

Capstone Project - The Battle of Neighborhoods in Miami

Introduction:

This is the final assignment of Coursera Applied Data Science Capstones (part of Coursera's Applied Data Science Specialization) course. This project is about learning how to use the knowledge given to my own project.

I am going to do my Peer-graded Assignment of Miami, because I am interested of visiting there in the future - more about my choice in the next chapter on this notebook.

This is my first time ever doing anything like this, actually first time ever dealing with dataset, so I am going to keep this project so simply as possible.

Description of the problem and discussion of the background:

I choosed to do this project of Miami neighborhoods and venues. This project is based on an idea, that trending travel agency wants to start selling "do it on your own" vacations and they hired me to analyze what they should recommend to customers or book for them. Of course, best way on ideal way to sell "almost like you book it your self" and "live like locals" holidays, is to solve how does the locals spend their time.

Problem which I'm trying to solve in this project is: If customer is about to travel or thinking of travelling to Miami - which neighborhoods are the best to stay? People and customer want different things, so I will make an analysis from different perspectives: for beach holiday for cultural holiday for shopping holiday and for both beach and something else to do easily also.

I'm trying to solve this problem in this project by first gathering Miami Neighborhoods and getting Foursquare data on venues and then analysing these datasets by grouping them into venue categories and finally clustering them to these four categories I mentioned before: Beach Cultural Shopping Both Beach and something else to do also

Perhaps I will find some other categories on the way to, but this is the starting point of this project.

Description of the data and how it will be used to solve the problem:

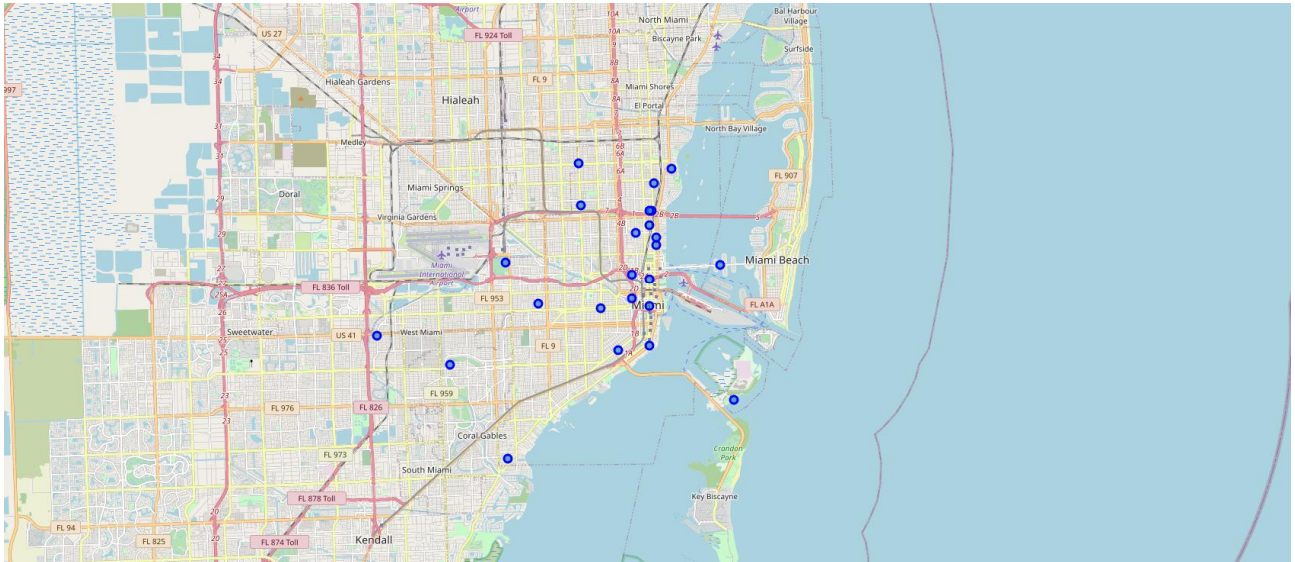
In my project I will use data from Wikipedia page https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_neighborhoods_in_Miami and Foursquare data of Miami's venues.

