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STATE OF BAHRAIN Ministry of Information

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLAN IN BAHRAIN

Report 10° 2 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES 1976 - 1980 AND 1980 - 1985

ACTIM agence pour la coopération technique industrielle et économique

OTU - Tourisme et Hôtellerie Paris
november 1975

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# TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLAN IN BAHRAIN

ACTIM agence pour la coopération technique industrielle et économique

OTU - Tourisme et Hôtellerie Paris november 1975 The study has been carried out by : Mr. Jacques MARGOTIN, Architect - Town Planner, TOURISME ET HOTELLERIE; Mr. Marc KERN, Economist, TOURISME ET HOTELLERIE; Consultants: Dr. Claude SAUER, Engineer E.C.P., Doctor in Applied Mathematics, TOURISME ET HOTELLERIE; Mr. Raymond RIBES, Architect - Town Planner, TOURISME ET HOTELLERIE Participants to the study: Miss. Nelah AL-KHALJFA, Ministry of Information and Tourism; Mr. Fahad ARRAYED, Ministry of Information and Tourism; Mr. Hussain AHMED ABBAS, Ministry of Information and Tourism Miss. Hanaa JISHI, Ministry of Finance

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# INTRODUCTION Following the decision of the Emirat of Bahrain's Government to call for the assistance of a French adviser for the development of tourism trade in the Emirat, the French Agency for the Technical, Industrial and Economic Cooperation (A.C.T.I.M.) organized a mission, with the following programme of research and studies : Conception of a coordinated tourist development policy, oriented to three types of clients : Nationals, of different social levels; Clients in transit (air or sea), who could be incidentally willing to spend a few days in Bahrain. These are generally Europeans, having a high standard of living, and interested in breaking a long trip by some visiting and relaxation; Clients from the Arabic countries (the Gulf), attracted by certain aspects of Bahrain. The study includes analysis, research and suggestions in such fields as: integration of tourism in the Emirat's general development; types of recreation activities; promotion of tourism in foreign countries;

- reglementation and by-laws for hotels, transportation, protection of sites, etc...
- initiation and incidental creation of tourist complexes;
- selection of sites, etc...

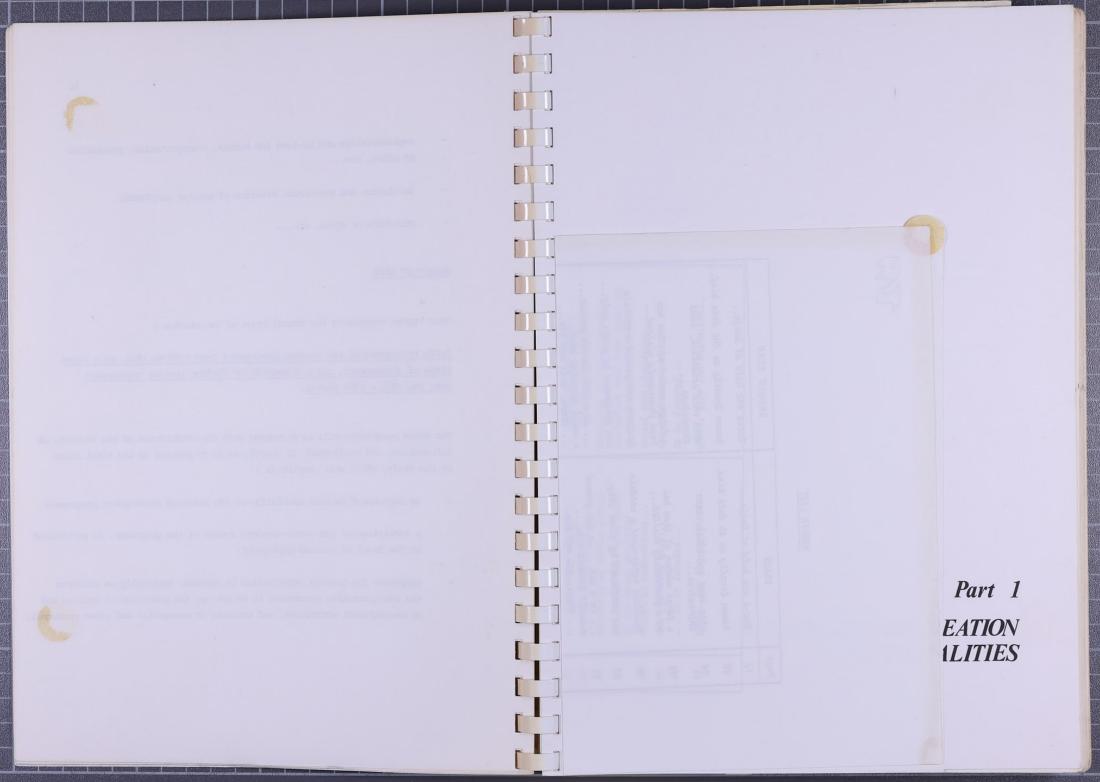
#### METHOD OF WORK

This report represents the second stage of the studies :

Draft Programmes of the tourist development from 1976 to 1980, as a first phase of development, and a framework for further tourist development over the 1980 - 1985 period.

The above programmes will be discussed with the Authorities of the Ministry of Information, and readjusted, if needed, so as to proceed to the final phase of the study, which will consist in :

- an economic/financial simulation of the retained development programme;
- a simulation of the socio-economic impact of the programme, in particular at the level of created employment;
- proposals for tourism organization in Bahrain, especially as concerns
  the administrative structures to be set up, the promotion of tourism and
  of recreational activities, and training of managerial and other personnel;





## ERRATA LIST

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Part 1
TOURISM AND RECREATION
POTENTIALITIES

#### INTRODUCTION

In order to estimate the tourist and recreational resources of Bahrain, one will analyse in this Part all the elements belonging to the tourism offer of the Emirat.

A sectorial diagnosis is given for each of the analysed elements. However, this diagnosis is not a general one but concerns solely the problem of tourist development.

Such an approach will allow to better outline the different elements that constitute the tourist and recreational offer, and to assess the respective impact of each element and its value for the creation of new tourist and recreational products to be developed in the future.

### 1.1. NATURAL TOURISM AND RECREATION POTENTIALS

#### 1.1.1. Bahrain Islands

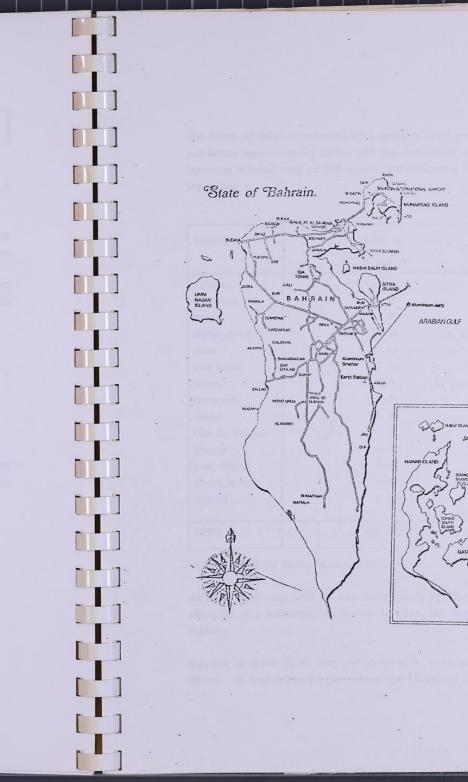
The Emirat of Bahrain is located approximately at the latitude of 26° N and longitude of 51° E.

The main island is located approximately in the centre of gravity of the Arabian Gulf. It is surrounded by the following countries:

- to the west : Saudi Arabia (30 kms);
- to the northwest : Kuwait (450 kms) and Iraq;
- to the northeast : Iran (Shiraz 400 kms);
- to the southeast : The United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi 480 kms) the Emirate of Oman, and closer, the Emirate of Qatar.

The following list gives the distance between the important places in the area and Bahrain :

Beirut	1700 kms
Damascus	1600 kms
Baghdad	1000 kms
Kuwait	450 kms
Tehran	1000 kms
Shiraz	400 kms
Abu Dhabi	480 kms
Ryad	430 kms
Mecca	1200 kms



The State of Bahrain consists of a group of 33 low-lying islands, the main one being approximately 30 kms off the east coast of Saudi Arabia, and covering a total area of 598 sqkm. The following islands are the most important:

Island	Area in square miles	Population (1971)
Bahrain	217.50	89,399
Muharraq	5.36	49,540
Sitra	3.68	11,323
Nabih Saleh	0.28	
Ji.da	0.13	
Umm Nasan	7.33	
Rubaz	0.90	
Mahzoora	0.21	
Hawar	15.96	
Umm As Sabban	at the salety element at the	
Ajaira	0.03	
Sawat North	1.17	
Sawat South	2.97	
Busdad	0.03	and dry walls, to the transfer of
TOTAL	255.55	and, who pre-house know

Source : Public Works Directorate

In this study, one will be concerned mainly by Bahrain and the islands close to it: Muharraq, Sitra, Nabih Salim, Umm Nasan, Jiddah and Umm As Sabban.

Bahrain is about 50 km long and 15 km wide, with an area of 217.50 square miles. It represents 85 percent of the territory of the Emirate.

A causeway, 2.5 kms in length and carrying a motor road links Manama, the capital of the State, which is on the northeast tip of Bahrain island, with the neighbouring island and town of Muharraq. Half-way down the east coast of Bahrain, a bridge joins Bahrain to Sitra island. Among the other islands of the group are Nabih Salih, north of Sitra, Jidda, a small rocky island off the west coast of Bahrain, and Umm an-Nassan, a large low-lying island to the south-west of Jidda.

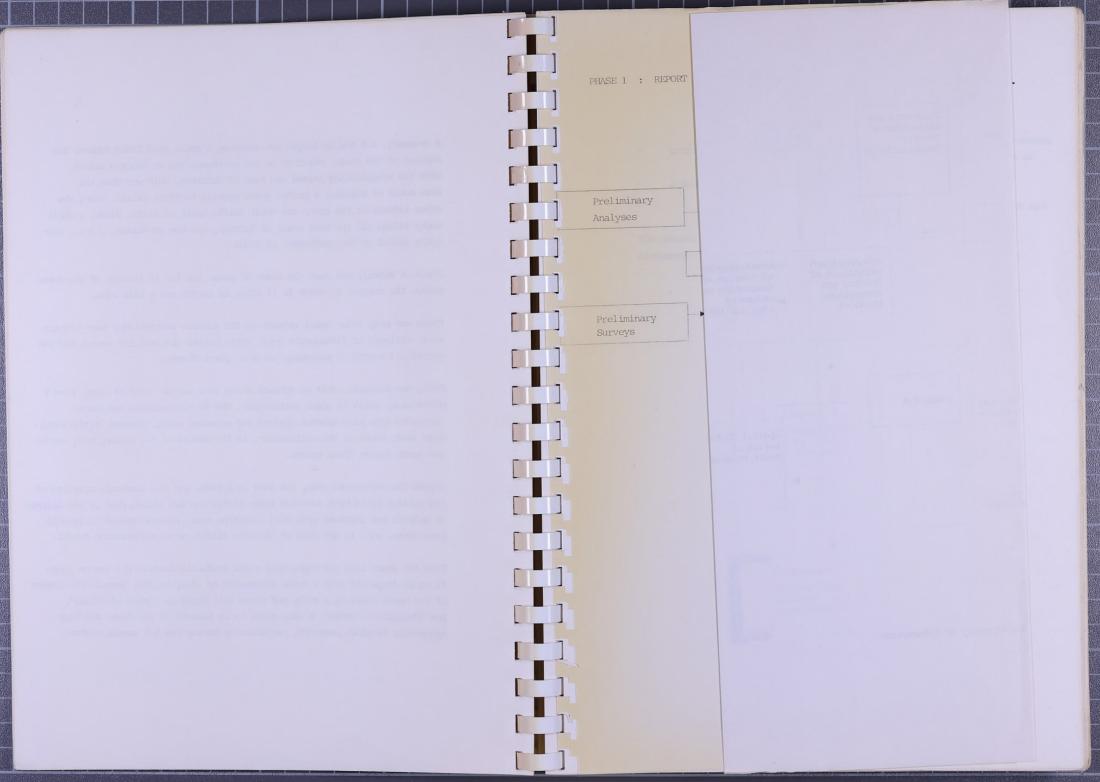
South of Bahrain and near the coast of Qatar are the 16 islands of the Howar group, the largest of which is 11 miles in length and a mile wide.

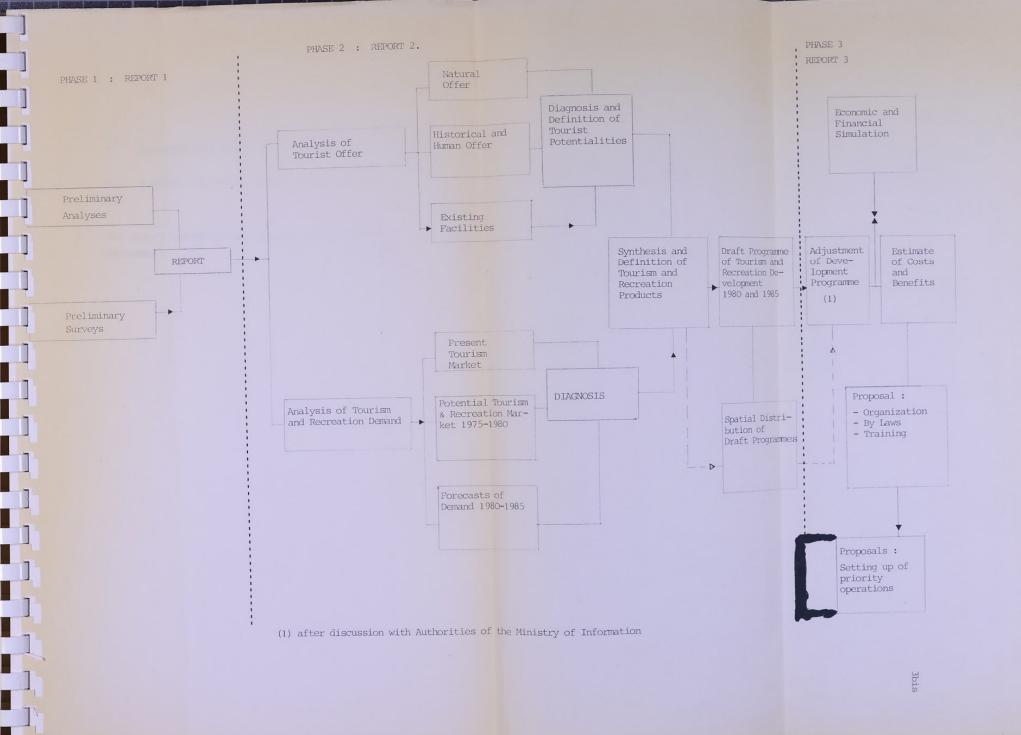
There are many other small islands in the Bahrain archipelago; some contain small villages or fishermen's huts, while others are deserted except for the occasional visits of migratory birds or pearl divers.

Along the northern coast of Bahrain there is a narrow strip of land, some 3 miles wide, which is under cultivation. The fertile gardens are there irrigated from many natural springs and artesian wells, whereas in the waterless area, south of the cultivation, in the centre of the island, only sparse and hardy desert flora exists.

Beyond the cultivated area, the land is barren, and the landscape consists of low rolling hills with numerous rocky cliffs and dry wadis. Most of the islands of Bahrain are surfaced with hard limestone rock, covered sporadically with sand dunes, and, in the case of the main island, with pre-historic tumuli.

From the shore line the topography rises gradually towards the centre where it again drops off into a basin surrounded by steep cliffs. Towards the centre of the basin there is a rocky and steep hill known as "Jebal ad-Dukhan", the "Mountain of Smoke", a name given to it because of the vague and hazy appearance it often presents, particularly during the hot summer months.





- proposals of regulations for site protection;
- a scheme for setting up the priority actions;

The overall methodological approach can be outlined by the following diagramme:

The Jebal is only 450 feet above sea level and 250 feet above the surrounding plain, but often, when mist surrounds its base, it gives the impression of being a considerable mountain.

Although Bahrain is a small country, it displays a very varied landscape and many surprising contrasts between old and new.

The blue and green waters which surround the islands provide the people of this primarily sea-faring state with fish, caught from boats and in traps, fresh water from submarine springs, and coral stone for building.

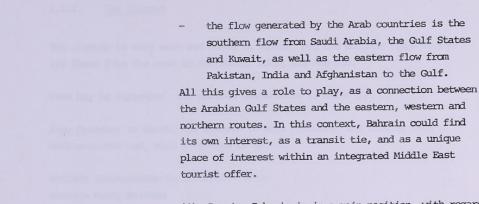
#### DIAGNOSIS

The place of BAHRAIN within the tourist context depends on how its natural offer can be related to the existing and potential demand.

Geographically speaking, the basic criteria to be considered are first the location of the country relative to the international tourist flows, and, second, the accessibility to the country.

Location of BAHRAIN

- the main origins of the existing international tourist flows are Europe, the United States,
   Japan and the Arabian Gulf.
- as for the flow generated by the U.S.A. and Japan,
  Bahrain is close to the round-the-world-trips,
  passing from Europe to Asia. A part of this flow
  can be diverted towards Bahrain for basically
  archaeological purposes. Furthermore, for the same
  motivation, Bahrain can be indirectly related to
  the Mediterranean tourism, even though it does
  not give an answer to this specific demand.
- for Europe-generated flow, it is composed of two
  main branches: the western flow through Spain,
  North Africa, towards Western Africa, which does
  not concern Bahrain. On the other hand, the eastern
  flow passing through Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece and
  Turkey is nowadays reaching the Middle East.



- ii) By air, Bahrain is in a main position, with regard to the main airborne flows and routes.
- iii) By sea, Bahrain is in a very good position, off the main maritime flows, and linked with the Far East routes. However, in the long range, one can assume that the Arabian Gulf will become quite attractive for tourism and improve the present situation (10 to 15 years presumably).

As a conclusion, Bahrain Island by itself shows a remarkable convergence of natural, historical, physical, economic and human features, giving the clearest picture of a structure that is well designed for a geographical network. Induced by this obvious pattern, the north oriented concentration supports a large majority of the human settlement, and thus of human activities.

#### 1.1.2. The Climate

The climate is very warm and humid in summer, but the maximum temperatures are lower than the ones in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Muscate.

From May to September, the maximum temperature is about  $39\,^{\circ}$  C.

From December to March, the climate is more agreable, and similar to the Mediterranean one, with a minimum of  $10^{\circ}~{\rm C}_{\circ}$ 

Monthly Temperatures in °C (1966 - 1973) Average Daily Maximum

ear	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Х	XI	XII
1966 ]967 ]968 1969 1970	22.7 21.2 19.1 21.3 20.7	21.9 19.6 18.9 20.9 23.0	25.2 23.5 25.5 20.8 25.4	27.2 28.8 28.3	34.6 33.2 33.0 34.2 32.1	36.9 34.0 35.3 37.7 35.6	36.9 38.4 37.4	38.8 36.7 36.7 37.9 37.5	37.5 36.0 35.3 36.5 34.9	33.0 33.9 32.8 34.9 31.7	28.4 27.9 29.1 26.5 28.6	23.5 20.5 24.2 24.0 22.0
971 1972 1973	20.6 19.3 18.5	21.7 20.4 22.6	25.2 22.9 25.2	27.7 27.7 29.5	34.9 37.4 34.3	35.4 36.5 35.7	37.5 37.5 37.0	37.4 39.0 39.1	36.4 40.1 37.0	32.1 29.0 33.5	27.3 28.5 26.9	21.5 15.6 21.5

#### Average Daily Minimum

1	Year	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Х	XI	XII
	966	15.3	16.3	17.4	21.0	26.5	30.0	30.2	30.8	29.3	26.8	22.3	17.3
	1967	15.0	13.4	17.1	19.7	25.1	29.2	29.8	30.2	28.2	26.4	22.1	14.2
	1968	13.1	12.8	18.4	21.2	26.2	29.3	30.2	30.0	28.1	25.4	22.1	18.4
	969	16.6	14.4	20.7	21.8	25.9	29.0	30.1	30.3	28.4	26.1	21.0	17.7
	970	14.5	16.6	18.8	22.2	25.0	28.4	30.6	30.6	27.9	24.9	21.7	16.3
	1971	14.1	14.7	17.8	20.6	26.7	27.8	30.7	30.6	28.5	24.5	21.5	15.6
	1972	13.6	13.7	16.9	20.3	25.3	29.8	29.7	30.4	30.8	27.0	22.5	20.2
	1973	11.9	15.7	18.1	21.7	26.1	28.0	29.9	30.7	29.1	25.4	19.1	15.5

#### Maximum Temperature

Year	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Х	XI	XII
1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973	28.2 26.5 24.0 25.4 25.0 17.7 16.4 23.7	27.9 26.2 25.3 32.0 26.9 18.2 17.0 34.7	38.0 32.9 34.6 35.7 32.4 21.5 19.9 33.8	34.7 33.7 32.9 38.0 40.4 24.3 24.0 41.0	41.0 41.1 36.8 41.1 38.4 30.8 31.3 41.1	40.7 39.5 38.8 41.0 38.6 31.6 33.6 41.3	34.1	41.6 38.3 39.9 41.6 43.6 34.0 35.4 47.0	40.7 40.0 38.9 39.5 40.2 32.4 28.0 39.5	40.6 36.0 39.4 37.1 28.3	30.8 32.4 33.0 32.6 36.3 24.4 17.9 34.4	26.5 28.8 28.5 26.6 31.2 18.5 17.9 25.4

Rain is rare. The annual level reaches only 75 mm. The maximum registered since 1946 has been 136 mm.

