



ROBOTICS, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SERVICE AUTOMATION (RAISA) A MODEL FOR SMART AND SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Technological progress in information and communication technologies (ICTs) has facilitated the implementation of automation and the integration of more advanced technologies in all industries. With the advent of robotics, artificial intelligence and service automation (RAISA) technologies, tourism service providers and market players have redirected their attention from traditional and conventional methods of service delivery to more modern and innovative approaches. Emerging technologies such as big data, mobile internet, the internet of things (IoT), and artificial intelligence (AI) have been fueling a rapid growth in innovations that facilitate a sustainable shift towards social robots. While AI is extensively studied in the field of tourism research, robotics and intelligent service automation have received less comprehensive research attention. The present study endeavors to investigate the prospective landscape of the travel and tourism sector using a rigorous qualitative secondary data analysis approach through web page content analysis on the awareness and usage of RAISA technologies in the global marketplace. The publication proposes four primary research objectives: investigating the advantages of RAISA, evaluating its usage and adaptability, examining the effects and difficulties of implementing the systems, and establishing a sustainable future with RAISA-enabled services. Research in these fields will facilitate the systematic and organized generation of knowledge, enabling the academic community to guarantee the advantageous implementations of intelligent automation in the tourism sector. This work presents a taxonomy for RAISA technologies in tourism and presents a persuasive case for how this interdisciplinary field should be included in conventional tourism research.

KEYWORDS

robotics, artificial intelligence, chatbots, virtual reality, service automation, smart tourism, destination management

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1. INTRODUCTION

Emerging technologies and advanced applications are supplanting traditional systems and methods, enabling more effective monitoring and surveillance of industrial operations (Sandhya & Varghese, 2024). The closely interconnected tourism sector comprises several participants providing a wide range of services, including transportation, hospitality, entertainment and distinctive memorable experiences to a discerning clientele (Jogarao, 2024). Statistical evidence supports the claim that the travel and tourism sector is experiencing rapid growth worldwide, mostly because of its versatile characteristics and ability to quickly adjust to technological progress (Agrawal et al., 2018). Emerging players such as online travel agencies (OTAs), meta-search engines and virtual travel service platforms are now revolutionizing the whole tourism value chain (Ahn & Seo, 2018). Numerous industrialized and developing nations worldwide heavily depend on essential platforms such as travel information search, reservation and booking, accommodation, transportation and banking services (Ivanov et al., 2019). In the realm of ICTs convergence, the integration of groupware, netware, and humanware seamlessly eradicates the boundaries that exist between hardware and software (Jabeen et al., 2022). Telecommunications, equipment networking and interoperability among organizations and activities heavily rely on wireless and mobile networks (Bulchand-Gidumal, 2022; Sandhya & Varghese, 2023). The digital transformation in the tourism industry started with the integration of the internet in the late 1990s, accelerated by the growing use of mobile devices and social media platforms (Frank et al., 2017). Information and communication technologies have revolutionized the management and promotion of tourism (Gonçalves et al., 2024) and their rapid adoption by tourists has made them an essential element of a destination's competitive advantage (Huang & Rust, 2018). Influential travel service platforms such as Google have enabled internet, hardware, financial, logistical and infrastructure companies to exert control over destination marketing, operation and management (Sandhya & Varghese, 2023). Booking.com and Expedia are strongly favored as OTAs for obtaining travel-related information, TripAdvisor, Uber and Grab for urban transportation, and Airbnb for accommodation (Askarpour et al., 2019). Globally, the use of technology has a pronounced influence on several industries, but it is especially evident in the context of products that possess a high degree of intangibility (Azarmi et al., 2017; Sapir, 2024).

Contemporary destinations worldwide are actively advocating the development of smart tourism, highlighting its numerous benefits ranging from efficiency to sustainability (Alexis, 2017). Integration