In Wikipedia data I'll find data of neighborhoods and their geographical coordinates. Data also includes data of: Density, Population 2020, Population/km2 and Sub-neighborhoods. I'm going to clean those out of my data, because I'm going to keep this project simple. If this project would be about moving to Miami or buying a condo from there I think I would also use Population/km2 data and look closely to Sub-neighborhoods, but in this point the knowledge of those are not meaningful.

More meaning to this project will come from Foursquare data of venues in Miami neighborhoods. I'm going to use this data to locate places where local people often go. I believe that the best and cheapest way to get to know the city is to trust people who live there - we do they often go and what do they do? Foursquare data will tell me this and that is why I choose to use it in this project. Foursquare data is also really good for my purpose - let's not forget that I'm doing this project for my employer who wants to know what kind of travelling plans to make for their new trending market.

Methodology section

Data cleaning



Above you can see a map of Miami's neighborhoods, each marked by blue circle. As we can see, neighbourhoods I'm handling with are in centre of Miami and distances are not so far away from each other. Later on this means, that when I pick the venues nearby neighborhoods I will use 2 km radar to each Neighborhoods centre to locate the venues nearby.

Importin Forsquare data

Importin Forsquare data of Allapattah

To work with Forsquare data I will at first have to give my Forsquare client ID and SECRET and tell the version I want to use. After that I can go on adding the Forsquare data to my data of Miami

I will at first try does the Forsquare data work with my data with just one neighborhood. I pick up the first one which is Allapattah.

Because the information in Forsquare data is in the item keys i will make the get category type function and then clean the json and structure it into a pandas dataframe.

There are only 12 venues in Allapattah 1 km range from Allapattahs centre. It's not much and perhaps by searching a little bit longer wuold give us little more result, but at this point is only relevant that function works.

Importing Forsquare data of Miamis neighborhoods

At first i will make the function work to many neighbourhoods at the same time. Like a told before, I'm going to use 3 km distance from neighbourhoods centre to locate the venues, cause areas are nearby, but still close to each other. And my goal is to think neighbourhoods for travelling - 3 km is somethong what almost every one can walk. If I wuold run this with 2 km distance, I didn't find any beaches.

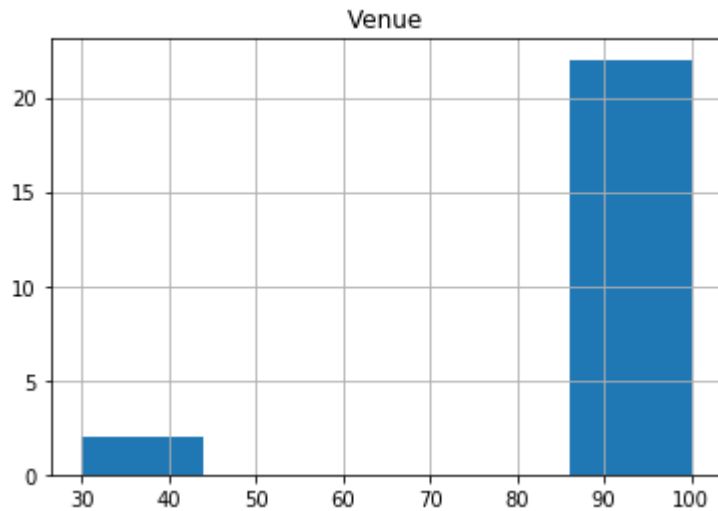
And then I will use function above to make a new dataframe of Miami's neighbourhoods.

Allapattah
Arts & Entertainment District
Brickell
Buena Vista
Coconut Grove
Coral Way
Design District
Downtown
Edgewater
Flagami
Grapeland Heights
Liberty City
Little Haiti
Little Havana
Lummus Park
Midtown
Overtown
Park West
The Roads
Upper Eastside
Venetian Islands
Virginia Key
West Flagler
Wynwood

Cleaning the imported data of Miami's venues.

