



The Intersection of Liveability and Tourism on Ameland



Picture from: Ameland in Beeld (2024)

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Abstract

This thesis investigates the impact of tourism on the liveability of Ameland, a Dutch Wadden Island. The study aims to understand the dynamics between tourism development and local community well-being by assessing both positive and negative impacts from the residents' perspective. Over the course of 12 interviews with different stakeholders this study examines economic, socio-cultural, and environmental implications of tourism. Findings reveal that the impact of tourism on local liveability is a delicate balance, which could currently be regarded as positive. Nonetheless, this balance might change depending on future developments. Through stakeholder interviews and surveys, the study provides insights into the residents' perceptions and attitudes towards tourism. The research highlights the need for sustainable tourism strategies that balance economic benefits with the preservation of local culture and environment. The study contributes to the academic literature on sustainable tourism on small islands. Moreover, it emphasises the importance of local perspectives when creating tourist policies that strive towards a healthy balance between tourism and livability.

Keywords: Ameland, Tourism, Liveability, Local perspective, Island, Wadden, Impact of tourism

Summary (EN)

Tourism, a multifaceted industry, brings both benefits and challenges to destinations worldwide. With the increasing accessibility of global travel, places like the Dutch Wadden Island of Ameland are experiencing growing pressure from tourism activities. The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted public interest toward local travel, prompting a preference for less populated, nature-oriented locations. This shift has significantly impacted islands like Ameland, which already attracted visitors primarily from the Netherlands and Germany. The influx of tourists has heightened the pressure on the island and its inhabitants, raising concerns about the impact on local liveability. This study aims to investigate the effects of tourism on the liveability of Ameland, focusing on the interplay between tourism development and community well-being.

Islands have always held a special allure for tourists due to their unique characteristics, such as isolation and natural beauty. However, the rapid growth of tourism can strain local resources and infrastructures, leading to environmental degradation and socio-cultural changes. The concept of carrying capacity is crucial in managing these impacts sustainably, especially for island destinations. Ameland, part of the Wadden Sea UNESCO World Heritage Site, exemplifies these challenges and opportunities. The island's economy is heavily dependent on tourism, which constitutes 42% of all jobs and 25% of the municipality's income. This dependence raises concerns about sustainable development and the preservation of local culture and environment.

The study employs both quantitative and qualitative methods to gather comprehensive insights. An online questionnaire was conducted to gather preliminary data (which were not used as results), followed by semi-structured interviews with various stakeholders. The interviews aimed to capture diverse perspectives on the impacts of tourism on liveability and the future of tourism on Ameland. Data from the interviews were transcribed, coded, and analysed to identify key themes and patterns.

The findings reveal a complex relationship between tourism and liveability on Ameland. The positive impacts of tourism include economic growth, job creation, and the development of facilities and infrastructure. Tourism has also contributed to the preservation and promotion of local culture, providing a platform for traditions and social interactions. However, the negative impacts are significant. Environmental degradation, overcrowding, and strain on local resources are major concerns. The influx of tourists during peak seasons disrupts the daily lives of residents, leading to issues such as pollution, cultural commodification, and increased living costs.

The study highlights the dual nature of tourism's impact on Ameland. While tourism brings many benefits, it also poses threats to the island's traditional way of life and natural resources. Based on the results of the interviews, one could conclude that tourism currently has a positive effect on local liveability. The balance between these positive and negative impacts is delicate, requiring careful management and sustainable tourism strategies. The findings underscore the importance of incorporating local perspectives in policy-making to ensure that tourism development does not compromise community welfare. The need for innovation, diversification, and sustainability in tourism practices is emphasised to maintain the island's unique character and liveability.

Tourism significantly influences the liveability of Ameland, both positively and negatively. The economic benefits are clear, but they come with environmental and socio-cultural costs. Sustainable tourism strategies that prioritise community well-being and environmental preservation are essential. The study's findings offer valuable insights for policymakers, stakeholders, and academics, contributing to the broader discourse on sustainable tourism. Future research should expand on the current study by including a broader range of perspectives and employing additional methodologies to deepen the understanding of tourism's impact on local communities.

Samenvatting (NL)

Toerisme, een veelzijdige industrie, brengt zowel voordelen als uitdagingen met zich mee voor bestemmingen over de hele wereld. Met de toenemende toegankelijkheid van het reizen ervaren bestemmingen als het Nederlandse Waddeneiland Ameland een toenemende druk van toeristische activiteiten. De COVID-19-pandemie heeft de publieke belangstelling verschoven naar lokaal reizen, waardoor een voorkeur is ontstaan voor minder bevolkte, natuurgerichte locaties. Deze verschuiving heeft grote gevolgen gehad voor eilanden als Ameland, die al vooral bezoekers uit Nederland en Duitsland trok. De toestroom van toeristen heeft de druk op het eiland en zijn bewoners vergroot, waardoor zorgen ontstaan over de gevolgen voor de lokale leefbaarheid. Deze studie heeft als doel de effecten van toerisme op de leefbaarheid van Ameland te onderzoeken, waarbij de nadruk ligt op de wisselwerking tussen toeristische ontwikkeling en lokale leefbaarheid.

Eilanden hebben altijd een bijzondere aantrekkingskracht op toeristen gehad vanwege hun unieke kenmerken, zoals isolatie en natuurlijke schoonheid. De snelle groei van het toerisme kan echter de lokale bronnen en infrastructuur onder druk zetten, wat kan leiden tot aantasting van het milieu en sociaal-culturele veranderingen. Het concept van draagkracht (*carrying capacity*) is cruciaal voor het duurzaam beheersen van deze gevolgen, vooral voor eilanden. Ameland, onderdeel van UNESCO Werelderfgoed Waddenzee, is een voorbeeld waar deze uitdagingen en kansen liggen. De economie van het eiland is sterk afhankelijk van het toerisme, dat 42% van alle banen en 25% van de inkomsten van de gemeente vertegenwoordigt. Deze afhankelijkheid roept zorgen op over duurzame ontwikkeling en het behoud van de lokale cultuur en het milieu.

Dit onderzoek maakt gebruik van zowel kwantitatieve als kwalitatieve methoden om uitgebreide inzichten te verzamelen. Er werd een online vragenlijst afgenomen om voorlopige gegevens te verzamelen (die niet als resultaten werden gebruikt), gevolgd door semi-gestructureerde interviews met verschillende belanghebbenden. De interviews hadden tot doel verschillende perspectieven vast te leggen op de impact van toerisme op de leefbaarheid en de toekomst van het toerisme op Ameland. Gegevens uit de interviews werden getranscribeerd, gecodeerd en geanalyseerd om de belangrijkste thema's en patronen te identificeren.

De bevindingen laten een complexe relatie zien tussen toerisme en leefbaarheid op Ameland. De positieve effecten van toerisme zijn onder meer economische groei, het scheppen van banen en de ontwikkeling van faciliteiten en infrastructuur. Het toerisme heeft ook bijgedragen aan het behoud en de bevordering van de lokale cultuur en biedt een platform voor tradities en sociale interacties. De negatieve gevolgen zijn echter aanzienlijk. De achteruitgang van het milieu, de overbevolking en de druk op lokale bronnen zijn grote zorgen. De toestroom van toeristen tijdens het hoogseizoen verstoort het dagelijks leven van de bewoners, wat leidt tot problemen als vervuiling, culturele commodificatie en hogere kosten van levensonderhoud.

Het onderzoek benadrukt het dubbele karakter van de impact van het toerisme op Ameland. Hoewel toerisme veel voordelen met zich meebrengt, vormt het ook een bedreiging voor de traditionele manier van leven en de natuurlijke bronnen van het eiland. Op basis van de resultaten van de interviews zou men kunnen concluderen dat toerisme momenteel een positief effect heeft op de lokale leefbaarheid. Het evenwicht tussen deze positieve en negatieve gevolgen is delicaat en vereist zorgvuldig beheer en duurzame toerisme strategieën. De bevindingen onderstrepen het belang van het opnemen van lokale perspectieven in de beleidsvorming om ervoor te zorgen dat de ontwikkeling van het toerisme het welzijn van de gemeenschap niet in gevaar brengt. De behoefte aan innovatie, diversificatie en duurzaamheid in de toeristische praktijk wordt benadrukt om het unieke karakter en de leefbaarheid van het eiland te behouden.

Het toerisme heeft een grote invloed op de leefbaarheid van Ameland, zowel positief als negatief. De economische voordelen zijn duidelijk, maar ze gaan gepaard met milieu- en sociaal-culturele kosten. Strategieën voor duurzaam toerisme die prioriteit geven aan het welzijn van de gemeenschap en het behoud van het milieu zijn essentieel. De bevindingen van het onderzoek bieden waardevolle inzichten voor beleidsmakers, belanghebbenden en academici, en dragen bij aan het bredere discours over duurzaam toerisme. Toekomstig onderzoek zou het huidige onderzoek moeten uitbreiden door een breder scala aan perspectieven op te nemen en aanvullende methodologieën te gebruiken om het inzicht in de impact van toerisme op lokale gemeenschappen te verdiepen.

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1. Introduction

Tourism is a multifaceted industry that brings both benefits and challenges to destinations worldwide (Bazargani & Kiliç, 2021; Lyulyov et al., 2020). As global travel becomes more accessible and popular, destinations such as the Dutch Wadden Island of Ameland are experiencing increasing pressure from tourism activities. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, local travel has gained interest from the public (Alvarez-Diaz et al., 2023; Jeon & Yang, 2021). Furthermore, individuals are showing a preference for visiting less populated locations where they seek nature and can be more active (Jeon & Yang, 2021). This rise in rural tourism has had a specific influence on islands such as Ameland. Since Ameland was already receiving visitors mainly from the Netherlands and Germany (Ruiter et al., 2023; Schroor, 2018a; Sijtsma et al., 2015), this group of visitors has grown even bigger (Wagenborg Passagiersdiensten, n.d.-a). Therefore, the pressure of tourism on the island and its inhabitants has been rising (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). This project aims to investigate the impact of tourism on the liveability of Ameland, focusing on understanding the dynamics between tourism development and local community well-being.

The relationship between tourism and destination communities has been a subject of interest in academic literature for decades (Aref et al., 2009; Athula Gnanapala & Sandaruwani, 2016). However, much of the literature is focused on the perspective of the tourists, while only a small portion researched the host community (Villa & Slijepčević, 2022). Some studies have focused on the impact on host communities, exploring the socio-economic, environmental, and cultural implications of tourism (Aref et al., 2009; Athula Gnanapala & Sandaruwani, 2016; Prasad & Kumar, 2022). However, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, an interest for the effects of tourism and vulnerability of host communities was developed (Arbulú et al., 2021; Duro et al., 2021; Villa & Slijepčević, 2022). The COVID-19 pandemic has reignited interest in the debate over whether to take a pro-growth stance for a rapid return to tourism (Butcher, 2021) or a responsible stance to limit tourism's growth and socialise it (Göbbling et al., 2020; Higgins-Desbiolles, 2020; Higgins-Desbiolles et al., 2021; Tomassini & Cavagnaro, 2022). The COVID-19 outbreak made people more fearful and brought attention to the islands' vulnerability and dependency on the tourist industry (Sharpley, 2012), and necessitated further steps to boost tourism and improve the industry's sustainability (Villa & Slijepčević, 2022).

Nevertheless, the Dutch Wadden islands are often not covered in academic literature, while they rank high in the list of the most popular tourist destinations of the Netherlands (Schroor, 2018b). There is little research available on the tourism carrying capacity on similar island destinations (Adrianto et al., 2021). Therefore, this thesis can be presented as a novel research that will fill the research gap. Amidst the rapid growth of tourism, the residents of Ameland are raising concerns about the impact on their daily lives and their environment (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). While tourism brings economic opportunities and cultural exchange, it also poses challenges to the island's traditional way of life and natural resources, as islands face mass tourism and are reaching their carrying capacity (Adrianto et al., 2021; Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Hakim, 2020; Hoarau, 2021; Viñals et al., 2016). Issues such as overcrowding and infrastructure strain have become increasingly prevalent on Ameland, especially in the summer season, raising concerns among local residents and stakeholders (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has further underscored the vulnerability of tourism-dependent communities like Ameland, highlighting the need for resilient and sustainable tourism strategies (Hakim, 2020).

The central problem addressed in this research is the impact of tourism on the liveability of Ameland and its implications for sustainable community development. Rapid tourism growth has led to socio-cultural and environmental changes that have the potential to compromise the well-being and identity of the local community (Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Prasad & Kumar, 2022; Viñals et al., 2016). Understanding these dynamics is crucial for informing policy decisions and interventions aimed at promoting a balance between tourism development and community welfare (Adrianto et al., 2021; Prasad & Kumar, 2022).

This study holds both academic and societal significance. From an academic perspective, it contributes to the existing literature on sustainable tourism by offering empirical insights into the relationship between tourism and liveability in a specific destination context. By examining the case of Ameland, the study provides valuable lessons and implications for destination management and community development strategies. Moreover, it contributes to the currently small amount of academic literature that is focused on tourism on the Dutch Wadden Islands. On a societal level, the findings of this study can inform decision-makers, policymakers, and local stakeholders about the opportunities and challenges associated with tourism development on Ameland. By identifying the key factors influencing liveability and community well-being, the study aims to support the development of sustainable tourism policies and practices that prioritise the needs and aspirations of local residents.

Therefore, this thesis addresses a pressing societal issue while contributing to academic knowledge in the field of sustainable tourism. By examining the impact of tourism on the liveability of Ameland, this study seeks to advance the understanding of the complex interplay between tourism development and community welfare in destination contexts. The objective of this study is to comprehensively investigate the impact of tourism on the liveability of the Dutch Wadden Island of Ameland from a local perspective. Specifically, the study aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To assess the positive impacts of tourism on the local liveability of Ameland.
2. To identify the negative impacts of tourism on the local liveability of Ameland.
3. To understand the perceptions, attitudes, and experiences of various stakeholders regarding the relationship between tourism and liveability on Ameland.
4. To explore how tourism should be shaped in the future on Ameland by including views of stakeholders.

The following section will dive into the literature and inform the reader about the island of Ameland. Thereafter, the methods of the research will be discussed as well as the ethical considerations and the timeline. This will be followed up by the results of the conducted research, which will be elaborated on in the discussion section. This thesis will end with a conclusion.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Island Tourism

Within tourism, both among tourists as well as in academic literature, islands have gained special interests (McLeod et al., 2021; Sharpley, 2012; Weaver, 2016). Many islands are economically dependent on tourism (Mazzola et al., 2022; McLeod et al., 2021; Sharpley, 2012; Tiago et al., 2020; Weaver, 2016) and islands as a collective are often seen as the second biggest tourist destination, after historic cities (Sharpley, 2012). Tourists visit islands because of their unique characteristics, such as isolation, rest, and peripheralality (Canavan, 2013; Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Lim & Cooper, 2008; Parra-López & Martínez-González, 2018; Sharpley, 2012; Tiago et al., 2020). The desire for remoteness grows as remote locations become more and more scarce (Ronström, 2021). The association with remoteness (liminal experiences), adventure, and otherness have always been characteristics which draw tourists (Canavan, 2013; Ronström, 2021; Sharpley, 2012). These characteristics are often collected under the umbrella term *islandness* (Sharpley, 2012). *Islandness* is defined by Conkling (2007, p. 191) as: “*a metaphysical sensation that derives from the heightened experience that accompanies physical isolation. Islandness is reinforced by boundaries of often frightening and occasionally impassable bodies of water that amplify a sense of a place that is closer to the natural world because you are in closer proximity to your neighbors. Islandness is a sense that is absorbed by islanders through the obstinate and tenacious hold of island communities, but visitors can also experience the sensation as an instantaneous recognition. Islandness thus helps maintain island communities in spite of daunting economic pressures to abandon them.*”. Foley et al. (2023) argue that the sociality and physicality of *islandness* are commonly defined subjectively, highlighting the importance of recognising biases by the definer.

Following the definition of Conkling (2007), the liminality of islands are thus not only important for tourist experiences, but also for the culture and identity of the islanders themselves, as it is the key feature that distinguishes them from other places on the mainland (Mitropoulou & Spilanis, 2020; Ronström, 2021; Sharpley, 2012). Travelling by ferry enhances the perception and experience of liminality (e.g., crossing some form of imagined threshold (Preston-Whyte, 2004)) (Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Sharpley, 2012). Additionally, islands are often characterised by rich nature and culture because of the remoteness and isolation (Mitropoulou & Spilanis, 2020). These features are often another reason for tourists to visit island destinations.

