, perceived quality and perceived value on tourism satisfaction. Wang et al. (2009) when studying antecedents of tourist satisfaction in Guilin (China) revealed that destination image, perceived quality and perceived value are predictors of tourist satisfaction. Dmitrovic et al. (2009) when conceptualizing tourist satisfaction, introduced five antecedents of customer satisfaction: image, quality, value, and costs and risks.

Adinegara et al. (2017) when reviewing the literature, came up with the conclusion that “there is still a debate on the factors that determine satisfaction in tourism. There are many factors that create satisfaction but in general factors of image, perceived quality and perceived value are ones that are most widely used in the effort to create tourists’ satisfaction”.

Inheriting results from the previous studies, this paper focuses on testing whether or not factors including image, perceived quality and perceived value could be major antecedents of tourists’ satisfaction with the traditional craft tea villages in Thai Nguyen province as tourism destinations with some necessary modification.

There are some studies that discuss these antecedents. Nguyen & Leblanc (2001) noted that

*image* is an impression of companies (in our case, of a tourist destination) that has been embedded in the minds of consumers from their advertising and public relations, from word of mouth, and through the consumer’s experience when consuming goods and services offered. Mossberg & Kleppe (2005) emphasized that building an image of a tourist destination is important since it can serve as a patronage in different geographical units, tourist attractions, and various providers of tourism infrastructure. It implies that *natural characteristics* and *infrastructure* could be the two important aspects of the image of a tourist destination.

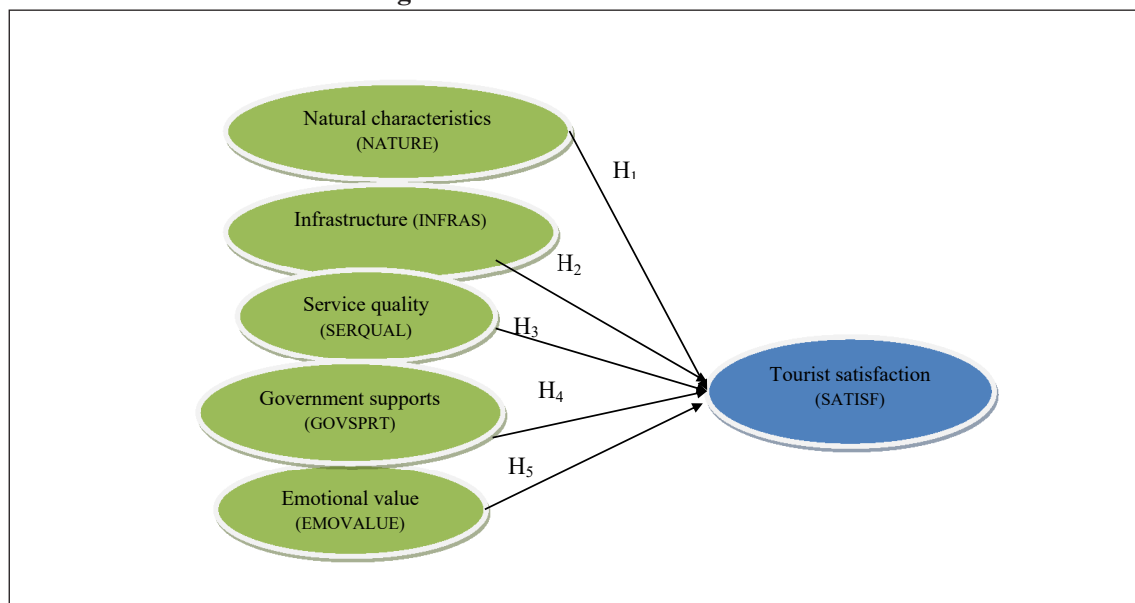
Chen & Tsai (2007) and Aliman et al. (2016) defined *perceived quality* as the visitor’s assessment of the standard of the service delivery process in association with the trip experience. In Thai Nguyen province, beside services provided by travel companies, on-site enterprises, and local communities, the local government also provides some services (supports) to the tourism destination including public administration services, local regulations and public security and order. Hence, the perceived quality factor in this case could be studied in the form of two separate elements that are *service quality* (for services provided by organizations, individuals) and *government supports*.