After a little while of working with data I realised that venue categories in the dataset include in one category also Neighbourhood. It's not on venue, so I will clean it up and then count the venues again. Now data looks correctly to use later on.

There are 202 unique categories.



Most of the neighbourhoods have 88-100 unique venues - in Virginia Key and Liberty City are just few different venues.

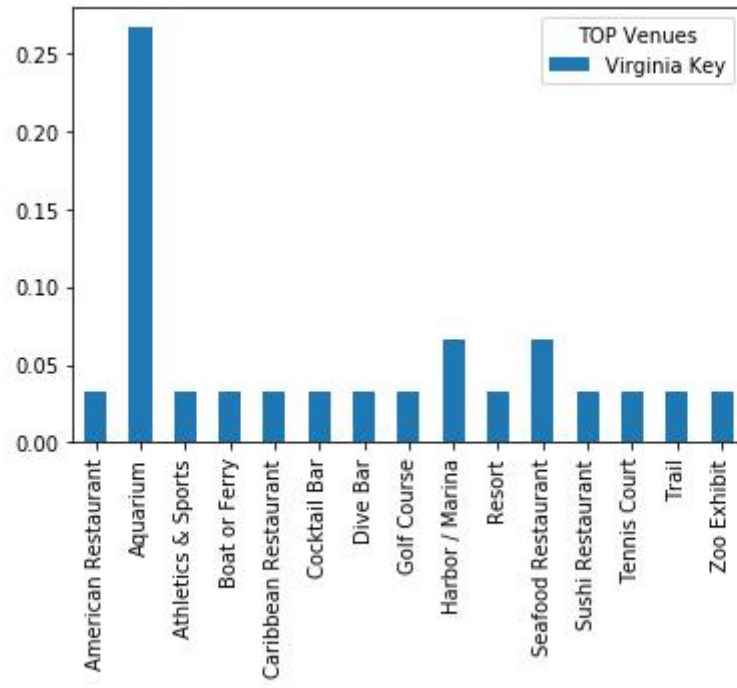
Dataset tells me that I now have 2137 venues to analyze and unique categories of venues are 226.

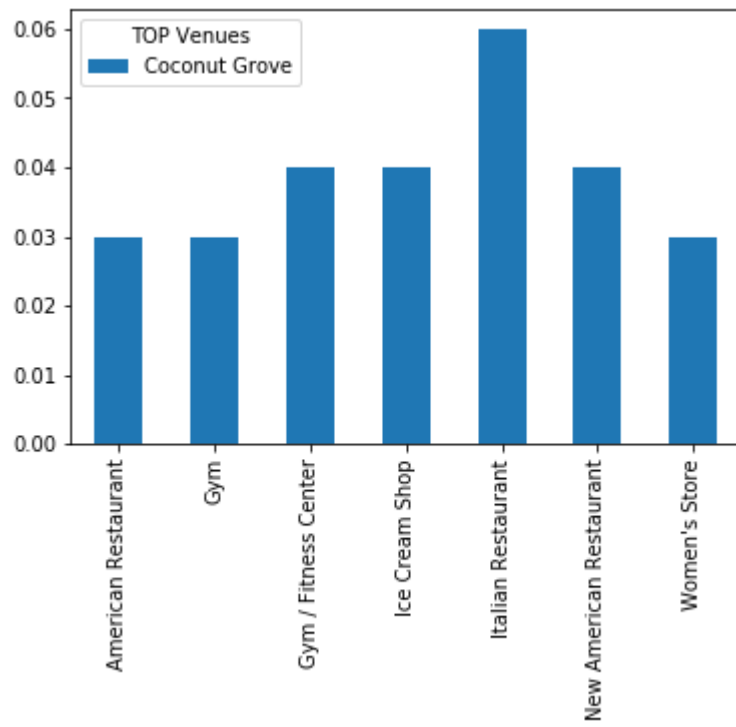
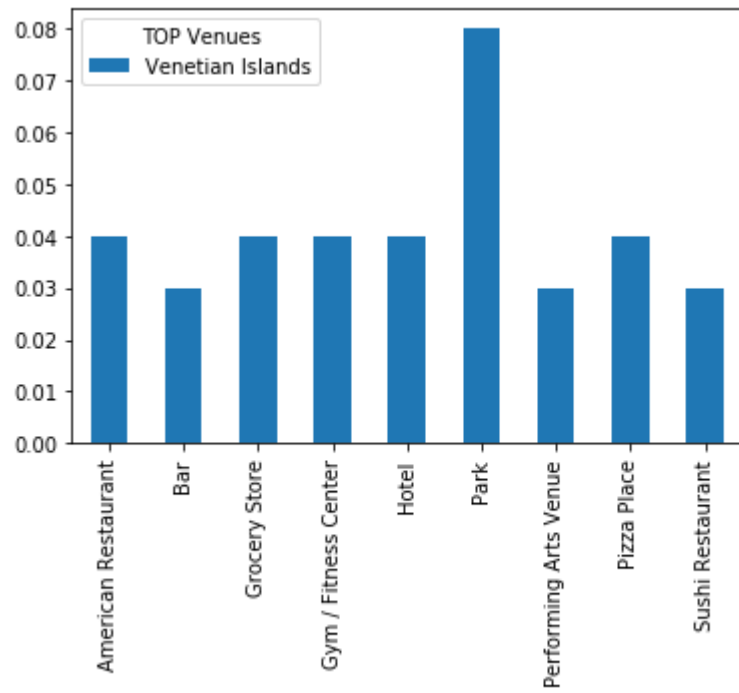
That means that local people (or visitors who use Foursquare) visit a lot of kinds of different places. I could clean the amount a little bit less and visualize categories, but to my goal it's worth it, so I'm happy with this amount and go on.

