



NordPlus Iceland 2024

Case study of Seyðisfjörður

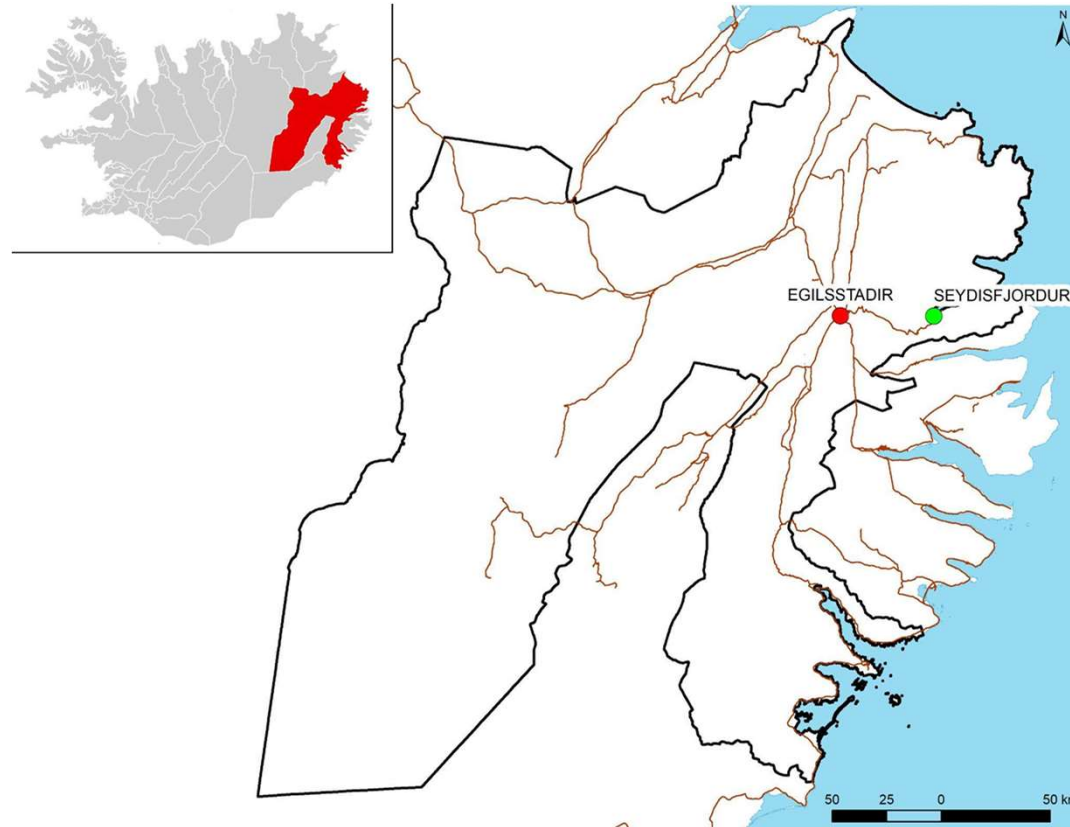
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Akureyri 2024