of state-of-the-art technology to stimulate business innovation and ultimately enhance the experiences of both tourists and locals is a fundamental aspect of it (Buhalis, Leung & Lin, 2023). The advent of internet accessibility has given rise to a multitude of opportunities, such as the intelligent, smart, digital, wired, cybercity or knowledge city; among these, "smart" has become the prevailing designation (Wu et al., 2023). The shared characteristic of these concepts is the portrayal of cities with knowledge centers that oversee information, technology and innovation (Bhatt et al., 2024). These elements promote more efficient management, sustainable development and an improved quality of life for residents (Ben-Ari & Mondada, 2018). Smart tourism is characterized by its main efforts to convert extensive data into valuable insights and offerings, which sets it apart as "smart" (Sandhya & Varghese, 2024). While the development of technological infrastructure is a crucial element in the advancement of smart tourism, and most industry and government efforts are now focused on this aspect, smart tourism is widely understood and acknowledged as a comprehensive approach to destination management (Gretzel et al., 2015). Research by Lestari et al. (2021) indicate that online destination management organizations (DMOs) are highly efficient tools for developing and advertising a destination image.

In the realm of destination operational and strategic management, the transformation of destination management organizations into destination integrated computerized information reservation management systems has been of paramount importance (Clough & Wu, 2024). These circumstances gave rise to the term "e-tourism", which served as the foundation for the e-destination concept and the digitization of the tourism value chain (Buhalis, 2000; Buhalis, Leung & Lin, 2023). Through the lens of digital ecosystems, the role of ICTs in tourism management can be elucidated (Bilgihan & Ricci, 2024). Alexis (2017) defines a digital tourism ecosystem as the dynamic interplay between living entities such as tourists or vendors and the computational environment, comprising inanimate objects like devices and connections. This concept can be used to characterize a particular geographical location, a distinct sector within the travel industry, or the phenomenon of international travel (Jin, 2024).

The transition of the service sector into a digital platform progressively expanded the range of opportunities and facilitated extraordinary growth prospects for the sector (Noor & Sim, 2024). Such applications empower tourists by giving them personalized recommendations based on their previous travel patterns on attractions, dining and leisure (Huang et al., 2022). They also enhance the on-site experiences by providing detailed information, location-based, and

custom-made interactive services (Ivanov, 2019), and enable the sharing of experiences with other travelers (Goel et al., 2022).

Digital transformation is essential for a thriving community, as the tourism industry often experiences a surge in entrepreneurial activity during times of economic expansion (Huang & Rust, 2018). The paramount objective of digitalization is to facilitate the advancement of more integrated online services that can stimulate economic growth (Buhalis & Law, 2008) involving cultivating a self-sufficient mentality by nurturing creativity, which in turn stimulates the establishment of more tourist entrepreneurial ventures (Frank et al., 2017). The effectiveness of entrepreneurship in leveraging the collective creativity of individuals varies among different tourism companies (Ben-Ari & Mondada, 2018) allowing for the application of creativity to investigate how a collective might produce novel tourism-related concepts and devise innovative solutions (Buhalis, Leung, Fan et al., 2023).

The primary objectives of this research are twofold. Above all, this article aims to establish a thorough foundation for the research conducted on robotics, artificial intelligence and service automation (RAISA) from 2015 to the present. Furthermore, the paper assesses the level of awareness and adaptability, the utilization of technology-enabled applications, identifies the practical obstacles and hurdles associated with these applications, and thus examines the research gap in this field to offer direction for future study.

2. TOURISM 4.0: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND INTELLIGENT AUTOMATION IN THE SERVICE INDUSTRY

The first major technological advancement in the service industry occurred with the widespread availability of the internet in the late 20th century (Cohen & Hopkins, 2019). Companies started to establish an online presence so that clients could get information and make purchases without having to interact in person (Buhalis, 1998). This signaled the start of a change toward more practical and effective service delivery (Sandhya & Varghese, 2023). The service sector underwent yet another change with the advent of smartphones and mobile applications (Buhalis & O'Connor, 2005). Customers could book accommodation, travel and food delivery services with just a few phone taps owing to apps like Uber, Airbnb and food delivery services (Jose et al., 2023; Shanmugam et al., 2024). In the modern era, the service industry continues to thrive with the advent of new and innovative technologies being introduced and implemented to perform various functions (Alexis, 2017).

Chatbots and AI are now standard applications in customer support as they are capable of answering common questions and offer round-the-clock assistance, freeing up human agents to work on more difficult and analytical problems (Leung, 2024; Nica et al., 2018). Transactions are now more convenient and secure thanks to digital payment solutions like online payment platforms and mobile wallets (Azarmi, 2017). Businesses no longer need actual cash or credit cards because they can make and accept payments online (Štilić et al., 2023). Data storage facilities are being transformed by cloud computing, which enables businesses to access and manage their data more easily from any remote location (Kozinets et al., 2023). This has made remote work possible and strengthened stakeholder collaboration in the service sector (Berezina et al., 2019). Businesses can now provide smart services like connected automobiles and intelligent home automation owing to the internet of things (IoT). These developments improve client convenience and give service providers useful data (Zarezadeh et al., 2023).