## Monthly Rainfall in mm (1968 - 1973

							500000
Month	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	
January February March	trace 52.7 1.4	87.7 10.4 0.6	7.4 trace 1.2	2.6 8.0 1.0	19.5 10.0 42.0	5.7 trace trace	
April May June	14.3	49.2 trace	trace trace	8.0	3.1 0.1	0.4 trace	
July August September							
October November December	2.7 5.1	8.9 9.1 trace	0.3	1.3	4.0 6.1	5.6	

Source : Civil Aviation Directorate

In spite of poor rainfall, water sources are abundant on the northern part of the island. They are sometimes located on the edge of the coast, or on bottom of the sea. Former pearl divers are said to have picked up soft water some 20 m deep, in skin bags.

There are practically no rivers, except for unusable oueds.

As regards the general climatic features, the year in Bahrain can be divided into three four-months periods. The best time of the year is from December to March, the cold season, when the wind blows from the northwest and the west. The months of April, May, October and November are pleasant, but from June to the end of September, it is hot, extremely humid, although Bahrain in the summer cannot be described as a hard place in which to live. In particular, June usually proves an exception, owing to a cool north wind, which makes the month pleasanter than May.

The prevailing wind in Bahrain is the "Shamal", a damp wind from the north-west, which, during the winter, has been known to reach a velocity of 80 kmph. The "Qaws" is another common wind, hot and dry, and it blows from the south-west, bringing to Manama the sands from the south of the island.



Except for the transit and business motivations in tourism, which are not directly related to the climatic conditions, all other kinds of motivations are extremely depending on them. But, according to the types of client segments (existing and potential), the climatic features offer at times contradictory aspects.

If one considers the main groups of the typology of clients: the Bahrainis, regional tourists (broad Middle East) and international, one can represent their different reactions to the climate as indicators of their demand.

Obviously, other criteria of motivation will affect the climatic tropisms, such as leisure and recreation, archaeological interest, etc, but one can distinguish clearly between the negative tropism of national and regional clients towards sun and heat, and the positive one of the international segment.

These opposite reactions are of natural and cultural origin, and a direct consequence of the daily life conditions, which leads to a preference during holiday or leisure time for conditions complementary to those experienced during the usual work-a-day life, in order to fulfil the lacks of busy periods.

This means to search for freshness, shade, greeneries and cooler conditions for the people of Bahrain and neighbouring countries, and, on the contrary, the sun and warmer climate for the international tourist.

Both look for change and distraction.

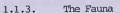
Furthermore, the basic aspects of the demand must be correlated to the seasonal offer of the climate in Bahrain, and the climatic zoning, in order to define the tourist seasons and what role each climatic region can play in it.

Physical conditions in Bahrain are dominated by a climate of severe extremes and hydrology is of vital importance.

Tourism development in this country depends on the way in which advantage can be taken of this situation. If dry and hot weather is a general constraint for nearly the whole country, the corresponding insulation can be used for special purposes in the excentred areas: the exploitation of the solar energy can give the energetic autonomy required for ecological stations, experimental villages, wildlife preservation areas, desert circuit resthouses, etc..., all these having a tourist interest.

On the other hand, a level of comfort can be established by creating microclimatic conditions gathering all or part of the available techniques of sunprotection and heatproofing, i.e. plantations and greeneries, sun-screens and wind-screens, water, partial digging in the ground...

Micro-environmental comfort conditions must be implemented carefully, and the combination of only traditional techniques such as water curtains, date-palm protection, plantations, water sprays, irrigation network and natural ventilation can decrease the environment temperature for 10° C.



#### The Horse

Traditionally, the horse has been associate to the Arabian way of life; it was used for transportation in peace and war, and the Arabian equestrian skill is well-known.

Today, through the centuries, Bahrain has kept a solid reputation for the quality of its stables, which are the world finest as far as pure desert horse is concerned.

The present Amir has been particularly active in carrying out the rearing of this unique heritage, which were brought by the ancestors in the 18th century, when the Al-Khalifa first came to Bahrain.

The car development has not altered the interest in horses shown by Bahrain people. Several stables located at Rifaa, Wasmiya, Sakhir and Jesra contain some five hundred horses. Rac-s are held at Saafa, south of Rifaa every Friday afternoon, from November to May, and provide a good attraction.

Most horses are ridden in the traditional manner without saddle. The beauty of the animals and the traditional dresses of the riders provide a magnificent spectacle in the desert, with the old palace in the background.

A new track is projected a few miles south of the present one, which will offer additional recreational facilities.

It appears that the use of the horse in Bahrain will have stimulating effects on tourism, whether Arabian or foreign.

Aside from races, it offers interesting perspectives for its utilization in the wildlife sector of the tourist development, especially in the southern half of the island.

#### Wildlife

There is comparatively little wildlife in Bahrain, which is explained by its insular nature. Nevertheless, it is interesting for ornithologists, as there exist species of birds, either migratory, or remaining on the island.

A well known desert animal existing in Bahrain is the gazelle, belonging to the deer family and found in the hills and deserts south of the Jebal Al-Dukhan. The modernization of the country and growth of the car traffic rendered it difficult to meet this animal nowadays. In former days, the gazette was hunted with "saluqi" dogs and falcon.

Another animal that was formerly hunted is the hare, which has also become quite rare.

As for other wild animals, mention is made of the jerboa, or "kangaroo rat", dwelling in the desert, and the mongoose, probably brought to Bahrain from India, and dwelling in date gardens.

In addition to donkeys, two other domestic animals can be considered as native to Bahrain: the saluqi and the camel.

In the past, the saluqi was used for coursing hare and gazelle, and the late Shaikh Hamed owned a pack of these animals that was famous throughout the Gulf. As the shotgun has taken over, the saluqi is hardly used for hunting any longer.

The practical use of camels in Bahrain is not more important, as it has always been rather an animal of the desert than of date gardens. The donkey was found to be more suitable. However, some 300 camels are still found in Bahrain, maintained only as a part of the past traditions.

As for reptiles in Bahrain, they are limited in number and variety, and the lizard is the most common. The most spectacular lizard is the Arabic "Dhab" (Uromastyx Microlepis), known to grow up to 21 inches in length and to live for 15 years.

Some 14 species of lizards, and four terrestial snakes are reported in Bahrain.

#### Fish

One of the most popular activities in Bahrain is fishing.

The Bahrain Fishing Club is the member of the International Game Fishing Association. Competitions are held throughout the year, and fishing is practised from the shore, from boat or under water.

The fish one can expect to catch around Bahrain are the following:

- a kind of sea bass (3to 12 pounds);
- the hamoor (grouper) (12 to 15 pounds on average), the most popular and edible fish;
- the commonest black shark (3 pounds average);
- the sand shark (110 pounds on average);
- various species of ray (sting ray etc);
- the saw fish;
- the queen fish (6 to 17 pounds);
- the garfish;
- other small undersized barracuda;

Every evening, many adults and youngsters are seen on the shore, fishing numerous small fish.

The Gulf is also rich in shrimps, which are widely offered in restaurants.

#### The Birds

Flocks of ravens (corvus corax) used to live in and around the Jabel Al Dukhan.

The ubiquitous sparrow is found in Bahrain, and in particular the house sparrow (Passer Domesicus Indicus).

The short-toed lark (Calandrella Cinerea Brachydactyla), originating in the Mediterranean, is a frequent winter visitor, but prefers the desert to towns and villages. A species of the desert lark (Ammomanes Deserti Insularis) is peculiar to Bahrain, found only to the south of the island.

The skylark (Alauda Arvensis Cantarella), a bird well known in Europe, visits Bahrain during the winter months, and breeds in large numbers in the mainland of Arabia.

The common European wagtail (Motacilla Alba Alba), as well as other species of wagtail from Eastern Europe and Central Asia, are very abundant in Bahrain, particularly during the winter months.

A common sight in the gardens is the white-cheeked bulbul (Pycnonotus Leucogenys Mesopotamiae), which is most unpopular with the gardeners because of their appetite for fruits and vegetables.

The desert warbler (Sylvia Nana Nana) is found at the south end of the island, and the rufous warber (Erythropygia Galactotes Syriacus) is found building its nests in the date palms.



Swallows, both of the species Hirundo Rustica Rustica and H. Daurica Daurica, have been observed on the island, as well as Hirundo Rupestris Rupestris, migrating from Southern Europe and nesting in the Gulf.

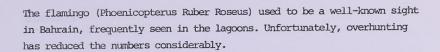
Native to Bahrain is the green bee-eater (Merops Orientalis), known locally as th date bird, of vivid green colour.

Another native bird is the Hoopoe (Upupa Epops Epops), a distinctive bird with the major part of its body of a cinnamon colour.

The most attractive bird is the kingfisher (Alcedo Atthis Atthis), the winter migrant from Europe.

The rose-ringed parrakeet (Psittacula Krameri Borealis), of Indian origin, established in the islands.

THE FALCON is a well-known sight not only in Bahrain, but wherever Arabs hunt in the traditional manner. The majority of these birds used in Bahrain are brought from the Syrian Desert or the Persian Coast. They are employed in Bahrain to hunt the "hubara" and are also taken to Arabia and Iraq on hunting trips by members of the Rulling Family. The furniture for falcons is somewhat similar to that used in Europe, but one also uses the "burqa" or a hood with which the bird's head is covered, and a "wakar", or round-topped stand with an iron point which is driven into the ground, thus providing a perch for the bird. When the falcons first arrive in Bahrain, they are completely untrained, and much attention is paid to their instruction, first carried out with a bunch of feathers and finally with a live pigeon. Even when fully trained, however, the birds have been frequently known to fly off and not return to their owners. Observers in Bahrain have seen the Lesser Kestrel (Falco Naumanni), which breeds in an area between the Mediterranean and North China and passes through Bahrein in the late Spring.



A bird very common in Bahrain is the commonant, of which two species, the ordinary commonant (Phalacrocorax Carbo Sinensis) and the socotra commonant (P. Nigrogularis) are found. These sea birds fly across Bahrain in large flights following a V-formation, and also, at certain times of the year, settle on a number of islets in the neighbourhood of Jidda.

As for pigeons, they are all of domestic varieties, imported from the neighbouring states.

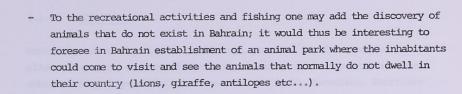
Another bird that is hunted in Bahrain is the snipe (Capella Gallinago Gallinago), easily identified by its zig-zag flight.



The number and variety of the fauna in Bahrain are not very important.

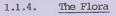
Nevertheless, there certainly exist certain elements that are considered very interesting from the point of view of tourism and recreation development in Bahrain:

- the horse;
- the "saluqi" dog;
- the falcon;
- the camel;
- the fish;
- The horse allows for development of numerous manifestations of tourist and leisure nature: horse-riding, competitions, promenades, horse races. This is above all interesting for development of recreational activities for the inhabitants of Bahrain, but also for the international tourism;
- The saluqi is a real attraction; as a matter of fact this very beautiful dog is interesting for visitors thanks to its traditional past use;
- the falcon can be used for traditional hunting activity and thereby represent an attraction for the visitors;
- the camel can be used for numerous recreational activities: races, but also promenades in the desert;
- the presence of <u>fish</u> allows the practice of an excellent leisure activity: fishing.



This recreational facility would certainly be a great success and receive numerous visitors over week-ends and holidays, and would moreover play an educational role.

- One could equally think of creating a national park, in the south part of the main island.



Generally taken, the climate conditions, provided careful treatment, allow for growing of most of the hardy annuals, the most reliable, among others, being Allysum, Balsam, Coreopsis, Marigold, Nicotiana, Sunflower etc...

Some annuals can be grown on mature soil (Anchusa, Carnations, Dahlia, Petunia, Verbena etc...).

Certain species, when once establish, seem themselves to such an extent that they become a nuisance,

There exist few indigenous flowers in Bahrain, but flower gardens did not exist before the development of artesian wells. Certain plants, shrubs or trees were introduced from India or from Iraq, and almost all the flowering shrubs were originally brought from Karachi.

Flowers, such as carnations and roses, grow exceptionally well, and several types of grass, if cultivated, can be used for lawns.

As far as vegetables are concerned, most European species can be grown in Bahrain (Beetroot, Cabbage, Celery, Lettuce, Radish, Cauliflower etc).

Some of them are even exported, such as Tomatoes.

However, a limited range of vegetables are obtained in the summer.

#### DIAGNOSIS

i) Flora is an essential factor of all the life in Bahrein, in relation to water. It is also part of the tourist motivations, as a general landscape factor, and direct utilization integrated to accommodations and complementary facilities.

More specifically, the palm-trees are an exotic attraction to the international tourism, whereas phagmites communis and typha augustata are another attraction for all segments of the clientele.

ii) In the hot period of the year, flora is in addition a climatic regulator.

For instance, when the humidity rate is small, one could combine flora and water in order to reach better microclimatic conditions:

- greenery in itself, well-irrigated brings a drop of 3 to 5 degrees;
- in addition, the setting up of a water sprinkling in a spray form,
   will bring an instantaneous drop of temperature, by evaporating
   in the dry and hot air.
- iii) In addition to the fact that reforestation would improve the overall low landscape, it is clear that fast growing trees through irrigation have several advantages:
  - large amount of timber in short time;
  - improve the overall wildlife situation.

In parallel, the preservation of the existing natural greeneries and palm-trees is an obligation.

# 1.1.5. The Specific Potentialities

### The Desert

If Bahrain is relatively green in its northern and western parts, the largest areas are semi-desertic or desertic.

Its aspect can be stony, or sandy, with very flat wet and salty zones.

Dry oueds oriented toward the sea make some cuts and light modifications of the surface. Occasional zones of bushes modify the simplicity of the scenery where the sea is amost always visible and beautiful.

The southern tip is particularly appealing, pointing into the sea, and surrounded by very shallow water.

In the north-eastern part of the desertic zone of the island is the main oil field of Bahrain with its strange machines (goets and pipes). The south and the west are practically virgin territory.

This is a wonderful "mini-desert", with practically no danger. As it applies for the mountains located in its centre, the colours of this part of Bahrain are unforgetable at sunset.

### The Mountain Jebal Ad-Dukhan

This is the only relief feature in Bahrain, located approximately in the centre of the gravity of the island, and offering a unique view over the whole island. On a clear day one can see the flora of Dheran and Dukhan accross the sea. Its highest elevations (120 meters) concentrated in the northern part of the massif slope down gently to the south in successive plateaux.

The mountain area contrast with the flat aspect of the island, and is rocky and bare without any vegetation. At sunset, the central area is remarkable by its colours.

### Green Areas

All the green areas of the island are located in the northern part. Two main zones constitute large green areas. The most important, along the northern coast, between Manama and Budaya, extends around Isa Town, and the village of Ali.

The other one follows the western coast, in its upper part.

They are both composed of cultivations, plantations (trees or bushes), date palms and shrubs. Relatively to other Gulf States, Bahrain presents more green areas.

One should however not forget that the sand covers 80 to 90 percent of the island, and, in the southwest and the south, one finds large areas of wet sand.

## Natural Water Sources

In the middle of a garden of bongainvillea, oleander and palm-trees is located the AIN ADARI Pool. This is a very popular place, which was once used as a watering pool for camels and donkeys. Developed as a bathing place, cimented, the water in it is deep and transparent. Fresh water fish up to 10 pounds large can be easily seen in the pool, and the water is also good for irrigation.

The AIN AL-QASARI Pool is a large natural pound, shallower than the Adari Pool. Surrounded by greenery and a few buildings, it is an attractive place, where people relax frequently. In its present form, it is not suitable for swimming.

# 1.2. MAN-MADE TOURISM AND RECREATION POTENTIALS

# 1.2.1. Population, Towns and Villages

# Population

The 1971 Census shows a total population of 217,000. The annual rate of growth is very high (estimated at 3.3 percent in 1974).

Live Births According to Place of Occurance, Sex and Nationality in 1973

Geographical		BAHRAINI		N	NON-BAHRAINI			TOTAL		
Division	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Tota	
Manama Division Manama Town Rural	908 671 237	781 578 203	1 689 1 249 440	429 391 38	427 404 23	856 795 61	1 337 1 062 275	1 208 982 226	2 54 2 04 50	
Muharraq Island Muharraq Town Hidd Town Rural	644 436 53 155	618 408 52 158	1 262 844 105 313	91 84 7	80 69 9 2	171 153 16 2	735 520 60 155	698 477 61 160	1 43 99 12 31	
Jidhafs Division Jidhafs Town Rural	416 79 337	415 88 327	831 167 664	6 3 3	4 2 2	10 5 5	422 82 340	419 90 329	84 17 66	
Northern Division (Rural)	280	257	537	3	9	12	283	266	54	
Western Division (Rural)	221	226	447	5	3	8	226	229	45	
Central Division Isa Town Rural	308 139 169	328 155 173	636 294 342	9 8 1	6 4 2	15 12 3	317 147 170	334 159 175	65 30 34	
Sitra Division Sitra Town Rural	345 191 154	293 163 130	638 354 284	1 1		1	346 191 155	293 163 130	63 35 28	
Rifa'a Division Rifa'a Town Awali Rural Other Islands	150 140 3 7	148 139 1 8	298 279 4 15	66 55 10 1	62 50 9 3	128 105 19 4	216 195 13 8	210 189 10 11	42 38 2 1	
TOTAL BIRTHS	3 272	3 066	6 338	610	591	1 201	3 882	3 657	7 53	

### Towns and Villages

Manama

The capital of Bahrain has an estimated population of 120,000.

The city is built on the northeast part of the main Bahrain island. Its focal point is Shaikh Sulman Square, in whose vicinity are located all the main banks, travel agencies and business offices, as well as the market place.

The Government, Al-Khalifa, Bab al-Bahrain and Tujjar roads are known for series of shops selling electronic equipment, fashion goods etc.

More picturesque and local-coloured are the markets, grouped by occupation, such as cloth market, spice market, sweetmeat market etc.

As for the architectural monuments, the Palace, built in the 1930's, is a U-shaped building, containing dining hall, reception rooms, two musicians' galleries, and suites for the Amir's guests, with a courtyard and a fountain in the middle.

Qasari

A place of interest, outside Manama, is Ain al-Qasari, with a pool and gardens often frequented by picnickers. Nevertheless, the water in the pool is shallow and not suitable for swimming.

Bilad A-Qadim Going farther beyond Ain al-Qasari one arrives to Bilad al-Qalim called the "Old Town", and formerly the capital of Bahrain. The twin minarets of its Suq al-Khamis Mosque used to serve as landmark for navigators.

Adari

Ain Adari or "Virgin's Pool is often described as "The Lido of Bahrain". The cool and blue water of the pool attract numerous visitors in the summer, coming to swim or sit around, in the public garden and the coffee shop. This is the largest natural spring in Bahrain, irrigating a considerable area of arable land and gardens.

Aali

The village of Aali is one of the largest in Bahrain. It is located on the western edge of the plain extending from the end of the date gradens at the bridge of Radhm al-Qawari to the Rifaa hills. Is is situated close to the largest tumuli in Bahrain.

Isa Town

Its most remarkable features are the two attractive mosques with their domes, slender minarets and the wellknown gateway. Between the mosques are situated a shady traffic-free shopping centre, and a vast sports stadium.



Rifaa This is the residence of the Amir of Bahrain and the members of his family. This is a relatively modern settlement, constructed in the traditional Arab pattern. The Palace is the centre of the

town, with houses widely scattered around it.

It constitutes the third largest town in Bahrain, with 15,000 inhabitants. East Rifaa is certainly the most picturesque Bahrain's town. Its location used to be ideal for strategic purposes, as one could see from it Manama, Muharraq and Sitra, whereas its bare environment did not offer any shelter to enemy. Its summer climate is more agreable than that of Manama.

Awali This place was built by the Bahrain Petroleum Company, to provide housing and other amenities for its staff. The site was chosen for its vicinity to the centre of the Company's operations, so that an attractive green and fertile town was created.

hir Founded by Shaikh Muhammad bin Khalifah (1843-67), the majority of its present buildings were built by the late Shaikh Hamed. The attractive mosques, dwelling houses and high roofed rooms are now deserted.

These two shore villages flourished in the days when the pearling industry was active, but depend today on fishing, the oil company and the Aluminium Smelter.

<u>Jidhafs</u> This large village is said to have been at one time the capital of Bahrain. Its inhabitants are known to be enterprising.