2.1.1 Impacts of tourism on local communities and carrying capacity

Tourism can have a significant impact on the livelihoods of local communities (Eraqi, 2007), especially in rural and peripheral areas (Archer, 2005). Often, direct positive effects are job opportunities and economic growth, while negative impacts on the environment can also occur when tourism is not managed correctly (Archer, 2005; Eraqi, 2007; Lim & Cooper, 2008; Parra-López & Martínez-González, 2018; Prasad & Kumar, 2022). The

surrounding ecosystem is frequently destroyed by tourists themselves; the more appealing a location is, the more popular it becomes and the more likely it is that heavy attendance will cause it to deteriorate (Archer, 2005; Hillery et al., 2001). Local residents in the study by Eraqi (2007) have raised concerns about adverse environmental and social impacts of tourism, such as pollution and cultural disruption. These negative impacts of tourism on island destinations are also covered elaborately in the research by Carlsen and Butler (2011). Rapid growth of tourism can strain local resources and infrastructures (Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Eraqi, 2007; McLeod et al., 2021). Islands are especially vulnerable to overtourism, because of their limited resources (Canavan, 2013; Mazzola et al., 2022; Mitropoulou & Spilanis, 2020; Parra-López & Martínez-González, 2018; Peterson, 2020; Uysal & Modica, 2016). Therefore, the concept of carrying capacity is important to manage impacts sustainably, especially on islands (Archer, 2005; Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Leka et al., 2022; Lim & Cooper, 2008; Rodríguez et al., 2008; Uysal & Modica, 2016; Viñals et al., 2016). Carrying capacity refers to the amount of visitors that a destination can sustainably accommodate without compromising its natural, cultural, and social integrity (Adrianto et al., 2021; Archer, 2005; Leka et al., 2022).

Tourism could also have a negative impact on local identity, culture and authenticity (Archer, 2005). The large quantity of tourists compared to the low number of locals can have a pervasive impact on the community, as higher levels of social interaction are taking place (Carlsen & Butler, 2011). When locals commodify their culture to tourists as a way to earn an income, it can lead to staged authenticity (Archer, 2005; Chhabra et al., 2003; Gardiner et al., 2022). Research by Chhabra and colleagues (2003) and Gardiner et al. (2022) have concluded that this staged authenticity does not have to lead to less interest from tourists as it can still be perceived as highly authentic. Overall, staged authenticity can enhance visitor attitudes towards historical heritage experiences, offering escapism, education, entertainment, aesthetics, and a sense of authenticity (Gardiner et al., 2022). Nonetheless, staged authenticity is a mechanism to protect the true cultural identity, which could be affected when it is shared with visitors (Archer, 2005; Gardiner et al., 2022).

To conclude, based on the literature that was consulted up until now, the impacts of tourism can be grouped into economical, environmental and socio-cultural impacts (Canavan, 2013; Carlsen & Butler, 2011; Lim & Cooper, 2008; Mitropoulou & Spilanis, 2020; Parra-López & Martínez-González, 2018; Prasad & Kumar, 2022). Therefore, these categories will be used in this research.

2.2 The Island of Ameland

The study area of this thesis is the Dutch Wadden Island of Ameland (See Image 1), located in the Wadden Sea, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Gemeente Ameland, 2022; UNESCO World Heritage Centre, n.d.). Ameland is part of the province of Friesland, one of the five Dutch Wadden Islands (Visit Friesland, n.d.). Each visitor travels by boat for fifty minutes, before reaching the island (Visser et al., 2024; Wagenborg Passagiersdiensten, n.d.-b). Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (n.d.) reports that the population of Ameland includes 3.840 people, dispersed across 56,6 km² and throughout four villages: Hollum, Ballum, Nes, and Buren (CBS Statline, n.d.; Gemeente Ameland, 2024; Visit Wadden, n.d.; VVV Ameland, n.d.-a). As a whole, Ameland ranks among the Dutch municipalities with the fewest inhabitants and has an ageing population, which is visible in Figure 1 (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, n.d.-b).



Image 1: Map of Ameland
From Google Maps

Leeftijdsofbouw, Ameland, 2023



Figure 1: Population pyramid of Ameland
From Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (n.d.-b)

Tourism plays a significant role in the economy of Ameland, attracting visitors from mostly the Netherlands and Germany throughout the year (Ruiter et al., 2023; Schroor, 2018a). The tourism industry is a vital component of the island's economy, accounting for 42% of all jobs and 25% of the municipality's income (De Vries, 2020; Doedens & Houter, 2015; Omrop Fryslân, 2022; Schroor, 2018b). According to Ruiter et al. (2023), the island now hosts over 660 000 tourists annually, which are spread throughout the year, with a peak in the summer months.

The Wadden island provides a vast natural landscape, complemented by essential amenities and dining options (Schroor, 2018a; Schroor, 2018b; Visit Wadden, n.d.; VVV Ameland, n.d.-a). Additionally, most of this landscape is easily traversable, because of the numerous hiking and biking trails (Schroor, 2018a; Visit Wadden,

n.d.; VVV Ameland, n.d.-a). It's worth noting that a portion of Ameland's tourism is characterised as nature-based, owing to its large natural landscape (Ruiter et al., 2023; Van der Til, 2022). However, Ameland also attracts tourists interested in cultural experiences, offering a diverse array of events spanning from sports to cultural and historical occasions, attracting a wide public (Ruiter et al., 2023; Schroor, 2018a; VVV Ameland, 2024; VVV Ameland, n.d.-c). Moreover, the local community enriches the visitor experience through guided activities, local products, and engaging exhibits in various museums (VVV Ameland, 2024; VVV Ameland, n.d.-c). Popular attractions include the iconic lighthouse in Hollum, the nature reserve Het Oerd, and the museums showcasing Ameland's maritime history and cultural heritage (Doedens & Houter, 2015; Ruiter et al., 2023; VVV Ameland, n.d.-c). Lastly, Ameland accommodates a wide spectrum of tourists, with lodging options ranging from bungalows and apartments to hotels, group accommodations, and camping facilities, each catering to different preferences in terms of amenities and luxury levels (Ruiter et al., 2023; VVV Ameland, n.d.-b). While there are no official data on the amount of accommodations on Ameland, Table 1 displays the accommodations and sleeping places on the Wadden Islands in general. The full table from Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek can be found in the appendix. Table 2 presents the number of visitors to the Dutch Wadden Islands, based on data from 2017.

Table 1.

Total overnight accommodations (StatLine - Logiesaccommodaties; Capaciteit, Accommodaties, Bedden, Regio, 2024).

Total overnight accommodations	The Netherlands	Friesland	The Wadden Islands
Accommodations	9 277	891	436
Sleeping places	1 460 281	97 336	66 121

Table 2.

Size of local population and number of visitors to Dutch Wadden Islands (Schroor, 2018a, p. 100).

	Texel	Vlieland	Terschelling	Ameland	Schiermonnikoog
Size of local population	13 545	1085	4859	3633	941
Surface of the island	162 km ²	36 km ²	87 km ²	59 km ²	41 km ²
Overnight stays	900 000	193 000	571 000	512 000	100 000
One day visitors	100 000	17 000	36 000	85 000	200 000

As can be viewed in Table 2, Ameland receives many tourists, while the local population is rather small, as well as the island's surface. Since its popularity as a tourist destination (Doedens & Houter, 2015; Schroor, 2018b), Ameland faces challenges associated with sustainable tourism development. According to Schroor (2018b), this is not new, as Ameland struggled with the impacts of tourism in the 1930s. Locals were concerned about tourism reaching its limits and destroying the natural landscape by building ugly summer houses (Schroor, 2018b). As several governmental organisations supported the locals, it led the municipality to demolish 68 out of 100 summer houses in 1936 (Schroor, 2018b, p. 99). Nowadays, locals raise concerns again about the growing flow of tourists entering the island (De Stentor, 2022; Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). The concerns are valid, as the island is changing a lot because of tourism (Schroor, 2018b).

Due to the growth of tourism, the Wadden Islands have gone from being the most impoverished to the most rich towns in the Northern Netherlands in sixty years (Schroor, 2018b). However, gentrification processes are occurring in the leisure industry, as Schroor (2018b) continues to explain: summer house sites are replacing camping areas; long-term island visitors in mobile homes are being displaced by sites housing opulent chalets owned by major players like Roompot and Landal; and guesthouses and group lodgings are being transformed into apartments

and upscale hotels. Furthermore, since the 1980s, the tourist season has been extended due to events (Schroor, 2018b). This has resulted in longer stays and larger crowds on the islands, but it has also gradually drawn a much wealthier and better educated audience, pushing away the traditional visitors from the islands, who have a smaller budget (Schroor, 2018b). Meanwhile, the inappropriate use of houses within the villages as tourist accommodation and the significant outside pressure to drive up house prices result in housing issues for young people living on the island as well as employees who support the tourism sector, middle class lifestyle, and catering sector (Schroor, 2018b).

To address concerns and prevent adverse effects, the municipality has created a new tourism policy to ensure sustainability for the future (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). Nonetheless, much research lacks perceptions of the local community (Apraku et al., 2021; Villa & Slijepčević, 2022). Even though Ginder & Gemeente Ameland (2022) discussed their new tourism plans with locals, the impact of tourism on the lives of Amelanders (locals on the island) is not researched. Therefore, this research aims to shed light on this topic and highlight the implications and impacts of tourism on local livelihoods.

Overall, the study area of this thesis, the Dutch Wadden Island of Ameland, provides a rich and complex context for investigating the impact of tourism on liveability and sustainability. By examining the dynamics between tourism development and community well-being on Ameland, the study aims to generate insights and recommendations that can inform policy decisions and promote sustainable tourism practices in similar destination contexts.

2.2.1 Tourist profile

Based on the research conducted by Ruiters et al. (2023)¹, a tourist profile can be established. Ameland receives most tourists between the months of April to September and most of the visitors come to Ameland on Mondays or Fridays. A large group of tourists spend a few days on the island, together with family and/or friends. Additionally, the largest share of visitors is from the Netherlands, followed by Germany. Finally, tourists often have the desire to visit Ameland again in the future.

Main reasons for tourists to visit Ameland are environment and nature related (see Figure 2). Peace, space and quietness are important factors. This results in some tourists preferring to visit Ameland in the winter, as the summer season is the busiest time on Ameland. The feeling of *islandness* was also mentioned often, together with the feelings of *home*, *holiday*, and *familiarity / safety*. Respondents described that the island feels like being abroad, while still being in the Netherlands. Finally, the lack of rules and regulations as well as the positive attitude towards dogs was labelled as positive features of Ameland by visitors.

¹ This research is not fully representative of the tourist pool that visits Ameland. Nonetheless, Ruiters et al. (2023) claim that their results are trustworthy. Therefore, this thesis uses the study to provide the reader with an idea of who visits the island of Ameland and their characteristics.

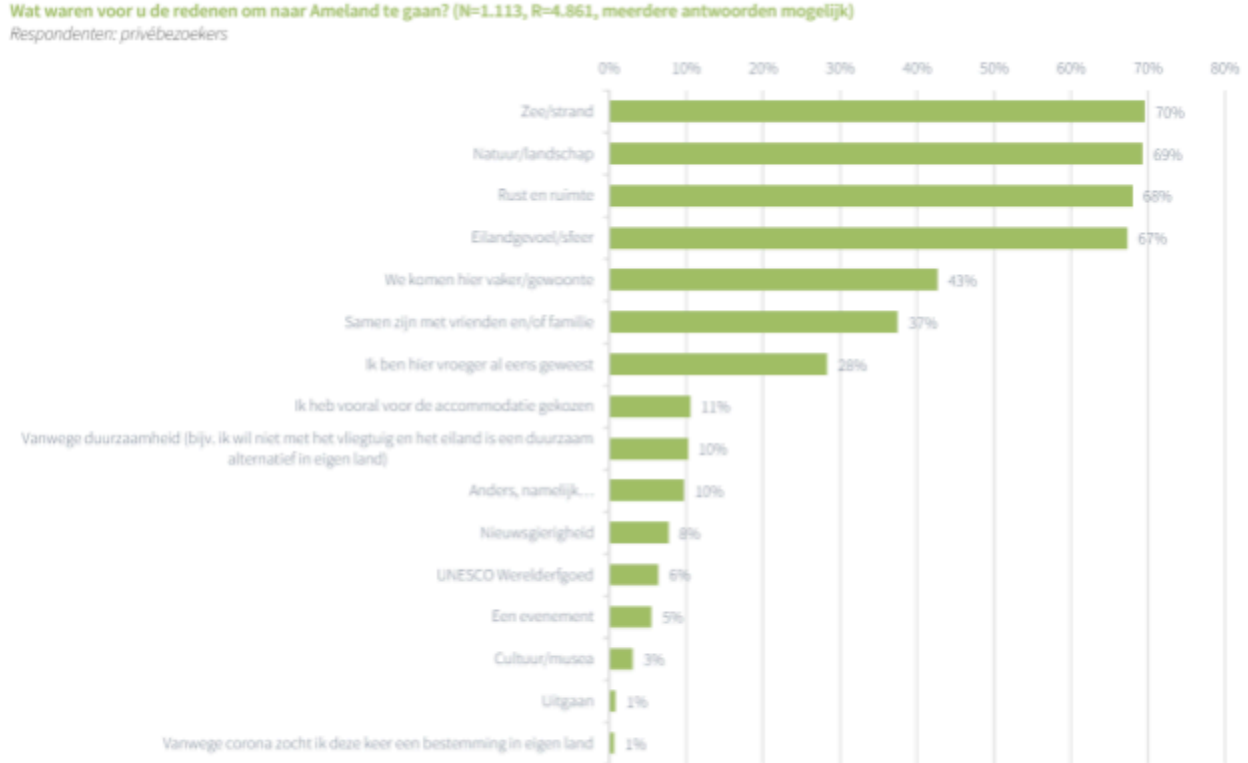


Figure 2: Reasons for visiting Ameland
 From the research by Ruiters et al. (2023)

According to tourists, the island should not change to make it more appealing. Moreover, the respondents highlighted the importance of protecting the island in its current form, by not appealing to more tourists. The small pool of respondents that had some suggestions mentioned issues with the ferry (e.g., delays or expensive tickets), safety on the road, and the opening times of facilities. In terms of accommodations, the respondents preferred more straightforward, authentic, and affordable options over more luxurious accommodations and large-scale holiday parks.

2.2.2 Amelander Identity

As an island, Ameland forms a tight knit, closed community (Bazelmans et al., 2012; Jansen, 2010; Visser et al., 2024). This created a strong sense of culture and identity, which is also strengthened by the tourism industry (Doedens & Houter, 2015; Visser et al., 2024). Since the 1850s, Ameland has started to advertise itself as a tourist destination (Bakker, 2003; Doedens & Houter, 2015; Schroor, 2018a). In the next 100 years, the tourism industry took off and started to grow vastly in the 1950s (Bakker, 2003; Schroor, 2018a; Schroor, 2018b). Amelanders generally feel proud of the tourist destination they have established. Nonetheless, the Amelander identity is multifaceted and consists of a rich history and changing connections to the mainland (Bakker, 2003; Bazelmans et al., 2012; Visser et al., 2024). Amelanders are happy with the tourism industry, as it created prosperity and allowed them to move away from fishing and agriculture (Bazelmans et al., 2012; Doedens & Houter, 2015; Tiago et al., 2020).

One important part of the Amelander identity is the local dialect named Amelands (Jansen, 2010; Visser et al., 2024). This dialect knows a western and eastern version, which differ slightly from each other (Dyk, n.d.; Jansen & Van Oostendorp, 2004; Visser et al., 2024). Doedens and Houter (2015) state that there are up to four versions of Amelands spoken on the island. Amelands is described as a mixed language that emerged from the interaction between the island's Frisian-speaking inhabitants and Dutch administrators (Dyk, 2011; Jansen & Van Oostendorp, 2004; Stichting De Ouwe Pölle, n.d.-a). Doedens and Houter (2015) connect the Amelander dialect to *Stadsfries*, which is the Frisian that is generally spoken in Leeuwarden. Amelanders today are often resistant/reluctant to

acknowledge a connection between Frisian and Amelands (Jansen, 2010; Visser et al., 2024). In 2002, 87,9% of the Amelander youth spoke their dialect on a regular basis (Doedens & Houter, 2015; Jansen, 2010).