Tourism 4.0 related technologies, including cloud computing, the mobile internet, robots, artificial intelligence, autonomous cars and even 3D printing, are anticipated to have a significant impact on the global tourism industry during the next five years (World Economic Forum, 2020). Information and communication technologies are used to support the visitor experience throughout their tourist activity process, encompassing the pre, on-site, and post-consumption phases, through virtual communities, social media networks and mobile technology (Gretzel, 2023). The potential for direct contacts between online service providers and customers is advanced by Web 4.0 technologies' capabilities including interactivity, online customer recommendations, online word of mouth and user-generated content (Solakis et al., 2022). As a result, the prospects for online communication have greatly risen due to the ICTs' quick advancement and growing importance in the tourism sector (Webster & Ivanov, 2023).

Emerging technologies such as robotics, nanotechnology, quantum computing, biotechnology, the IoT, and 5G are fundamental to Industry 4.0 and will undoubtedly influence customer service interactions (Kemer & Tyagi, 2023). An essential element of Industry 4.0 is the utilization of vast amounts of big data for the purpose of training artificial intelligence systems (Touni, 2020). These data can be categorized as either structured or unstructured information that records particular observations and can assist individuals in comprehending service-related issues, such as customer preferences (Ogle & Lamb, 2019). Data analytics enables artificial intelligence to detect historical behavioral patterns, make more accurate forecasts of future behavior, and offer suitable recommendations (Jörling

et al., 2019). Google Ads, for example, evaluates and provides advertising that it deems most appealing to consumers by tracking their browsing and buying patterns (Bhaumik, 2018; Kim et al., 2022; Sandhya & Varghese, 2023).

3. USAGE AND ADAPTABILITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

Digital technologies fall into two categories: disruptive technologies and enabling technologies (Davenport, 2018). Basic technologies like the internet and web pages that make it easier for people to embrace other technologies are known as enabling technologies (Mendez Alva et al., 2021). The advanced technologies that give rise to a new market or a new avenue of business or research are referred to as disruptive digital technologies (Munawar et al., 2022). Social media, mobile apps, big data and artificial intelligence, self-service technologies and robots, virtual reality, e-commerce and social commerce, information systems and smart systems are considered disruptive technologies (Daugherty & Wilson, 2018). These technologies form an integral part of today's community and influence the behavior and decision-making capabilities of the population (Knani et al., 2022; Limna, 2022).

These 'new' visitors are better informed thanks to the internet, which also motivates them to look for great deals on both time and money (Solakis et al., 2022). Travelers who are demanding, sophisticated and experienced need to communicate with suppliers in order to have their unique wants and desires met (Wang & Uysal, 2024). The transition from traditional travel agencies to online booking platforms is one of the most obvious developments brought about by technological advancements (Ogle & Lamb, 2019). These days, travelers may use websites and mobile apps that offer a wide range of alternatives for flights, lodging and activities to plan and book their entire trip from their home (Webster & Ivanov, 2023). Travelers will find this change convenient, and businesses will be able to reach a wider audience and run their operations more effectively (Solakis et al., 2022) while due to their lifestyles, customers are less able to relax and take part in their own interests (Snäll, 2023). While rigorously packaged mass tours are on the decline, leisure time is increasingly being used for individually planned tourism and "edutainment", which is the investigation of particular interests for both professional and personal growth (Sandhya & Varghese, 2024). The widespread use of smartphones has ushered in a new era of travel applications that aim