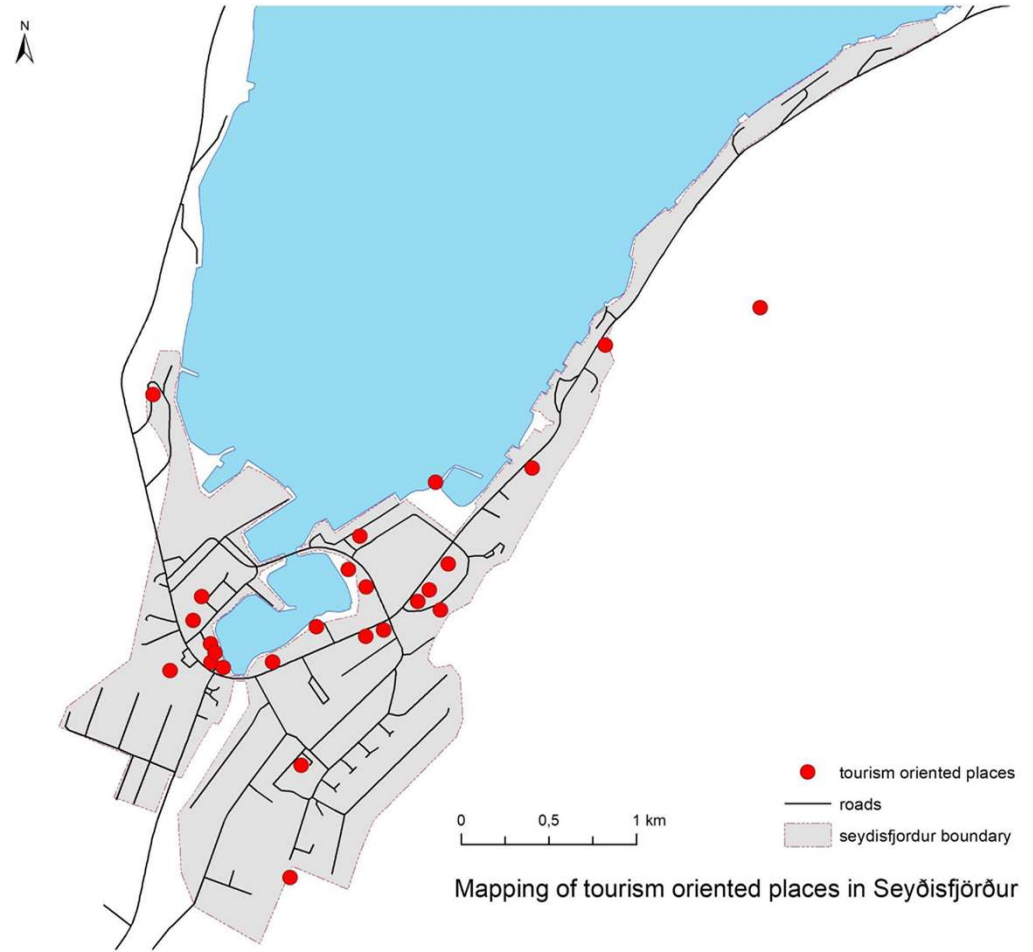
Research Question

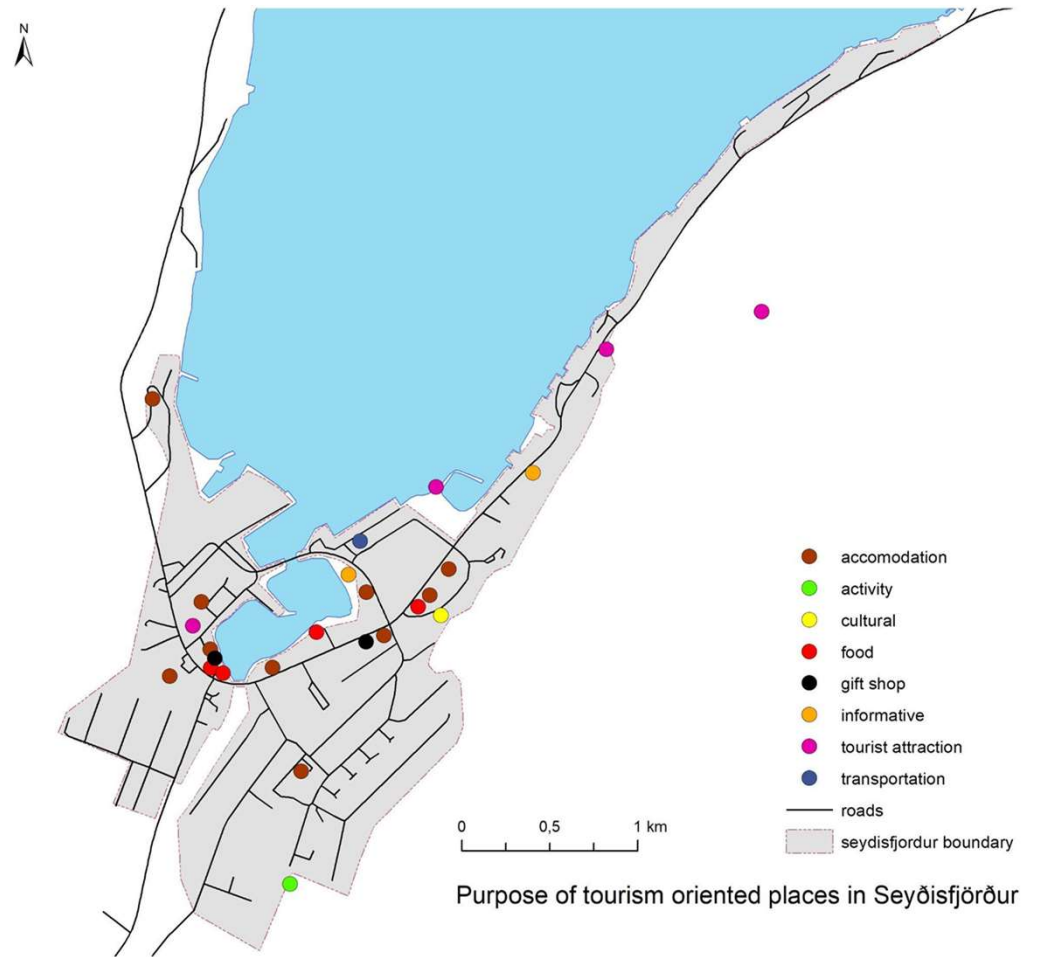
In what way does tourism, arts, culture, and recreation play a role in the community resilience of Seyðisfjörður and what are potential recommendations to ensure its future resilience?