Amelander culture and identity is almost not mentioned in (academic) literature, although Doedens and Houter (2015) and Schroor (2018a, 2018b) mention some of the Amelander traditions. However, during the interviews conducted for this study, the participants highlighted several key features of Amelander identity and culture. These will be discussed later in this research.

2.3 Liveability and Broad Prosperity

Liveability is often used interchangeably with broad prosperity ('brede welvaart' in Dutch) (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, n.d.-a). Broad prosperity encompasses the present-day quality of life and its implications for the overarching well-being of future generations or individuals in disparate geographical locations (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, n.d.-a; Thissen & Content, 2022; Van Den Berg & Kok, 2021). Whereas liveability has mostly been studied in urban areas and cities (Ahmed et al., 2019), broad prosperity is a concept used in all contexts (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, n.d.-a; Thissen & Content, 2022).

There is not one list of characteristics that fall under the umbrella of broad prosperity, nor is there a strict methodology to measure broad prosperity (Thissen & Content, 2022). According to multiple reports (Thissen & Content, 2022; Van Den Berg & Kok, 2021) this has two causes: firstly, various aspects of prosperity are not comparable, and secondly, people have different patterns of valuation regarding these various aspects (e.g., health). Nonetheless, broad prosperity is the only concept taking all factors such as economic prosperity as well as well-being into consideration (Thissen & Content, 2022; Van Den Berg & Kok, 2021). In other words, the term includes traditional economic markers of prosperity, as well as other aspects that have a considerable impact on one's life and well-being (e.g., health, environmental quality or access to education). Figure 3 highlights some key factors that are included in the definition of broad prosperity.

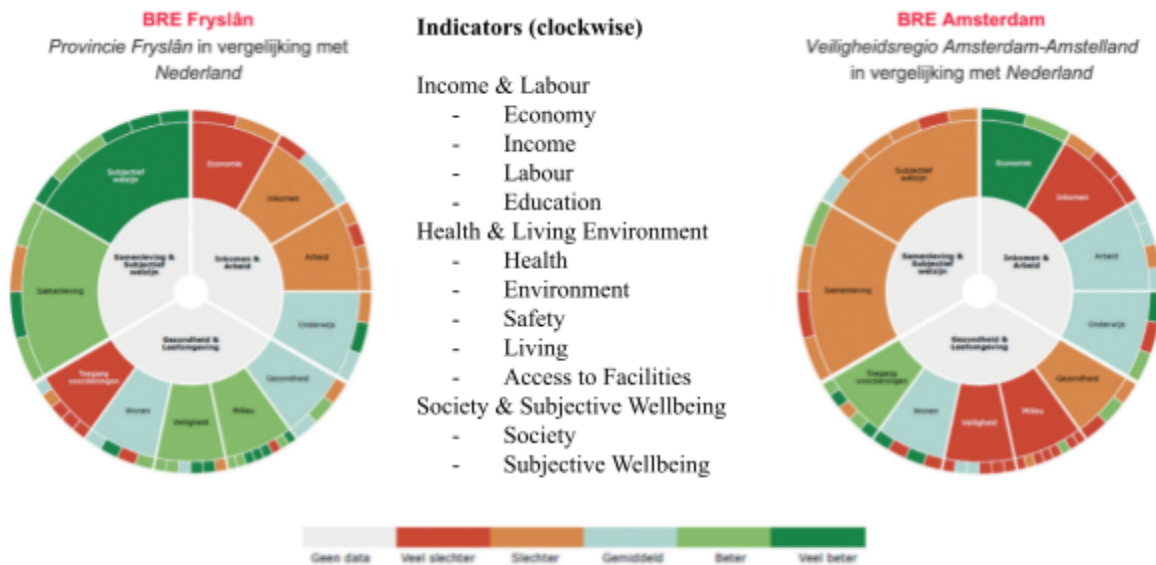


Figure 3. Broad prosperity ratings in comparison with the Netherlands, in two "Bestuurlijke Regionale Ecosystemen".
From the research by Van Den Berg and Kok (2021)

This broader definition of well-being proved its importance when looking at the Frisian Paradox (*De Friese Paradox – Eerste Verklaringen*, 2020; Van Den Berg & Kok, 2021). At first glance, Friesland scores low on socioeconomic indicators (e.g., income and education), leading to the hypothesis that the province would score low on well-being (*De Friese Paradox – Eerste Verklaringen*, 2020). However, this proved to be wrong. This paradox is explained by different aspects of life (see Figure 3), which are traditionally not taken into account when considering well-being (*De Friese Paradox – Eerste Verklaringen*, 2020; Van Den Berg & Kok, 2021). Moreover, this region also scores high on liveability in the report by Leidelmeijer and Mandemakers (2022). Hence, the Frisian Paradox proves the importance of a broad and inclusive definition of well-being and liveability.

Therefore, broad prosperity fits the scope of this research well. The all inclusive definition² will provide insights into how the lives of Amelanders have been altered by tourism, as tourism often brings economic benefits at the expense of other attributes necessary for living a good life. Within this research, the term liveability will be used interchangeably with broad prosperity and its definition.

3. Methods

This research aims to answer the following research question: *How does tourism impact the local liveability on Ameland according to the residents of the island?*

The following sub questions will also contribute to answering the research question:

1. *What are the positive impacts of tourism on the local liveability on Ameland?*
2. *What are the negative impacts of tourism on the local liveability on Ameland?*
3. *How should tourism be shaped in the future on Ameland?*

The first two sub questions will be answered by both the literature review as well as the input from participants during interviews. The third sub question and the research question will be answered by the input from participants. All the sub questions and the research question were asked to participants during the interviews.

3.1 Quantitative

An online questionnaire was conducted in order to provide additional information to the researcher. Therefore it can be seen as an aid for the interview guide. Online questionnaires can shed light on interesting topics that the researcher did not think of yet and are not covered in current literature (Clifford et al., 2016). Survey research proves especially valuable in capturing individuals' attitudes and viewpoints regarding societal, political, and environmental matters, such as neighbourhood quality of life or environmental concerns and hazards (Clifford et al., 2016). This methodological approach also serves as a potent tool for uncovering insights into intricate behaviours and social dynamics (Clifford et al., 2016). Therefore, a quantitative questionnaire was conducted before the interviews took place. This allowed the researcher to incorporate additional questions in the interviews, which came to light with the survey.

The online survey was spread among Amelanders. The survey reached participants through snowball sampling. It was shared on social media (Instagram, Facebook) and sent to contacts over Whatsapp. Sharing it with others was encouraged. The researcher shared the survey two times on Instagram. As the island contains about 3700 inhabitants (Gemeente Ameland, 2024), the survey aimed to collect 94 responses. This was calculated with the sample size calculator of Qualtrics, with a confidence level of 95% and a margin for error of 10% (Qualtrics, 2023). The responses do not have to be statistically significant, as this survey is used as an inspiration source for the interview guide, not as official results. The survey was created with Qualtrics, which is connected to the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. This platform collected the data and stored it safely. The data were not taken out of Qualtrics. Contact information, which participants shared if they had interest in an interview, was deleted after initial contact.

In total, the questionnaire collected 188 responses, of which some were incomplete. The data from the online questionnaire is not used for the research and its results. The quantitative data was collected to form a basis for the interview guide for the semi-structured interviews. The full online survey (in Dutch) can be found in [Appendix 10.2](#).

3.2 Qualitative

In order to gain an in-depth understanding of the impacts of tourism on local liveability, interviews with stakeholders were conducted. These stakeholders include (1) local inhabitants, (2) students, (3) entrepreneurs and

² For this research, broad prosperity is defined as: *“Broad prosperity concerns the quality of life here and now and the extent to which it may affect the broad prosperity of future generations or of people elsewhere in the world”* (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, n.d.-a).

business owners, and locals working in (4) the municipality, (5) visitor centre / accommodation services³, (6) traffic (bus, taxi or bike service), and (7) Wagenborg Passagiersdiensten (the ferry service to Ameland). The stakeholder group ‘students’ was added later, as during interviews this group had some common traits and interesting findings. Moreover, this group of young Amelanders is the future generation and therefore highly important for the liveability and future of Ameland.

Interviews are a useful tool to shed light on local perspectives on the impacts of tourism, both positive and negative (Hay & Cope, 2021; Ilovan & Doroftei, 2017). Semi-structured interviews are a frequently used method within geography (Clifford et al., 2016), as they can increase knowledge on local identity, development, policy and more (Ilovan & Doroftei, 2017, p. 50). The flexibility and informal tone in semi-structured interviews are best suited for this research, as the researcher is part of the researched community, and therefore is likely to know the participants. By using interviews to collect this data, the researcher was able to ask follow-up questions or ask for a clarification of their answer (Punch, 2014). This led to an overall better understanding of the answers that locals have given (Punch, 2014). Therefore, these interviews could be categorised as semi-structured interviews, to enable a more open and natural interaction (Hay & Cope, 2021; Punch, 2014). The interviews were held in person and one was held online, using Google Meet. In all cases, audio recordings were made with the researcher’s phone.

At minimum one person from each stakeholder group was interviewed, adding up to a minimum of seven interviews. In the questionnaire, the final question asked if participants wanted to participate in an interview. Twenty-seven people answered yes, and 26 of those left contact information. The researcher reached out to each contact, with the same standardised text and a copy of the consent form. This invitation and the consent form can be found in [Appendix 10.4](#). Eventually, a total of 12 interviews were conducted. The participants differed in characteristics (age, gender, village of residence), so a variety of insights and opinions was gained. Some people were included in multiple stakeholder groups (e.g., they are a local, but also work at the municipality). An overview of the characteristics of the participants can be found in Tables 3 to 7. The interviews took place until the 25th of May 2024. During the interviews, the researcher made an audio recording as well as notes. These allowed the researcher to gain a quick insight in the opinions and thoughts of each participant (by looking at the notes) and to find the detailed thoughts by listening to the audio file. From the audio recordings, fully anonymous transcripts were made. These transcripts were coded (see [section 3.2.2](#)). The codebook can be found in [Appendix 10.5](#). Based on the coding, patterns in the answers will be visible. This formed the basis for the results and discussion section and answered the sub questions and main research question. The Dutch interview guide can be found in [Appendix 10.3](#).

3.2.1 Participants

The interviews were conducted from the 19th of April 2024, to the 25th of May 2024. The participants were all part of at least one stakeholder group, some were a part of multiple groups. Table 3 presents the amount of participants who belong to a stakeholder group. Overall, interviews were conducted with a variety of participants, ranging in age, village, gender and whether they grew up on Ameland, or moved to the island at a later stage in life. In Tables 4 to 7, an overview of these factors is displayed. Overall, 12 interviews were conducted.

Table 3.

Stakeholder group of participants.

Stakeholder group	Local community	Students	Entrepreneurs	Municipality	Transportation	Ferry service	Accommodation service
Number of participants	12	3	3	1	1	1	2

³ In addition, many participants rent out parts of their home, bungalows or apartments. Nonetheless, for all participants, this is not their main source of income. Moreover, their accommodations did not always come up in interviews. Therefore, renting out a few accommodations is not considered in a stakeholder group. The stakeholder group “Accommodation services” includes companies that advertise and rent out a large sum of accommodations. One example of this is the Visitors centre (VVV), where one can book an accommodation (which are rented out by e.g., individuals). See <https://www.vvvameland.nl/overnachten>.

Table 4.

Age of the participants.

Age	18-30	31-50	51-70	71+
Number of participants	4	3	4	1

Table 5.

Gender of the participants.

Gender	Male	Female	Nonbinary / other
Number of participants	6	6	0

Table 6.

Village of residence of the participants.

Village of residence	Hollum	Ballum	Nes	Buren
Number of participants	3	6	1	2

Table 7.

Amelander identity of the participants.

	Born and/or raised on Ameland ⁴	Moved to Ameland
Number of participants	9	3

It can be concluded that the research presents a participant pool which includes a variety of people. Moreover, every single participant mentioned they encounter tourists in their job or voluntary work. Whether it is directly, indirectly, or both – when the participant rents accommodations next to their job – each participant is thus connected to tourism and in most cases it presents (some of) their income. Therefore, in interviews a distinction was made between their personal views on tourism and the views from a work perspective, as these could conflict or oppose.

3.2.2 Analysis of Results

During the interview, notes and audio recordings were made. Both were uploaded to a secured folder in Google Drive. The notes were mostly on the answers participants gave. Posture, expressions and overall body language were not taken into account. Semantics and emotion in speech were taken into account in the audio recordings and transcripts. Transcripts were made in an online Word environment. These were thoroughly checked by the researcher, while listening to the audio. After the transcript was checked, it was uploaded to Google Drive, as well as to ATLAS.ti. In ATLAS.ti, the document was coded. The overview that data coding provides is essential for monitoring the themes and recurrent subjects in the research (Hay, 2001). It also aids in breaking down the data into understandable chunks that may be utilised to produce the research output's results and discussion sections (Hay, 2001). This research made use of both descriptive and analytic coding. Most codes are analytic – or deductive – codes, as the researcher created most codes before starting coding (Azungah, 2018). These codes were created based on the literature, interview questions, themes which surfaced during the first interviews (the researcher started creating the codebook after interviews 1 to 4 were already conducted) and personal expectations. During the coding, some codes were created (descriptive or inductive coding (Azungah, 2018)). This resulted in an elaborate codebook, which can be found in [Appendix 10.5](#).

Based on the codes, overall conclusions were drawn. The researcher took the stakeholder groups into consideration when looking at the results. Additionally, the notes were used to conclude the overall attitude of the

⁴ Many people grew up on the island and will have lived their whole lives on Ameland, however some were born in the hospital on the mainland, hence the “and/or” distinction.

participant towards tourism on Ameland. In [section 4](#), the results are discussed per theme. The results section forms the foundation for the discussion section, where the research and sub questions are answered.

3.3 Ethics

The researcher was given ethical approval by their supervisor before results were gathered. Later, this research was also given official ethical approval by the Ethics Committee from Campus Fryslân. When applying for ethical approval, the researcher indicated the potential harms to participants, themselves and the institution. These potential harms were noted down, and were reflected on during the research. When participants did not understand the consent form, or missed information, the researcher elaborated on it and revised the consent form, to make it more inclusive and understandable. However, the consent form was clear, and the participants did not have any questions. The consent form was translated, so participants can read it in their native language. Before the interview started, the researcher went over the most important parts of the consent form, asked if there were still questions or concerns and asked again if the participant agreed to take part in the interview and the audio recording. This final question was asked again after the interview was completed.

In order to follow the ethical guidelines, this research used the template from the Ethics Committee for informed consent. This can be found in [Appendix 10.4](#). The full interview guide is visible in [Appendix 10.3](#). The online questionnaire (see [Appendix 10.2](#)) started with a shortened version of the informed consent form, ending with a question if the participant gave consent. If the participant selects *no*, the questionnaire will end. The questions in the questionnaire were also approved by the supervisor.

Overall, all the collected data is anonymous, or, in case of interviews, anonymised by the researcher. Before participating in both the survey and the interviews, participants were informed about their rights by the informed consent form. If participants did not provide consent, data was not collected. During the survey and interviews, participants were able to pause or stop without consequences. After data was collected, participants were able to withdraw from the study at any time, without explanation or consequences. None of the participants withdrew from the study. Data is stored in an online database, where only the researcher and supervisor have access to. Once the thesis is submitted and graded, all collected data will be deleted from the database.

In the research, characteristics of the participant pool are displayed, without disclosing which characteristics correspond to which participant, to ensure privacy. Additionally, when quotations were used, the research referred to either the interview number or the stakeholder group, but never both at the same time. This was done intentionally, so the reader does not know which interviewee corresponds to which stakeholder groups. Therefore, the reader is unable to identify the interviewees of the research. In a small community such as on Ameland, people know each other well, and can identify others based on a few characteristics. Therefore, this research puts additional focus on privacy and confidentiality.