to improve travelers' experiences in general (Frank et al., 2017). Real-time navigation, language translation and immediate access to reviews and suggestions are just a few of the capabilities that mobile applications provide (Ben-Ari & Mondada, 2018; Tan, 2023). Travelers can use chatbots to look up travel options and make travel reservations (Lukanova & Ilieva, 2019) through the customized content and destination commercials they encounter when browsing different websites (Wirtz et al., 2021). The price they pay would be decided by AI algorithms (Daugherty & Wilson, 2018). Automated passport control, self-service baggage drop-off and self-check-in machines at the airport make their travel easier and hassle-free by utilizing facial recognition (Lu et al., 2019; Saydam et al., 2022). Big data facilitates gathering information pre, during and post visits to draw behavioral patterns that can be used for personalization with the help of advanced customer relationship management systems ultimately increasing customer satisfaction and loyalty (Benckendorff et al., 2019; Ogle & Lamb, 2019; Sandhya & Varghese, 2024; Webster & Ivanov, 2023). Technological developments in virtual and augmented reality (AR) have created new opportunities for the travel and tourism sectors (Nica et al., 2018). Virtual reality (VR) gives prospective tourists a more realistic look at a place before they decide to make a reservation. Augmented reality, on the other hand, offers interactive experiences at historical monuments, museums and tourist attractions by superimposing digital information over the real environment (Naumov, 2019).

Social media platforms have developed into effective resources for tourists and travel-related businesses (Daugherty & Wilson, 2018). Travel trends are greatly influenced by user-generated content on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter, where users share images, recommendations and experiences (Wirtz et al., 2021). In response, companies use social media for customer feedback, marketing and engagement, building a vibrant and connected travel community (Saydam et al., 2022). Blockchain technology is gaining traction in the travel and tourism sectors by resolving issues with trust and security (Vashishth et al., 2024) while it can expedite procedures like reservation and payment transactions through transparent and decentralized systems, lowering the possibility of fraud and guaranteeing a safer atmosphere for travelers and service providers alike (Dhoundiyal & Mohanty, 2022). Businesses in the tourism industry must be flexible to remain competitive and satisfy the ever-evolving needs of travelers as technology advances (Frank et al., 2017). Accepting these technical developments helps to sustainably build the tourism sector in the digital era while also improving the overall travel experience (Benckendorff et al., 2019).

4. NAVIGATING CHALLENGES: IMPLEMENTING SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGIES IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

The tourism industry's adoption of cutting-edge technologies has completely transformed how trips are booked, vacations are organized, and new places discovered. But there are difficulties with this digital transition (Yu et al., 2019). To fully realize the potential benefits of implementing advanced technologies in the tourism sector, businesses, policymakers and technology developers must overcome a number of obstacles (Nie, 2023). The differing infrastructure levels among destinations present a major obstacle to the tourism industry's adoption of advanced technologies (Ivanov & Webster, 2019a). Major tourist destinations might have the required technology infrastructure, but more isolated or smaller places might find it difficult to offer the connectivity and support needed for more sophisticated systems (Dunis et al., 2017). This digital divide may make it more difficult for technology to be adopted uniformly throughout the travel industry (Ivanov & Webster, 2019a).

Sophisticated technology implementation frequently requires a large financial outlay. It could be difficult for small and medium-sized tourism businesses to set aside funds for the creation and integration of cutting-edge systems (Ivanov & Webster, 2019a). Further stresses on budgets are updates and continuing maintenance. For some industry players, the cost implications could be a barrier that keeps technological advancements from being widely adopted and restricts their access. Cyberthreats and high-profile data breaches put businesses at risk as well as travelers' faith in technology-driven services (Ivanov & Webster, 2019b). Finding the ideal balance between using data to personalize experiences and making sure security protocols are strong is still a big problem (Mishra et al., 2024). While younger generations are more likely to accept new technologies, older populations or those from areas where access to digital innovations is limited may show resistance (Frank et al., 2017). Businesses face a challenge in ensuring accessibility for all demographics while still providing cutting-edge services, which makes user adoption difficult (Dasgupta & Jamader, 2024; Ertel, 2017). Disparate data formats, incompatible systems and a lack of defined protocols can all impede the effectiveness and efficiency of technology adoption throughout the travel industry (Fagnant & Kockelman, 2015). Frequently, the swift advancement of technology surpasses the establishment of legislative structures (Stanojevic, 2020). When implementing advanced technologies in the tourism sector, it is necessary to establish explicit policies that address matters like

data ownership, liability and international standard compliance. Managing a complicated legal environment can make it more difficult for companies looking to adopt innovative solutions and slow down the adoption process (Benckendorff et al., 2019).