Methods

- Narrative Interviews
- Mapping
- Participant Observation
- Qualitative Media Analysis
- Limitations





Purpose of tourism oriented places in Seyðisfjörður

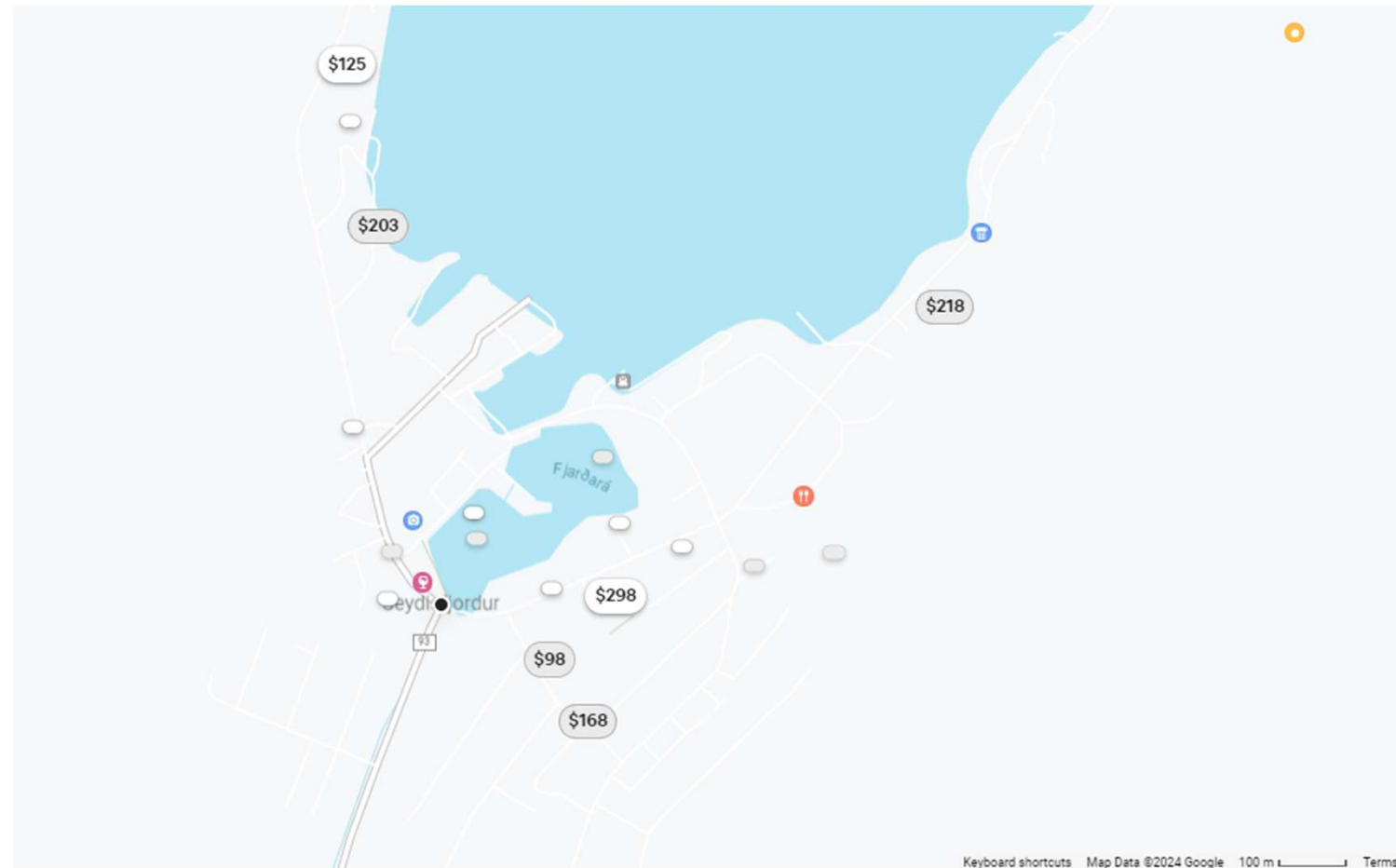


Impact on Housing

- 20 - booking.com
- 32 - airbnb.com

- Airbnb → Housing prices

- Seasonal staff → Lack of housing



Public Transportation

- Seyðisfjörður – Egilsstaðir
- 1x morning (07:45); 1x afternoon (14:30)