*Perceived value*, according to Woodruff (1997), is the customer’s preference, perception and appreciation of a product/service characteristics, performance, and results (or consequences) from using the product/service. De Ruyter et al. (1997) introduced a comprehensive value-based approach, in which monetary value is incorporated with *emotional value*. According to them, perceived value for the cus-

**Table 1: Factors affecting tourist satisfaction and their observable variables**

Factor	Definition	Observable Variables	Sources
1. Tourist satisfaction (SATISF)	Is an emotional response appears when evaluating the difference between expectations and perceptions of service performance and actual perceptions obtained through physical interaction with products and services businesses (Kotler et al., 2003)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Satisfaction with the destination (SATISF1);</li> <li>- Satisfaction with the services provided by the tourist destination (SATISF2);</li> <li>- Satisfaction with reasonable prices of all the services (SATISF3).</li> </ul>	Aliman et al. (2016). Meng et al. (2011). Severt et al. (2007). Kotler et al. (2003)
2. Natural characteristics (NATURE)	The unique attributes of each tourist destination including scenery, environment and climate (Mossberg & Kleppe, 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Landscape beauty (NATURE 1)</li> <li>- Environment (NATURE 2)</li> <li>- Climate (NATURE 3)</li> <li>- Geographical Location (NATURE4)</li> <li>- Topography of the site (NATURE5)</li> <li>- Flora, fauna and other natural resources at the site (NATURE6)</li> </ul>	Lin et al. (2007). Martin & Bosque (2008), Nguyen & Leblanc (2001). Mossberg & Kleppe (2005)
3. Infrastructure (INFRAS)	The system of roads means of transport, the convenience of transportation, facilities at the destination that meet the requirements of travel, accommodation and recreation of the visitors. (Mossberg & Kleppe, 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Road system to the destination and at the tourist sites (INFRAS1)</li> <li>- Means of transport to the destination and at the tourist sites (INFRAS2)</li> <li>- Hotel facilities (INFRAS3)</li> <li>- Internet &amp; Communication Network. (INFRAS4)</li> <li>- Creational Facilities (INFRAS5)</li> </ul>	Lin et al. (2007), Kien et al. (2014), Nguyen & Leblanc (2001). Mossberg & Kleppe (2005).
4. Service quality (SERQUAL)	The difference between customer expectations of the service to be received and perceptions of the actual service received. (Aliman et al., 2016).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lodging services (SERQUAL1)</li> <li>- Food and beverage services (SERQUAL2)</li> <li>- Helpful and quick services (SERQUAL3)</li> <li>- Service quality in line with prices (SERQUAL4)</li> <li>- Good Organization provided by the tourist institutions and the local people (SERQUAL5).</li> </ul>	Lin et al. (2007). Kien et al. (2014), De Ruyter et al. (1997). Aliman et al. (2016).
5. Government support (GOVSUPRT)	The favorable public administration, local regulations, public security and order to facilitate visitors at tourist sites (Aliman et al., 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Favorable Public administrative Procedure (GOVTSPT1)</li> <li>- Supportive local legal regulation (GOVTSPT2)</li> <li>- Sufficient provision of local information (GOVSPT 3)</li> <li>- Good local security and order support (GOVSPT4)</li> </ul>	Kien et al. (2014). Chen & Tsai (2007). Aliman et al. (2016).
6. Emotional value (EMOVALUE)	The feelings of security, enjoyment, exploration desire, excitement, or romantic feeling when staying and traveling at the destination (Williams et al., 2009).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feeling of safety (EMOVALUE1);</li> <li>- Feeling of excitement (EMOVALUE2);</li> <li>- Desire to explore (EMOVALUE3);</li> <li>- Stimulation for tourists (EMOVALUE4)</li> <li>- Romantic feeling at the tourist site (EMOVALUE5).</li> </ul>	Williams et al. (2009). Woodruff (1997). De Ruyter et al. (1997)

**Figure 1: Theoretical framework**



tomers could be measured by emotional value, practical value and logical value. Emotional value presents the consumer's assessment of the feelings associated with services (happy or unhappy) while the practical value presents the reality aspect of the service and the logical value represents the relationships between service quality and their prices. Out of the three categories of value, emotional value can be considered the center.