Quite a strange village, located on the northwestern tip of the island of Bahrain, and connected with Manama by a dual carriage way. It used to be a large town, divided into two quarters, called North and South Budaiya. This village used to be the home of the Dawasir tribe who came to Bahrain shortly after it was conquered by the Al-Khalifah. Diraz Malikiya Zellaq Muharraq Hedd

iraz Located about 2 kms from Budaiya, this village consists mainly of stone houses, and stands on high ground among sand dunes.

It is very similar to Beni Jumra, which faces it a little way off on the opposite side of the road.

Malikiya This village is set in the centre of date gardens. The interest of the village is the large tomb, held in great veneration by the Shia community of Bahrain, and visited by pilgrims from all over the island.

The stone houses of this village are built along the shore, and are large and spacious. As a result of the activities of BEPCO, the village has increased in size.

Muharrag The town of Muharrag is located on the island of the same name, and is not only much older than Manama but has also retained much more character, as there are no multi-storey buildings to destroy the attractive shore-line.

Long and narrow, this town was built on a strip of land at the south-east end of Muharraq Island. Its houses are closely packed together and extend right to the edge of the sea. From the main road, a labyrinth of narrow lanes leads down to the shore.

### DIAGNOSIS

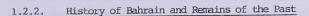
The existing urbanized pattern of Bahrain is a natural consequence of climatic, geographical, geomorphological and hydrological features of the country.

This set of constraints has given throughout history the most obvious articulation of the structural layout for human activities and settlements.

There is no doubt that the existing pattern will have a strong influence on the future tourist and recreational network.

For the recreation and leisure demand of the inhabitants of Bahrain, concentrated in the northern part of the island, one should create the necessary facilities outside these towns.

On the other hand, the traditional architectural pattern of the villages of Bahrain is an interesting element for the visitors coming from abroad.



The history of this group of islands forming the present State of Bahrain goes back to the pre-historic age, at the same period when Neanderthal Man lived in the caves of South France and England.

The only remains of this early human presence can be found in the southern desertic part of Bahrain main island, under the form of flints very similar to the ones of the same period, found in Northern Iraq, Palestine and India. A different type of more refined flints corresponding to the end of the Stone Age has also been found.

But, the most spectacular antiquities are some 100,000 burial mounds scattered on the northern and western parts of the island, dating from the Copper Age, about 3000 B.C. Their configuration has never been found elsewhere, and they represent the world largest pre-historic cemetery. It appears that a large number of them has b-en previously visited and for this reason the number of objects, found in the graves, is unfortunately small.

Other objects founds in other ruins of temples show similar characteristics to the one of the famous Royal Graves of Ur, in Mesopotamia, dating approximately from 2500 B.C.

The principal evidence for the date of the enigmatic civilization and the Sumerian one of Mesopotamia, are the seals, although being of different shape. Several of them have been discovered in the ruins of a entire city, buried on the site of the "Portuguese Fort", as well as pottery, scraps of copper and of ivory.



It is now virtually certain that, deriving from archaeological discoveries in Babylon and in Bahrain, the island was an important commercial centre in the Middle East, 3000 years B.C., known at the time as DILMUN.

This prosperous period lasted probably until 1800 or 1600 B.C.

A decline period preceded the rise of the Assyrian Empire in Mesopotamia, and the conquest of Babylonia around 900 B.C., which was followed by a regain of prosperity for Dilmun.

Evidence has been found in the ruins of the old city of Qala'at Al Bahrain of the existence of almost continuous relations and fluctuations between Mesopotamia and Dilmun, until the time of Alexander the Great (323 B.C.).

Then appears the period of the Greek Empire, with Bahrain in an advantageous position on the Greek commercial route to India.

Throughout the Seleucid and Parthian Periods (300 A.D.), many grave mounts belonging to this period can be found in the north of Bahrain.

The following centuries, before the coming of Islam are not very clear due to absence of remains:

- they correspond to the time of the Roman Empire;
- the next source of information are the Arabic inscriptions in Mosques, especially the Suq al-Khamis Mosque, one of the oldest on the island, dating between 1009 and 1106 A.D.

At one time or another, Portuguese, Persians, Arabs and Omanis have occupied Bahrain for a certain period of time.



The Portuguese fort of Qalah Al-Bahrain is one of the oldest structures (1521). On Muhharaq is situated the Omanis fort of Arad, built in 1800, and the fort of Abu Mahir. Their structures are generally in poor conditions, after their successive occupation.

A period of anarchy preceded the appearance of the family of the Khalifah, who established successively in Iraq, in Kuwait and on the western coast of which is today the Emirate of Qatar. The end of the XVIII century saw the first Khalifah rule over Bahrain.

It was not until the beginning of the XIX century and after various fortunes for the Rulling Family that the British established their first contacts with Bahrain.

Braitain recognised a certain form of independence for Bahrain, by the middle of this century.

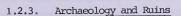
Successive agreements related to Britain and the countries surrounding the Gulf lead Bahrain to develop as a modern state with the discovery of oil in 1930, and its Declaration of Independence, on August 15, 1971. Bahrain is in constant development, keeping face with the world evolution, and new landmarks appear year after year, expressing its determination to be on the move.

#### DIAGNOSTIC

The very rich history of the State of Bahrain should have a certain impact on the tourist development.

As a matter of fact, a complementary facility to the Museum of Bahrain, with a strong accent on archaeology, could present the history of Bahrain in an animated way.

This would represent an attraction not only for the inhabitants of Bahrain, but also for the Arab or international tourists staying or transiting in the country (see Diagnosis on Archaeology).



# The Sug al-Khamis Mosque and Bilad al-Qadim

The oldest existing Moslem building in Bahrain and one of the most ancient Islamic relics in the Arabian Gulf is the Suq al-Khamis Mosque, located in the centre of a clearing, about 5 kms from Manama, on the road to Awali. Although its unusual twin minarets serve to identify if to the visitor, they are of comparatively recent construction and the ruined columns and walls within the low wall are all that remains of the ancient structure.

## Arabic Inscriptions

The Suq al-Khamis Mosque contains a number of inscriptions; they are six, two Qibla stones, a stone commemorating the founding of the Mosque, another stone with six lines of script, two pieces from a long epigraphic band which once ran round the inside of the courtyard wall, and a long and relatively modern inscription now broken into three pieces.

The large inscribed stone can be read partially as follows: "... In the name of God the Compassionate the Merciful... this... the King...... i. Abu Sinan Muhammad bin Fadhl Abudla...".

The inscription over the door of the west minaret has not been deciphered in its entirety, but the presence of the names of the Imams indicates its Shiite origin and it is also possible to read the words "... this from Fadhl the agent of God...".

The bottom line of the inscription has been badly defaced, but it is possible to see that the inscription dates from some time in the 5th Islamic Century (1009 - 1016 AD).

The large inscription, with four lines of script, commemorates the building of a mosque. It commences with the usual invocation: "In the Name of God the Compassionate the Merciful", and then mentions the name of the patron of the mosque, of whose name it is only possible to read "Mahmud Garad".

The next inscription dates from about a quarter of a century later and is found in the Mosque of Abu Muhara, north of the Budaiya road, and a short distance west of the turning off to the Bahrain Fort. The mosque itself has been rebuilt but the inscription shows that the original construction dated from 1406 A.D.

The inscription from Jidda Island is unusual because it represents the scratching of a slave rather than the formal inscription of a ruler. It is of considerable historic interest, giving the name of the Governor of Bahrain, at a certain date, the age of the quarries and the date of the mending of the Fort.

## The Forts of Bahrain

The oldest surviving fort in Bahrain is the Qalat Al-Bahrain, built by the Portuguese on the site of an older structure, some time after their occupation of Bahrain in 1521. This fort lies on the northern shore of Bahrain island, about 5 kms from Bahrain. On the sea shore below the fort can be seen the steps by which the Portuguese entered their boats, but with the exception of these remains, there are no relics of the Portuguese in Bahrain. A number of cannons have been found, but there is a surprising absence of inscriptions, coins or gravestones.

The exact date of the construction of the fort is not known, but the fort was repaired in 1562 and 1586. This need for continual repair was no doubt due to the many revolts which took place in Bahrain against the Portuguese. Shaikh Khalifah an-Nabhani, in his history of Bahrain, mentions that he visited the fort and saw this latter date inscribed in four places on the walls of the fort, but today there is no sign of these inscriptions.



Some miles south of the Jebal ad-Dukhani there is a hill called Amr crowned by a fort, a simple construction, built, according to the tradition, by Shaikh Jabbara, who became ruler of Bahrain about 1698 A.D. Far from gardens and fresh water, this fort was in fact in an ideal position from which to guard Bahrain against foreign enemies, as the sea is visible to the east and the west.

The Palace of Shaikh Farir is said to have been situated at Rifaa ash-Sharqi, overlooking the central plain of Bahrain island, and, to-day, the oil town of Awali. The fort of Rifaa ash-Sharqi in its present form was built by Shaikh Sulman bin Ahmed al-Khalifah, one of the early Khalifah rulers, who started work on it in 1812. The wooden doors that he caused to be set up can still be seen at the entrance to the house of the Amir of Rifaa, the inscriptions that they bear, when the numerical values of the latters are added up, indicate that the fort was built in the above year.

On the way back to Manama one sees the Qalat ad-Diwan, to-day used as the H.Q. of the Bahrain State Police. Although this fort has been modernised, the main outline is still recognisable as it was built on the orders of Nadir Shah, after he seized Bahrain in 1739. This fort contained the Persian garrison in Bahrain till they were expelled by the Khalifah. Shaikh Isa (1869-1932) often used the Qalat ad-Diwan as his summer palace.

#### The Qanats

"Qanat" is the Arabic name for the underground water channels, present in great numbers in Persia, and also found in eastern Saudi Arabia and Syria. It is probable that those in Bahrain were first built by the Persians.

These channels in most cases carry water from springs in the hills a few miles inland to the coastal gardens. Many of them are still used, although others have long since fallen into ruin.

Some of the curiosities of Bahrain are the wind towers of the city of Manama, and several relatively small minarets scattered in the old quarters.

Some of the most famous monuments of Bahrain are:

- the 11th Century mosque at the Suq al-Khamis, west of Manama;
- the small mosque of Halat, on Na'im island, south of Muharraq;
- several mosques in Manama;
- a small mosque on the south-eastern shore of Bahrain;
- the fort at Arad, on Muharraq island;
- the Portuguese fort and its archaeological site, with the ruins of the successive cities, at the Qala, the oldest of which dates back to the third millenium B.C., the newest being of the period 1100 1400 A.D.
- the SEIADE HOUSE on Muharraq island;
- the ruins of a large palace, south of Rifaa;
- the SAKHIR Palace and its magnificent surrounding;
- other palaces (in ruins) on Muharraq island, on the north and south shores;
- the 100,000 burial mounds, covering an area of abot 20 square miles (largest pre-historic tumulus cemetery in the world, dating from the closing centuries of the 3th millenium);
- the Aali village and the large burial mounds;
- the flint fields (pre-historic tools from the Stone Age);

The new museum of Muharraq island offers an interesting display, among other kinds, of antiquities, such as neolithic objects, fine pottery, ivory and copper from the Bronze Age tumuli, material recovered from the six cities of Qalat al-Bahrain.

## DIAGNOSIS

The wealth of Bahrain in the field of archaeology is so important and has been gathered over centuries, related to the overall territory. Archaeology in itself, is thus a tourist motivation, beside the fact that it is one of the main facets of the tourism potential (cultural, sight-seeing).

The works undertaken should be accelerated, but protection (at sites) should be organized too.

In that respect, the integration of the archaeological potential into the tourism pattern should be made with care and be limited to a selected number of sites.

There exist no exhaustive data about the frequentation of archaeological sites: only some entries are registered when a fee is asked, and their number is only a rough indication.

The main outlines of this frequentation are:

- in all cases they are far from saturation (full capacity of visitors);
- the rate of foreigners is less than 10 percent;
- the archaeological sites are important to the Bahrainis, not only because of their cultural value, but also as places for excursions (picnic, week-ends, etc);

For the foreigner, who is attracted by this wealth, the lack of information, organized visits - except for the main sites - is a constraint and a drastic limitation which should be eliminated in the future.

The investigations that are being carried out bring an everyday contribution to this rich capital and justify the reputation of Bahrain.

It is natural that this important historical and cultural heritage should be used as tourist resource, for the benefit of Bahrain itself.

In any case, the present frequentation of the archaeological sites is quite limited, and this can be explained by the poor facilities and tourism services on the sites.

The lack of professional guides and site wardens hampers the tourist development. In parallel, the accommodation and other facilities (restaurants, cafés, etc) are not sufficient.

One should first of all accentuate the efforts already initiated in the field of access to the sites, and information. The publication action should be pursued and extended in a rapid manner. One should welcome the publication of an archaeological map.

The following operations might be initiated at short term:

- improve the access to the archaeological sites;
- 2) foresee good signalization of sites, install pannels with short and clear explanations and descriptions of monuments, in addition to the brochures and booklets that would be good to prepare for each interesting site or group of sites.
- 3) stake out on each site the visitors tracks that would guarantee better surveying and easier visiting;
- 4) install warden posts for accommodation of guard (or guards, depending on the size of the site), in charge of the protection of the site, and control of the visitors. To this could be added a stand for sale of postcards, brochures and soft drinks.
- 5) encourage visiting archaeological sites, by means of radio or television broadcasts.

# 1.2.4. The Folklore

Bahrain has its own music and ways of singing which developed with its people, and can be distinguished from the music of any other nation.

It has not only developed its own music, but it also became the centre of this art of the Arabian Gulf. The reasons for such a position of Bahrain are, among others:

- the fact that the people of Bahrain enjoyed a great deal of security and freedom, which has not always been the case of other countries in the Gulf, rendering possible the free development of creative arts.
- its geographical position, as a meeting place of races and cultures;
- the fact that its people enjoyed a relatively higher standard of living than in other Gulf nations.

Such factors along with the favourable natural conditions have made it possible for the people of Bahrain to devote much of their time to musical creation.

On the other hand, their devotion to the sea (pearl industry) influenced the features of the music they have created. The life of divers gave instrumental and vocal music a variety of opportunities, so that music very well accompanied all the phases of this activity, ranging from lyrical airs of courage and enthusiasm needed when diving, to the atmosphere of joy and thanksgiving when the pearl fishing draws to a close.

As for different expressions the music takes in Bahrain, the following are outlined:

### Al-Ardhah

This war dance of Arabs combines music, songs and drum-beats with rifle shots. About 30 years ago, the horsemen used to join in such occasions and display their skills. This music was brought to Bahrain by the Arab tribes from the Arabian peninsula.

#### Seamen's Music

The sea music has been the first form of musical art in this country. The songs at work called "Naham" were sung by a man chosen by the crew, known to be an expert in the art. His singing is accompanied with drum beating.

Song of the dawn, or "Alfjiry" are choral, also accompanied by drums or water-vessels, and are sad and tender.

## Songs for Girls

Certain choral songs in Bahrain are performed by girms only. This kind of singing, by two rows of girls, is heard during the happy occasions of "Id" days.

#### Laiwa and Tamboora Music

This very primitive type was introduced by Africans who migrated to Bahrain from the East African coast in the 18th and the 19th centuries. The music is produced by different sized drums and flutes, accompanying dancing of men and women.

# Bag-Pipe Music

This drum-beat accompanied music is very popular in Bahrain, and a conventional dance is performed to it. The Persians usually perform this music at their weddings.

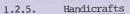
# Women's Bands

The 20 to 30-women bands perform music accompanied by drums and tambours. Such bands are invited to weddings and other happy occasions. The women also join in the dancing.

### Folklore Dances

Traditional folklore dances are performed on special occasions like festivals, and special feasts. They are practised by groups of men or women, wearing colourfull and rich costumes and the style is closely related to the type of songs and music of Bahrain. Efforts are presently made to preserve this cultural form of expression, which is part of Bahrain's inheritance from the past.

(for Diagnosis see chapter on Handicrafts)



### Pottery

Pottery is an old industry in Bahrain. Today it is restricted to the village of Aali, but was active in many parts of the island in the past.

The clay is extracted from the hills near Rifaa, worked out in Aali, following the traditional methods. Most of the ovens are built in the prehistoric tumili, south of the village, which have been pierced with two holes, one in the roof and another at the side. The objects are deposited in the oven, which is filled with wood and set afire. The smoke is heavy and the heat intense. The vision of these fires is spectacular. One can assist to every part of the operation, from the creation of the shape of the objects, to the finished product taken out of the oven.

These objects are simple and consist of pots, water jars, bowls, plates and other ustensils useful for household.

The finished potteries can be found in different places in Manama, but in particular at the Suq al-Khamis market.

One can hope for a revival of this traditional activity, and a renewal of this form of art, which is also an attraction for the tourists.

### Weaving

Weaving is practised in some villages of Bahrain, and especially in Abu Saiba, where one can see in a simple shelter made of palms a beautiful old man working in the traditional manner.

His "instruments" are made of pieces of wood tied together with strings. He is seated on the floor, his legs activating the instruments in a hol in the ground. The fabric which is generally made of cotton is rich in colour; unfortunately this practice has been declining with the years, and if one can admire the beautiful traditional costumes of the past, an effort will have to be made to restore this craftsmanship so as to attract the foreign visitors and give so well an idea of the artistic value of the people of the country.

Although the European influence has been very strong in the way of fashion among the men of Bahrain, fortunately the traditional Arab dress is widely used, encouraged by the Rulling Family.

### Fishing

There are many different ways of fishing in Bahrain. Most of the fish is caught in "hadhra", fish traps built from palm branches. From the air, these traps are a conspicuous feature in the Arabian Gulf, looking like huge arrow heads with two long wings and a small circula head set along the shore, and pointing out to the sea.

Another type of the fish trap is like a giant lobster pot, made from wire and as much as eight feet in diameter. This is filled with ground bait, the fish enter it through a narrow funnel in its side, and once there they are unable to escape. Fish of many sizes and varieties are caught in these traps, which can be seen on the shore along the Muharraq water front.

Nets of various kinds are used including circular throwing nets and drifters. The sight of an experienced net thrower is always fascinating and fishermen using this form of net can often be seen in the shallow water to the south of the Manama-Muharraq causeway. Drifting nets with pieces of date palm bark in place of corks are also popular and are used by the villagers on the coast. Fishing with hook and line is practised mostly by sporting amateurs and those who fish for amusement off the causeway, and elsewhere. The local fishermen depend mainly on traps, nts and Sim, the seed of the Persian Lilac tree.



Fishing is considered a very interesting element for the tourism and recreation development in Bahrain.

### Boat Building

Boat building is really an art and the people of Bahrain have a long tradition and experience with the sea. The boat building activity has been closely associated with the pearling industry. Today, yards are greatly reduced in importance, when one thinks of the great days when several hundred boats were active on the pearl banks. The main boat building yard is located on the Muharraq island, and some at the western end of Manama.

Originally, the wooden boats were stitched with cord before the use of iron rails.

Sails have been replaced by engines but, the typical shape of the boats did not change much with the time.

Several types can be seen of different size and silhoutte. They are the Sambuq, originally used for pearling with two masts.

The largest boat now being built is the one easily identified by its long straight stem-piece and its almost vertical sterm.

A variety of other boats can be seen around Bahrain, which are used for fishing or cargo and passenger transportation.

The "Dhow" is the name given to all Arabian Gulf sailing boats by foreigners.

Mention is also made of a typical Bahrain small craft, the "Huwairiyah", built of date stems solidly tied together with date fibres, and sprayed with fish oil. This is a one-man boat used mainly for fishing.

Many craftsmen (often old sailors) use their hability and knowledge in making beautiful models of the different types of boats. These are attractive reproductions which are found on the markets.

For light and medium size ships repairs, three slipways have been built to answer the demand of this type of services in the Arabian Gulf. Bahrain is keeping up with the evolution of sea transportation, and is active in preserving its leading position in the Gulf area.

### Pearl Fishing

The reason for the decline in the pearl fishing industry, which started in 1930, was the severe trade depression which began in that year and which reduced the wealth of those in Europe who were in the habit of buying pearls, and also the large scale manufacture of cultured pearls in Japan. It was indeed lucky for Bahrain that oil was found in 1932, or else she would have seen her principal industry slowly decline with nothing with which to replace it. Once the oil industry was established, however, it in its turn served to precipitate the decay of the older industry, by providing employment with better conditions and higher pay than were to be found on the pearl banks. The decline has also been aided by the reforms of Shaikh Hamed, who, on becoming Deputy Ruler in 1923, found the working conditions of the industry in a shocking state. The pearl banks were productive and much money was being made, but little of it went to the divers, many of whom had involved themselves in a form of financial slavery to the "Nakhudas".

The Bahrain government has tried hard to encourage the diving industry, by the remittance of the registration fees on diving boats, by customs concessions and by other means, but it is certain that the industry will never return to its palmy days when so many of the people of Bahrain were connected with it or depended on it. Recently, however, the Government has been having discussions with consultants on the feasibility of restoring the industry by making use of mechanical equipment for diving.