- Egilsstaðir – Seyðisfjörður
- 1x morning (08:50); 1x afternoon (16:00)

- Extra service on Tuesday when ferry arrives



Arta, Culture and Community Resilience

Perception of town is open, creative, innovative

Flexibility is the spirit of the community

Grassroots movements and communal decision making

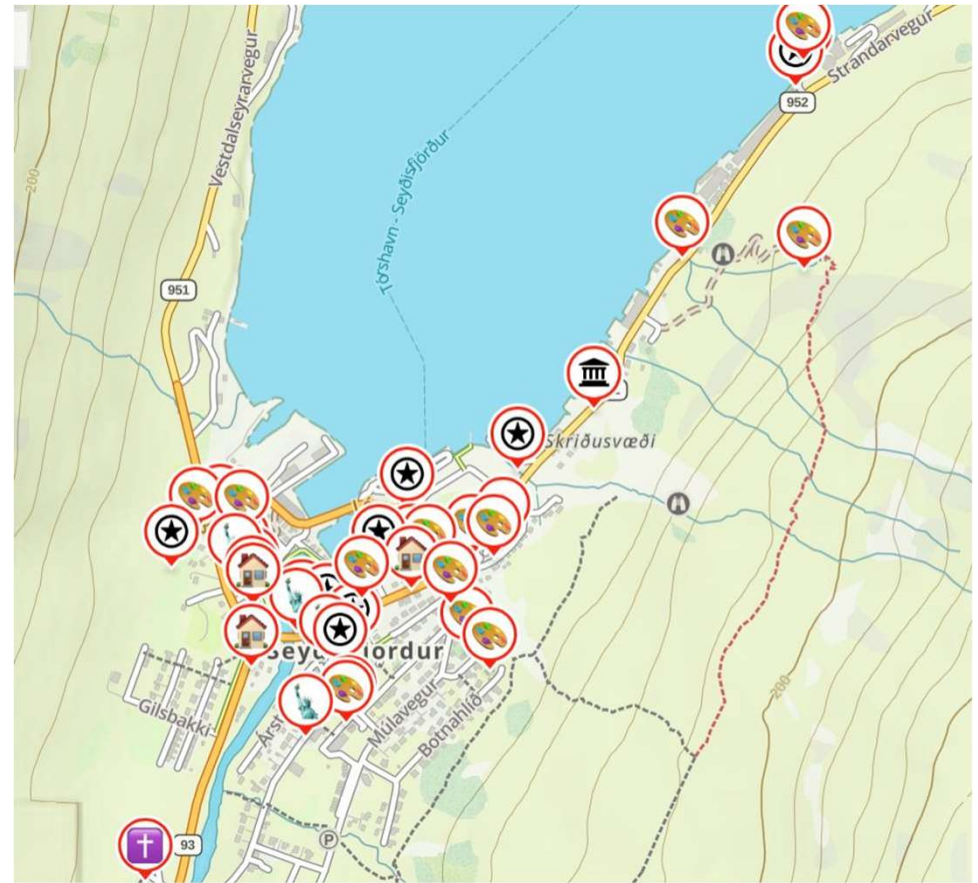
Inward “young” migration and neo-endogenous development