Hence, in this research, factors affecting tourist satisfaction with the traditional craft tea villages are assumed to include: (1) natural characteristics, (2) infrastructure, (3) service quality, (4) government supports, and (5) emotional value.

Each factor could be measured by using their observable variables listed in Table 1.

**Hypotheses:**

Hypothesis 1: Natural characteristics affect

tourist satisfaction positively;

Hypothesis 2: Tourism infrastructure affects tourist satisfaction positively;

Hypothesis 3: Service quality affects tourist satisfaction positively;

Hypothesis 4: Governmental supports affect tourist satisfaction positively;

Hypothesis 5: Emotional value affects tourist satisfaction positively.

**3. Research methods**

**3.1. Study sites**

Currently, the traditional craft tea village tourism is being implemented in some typical communes in three special tea regions of the province such as Tan Cuong and Phuc Xuan communes (in the special tea area of the city Thai Nguyen); Song Cau township, Vo Tranh commune and Tuc Tranh commune (belonging to tea area of Dong Hy district and PhuLuong

district); La Bang and Hung Son townships (belonging to the specialty tea area of Dai Tu district). Three traditional craft tea villages were selected for the study including the traditional craft tea village of Hong Thai 2 (Tan Cuong commune, Thai Nguyen city), the traditional craft tea village of Hamlet 5, Song Cau township (Dong Hy district), La Bang traditional craft tea village (La Bang commune, Dai Tu district).

### 3.2. Data survey

*Surveyed subject:* Domestic and international tourists traveling in 3 selected villages (Hong Thai 2, Hamlet 5, La Bang) were randomly selected.

*Sample size:* There were 300 questionnaires distributed to the visitors who were visiting the three traditional craft tea villages (100 questionnaires in each village). After checking

them, 215 questionnaires were found valid and have been used for processing. According to Hair, et al. (2006), for the use of the Exploratory Factor Analysis method, the observable/measurable variables ratio should be at least 5/1. In this study, the number of observable variables is 26; hence, the minimum required sample size is 130. The 215 samples used for the study are much more than the requirement and that definitely ensures a high reliability.

*Questionnaire:* The content of the questions in the questionnaire aimed to gather visitors' opinions about their characteristics and their opinions on the observable variables. Their answers were coded by the Likert scale of 5 points (1: Strongly disagreed, 2: Disagreed, 3: Neutral, 4: Agreed and 5: Strongly Agreed). The questionnaire was translated from Vietnamese into English for use by international visitors.

*Survey time:* The survey was conducted

**Table 2: Characteristics of surveyed visitors**

Criteria		Number (people)	Proportion (%)
Gender	Male	91	42.33
	Female	124	57.67
Nationality	Vietnamese	187	86.98
	International	28	13.02
Age (years old)	<25	105	48.84
	25-35	45	20.93
	36-50	38	17.67
	>50	27	12.56
Monthly Income (VND million)	<9	185	86.05
	9-18	15	6.98
	19-27	11	5.12
	>27	4	1.86
Education attainment	Post-graduate	29	13.49
	University/college	126	58.60
	High School	39	18.14
	Secondary school and bellow	21	9.77
Total		215	100



during April and May 2018.

### 3.3. Data analysis methods

The analysis of the factors affecting the satisfaction of visitors in traditional craft tea villages in Thai Nguyen province has been conducted in three steps:

#### 3.3.1. Test for the reliability of the scales (factors)

Checking the quality of the observable variable: If an observable variable has Corrected Item-Total Correlation  $\geq 0.3$ , this observable

variable ensures a good quality (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1994);

Checking the quality of the scales (each factor): If the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient of each scale is  $\geq 0.6$ , the scale has acceptable quality for reliability (Hair et al., 2006).

