

# The Evolving Relationship Between Food and Tourism: A Case Study of Devon through the Twentieth Century

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**Cleave, Paul Edward**

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**Abstract**

The aim of this thesis is to examine the evolving relationship between food and tourism through the twentieth century. Devon, a county in the South West of England, and a popular tourist destination is used as the geographical focus of the case study. Previous studies have tended to focus on particular locations at a fixed point in ...

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Tourism needs a lot of services in order to sustain the industry. For example, the hospitality industry creates jobs for people in businesses like hotels and restaurants. Employment is a macroeconomic factor that contributes to the growth of an economy by providing workers with disposable income and consequently leading to an increase in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the region. Another way in which tourism and economic development are linked is through the provision of small or micro enterprises for certain citizens. The citizens that might benefit from small businesses linked to tourist include individual or sole entrepreneurs with limited funds and other types of collaborations that do not require a lot of finance. Tourism as it is currently known, is a phenomenon present in the society for at least two centuries ago when only individuals from the highest socio-economic classes were able to travel to different places other than their residence countries for leisure purposes. However, tourism gained its global character by the decade of 1950s with the development of the commercial trans-oceanic flights (Smith, 2004). From this moment, tourism has

been an important factor in the world economy; the WTO declares that tourism provided almost the 10% of world GDP in 2015. Due to its important contribution to t