**The Battle of Neighbourhoods**

***What’s the Trend?***



**The Client Perspective:**

London is the capital and largest city of England and the United Kingdom. The city stands on the River Thames in the south-east of England, at the head of its 50-mile (80 km) estuary leading to the North Sea. London has been a major settlement for two millennia.

London is one of the world's most important global cities. It exerts a considerable impact upon the arts, commerce, education, entertainment, fashion, finance, healthcare, media, professional services, research and development, tourism and transportation. It is one of the largest financial centres.

The objective of this capstone project is to analyse and select the best locations in the city of London to open a new restaurant. Using data science methodologies and machine learning techniques this project aims to provide solutions to answer the business question: In the city of South East area of London, if a client is looking to open a new restaurant, what is the ideal location?

This project aims at exploring possible venues in South East London to open a restaurant where are there is a high ethnic population. London is home to a mix of fine dining restaurants, eateries, coffee shops, pubs, street food markets etc. My client is aiming to open a restaurant that caters to Asian and African population in the South East of London. But there are various stages of investigation to zero in on the right area to open a new one according to the current market trends and the possibility of attracting customers. Hence to get a thorough understanding of the venues the following steps will be implemented:

* Explore the South East Area of London to obtain the list of regions with a higher concentration of ethnic population such as Asians and Africans.
* Obtain the required data from various data sources and extract the necessary information required for this project.
* Collect and collate data regarding the different ethnic groups living in South East London.
* Collect data regarding the list of available restaurants and other eateries in the chosen areas which gives a clear picture of the possibility of opening a new one and an insight into the current market trends.
* Group the collected data into different categories by using different data science methodologies and analyse the best possible venue to open a new restaurant which will cater to the ethnic population.

**Data Collection:**

The following data will be required for this project:

1. The geographic divisions of London along with the area postcodes, borough detail etc.
2. Data for this project will be obtained from regions are that are within the London Post Code area. The London Area consists of 32 Boroughs and we will retrieve data from the link - [**Greater London Area**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_areas_of_London) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_areas\_of\_London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_areas_of_London%20)
3. The retrieved data will then be scrapped and only necessary information will be retained for data processing.
4. The data obtained will be further processed to obtain details of ethnicity, adjacent eateries etc.
5. Then we will get the geographical coordinates of the neighbourhoods using Python Geocoder package which will give us the latitude and longitude coordinates of the neighbourhoods.
6. Foursquare API will be used to retrieve information regarding the additional venues of the chosen area to open a new restaurant.
7. After the data collection we can run k-means clustering to cluster the potential regions of interest and visualize them on choropleth maps.

**Datasets:**

1. Using the appropriate data extracting methods and packages such as such as beautifulsoup we scrap and download the table containing the details of London boroughs, postcodes etc. We then load this data into a dataframe. We get a resulting table with around 500 rows and then we trim it down to the level as shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Location** | **Borough** | **Post -Town** | **Dial Code** | **OSGridRef** | **Postcode** |
| **0** | Abbey Wood | Bexley, Greenwich | LONDON | 020 | TQ465785 | SE2 |
| **1** | Acton | Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham | LONDON | 020 | TQ205805 | W3 |
| **1** | Acton | Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham | LONDON | 020 | TQ205805 | W4 |
| **10** | Angel | Islington | LONDON | 020 | TQ345665 | EC1 |
| **10** | Angel | Islington | LONDON | 020 | TQ345665 | N1 |

2. The next step is to extract only the necessary data (South East London Boroughs) required for this project and hence we drop the unwanted columns, save it in a new dataframe and obtain the table shown below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Location** | **Borough** | **Postcode** |
| 0 | Abbey Wood | Bexley, Greenwich | SE2 |
| 1 | Crofton Park | Lewisham | SE4 |
| 2 | Crossness | Bexley | SE2 |
| 3 | Crystal Palace | Bromley | SE19 |
| 4 | Crystal Palace | Bromley | SE20 |
| 5 | Crystal Palace | Bromley | SE26 |
| 6 | Denmark Hill | Southwark | SE5 |
| 7 | Deptford | Lewisham | SE8 |
| 8 | Dulwich | Southwark | SE21 |
| 9 | East Dulwich | Southwark | SE22 |

3. The Geocoder package is used with the arcgis geocoder to obtain the latitude and longitude of the needed locations. This will help to create a new dataframe that will be used subsequently for the South East London areas. These longitudes and latitudes will be joined with the dataframe to obtain the table below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Location** | **Borough** | **Postcode** | **Latitude** | **Longitude** |
| **0** | Crofton Park | Lewisham | SE4 | 51.46268 | -0.03558 |
| **1** | Denmark Hill | Southwark | SE5 | 51.47478 | -0.09312 |
| **2** | Deptford | Lewisham | SE8 | 51.48117 | -0.02476 |
| **3** | Dulwich | Southwark | SE21 | 51.44100 | -0.08897 |
| **4** | East Dulwich | Southwark | SE22 | 51.45256 | -0.07076 |

4. The Foursquare API is used to obtain the venue details in the South East London Area which will help us to explore the neighbourhoods in depth.