3.3.1 Positionality

The researcher is part of the local community they are researching. This means that the researcher has access to local knowledge, an existing network in the community and a local (emic) perspective (Azungah, 2018). This is beneficial for the research, as finding participants could be easier, identifying stakeholders might go quicker and interviews, with small hints, body language and local language, are easier to understand. It might lead to a more extensive understanding of the findings and the researcher might be able to apply it to the location in a faster way (Azungah, 2018).

Nonetheless, being an insider might pose difficulties (Azungah, 2018; Pelias, 2011). First of all, it might be difficult for the researcher to keep an open mind. The influence of the bias of the research will be guarded by continuous reflection from the researcher, as well as proofreading by people with an outsider (etic) perspective. Moreover, the supervisor, who is an outsider to the community, will be included in checking the interview questions and online questionnaire for bias. This way, the questions that were asked during the interviews were without bias, so the views of the participants were not influenced by the perspectives of the researcher. Secondly, understanding the local culture might lead a researcher to exclude important information from the literature or interviews, as the researcher might see this as *common knowledge*. This misstep will also be guarded by continuous reflection from the researcher and proofreading by others (peers and supervisor).

4. Results

Throughout the interviews, participants discussed various aspects, which are discussed in the following three sections (see Table 8). The full codebook can be found in [Appendix 10.5](#). Additionally, the next section highlights quotes from interviews to strengthen the results. The English translation is mentioned as a footnote. The original quote (in Dutch) can be found in [Appendix 10.6](#).

Table 8.
Upcoming sections and the corresponding code groups.

Section	Code groups
4.1 Tourism	Type toerist Ideale toerist Kenmerken toerisme op Ameland Ervaring met toerisme Limiet toerisme Seizoensgebondenheid
4.2 Liveability	Leven op Ameland Amelander Cultuur Leefbaarheid op Ameland Invloed van toerisme op leefbaarheid
4.3 Future Perspectives	Toekomstperspectief Imago van Ameland Eigen impact / agency

4.1 Tourism

4.1.1 Characteristics of Tourist

The interviewees discussed the tourists that visit Ameland in great length. All participants discussed a change in tourist/tourism during the COVID-19 pandemic. The island was flushed with tourists, as travel abroad was prohibited⁵. The visitors during the pandemic are often described as *Ibiza people*, *All inclusive*, or *people from the “Randstad”*. These names refer to the shared traits that the tourists display, as they usually travel to islands like Ibiza, prefer all inclusive treatment or live in the bigger cities of the Netherlands. Most interviewees did not prefer this type of tourists, as they are demanding and hurried guests, who prefer exclusive and expensive facilities⁶. Participants feel like this does not suit the atmosphere of Ameland.

The ideal tourist – if they exist – is for most participants the ‘normal’ tourist, or the people who used to visit Ameland. Most participants describe this group like participant 3 did: *“I think our largest target group is still families, the children. You especially see this during the holiday season. That part of a carefree holiday. Safe. That, I think, is a choice of why people come. A piece of nature, space. A large part is German tourism. Perhaps around 40-45% of our guests are German guests. In the before and after season there, I think we characterise ourselves as the two of us. And then it is the over-50s. And then in between we have the peaks with the sporting events.”*. This is

⁵ Participant 1: *“We had about the busiest summer ever here in that first year of COVID, 2020.”*

Participant 3: *“You were only allowed to travel within your own country [during COVID]. That was an El Dorado for us. So if someone tells me that he has not earned well during corona, then he has done something really wrong.”*

⁶ Participant 5: *“Look, that was possible 3 years ago. Then it doesn't matter how much you asked. But I guess that's just over, right? You're getting normal families again now, aren't you?”*

Participant 8: *“In the store I just have people who, yes, at first glance have a lot more money. Yes, but who are also more demanding and also a bit more tourists who think yes, you know, we are on the island, **** all the rules. I think it started a bit with corona.”*

similar to the tourists that are described in [section 2.2.1](#). Nowadays, according to the interviews, the islands visitors are still mainly people with a high income, as the whole holiday has become more expensive⁷, while others find that the ‘normal’ tourist is returning⁸.

4.1.2 Characteristics of Tourism

During interviews, much focus was put on how tourism is currently characterised and experienced by participants. Currently, a significant share of participants would label tourism as busy⁹. During the summer season, the island receives many tourists, with the occasional peaks because of sporting events. It is notable that participants who lived outside of the villages mentioned less nuisance, while they would still label tourism as busy¹⁰. Participants do appreciate the winter months very much, as those are the more serene moments. In those weeks, Amelanders take a break, come together as a community and prepare for the next tourism season. In the past decades, the season has been extended, creating more income, job opportunities and overall liveability. While this has come with a lot of advantages, some participants were irritated that there are always tourists present. Others do not seem to find it an issue as the type of tourists that visit in the colder months has a smaller impact¹¹.

Overall, participants are appreciative of the tourism industry. Nonetheless, many mentioned negative experiences regarding the peak season, in summer. These experiences discuss the fully booked ferry, impact on nature, the type of tourists, lack of personnel, or feelings of nuisance, lack of privacy, disrespect from visitors, or irritation. This leads to all interviewees saying tourism should not grow vaster. These negative impacts, and the future wishes will be discussed in the following sections.

4.2 Liveability

Liveability on Ameland is highly connected with tourism according to the interviewees, both in positive and negative ways. The following section discusses the many factors that influence liveability on Ameland. Some aspects contribute positively to liveability according to some participants, while others view it as a negative impact.

4.2.1 Positive Aspects

Interviewees discussed various positive aspects of life on Ameland, such as income, facilities, jobs and housing¹². Many of these parts of life are of high quality because of the tourism industry, according to participants. Because of the many visitors, the island has a thriving economy and many facilities¹³. The participant from the

⁷ Participant 1: *“Traditionally we have tourists here who come here every year, we just have the loyal tourists here and we have partly pushed them away by becoming so expensive.”*

Participant 10: *“But yes, if you look at what Wagenborg charges for a crossing, so to speak, and then by car, which families often do, because they have a lot of stuff with them when they come for a week. Then I think, yes, I understand that not every family has the money for that now. ... I think for some people it's just not affordable anymore. That they are more likely to think, go to the Veluwe or something, where at least they don't have to pay for the crossing.”*

⁸ Participant 4: *“And that yes, you now see the enthusiasts coming back again, so I. I think we are heading in the right direction again.”*

⁹ Participant 1: *“It is very busy on the streets. Very busy in the shops and in the supermarkets. Those kinds of things. Cycle paths.”*

¹⁰ Participant 1: *“I wouldn't like to live in the centre of Nes or Hollum. Because then it seems like a lot and very busy to me and we live here in the polder and here, it's not that bad.”*

¹¹ Participant 10: *“For example, a very large target group is people with dogs. That you can promote the low season for those types of people. That doesn't really bother you much in terms of traffic and such, as they are out and about a lot. But yes, that ensures that there is still something to do, so to speak, that people stay.”*

¹² Participant 5: *“Safe, healthy, always fresh air. We have a detached house, which is also fantastic. Good income, there is always work.”*

¹³ Participant 3 explained it as: *“The advantages are, for example, that we have various catering establishments. That we have various museums. That we have quite a lot of cycle paths. That we still have a municipality that can arrange things here with their officials, which we would certainly not be able to do at this level, with a small community of 3.5 thousand residents.”*

municipality stakeholder group indicates the positive impacts regarding housing for locals¹⁴. Additionally, the tourism industry has created many jobs for the locals. Not only in the tourism industry itself, but as tourism allowed other facilities to grow bigger (e.g., public health), the variety of jobs also increased¹⁵. The wealth that tourism brings – and has brought – the island is mentioned in every interview, for example with participant 4, who spoke about future perspectives, liveability and seasonality¹⁶. Tourism is not only important for future development and liveability, but is also mentioned as the reason there is currently a high amount of wealth¹⁷.

Tourism is thus seen as a crucial aspect for the local liveability, because of the high (economic) dependency¹⁸. Additionally, one person mentioned that tourism is the reason they have not moved back to the mainland, as the social interactions bring meaning to their life¹⁹. Moreover, the high numbers of events and parties are also seen as a positive result of tourism for liveability²⁰. Besides the positive impacts of tourism on the local livelihoods, nature²¹, freedom²² and safety²³ were often mentioned to positively contribute to liveability. Participants described these points as characteristic of the island, as all points are more difficult to find elsewhere. Also the

Also, participant 1 mentioned: *“There are of course all kinds of facilities and things like that on the island, which of course are actually very luxurious. Look at the health care here in such a small community. And then look at schools here in such a small community. It's all because all these people can be here, because they are all doing so well here. Almost everyone is directly linked to tourism.”*

¹⁴ Interview with stakeholder municipality: *“So you now see that in various villages on Ameland, in fact, in every village, a neighbourhood has been added. And yes, actually only Amelanders have built a house there, so that is just a really nice development. And that yes, that is simply made possible by tourism. That's just a fact. It wouldn't have been possible otherwise.”*

¹⁵ As participant 1 mentioned: *“Because they work for the municipality or at Wagenborg or at schools or in transport. Or, well, and it's all so extensive because all those tourists are here. ... You don't have to be unemployed here on Ameland.”*

¹⁶ Participant 4: *“Yes, it used to be seasonal, so people no longer had a permanent job in the winter. Then it is of course more difficult to get a mortgage. So I think it is good for the island itself that the season is a little longer, so that young people who want to live here can also have the opportunity to have a good job here and a good, well, a mortgage, a house and the whole plan.”*

¹⁷ Participant 1: *“Tourism has brought Ameland an incredible amount of prosperity. ... From one of, yes, one of the poorest municipalities in the Netherlands to one of the richest municipalities in the Netherlands.”*

Participant two and three, respectively, focused more on the dependency: *“We do need them [tourists]. We have to live from it [tourism].”* and *“And we can be very happy with that. Because it must of course be very clear to everyone: If we didn't have the tourists, there would be poverty here.”*

¹⁸ Participant 4: *“Yes, everything depends on tourism on Ameland, including the liveability, so without tourists there is no liveability here on Ameland. Then we simply have nothing here.”*

¹⁹ Interviewee: *“In my life, well, I have already stated that a few times that yes, because tourists come here, because of the volunteer work and yes, I have been given a certain meaning in my life after my retirement, so to speak, yes. And I think that I like that very much. And, well, contact with others and. So yes, a meaningful way to spend my life after work.”*

²⁰ Participant 1: *“On the one hand, it brings all kinds of things. It provides entertainment, it brings economic prosperity. It also produces all those events that we all like and enjoy and it's a big party here in the summer. It's all fun.”*

Participant 8: *“And even more activities through tourism. Yes, in the summer too. You have something every week and that is a lot for the Amelanders, but it is also fun, because there is something. Without tourism there is nothing.”*

Participant 10: *“Yes, it also creates a bit of atmosphere or something, I think. There is always something on the island, otherwise it would just be a somewhat deserted sandbank.”*

²¹ Participant 10: *“I think it's like stepping outside the door and really being away from people. Just really being outside. There is a lot of nature around you that you can really, yes, relax, so to speak, and you really have the feeling that you are in nature.”*

²² Participant 3: *“So, the positives are certainly the freedom you still have here. The freedom to, you just go to the beach, you go for a while. Just get out. The door is open. You don't have to lock it, which is also a bit of freedom to me.”*

²³ Participant 12: *“We live here with a lot of freedom and the advantage is, for example, that we do not lock the door when we leave the house and we leave the car key in it and well, you don't have to do that in Leeuwarden, because then everything is gone. [So safety?] yes, safety, I feel very safe on this. This island.”*

tight-knit community²⁴, family and other social contacts²⁵ as well as local culture²⁶ were discussed. These contributed both to the feeling of safety and belonging.

An important facet of the local culture is the Amelander dialect. While participant 4 says that the local dialect is still spoken a lot, participant 11 claims it is different for each village, other participants argue that it is spoken less and/or is slowly disappearing. Some contribute this to the higher number of people on the island that have moved there later in life and don't speak the local dialect. The impact of this group is not only visible in the dialect, but participants often also mention that the local culture and local traditions weaken because of them. Two out of three participants who moved to the island later in life also mentioned this²⁷. Other customs of Amelander culture, such as driving with a car on the beach, shrimp fishing, and traditions are also mentioned in the interviews. Many of those seem to be influenced, if not restricted, by tourism and/or regulations. Older customs, such as fishing for eel, were restricted by the government. Other traditions (e.g. Sunneklaas) are still taking place, but are often not in the midst of the tourist season²⁸. These traditions play a key role in their identity, which explains the protective nature of islanders²⁹. With the extension of the tourist season, this has led to conflicts (Omrop Fryslân, 2023). All in all, culture plays an important and beneficial role in the local liveability, but the impacts of tourism on the culture are often mentioned as a negative impact.

4.2.2 Negative Aspects

Even though most participants were very positive about liveability on Ameland, some negative aspects, next to the impacts on local culture, were also mentioned. For instance, the ferry travel – and the dependency on it – was also a theme that was discussed in many interviews³⁰. Participant 9 highlighted the high costs of the ferry, making the island more exclusive. Additionally, this participant mentioned how the ferry is the company that regulates tourism, as they control how many passengers enter the island. This is confirmed by the participant who works at the ferry service. That participant guesses that the company will never have boats as big as the current ones, which possibly leads to less cars travelling to the island. Currently, many boats are already fully reserved during summer. This often has a negative impact on the livelihoods of Amelanders, as the ferries are often filled with tourists, leading to locals having a hard time travelling to the mainland when needed. Participant 12 reflected on the impact of the choices made by the ferry company³¹. Although some participants were negative about the ferry travel

²⁴ Participant 2: *“I really like the fact that you actually know everyone here, so if something ever comes up, you can actually call anyone. There are sometimes people you are not close with, but hey, if there is a situation where you can help each other, then that happens, right?”*

²⁵ Participant 10: *“Yes, the family is close. It is also a bit, yes, quite a social community, so to speak.”*

²⁶ Participant 8: *“Yes, yes, anyway, Ameland is culture, I think, Ameland has so many cultural things, even if someone dies, there are a lot of cultural things in it. So yes, that affects the quality of life in a positive way, yes totally.”*

²⁷ Participant one describes it as: *“There are also other people coming to the island who, look, if they come here and they already have a warm heart for the island and they, who mingle here in the Amelander community, that is of course fine and lots of fun. ... But there are also people who come to work here, or who come to be here, and they isolate themselves completely.”*

²⁸ Participant 1: *“A lot of those very important Amelander traditions are a bit outside the [tourist] season, precisely because we want to do that without the tourists. But if there were too many tourists, that could also have a major impact. Of course, I don't think we want that.”*

²⁹ Participant 1: *“We do have a lot of culture here, but it is not culture that is always available to tourists, so to speak.”*

³⁰ Participant 3: *“That is certainly the boat connection on which you are dependent on the company and have little say in it”*

Participant 2: *“But it's always a lot of hassle. If you ever have to go to hospital urgently, but you cannot take the helicopter or the rescue boat, because that is not serious enough, but you do have to leave, then you actually cannot leave in the summer, because the boats are really full.”*

Participant 10: *“Yes, of course, for example, if you have an emergency, if you have something, family or something like that, then you always have to go to Leeuwarden and then you are always dependent on a boat. For the hospital, for example, but also for shopping or something like that.”*

³¹ Participant 12: *“What happened last year, for example, was that Wagenborg started commuting with one boat in the channel and we could not get all the people, tourists, to Ameland and we [islanders] could no longer leave the island. That was really terrible, what they did then. And that was for no reason that they actually did that and that is*

and its limitations for locals, they all agree that it is part of their life and culture, as it distinguishes their livelihoods from that of people on the mainland.

Even though tourism provides a wide range of jobs, the lack of variety of jobs outside of tourism is mentioned by some as a negative aspect³². This will be elaborated on in [section 4.3.1](#). Moreover, multiple participants mentioned the current shortages in personnel in the leisure sector³³. Additionally, the restless feeling which stems from tourism³⁴ as well as the high prices and cost of living³⁵ were mentioned as negatives. Others did not see aspects of their life contributing negatively to their personal liveability. Others were speculating about what downsides others might see³⁶.