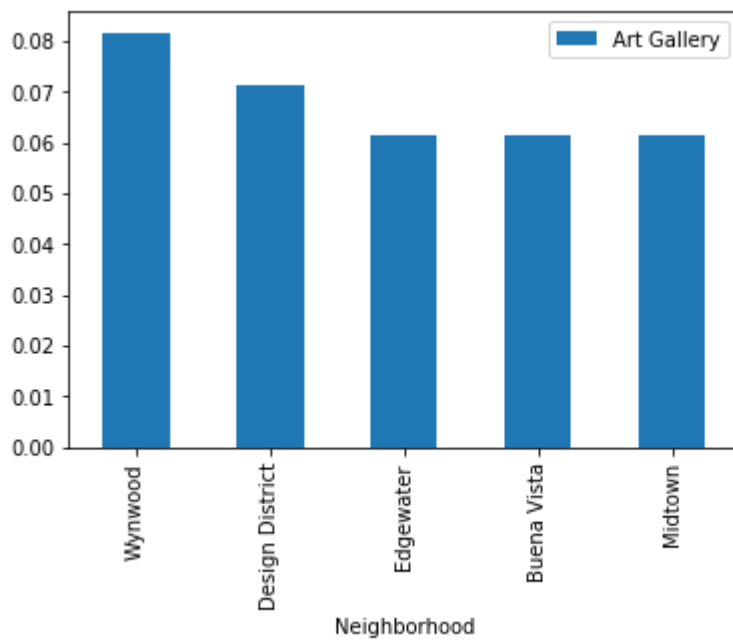
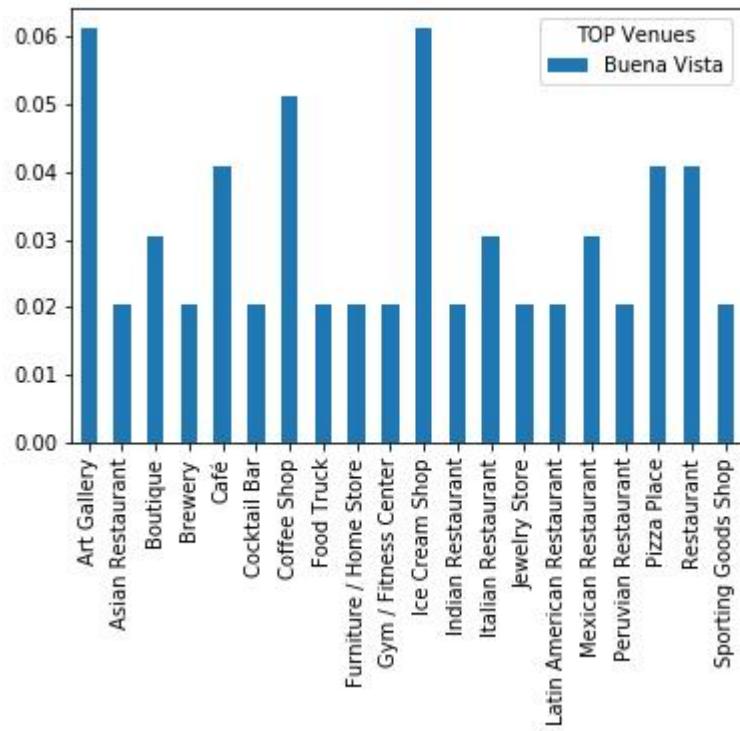
To use data above I need to index data so that it's possible to count venues. That's why I use one-hot encoding to make a new dataframe to analyze more.