5. ROBOTS, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SERVICE AUTOMATION (RAISA) IN THE TRAVEL, TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY SECTOR

As robots have long fascinated humans, the economy has increasingly integrated RAISA at a rapid pace in recent years (Yassin et al., 2022). While the application of robots in manufacturing has been prevalent for a considerable period, the integration of new technologies into service sectors has only recently occurred, resulting in a significant transformation of our business practices and interactions with organizations (Weber et al., 2024) to the extent that they can now either augment or supplant human labor in service industries, including the travel, tourism and hospitality sectors (Saydam et al., 2022).

Upon its official inauguration in 2015, the Henn-na Hotel in Japan achieved the distinction of being the first hotel to employ a predominantly robotic workforce (Reis, 2024). Consequently, while the initial hotel of its kind was promoted to attract robot enthusiasts, it was practically feasible to develop the technology that would enable hotels to mainly operate using RAISA (Ivanov & Webster, 2019a). The emergence of chatbots, robotics, websites, social media, mobile applications, virtual, augmented and mixed reality, as well as self-service kiosks, during the late 20th and early 21st centuries, has greatly enhanced the technological integration between travel, tourism and hospitality enterprises and their customers (Leung, 2024). This technological layer restructured the "human-human" interactions in travel, tourism and hospitality into "human-machine", "human-computer", and, more recently, "human-robot" interactions (Yassin et al., 2022). Moreover, the business models of travel, tourism and hospitality companies underwent a transformation due to the integration of machine learning, artificial intelligence and service automation (RAISA) technologies. These were employed to develop and deliver services to their human clientele (Ivanov et al., 2019). Technological progress has enabled tourism enterprises to integrate a technology-enabled tailored package component, often referred to as a "high tech" element, into their services (Saydam et al., 2022).

A shared attribute among all service automation technologies is their ability to transform customers into prosumers of the service process by transferring

the responsibility of service delivery from company personnel to them (Granström et al., 2023). The service interaction usually takes place in a predetermined manner with limited flexibility; for instance, the requisite procedures a customer must adhere to in order to check into a hotel using a self-check-in kiosk are predetermined. Self-service technologies are extensively employed globally to offer prompt and cost-effective services to substantial volumes of tourists, such as at airports, railway stations, theme parks, restaurants and hotels (Said et al., 2024). This is because self-service technologies are far more cost-effective and advanced compared to robots. Nonetheless, some individuals may still prefer assistance from human staff, as they are accustomed to this form of service.

6. METHODOLOGY

The present research follows a qualitative secondary data analysis method, utilizing a series of web page content analysis to investigate the four major aspects related to integration of RAISA in the tourism, travel and hospitality sector. The major aspects covered included (a) awareness about RAISA; (b) usage, benefits and adaptability; (c) challenges of implementations; and (d) future implications. Data was systematically collected from websites in the public domain, social media pages like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, blogs and other online relevant sources. With the structured and systematic literature reviews, which formed the base for the present research, a digital secondary data analysis ensures identification of patterns, customer behavior and adaptability challenges in real world destinations and companies (Mariani et al., 2018; Sigala, 2018). This approach leverages the use of rich pre-existing qualitative data which is publicly available through platforms like social media posts, web-based open discussion forums and blog comments to identify unique themes and insights which may not have been perceptible in the initial data collection (Cheong et al., 2023). The qualitative secondary data analysis commenced with the identification of data sources followed by the extraction of relevant data from the pertaining sources using web scraping tools available online. A content analysis was performed with the data where it was analyzed to develop codes and themes pertaining to the four aspects of the research. The next step involved interpreting the data and identifying the patterns and themes that were recurring and grouping them together to draw meaningful conclusions. The final stage involved reporting the findings in the form of graphs, charts or tables representing the data in the most effective manner (Kelly et al., 2024).