Throughout the year, Ameland hosts a variety of events, which were discussed as positive aspects of life on Ameland. Nonetheless, these events were sometimes also labelled as negative, because of the nuisance it creates. Special notice should be given to the impact on nature, which was brought up in different interviews. Nature reserves get polluted and new trails are created, which impacts the livelihoods of locals and creates a negative image of the island. Specifically sporting events in natural landscapes were mentioned often³⁷. Other negative impacts were safety on the roads, and the lack of privacy and freedom. Some interviewees mentioned that these negative impacts arise because of the large quantities in which tourists visit the island. They believe that better regulation might improve liveability in the future. All in all, tourism impacts liveability a lot, both in positive and negative ways.

4.2.3 Rating Liveability

Nonetheless, these negative impacts did not outbalance the positive aspects of Ameland liveability. During interviews, participants were asked to rate their personal liveability and the liveability of the island in general on a scale from one to ten (ten being perfect and one being terrible). On average the 12 interviewees gave their own liveability a 8.38 and the Ameland liveability a 7.73. A boxplot can be viewed in [Appendix 10.7](#). Overall, liveability scores highly in the North of the Netherlands, as well as in small municipalities (Leidelmeijer & Mandemakers, 2022). In order to sustain the liveable habitat on Ameland, participants shared their thoughts on the future of Ameland, which are discussed in the following section.

4.3 Future Perspectives

For the future, none of the participants mentioned the number of tourists should increase. Some participants mentioned that some stakeholder groups would like more tourists (e.g., hotel owners). The personal views of interviewees sometimes conflicted with the views of their stakeholder group or their workplace³⁸. In general, participants mentioned they would like the number of tourists to stabilise or decrease. Most interviewees highlighted

unimaginable. They used their monopoly position to hold the entire island hostage and that was really not good. What they did then should never happen again."

³² Participant 8: *"Yes, I would very much like to continue living there, but work opportunities outside of tourism are quickly diminishing, so yes, I cannot find the work I want to do here anyway, which I think is a shame."*

³³ As participant 4 describes: *"With our own population, we can of course never solely facilitate what happens here in the summer, so we do need seasonal staff for the summer."*

³⁴ Participant 2: *"I find it very busy on summer days. If you go horse riding, you will encounter cyclists everywhere."*

Participant 8: *"Yes, I do think that the constant presence of tourists [has a negative impact on liveability]."*

³⁵ Participant 2: *"Well, and the same is if you want to eat out with your family or friends. Well, we also pay the top price. That's not just for tourists and sometimes I think, 'does that have to be so crazy?'"*

³⁶ Participant 6: *"Certain situations that we have discussed, you might experience that as negative, right? Next to a disco route and at certain events when they drink too much, Róggefeest and all that kind of stuff."*

³⁷ Participant 2: *"And what I also see very often is that there is an enormous amount of rubbish lying around after a sporting event. Pieces of paper, half-eaten bananas thrown into the trees, all that kind of stuff. Yes, I don't think that's necessary."*

Participant 9: *"You can't say to people at one moment, you can go there, because you have a sporting event that goes through there, straight through the dunes. And then say, it's not allowed anymore. Because those people have put it in their system and will cycle there again next time."*

³⁸ Participant 8: *"But with work, yes, the more tourism, the better, of course. Yes, look, it doesn't really matter to me because my salary does not depend on it, but their income does depend on my work. So yes, they [my bosses] prefer more tourism"*

the importance of innovating in the future, especially focusing on the diversity of amenities. Participants mentioned that they dislike the high prices, making the island very exclusive. They would like the island to diversify, so Ameland offers a holiday for people with different incomes. Although participant 3 agrees with diversifying the island, they would not like the island and its tourism to change too much: *“I always say don't change a winning team”*.

Additionally, during some interviews it was mentioned that the characteristics of Ameland, which form the island currently and are often seen as a boost for tourism, should be preserved. These characteristics are explained as small scale, accessible, and *“kneuterig”*. By preserving these features, the island lures the preferred tourists as well. Finally, some participants discussed the idea of having fewer cars come to Ameland. According to some participants, creating an image of sustainability would also suit the island well³⁹. The participant who works in traffic agrees with this and thinks Ameland is going in the right direction⁴⁰.

It is interesting to note that quite a few participants feel like they have no say in the future direction of Ameland. Some participants mentioned they have impact on their own accommodations, but cannot change the larger scheme⁴¹. Participants view that both the ferry and large entrepreneurs decide on the future of tourism, which they have no say in. Participant 8 mentioned they would like the municipality to organise more events where locals can share their thoughts, because some locals do not feel heard. Others feel like it is useless anyway, if you are not part of the bigger stakeholders⁴².

4.3.1 Student Perspectives

Important to highlight in this section, are the perspectives of the student stakeholders. This group is currently studying on the mainland and is deciding what to do after their education, which is researched in the paper by Visser and colleagues (2024). This group will be the future residents of Ameland, making their perspectives on the current and future liveability extremely important, which was also recognised by the interviewee from the municipality⁴³.

The three interviewees all feel like they have no say in tourism on the island and think that their voices are not heard. One participant would like to participate in shaping tourism (together with the community), while another thought they were not wise and old enough yet⁴⁴. The last person from this group mentioned that they do have an opinion, but feels there is no point in sharing that, as it will not be included anyways.

During interviews, the students explained how they would shape the tourism sector in the future. All believe the number of tourists should be lowered (a little). It is important that it is regulated and the image of the island should change. Currently, they view the island as too expensive, so they would like to have a more diverse offer of facilities. Additionally, tourism should be either small scale, or constant, so that mass tourism is avoided. A holiday on the island should be a personal experience, and visitors should get to know Ameland. Finally, one

³⁹ Participant 1: *“It just so happens that Ameland is very concerned with sustainability and I think that this also attracts a certain type of tourist, who cares more about the environment and things like that. So I would like it not only to be classified as a sports island or nature island, but also as a sustainability holiday that would be quite nice actually. And with that I think you also attract certain people, and perhaps turn away other people a bit.”*

⁴⁰ Participant in traffic: *“Well, I think we are on the right track, for example when I look at Arriva, they are running electric buses here on Ameland and that is of course very friendly. That there will be no more diesel gas emissions or smoke when the bus drives through the village. That is a very good way of transport and I think if Ameland continues on that path... I think that is a very good goal. Only whether it is feasible is the second thing. But I think if we do that, we'll be on a good path. ... I think it attracts a certain kind of audience who thinks, well, we are doing well on Ameland. It's neat there. It's clean there and it's friendly there. I think we will keep tourism going here on Ameland. Yes, you remain attractive. Let's call it that.”*

⁴¹ Participant 5: *“[I have an impact] I think so, well, very small changes. Anyway, that's about my own accommodations. Look, of course I can't do anything about the big picture.”*

⁴² Participant 11: *“Yes, but somehow I think, you know, it doesn't make any **** sense anyway, because I'm not a millionaire. I don't have a catering business. I don't work at Wagenborg, I'm not with the municipality. Well, who are you then? Then you are nobody.”*

⁴³ Participant from municipality: *“that we have to look at how we can still enthuse the youth on the island. So what opportunities are there for youth, given the climate we are in at the moment?”*

⁴⁴ Student: *“I do have an opinion, but, well. No, I think I have to be a little older and wiser for that.”*

interviewee mentioned that they would prefer less sporting events during spring. They suggest to alternate the events each year⁴⁵. Overall, they have some doubts about the future of Ameland, because of the dependency on tourism⁴⁶.

Finally, two out of three students struggle with finding suitable jobs, which correspond with their education and preferences. The amount of jobs for people with degrees from hbo level or university is still lacking behind as some participants mentioned. This leads to doubt about moving back to Ameland in the future⁴⁷. This phenomenon is called brain drain, where young, highly educated people move away from a geographical region (De La Croix et al., 2014). One student mentioned they would return if they found a suitable job opportunity. Another mentioned that they would move back if tourism is regulated better. That person would then also disregard the fact that they have trouble finding a suitable job⁴⁸.

The insights from the student stakeholders underscore the need for a balanced and sustainable approach to tourism that not only preserves the unique character of Ameland but also ensures the future liveability for its residents. As the potential future residents, their concerns about job opportunities and the regulation of tourism highlight critical areas for improvement.

5. Discussion

The following section will answer the sub questions⁴⁹ of this research. Finally, the research question will be answered.

5.1 Impacts of Tourism on the Local Liveability on Ameland

According to the interviewees, the tourism industry is highly beneficial to Ameland. As was mentioned previously, Ameland used to be a poor municipality, relying on fishing and agriculture (Schroor, 2018b). As of the last decades, Ameland has turned into a tourist destination, increasing the wealth on the island (Schroor, 2018b). Nonetheless, as the island grew more (economically) dependent on tourism and the industry grew, locals also became more concerned. During interviews, participants expressed gratitude to the tourism industry, but many concerns for liveability and the future of tourism on Ameland.

5.1.1 Positive Impacts

Economic impacts – According to Archer (2005), tourism is one of the most effective ways to increase income and employment in peripheral areas. Tourism allows remote areas to move away from fishing and agriculture, which has been visible on Ameland too (Schroor, 2018b). All participants recognised the importance of the tourism industry. The high amount of facilities – and their high quality – can also be attributed to the tourism industry (Archer, 2005; Canavan, 2013). Overall, the positive economic impacts are self-evident as they are the most

⁴⁵ Student: *“Of course, it doesn't all have to go, because then it won't be of any use. But maybe every other year or so, because you now have 4 sporting events. They are all in the spring and if you look at nature that is not good, because it is only being trampled to pieces. Alternate, so that one year has those two and the next year has those two. It is also better for the tourists we have here that this will become a little less, because the events always coming one after the other are very busy.”*

⁴⁶ Student: *“I'm afraid that Ameland will one day succumb to its own success, right? That there is so much tourism and more and more and especially more people with much more money, that the things that Ameland is known for are going away somewhat, cheaper and accessible, so to speak. But hey, that's how it goes.”*

⁴⁷ Student: *“Well, for employment, it is very difficult with what I have studied. You are very limited in terms of career, so to speak, if you want to stay here you really have to either want to work in the hospitality industry, or do something very specific, or travel a lot. That makes it very difficult.”*

⁴⁸ Student: *“As long as I really like everything here besides work, right? And there are that season is really there. And yes, you're generally not very bothered by tourists. Then I would put work in the background. I would just [work] in tourism.”*

⁴⁹ Sub questions: 1) What are the positive impacts of tourism on the local liveability on Ameland? 2) What are the negative impacts of tourism on the local liveability on Ameland? 3) How should tourism be shaped in the future on Ameland?

recognisable (Archer, 2005). Despite the positive impacts, literature, as well as participants in this research, have questioned tourism as a development tool for the region.

Socio-cultural impacts – Tourism provides a platform for local culture and is a reason for many festivities. Participants highlighted the social contacts they have because of tourism and the activities that are organised. Even though the activities are organised for tourists, the local community can also attend, leading to a summer filled with events. Moreover, Archer (2005) and Canavan (2013) claim that tourism can provide a stage for local culture and traditions, if managed correctly, and the social interactions between locals and tourists can lead to a better understanding of each other's culture. To Amelanders, identity and local culture are crucial, and a source of pride (Visser et al., 2024). Tourism plays a crucial role in this, as it draws attention to local culture and traditions, which can have both a positive and a negative impact (Canavan, 2013).

Environmental impacts – Many visitors of Ameland are drawn to the rich natural landscape of Ameland. As mentioned by interviewees, these tourists appreciate the environment and handle it with care. The income and attention from the tourists increase the protection and conservation of the landscape (Archer, 2005; Canavan, 2013). Additionally, the campaigns by the municipality (i.e., *Liefde voor Ameland*) help to raise awareness about the importance and vulnerability of the Ameland environment (*Liefde Voor Ameland | Welkom in Onze Wereld*, n.d.).

5.1.2 Negative Impacts

Economic impacts – The economic dependency on tourism is mentioned by many interviewees as a downside. Moreover, revenue from tourism are not evenly distributed among the (local) population (Archer, 2005). Not every local works and profits from tourism. Moreover, during the summer season, there are large shortages in personnel. While interviewees see the necessity of having “mainlanders” work on Ameland during the summer season, they recognize the impacts of outsiders. These people help to run the tourism sector as it currently is, but have an effect on the local culture. These people need housing and occupy many residential houses during summer, taking places from locals. Many interviewees reflected on the high cost of living on Ameland. The high prices that visitors pay for a holiday on Ameland also impact the locals. Finally, the industry creates an incentive for entrepreneurs from the mainland to start a business on Ameland. Some interviewees mentioned that these entrepreneurs often have other ideas and perspectives on how Ameland should handle tourism.

Socio-cultural impacts – While tourism brings more social contacts, the nuisance has a negative impact on the lives of some participants. The season with less tourists is appreciated by many, as it allows Amelanders to retreat to their own lives. One could say that the peaks in visitors makes the locals more appreciative of the lows during winter. Nonetheless, as the tourist season is extending, Ameland has more visitors in winter months. This puts local traditions, which locals like to keep to themselves, at risk. According to Archer (2005) trends like these could lead to staged authenticity. Moreover, the large quantity of tourists hinders locals from travelling to the mainland by ferry. In the summer, many tourists have reserved all car spots on the ferry, impeding locals from travelling spontaneously. This creates difficulties when one needs to visit hospitals or attend family matters. Finally, many interviewees indicated that they were irritated by the behaviour of tourists. This dissonance is also recognised in the literature (Archer, 2005; Canavan, 2013). When tourists travel to another location, many of the social norms and restrictions that are in place in their native locations do not apply, therefore they can behave morally worse without facing severe consequences (Archer, 2005, p. 89). Liminality of islands could also play a role in this (Preston-Whyte, 2004)

Environmental impacts – Some participants highlighted the pollution of the environment as a large negative effect of tourism. Especially (sport) events were mentioned. As the island has many of these events, with many participants, the impact on the environment is large. According to some interviewees, Ameland should host fewer sporting events and/or pay more attention to the impact on nature.

5.1.3 Concerns of Locals

Many interviewees have voiced their concerns about the tourism industry. Some have mentioned that it is out of control, or controlled by the ferry company and big entrepreneurs, instead of the municipality. Others have focussed more on how Ameland is currently viewed. Participants are worried that with the current high prices, Ameland attracts the wrong type of tourists. It makes the island too exclusive, and the “normal” tourists cannot afford to visit anymore. Additionally, participants are concerned that Ameland will become weary and stop innovating. Many participants are worried that the economy will collapse if tourism changes drastically or disappears. Therefore, the island should work to remain attractive to tourists, by innovating and focussing on the aspects that make the island unique.

5.2 The Future of Tourism on Ameland according to Locals

During the interviews, locals shared their vision for tourism on Ameland. Many focussed on innovation, diversification and sustainability. The amount of tourists should stabilise or decrease in order to maintain the liveability. While most participants like the seasonality of the industry as it is, some would like tourists all year round. According to them, this would solve personnel shortages and increase liveability, if managed appropriately. The new touristic vision of the municipality focuses on innovation, sustainability and stabilisation (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). With the shift in focus, they aim to create sustainable tourism, while maintaining the economic benefits and liveability (Ginder & Gemeente Ameland, 2022). Overall, this ten year plan fits the wishes of locals.

However, interestingly, interviewees mentioned that stakeholders such as entrepreneurs and the ferry service would like to increase the number of tourists. These parties view the tourism industry from an economic perspective, with less consideration for local livelihoods and liveability. It is concerning that participants feel a lack of agency and influence, while the touristic vision of the municipality does include local perspectives. Interviewees often mentioned that entrepreneurs and ferry services are the deciding factor in the future of tourism, and locals cannot influence their views and decisions. It is important to recognise this dissonance, as plans by the government might not always have the wished effects (Peterson, 2020). Tourism policies should be supported by all stakeholders, also those who focus more on economic benefits. As locals view those stakeholders as highly influential, they could have a big impact on the implementation of the policies.

5.3 Answering Research Question

As the paragraphs above have focused on the sub questions, this section will focus on the main research question. Now that positive and negative impacts of tourism on liveability have been identified, and the future perspectives have been discussed, only the research question remains: *how does tourism impact the local liveability on Ameland according to the residents of the island?*.