Visitors to pearl banks are advised to set out at about midnight from Bahrain. Launches can be hired in Manama or Muharraq and if they leave at twelve midnight, the banks will be reached at two or three in the morning. The remainder of the night can be spent lying at anchor and in the early morning the opening of the shells can be watched, followed by the preparations for the day's work and diving.

#### DIAGNOSIS

The diversity of athnic groups leads to a great number of traditions which should be considered and integrated into the tourist pattern.

This implies obviously, great care in avoiding any artificial presentation or deterioration.

The rich cultural heritage of Bahrain has given rise to artistic, architectural, social and cultural values, however immature or primitive at the beginning. But, later, they developed into a philosophical and natural system of interconnected prograssive ideas and methods. This can easily be witnessed in the ancient Bahraini architecture, pottery, metalware and jewelry, and other items with their unique embellishments and ornamentation.

Thanks to the geographical situation of the country, handicrafts developed and took a special character. Another factor was responsible for the survival of these handicrafts: the availability of the raw material, such as wool, copper, gold, silver, wood, glass, date-palm leaves, etc...

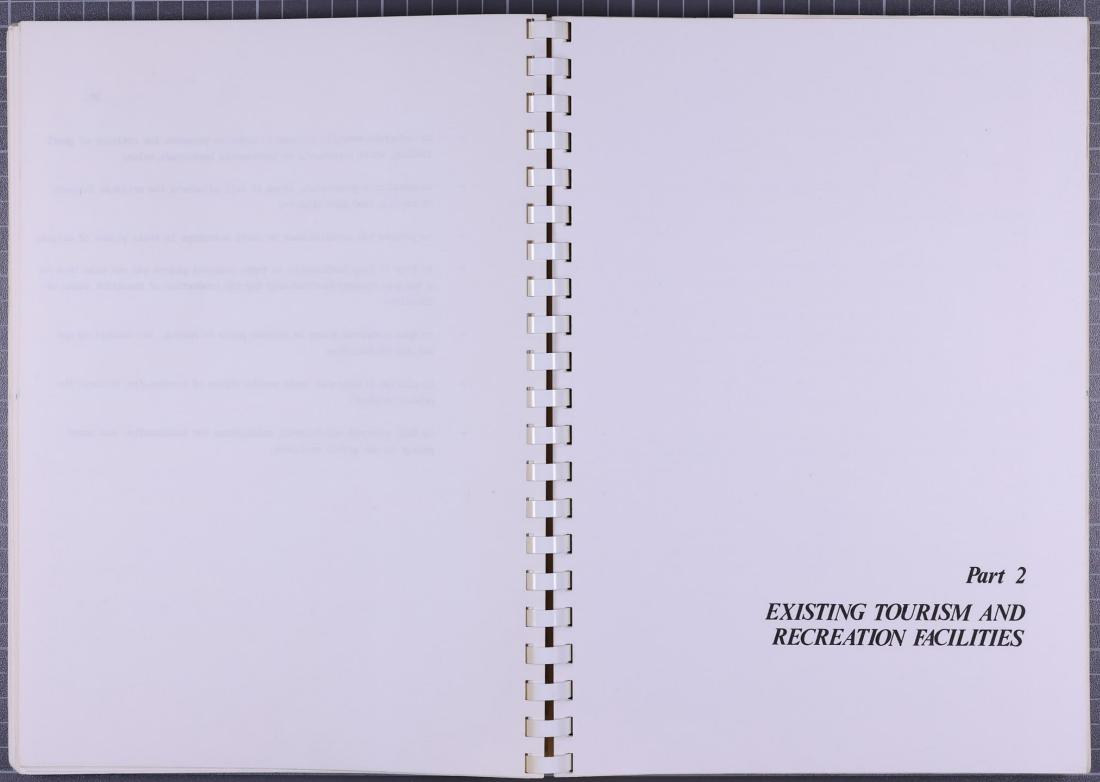
One must not forget that this branch of art can make tourism more attractive in Bahrain, if a well-studied plan is drawn up to promote handicrafts.

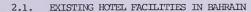
Tourists travelling in a country usually like to enjoy the life of the place and are eager to see the customs of its population, to taste its food, to have an idea of its traditions, its cultural aspects and art values. They often like to bring home some hand-made souvenirs, mostly light and small objects.

A plan for the promotion of these handicrafts and for utilization in an economic and artistic way may essentially comprise the following points:



- to undertake specific actions in order to preserve the activity of pearl fishing, which represents an inestimable handicraft value;
- to avoid mass production, since it will eliminate the artistic features of certain hand made objects;
- to promote the establishment of carft workshops in their places of origin;
- to tryp to keep handicrafts in their original places and not move them to a new environment; (particularly for the production of beautiful boats of Bahrain);
- to open permanent shows in various parts of Manama, for exhibiting and selling handicrafts;
- to publish illustrated books on the styles of handicrafts (enlarge the present action);
- to hold external and internal exhibitions for handicrafts, and award prizes to the gifted craftsmen.





### 2.1.1. Classification of Tourist Facilities

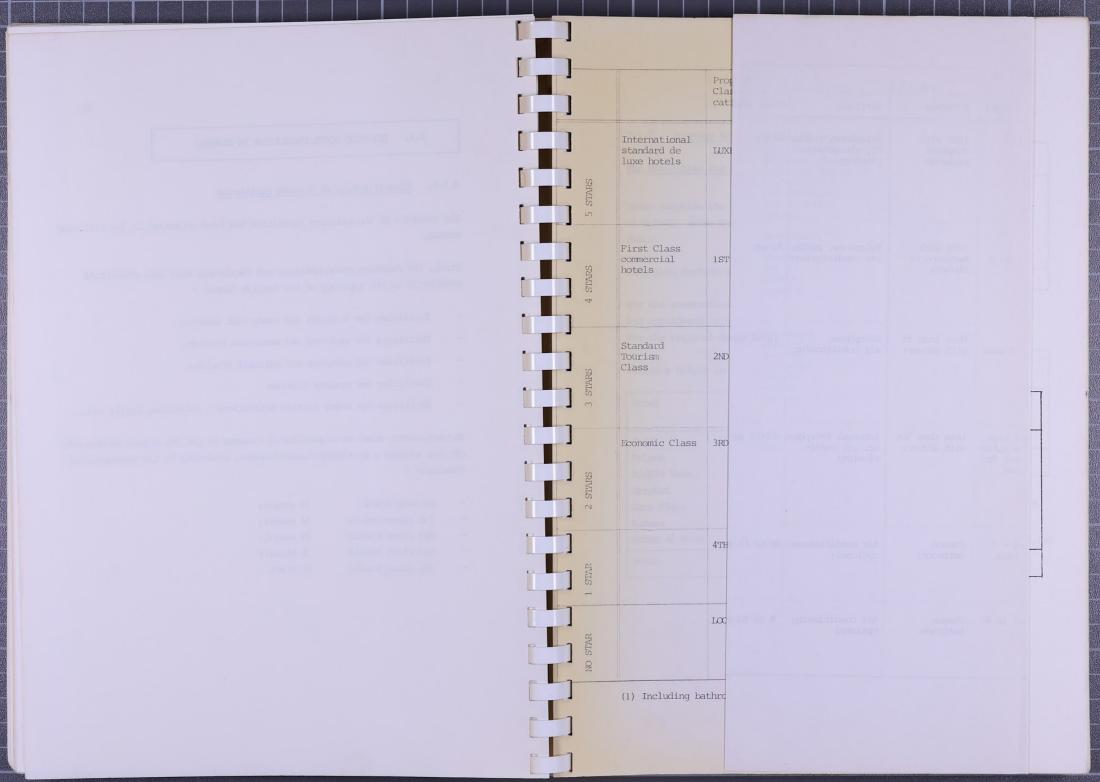
The analysis of the existing facilities has been organized in the following manner.

First, the existing accommodations and facilities have been classified relatively to the typology of the tourist demand :

- facilities for business and commercial tourism;
- facilities for week-end and excursion tourism;
- facilities for pleasure and cultural tourism;
- facilities for transit tourism;
- facilities for other tourism motivations: religious, family etc...

In particular, since no classification exists as yet for hotels in Bahrain, one has adopted a provisory classification, according to the international standards:

- De Luxe hotels (5 stars);
- 1st class hotels (4 stars);
- 2nd class hotels (3 stars);
- 3rd class hotels (2 stars);
- 4th class hotels (1 star).



						MAI	N CHARACTE	RISTICS				
•			Present	Ilman 1	Minimum		Volume		ROOMS			Other Services
		Classifi- cation	Unofficial classifi- cation	size (rooms)	size (rooms)	floor area/bed	per bed	N° beds	Bathroom		Floor area (1)	Other Services
5 STARS	International standard de luxe hotels	LUXE		300	200	30/35 SQM PER BED	130 cub. m. per bed	1/2	100% with complete bathroom	Telephone, radio, TV, air condi- tioning;	25 sqm	2 restaurants, bar, night club, ballroom, shops, exchange, travel, barber etc. Air condition- ing in public spaces.
4 STARS	First Class commercial hotels	1ST CLASS	Luxe	200 to 300	100	27/39 sqm per bed		1 to 2	100% with bathroom or shower;	Telephone, radio, air conditioning;		Restaurant, bar, air condition- ing in public spaces;
3 STARS	Standard Tourism Class	2ND CLASS	1ST CLASS	70 to 100	50	22/25 sqm/bed	75 cub. m/bed	2 beds	More than 5% with shower;	Telephone, air conditioning;	16/18 sqm	Reception, restaurant, bar; air conditio- ning in public spaces;
2 STARS	Economic Class	3RD CLASS	2ND CLASS	50 to 100	30	18/22 sqm/bed	60 cub. m/bed		Less than 50% with shower;	Internal telephone, air conditioning;	12/15 sqm	Reception, bar.
1 STAR		4TH CLASS	3RD CLASS	30 to 50	20	15/18 sqm/bed	55 cub. m/bed	2 - 3 beds	Common bathroom;	Air conditioning optional;	10 to 12 sqm	Reception;
NO STAR		LOCAL CLAS	S	30	20	15	45 cub. m/bed	3 to 4	Common bathroom	Air conditioning optional	8 to 10 sqm	

<sup>(1)</sup> Including bathroom, entry etc...

# 2.1.2. Existing Accommodation Facilities

# The Facilities for Business and Commercial Tourism

These comprise the hotels visited by either international or national clientele, whose motivations are business, work, commerce, congresses, etc...

They also include some resthouses and motels located in Manama.

For the international demand for business and commercial tourism, one has considered mainly the 1st class hotels and 2nd class ones.

For the regional demand, one has considered the 3rd and 4th class hotels.

## Existing Hotels in Bahrain

Hotel	Cate- gory	Rooms	Number of over- nights per annum
Gulf	lst	248	107,310
Delmon	2nd	120	58,400
Middle East	2nd	50	36,500
Bristol	2nd	50-65	36,500
Moon Plaza	2nd	84-100	39,055
Sahara	2nd	40-45	25,385
Anmar Al Kaim	2nd	42	24,638
TOTAL		634	327,788

Hotel Facilities Projected or Under Construction

Hotel	Cate- gory	Rooms	Beds	Yearly Nights	
Hilton	Luxe	204	400	146,000	
Taylos	1st/2nd	80	160	58,400	
Aradons		60	120	36,500	
Sheraton	Luxe	220	440	88,000	
Al Manama	lst	300	600	146,000	
TOTAL *			1,720		

# Planned Hotels with Building Permit

a .	-	D- 1-	171	
gory	Rooms	Beas	Nights	
2nd	66	132	40,880	
2nd	72	144	28,105	
	138	276	68,985	
	2nd	gory  2nd 66  2nd 72 s	gory  2nd 66 132 2nd 72 144 s	gory Nights  2nd 66 132 40,880  2nd 72 144 28,105 s

Also planned are :

Al-Hasawi Hotel: 200 rooms, 87,600 nights,

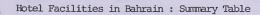
of 1st category;

Nass Hotel, 1st category: 242 rooms, 151,110

nights;

Total: 442 rooms; 238,710 bednights;

\* In the centre : Paradise Hotel under construction; 2 or 3 apartment hotels.



Hotel Facility State	Rooms	Beds	
Existing Facilities	632	1264	
Under Construction	864	1728	
With Building Permit	138	276	
Under Study	442	884	
TOTAL	2,076	4152	

# Prices and Remarks on the Existing Hotels

Due to the shortage of hotel rooms, all the hotels in Bahrain have been able to charge very high rates relatively to the services and facilities offered, while maintaining an exceptionally high occupancy rate.

Of the existing hotels, only the "Gulf" Hotel can be considered a serious potential competitor to a new hotel facility in Bahrain.

Existing Hotels: Category, Capacity and Rates

Hotel	Opening	Class	Rooms	R	ATES (in B.D.)
	Year			Single	Double
Gulf	1969	lst	248	16	19
Delmon	1967/68	2nd	240	14	19
Middle East	1970/71	2nd	50	10	14
apital	1202 20	3rd	40	7	10
oon Plaza	1968	3rd	100	11	19
ahrain	1958?	3rd	100	7	11
Sahara	1973	3rd	45	11	13
ristol	1973	3rd	65	9	13

# Existing Hotels: Level of Service and Characteristics

Hotel	Addit. Service			Ø	Loca				
	Charge	RES	CAFE	BAR	FR	SWP	SHOP		LION
Gulf	10%	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	95	С
Delmon	10%	х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	90+	C
Middle East	-	х			Х			90 95	0
Capital		Х						VH	C
Moon Plaza	10%	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х		0
Bahrain		X							
Sahara	10%	Х		X					
Bristol	-								

Legend: C: centraly located;
0: off centre;
VH: very high occupancy rate;

RES : restaurant; CAFE : coffee shop; FR : function room; SWP : swimming pool;

ØR : annual occupancy rate (average);

# Observations Concerning the Existing Hotels

Hotel	OBSERVATIONS						
GULF	The 70% occupancy rate from aircrew and interline. Entertainment nightly in the main restaurant. New swimming pool; miniature golf; 2 tennis courts;						
DELMON	Most occupancy commercial. Menus similar to that of the Gulf, but lower quality. Entertainment nightly in the main restaurant; one shop; small swimming pool;						
MIDDLE FAST	Well-run hotel (Lebanese Management); occupancy mixed : European, Kuwaiti, Lebanese. Banqueting room.						
CAPITAL	Same management as "Middle East". Occupancy from the regional commercial representatives; ships' crews; European workers; small restaurant; reasonable prices.						
MOON PLAZA	Occupancy : ship crews, oil rig workers. Swimming pool and a night club.						
SAHARA	Same management as "Middle East" and "Capital".						
BRISTOL	Same class as "Sahara".						
TYLOS	New hotel.						

As for the planned or "rumoured" hotels, following observations can be  $\operatorname{made}$ :

- A Government-owned hotel (300 rooms) is at planning stage (1973) :
  - location proposed : between the centre and the airport;
  - initial plans considered impracticable, and uneconomic from construction and operating points of view.
- A new ZAYANI (owner of the "Delmon" Hotel) : planning stage (1973) : Location between the centre and the airport.
- Sheraton: Economic feasibility study by Riaz Ahmad & Co., Chartered Accountants, Pakistan, and Horwath & Horwath International, New York, June 1973.
- Hotel Project Bahrain : A feasibility study by TRIAD Arch. & Planners and T.T.T. LTD, London, June 1973 :
  - type : De Luxe, 200 rooms;
  - expected room occupancy in 1977 : 60%
  - " " in the fourth year of operation: 80%.

Beside the big-capacity hotels, there exist a number of small hotels, generally of low category, but also characteristic for high occupancy rates.

The following is a trial of their inventory:

Hotel	Rooms			
AL HELBIH	30			
AL JONDAL	60			
ALNAKHEEL	24			
ANDALUS	26			
BASTAKI	20			
CENTRAL	28			
EAST HOTEL	40			
NAIM	15			
OMAR KHAYAM	42			
SEA VIEW	20			
PARK HOTEL	18			
REEF HOTEL	15			
SADIGEE	17			
TOTAL	355			

These small hotels are featured by quite a common level of services and a high number of beds per room: there exist actually 355 rooms in these small hotels of low category, and 1,480 beds, i.e. an average of over 4 beds per room. Besides, like for the good-level hotels, the rates are higher than the international average. The average rate for a room varies actually from 4 to 7 B. Dinars.

The survey that we have carried out shows that the occupancy rates of these hotels have also been quite high (over 80 percent of yearly occupancy rate), and this also proves that the medium-category hotel facilities in Bahrain are presently insufficient.

### 2.2. EXISTING RECREATION, CULTURAL AND LEISURE FACILITIES

### 2.2.1. Clubs

Several clubs, associations and societies exist on the island, providing entertainment for Bahrain residents.

They are located in the city of Manama, in the urbanized areas of Isa town, Awali, Rifaa or on the west coast, at Zallaq.

Their activities are varied, ranging from social and intellectual to sports.

With the exception of few of them, they are generally of limited access, and the memberships are restricted to a small number of people. This practice naturally makes it difficult for Bahrainis and foreigners to participate to certain recreative activities in Bahrain.

The following list gives an idea of the extent of the existing clubs:

Bahrain Sport Club

Bahrain Professional Society

Shal Club

Rotary Club (2)

Drama Societies

Caledonian Societies (2)

Tennis Club (13), totalling more than 33 courts;

St. George Society

American Businessman's Club

The Chamber of Commerce

British Club

Alliance Française

The Manama Sailing Club

The BAPCO Club

Alumni Club

Golf Clubs (2): Awali and Rifa
Babco Sailing Club (Zallaq)
Bahrain Archaeological and Historical Society
Bahrain Red Crescent

To these establishments one has to add the numerous popular sport associations, especially the football groups.

# 2.2.2. Sports

Football This is the most popular sport, and the associations are very active, encouraging national and international matches. There are 36 clubs with approximately 4,000 registered players.

The most important matches are held in Isa, and the Muharraq stadiums.

Golf Bahrain has 2 golf courses, one the Awali Golf Club (18 holes), mainly intended for BAPCO employees, and the other, located at Sitra.

Motoring The Bahrain Motor Club promotes good driving, holds competitions and rallies.

Riding and There is a stable of horses at Awali with riding classes. Many

Racing horses are kept privately and there is a riding school in Manama.

Informal races are held at Saafra on the Awali Road.

Sailing There are two sailing clubs: the Manama Sailing Association, and the Zallaq Sailing Club. Racing, motor boating and water skiing are practised in the M.S.A.

At the Zallaq Sailing Club classes and racing are held. This club possesses several types of boats, but membership applications should be made through BABCO;
Sailing is possible from March to end of December.

Sub - Aqua The Awali Subaqua Club is a BAPCO sponsored sports group, accepting a limited number of outside members.

Outputing Committee to possible on a number of good beaches around the short

Swimming is possible on a number of good beaches around the shores of Bahrain.

The best place is Ras al-Barr, and along the west coast, south of Zellaq.

There is no real danger: sharks are rarely seen, and swimming shoes are a must due to the sharp coral stones found in many places, and occasional ray that should be avoided.

The flat aspect of the shores obliges the swimmers to go a long way to reach the deep water.

Other Sports These are hockey, cricket, rugby, volleyball, tennis and squash.

# Projected Race Track & Recreational Activities

A project for a new horse racing track is underway, a few kilometers south-west of the Rifa's existing one.

Other sports and recreational facilities are also included in the programme.

# 2.2.3. Entertainment and Other Facilities

# Restaurants & Night Clubs

Many restaurants are found, mainly in Manama, ranging from popular meeting places to luxurious spots. They are generally incorporated in hotels (Gulf, Delmon, Moon Plaza) which offer also bars, entertainment or dancing.

Independent restaurants can be found, specialized in typical Lebanese, Indian, Chinese or Arabian food. The most luxurious is the "Pearl", located in the central area of Manama, on top of a multi-storey building.

One can cite some of the restaurants, in a nonexhaustive way :

Keith's

Mina Sulman Casino

Andulus Casino

Al-Jazira Restaurant

Aldosari

Alarabi

Paradise etc....

# Cinema

Ten public cinemas in Bahrain show a variety of films, in Arabic, English and other languages. Two of them are air-conditioned. For confort, they range from very good to poor.

Most of these establishments are in Manama, one in Muharraq and one in Isa town and Awali.

In addition, one can find a number of open-air cinemas.

Cinema Audience in 1973 (source : Statistical Abstract) :

Audienc
163,211
36,602
99,744
104,370
99,705
108,397
116,963
130,965
108,297
110,408
108,875
106,296
882,083

#### 2.3. EXISTING TECHNICAL TOURIST SERVICES

Individual and public transportation plays a decisive role in recreation and tourism development. As a matter of fact, the mobility is one of the essential factors.

To keep up with the present industrial and construction development in the country, the necessary services and facilities have been built up are being projected.

### 2.3.1. Transportation

#### Ports

The technical and economic studies concerning the extension of the Mina Sulman Port facilities are under way. Thereafter, the port will be able to meet the increasing rate of sea traffic, bringing imported goods to the island, and carrying products for export to various ports of the world.