7. INTEGRATION OF ROBOTICS, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SERVICE AUTOMATION (RAISA): A SMART AND SUSTAINABLE MODEL FOR DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

From the literature, a conceptual model for the integration of RAISA into destination management for long term sustainability has been developed (Figure 1). It is evident that once the potential benefits are fully realized and implemented in the tourism and hospitality sectors, the massive technological shift will result in greater prospects and lead the destination towards sustainability (Saini & Bhalla, 2022). The tourism industry has numerous prospects for technology integration in terms of automation of services like self-service check-in and baggage handling at airports (Amiri & Kuşakcı, 2024; Booranakittipinyo et al., 2024; Mäkelä, 2024; Martins et al., 2024), virtual assistance or chatbots to provide information and services (Tan, 2023; Vashishth et al., 2024), multilingual assistance to tourists from any part of the world (Al-Hyari et al., 2023; Dev, 2023), training and simulation with the help of VR and AR, giving the tourists a feel of the destination from their homes (Ivanov & Webster, 2017a; Sandhya & Varghese, 2024). A major challenge during the transition phase is the adaptation of technology by stakeholders, creating awareness and educating the public to get basic technical knowledge and skills (Wirtz et al., 2021). With the right mix of technology, effective monitoring and surveillance are possible

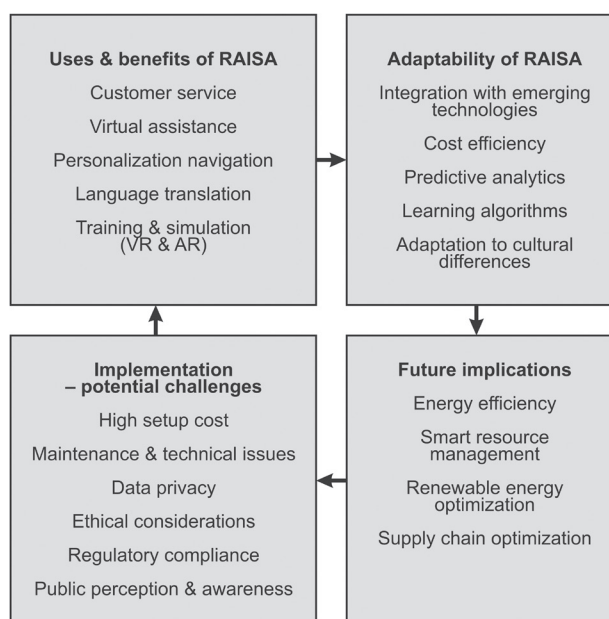


Figure 1. Integration of robotics artificial intelligence and service automation (RAISA): A smart and sustainable model for destination management
Source: authors

(Askarpour et al., 2019). Learning algorithms can be developed, while predictive analysis of tourist behavior and patterns can result in better planning and decision-making (Christou et al., 2023; Ivanov & Webster, 2019b). The initial set-up and periodic maintenance costs may be high, but the benefits reaped from efficient technology integration can easily cover them, ensuring both operational and financial viability for destinations (Azarmi et al., 2017; Touni, 2020). If implemented in a systematic manner, these

technologies can ensure energy optimization, result in better customer satisfaction, reduce wastage of resources, and ensure the sustainable development of destinations (Berezina et al., 2019; Yassin et al., 2022). The extensive qualitative secondary data analysis performed with the help of a detailed content analysis is interpreted and reported in a tabular format below (Table 1). The digital content analysis results have been substantiated with the literature reviews to provide more concreteness and accuracy to the data.

Table 1. Meta analysis of firms enabling robotics, artificial intelligence and service automation (RAISA) in the tourism and hospitality sector