It has become evident that tourism influences liveability in multiple ways, creating a delicate balance. This research strengthens the notion that locals cannot be viewed as one homogenous group. Locals vary in their perspectives, wishes and thoughts on tourism. Whereas some participants mentioned no negative impacts, others claimed the positive impacts do not outweigh the negative impacts.

Overall, the impact of tourism on the local community can be viewed as slightly positive, as all participants mentioned the positives (e.g., income) but some interviewees did not mention any negative impacts. Additionally, the average grade participants gave personal and overall livability can also be considered high. Nonetheless, it is important to note that this is a delicate balance, which depends on the future development of the industry. As the students mentioned during interviews: if the industry remains similar in the future, they would likely not return to Ameland. One could conclude that the island is currently not suited for the lives of some students, which could lead to brain drain (De La Croix et al., 2014). Therefore, steps need to be taken in order to remain at a positive balance.

6. Conclusion

This study has highlighted the dual impact of tourism on local liveability. Both positive outcomes, such as economic growth, more facilities and job opportunities, as well as negative consequences, including environmental degradation, and cultural disruption, have been identified. Key findings indicate that while tourism remains a vital component of Ameland's economy, it also brings challenges that threaten the island's traditional way of life and natural resources. The influx of tourists, particularly during peak seasons, exacerbates issues like overcrowding and resource depletion, prompting concerns among local residents about their quality of life and the sustainability of tourism practices.

This research has highlighted the importance of local perspectives in policy making. The views of the local population are diverse, but crucial when one aims to create high liveability. The findings of this research show that tourism has had an overall positive impact on liveability, but it remains a delicate balance. The experienced liveability can decrease when local perspectives are not taken into account. Sustainable tourism strategies should prioritise community well-being, ensuring that economic benefits do not come at the expense of environmental and cultural integrity. Currently, the perspectives of participants and the policy of the municipality are quite similar, but

the views of influential stakeholders differ. This could lead to difficulty when executing the policy. Therefore, it is important to create a representative overview of the different perspectives, when creating policies on tourism.

This study contributes to the broader discourse on sustainable tourism by providing empirical insights specific to the context of a small island community. It underscores the importance of including local perspectives in tourism planning and policy-making to achieve a harmonious balance between tourism development and liveability. By addressing the complex interplay between tourism and liveability, this research offers valuable guidance for policymakers, stakeholders, and academics in fostering sustainable tourism that supports both economic vitality and community resilience on Ameland.

6.1 Limitations and Future Research

While this research gathered a large variety of perspectives in a short period of time, the research does not present an overview of all perspectives and opinions. The time constraints allowed only a select amount of interviews. While some stakeholder groups contain many interviewees, others did only include one interviewee. This poses a potential limitation that future research could take into consideration. Interviewing more participants and stakeholders can lead to a better understanding of the impact of tourism on local liveability, as well as a more complete presentation of concerns and future perspectives. Additionally, while this research used both a qualitative and quantitative method, only the qualitative method was used to gather results. Future studies could deploy multiple methods to gather results. Moreover, the current research did not include the political impacts, which might result in interesting findings. A better understanding of the current policies on Ameland and a comparison with similar tourism destinations, as well as a comparison of the tourist and local perspective, could all lead to new insights, which could improve the understanding of the Ameland tourist sector. Finally, the current research is conducted by an insider to the local community. This could result in a different interpretation of data. Future studies could include both an emic and an etic perspective, so potential bias is eliminated.

7. Acknowledgements & Declaration of Interests

Within this research, AI tools (Chat GTP, Quillbot, Research Rabbit, Unriddle) were used to find and summarise research as well as paraphrasing text. No text was directly copied into this research and the tools were solely used for inspiration and summarising knowledge. Finally, Google Translate was used to translate the quotes to English. These quotes were thoroughly checked by the researcher and adapted if necessary.

This research did not receive any funding or financial support. Since the researcher is part of the studied community, the researcher was familiar with the participants. Much attention was paid to prevent potential bias or influence of results (see section [3.3](#) and [3.3.1](#)).

8. About the Author

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10. Appendix

10.1 Accommodations

Perioden 2024 januari

Regio's

Onderwerp

		Nederland	Fryslân (PV)	Waddeneilanden (TR)
Totaal logiesaccommodaties				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	9 277	891	436
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	1 460 281	97 336	66 121
Hotels/pensions/jeugdaccommodaties				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	3 842	251	125
Kamers	aantal	150 124	4 725	2 908
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	328 807	11 259	7 198
Verblijfsrecreatieve logiesaccommodaties				
Totaal verblijfsrecreatie				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	5 435	640	311
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	1 151 474	86 077	58 923
Kampeerterreinen				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	2 686	276	83
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	687 908	54 606	30 292
Huisjesterreinen				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	1 782	230	155
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	393 293	23 596	24 156
Groepsaccommodaties				
Totaal accommodaties				
Accommodaties	aantal	967	134	73
Slaapplaatsen	aantal	50 273	7 875	4 475

Bron: CBS

(StatLine - Logiesaccommodaties; Capaciteit, Accommodaties, Bedden, Regio, 2024)

10.2 Online Questionnaire (NL)

The consent question is a mandatory question. All other questions were voluntary, however, if no answer was given, the survey would notify the participant.

10.2.1 Introduction

Voor mijn scriptie ben ik onderzoek aan het doen naar toerisme en leefbaarheid op Ameland. Hiervoor heb ik een aantal vragen in een korte enquête, waar ik jouw hulp goed bij kan gebruiken. De antwoorden zullen bepalend zijn voor de richting van het verdere onderzoek. Om deel te nemen aan deze vragenlijst, moet je ouder zijn dan 18 jaar en inwoner op Ameland. Leerlingen/studenten die elders wonen maar Amelander zijn, kunnen de vragenlijst ook invullen.

De enquête kost 5 minuten tijd en is volledig vrijwillig. Je kan de enquête altijd stopzetten. Ook is de enquête volledig anoniem. Mijn scriptie zal in juni af zijn. Daarna worden alle data verwijderd. Bovendien kan niemand bij de data tijdens het onderzoek, behalve ik.

Als je vragen hebt, stel ze gerust! Je kan mij mailen op a.f.visser.2@student.rug.nl of appen/bellen via 06 57219074. Mocht je vragen hebben aan mijn begeleider, mail haar dan (in het Engels) op m.l.muldoon@rug.nl

Alvast bedankt!

Groeten,

Annemieke Visser

Q1 Geeft je toestemming voor deelname aan deze vragenlijst?

- Ja, ik geef toestemming en ik ben ouder dan 18 jaar
- Nee, ik geef geen toestemming en/of ik ben niet ouder dan 18 jaar

[if the second option would be selected, the questionnaire would close automatically]

10.2.2 Second Page

Woon je op Ameland?

- Ja, ik woon op Ameland (het hele jaar)
- Ja, ik woon op Ameland, maar alleen in de weekenden (ik ben student)
- Anders, namelijk: [text box]

Beschouw je jezelf als Amelander?

- Ja
- Nee

Werk je op Ameland?

- Ja, ik werk op Ameland
- Nee, ik werk op het vaste land
- Nee, ik heb momenteel geen werk of ben met pensioen
- Anders, namelijk: [text box]

Hoe heb jij met toerisme op Ameland te maken? (selecteer alle opties die van toepassing zijn)

- Ik werk in de horeca (hotel, restaurant, café)
- Ik werk in een winkel
- Ik werk in de schoonmaak

- Ik werk in toerisme (bijvoorbeeld VVV Ameland)
- Ik werk in vervoer (bijvoorbeeld bus, taxi, fiets of boot)
- Ik heb mijn eigen horeca of winkel
- Ik verhuur appartementen / bungalows
- Ik geef rondleidingen
- Ik heb niet met toerisme te maken
- Anders, namelijk: [text box]

10.2.3 Third Page

Op welke drie manieren heeft toerisme een positieve impact op Ameland?
[text box]

Op welke drie manieren heeft toerisme een negatieve impact op Ameland?
[text box]

Hoe beïnvloedt toerisme jouw leven op Ameland?
[text box]

10.2.4 Fourth Page

Leefbaarheid gaat over de kwaliteit van leven hier en nu en de mate waarin deze ten koste gaat van de leefbaarheid van volgende generaties of van die van mensen elders in de wereld.

Wordt de leefbaarheid op Ameland bevorderd of verminderd door toerisme?

- Bevorderd
- Bevorderd een beetje
- Neutraal
- Verminderd een beetje
- Verminderd
- Geen mening

Hoe zou toerisme op Ameland er in de toekomst uit moeten zien, volgens jou?

- Toerisme op Ameland moet groeien
- Toerisme op Ameland moet hetzelfde blijven
- Toerisme op Ameland moet verminderen
- Anders, namelijk: [text box]

Leg het antwoord op de vorige vraag uit:
[text box]

Heb je nog andere ideeën of aanvullingen over het toerisme op Ameland waar dit onderzoek rekening mee moet houden?
[text box]

10.2.5 Fifth Page

Zou je deel willen nemen in een interview?

- Ja, je kan mij bereiken via
[text box]
- Nee, ik wil niet deelnemen in een interview

10.2.6 Closing Page

Bedankt voor de tijd die je hebt besteed aan het invullen van deze enquête.

Voor vragen over dit onderzoek of deelname aan een interview kan je mij bereiken via:
a.f.visser.2@student.rug.nl of 06 57219074

10.3 Interview Guide (NL)

10.3.1 Phase 1 – introduction

Bedankt dat je deel wil nemen aan dit interview. Is het oké als ik dit interview opneem? Zo zorg ik dat alle informatie goed verwerkt wordt. Deze audio wordt niet gedeeld en je zal volledig anoniem blijven.

Heb je het informatieblad en toestemmingsformulier gelezen? Heb je er nog vragen over? Ben je nog steeds akkoord?

Je kan je op elk moment terugtrekken uit het onderzoek. Je hoeft daar geen uitleg voor te geven en het zal ook geen consequenties hebben. Deelname aan dit onderzoek is volledig vrijwillig, anoniem en vertrouwelijk. Tijdens het interview kan je een pauze nemen, vragen overslaan die je niet beantwoorden wil, of het interview stoppen. Ook dit is zonder consequenties en je hoeft hier geen uitleg voor te geven. Ook na het interview kan je altijd contact met me opnemen als je vragen hebt, of je je terug wil trekken. Dan verwijder ik de data en resultaten van dit interview!

Ik ben dus bezig met mijn afstudeerscriptie, waar ik kijk naar het verband tussen toerisme en leefbaarheid op Ameland. Dit wil ik onderzoeken door het perspectief van eilanders. Er is sowieso weinig onderzoek over de Waddeneilanden, zeker over toerisme. Veel onderzoeken kijken alleen naar hoeveel toeristen er komen en wat de toeristen ervaren. Ik vind dat het eilander perspectief wel wat meer belicht mag worden. Vandaar dit onderzoek. Ik ben erg blij dat je meedoet! Ik hoor graag hoe jij naar toerisme op Ameland kijkt. Er zijn dus geen foute antwoorden! Ik wil graag weten wat jij denkt. Ik heb eerst een paar introducerende vragen:

- 1) Ben je op Ameland geboren of ben je hier naar toe verhuisd?
- 2) Zou je jezelf als eilander/amelander beschrijven? Ben je onderdeel van de lokale bevolking?
- 3) Wat doe je voor werk?
- 4) Hoe heb jij te maken met toerisme op Ameland?

10.3.2 Phase 2 – introducing questions

- 1) Hoe ervaar je het toerisme in jouw dagelijks leven?
- 2) Hoe zou je het toerisme op Ameland omschrijven?
- 3) Hoe zou je het type toeristen omschrijven dat Ameland bezoekt?
 - a) Is dit in de loop van de tijd veranderd?
 - b) Hoe ziet de ideale toerist er uit volgens jou?
 - i) Hoe moet het imago van Ameland zijn om die toerist aan te trekken?
- 4) Wat vind je van de seizoensgebondenheid van de toeristische sector op Ameland?
- 5) Hoe kom je toerisme tegen in jouw werk?
 - a) Hoe kijkt jouw werk tegen toerisme aan?

10.3.3 Phase 3 – asking sub questions and research question

Leefbaarheid is een concept dat kijkt naar de kwaliteit van leven. Dit is dus een groot begrip dat verder gaat dan inkomen. Leefbaarheid gaat over het hier en nu en de mate waarin de kwaliteit van leven ten koste gaat van de leefbaarheid van volgende generaties of van die van mensen elders in de wereld.

- 1) Hoe tevreden ben je met jouw leven op Ameland?
 - a) Wat voor cijfer en waarom dat cijfer?
 - b) Hoe zou je het voor het eiland in het algemeen vinden?
- 2) Wat verbetert de leefbaarheid op Ameland?
- 3) Wat verlaagt de leefbaarheid op Ameland?
- 4) Wat zijn de positieve effecten van toerisme op Ameland?
 - a) Waarom zijn die volgens jou positief?
 - b) Hoe beïnvloeden ze de leefbaarheid?
- 5) Wat zijn de negatieve gevolgen van het toerisme op Ameland?
 - a) Waarom zijn die volgens jou negatief?
 - b) Hoe beïnvloeden ze de leefbaarheid?

- 6) Hoeveel toerisme kan Ameland aan? Waar ligt de limiet?
- 7) Hoe is de Amelander cultuur veranderd?
 - a) Hoe verhoudt deze verandering zich tot het toerisme?

10.3.4 Phase 4 – concluding questions

- 1) Welke invloed heeft toerisme op jouw leven?
- 2) Hoe moet het toerisme in de toekomst vorm krijgen?
- 3) Hoe moet het toerisme volgens jouw werk in de toekomst vorm krijgen?
- 4) Heb je het gevoel dat je keuzevrijheid hebt op het gebied van toerisme / het vermogen hebt om het toerisme te veranderen? (Vraag waarom)
- 5) Welke invloed heeft toerisme volgens jou op de lokale leefbaarheid op Ameland?

10.3.5 Phase 5 – finalising answers

- 1) Zijn er nog andere gedachten die je graag wil delen met mij?
- 2) Ben je nog steeds akkoord met deelname aan het onderzoek?
 - a) Mocht je je bedenken, geef dat dan even aan. Je kan je altijd terugtrekken
- 3) Heb je vragen of feedback voor mij?

10.4 Invitation for Interview (NL)

Beste lezer,

Bedankt voor uw interesse in een interview voor mijn afstudeeronderzoek over leefbaarheid en toerisme op Ameland. Uw deelname en antwoorden kunnen mijn onderzoek verder helpen en bijdragen aan de kennis over toerisme en leefbaarheid op Ameland.

Om deel te nemen, wil ik u uiteraard informeren over mijn onderzoek, wat u kan verwachten en wat dit voor u betekent. Dit kunt u vinden in het informatieblad in het toestemmingsformulier (zie bijlage). Hier staat ook informatie in over hoe ik om zal gaan met de data en gegevens die ik ontvang. Mocht u vragen en/of zorgen hebben over deelname aan dit onderzoek, kunt u altijd contact met mij opnemen (a.f.visser.2@student.rug.nl of 06 57219074).

Wanneer u de informatie doorgelezen heeft, uw vragen beantwoord zijn en u wilt deelnemen aan het onderzoek, kunt u het toestemmingsformulier tekenen en terugsturen. Dit betekent alleen dat u de intentie heeft om deel te nemen. Het is dus geen afspraak, die zullen we daarna inplannen. Daarnaast is terugtrekken uit het onderzoek altijd mogelijk, zonder consequenties en zonder uitleg.

Ik hoor graag van u! Ik ontvang graag het getekende toestemmingsformulier wanneer u geen vragen heeft en wilt deelnemen aan mijn afstudeeronderzoek.

Met vriendelijke groeten,

Annemieke Visser

The [consent form \(NL\)](#) was added as an attachment to the message. The English version can be found [here](#).