Cargo Imported and Exported Excluding Oil (in Tons)

Year	Imported	Exported
1969	378,109	37,317
1970	501,285	24,756
1971	542,611	46,301
1972	516,778	37,856
1973	625,871	38,465

#### Airport

The new and modern airport is already equiped to accommodate an increasing number of jumbo jets, that pass through Bahrain. More than 18 airlines are represented there.

The civil aircraft movement at Bahrain International Airport has been as follows (for more details see Appendix 2. to this report) :

16,024
16,098
13,289
19,088
25,917

As for the passengers, arriving and departing, the situation has been as follows:

Year	Arrivals	Departures	Transit	
1969	104 404	106 705	122 132	
1970	112 288	113 886	98 012	
1971	127 820	130 447	135 012	
1972	145 301	146 618	392 035	
1973	178 659	176 057	491 883	

Air Cargo in (000) Kgs at the Bahrain International Airport

Year	Imported	Exported	
1970	2 707	1 762	
1971	1 490	3 472	
1972	1 460	3 831	
1973	1 658	5 016	

Bahrain International Airport - Monthly Traffic in 1974 (9 months)

Month	Aircraft	Aircraft		PASSENG	ERS	
	Arrivals	Depart.	Embar- king	Disembar- king	Transit	Total
January	996	994	19 075	16 283	49 046	84 404
February	932	934	17 592	14 148	42 930	74 670
March	1 363	1 363	18 409	16 757	40 259	74 089
April	903	907	18 361	15 443	43 122	76 628
May	897	897	18 848	16 826	42 926	78 600
June	851	840	23 205	19 435	46 807	89 447
July	1 062	1 067	30 134	19 165	51 974	101 273
August	1 119	1 121	24 798	21 230	53 789	99 817
September	1 134	1 138	19 738	23 494	58 690	101 922

Monthly Traffic : Cargo & Mail (in Kgs)

Month		CARGO	MAIL	
	Imported	Exported TOTAL	Imported	Exported
January	280 058	142 230 422 288		
February	293 496	131 384 424 880	Birdston.	
March	330 983	195 756 526 739		
April	409 630	182 539 592 169		
May	836 703	179 201 1 015 724		
June	518 112	184 792 702 904		
July	473 879	186 880 660 759	9 915	15 871
August	493 576	174 018 667 594	10 311	9 226
September	450 179	167 384 617 384	32 821	15 597

# Roads and Bridges

The Island possesses a good road network. Approximately 50 kms of excellent dual carriageways serve the main urbanized areas.

The three main islands are already connected by bridges.

Important additional works are in process or in project. Under construction is the new Manama - Sitra road which, when completed, will facilitate the traffic with the island. An important project study is starting for the construction of a causeway between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia (25 to 30 kms).

Registered Vehicles by Type of Licence (1967 - 1973)

Year	Private Cars	Taxi cabs	Vans & Lorries	Private Buses	Public Buses	Motor cycles	TOTAL
1967	6 480	857	2 283	275	129	660	10 689
1968	7 078	901	2 372	286	130	923	11 690
1969	8 156	911	2 682	344	140	1 377	13 610
1970	8 960	915	2 999	381	142	1 529	14 926
1971	10 400	908	3 439	419	145	1 772	17 083
1972	12 389	837	4 267	491	175	1 966	20 125
1973	15 228	895	5 156	545	184	2 286	24 419

Source : Public Security - Traffic & Licencing Division.

#### 2.3.2. Telecommunications

Telephone, cable and telex links with every part of the world are excellent. Existing facilities are extended through the construction of a satellite radio station.

# Mail

There is a twice-daily distribution of letters in Bahrein. Fast service is offered with Europe and the U.S.A., respectively two and three days.

### Information Media

RAdio and Television: local and foreign radio stations are easily caught in Bahrain. Good quality colour television is also available.

Newspapers and Magazines: five weekly newspapers and magazines are published, four in Arabic and one in English. Foreign publications are regularly on sale.

# 1.3.3. Power, Gas and Water

Following was the production of electricity from 1969 to 1973:

Year	Units produced in MW	Number of Consumers	
1969	248.8	40,000	
1970	243.3	42,000	
1971	257.5	44,000	
1972	276.0	46,000	
1973	330.0	56,000	

Works are being carried out on the construction of a new power station on the Island of Sitra. This project is scheduled to be completed in the beginning of 1975. The capacity of the power station will reach 60 M.W.

As for gas, if the production of oil has been diminishing in the recent years, and perspectives so far have been disappointing, on the contrary substantial natural gas reserves have been found, and will replace oil in many cases.

#### Water

To resolve the salinity problem, a desalination plant is under construction, that will produce 5 Million gallons per day. The water produced will be injected in the present water mains, to meet the demands of the city of Manama.

It is to be noticed that the sources of water are less salty on the western part of the island than on the eastern part.

Used water disposal projects are being established for development of efficient sewage disposal systems: new treatment plants are to be located on the northeastern part of Bahrain.

# 3.1. TYPOLOGY OF TOURISM AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES IN BAHRAIN

One has retained the International Union of Official Travel Organizations' (I.U.O.T.O.) definition:

"... anyone travelling out of his usual residence, in a foreign country (international tourist) or his own country (domestic or national tourist)...".

As an illustration, the "tourist" would mean a person :

- travelling for pleasure;
- travelling for business and commercial, scientific, diplomatic etc.
   purposes;
- travelling for domestic reasons;
- travelling for other purposes (health, religion, sports etc).

Tourists are NOT the persons in the following situations:

- residents in a frontier zone, domiciled in one country and working in the neighbouring one;
- coming to establish a residence in the country (for more than a month), to take up an occupation in the country;
- in transit through the country, staying less than 24 hours;
- refugees.

# 3.1.1. Analysis of Tourist Motivations and Market Segments

Tourism in BAHRAIN, like all other activities, is integrated in the socio-economic structures of the Arab Middle East region, and it is therefore necessary to define a typology which is specific for the sector, account taken of all the relevant data.

Starting from the international definition of a tourist, tourists in Bahrain can be classified in three following categories :

# 1. Bahraini Tourist

This category includes the inhabitants of Bahrain who travel within the country or abroad for different reasons, as far as some of their activities related to the categories defined for tourists in general. They therefore form a segment of the tourist demand which must be taken into account in any general approach, and which is potentially preponderant.

# 2. Regional Arab Tourist

This group includes all Arab nationals, both in the Middle East Area and the Arabian Gulf, and the nationals of North African countries. It is however, evident that the Arab nationals coming from the Gulf and seeking pleasure tourism offer will have by far the most important share of this group.

# 3. International Tourist

This group naturally covers all the foreigners except the mentioned Arab nationals.

On the basis of this classification, the forms that tourism in Bahrain can assume are very varied and can be often combined.

In a preliminary phase the importance of these different forms will be defined and their location at the social, geographical and seasonal levels. The different categories of tourists in Bahrain will then be combined with the forms of tourism that are possible.

#### I. Vacation Tourism

The most important aspect of this category is the maritime one.

This is due to the fact that it occurs at the seaside, the main motivation being a desire for clean air and relaxation, and secondarily the bathing and water-based activities.

# II. Mountain Summering Tourism

Mention is also made of this fairly typical activity of nationals of eastern countries, who summer in mountains, looking for cool water springs, greenery and mild nights, escaping the hard summer climate. This segment should be borne in mind as many Bahrainis travel to Egypt, Syria or to Europe during the summer months.

#### III. Recreational and Leisure Tourism

This type of tourism is at present almost exclusively related to picnic or sport activities over week-ends or holidays. Generally taken, this type of tourism has very good prospects as it is attracting an increasing number of persons wishing to rest and recuperate.

#### IV. Religious Tourism

This category consists of pilgrimages to certain historical religious places, whose importance is not merely local but covers the whole area of the Middle East (inside Bahrain, excursions to religious places, outside to Saudi Arabia for pilgrims).

#### V. Business Tourism

This form of tourism is different from shopping, because of the qualitative aspect of business on one hand, and, on the other hand, because of the aspect of "touring" which has hardly any importance. This is, in short, an activity present in any society.

# VI. Congress Tourism

This is an activity almost exclusively Arab or inter-Arab, and concerns different topics: it can be a political conference, or a congress on new forms of Arab theatre, or sport occasions. It is naturally understood that this form of tourism could extend beyond its present frame.

# VII. Shopping Tourism

Shopping implies purchase of different handicraft products or other goods, which are original, typical and inexpensive. This form often belongs to another type of tourism.

#### VIII. Cultural Tourism

This is a touring activity, but having dominant features of special interest or research (archaeological excavations, historical monuments and sites etc...).

#### IX. Fishing

This activity consists of expeditions to the sea, with the main target of fishing for pleasure.

#### X. Week-End

This form of tourism mainly concerns Bahraini tourists who travel during week-ends for different reasons (rest, seaside, picnic and other excursions).

#### XI. Excursion Tourism

The dominant aspect is touring: this tourism is very wide in range and does not imply any specific activity.

#### XII. Transit

This is the activity passing through Bahrain on the way to another destination: it occasionally contains a stop-over of up to 72 hours. Future strong variations of this form of tourism are possible.

# XIII. Family

This form of tourism mainly concerns domestic tourists who visit their family during week-end, short vacations or holidays.

The table overleaf shows a framework of the different forms of tourism in Bahrain, and allows to outline their real dimensions.

To a certain extent, the table is the projection of the present situation and it is certain that the characteristics indicated will undergo changes in the phase of outlining the prospects.

#### 3.1.2. Typology of Tourism in Bahrain

Having defined the different categories of tourists and various forms that the tourism may assume in Bahrain, the typological analysis is approached, insisting on the possibilities of combining them.

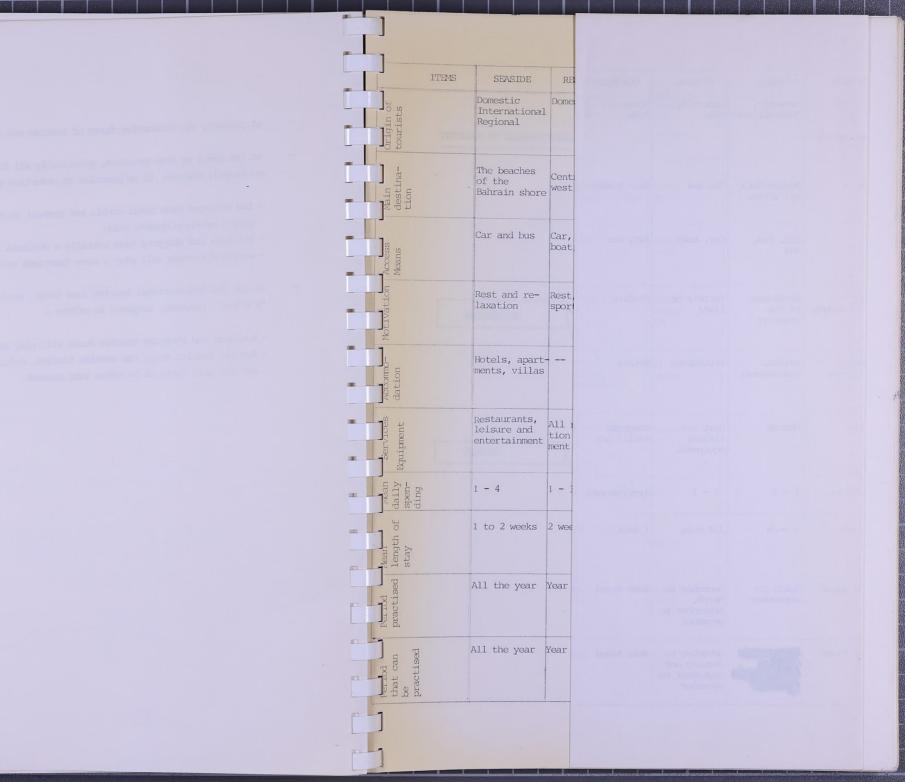
Naturally, only first motivation is taken account of, in order to avoid confusion. So, week-end tourism includes visits to archaeological sites and historical monuments, etc...

For the moment, the target is not to attain classification or quantification, but only to bear in mind all the tourism forms that seem possible.

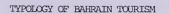
The comments on the diagrammes enclosed are the following:

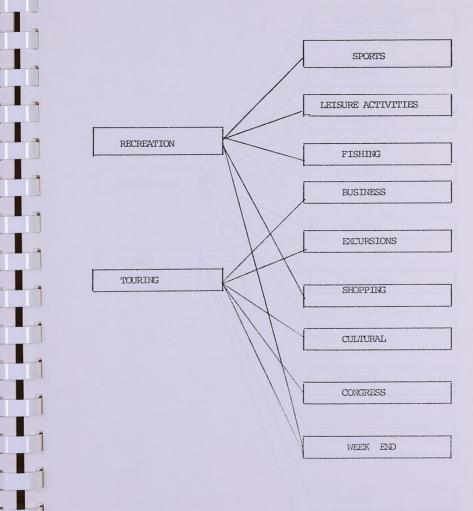
- at the national level of Bahrain tourism, all types of tourism can be envisaged except shopping and transit (this former being considered as a strictly commercial activity) but special care should be devoted to recreation and all leisure activities;

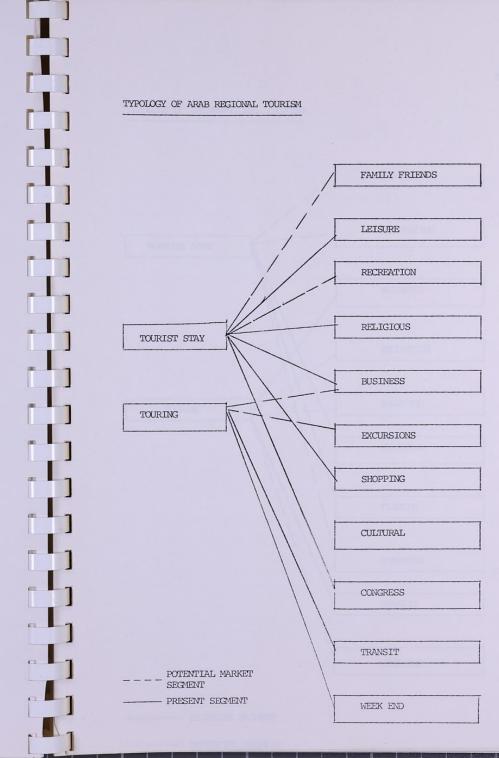
- at present, the dominating forms of tourism are excursions and week-end.
- at the level of Arab tourists, practically all forms of tourism can be envisaged. However, it is possible to underline that:
  - the week-end from Saudi Arabia and transit to neighbouring countries play a non-negligeable role;
  - business and shopping have actually a dominant role;
  - week-end tourism will play a more important role in the future.
- as for the international tourism (non Arab), certain forms of tourism are "a priori" favoured, compared to others:
  - business and shopping tourism forms will play an important role;
  - for the tourist stay, the seaside tourism, cultural and fishing tourism are the main forms to be taken into account.

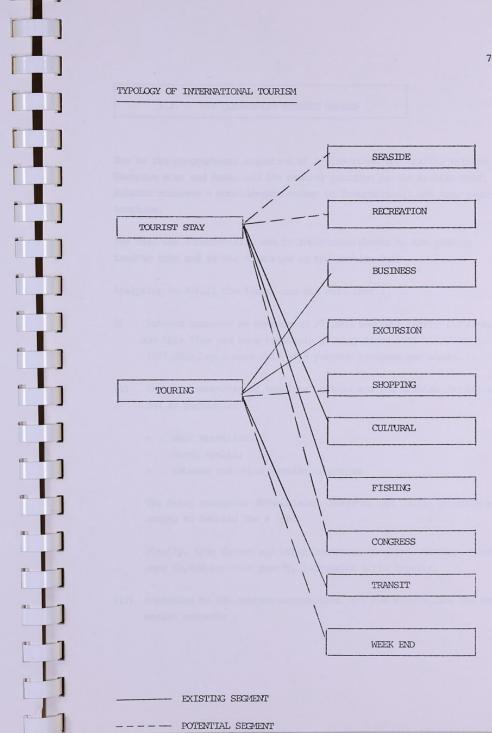


IT	TEMS	SEASIDE	RECREATION	RELIGIOUS	BUSINESS	EXCURSION	SHOPPING	CULTURE	FISHING	CONGRESS	TRANSIT	WEEK
Origin of tourists		Domestic International Regional	Domestic	Regional, Domestic Certain international	Domestic, Regional Internatio- nal	Domestic, Regional, Internatio- nal	Regional, Arab, International	Domestic, International	Domestic, Arab	Domestic, Arab	Arab International	Domes- tic Arab
Main destina- tion		The beaches of the Bahrain shore	Central area, west;	Religious spots;	Manama mainly;	Central area west coast, other islands;	Manama	Archaeologi- cal sites;	The sea	Main towns	Emirates, Saudi Arabia	Mana- ma
Access		Car and bus	Car, bus and boat;	Car and bus	Air + car	Boat, car, air, bus	Car	Car, bus,	Car, boat	Air, car	Car	Mainly car;
Motivation		Rest and re- laxation	Rest, leisure sports;	Réligion	Business	Change, short vaca- tions;	Very diversified;	Knowledge of the country;	Variety of fish;	Studies	Transit	Rest Leisu- re
Accommo- dation		Hotels, apart- ments, villas		None	Hotels, Motels	Hotels, Motels	Hotels, bungalows	Hotels, resthouses;	Resthouses	Hotels	Hotels, motels, resthouses	All types;
Equipment			All recreation equip- ment	None	Restaurants, night life	Café, resta- urant, casi- nos;	Small	Museum	Boat and fishing equipment	Congress facilities	Restaurant	Leisu- re;
daily spen-		1 - 4	1 - 3	Very low	8 - 18	1 - 4	Variable	1 - 3	1 - 3	(invitation)	3 -10	4-8
length of stay		1 to 2 weeks	2 weeks	1 day	2 to 10 days	1 day	2 days	1 w-ek	2/4 days	1 week		1/2 days
practised		All the year	Year round	Year round	Year round	Year round	Year round	September	December to March, September to December	Year round		spring autumn winter
that can be practised		All the year	Year round	Year round	Year round	Year round	Year round		November to January and September to December	Year round		Year round









#### 3.2. THE QUANTIFIED TOURIST DEMAND

Due to its geographical situation of a crossroads for traffic between the European area and Asia, and its central position in the Arabian Gulf, Bahrain receives a considerable number of international and Arab regional tourists.

Its role has substantially won in importance thanks to the growing traffic from and to the countries in the Arabian Gulf.

Analyzing in detail the flows, one can note that :

- i) Bahrain receives an average of 227,000 tourists yearly (at frontiers), and this flow has been regularly growing since 1965 (140,000) to 1973 (227,000), at a mean rate of 9 percent increase per annum.
- ii) The main countries of tourists' origin are the Arabian countries, and in particular:
  - Gulf countries;
  - Saudi Arabia;
  - Lebanon and other Arabian countries.

The Asian countries (Afghanistan, Pakistan and India) generate mainly workers coming to Bahrain for a job.

Finally, from Europe and other countries (America, Africa), there are some 55,000 arrivals yearly, increasing quite rapidly.

iii) According to the tourist motivations, one can distinguish the two
market segments:

- business and commercial tourism, mainly from Europe and other countries, as well as from Lebanon, Gulf States and Saudi Arabia;
- the transit tourism, through Bahrain, for different reasons :
  - pilgrims from Arab countries and from Asia, going to Mecca;
  - nationals or foreign residents in the Gulf States and Saudi
     Arabia taking holidays in their home country;
  - commercial or "other purposes" tourist transit.

Secondary market segments are the week-enders from Saudi Arabia, and family and domestic purpose tourism from Arab countries.

iv) The total number of bednights spent in Bahrain is estimated at 700,000, for all the accommodation types (excluding family or relatives' home.

For the next 10 to 12 years, the forecasts are as follows:

- a global increase from 227,000 arrivals in 1973 to 370,000 arrivals in 1985 (not including the arrivals from the neighbouring countries, whose future evolution will depend on the implementation of the causeway.).
- ii) the three regions of tourist origin that will generate most of visitors are :
  - the Arab countries from the Gulf;
  - other Arab countries;
  - European countries;
  - other countries (Far East, Americas).

iii) Relatively to the tourist motivations, the fastest growth will concern the business and commercial tourism (a yearly rate of 7.5 percent from Europe and other countries, and 6.5 percent from the Arab countries); the transit tourism, week-end from the Gulf, and family tourism will have, on the contrary, a more regular growth (from 4.0 to 4.5 percent/year).

An interesting market segment is that of the European and other countries' tourists, who will visit Bahrain for pleasure and cultural-interest tourism motivations.

The table overleaf indicates total arrivals to Bahrain in 1973, and departures from this country. A more detailed account of the traffic of Bahrain International Airport is given in the Appendix 2. to this report (source : Civil Aviation Directorate).