Culture and Art

<https://www.gaiagps.com/map/?loc=12.7/->

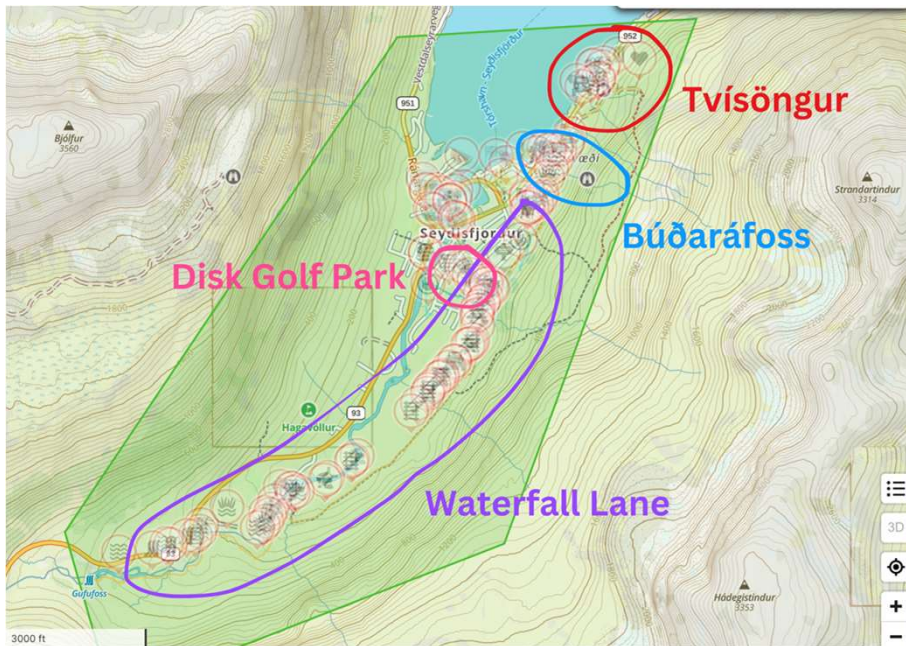
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Recreation

<https://www.gaiagps.com/map/?loc=12.0/-14.0397/65.2531&pubLink=d7MSirLVbNKW0IV2UWtjGXdT&folderId=e6651e57-d936-43ce-8181-1964537d4e02>



Recreation purpose and patterns

- the further away from town, the less people and the less infrastructure
- maintenance exists because of nature reserve and local hiking club
- this town has always been for hiking and the townspeople care about environmental stewardship for the sake of conservation, spirituality, and hiking tourism
- the town will always rebuild →



Threats & Recommendations

All year round tourism vs. creative spaces

Aquaculture and salmon fish farming

Lack of housing

1. Increase taxes on summer houses & Airbnb
2. No salmon fish farming
3. Promote slow tourism alternatives

Concluding remarks and acknowledgments

Seyðisfjörður's flexible spirit is at the heart of its community resilience and shows to be the core of the town's ability to adapt to a variety of challenges, past and future.

Tourism, Arts and Culture, and the natural environment are deeply connected to the town's resilience

We wanted to thank everyone in Seyðisfjörður who welcomed us into their community and answered our questions, the Hafaldan HI Hostel for taking care of us, and Matthias Kokorsch who helped us initiate our research. We also want to acknowledge the land that nurtures us, the sea that provides for us, the mountains for teaching us respect.