We will be able to obtain valuable information regarding the restaurants in SE London and other places of entertainment, nearby amenities etc.

**Analysis:**

1. To zero in on a single neighbourhood, Lewisham was chosen due to its diverse background. The FourSquare API was the used to extract information about the various types of eateries and other venues in the Lewisham area. The latitude and longitude coordinates of the Lewisham area was passed to the Foursquare API which resulted in a JSON file.

2. The JSON file is then processed and structured into a dataframe with name of the eatery, the type of the eatery and the location data. A sample of the resulting dataframe is shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Name** | **Categories** | **Lat** | **Long** |
| **0** | Street Feast Model Market | Street Food Gathering | 51.460209 | -0.012199 |
| **1** | Maggie's Kitchen | Café | 51.465380 | -0.011213 |
| **2** | Gennaro Delicatessan | Deli / Bodega | 51.461765 | -0.009726 |
| **3** | Levante restaurant | Restaurant | 51.462072 | -0.009491 |
| **4** | Dirty South | Pub | 51.458846 | -0.002666 |
| **5** | Levante Pide Restaurant | Turkish Restaurant | 51.459848 | -0.011476 |
| **6** | Manor House Gardens | Park | 51.456686 | 0.004684 |
| **7** | Corte | Coffee Shop | 51.459776 | -0.011554 |
| **8** | Everest Curry King | Sri Lankan Restaurant | 51.466012 | -0.019656 |
| **9** | Blackheath Farmers' Market | Farmers Market | 51.465913 | 0.007945 |
| **10** | Côte Brasserie | French Restaurant | 51.467378 | 0.007176 |
| **11** | Buenos Aires Cafe | Argentinian Restaurant | 51.467260 | 0.007083 |
| **12** | Hilly Fields | Park | 51.460010 | -0.025599 |
| **13** | The Spice Of Life | Indian Restaurant | 51.458654 | 0.002613 |
| **14** | Brockley Market | Farmers Market | 51.467980 | -0.024795 |
| **15** | The Sausage Man | Food Truck | 51.462507 | -0.010248 |
| **16** | Ladywell Tavern | Pub | 51.456485 | -0.021502 |
| **17** | Pistachios In The Park | Café | 51.460144 | -0.024263 |
| **18** | The Point Greenwich | Scenic Lookout | 51.473202 | -0.009293 |

3. A further analysis was done on the dataframe to obtain the number of eateries and their types as shown below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type** | **Count** |
| **Pub** | 13 |
| **Café** | 9 |
| **Park** | 6 |
| **Gastropub** | 6 |
| **Coffee Shop** | 5 |

4. From the data, it was inferred that there are around 100 venues in the Lewisham area.

**Data Analysis of Multiple Areas:**

1. The FourSquare API is again used to venue details of multiple areas in South East London Area. The same process mentioned implemented in a single are analysis is done and we get a dataframe for each Borough as shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Neighbourhood** | **Neighbourhood Lat** | **Neighbourhood Long** | **Venue** | **Venue Lat** | **Venue Long** | **Venue Categoy** |
| **0** | Crofton Park | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | The Orchard | 51.463678 | -0.035699 | Gastropub |
| **1** | Crofton Park | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | Browns Of Brockley | 51.464513 | -0.037346 | Coffee Shop |
| **2** | Crofton Park | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | Brockley's Rock | 51.459457 | -0.033868 | Fish & Chips Shop |
| **3** | Crofton Park | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | Saka Maka | 51.464826 | -0.036437 | Indian Restaurant |
| **4** | Crofton Park | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | Salthouse Bottles | 51.463916 | -0.036618 | Beer Store |

2. After extracting venue details of all neighbourhoods, we then group all the neighbourhoods to get a comprehensive list of the number of venues and their categories. A sample of the resulting dataframe is shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Neighbourhood** | **Neighbourhood Lat** | **Neighbourhood Long** | **Venue** | **Venue Lat** | **Venue Long** | **Venue Category** |
| **Bankside** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| **Bellingham** | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 |
| **Bermondsey** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| **Blackheath** | 84 | 84 | 84 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| **Brixton** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| **Brockley** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| **Camberwell** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| **Catford** | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 |
| **Chinbrook** | 57 | 57 | 57 | 57 | 57 | 57 |
| **Crofton Park** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

3. We then explore the above dataframe to get the number and type of eateries in the multiple neighbourhoods. We the get the following table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type** | **Count** |
| **Pub** | 423 |
| **Coffee Shop** | 317 |
| **Café** | 268 |
| **Park** | 210 |
| **Grocery Store** | 163 |

**Clustering the Multiple Neighbourhoods:**

1. We use the folium library to get a superimposed map of South East London Area with the help of latitudes and longitudes obtained from the geopy package.