10.5 Codebook

Group	Code
Amelander Cultuur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultuur is veranderd door toerisme ● Cultuur is veranderd maar niet door toerisme ● Cultuur is niet veranderd ● Amelander cultuur ● Niet-Amelanders ● Dialect ● Vrijwilligerswerk *
Eigen Impact / Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wel impact ● Geen impact (wil ook niet) ● Geen impact (wil wel) ● Agency jongeren
Ervaring met Toerisme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positieve ervaring met toerisme ● Negatieve ervaring met toerisme ● Andere ervaring met toerisme
Ideale Toerist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wel ideale toerist ● Geen ideale toerist
Imago van Ameland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Divers (imago) ● Duur (imago) ● Exclusief (imago) ● Natuur (imago) ● Rust (imago) ● Sport (imago) ● Moet veranderen (imago) ● Moet niet veranderen (imago) ● Kneuterig (imago) ● Zuipvakantie (imago) ● Cultuur (imago) ● Evenementen (imago) ● Autoluw/arm (imago) * ● Duurzaam (imago) ● Veilig (imago) ● Gezelligheid (imago) ● Laagdrempelig (imago) ● Kleinschalig (imago)
Invloed van Toerisme op Leefbaarheid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positief effect op leefbaarheid door toerisme ● Negatief effect op leefbaarheid door toerisme ● Impact op natuur
Kenmerken Toerisme op Ameland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Druk (kenmerk) ● Rustig (kenmerk) ● Veel (kenmerk) ● Weinig (kenmerk)
Leefbaarheid op Ameland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positieve kenmerken eigen leefbaarheid ● Negatieve kenmerken eigen leefbaarheid

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positieve kenmerken Amelander leefbaarheid ● Negatieve kenmerken Amelander leefbaarheid ● Cijfer (eigen leefbaarheid) ● Cijfer (algemene leefbaarheid) ● Leefbaarheid toekomst *
Leven op Ameland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bootvervoer ● Autovervoer ● Wonen ● Inkomen ● Natuur ● Werkgelegenheid ● Accommodaties voor toeristen ● Voorzieningen ● Cultuur ● Sociale contacten ● Scholing ● Vrijwilligerswerk * ● Evenementen ● Vakantie
Limiet Toerisme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limiet is bereikt ● Limiet komt in zicht ● Limiet is (nog) niet bereikt ● Balans
Seizoensgebondenheid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positieve ervaring hoogseizoen ● Negatieve ervaring hoogseizoen ● Positieve ervaring laagseizoen ● Negatieve ervaring laagseizoen ● Er zijn altijd toeristen ● Pieken en dalen ● Verlenging toeristenseizoen
Toekomstperspectief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meer toeristen ● Minder toeristen ● Gelijk aantal toeristen houden ● Ideeën voor autoluw ● Divers (toekomst) ● Prijs/kwaliteit verhouding (toekomst) ● Autoluw/arm (imago) * ● Innovatie ● Leefbaarheid toekomst *
Type Toerist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Veeleisend (toerist) ● Vaste gast (toerist) ● Verandering tijdens Covid-19 (toerist) ● Stelletje / tweetal (toerist) ● Natuur (toerist) ● Luxe (toerist) ● Laag inkomen (toerist) ● Hoog inkomen (toerist) ● Gezin (toerist) ● Respectvol (toerist) ● Respectloos (toerist)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Geen vaste gast (toerist)● Dagiestoerist (toerist)● Camping (toerist)● "Gewone" (toerist)● Divers (toerist)● Korte vakanties (toerist)● Lange vakanties (toerist)● Duitsers (toerist)● Duurzaam (toerist)● 50+ (toerist)● Sport (toerist)● Terras / gezelligheid (toerist)● Winkelen (toerist)● Cultuur (toerist)● Vriendengroepen (toerist)● Gejaagd (toerist)
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* These (descriptive) codes are grouped in two code groups.

10.6 Quotations

The following table displays the original quotations from the results section. The English translations were created by Google Translate, but checked and sometimes loosely rewritten by the researcher.

Section	Foot note	Translated (English) quote	Original (Dutch) quote
4.1.1	5	<i>"We had about the busiest summer ever here in that first year of COVID, 2020."</i>	"Wij hebben hier in dat eerste Coronajaar, 2020, de drukste zomer ooit gehad ongeveer."
		<i>"You were only allowed to travel within your own country [during COVID]. That was an El Dorado for us. So if someone tells me that he has not earned well during corona, then he has done something really wrong."</i>	"Je mocht Alleen nog maar reizen in eigen land [tijdens COVID]. Dat was een eldorado voor ons. Dus als iemand tegen mij zegt dat hij niet goed heeft verdiend tijdens corona, dan heeft hij iets echt helemaal verkeerd gedaan."
	6	<i>"Look, that was possible 3 years ago. Then it doesn't matter how much you asked. But I guess that's just over, right? You're getting normal families again now, aren't you?"</i>	"Kijk en dat kon 3 jaar terug. Dan maakt het niet uit wat je vroeg. Maar ik denk dat is gewoon voorbij hé? Je krijgt nu weer de gewone gezinnen, hé?"
		<i>"In the store I just have people who, yes, at first glance have a lot more money. Yes, but who are also more demanding and also a bit more tourists who think yes, you know, we are on the island, **** all the rules. I think it started a bit with corona."</i>	"In de winkel heb ik gewoon mensen die, ja, op het oog dan veel veel meer geld hebben. Ja, maar die ook veeleisender zijn en ook een beetje meer toeristen die denken van ja, weet je, wij zijn op het eiland, **** alle regels. Het is denk ik een beetje begonnen met corona."
In text		<i>I think our largest target group is still families, the children. You especially see this during the holiday season. That part of a carefree holiday. Safe. That, I think, is a choice of why people come. A piece of nature, space. A large part is German tourism. Perhaps around 40-45% of our guests are German guests. In the before and after season there, I think we characterize ourselves as the two of us. And then it is the over-50s. And then in between we have the peaks with the sporting events.</i>	"Onze grootste doelgroep zijn denk ik nog steeds families, de kinderen. Dat zie je vooral in de vakantietijd. Dat stukje zorgeloos vakantie vieren. Veilig. Dat is, denk ik, een keuze van waarom mensen komen. Een stukje natuur, ruimte. Groot deel is Duits toerisme. Wellicht rond de 40-45% van onze gasten zijn Duitse gasten. In het voor en na seizoen daar kenmerken wij ons denk ik met met de tweetjes. En dan is het wel de vijftigplussers. En dan hebben we tussendoor de de pieken met de sportevenementen."
	7	<i>"Traditionally we have tourists here who come here every year, we just have the loyal tourists here and we have partly pushed them away by becoming so expensive."</i>	"Van oudsher hebben wij hier toeristen die hier ieder jaar weer komen, gewoon de trouwe toeristen hebben wij hier en die hebben we weg voor een deel weggedrukt door zo duur te worden."
		<i>"But yes, if you look at what Wagenborg charges for a crossing, so to speak, and then by car, which families often do, because they have a lot of stuff with them when they come for a week. Then I think, yes, I understand that not every family has the money for that now. ... I think for some people it's just not</i>	"Maar ja, als je dan kijkt naar wat Wagenborg vraagt voor een overtocht, zeg maar, en dan met de auto mee, wat vaak gezinnen wel doen, want die hebben heel veel spullen mee als er voor een week komt. Dan denk ik van, ja, dat snap ik ook wel dat niet elk gezin daar het geld nu voor heeft. ... Ik denk dat het voor

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		<i>affordable anymore. That they are more likely to think, go to the Veluwe or something, where at least they don't have to pay for the crossing."</i>	sommige mensen gewoon niet meer betaalbaar is. Dat die dan eerder denken van, ga naar de Veluwe of zo, waar ze in ieder geval die overtocht niet hoeft te betalen"
	8	<i>"And that yes, you now see the enthusiasts coming back again, so I. I think we are heading in the right direction again."</i>	"En dat ja, je ziet nu wel weer de liefhebbers terugkomen, dus ik ik. Ik denk wel dat we de goede kant weer op gaan."
4.1.2	9	<i>"It is very busy on the streets. Very busy in the shops and in the supermarkets. Those kinds of things. Cycle paths."</i>	"En dat het erg druk op straat is, dat er. Erg druk In de winkels is In de supermarkten. Dat beetje ja. Fietspaden."
	10	<i>"I wouldn't like to live in the centre of Nes or Hollum. Because then it seems like a lot and very busy to me and we live here in the polder and here, it's not that bad."</i>	"Ik zou niet graag in het centrum van Nes willen wonen of Hollum. Want dan lijkt het me wel erg veel en erg druk en wij wonen hier in de polder en hier, hier valt het wel mee."
	11	<i>"For example, a very large target group is people with dogs. That you can promote the low season for those types of people. That doesn't really bother you much in terms of traffic and such, as they are out and about a lot. But yes, that ensures that there is still something to do, so to speak, that people stay."</i>	"Bijvoorbeeld een hele grote doelgroep is mensen met honden. Dat je juist dan het laagseizoen kan promoten voor dat soort mensen. Daar heb je eigenlijk qua in het verkeer en zo ook niet veel last van, die zijn er heel veel op uit. Maar ja, dat zorgt er wel voor dat er wat te doen blijft, zeg maar, dat er mensen blijven."
4.2.1	12	<i>"Safe, healthy, always fresh air. We have a detached house, which is also fantastic. Good income, there is always work."</i>	"Veilig, gezond, altijd frisse lucht. We hebben een vrijstaand huis, Dat is ook al fantastisch. Goed inkomen, er is altijd werk."
	13	<i>"The advantages are, for example, that we have various catering establishments. That we have various museums. That we have quite a lot of cycle paths. That we still have a municipality that can arrange things here with their officials, which we would certainly not be able to do at this level, with a small community of 3.5 thousand residents."</i>	"De voordelen zijn bijvoorbeeld dat wij dus diverse horeca hebben. Dat wij dus diverse musea hebben. Dat wij vrij veel fietspaden hebben. Dat we nog een gemeente hebben die dus met hun ambtenaren dingen kunnen regelen hier, wat we met een kleine gemeenschap van 3,5 duizend inwoners zeker niet op dit niveau zouden kunnen."
		<i>"There are of course all kinds of facilities and things like that on the island, which of course are actually very luxurious. Look at the health care here in such a small community. And then look at schools here in such a small community. It's all because all these people can be here, because they are all doing so well here. Almost everyone is directly linked to tourism."</i>	"Zijn hier natuurlijk allerlei voorzieningen en dat soort dingen op het eiland, die natuurlijk dat er eigenlijk heel luxe is. Kijk naar de gezondheidszorg hier op zo'n kleine gemeenschap. En dan kijk naar scholen hier op zo'n zo'n kleine gemeenschap. Dat is allemaal omdat hier al die mensen hier kunnen zijn, omdat ze het hier allemaal zo goed hebben. Bijna iedereen is rechtstreeks gelinkt aan het toerisme."
14	<i>"So you now see that in various villages on Ameland, in fact, in every village, a neighbourhood has been added. And yes, actually only Amelanders have built a house</i>	"Je ziet nu dus dat in verschillende dorpen op Ameland, eigenlijk bij elk dorp is er een, een wijk bijgebouwd. En ja, eigenlijk zijn dat alleen maar Amelanders die er een woning	

	<i>there, so that is just a really nice development. And that yes, that is simply made possible by tourism. That's just a fact. It wouldn't have been possible otherwise."</i>	hebben gebouwd, dus dat is gewoon hartstikke mooie ontwikkeling. En dat ja, dat wordt gewoon mogelijk gemaakt door toerisme. Dat is gewoon een feit. Anders had dat niet gekund."
15	<i>"Because they work for the municipality or at Wagenborg or at schools or in transport. Or, well, and it's all so extensive because all those tourists are here. ... You don't have to be unemployed here on Ameland."</i>	"Omdat ze bij de gemeente werken of bij wagenborg of bij de scholen of bij het in het vervoer zitten. Of nou ja, en Dat is er allemaal zo uitgebreid Omdat al die toeristen hier zijn. ... Je hoeft hier op Ameland ook niet werkloos te zijn."
16	<i>"Yes, it used to be seasonal, so people no longer had a permanent job in the winter. Then it is of course more difficult to get a mortgage. So I think it is good for the island itself that the season is a little longer, so that young people who want to live here can also have the opportunity to have a good job here and a good, well, a mortgage, a house and the whole plan."</i>	"Ja, vroeger had je het seizoensgebonden, waardoor de mensen in de winter natuurlijk niet meer een vaste baan hadden. Dan is het natuurlijk lastiger om ook een hypotheek te kunnen krijgen. Dus ik denk dat het voor het eiland zelf wel goed is dat er, dat het seizoen wat langer is, zodat jeugd die hier wil wonen ook de kans kan krijgen om hier een goede baan te hebben en een goede, nou ja, een hypotheek, een huis en het hele rattenplan voor elkaar te kunnen krijgen."
17	<i>"Tourism has brought Ameland an incredible amount of prosperity. ... From one of, yes, one of the poorest municipalities in the Netherlands to one of the richest municipalities in the Netherlands."</i>	"Toerisme heeft Ameland ongelooflijk veel welvaart gebracht. ... Van een van de, ja, een van de armste gemeentes van Nederland naar één van de rijkste gemeentes van Nederland."
	<i>"We do need them [tourists]. We have to live from it [tourism]."</i>	"We hebben ze wel nodig [toeristen]. We moeten ervan leven."
	<i>"And we can be very happy with that. Because it must of course be very clear to everyone: If we didn't have the tourists, there would be poverty here."</i>	"En daar kunnen we ook heel blij mee zijn. Want het moet Natuurlijk voor Iedereen heel duidelijk zijn: Hadden wij de toeristen niet, dan was het hier armoe troef."
18	<i>"Yes, everything depends on tourism on Ameland, including the liveability, so without tourists there is no liveability here on Ameland. Then we simply have nothing here."</i>	"Ja, alles in principe valt en staat alles met het toerisme op Ameland, dus ook de leefbaarheid, dus zonder toerist is hier geen leefbaarheid op Ameland. Dan dan hebben we hier gewoon niks."
19	<i>"In my life, well, I have already stated that a few times that yes, because tourists come here, because of the volunteer work and yes, I have been given a certain meaning in my life after my retirement, so to speak, yes. And I think that I like that very much. And, well, contact with others and. So yes, a meaningful way to spend my life after work."</i>	"Op mijn leven, nou ja, dat heb ik al een paar keer aangegeven dat ja, doordat hier toeristen komen, door het vrijwilligerswerk en ja, daar heb ik weer een bepaalde invulling van mijn leven gekregen na mijn pensionering, zeg maar ja. En Ik vind dat Ik vind dat heel leuk. En om nou ja, contacten met met anderen en. Dus ja, een zinvolle invulling van mijn leven na mijn werk."