# Passengers Arriving and Departing during 1973

Month	ARRIVA	LS	DE	PARTURES
	By Sea	Total (with air)	By Sea	Total (with air)
Total 1970	61 280	173 568	56 730	175 616
Total 1971	61 337	189 157	61 776	192 223
Total 1972	55 251	200 552	55 833	202 451
Total 1973	54 193	232 852	50 976	227 030
January	5 243	19 428	2 262	17.10
February	3 271	15 852	3 362	17 142
March	3 785		2 606	15 006
	3 705	18 322 16 881	3 779	18 972
April	3 917		2 818	15 570
May		17 651	3 818	17 250
June	3 938	20 685	5 087	20 721
July	5 673	21 324	9 084	30 434
August	6 334	22 213	5 796	23 171
September	8 565	29 977	4 816	19 695
October	3 494	16 774	2 738	13 751
November	3 050	15 695	2 595	16 430
December	3 214	18 071	4 480	18 791

Source : Immigration Directorate

#### 3.3. RECREATION AND LEISURE DEMAND IN BAHRAIN

#### 3.3.1. General

In the overall mutation of the human life, free time becomes more and more important in accordance with the socio-economic development.

The usage of this free time is more or less developed and wealthy, in quality, in relation to the offer and facilities, and the basic motivations of the people.

During a long time, recreation was too often planned for a minority, but, since the 2nd World War, international tourism first, recreation tourism afterwards, became more and more a mass phenomenon.

Presently, it is recognized, almost everywhere, that that sector of the human life is one of the major one and in steady growth:

- a major one, for sure, if one recalls for instance, on one hand the total international tourism flows which approach 100 Million for year, with a potential of 1 Billion per year, and, on the other hand, the average 80 to 90 days of free time per year (including holidays) to which one should add a potential of 4 to 6 hours over the remaining 280 days;
- in steady growth, certainly, if one takes into account the fact that the sector is the only one to have an average growth of 11 percent all over the world since 1950, and that the crisis of energy proved that most people were ready to cut down their expenditures as needed on various levels, but not on vacation and free time (in France, for instance, the 1974 departures to holidays were larger than in 1973, while the car sales dropped by 25 percent!).

Furthermore, from a social point of view, and according to environmental factors, it appears that recreation becomes a main factor of individual equilibrium versus an increasing tension in the work and living conditions in towns.

These general trends apply obviously to the case of Bahrain, and are indeed reinforced in its specific frame. Before entering into the case, it is worthwhile to point out some of the main motives related to recreation and leisure and some of the basic consequences or constraints one may meet during the process of creating, implementing and operating this sector.

### 3.3.2. Main and Characteristic Motives

When focusing on recreation and leisure, one must keep in mind that recreation and tourism are an integrated sector: the splitting of facilities and actions according to various revenue classes would only reinforce the segregation due to the daily life and, thus, lead to more desequilibrium.

So, if strong tourism and recreation patterns will be implemented in the future with the target to open them to everybody, it remains that these patterns should be accessible to all (freedom of choice).

Recreation means first "need for space", and this is a drastic problem in itself in the frame of Bahrain topography, but, in addition, it is not just space. Indeed, the quality of life is as important as its quantity, if one may say. This is obvious now to more and more people and such a consciousness leads to give more and more importance to the quality of space. In opposition to the nuisances, pollution sources of all kinds met in an urban frame for surely a long time, the natural environment is a primary source of quality: reforestation, plantations, greeneries, parks are now clearly recognized needs.

If tourism and recreation were considered primarily as motivated for rest, relaxation etc..., it is obvious now that the always larger number of customers introduce strong diversity in motives whatever is the revenue class: rest remains as part of almost all motives, but is less and less the basic element.

Activity is, on the contrary, the very important new element which appears more and more in the recreational patterns.

First of all, any kind of activity, should be considered at the following levels:

- discovery;
- initiation, training;
- practising;
- perfectioning (betterment);
- competition,

being stated that the first three levels are potentially related to the potential mass demand, but too often the two first levels are missing up to now.

These two levels (discovery and initiation) are basic when considering recreational activities.

Second, besides all the possible sport activities (indoor and outdoor) one can emphasize, according to the present trends:

- cultural activities (arts, history, handicraft, folklore);
- training activities related to all kinds of hobbies and/or jobs (permanent vocational training, scientific knowledge...);
- activities related to the nature (discovery of the nature, flora, fauna, contact with animals, etc...);
- adventure, at least the feeling of pioneering, versus the routine and monotony of the daily life, felt as such (specific sport activities, rallies, safari photos etc...), which is taking stronger importance for the youth.

Participation is the direct consequence of that "active" trend.

One is not facing the two sub groups, one acting (ACTORS) and one
looking at (SPECTATORS): the group is one and everybody can be either
actor or spectator, according to the moment, the plan, the activity.

The success of any recreational facility depends directly on the degree of participation of its visitors, even as spectators.

It is clear that the development of recreational and leisure tourism for Bahrainis is very positive under some clear conditions :

- first of all, a deep and good knowledge of the demand is needed, since the sector is a very evolutive and aleatory one. The real financial possibilities must be taken into account, but this is not the main criterion of the demand's segmentation. As a matter of fact, on one hand, the age and kind of group (family, individual, association, worker, child, youth, adult, third age) and, on the other hand, the sequence in time (end of day, half day during the week-end, one day of the week-end, half day during the week, the week-end, the short vacations, over one-week holidays...) should be the basic criteria of defining the segmentation of the demand, as they are directly related to the operating of the answering offer. The acceptable expenditure rates are then a subsequent criteria only.
- Economic equilibrium, social impact, diversified demand and thus offer, point out the complexity of the phenomenon and its relationship with all other human activities. If one wants to reach rapid, efficient and equilibrated answers, specific and strong efforts have to be made at the public level in the field of organization and management:

- first, this asks for permanent efforts, thus for medium and long range policies applied by permanent bodies;
- second, the field of recreation and leisure tourism is so large that
  it involves several public departments and bodies which ask thus for
  coordination at all the levels (planning, implementation, maintenance
  and operating).
- From the urban and general development point of view, recreation tourism has an increasing importance in the land use and functional patterns.

The growing consciousness of the necessary equilibrium between urban and natural environments, work and recreation is a factor of mutation in the approach to development in space of the socio-economic elements.

# 3.3.3. Recreational Demand in Bahrain and Activities to be Developed

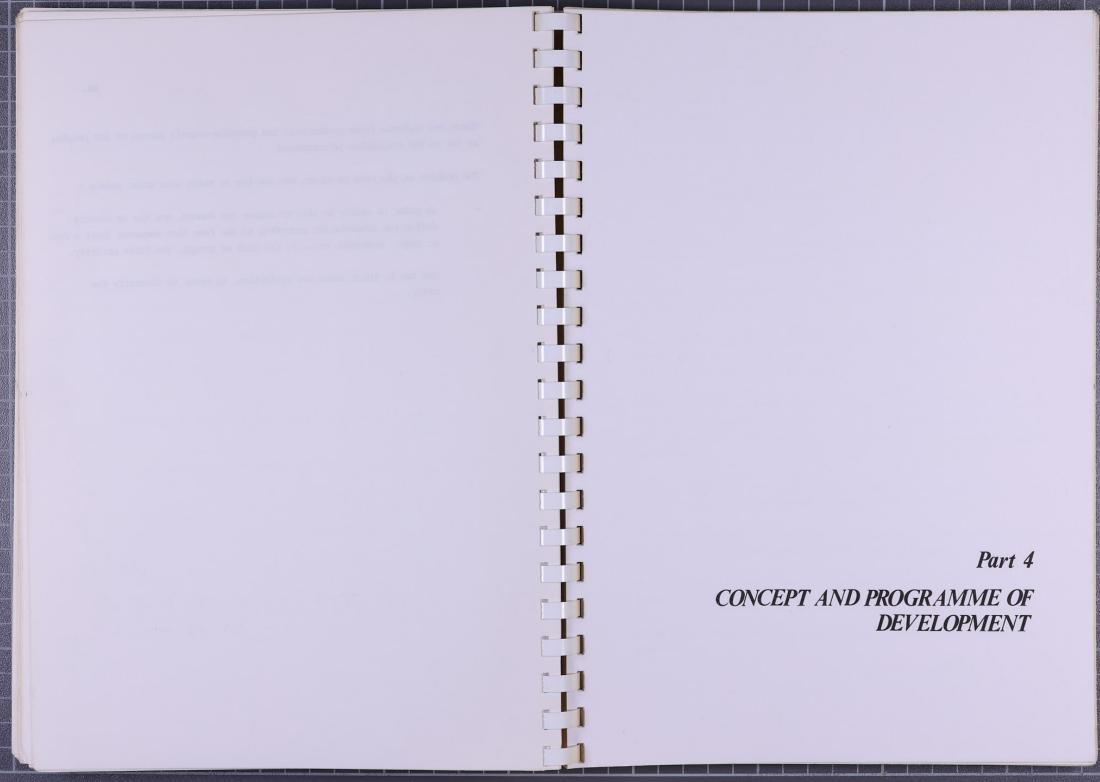
The most often practised recreation activities are presently:

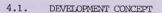
going to the beach;
visit family or friends;
visit parks or greeneries;
go to the movie;
go out with friends;
go for fishing;
play with children;
visit outside parks;
assist to sport events;
practice of sports;
go to a café or a restaurant;
visit museum and ruins;
go to concert, theatre;
go to clubs.

These few elements frame rather well the possible overall demand of the people, as far as the recreation is concerned.

The problem of the size is clear, but one has to raise some other points :

- in order to really be able to answer the demand, one has to clearly define the sebmentation according to the free time sequence (half a day, at night, week-end, etc...), the kind of groups, the first activity.
- One has to think about new activities, in order to diversify the offer.





# 4.1.1. Development Principle

Following the different motivations of the visitors coming to Bahrain, one must find specific locations corresponding to the needs of the people concerned.

Accordingly, one must give satisfaction to the desires of the local population in their search for recreation.

Bahrain offers a certain variety in environment, such as urban, semi-urban, country green or desertic spaces, inland or near the shores, and incidentally on the islands belonging to the State.

The principles of development determine the best utilization of the zones or sites for each specific type of programme, taking into consideration the access, orientation, soil, wind regime, vegetation, general environment and supporting facilities.

Other criteria, such as staging, possible extensions and economic or social co miderations or site protection, are also taken into account.

The general existing land use of the island is very well defined and the orientation of its future developments can be logically foreseen.

The last factor- the recreative one, has been left behind due to the more urgent tasks.

Fortunately, Bahrain possesses a good potential to equilibrate its development physically.

Most of its services are good, so are the cultural and social aspects of the life in Bahrain.

The following give the main directions proposed for the tourist and recreation facilities to be created.

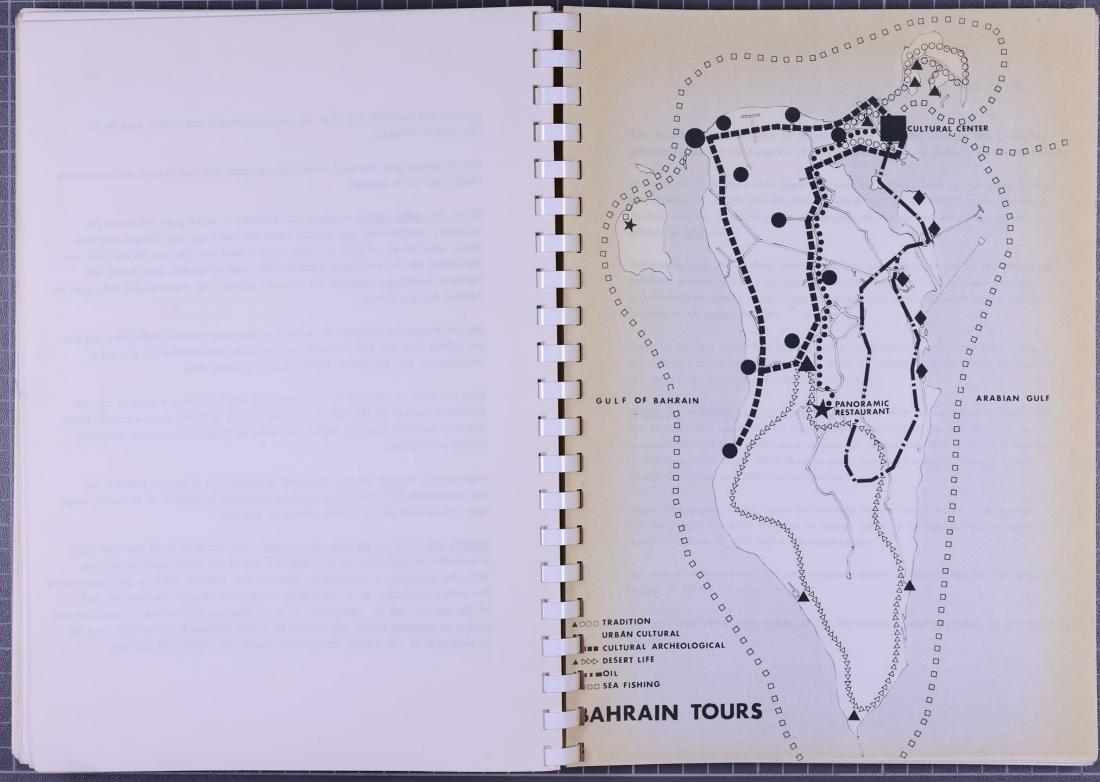
First, the urban sector - Manama and Muharraq -, which must reinforce its cultural, recreational and service sides for the local and foreign visitors. Today, spectacular efforts are made to gain land over the sea shores, and new facilities can be seen under construction, such as hotels, apartments and business buildings. Reserves for leasure, culture of the mind and body must be assured for the future.

Special dispositions should be studied to preserve certain traditional aspects and values from the past, through preservation, amelioration of the urban environment, and the proper legislation to enforce them.

From the city, tours will be organized: by coach inside the city or to the different sectors of the island. Cultural tours, archaeological tours or sport oriented circuits like the desert life will be framed by a precise programme giving priorities.

Sight-seeing cruises around the island with possible stops and fishing, or sea excursions will find their terminal conveniently located in the city, where they can be used by the largest number of persons.

Second, the nautical and shore development: the northern coast does not have a suitable configuration in the immediate future for water-based activities, with the exception of the existing fishing. But, Budaiya offers a good opportunity for such a programme. It is reached by a good road through the greenest part of the island, and is relatively at short distance from Manama. A decentralized centre is proposed there, which could be a very interesting pole of attraction on this side of the island, widely open toward the islands and the sea.



The future of these islands is related to the value of Budaiya. The presently unknown is the future location of the causeway, linking Bahrain to the continent.

It is to be hoped that this important work of art will not be too close to the two islands of Jeddah and Umm Sabaan, which MJST BE PRESERVED. With Umm Nasan island they are of great value to Bahrain, as far as leasure is concerned, and cannot be replaced.

Between Budaiya and Zallaq, the fringe land is attractive due to the amount of existing greenery. It is in this sector that international holiday tourism accommodations should be delicately established, with, in addition, a little nucleus on Um Nassan island.

South of Zallaq, beach development can be contemplated on a long term basis. Beforehand plantations should start with the proper kind of trees, because of the nature of the soil and watering facilities.

Third, the southern part of the island, east or west is magnificent. Here one has to take full advantage of the desert proximity and the sea shoe. It is proposed to keep this large zone as natural as possible and to build a minimum of solid construction. With this in mind, one can develop a "desert life", mixing tradition and 20th century confort.

Camps with Arabic desert tents judiciously located would serve as stop-over for the people visiting the area on horse, camel or by Land Rover, enjoying a complete change of life and a new experience.

The centre of departures for such caravans could be established at the Zakhir Palace or in the vicinity.

The panoramic restaurant suggested for the mountain would contrast by its modernistic aspect.

<u>Fourth</u>, the eastern central sector is mostly occupied by oil fields and the industrial complex. This is another interesting element, which could be integrated in the tourist tours.

Connections and visits to other points of interest include of course the archaeological remains, Aali and its handicraft centre, and several selected monuments.

Fifth, the islands: Jeddah; Umm Sabaan and Umm Nasan:
These three islands, different from each other, deserve considerable attention, each one having a potential for very specific uses. A variety of possibilities exist to exploit their characteristics in the best way. Here again the future causeway location will have a profound impact on their final destiny.

#### Special mentions

The magnificent site and environment of SAKHIR must be treated with particular care: it could become one of the most valuable monuments in Bahrain, establishing an international reputation, if properly preserved and adapted towards a new life.

The South Rifa palace is another delicate case: its location is beautiful but it is in a very poor condition. It is almost too late to save it.

## 4.1.2. Location of Development

## i) Cultural

Manama and the urbanized areas are the proper places for this part of the programme.

A cultural centre is under study, to br located north of the Gardens of the New Palace.

Incomplete information does not permit to know if additional facilities could be incorporated in the project, and if extra land could be obtained. In the eventuality of a negative answer to these questions, it is recommended that a <u>more centrally located</u> site be found to create a different group of activities, related to tourism, complementary to the existing project.

Short distance from the main hotels of Manama, good access by road, proximity of travel agencies and tourist oriented activities, are essential for this centre, built around a tourism information centre.

#### ii) Recreation and Leisure

## The Recreational Centre

The localisation requirements are as follows:

- a) a site large enough to incorporate the proposed programme;
- b) a location near the main urbanized area (Manama);
- c) a good access road for cars and public transportation;
- d) the considered site must have existing vegetation, at least partially for immediate enjoyment;
- e) the proximity of the sea is not essential.

#### Animal Park (Safari type)

By its size and its functions, its location should be in the non-urbanized area, with good accesses and partially planted.

The northern coast can correspond to these requirements with possible extension in the future, with field areas gained over the very flat configuration of the coast.

#### Horse Centre

This is a project already under study. The choice made for its realization is very good: north-west of SAKHIR.

#### Picnic and Barbecue Areas

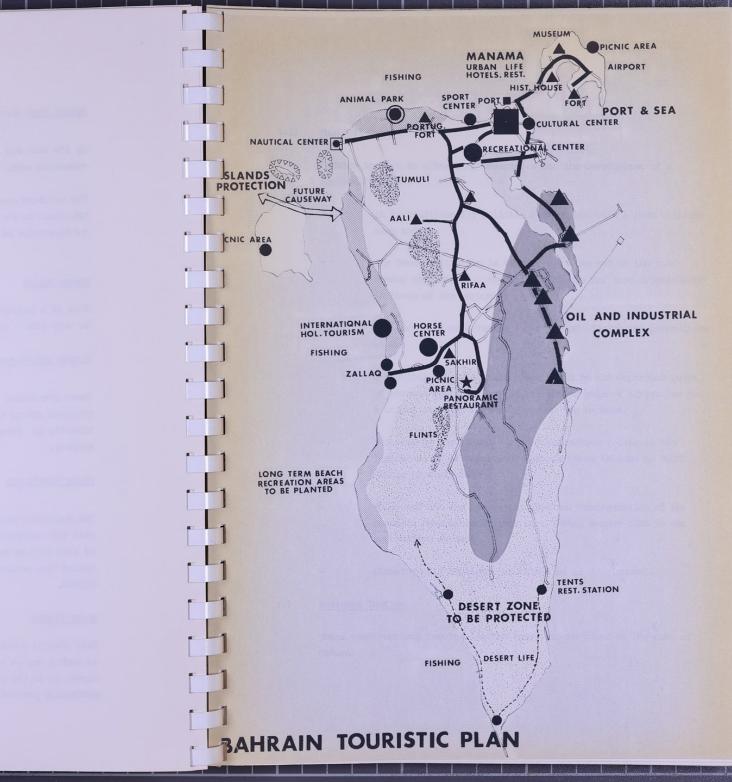
These are easier to locate as they need little infrastructure. One is proposed across the road near the projected horse centre, where people actually go. This is a pleasant lightly planted zone, also used for camping.

#### Other Facilities

The Panoramic Restaurant: its location in the highest part of the island will take advantages of this unique opportunity. A precise analysis of this part of the island will reveal the best spot on the mountain, taking into account the protection of the natural beauty of JEBAL and DUKHAN.

#### Sport Centre

This special sport centre of above average importance should be located in such a way as to be of easy access to the people of Manama. It cannot be in the city, but in a lightly urbanized section of the city, preferably partially planted.



## iii) Nautical Centre

Budaiya appears to offer many advantages for the development of a nautical centre :

- it is traditionally a little harbour but with a poor utilization today;
- the land utilization is very poor at the end of the road coming from Manama. Space is available for land organization in front of the harbour;
- the northwest orientation is very good, facing the predominant winds;
- a nautical centre at this place could be the departure point of renewal operations of an attractive pole of activities on a unique site and naturally around the harbour;
- the view on the islands is very attractive: this is the logical point of departures towards these islands or Saudi Arabia by small boat;
- then, and not the least, the physical configuration of the coast is favourable at this spot (water deeper than in the surrounding areas);
- planting will be light for this kind of development.

## iv) Business Tourism

These constructions require limited space, to be found in the town of  ${\tt Manama}$ .

# v) International Leisure Tourism

- the localisation must be near the water, and Bahrain being an island, this attraction and its beauty make it a must for foreign visitors;
- the aspect of the site must be of the nicest found in Bahrain, with greenery, trees and shade.
- the west coast is clean and free of smoke: its orientation to winds is very good. The seaside can be organized.
- the section between Budaiya and Zallaq offers the best possibilities;
- the proposed development should not hamper the superior aspect of this zone or create a nuisance to the surroundings.
- the small villages will benefit from the proximity of the tourist facilities.

