

Overall, this paper meets the minimum requirements. It needs more depth. Because the author chose to use photos from a trip they were unable to gather more data, which may have contributed to the limited analysis.

Photo Project

My project is about tourism in Montana in the summer and winter. I go into the different tourist attractions in the summer and winter, and I also talk about things I learned throughout my experiences. My method of data collection was taking pictures on my trips to Montana. Another method of data collection I used was asking my dad and other people I met in Montana questions about tourism and life there. I found it just as easy to talk to my dad about things as strangers because the people there are so friendly.

My dad moved to Deer Lodge, Montana about a year ago, and since he's moved, I have



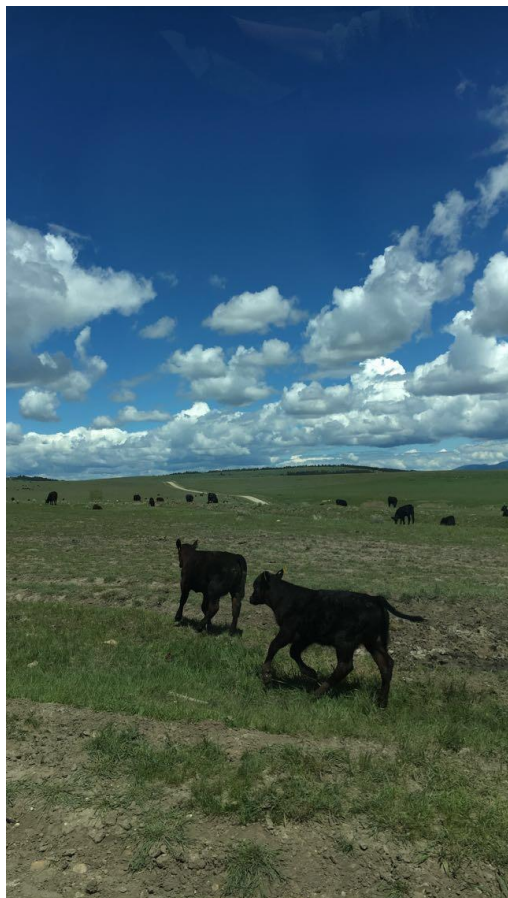
been to Montana twice, once in the summer and once in the winter. I found that what attracts tourists in the summer is totally different than what attracts tourists in the winter. I collected data on summer attractions and winter

attractions during my trips by taking a lot of pictures. My first trip was the summer trip. Pulling up to my dad's new house, (picture 1) I could barely focus on the house due to the amazing views around me. I did notice that though his house is no mansion, it was one of the nicest one's in the town. A lot of people in his town are poor, so it is common for people to live in run down looking houses. My dad said the people do not see themselves as poor because most people there are in the same financial situation. Montana is known for its breathtaking views and this is what

The author notes some socio-economic aspects of the town.

The author introduces their topic. Their methodology is added here, but it would be better as its own paragraph after the introduction (and with a little more detail).

attracts many tourists in the summer. It is known as Big Sky Montana because the sky looks

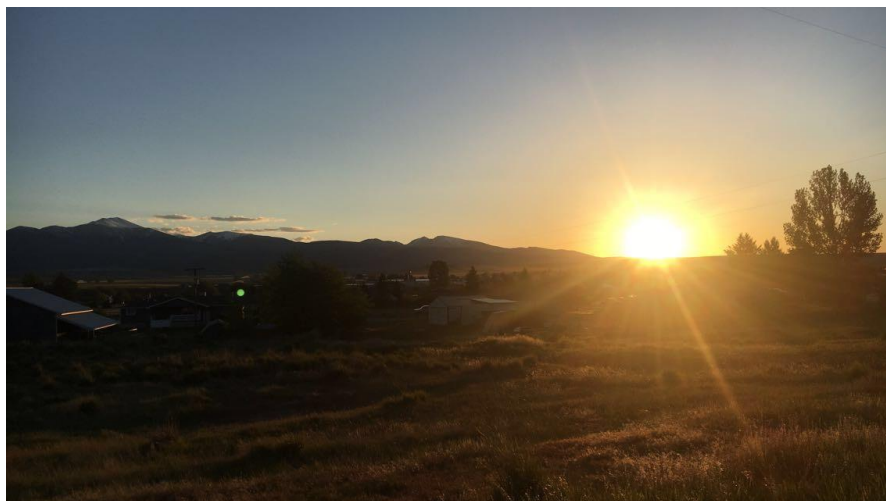


bigger there than other places (picture 2). Picture 2 shows a glimpse of the big sky, but you really cannot capture how massive it looks unless you go there. For fun, my dad and I would drive all around Deer Lodge and the surrounding towns just looking at the mountains. He took me to many areas that were so desolate but so beautiful (picture 3). Picture 3 was taken randomly when I saw a pretty view and asked my dad to stop the truck, so I could take a picture. There was not a person to be seen. My dad said, “some of the most beautiful places in Montana are the ones only known to the locals” (Paul Rees). Apparently, the locals prefer being under the radar because they do not

want their places to get filled with tourists.