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20	<i>“On the one hand, it brings all kinds of things. It provides entertainment, it brings economic prosperity. It also produces all those events that we all like and enjoy and it's a big party here in the summer. It's all fun.”</i>	“Aan de ene kant brengt het van alles. Het geeft vertier, het brengt economische voorspoed. Het hé, het levert ook al die evenementen op die we allemaal leuk en gezellig vinden en het is een groot feest hier in de zomer. Het is allemaal leuk.”
	<i>“And even more activities through tourism. Yes, in the summer too. You have something every week and that is a lot for the Amelanders, but it is also fun, because there is something. Without tourism there is nothing.”</i>	“En meer activiteiten door toerisme zelfs. Ja, in de zomer ook. Je hebt elke week wel iets en dat is veel voor de Amelanders, maar het is ook wel weer leuk, want er is wel wat. Zonder toerisme is er ook niks.”
	<i>“Yes, it also creates a bit of atmosphere or something, I think. There is always something on the island, otherwise it would just be a somewhat deserted sandbank.”</i>	“Ja het zorgt ook wel een beetje voor sfeer ofzo, denk ik. Op het eiland is toch altijd, anders zou het toch maar een beetje verlaten zandplaat zijn.”
21	<i>“I think it's like stepping outside the door and really being away from people. Just really being outside. There is a lot of nature around you that you can really, yes, relax, so to speak, and you really have the feeling that you are in nature.”</i>	“Ik denk het zeg maar buiten de deur stappen en dat je echt buiten de mensen bent. Gewoon echt buiten bent. Zeg maar heel veel natuur om je heen dat je echt, ja, tot rust kan komen, zeg maar, en ook echt het gevoel hebt dat je in de natuur bent.”
22	<i>“So, the positives are certainly the freedom you still have here. The freedom to, you just go to the beach, you go for a while. Just get out. The door is open. You don't have to lock it, which is also a bit of freedom to me.”</i>	“Zeg maar, de pluspunten zijn zeker de vrijheid die je hier nog steeds hebt. De vrijheid om je gaat even op het strand, je gaat even. Even er uit. De deur is open. Hoef je niet op slot te zetten, vind ik ook een stukje vrijheid.”
23	<i>“We live here with a lot of freedom and the advantage is, for example, that we do not lock the door when we leave the house and we leave the car key in it and well, you don't have to do that in Leeuwarden, because then everything is gone. [So safety?] yes, safety, I feel very safe on this. This island.”</i>	“Wij leven hier in een hele grote vrijheid en en het voordeel is bijvoorbeeld ook dat wij de deur niet op slot doen als wij de deur uit huis gaan en de autosleutel laten we erin zitten en nou, dat hoef je in Leeuwarden niet te doen, want dan is alles alles weg. [Dus veiligheid?] ja, veiligheid, ik voel me heel veilig hier op. Dit eiland.”
24	<i>“I really like the fact that you actually know everyone here, so if something ever comes up, you can actually call anyone. There are sometimes people you are not close with, but hey, if there is a situation where you can help each other, then that happens, right?”</i>	“Ik vind het heel fijn dat je eigenlijk iedereen hier wel kent, dus als er eens een keer iets is of, ja, je kan eigenlijk iedereen wel bellen. Er zijn weleens mensen waar je niet zoveel mee hebt, maar ja, als er toch een situatie is waar je elkaar kan helpen, dan gebeurt dat toch?”
25	<i>“Yes, the family is close. It is also a bit, yes, quite a social community, so to speak.”</i>	“Ja de familie is dichtbij. Het is ook een beetje, ja wel een hele sociale gemeenschap, zeg maar.”
26	<i>“Yes, yes, anyway, Ameland is culture, I think, Ameland has so many cultural things, even if someone dies, there are a lot of</i>	“Ja ja sowieso Ameland is cultuur, vind ik, Ameland heeft zoveel culturele dingen met heel veel, zelfs als er iemand overlijdt, zit er

		<i>cultural things in it. So yes, that affects the quality of life in a positive way, yes totally.”</i>	heel veel culturele dingen in. Dus ja, dat dat dat beïnvloedt de leefbaarheid op positieve manier, sowieso ja.”
	27	<i>“There are also other people coming to the island who, look, if they come here and they already have a warm heart for the island and they, who mingle here in the Amelander community, that is of course fine and lots of fun. ... But there are also people who come to work here, or who come to be here, and they isolate themselves completely.”</i>	“er komen ook andere Mensen naar het eiland die, kijk als die hier komen en die draagt het eiland al een warm hart toe en die, Die mengen zich hier in de amelander Gemeenschap is dat Natuurlijk hartstikke prima en helemaal leuk. ... Maar er komen ook Mensen hier werken, of die komen hier zijn, En die zonderen zich helemaal af.”
	28	<i>“A lot of those very important Amelander traditions are a bit outside the [tourist] season, precisely because we want to do that without the tourists. But if there were too many tourists, that could also have a major impact. Of course, I don't think we want that.”</i>	“Een heleboel van die hele belangrijke amelander gebruiken, die zitten toch een beetje buiten het [toeristen]seizoen, juist omdat we dat zonder de toeristen willen doen. Maar als de toeristen daar te veel bij zouden komen, dan kan dat ook grote invloed hebben. Natuurlijk, dat willen we denk ik niet.”
	29	<i>“We do have a lot of culture here, but it is not culture that is always available to tourists, so to speak.”</i>	“We hebben wel een hoop cultuur hier, maar dat is niet cultuur die altijd beschikbaar is voor de toerist, zeg maar.”
4.2.2	30	<i>“That is certainly the boat connection on which you are dependent on the company and have little say in it”</i>	“Dat is zeker de bootverbinding waar je dus afhankelijk bent van, van het bedrijf en daar weinig over te zeggen hebt”
		<i>“But it's always a lot of hassle. If you ever have to go to hospital urgently, but you cannot take the helicopter or the rescue boat, because that is not serious enough, but you do have to leave, then you actually cannot leave in the summer, because the boats are really full.”</i>	“Alleen het is altijd heel veel gedoe. Als jij een keer met spoed naar het ziekenhuis moet, maar je kan niet met de helikopter of de reddingsboot, want daar is niet ernstig genoeg voor, maar je moet wel weg, dan zit je al in de zomer dat je eigenlijk niet weg kan, omdat de boten echt ramp vol zitten.”
		<i>“Yes, of course, for example, if you have an emergency, if you have something, family or something like that, then you always have to go to Leeuwarden and then you are always dependent on a boat. For the hospital, for example, but also for shopping or something like that.”</i>	“Ja, je hebt natuurlijk bijvoorbeeld voor een spoed, als je iets hebt, familie of zoiets in een keer iets krijgt, dan moet je natuurlijk altijd naar Leeuwarden en dan ben je altijd afhankelijk van een boot. Voor het ziekenhuis bijvoorbeeld, maar ook ja, voor ja, voor bijvoorbeeld shoppen ofzo.”
	31	<i>“What happened last year, for example, was that Wagenborg started commuting with one boat in the channel and we could not get all the people, tourists, to Ameland and we [islanders] could no longer leave the island. That was really terrible, what they did then. And that was for no reason that they actually did that and that is unimaginable. They used their monopoly position to hold the entire island hostage and that was really not good.</i>	“Wat vorig jaar bijvoorbeeld gebeurd is, dat wagenborg met één boot in de vaargeul gaat varen en dat we niet alle mensen, toeristen, naar Ameland konden krijgen en wij [eilanders] konden ook niet meer van het eiland af. Dat was echt vreselijk, wat ze toen uitgehaald hebben. En dat was ook zonder reden dat ze dat eigenlijk gedaan hebben en dat is onvoorstelbaar. Ze gebruikten hun monopoliepositie om hier het hele eiland te

		<i>What they did then should never happen again."</i>	gijzelen en Dat was Dat was echt was echt niet best. Dat mag eigenlijk nooit weer voorkomen wat ze toen gedaan hebben."
	32	<i>"Yes, I would very much like to continue living there, but work opportunities outside of tourism are quickly diminishing, so yes, I cannot find the work I want to do here anyway, which I think is a shame."</i>	"Ja, ik zou je heel graag wel willen blijven wonen, maar werkkansen, toerisme en de daarbuiten wordt al heel snel minder, dus ja, ik kan hier sowieso niet het werk vinden wat ik doen wil, dat vind ik wel jammer."
	33	<i>"With our own population, we can of course never solely facilitate what happens here in the summer, so we do need seasonal staff for the summer."</i>	"met onze eigen inwoneraantal kunnen wij Natuurlijk nooit Alleen faciliteren, wat hier In de zomer allemaal gebeurt, dus wij hebben voor personeel zomer ja seizoensgebonden personeel krachten nodig."
	34	<i>"I find it very busy on summer days. If you go horse riding, you will encounter cyclists everywhere."</i>	"In de zomerdag vind ik het heel druk. Als je gaat paardrijden, dan kom je overal fietsers tegen."
		<i>"Yes, I do think that the constant presence of tourists [has a negative impact on liveability]."</i>	"Ja, ik denk wel dat het constant aanwezig zijn van toeristen [heeft een negatieve impact op leefbaarheid]."
	35	<i>"Well, and the same is if you want to eat out with your family or friends. Well, we also pay the top price. That's not just for tourists and sometimes I think, 'does that have to be so crazy?'"</i>	"Nou ja, en datzelfde is als je met je gezin of met familie of vrienden een keer uit eten wil. Ja, wij betalen ook gewoon de hoofdprijs. Dat is niet alleen voor de toeristen en dat is weleens dat ik denk van, moet dat nou zo gek?"
	36	<i>"Certain situations that we have discussed, you might experience that as negative, right? Next to a disco route and at certain events when they drink too much, Rôggefeest and all that kind of stuff."</i>	"Bepaalde situaties waar we daar ook over gehad hebben, zou je dat misschien als negatief ervaren, hè? Bij een disco route en bij bepaalde evenementen als ze teveel gedronken wordt, Rôggefeest dan al dat soort dingen meer."
	37	<i>"And what I also see very often is that there is an enormous amount of rubbish lying around after a sporting event. Pieces of paper, half-eaten bananas thrown into the trees, all that kind of stuff. Yes, I don't think that's necessary."</i>	"En wat ik ook heel vaak zie, is dat er echt ontiegelijk veel troep ligt als er een sportevenement is geweest. Papiertjes, half opgegeten bananen die in de bomen geslingerd worden, allemaal dat soort dingen. Ja, dat vind ik niet nodig."
		<i>"You can't say to people at one moment, you can go there, because you have a sporting event that goes through there, straight through the dunes. And then say, it's not allowed anymore. Because those people have put it in their system and will cycle there again next time."</i>	"Je kan niet het ene moment tegen mensen zeggen, daar mag je komen, want je hebt een sportevenement dat daar langs gaat, dwars door de duinen. En daarna zeggen, het mag niet meer. Want die mensen hebben het in hun systeem gezet, en fietsen daar de volgende keer weer."
4.3	38	<i>"But with work, yes, the more tourism, the better, of course. Yes, look, it doesn't really</i>	"Maar met werk ja, hoe meer toerisme, hoe beter nou natuurlijk. Ja, kijk, maakt mij niet

	<i>matter to me because my salary does not depend on it, but their income does depend on my work. So yes, they [my bosses] prefer more tourism”</i>	heel veel uit wat mijn loon hangt er niet vanaf, maar hun inkomsten wel van mijn werk. Dus ja, zij [mijn bazen] hebben liever meer toerisme”
In text	<i>“I always say don't change a winning team.”</i>	“Don't change a winning team zeg ik altijd.”
39	<i>“It just so happens that Ameland is very concerned with sustainability and I think that this also attracts a certain type of tourist, who cares more about the environment and things like that. So I would like it not only to be classified as a sports island or nature island, but also as a sustainability holiday that would be quite nice actually. And with that I think you also attract certain people, and perhaps turn away other people a bit.”</i>	“Nou is Ameland toevallig wel weer heel erg bezig met duurzaamheid en ik denk dat we daarmee ook weer een bepaald soort toerist juist trekken, die wel wat meer om de omgeving geeft en dat soort dingen. Dus ik zou het leuk vinden, niet alleen als sport eiland te boek te staan of natuureiland, maar ook als ze een duurzaamheids vakantie zou best wel mooi zijn eigenlijk. En daarmee denk ik dat je ook bepaalde mensen trekt, en andere mensen een beetje weert misschien.”
40	<i>“Well, I think we are on the right track, for example when I look at Arriva, they are running electric buses here on Ameland and that is of course very friendly. That there will be no more diesel gas emissions or smoke when the bus drives through the village. That is a very good way of transport and I think if Ameland continues on that path... I think that is a very good goal. Only whether it is feasible is the second thing. But I think if we do that, we'll be on a good path. ... I think it attracts a certain kind of audience who thinks, well, we are doing well on Ameland. It's neat there. It's clean there and it's friendly there. I think we will keep tourism going here on Ameland. Yes, you remain attractive. Let's call it that.”</i>	“Nou, ik denk dat we op goede weg zijn, bijvoorbeeld als ik dan bij Arriva kijk, met elektrische bussen hier op Ameland te rijden en dat is natuurlijk heel vriendelijk. Dat er geen diesel gas meer uitstoot en rook uitstoot als die bus door het dorp rijdt. Dat is een hele school manier van vervoer en ik denk, als Ameland op die weg doorgaat ... ik denk dat dat een heel goed streven zo is. Alleen of het haalbaar is, dat is het tweede. Maar ik denk dat we dan op een goede weg zijn als we dat gaan doen. ... Ik denk wel dat het een bepaald soort publiek aantrekt die denkt van nou, we zijn er goed bezig op Ameland. Het is daar netjes. Het is daar schoon en het is daar vriendelijk. Ik denk dat we dan wel het toerisme op gang houden hier op Ameland. Ja, je blijft aantrekkelijk. Laten we het zo noemen.”
41	<i>“[I have an impact] I think so, well, very small changes. Anyway, that's about my own accommodations. Look, of course I can't do anything about the big picture.”</i>	“[ik heb impact] Dat denk ik wel, nou ja, hele kleine veranderingen. Maar goed, dat gaat dan over mijn eigen bungalows. Kijk, het grote geheel kan ik natuurlijk niks aan doen.”
42	<i>“Yes, but somehow I think, you know, it doesn't make any **** sense anyway, because I'm not a millionaire. I don't have a catering business. I don't work at Wagenborg, I'm not with the municipality. Well, who are you then? Then you are nobody.”</i>	“Ja, maar ergens denk ik van, weet je, het heeft toch allemaal geen **** zin, want ik ben geen miljonair. Ik heb geen horecaonderneming. Ik werk niet bij Wagenborg, ik zit niet bij de gemeente. Nou, wie ben je dan? Dan ben je niemand.”
4.3.1	43 <i>“that we have to look at how we can still enthuse the youth on the island. So what opportunities are there for youth, given the climate we are in at the moment?”</i>	“dat we moeten kijken van hoe we de jeugd nog kunnen enthousiasmeren op het eiland. Dus wat voor mogelijkheden zijn er voor de

		jeugd, met het klimaat waar we op het moment in zitten?”
44	<i>“I do have an opinion, but, well. No, I think I have to be a little older and wiser for that.”</i>	“Ik heb wel een mening, maar ja, Dat is ja. Nee, Ik denk dat ik daar nog even ouder en wijzer voor moet zijn.”
45	<i>“Of course, it doesn't all have to go, because then it won't be of any use. But maybe every other year or so, because you now have 4 sporting events. They are all in the spring and if you look at nature that is not good, because it is only being trampled to pieces. Alternate, so that one year has those two and the next year has those two. It is also better for the tourists we have here that this will become a little less, because the events always coming one after the other are very busy.”</i>	“Het hoeft natuurlijk ook niet allemaal weg, want dan is dus ook weer niks aan. Maar misschien om het jaar of zo, want je hebt nou 4 sportevenementen. Die zitten allemaal in het voorjaar en als je kijkt naar de natuur is dat niet goed, want die wordt alleen maar kapot getrapt. Wissel dat af dat het ene jaar die twee heeft en het andere jaar die twee. Is ook beter voor de toeristen die we hier hebben dat iets minder worden, want de evenementen steeds achter elkaar aan steeds achter elkaar aan is hartstikke druk.”
46	<i>“I'm afraid that Ameland will one day succumb to its own success, right? That there is so much tourism and more and more and especially more people with much more money, that the things that Ameland is known for are going away somewhat, cheaper and accessible, so to speak. But hey, that's how it goes.”</i>	“Ik, Ik ben wel bang dat Ameland een keer ten onder gaat aan zijn eigen succes, hè? Dat er zoveel toerisme en steeds meer en vooral steeds meer mensen met veel meer geld, dat de dingen waar Ameland wat bekend voor staat, dat wel wat weggaat, het goedkoper en het laagdrempelige, zeg maar. Maar ja, dat gaat zoals het gaat.”
47	<i>“Well, for employment, it is very difficult with what I have studied. You are very limited in terms of career, so to speak, if you want to stay here you really have to either want to work in the hospitality industry, or do something very specific, or travel a lot. That makes it very difficult.”</i>	“Nou ja, voor werkgelegenheid, met wat ik heb gestudeerd is het wel weer heel erg lastig. Je bent heel beperkt in carrière, zeg maar, als je hier wilt blijven moet je echt, ja of in de horeca willen werken, of heel specifiek iets doen, of heel veel reizen. Dat maakt het wel heel erg lastig.”
48	<i>“As long as I really like everything here besides work, right? And there are that season is really there. And yes, you're generally not very bothered by tourists. Then I would put work in the background. I would just [work] in tourism.”</i>	“Als ik buiten werk alles hier gewoon heel erg leuk vindt, hè? En er zijn dat seizoen is er echt. En ja, je hebt niet heel veel last van toeristen over het algemeen. Je hebt dan zou ik werk toch op de achtergrond zetten. Dat zou ik dan maar wel in toerisme me gaan [werken].”

10.7 Boxplot Liveability

This boxplot compares the "Score personal liveability" and "Score Amelander liveability". This visualisation shows the distribution of scores for both categories, highlighting the median (red line), quartiles, and potential outliers. The red X marks the average score, which is also written within each box.