## 4.2. QUANTIFIED PROGRAMME

The development programme to be undertaken in Bahrain over the 1976-1980 and 1981-1985 periods can be subdivided in two parts:

- a) The programme of recreational development, devoted mainly to the inhabitants of Bahrain, the foreign residents in the country and secondarily to tourists arriving from abroad (regional Arab tourists or international tourists).
- b) The programme of tourism development, devoted mainly to the international and regional Arab tourists, such as defined in the Part 3.

The analysis of the different elements of the tourism and recreational offering of Bahrain and of the motivations of the tourist and recreational demand, allowed to set up this first quantified programme (which will be discussed with the Authorities and re-adjusted, in order to reach the definite and detailed programme and implementation phasing. This will lead to the economic, financial and organization-side evaluations of the programme).

# 4.2.1. Recreational and Nautical Centres

By 1985, two recreational and nautical centres should be implemented in BAhrain, mainly meeting the needs of the Bahrain population.

The development programme of the recreational and nautical centres consists of four basic elements that will be found in each of the centres, more or less developed, depending on the demand of the clientele:

- recreation element;
- leisure element;
- sports element;
- restauration and catering element

All base elements will naturally need a technical and administrative support (maintenance services, organization and animation services, management and centralized administration services).

The development of the recreational and nautical centres asks for an infrastructure whose main element is access and parking space. Besides, one should foresee in each centre the electric power supply, telephone network, treatment of drinking and of waste water, and organization of the open space.

#### Recreation Element

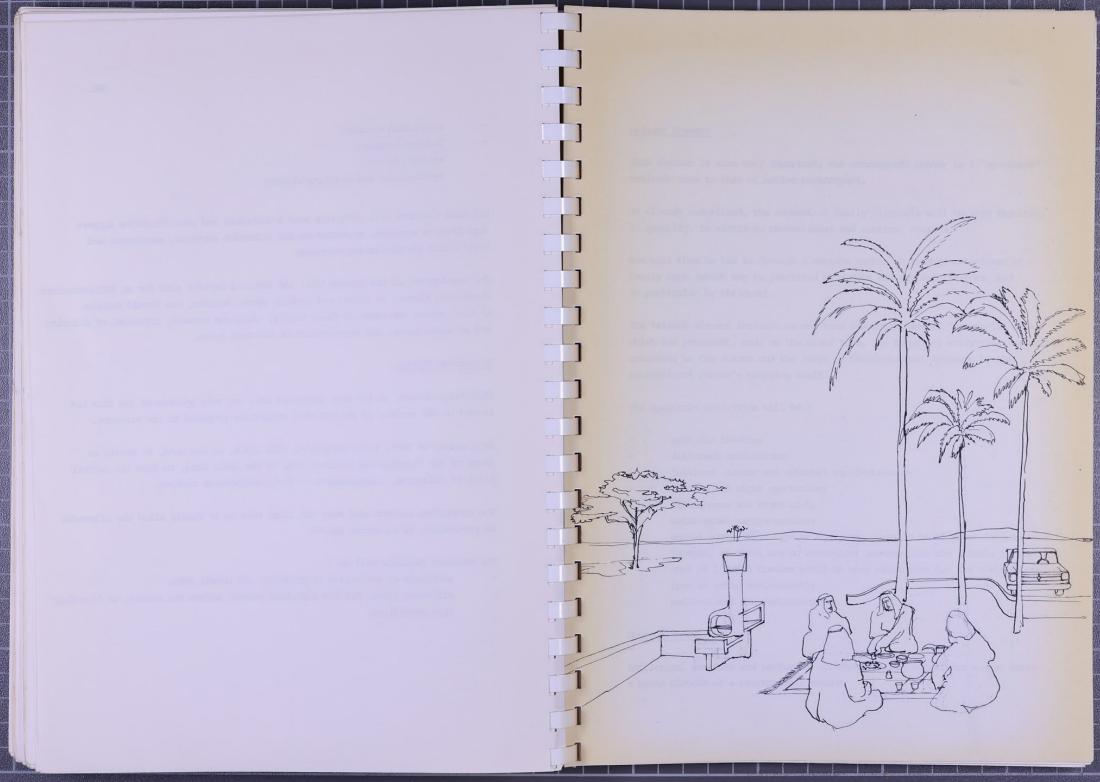
This first element is the most important one, not only because of its size but thanks to the variety of recreational activities proposed to the visitors.

As a matter of fact, these activities will allow, on one hand, to create an image of the recreational centres, and, on the other hand, to form the central point of animation, indispensable to such recreational centres.

The recreation element will have the vital role as it should allow the clientele to participate in an active manner.

The dominant elements will be:

- workshops of initiation to graphical and manual arts;
- different games, fro the organized circuit within the centre, to "fun-fair" type activities.



#### Leisure Element

This element is also very important, but corresponds rather to a "spectator" attitude than to that of active participant.

As already underlined, the segment of family clientele will be very important in quantity, in visits to recreational and nautical centres.

One will thus be led to furnish a certain number of leisure activities of family type (which may be practised by groups and any age visitors, and in particular by children).

The leisure element includes on one hand the activities of "spectacle" type which are permanent, and, on the other hand, the temporary activities, organized according to the season and the level of frequentation, foreseen by the recreational centre's managing staff.

The spectacle activities will be:

- open air theatre;
- different exhibitions;
- folklore, danses and cultural manifestations;
- dancing and night spectacles;
- discotheque and night club;
- water-based manifestations;
- animal parks (this type of equipment seems to be of great interest for Bahrain, as there are no zoological gardens, and the animals living in a sort of limited freedom would be very attractive for the visitors coming from an urban environment);
- audio-visual manifestations.

## Sport Element

Initiation, practice and perfection of certain sport activities are no doubt a basic element of a recreational centre.

As a matter of fact, a great deal of users of centres of recreation would come either over the week-end or on weekday afternoons (if the centre is not too far from the town, and if it has an easy access), to practise their favourite sport.

The sport and similar activities that would be offered in the centres, would in particular be :

- swimming pools and beaches;
- horse riding;
- tennis;
- all-sport playgrounds;
- boating and water-based activities;
- mini golf; bowling; archery...

#### Restauration and Catering Element

The visitors of recreational and nautical centres are in majority families wanting to leave the town over the week-end or short vacations. They would arrive in the morning and leave back in the evening.

One should foresee to offer in the recreational centres a varied equipment of restauration, and in particular the following:

- gastronomical restaurant of classical type;
- restaurant / casino;
- café-bar, offering drinks and limited meal variety (sandwiches, barbecue specialties...);

organized picnic spots, allowing to families to take their meals in a natural environment (barbecue points, water fountains, garbage cans etc... should be installed according the classical standards for picnic areas).

Besides, it seems interesting to organize in such zones of picnic the shelters or cabins that can be rented for a day.

## Recreational Centre

## Recreation Facilities

l attraction park "Disneyland" type	3.5 hectares;
1 carting track (10 vehicles)	800 lm
4 merry-go-rounds (children or adults)	
2 organized children playgrounds	3,000 sqm
l ice skating hall	1,500 sqm

## Leisure Facilities

1 museum (handicrafts, and traditions)	200 sqm
1 discotheque	150 sqm
1 night club	450 sqm

## Sport Facilities

o terms courts;	
4 bowling grounds	400 sam
2 swimming pools of which one for families	2,500 sq
1 multi-purpose sport field	8,000 sq

## Restauration & Catering

1 restaurant 1st class (200 seats)	800 sam
2 cofee shops with terrace	400 sam
1 picnic and barbecue area (400 families)	40,000 sam

12,500 sqm

40,000 sqm

800 ml

12,000 sam

600 sqm

## Technical Services & Equipment

1 administration and reception/information building 300 sqm 1 kindergarten 150 sqm

1 technical premise for maintenance and repairs 300 sqm

## Infrastructures

Access road;

Internal road;

Pedestrian paths;

Parking (500 places)

1 carting track

Arrangement of picnic and barbecue area

Arrangement for landscaping;

Electricity

Sewage disposal;

Water supply;

Telephone network

## Nautical Centre

1 marina

1 yacht club including security facilities

40 sailing boats;

20 motor boats;

20 rowing boats;

20 pedal-boats;

	TOTAL STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE	tota toward tracera more
		103.
	Pecch 6 January	
	Beach facilities	
	1 restaurant with terrace (100 seats)	500 sqm
	1 cofee shop (100 seats)	300 sqm
	1 technical building for maintenance & repairs 1 administration and information building	300 sqm
	and information partially	150 sqm
	Infrastructures	
	Access road	
	Parking 100 cars	2,500 sqm
	Marina (with pontoons);	27500 5411
	Electricity network	
	Water supply; Landscaping works.	
2		
-1		

## 4.2.2. Sporadical Recreational Facilities to be Implemented by 1985

It is recommended to implement in Bahrain a certain number of sporadical facilities, among which:

## An Animal Park

The minimum surface would be 20 hectares.

An animal park represents a complex containing animals living free or in limited freedom (this differing it from a zoological garden).

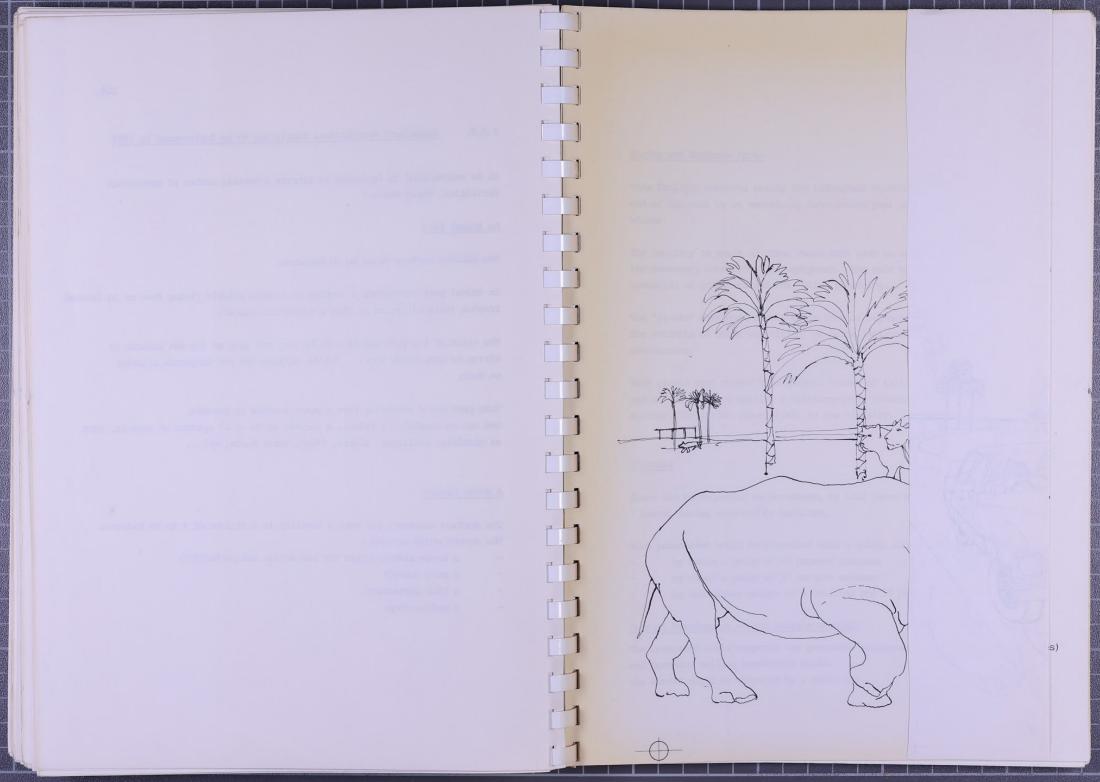
The visit of the park can be done by car, the same as for the safaris in Africa,or some other zones (birds, monkeys and not dangerous animals) on foot.

This park would certainly have a great success in Bahrain. One can contemplate, a priori, a variety of 10 to 12 species of animals, such as giraffas, antilopes, tigers, lions, water birds, etc...

#### A Horse Centre

The surface necessary for such a facility is a minimum of 6 to 10 hectares. The centre would contain:

- a horse riding centre for initiation and perfection;
- a polo ground;
- a club restaurant;
- a coffee shop.





#### Picnic and Barbecue Spots

This facility concerns mainly the individual visitors or families, at the end of the week or on vacations, functioning year round, except perhaps during winter.

The facility is meant to offer these that wish to take their meals outside, the necessary conditions and equipment. The main target is to avoid too large spreading of picnicers and the "wild" picnicing.

The "picnic" equipment should be in form of organized spots, placed either in the vicinity of other activities, or quite isolated in a shady and agreable environment.

Each picnic spot should have several dozens of tables with banks, chair etc., one or two barbecue grills, a drinking-water fountain, garbage cans and sanitary facilities (lavatories) in the vicinity.

#### Circuits

Tours can be organized on horseback, by Land Rover or camel, lasting from 6 to 7 hours, during week-end or holidays.

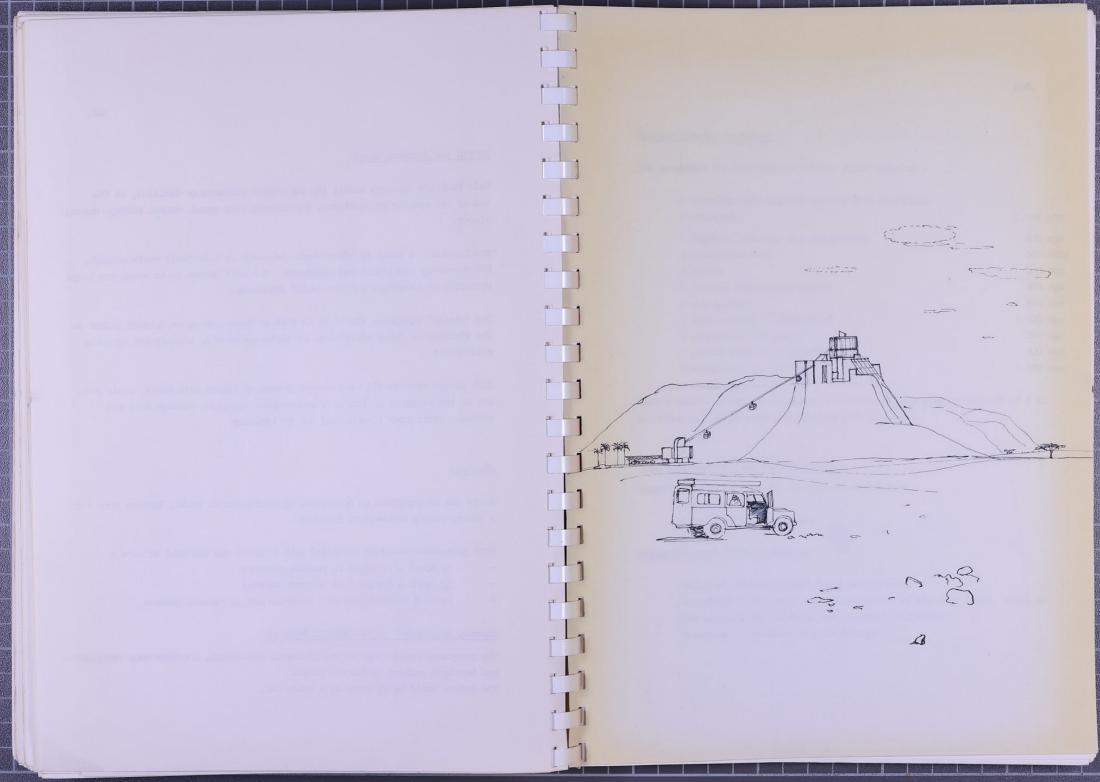
Such promenades would be organized with a guide, and one meal at noon:

- by horse a group of 10 persons maximum;
- by camel a group of 10 persons maximum;
- by Land Rover groups of 3 vehicles and 12 persons maximum.

## Tourist Development on the Bahrain Mountain

The programme could comprise one panoramic restaurant, a coffee shop (60 places) and boutique selling handicraft goods.

The access would be effected by a cable car.



## Cultural Centre in Manama

The programme for the cultural centre would comprise:

ancillary
1,400 sqm
500 sqm
500 sqm;
500 sqm
200 sqm
100 sqm
1,000 sam
200 sqm
200 sqm
7,500 sqm

Such a centre should be located in a landscaped park area (a minimum of 8 to 10 hectares), in an easily accessible part of Manama.

## Organized Recreational Fishing Cruises

Organization of outings for fishing on week-ends:

- 4 fishing boats;
- 4 mini-cruiser type boats;

## Organized Coach Tours in Bahrain

Organized archaeological tours with guides;
Organized tours around the island (visit of the west coast, visit of the oil complex, visit of some palaces, and ruins).
Organized sightseeing tour of Manama;

This would ask for 2 air conditioned coaches and 2 guides (Arabic-English).

# A Sport Centre at Manama

Located in a parc of a minimum of 6 hectares, this sport centre would contain :

- 2 football grounds;
  - 2 basket ball grounds;
- 2 volley ball grounds;
- 1 handball ground;
  - 1 olympic-size swimming pool (25 x 50 m);
- 1 wardrobe facility for 100 persons (showers, sanitary facilities etc);
- a parking area for 60 to 80 cars.

# 4.2.3. Accommodation Programme for Business and Transit Tourism

This programme represents the total number of beds to be developed in Bahrain by 1985 for satisfaction of the demand of business and transit tourists arriving to Manama.

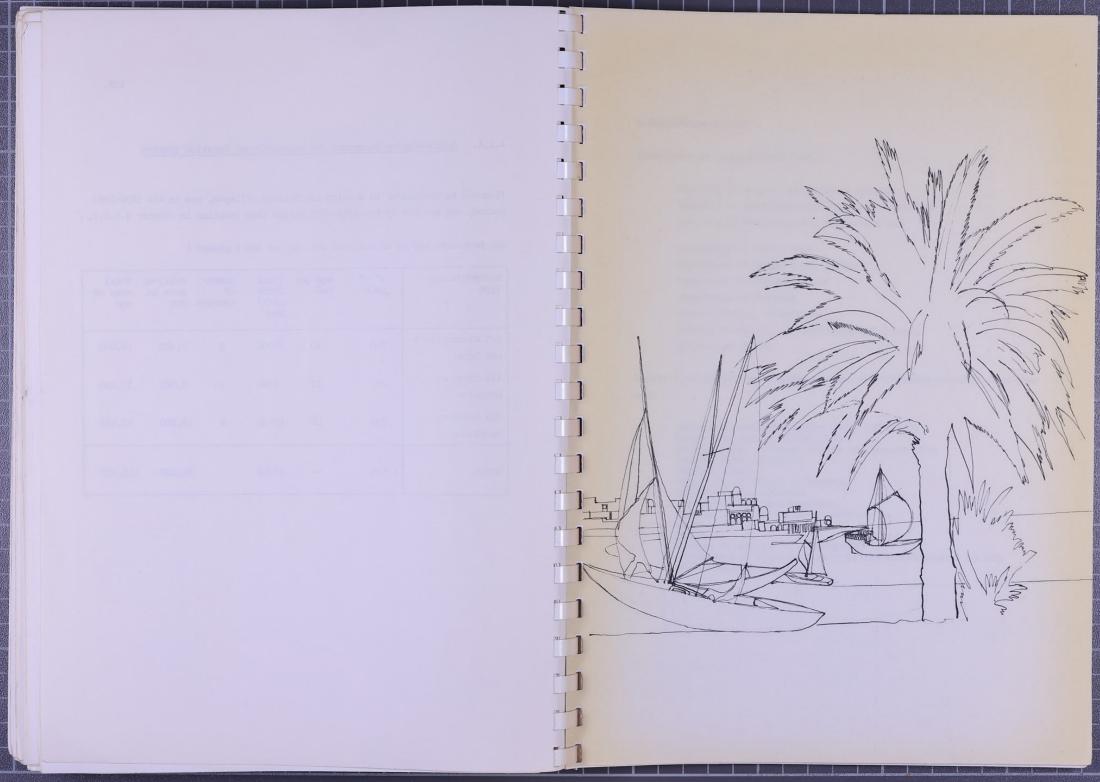
Number of Units	Type and Category	N° of Built-up beds area per bed sqm		Observations		
1	Luxe hotel	800	32	classical hotel type		
2	lst class hotel	1,000	30	11 11		
2	2nd class hotel	1,400	25	classical type;		
2	3rd and 4th class hotel	500	20	classical type		
1	Luxe apart- hotel	300	26	150 beds in 2-room 2-bed apartments; 150 beds in 3-room 4-bed apartments;		
	lst class apart-hotel	600	24	200 beds in 2-bed 1-room apartments; 300 beds in 2-room 4-beds apartments; 100 beds in 3-room 5-beds apartments		
1	2nd class apart-hotel	500	20	300 beds in 2-bed 1-room apartments; 200 beds in 2-room 4-bed apartments		
TOTAL BEDS		5,100				

# 4.2.4. Accommodation Programme for International Vacation Tourism

It would be convenient to develop two holiday villages, one in the 1976-1980 period, and another in the 1981-1985 period (see location in chapter 4.1.2.).