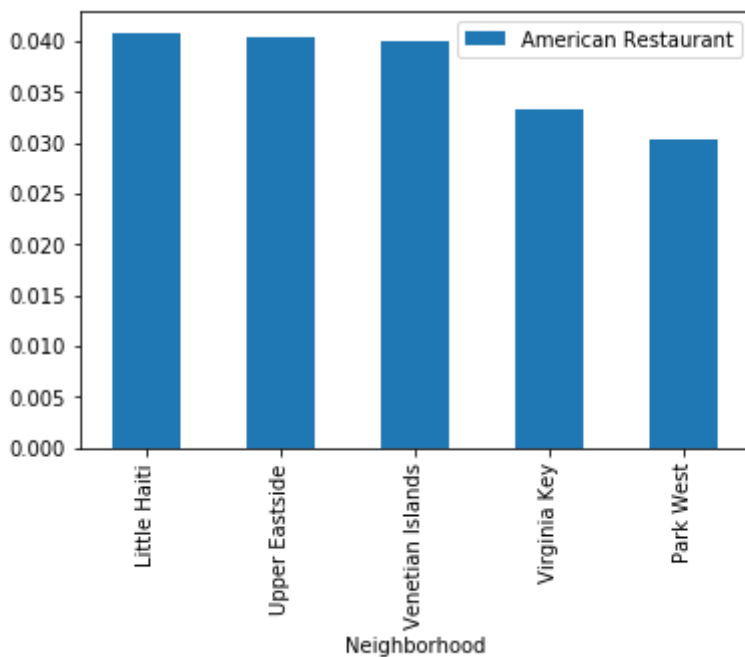
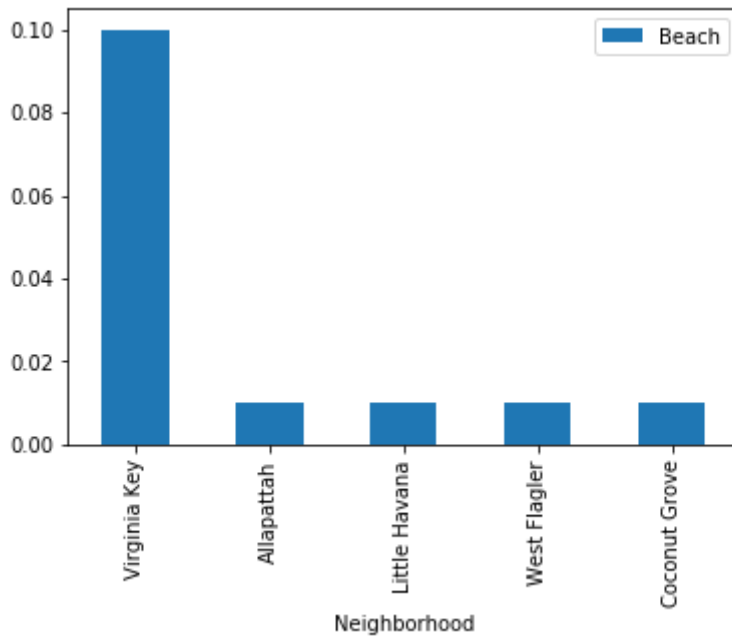
Analysis of the data [1](#)

After encoding I can group neighbourhoods and take the mean of frequency of occurrence of each category. Result is shown below.









