

Visualization and analysis of the tourist space in Japanese and English guide-books to Tokyo

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Geographers have made a variety of studies using guidebooks to clarify the meaning and distribution of tourism sites in cities. Nevertheless, few studies quantitatively examined the spatial distribution of tourism sites in detail. In addition, little is known about the difference of attractions between cultural backgrounds of the tourists. Hence, this study made a spatial analysis of tourist attractions described in guidebooks written for Japanese and English-speaking readers using GIS. Applying kernel density estimation and raster operation method with GIS, this study clarified that tourism attractions in the guidebooks are different between Japanese and Anglophone countries. English guidebooks recommend readers to visit not only cultural sites (e.g., historic places, museums, and theatres) but also sites for nightlife (e.g., bars and taverns). In contrast, Japanese guidebooks showed less interest in these types of attractions, and tended to focus more on shopping and eating sweet. Spatial distribution of the tourism attractions also indicated some differences between Japanese and Anglophone guidebooks. Specifically, spatial extent of tourism attractions in English guidebooks was smaller than that of Japanese guidebooks, being located close to the railway stations along Yamanote Line. English guidebooks are also characterized by the tourism sites for nightlife, accumulating to Roppongi district. Thus, attractions listed in the guidebook are regarded as a reflection of interests and behavior patterns of tourists.