| Sector name | No. | Firm name | RAISA implications | References |
|--------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Hospitality sector | 1 | Hilton Hotels & Resorts | AI for personalized guest experiences and chatbots for customer service | Jogarao (2024), Gonçalves et al. (2024) |
| | 2 | Marriott International | Dynamic pricing and room recommendations | Sapir (2024), Jogarao (2024), Bhatt et al. (2024) |
| | 3 | Wynn Las Vegas | Amazon Alexa in rooms for voice-controlled services | Jindal and Kaur (2024), Bilgihan and Ricci (2024) |
| | 4 | Yotel | Utilizes robots for luggage delivery and room service | Noor and Sim (2024) |
| | 5 | Henn-na Hotel (Japan) | Use of robot staff for check-in and room service | Reis (2024), Leung (2024), Shanmugam et al. (2024), Granström et al. (2023) |
| | 6 | The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas | AI concierge, rose, for guest inquiries and services | Yadav et al. (2024) |
| | 7 | Aloft Hotels (Marriott International) | Bot robots for delivering amenities to guest rooms | Štilić et al. (2023), Snäll (2023), Jogarao (2024) |
| | 8 | M Social Hotel (Singapore) | robot butlers for room deliveries | Wang and Uysal (2024) |
| | 9 | Caesars Palace (Las Vegas) | AI for personalized guest experiences and service recommendations | Clough and Wu (2024) |
| | 10 | Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts | Robots for guest interactions and room deliveries | Vashishth et al. (2024), Jin (2024), Liu, Chi and Sun (2024) |
| | 11 | Radisson Hotel Group | AI for guest preferences and dynamic pricing strategies | Nie (2023), Mishra et al. (2024), Dasgupta and Jamader (2024) |
| | 12 | Accor Hotels | AI-driven chatbots for guest interaction and booking services | Dev (2023), Abass et al. (2023), Hinson et al. (2024) |
| | 13 | InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) | AI for customer service chatbots and dynamic pricing | Štilić et al. (2023), Stoimenov (2023), Al-Hyari et al. (2023) |
| | 14 | Jumeirah Group | AI for personalized guest experiences and automated room service | Grobbelaar et al. (2024), Stanojevic (2020) |
| | 15 | Hyatt Hotels Corporation | AI for guest preferences and service automation | Gomes et al. (2023), Priya et al. (2024) |
| Aviation sector | 1 | KLM Royal Dutch Airlines | AI-powered chatbots for customer service and flight information | Chang and Choi Magnusson (2021), Weber et al. (2024) |
| | 2 | Delta Air Lines | AI for personalized travel recommendations and customer service automation | Merlo (2024), Huang (2024) |
| | 3 | Qatar Airways | AI for customer service automation and personalized in-flight experiences | Tsiakalos (2024), Grosche and Klophaus (2024) |

Table 1 (cont.)

| Sector name | No. | Firm name | RAISA implications | References | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Aviation sector (cont.) | 4 | British Airways | AI for customer service chatbots and personalized recommendations | Annamalai et al. (2024), Martins et al. (2024) | |
| | 5 | Changi Airport Group | Robots for cleaning and AI for passenger flow management | Wang and Uysal (2024), Tan (2023) | |
| | 6 | Heathrow Airport (London) | AI for security checks and passenger experience management | Amiri and Kuşakcı (2024), Annamalai et al. (2024), Martins et al. (2024), Booranakittipinyo et al. (2024) | |
| | 7 | Dubai International Airport | Robots for security and customer service automation | Mäkelä (2024), Alketbi et al. (2024), Waheeb and Wheib (2024) | |
| | 8 | Hamad International Airport (Qatar) | Robots for customer service and AI for operational efficiency | Al-Malki et al. (2024) | |
| | 9 | Munich Airport | Robots for information and service automation for travelers | Mäkelä (2024), Kasarda et al. (2024) | |
| | 10 | American Airlines | AI for flight scheduling and customer service automation | Metcalfe et al. (2024), Divakaruni and Navarro Sarmiento (2024), Huang (2024) | |
| | 11 | Japan Airlines | AI for customer service chatbots and personalized travel experiences | Jamshed, Quereshi et al. (2024), Wongyai et al. (2024), Silini (2023) | |
| | 12 | Air New Zealand | AI-driven chatbots and robotics for passenger service | Koçak (2023), Ngo and Tsui (2023) | |
| | 13 | Lufthansa | AI for customer service automation and operational efficiency. Fuel emission control | Geske et al. (2024), Krishna et al. (2024) | |
| | 14 | Qantas Airways | AI for customer service and personalized travel experiences. Metaverse in airline marketing | Tsiakalos (2024), Yilmaz and Atalik (2023) | |
| | Travel agency and tour operation (private organizations) | 1 | Expedia Group | Uses AI for personalized travel recommendations and customer service | Dey and Shukla (2020) |
| | | 2 | Booking.com | Implements AI for dynamic pricing, customer service automation, and personalized travel recommendations | Mellinas et al. (2015) |
| | | 3 | TripAdvisor | Uses AI for personalized travel recommendations and user-generated content management | Liu, Lin et al. (2024) |
| 4 | | Airbnb | AI for dynamic pricing, customer preferences, and service automation | Prentice and Pawlicz (2024) | |
| 5 | | Kayak | Personalized travel search and recommendations | Wolfe and Hiniker (2024) | |
| 6 | | Priceline | AI for dynamic pricing and customer service automation | Vinod (2024) | |
| 7 | | TUI Group | Travel recommendations and service automation | Ampountolas et al. (2024) | |
| 8 | | Ctrip (Trip.com Group) | AI for customer service automation and personalized travel experiences | Guan and Jiang (2024) | |
| 9 | | Expedia | AI for booking optimizations and personalized recommendations | Compiani et al. (2024), Wu et al. (2024) | |