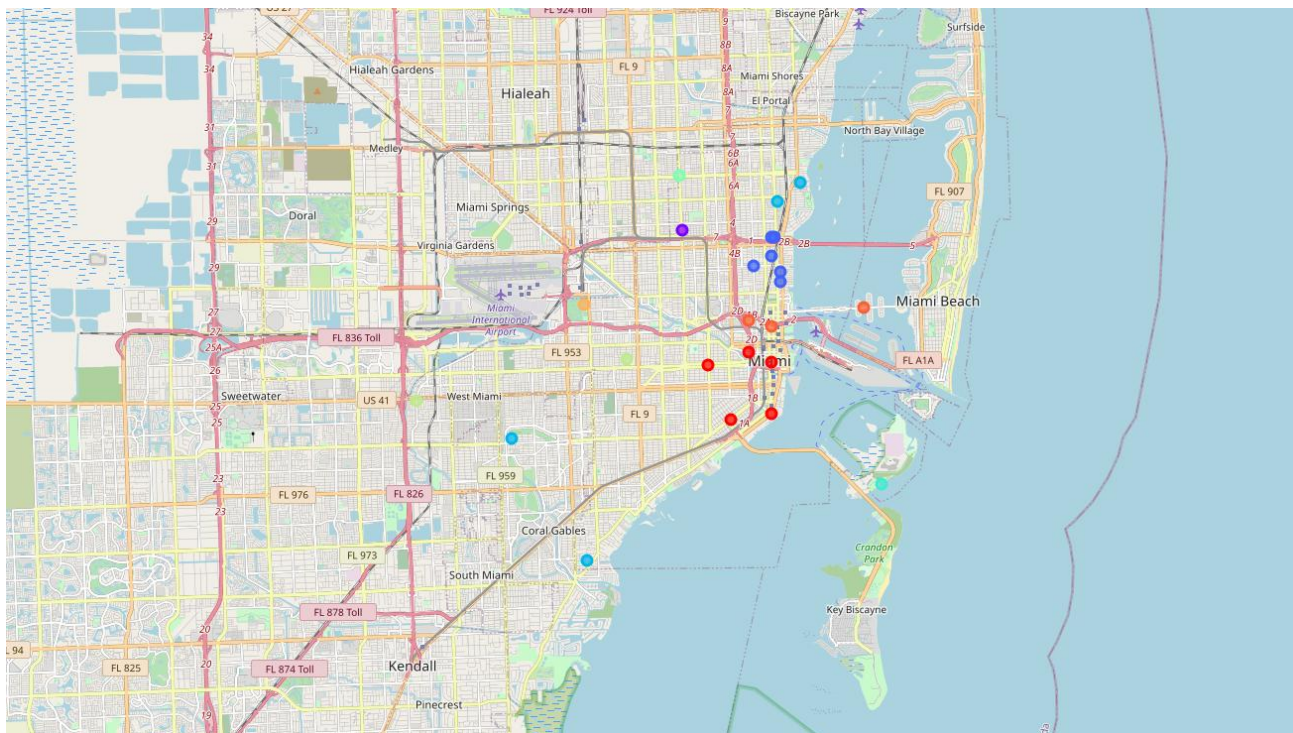
American restaurants you will find most likely from Little Haiti, Upper East Side and Venetian Islands. Now I make a top 5 venues list to every neighbourhood to look at. By looking at top 5 venues I can say that neighbourhoods are not similar, some of them look like the same, but some of them are unique.