The programme may be as follows, for each of the 2 phases :

Accommodation Type	N° of beds	sqm per bed	Total floor area/ bed	Number of storeys	Built-up area in sqm	Total area in sqm
lst class classi- cal hotel	500	30	15000	6	2,500	10,000
1st category bungalows	250	22	5500	1	5,500	33,000
2nd category bungalows	750	19	13500	1	13,500	67,500
TOTAL	1,500	_	34000		21,500	110,500



## DOCUMENTATION SOURCES:

Interviews and field surveys with:

Ministry of Finance and National Economy Ministry of Development and Engineering Services Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture

Department of Public Works

Department of Commerce and Industry

Department of Electric Power

Department of Planning

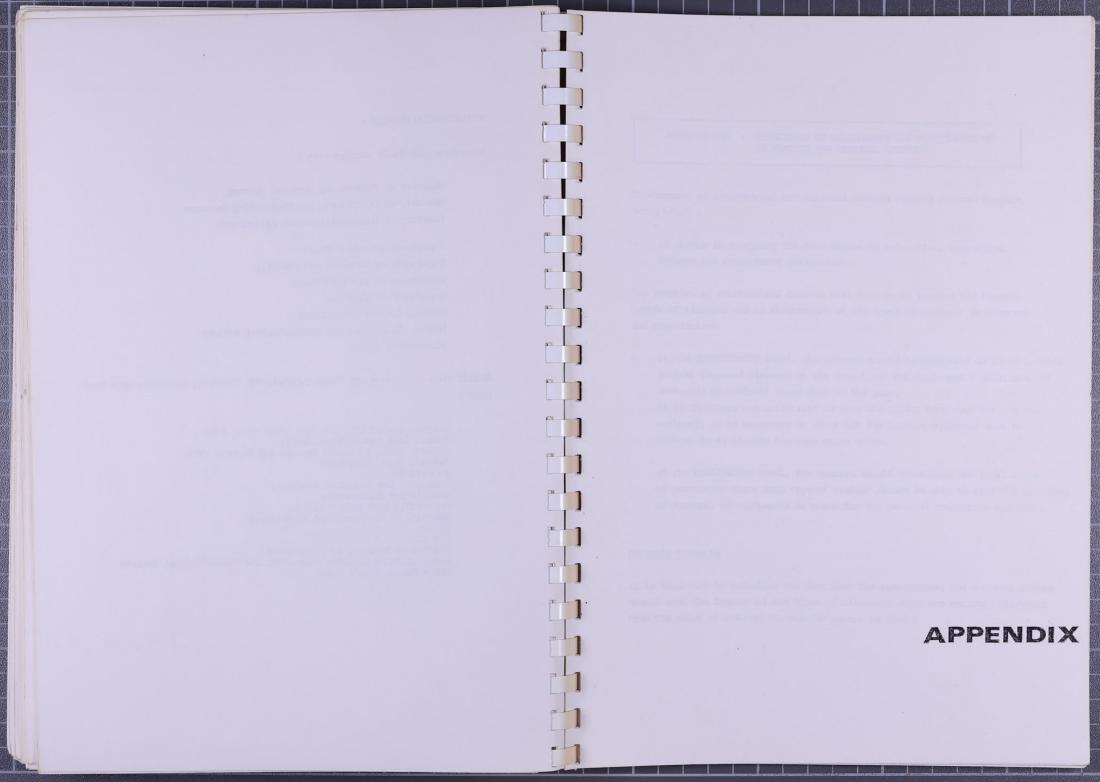
Bahrain Airport Authorities

Bahrain Historical and Archaeological Society

Statistical Bureau

Asside from interviews and field surveys, the following documents have been used:

Bahrain Statistical Abstract 1971; 1972; 1973
Middle East Annual Review 1974;
Foreign Trade: Bahrain Imports and Exports 1973;
Bahrain Trade Directory;
Bahrain Today;
Bahrain i: the Island of Progress;
Bahrain for Businessman;
The Middle East News Magazine;
Bahrain, by B. Gerard and J. Belgrave
Qatar
"
U.A.E. "
Welcome to Bahrain, by J. Belgrave
Antiquities of Bahrain; Historical and Archaeological Society
MEA's Businessman's Guide



APPENDIX ONE : PRINCIPLES OF DEVELOPMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF RECREATION AND NAUTICAL CENTRES

Development of recreational and nautical centres reaches several targets, among which:

 to ensure to everybody the free access to relaxation, recreation, leisure and water-based activities;

The vocation of recreational centres will thus be to receive the biggest number of visitors and is determinant at the level of centres' development and organization.

- at the QUANTITATIVE level, the centres should be organized so as to receive several thousand visitors at the same time, and this over a great deal of week-ends or national feast days in the year.

  It is therefore not sufficient to have the client come once but, on the contrary, it is necessary to offer him the leisure equipment that he wishes, so as to make him come again often.
- at the QUALITATIVE level, the centres should constitute the ideal zones
  of recreation where each type of visitor should be able to find the presence,
  or absence, of equipments he needs for his personal relaxation and rest.

#### Activity Criteria

It is important to underline the fact that the recreational and nautical centre should meet the demands of two types of clientele which are entirely different from the point of view of the way the centre is used:

an overall activity criterion which allows to distinguish, out of the total clientele, the ACTORS i.e. persons who would practise a real activity (sports, games...) and the "SPECTATORS", that is to say these that, on the contrary, would have a more passive attitude and would hardly or not at all use the equipments.

To these aspects corresponds a certain frequentation of the centre that can be qualified as "spectator" or passive, as it would be essentially aimed at the discovery of the centre, and would not use the sport or game facilities of the centre.

One can estimate that it would represent the most important share of the clientele visiting the centre: it is consequently vital to foresee organization of an important infrastructure of pedestrian paths or water-based means of movement, so as to render both the land and water sections of the centre accessible. For each site, one will try to organize the most interesting itineraries and networks, allowing for an overall comprehension of the site and offering nice views.

According to the age groups of the future visitors, it can be estimated that :

- the children would be : indifferently active or passive;
- the adolescents would be : active;
- the family visitors would be : active or passive;
- the adults would be : active or passive.

It is estimated that presently only one adult out of eight is likely to practise a sport activity in a centre, or that only one adult out of ten is potentially interested in an activity. This standard corresponds to the minimum ratio of the active that would be possible to find in a recreational centre. As a matter of fact, depending on the season, the ratio actors/spectators may evolve.

It is probable that the proportion of the active would be more important out of season, as summertime is not a particularly favourable season for promenades, favouring, on the contrary, the practice of activities (this may reach 100 percent of visitors on low season week-days).

## Criterion of Season

Another possible approach consists of distinguishing the visitors that would come to the centres in spring, and these that would visit them all the year round. This approach allows to set up a tentative typology of the future users.

#### Preservation of the Natural Environment

Contrarily to the concept of a FAIR or a FUN FAIR, the frequentation of the recreational and nautical centres s ould be controlled so as to render possible the preservation of the natural environment, depending on the size and the vocations of zones in the centre.

One can thus foresee several types of zones (or mini-environments) that should co-exist:

- strongly equiped zones where the natural environment would represent an integral but artificialized part;
- zones that are hardly equiped, where strong human concentrations can be organized (playgrounds, sea waterfront etc ...), thence with certain artificialization;
- the re-organized zones of fauna and/or flora, for the reasons of attraction;

## Initiation and Amusement

The life in the recreation and nautical centres should be a permanent expression of joy: the notion of OBLIGATION should be prohibited.

From promenades to most complex activities, and the discovery of natural elements, this joy should be present everywhere.

If the contrary happens, the image of the centre becomes gloomy and thus inacceptable: this will be reconsidered at the level of management.

Besides, the centres should offer an occasion to enrich oneself, to learn: INITIATION should be the key term, opposed to that of EXPERT, SPECIALIST or CHAMPION. This point should be clearly understood: the lack of knowledge, of experience or of practice are not drawbacks as it is often the case with the clubs; on the contrary the centre is open to everybody.

On the other hand, the movement on foot or not is part of the visit of the centres, as one should accentuate the diversity which is being looked for, and avoid the barrier between actors and spectators which is inevitable if reasoned in static terms.

The image of any centre is evolving in time : starting from a preliminary framework, the centre would develop according to the wishes and needs of its visitors.

It is however certain that it is the framework of the foreseen equipments and its integration and coherence with the environment that will be the basic support and the 'reason d'être' of the recreational and nautical centres.

#### Functioning of Recreational & Nautical Centres

The functioning principles of recreational and nautical centres are based on :

- the opening period of the centres;
- the access and system of entrance to the centres;
- the organization of the reception;
- the traffic and means of movement in the interior of the centre.

#### Opening Periods of the Centre

It is not possible to foresee a seasonal operation of the recreatwonal centres. THESE SHOULD FUNCTION YEAR ROUND, as this is the very reason for which one decides to create them.

Moreover, one can already estimate that the depreciation of the necessary investments for development of such facilities would be a complementary reason for permanent operation of the centres.

One should thus envisage a different functioning depending on the season: summer and other seasons.

During spring, winter and autumn, the centres should be organized so as to receive a mass frequentation : several thousands visitors at the time.

The visitors would be basically composed of family-type clients.

This type of functioning will rely on a variable number of personnel, depending on the seasons. Besides the permanent staff, for reception, one should also foresee the stronger seasonal recruitment for :

- reception;
- sport initiation and guiding;
- activities of leisure and amusement;
- animation of the whole complex.

### Entrance System and Access

The different facilities and equipments should be signaled and easily seen.

That is why particular efforts of road signalization (indications etc) should be undertaken.

As for the zone of the centre itself, if it appears useless to foresee a closed-in space, it is still necessary to organize the peripheral space of the centres in such a way as to enable a control of the visitor penetration to the centre.

It is, as a matter of fact, of vital importance to know the NUMBER OF DAILY VISITS, and the number of persons present in the centre at the time, so as to :

- avoid the phenomenon of saturation, mainly at the level of different facilities;
- direct the new arrivals to the less visited sections of the centre,
   during saturation periods;

It seems therefore that the recreational centres should allow for free access to the leisure and relaxation, and thus function according to the two fundamental principles:

- entrance and access free of charge for all the visitors of the centre,
   and for certain not specialized facilities;
- collection of entrance fees for all the activities and equipments that need elaborate structures, specialized personnel etc...

The organization of the access to the zone of leisure and amusement is a delicate problem.

The entrance could be organized from two or three large-capacity parking lots situated at the outskirts of the centre(1). These toll parking lots should be located at a relatively limited distance from the point, or points of reception, situated inside the centre.

large-capacity parking lots do not mean "CAR CEMETERIES": one should study a reasonable distribution of parking spaces in each specific case.

The infrastructure of the parking lots should inform the visitors on the organization and distribution of various facilities of the centre, by means of :

- a huge pannel with the location plan of the centre, installed on each parking lot;
- a system of ticket distribution offering to each visitor a descriptive leaflet about the centre.

It is underlined that the distance between the parking lots and the reception points should be as short as possible (maximum 400~m), and this may pose certain problems of spatial organization. One or two main pedestrian accesses to the recreational centres should be covered so as to allow access to certain facilities on rainy days.

Finally, in most of cases, visitors will have the possibility of reaching the centres by public transportation means.

## Organization of Reception

At the level of the recreational and nautical centre, the reception could be ensured by organizing one or several points of central information, according to the configuration of the site, the possible location of parking lots and the access points for public transportation means.

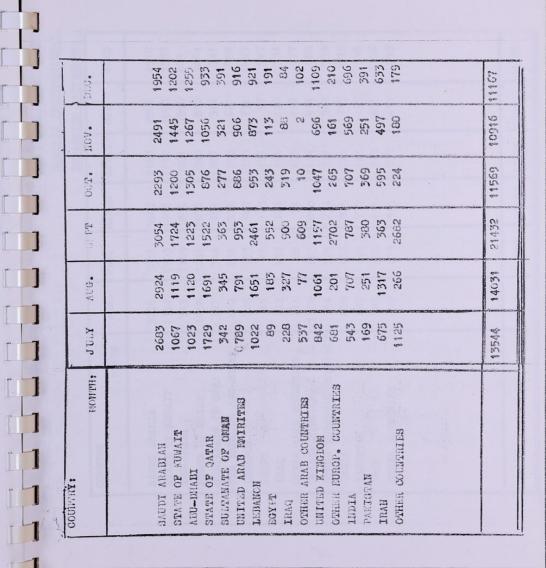
Such information points would have a multiple function :

- to inform the visitors in a precise way about what the recreational centre is, what can be done there and what must not be done there .....
- announce all the manifestations of all kinds that are foreseen in the centre that day...
- incite the visitors to go and practise the least "loaded" activities,
   i.e. to disperse the frequentation in an equal and balanced manner over the whole of the centre;

All this information can be presented on a huge presentation pannel, which can display, in a schematic but precise way:

- the hiking paths and all the movements network of the centre;
- the location of the attraction poles, where the visitors can practise different activities;
- the place and time of different manifestations.

APPENDIX TWO: BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT STATISTICS 1972 - 1975

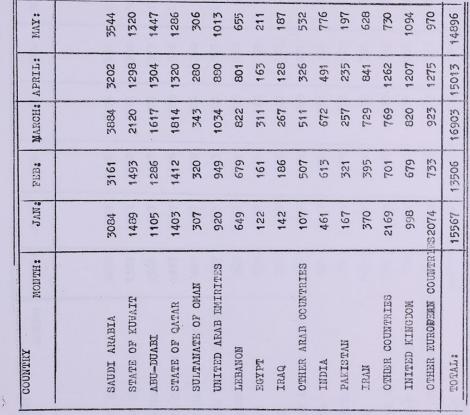


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	LEBANON	726	753	589	725	731	1295
	EGYPT	45	69	125	171	97	507
	IRAQ	102	256	154	160	140	134
	OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES	111	98	34	433	417	177
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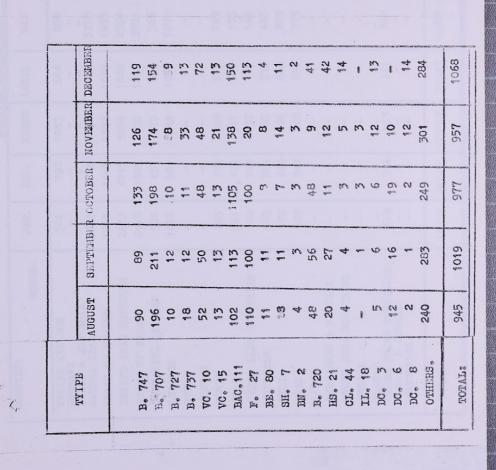
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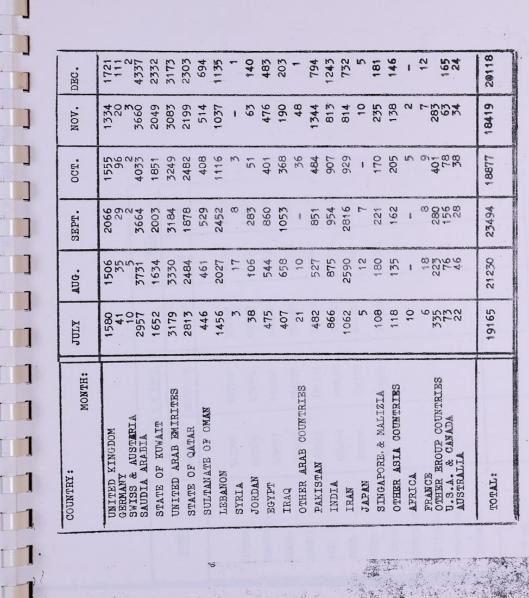
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TOTALS	983	780	833	912	964	916	1001
** Stehnstellungstation of the Stein Steinstellungstation of the Stean Stein S	marten Schille and destroy and an inches	COLUMN TO SECURE A SECURE A SECURE A SECURE A SECURE A SECURE A SECURITARIA A SECURITA					THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER, THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED IN THE OWNER, THE PERSON NAMED IN THE PERSO

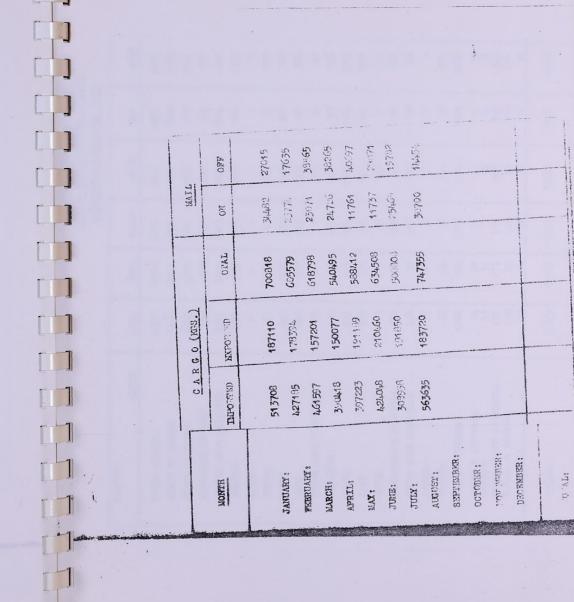


BARRIVAL PASSENGERS - 1974

			BUILTY	ANTI- THE THEORY		and the state of t
GOUNTRY: MONTH:	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UNITED KINGDOM	964	792	1033	944	988	1094
<u>-</u>	ŧ	1		1 1	1	0
SAUDIA ARABIA	3960	3116	3888	2455	3378	3842
	1943	1665	1837	1682	1655	2063
UNITED ARAB EMIRITES	2672	2715	3084	1860	2924	3402
STATE OF CATAR	2418	1945	2230	1854	2701	2741
SULTANATE OF OMAN	909	431	375	376	366	408
LEBANON	1048	861	1014	1053	1078	974
SYRIA	,	'	1	1	•	4-
JORDAN	ı	1		1	ı	35
EGYPT	283	176	446	236	249	302
IRAQ	241	174	311	306	135	255
OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES	40	162	37	48	144	126
PAKISTAN	405	384	387	332	443	999
INDIA	612	649	929	883	825	1034
IRAN	528	342	718	069	775	800
JAPAN	ŧ	1	ı	1	!	ω
SINGAPORE. & MALIZIA	ı	1	1	3	1	203
OTHER ASIA COUNTRIES	!	ı	8	ı		98
AFRICA	ı	1	1	1	ı	1
FRANCE	1	1		15	10	18
OTHER EROUP COUNTRIES	419	392	193	707	920	43
ATTS TO THE CAMADIA	8 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	. 1	40
ACS LIVE LIVE						
TOTAL:	16283	14148	16757	15443	16826	19435



14451 19782 38565 38265 16097 29.87A 27015 17635 OFF MATL 24726 11737 25/405 30706 11761 23071 34482 2377. 5881,12 634508 500303 747355 618798 54,0435 700918 605579 CARGO (MRS.) 2101.60 191850 183720 KKPOT. 19D 150077 19:11:19 178394 187110 157201 There result 563635 350418 424018 309958 427185 164 597 397223 513708 TOV NEWBER: SEPTEMBER: DECEMBER: OCTOBER: FEBRUARY: JANUARY: AUGUST: O'AL MONTH MARCH APRIL: JULY: JUNE: MAX



BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL AIRFORT
DEPARTURE PASSENGERS, 1975. 

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	COUNTRY						
_	HIMON	JAN.	FEE.	MARCH	APRIL	IAX	SIMILE
-	SAUDI ARABIA	1/21/1	4158	4763	2404	4583	6624
-	STATE OF KUNAIT	1596	2613	1965	1812	1807	2063
	STATE OF QATAR	2273	3093	2611	2322	2318	2871
	SULEANATE OF OMEN	752	482	124	518	539	755
	UNITED ARAB EMIRITES	2922	3012	3155	2959	3233	3381
-	LEBANON	876	206	930	865	816	1334
	SYRIA		9	4-	6	dev	114
	JORDAN	29	1/2	57	101	82	187
	ECYPT	141	556	354	523	162	788
	IRAQ	710	009	318	198	320	584
	OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES	66		40	22,	55	147
	PAKISTAN	4.35	346	411	510	327	929
	INDIA	857	824	974	1017	1066	1363
	IRAN	529	208	046	905	146	2422
-	JAPAN	2	6	0,	18	24	22
	SINGAPORE & MALAYSIA	200	228	24.3	24.3	186	230
	OTHER ASIA COUNTRIES	138	78	107	137	88	66
	AFRICA	dec	6	CV)	2	17	~
	FRANCE	27	#	27	134	93	102
	UNITED KINGDOM	1702	1796	1377	1722	1605	1664
	SWISS & AUSTARIA	14	58	23	25	1:	21
	AND TENTO COMMETES	43	27	380	2,00	530	25.5
-	U.S.A. & CANADA	119	\$80	106	8	183	238
	AUSTRALTA	23	34	56	35	61	02
	- A	4.707.9	49454	19304	18572	19411	24189
	TOTALS	1(72)	17.70				

