# duolingo Travel

APM Deliverable | Austin Liao



## **Background & KPI Selection**

#### **Business Overview**

Currently, Duolingo generates <\$1 in revenue for each free user, who in turn make up ~93% of MAUs<sup>[1]</sup>.

Thus, converting free members to paid, measured by Paid Subscriber Penetration\*, is a key lever for long-term revenue growth.

#### **Current Offerings**

The lower subscription tier (Super) simply removes caps on learning capacity/engagement.

The higher subscription tier (Max), is pricey and offers Al features that are still limited in nature.

#### Insight

More tangible benefits like **new features & content** may make Super more attractive to users, driving bookings and Paid Subscriber Penetration.

<sup>\*</sup>Paid subscribers as a % of MAU

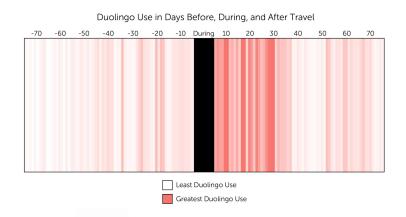
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> Data calculated from 2022 Duolingo Shareholder Letter

## **Opportunity**

### **Problem Space**

- 15-30% of people learn a new language to prepare for an upcoming trip
- However, data shows that users actually use Duolingo more <u>after</u> a trip than before (see graph)

This means that many people are signing up for Duolingo to prepare for travel, but not actually using it for that purpose



### Hypothesis

**Travelers\*** don't use Duolingo to prepare for trips due to a lack of **guidance** and **personalization**, and would be willing to pay for a robust solution

<sup>\*</sup>Defined as Duolingo users who selected "prepare for travel" as the reason for learning a language Graph source: <a href="https://blog.duolingo.com/how-to-travel-with-duolingo/">https://blog.duolingo.com/how-to-travel-with-duolingo/</a>

# duolingo Travel

A personalized learning plan for Travelers powered by AI



#### **Entry Point**

Travelers who subscribed to Super can access Duolingo Travel through the Practice tab



#### **Onboarding form**

Users will first be prompted for the date, duration, destination, and purpose of their trip



#### Al learning plan

Birdbrain will then generate a short, personalized course (5-10 lessons) using the collected info



#### Lessons

Users will learn cultural and trip-related content along with a few Roleplays for practice (and to upsell Max)



#### Reminders

Custom notifications will be sent to ensure optimal learning pace in tune with the user's departure date

## **Success Metrics**

#### Secondary

Average course progress by departure date

Indirectly measures engagement and user satisfaction with course content

#### **North Star**

# of Super subscriptions

Gauges the fundamental business impact of the feature

#### Guardrail

#### Churn rate

Users who sign up for Super only to prepare for travel might cancel immediately after their trip

## **Long-Term Roadmap**





#### **Painted Door Test**

A/B test ads for Super with and without copy promoting Duolingo Travel to a subset of users.

Compare # of "subscriptions" to gauge potential impact of a fully-fledged feature.



#### MVP

Develop a model that can generate the course based on trip info & user profile. Pilot the demo with a group of alpha testers, gather feedback, and iterate



#### Launch

Ship feature to users and A/B test various pricing models (i.e. one time fee v.s. Add-on to Super).



#### **Future Possibilities**

Continue AI experimentation to personalize for other user personas (i.e. people who use Duolingo for career growth). Eventually integrate model(s)into the main "Path", so each user can get a personalized learning experience.