After examining the list it's hard to say directly how the neighbourhoods diverge to each other. Some of the most common venue is restaurant or hotel, some of art gallery. Though from this data I can make a default that every neighbourhood is a city neighbourhood - everywhere in Miami is something to do and something to eat. So basically it doesn't matter where to go there if you just want to hang around. Crapeland Heights is doubtless an Airport area with airport services and in Brickell is many venues to be on a vacation. From Venetian Islands can doubtless get a ferry and in Virginia Key is also Harbor /Marina and beach.

To make easier to analyze neighbourhoods I will cluster neighbourhoods to 9 clusters to see which of the neighbourhoods would be the best for my client customers.

I tested clustering in different amount of labels and there's always few neighbourhoods clearly different than others. Airport area comes out allways and Virginia Key is the second one to come out from others. After while clustering I ended up to 9 clusters - my goal is to provide data on different kinds of neighbourhoods to spend time on, so I don't want clusters to be too big and more clusters brought out just good things.

Visualising Miami's neighborhoods venues



In the map shown above we can see the labels 0- 8 in different colours. Label 0 = Red Label 1 = Violet Label 2 = Blue Label 3 = Light Blue Label 4 = Turquoise Label 5 = Light Green Label 6 = Green Label 7 = Light Orange Label 8 = Orange

Cluster 0 contains like cluster 2 lots of restaurants and coffee shops, but not so many hotels. Restaurants also seem to be more like "normal" food than in cluster 2. Here visitors can eat most likely also cheaper than in cluster 2. Mostly neighbourhoods offer Art and relaxing though. Design and Arts and entertainment are most likely to be found from here

Cluster 1 is basically Virginia Key. From here visitors can find Park, Beach, Harbor/Marina, Golf and Tennis and Athletics & Sports. Sounds like a great place for visitors who want beach and sports and are willing to walk a little bit to go shopping and eating and so on.

Cluster 2 contains hotels and restaurant and bars. These neighbourhoods would be a great place to stay for those travellers who want to eat well and drink enough. For my purpose = to find a neighbourhood where locals also go often and hang around and live in Airbnb this is not so good neighbourhoods.

Restaurants in this area's are specialist very much - Italian, Seafood, Japanese, Latin American, Cuban, Asian and even Spanish Restaurants are here.

Cluster 3 is also a city area. Not so many arts galleries than in cluster 0 or hotels than in cluster two - more shops and coffee places.

Cluster 3 seems to be neighbourhoods where people live. Here you can find in most common venues list Grocery store, Bakery, Bank, Pharmacy, Gym and so on. This sounds like neighbourhoods to stay like "normal" miami people. From the first most common venues I assume that Cuban and Latin American people might live here.

In cluster 6 I will find most common venue, Italian restaurant. Might be, that Italian people live here. Here's also shops, sporting and parks and so on. This looks like a great place to stay if you love good and especially Italian food.

Cluster 4 also seems like a place where people live (Nightclub, Gas Station, Park and food places). I assume that this neighbourhood is not so rich - in most common venues are Discount Store and Sandwich Place.

Cluster 4 is basically Venetian Islands. Most common venue is Parks. Here is Hotels, Grocery stores, restaurants and bars and also a gym. In neighborhood also is Performing Arts venue, so this seems to be a good place for visitors who wants a little bit of everything. If you also look the map where this neighbourhood is - you will find that also a beach is nearby. Based on Grocery store I would say that people also live here - so I think that Airbnb would also find here good places to stay.

Cluster 8 is Grapeland Heights - Airport is nearby here. I would not recommend to stay here.

Discussion section

Problem which I was trying to solve in this project was:

If customer is about to travel or thinking of travelling to Miami - which neighborhoods are the best to stay? People and customer want different things, so I will make an analysis from different perspectives: for beach holiday for cultural holiday for shopping holiday and for both beach and something else to do easily also.

In my analysis I have compared neighborhoods to each other and clustered them into 9 different types of categories based on venues nearby neighbourhoods. Analysis gives a good picture where would be a great place to stay for different types of travellers.