#### 3.3.2. Explanatory factor analysis (EFA)

Checking EFA method conformity: if:  $0.5 < KMO < 1$ , EFA is considered to fit the actual data set;

Verifying that the observable variables are

**Table 3: Cronbach's alpha and corrected item-total correlations**

	Scale Mean if Item Deleted	Scale Variance if Item Deleted	Corrected Item-Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted
<i>Natural characteristics</i> <i>Cronbach's Alpha = 0,918</i>				
NATURE1	16.90	8.102	.673	.919
NATURE2	16.65	9.033	.591	.925
NATURE3	16.72	8.454	.650	.919
NATURE4	16.56	7.715	.893	.884
NATURE5	16.61	8.079	.953	.880
NATURE6	16.59	7.917	.903	.884
<i>Infrastructure</i> <i>Cronbach's Alpha = 0,902</i>				
INFRAS1	12.63	12.683	.865	.857
INFRAS2	12.60	12.764	.789	.872
INFRAS3	12.60	12.840	.843	.862
INFRAS4	12.62	13.227	.780	.875
INFRAS5	12.92	13.550	.550	.930
<i>Tourism perceived quality</i> <i>Cronbach's Alpha = 0,728</i>				
SERQUAL 1	16.16	4.237	.331	.735
SERQUAL 2	16.08	3.432	.532	.664
SERQUAL 3	16.01	3.500	.507	.674
SERQUAL 4	15.96	3.335	.542	.660
SERQUAL 5	16.00	3.883	.553	.665
<i>Government support</i> <i>Cronbach's Alpha = 0,850</i>				
GOVSPRT1	9.44	4.901	.630	.834
GOVSPRT2	9.56	4.276	.756	.779
GOVSPRT3	9.28	4.821	.705	.803
GOVSPRT4	9.10	4.896	.671	.817
<i>Emotional value</i> <i>Cronbach's Alpha = 0,836</i>				
EMOVALUE1	16.22	14.679	.732	.783
EMOVALUE2	16.36	15.017	.667	.797
EMOVALUE3	16.50	14.419	.724	.784
EMOVALUE4	16.22	15.941	.530	.826
EMOVALUE5	16.69	18.103	.459	.836
EMOVALUE6	16.37	16.506	.554	.820



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**Table 4: KMO and Bartlett's Test**

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Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy		.809
	Approx. Chi-Square	3529.749
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Df	325
	Sig.	.000

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correlated in a scale: if Bartlett's Test is statistically significant ( $\text{Sig.} \leq 0.05$ ), observable variables are correlated with one another in a scale;

Checking the explanation possibility of observable variables: if Total Variance Explained  $\geq 50\%$ , at least 50% of a change in the representative factors explained by the observable variables (Hair et al., 2006);

Checking the summary capacity of a factor: if the Eigenvalue (representing the variance explained by each factor)  $> 1$ , it is the factor that generates the best summary of the information from its observable variables.

### 3.3.3. Regression analysis

To test for the suitability of the regression model, F-test is employed: regression function is statistically significant at 0.05 if F – statistic has  $\text{Sig.} \leq 0.05$ ;

To test for the statistical significance of each unstandardized regression coefficient, T-test is employed: if the t-statistic has  $\text{Sig.} \leq 0.05$ , the effect of the independent variable on the dependent variable is statistically significant at 0.05.

## 4. Research results

### 4.1. Test for the reliability of the scales (factors)

As seen in Table 3, all the Corrected Item-Total Correlation coefficients of the observable variables are  $> 0.3$ , so 26 observable variables

are of good quality. On the other hand, all the factors (scales) have Cronbach's Alpha  $> 0.6$ , so all factors meet the quality requirements or reliability requirements for inclusion in the EFA analysis.

### 4.2. Exploratory factor analysis

#### 4.2.1. Test for the conformity of EFA

As shown in Table 4, since KMO is  $0.809 > 0.5$ , the EFA is appropriate with the data set. Bartlett's test has  $\text{df} = 253$  with statistical significance level  $= 0.000 < 0.05$ , so the observable variables have a linear correlation to the representative factors. Therefore, data is appropriate for EFA.

#### 4.2.2. Test for the explanation degree of observable variables to the variation of the factors

As seen in Table 5, the cumulative variance value is  $69,21\%$  in the Cumulative columns. This means that  $69,21\%$  of the change in these six factors is explained by their observable variables. The eigenvalues of every factor is  $> 1$  confirming that these factors are very good summaries of their observable variables.