2. The next step is to use the one-hot coding technique to explore in detail the venues in each neighbourhood based on a single category. A sample of the resulting dataframe is shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Neighbourhood** | **African Restaurant** | **American Restaurant** | **Antique Shop** | **Aquarium** | **Asian Restaurant** | **Art Gallery** |
| **134** | Denmark Hill | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **658** | Elephant and Castle | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

3. A grouping of each Neighbourhood with 10 common venues is done to extract the following results from them. An example is shown below:

**----Bankside----**

venue freq

0 Coffee Shop 0.09

1 Pub 0.07

2 Hotel 0.06

3 Italian Restaurant 0.05

4 Theater 0.05

5 Cocktail Bar 0.03

6 Art Museum 0.03

7 Seafood Restaurant 0.03

8 Restaurant 0.03

9 Bar 0.03

4. A new dataframe is created with results obtained in the previous step. The new dataframe contains the following details:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Neighbourhood** | **1st Most Common Venue** | **2nd Most Common Venue** | **3rd Most Common Venue** | **4th Most Common Venue** | **5th Most Common Venue** | **6th Most Common Venue** | **7th Most Common Venue** | **8th Most Common Venue** | **9th Most Common Venue** | **10th Most Common Venue** |
| Bankside | Coffee Shop | Pub | Hotel | Italian Restaurant | Theater | Seafood Restaurant | Restaurant | Art Museum | Cocktail Bar | Bar |
| Bellingham | Grocery Store | Park | Supermarket | Café | Coffee Shop | Pub | Fast Food Restaurant | Train Station | Gym / Fitness Center | Gas Station |
| Bermondsey | Coffee Shop | Pub | Hotel | Italian Restaurant | Theater | Seafood Restaurant | Restaurant | Art Museum | Cocktail Bar | Bar |
| Blackheath | Pub | Grocery Store | Coffee Shop | Park | Café | Indian Restaurant | Bakery | Italian Restaurant | Supermarket | Gym |
| Brixton | Café | Coffee Shop | Park | Pub | Cocktail Bar | Italian Restaurant | Pizza Place | Grocery Store | Bar | Brewer |

5. Using the K-means we now group the neighbourhoods into different clusters.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Borough** | **Postcode** | **Lat** | **Long** | **Cluster Labels** | **1st Most Common Venue** | **2ndMost Common Venue** | **3rd Most Common Venue** | **4thMost Common Venue** | **5thMost Common Venue** | **6th Most Common Venue** | **7th Most Common Venue** | **8th Most Common Venue** | **9th Most Common Venue** | **10th Most Common Venue** |
| Crofton Park | Lewisham | SE4 | 51.46268 | -0.03558 | 1 | Pub | Coffee Shop | Café | Park | Bar | Gastropub | Pizza Place | Bakery | Italian Restaurant | Turkish Restaurant |
| Denmark Hill | Southwark | SE5 | 51.47478 | -0.09312 | 4 | Café | Coffee Shop | Park | Pub | Cocktail Bar | Italian Restaurant | Pizza Place | Grocery Store | Bar | Brewery |
| Deptford | Lewisham | SE8 | 51.48117 | -0.02476 | 1 | Pub | Coffee Shop | Café | Bar | Park | Garden | History Museum | Vietnamese Restaurant | Italian Restaurant | Historic Site |
| Dulwich | Southwark | SE21 | 51.44100 | -0.08897 | 3 | Pub | Café | Park | Coffee Shop | Grocery Store | Bakery | Italian Restaurant | Brewery | Farmers Market | Bookstore |
| East Dulwich | Southwark | SE22 | 51.45256 | -0.07076 | 4 | Café | Pub | Coffee Shop | Pizza Place | Park | Gastropub | Burger Joint | Italian Restaurant | Restaurant | Platform |

6. Using Folium, the clusters can be viewed as a map. Details of each clusters can be viewed as a tabular column stored in a dataframe.

**Results and Conclusion:**

According to the analysis, Lewisham and Lambeth will provide the least competition for an upcoming restaurant as due to the lack of many multi-cultural restaurants. Also these two areas have a number of other amenities close by. Though a number of eateries, pubs etc are available, the absence of Indian and African restaurants are prominent. Hence analysing the cluster information it is easy to recognise that the above mentioned are are ideal locations to open a new restaurant.

However with the availability of more relevant data such as traffic in the area etc we will be able to analyse the neighbourhoods in depth to arrive at an ideal location accurately. This project is particularly useful to restaurateurs and investors who are looking to open or invest in new restaurants in the city of London. This project could be implemented to finding ideal locations in other cities too.

This project sheds light on a real world application of Data Science and gives a hands-on experience to solve real time problems. With the help of the methodologies learnt and useful libraries/packages it was a quite interesting to perform exploratory data analysis. To obtain better results many limitations of using FourSquare etc could be rectified in future projects. The results obtained from this project will be useful for clients to analyse the locations to open new restaurants based on current market trends. This project could be further enhanced to analyse data based on the variety of customers, their background and preferences. With accurate and details venue locations, we could also analyse the crime rates, population density, congestion etc to get better results.