I understand what they mean; I went on a run one afternoon through the town, and when I got to the top of the hill I saw the most beautiful sunset I have ever seen (picture 4). It was such a peaceful moment that surely would have not been the same if tourists had surrounded me.





The layout of photos on this page and the next page is very poor. Neither the text or photos look good with this layout. The text and a number of photos are squished on the page. Putting photos at the end is best if you are not great at formatting.

Glacier National Park, however, had tons of people. It

is a very much a tourist destination, and understandably so.

The views there are astonishing (picture 5). Picture 5 is in a

popular spot to take pictures at

Glacier National Park. Glacier

National Park is famous for its

colored rocks in the water (picture

6). Picture 6 shows my dad

standing in the water on the

colored rocks. There were people

everywhere enjoying themselves; I

had a great time. You can never run out of things to look at in a place

like that.





The town my dad lives in, Deer Lodge, is mainly known to tourists because of the Montana State Prison and the old Montana State Prison. People are only allowed to tour the old prison (picture 7), but you can see the current prison in the distance from

the road (picture 8). I took picture 8 on the road to the current prison. The prison is extremely important to the economy of Deer Lodge. Many of

the people who live in Deer Lodge work for the Montana State Prison, my dad included.

The old prison is also important because it attracts most of the tourists Deer Lodge does get. There are a

couple of shops and restaurants that are based on the prison like Prison Pizza, which is a popular pizza joint in the town (picture 9).





Throughout Montana there are several old abandoned towns that have been preserved to preserve the history. My dad and I went to one named Philipsburg. It was very interesting to see how people would have lived back in the day. They had an old blacksmith shop that my dad was super interested by because he does

blacksmithing as a hobby (insert picture 10). Picture 10 is of the

outside of the old blacksmith shop. Another tourist attraction is zip lining. We zip lined in the mountains and it was so much fun

[Photo redacted]

(picture 11)!

Picture 11 is of me riding down the zip line. Our tour guides were probably in their mid to late twenties.

They were very nice and funny (picture 12).

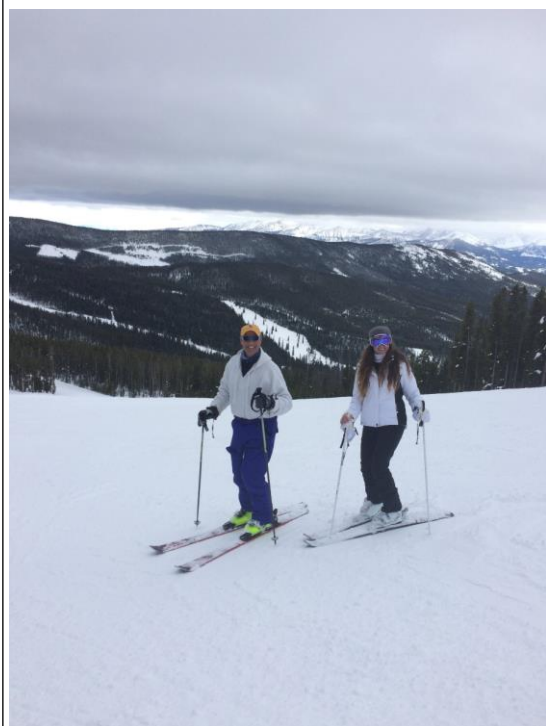
Picture 12 is of our two tour guides with my dad and me. My dad and I talked to them a lot



throughout our zip line adventure, and I learned a lot of things. It is very common for things like being a zip line tour guide to be someone's career. You do not have to have what we would think of as a professional job to be respected by the community. They told us they had been working there for 5 years and were going to continue on because they love their job. Zip lining all day every day does sound like a dream! This illustrates a theme of differences in perspectives on what it means to live a good life. In a place like Louisiana, people would think a stable professional career will lead to a good life, but in a place like Montana, I found people to be

more worried about doing what they love every day, and that will lead to a good, happy life.