#### Results of EFA

In Table 6, the observable variables have a Factor Loading  $\geq 0.557 > 0.5$  showing that the correlation coefficient between each observable variable and each representative factor is

**Table 5: Total variance explained**

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	5.03	19.35	19.35	5.03	19.35	19.35	4.47	17.20	17.20
2	4.00	15.38	34.72	4.00	15.38	34.72	3.72	14.30	31.50
3	3.68	14.17	48.89	3.68	14.17	48.89	3.39	13.04	44.54
4	2.66	10.23	59.12	2.66	10.23	59.12	2.87	11.02	55.56
5	1.60	6.16	65.28	1.60	6.16	65.28	2.43	9.33	64.89
6	1.02	3.93	69.21	1.02	3.93	69.21	1.12	4.32	69.21
7	.84	3.23	72.44						
8	.84	3.18	75.62						
9	.73	2.82	78.44						
10	.62	2.37	80.81						
11	.58	2.24	83.05						
12	.54	2.07	85.12						
13	.51	1.94	87.05						
14	.46	1.79	88.84						
15	.40	1.55	90.39						
16	.390	1.48	91.87						
17	.34	1.32	93.19						
18	.330	1.26	94.46						
19	.31	1.19	95.65						
20	.27	1.04	96.69						
21	.24	.930	97.62						
22	.220	.84	98.46						
23	.160	.61	99.07						
24	.14	.550	99.62						
25	.05	.21	99.83						
26	.050	.18	100.00						

relatively close to tight. Thus, the five factors representing the observable variables are the independent variables that affect tourist satisfaction (dependent variable).

The results of factor analysis for tourist satisfaction show that: Factor loadings of all observable variables  $\geq 0.797 > 0.5$  imply that the correlation coefficient between each observable variable and its representative factors (tourist satisfaction) is at a tight level. Thus, the factor of tourist satisfaction, that represents the

observable variables, is a good dependent variable.

#### **4.3. Regression analysis**

The dependent variable is “Tourist satisfaction” (SATISF); 05 independent variables include: “Natural Characteristics” (NATURE); “Infrastructure” (INFRAS); “Service quality” (SERQUAL); “Government Support” (GOVSPRT); and “Emotional Value” (EMOVALUE).

Running regression gives the results present-

**Table 6: Rotated component matrix for the independent factors**

	Component				
	1	2	3	4	5
NATURE1	.757				
NATURE2	.695				
NATURE3	.749				
NATURE4	.933				
NATURE5	.967				
NATURE6	.937				
INFRAS1		.917			
INFRAS2		.876			
INFRAS3		.911			
INFRAS4		.892			
INFRAS5		.617			
EMOVALUE1			.813		
EMOVALUE2			.808		
EMOVALUE3			.829		
EMOVALUE4			.636		
EMOVALUE5			.557		
EMOVALUE6			.667		
GOVSPRT1				.760	
GOVSPRT2				.857	
GOVSPRT3				.841	
GOVSPRT4				.800	
SERQUAL1					.652
SERQUAL2					.784
SERQUAL3					.686
SERQUAL4					.745
SERQUAL5					.702

ed in Tables 8, 9, and 10.

In Table 9,  $F = 87.48$  with  $\text{Sig.} = 0.000$ , the regression model is statistically significant at 0.000.

Tests for multi-collinearity, autocorrelation,

and heteroscedasticity were satisfied, indicating that the regression model does not violate the OLS assumptions.

Table 10 shows that all unstandardized regression coefficients of the five independent variables have  $\text{Sig.} = 0.00 < 0.05$  which implies

**Table 7: Rotated component matrix for the dependent factor (tourist satisfaction)**

Observable Variable	Factor Loading
SATISF1	.847
SATISF2	.856
SATISF3	.797

**Table 8: Regression model summary**

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.823	.677	.669	.57538285

that the five variables included in the model are statistically significant in relation to the dependent variable. As seen in Table 7, the Adjusted R-square is 0.669. This means that the model explains 66.9% the variation in tourist satisfaction with five statistically significant

independent variables, namely, infrastructure (INFRAS); natural characteristics (NATURE); emotional value (EMOVALUE); and government support (GOVSPRT). Using unstandardized regression coefficients (B), the following regression equation is obtained:

**Table 9: ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	144.807	5	28.961	87.480	.000
Residual	69.193	209	.331		
Total	214.000	214			

$$ATISF = 0.03 + 0.094SERQUAL + 0.120INFRAS + 0.297NATURE + 0.750EMOVALUE + 0.26GOVSPRT$$

All the unstandardized regression coefficients are positive, so these independent variables are all positively correlated with the dependent variable. This means that all the hypotheses are satisfied. The magnitude of each unstandardized regression coefficient shows the specific effect of the respective independent factor on the change in tourist satisfaction. For instance, when emotional value increases by one point, tourist satisfaction will increase by 0.750 points.