| | | | | |
|---|----|--------------------|--|---|
| Travel agency and tour operation (private organizations) (cont.) | 10 | MakeMyTrip | Dynamic pricing and personalized travel suggestions | Upadhyay et al. (2024), Chahal and Devi (2024) |
| | 11 | Orbitz | AI for customer service and dynamic pricing strategies | Florido-Benítez (2024) |
| | 12 | Traveloka | AI for personalized travel recommendations and dynamic pricing | Octavia et al. (2024) |
| Destination management organizations (public sector undertakings) | 1 | Japan | Robot hotels, robotic room service, service bots, language translation devices, autonomous vehicles; AI-powered travel app | Zhou et al. (2024), Erbay (2024), Said et al. (2024) |
| | 2 | Singapore | Robot concierge and butlers; bartenders; airport services; autonomous retail assistants; cleaning and disinfection robots; event security with AI | Tan (2023), Jaipurian et al. (2024), Leong et al. (2024) |
| | 3 | Dubai | Robotic waiters and chefs; robot tour guides; smart hotel rooms: smart airport and automated services: I-powered event and tourism platforms; robot police; smart surveillance systems; AI for crowd management; robotics and AI in cultural attractions; smart waste management | Vij and Rizwan (2022), Khan et al. (2017), Yaghmour (2024) |
| | 4 | Las Vegas, USA | Robotic bartenders; concierge robots; in-room voice assistants; facial recognition for security at casinos; autonomous drone shows; self-driving shuttles; smart energy management systems | Clough and Wu (2024) |
| | 5 | Seoul, South Korea | Robotic baristas, robot guides in airports, AI-powered biometric systems, smart traffic management, unmanned convenience stores | Yoo et al. (2024), Lee et al. (2024) |
| | 6 | New York, USA | Service robots, automated ordering systems, robotic kitchens, AI-optimized traffic and transit systems, AI-powered tour guides | Mejia et al. (2024), Said et al. (2024), Jevinger et al. (2024), Whig et al. (2024) |
| | 7 | Shanghai, China | AI concierge and service robots, robot waitstaff and kitchen automation, autonomous vehicles testing, AI-powered smart retail stores, AI-driven passenger services. | Xu et al. (2024), Jamshed, Shah et al. (2024), Ma et al. (2024) |
| | 8 | Vienna, Austria | Service robots, AI-driven concierge services, smart hotel management systems, automated ordering systems and AI menus, augmented reality (AR) and AI at museums, AI in smart transportation systems smart grid and energy management | Felt and Seppehr (2024), Deputat et al. (2024), Bolté et al. (2024) |

Source: authors.

sector sustainability, efficiency and safety (Jose et al., 2023). Travelers can anticipate more eco-friendly, dependable and comfortable transportation, which will enhance their enjoyment of and attention to the environment during their trip (Tussyadiah, 2020).

10. CONCLUSION AND SCOPE FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

The prospects of RAISA are still in their infancy stage in many developing countries due to reasons like lack of awareness on usage, high initial investment, privacy and security concerns (Chiwaridzo & Chiwaridzo, 2024; Saydam et al., 2022). Destinations and companies who have explored the endless possibilities like superior quality services, higher levels of personalization and ease in transactions have adopted a cautious and cooperative approach in integrating RAISA technologies into their physical infrastructure (Tussyadiah, 2020). A new era in travel is evolving, one in which automation and innovation come together to completely transform travel patterns and behavior. The present study focuses on four key aspects of RAISA applications, namely, the advantages, potential challenges, implications and future prospects of integrating these technologies into the destination ecosystem. Further research can be undertaken on the ethical implications and social impacts of RAISA, human-robot interaction, social and privacy concerns, and the impact of technology on creating a sustainable future. The influence of robotics and artificial intelligence technologies on influencing tourist behavior and the role of RAISA in building destination resilience and effective crisis management strategies are another research paradigm that needs to be widely explored.

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