My next trip to Montana was in the winter and it was a completely different experience. I brought my boyfriend, Gary, along with me for this trip. The number one thing we did was ski (pictures 13 and 14). Picture 13 is my dad and I at Maverick Ski resort, and picture 14 is my boyfriend and I at Lost Trail Ski resort. Skiing and snowboarding are the main things that attract tourists in the winter.



Surprisingly, a lot of the locals of Deer Lodge have only been skiing a few times if at all because they are so poor. We went to four different ski resorts over the course of our trip; they were the following: Discovery Ski, Maverick Ski, Lost Trail Ski, and Big Sky Ski. Some things I noticed were that like

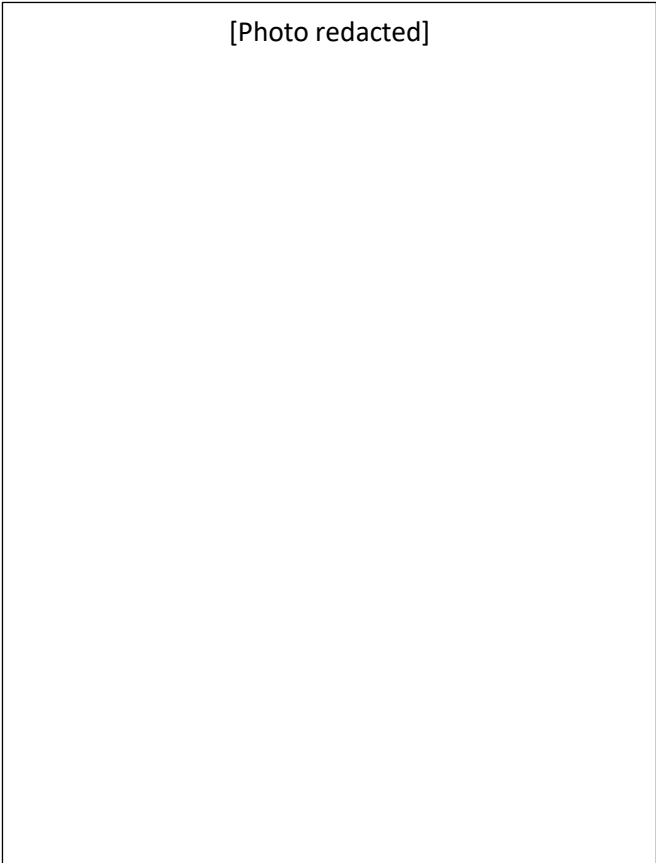


Here is another interesting observation about the local economy. But this might be better if it was about the opportunities people have, rather than their perspective since the researcher did find that opportunities are different in Deer Lodge.

the zip line tour guides, a lot of people working at the ski resorts did so as a career. They call them “ski bums” because they basically just work and ski. I had a lot of fun watching my dad and boyfriend bond on this trip (picture 15). Skiing is so much fun to do with friends and family; I understand why it is such a big tourist attraction. There were tons of friends and families at every ski resort we went to. Everyone looked like they were bonding and having a blast on the slopes. Families and friends also bonded in the clubhouses over hot chocolate and snacks. Ski resorts have different colors for different trails. Green is easy, blue is medium, and black is hard. What I noticed about skiing in Montana versus skiing elsewhere, like Colorado, is that greens are more like blues in other places, and blues are more like blacks in other places. This probably has to do with the fact that Montana is more country skiing than industrialized skiing, so the slopes tend to be a rougher ride. Sightseeing in the winter is also an attraction because everything looks completely different because it is all covered in snow!

In conclusion, I found many differences in the tourist attractions in Montana during the summer versus the winter. The summer tourism is more focused on sightseeing and hitting popular tourist spots like the old Montana State

Prison and Glacier National Park. The winter, however, mainly attracts tourists who want to ski and snowboard. There are great tourist attractions during both times of the year, but for different



[Photo redacted]

reasons. I feel as though everyone should make a trip to a place like Montana because it opens your eyes to a whole new world and lifestyle. My trips and conversations with my dad and other people in Montana have definitely changed my view of life and the world.

The paper concludes very briefly and with a point that is not too surprising: winter tourism involves winter sports, summer tourism involves other activities. This is an interesting topic, and the researcher uses a number of observations to investigate their topic, but more depth in the collection and analysis of data was needed so that the researcher can provide more in-depth conclusions about tourism in this Montana town.

The author makes several observations about the limited economic opportunities in this town, which would have been an interesting topic to analyze with more depth (it was absent from the conclusion).

Overall, more depth is needed in their observations and analysis.