Besides, the standardized coefficients (Beta) show that factors affecting the satisfaction of tourists in the traditional craft tea villages of Thai Nguyen province by the degree of im-

pact from stronger to weaker are: emotional value, natural characteristics, infrastructure, service quality, and government supports. In particular, the factor of emotional value has the strongest impact on the satisfaction of visitors to the traditional craft tea villages of Thai Nguyen province. This can be explained in that tourist satisfaction depends on the interests of tourists the most: enjoying the experience, a desire to explore, enjoying the romantic scenery, and so on. Meanwhile, most tourists coming to traditional craft tea villages are self-organized tourists; and there are no tourism management agencies for traditional craft tea villages. Thus, the role of local government support has not been appreciated and has not had much effect on tourist satisfaction.

## 5. Conclusion and recommendations

**Table 10: Regression coefficients**

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
Constant	0.003	0.040		0.094	0.000		
SERQUAL	0.094	0.039	0.094	0.120	0.018	10.000	10.000
INFRAS	0.120	0.039	0.120	0.297	0.003	0.999	10.001
NATURE	0.297	0.039	0.297	0.750	0.000	0.999	10.001
EMOVALUE	0.750	0.039	0.750	0.025	0.000	0.996	10.004
GOVSPRT	0.026	0.040	0.025	0.094	0.020	0.993	10.007

### 5.1. Conclusion

There are 05 factors that affect the satisfaction of tourists in the traditional tea villages in Thai Nguyen province, ranked by the impact level as follows: emotional value; natural features; the infrastructure; service quality and government support.

### 5.2. Recommendations

To develop tourism in traditional craft tea villages, the following recommendations have been proposed:

#### 5.2.1. For the local governments

Firstly, the Provincial People's Committee should have a policy of close coordination between the relevant departments and agencies in organizing the development of tourism villages. Specifically, coordination between the Association of Craft Villages with the Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism with the authorities of districts, communes and the traditional craft tea villages, from which the policies of the province are implemented synchronously and effectively.

Secondly, the attractiveness of the destination and the accessibility to the villages should be further improved through the enhancement

of information and communication services, and signs to craft villages should be erected.

Thirdly, it is necessary to build a local tourism trademark based on the perception of visitors to the traditional craft tea village.

Fourthly, in order to develop the tourism of traditional craft tea villages, to promote the cultural values of craft villages, local authorities should attract investment capital sources for tea village tourism for construction of transportation systems and to propagate and encourage everyone, every family and every organization to preserve the landscape and environment in the traditional craft tea villages.

Fifthly, the Provincial People's Committee should have policies to train human resources for tourist activities in traditional craft tea villages on foreign language skills, tourism marketing skills and hotel and restaurant services.

#### 5.2.2. For tourism enterprises

Firstly, tourism enterprises need to organize tours with destinations such as tea villages and Tea Cultural Spaces.

Secondly, tourism enterprises need to focus on improving their perceived quality by improving the level of tour guides to the tra-

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ditional craft tea villages to guide visitors to enjoy the beauty of the tea area, cultural tea space, the cultural beauty in tea production, processing and preservation and the beauty in the art of tea drinking to affect the emotions of visitors.

Thirdly, to upgrade the perceived quality of tourism for tourists: passenger transportation facilities, living facilities during moving in and out and during staying in the traditional craft tea villages.

### 5.2.3. For the local communities in the traditional craft tea villages

Firstly, a Tourism Management Board should be set up in each traditional craft tea village where it has not already been established.

The Board will act as the host to coordinate the cooperation of all related stakeholders.

Secondly, it is necessary to raise the awareness of people in traditional craft tea villages about the role of tourism in the socio-economic development of the locality in general and of the tea households in particular. From there, change the perception and thinking of the people to promote the tradition of hospitality and friendliness between the local people and the tourists.

Thirdly, raising awareness of the traditional craft tea villagers about the environmental sanitation of the village to ensure a clean environment is also needed to meet the demand for food, travel and the experience of the visitors.

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