Let's start by excluding neighbourhoods where I wouldn't recommend to travel if what clients customers wants a great holiday in signs of beach, cultural, shopping or a little bit of them all. Excluded neighbourhoods are on my opinion based on this analysis: cluster 6 Liberty City - presumably great places to live and stay - but so much like living area and far from the sea and city and actually not much to do. cluster 8 Grapeland Heights - who wants to stay at airport? Nothing else needen to stay

So from 9 clusters I take out 2 and now I have 7 clusters. From them I can say: City areas: clusters 0 and 2 and 3 Possibilities to have beach and parks nearby and still be in the middle of everything, clusters 1 and 7 Want to live like locals? Cluster 4 and 5 is the best one for that

Hotels and city areas: There is two this kind of areas, how are they different? Cluster 0 seems to be a city area with art galleries, Coffee shops, restaurants and boutiques. Most common venues are not hotels - actually in the 10 most common venues are not any hotels. Boutiques are in the most common

venues only in Buena Vista - so if I would like to go shopping that would be a great place. Cluster 2 is lots of like cluster 0, but its most common venues are hotels. There's also much more Bars and parks than in cluster 0. Cluster 3 is for live like locals in neighbourhoods full with restaurants, art galleries, coffee shops and so on - this seems like a good place. There are also bars if you are thirsty. My conclusion is that cluster 0 is centre and 2 and 3 a little bit further.

If city is what customers want - these are the neighbourhoods to go. For customers in my assignment would be the best either cluster 8 or 3 - three if customer is thirsty often.

Beach and parks sections are found in clusters 1 Virginia Key and 7 Venetian Islands. Difference between these clusters is mostly that in cluster 1 beach is nearby and there's lots of opportunities to do sports as well. Cluster 7 provides more cultural experiences and happenings than sports, but also has more restaurants in common venues. So which one to choose depends most of customer. Perhaps there will be more of apartments though in cluster 7 to stay than in cluster 1.

Want to live like locals I found to clusters, 4 and 5. Comparing these to each other it seems, that in cluster 5 is mostly Italian food and gyms and coffee shops and very much to do. In cluster 4 is not so many choices to eat different foods and the most common venues is Cuban and Latin American restaurant. I would recommend to visit cluster 5 of these clusters.

So now I have information from every cluster.

My conclusion is: For Beach holiday - both cluster 1 and 7 are good, but beach is clearly in cluster 1. For cultural holiday - cluster 0 is the best for this. For shopping holiday - also cluster 0, but good choices are also clusters 2 and 3. If customer is in my project wanting to stay at Airbnb cluster 3 is the best. For both beach and something else to do - cluster 7 is the best choice.

For something else? As I did the analysis I found out one more. For live like locals in the city holiday - cluster 5 is my choice for that!

At this point it should be said, that my analysis is of Miami neighbourhoods. Miami Beach is an independent city, so Miami Beach neighbourhoods are not in my project. In the goal is to go Miami, not Beach this results are relevant. But if thinking to go beach holiday, should really think about Miami Beach also. In Miami the nearest place of Miami Beaches is Venetian Islands.

Conclusion section

In this project I have been studying and analysing neighbourhoods of Miami.

First I have to say - that like I mentioned before - Miami Beach is an independent city, so that's why beaches don't come out so well as they can. If wanting a beach holiday, should so the research to Miami Beaches Venues also. At this project I concentrate only for Miami.

My goal was to find out where in Miami to go if customers want beach holiday, cultural holiday, or shopping holiday or something between them.

My recommendation will be:

For Beach holiday - both cluster 1 and 7 are good, but beach is clearly in cluster 1. (Virginia Key, Venetian Islands, Park West, Overtown)

For cultural holiday - cluster 0 is the best for this (Arts & Entertainment District, Buena Vista, Design District, Edgewater, Midtown, Wynwood)

For shopping holiday - also cluster 0, but good choices are also clusters 2 and 3. If customer is in my project wanting to stay at Airbnb cluster 3 is the best. (Arts & Entertainment District, Buena Vista,

Design District, Edgewater, Midtown, Wynwood / Brickell, Downtown, Little Havana, Lummus Park, The Roads / Allapattah)

For both beach and something else to do - cluster 7 is the best choice. (Venetian Islands, Park West, Overtown)