

TeleTourist: Telepresence Tourism for Mobility-Restricted Participants

Concept

Video calls can enable people to experience activities otherwise inaccessible. A tourist in Paris could participate in a video call using a phone's back-facing camera to virtually "bring along" people who cannot leave their homes but wish to travel. A patient bound to a hospital bed could virtually experience paragliding through a similar video call with someone who is paragliding. TeleTourist is a system to facilitate and augment video calls to share such experiences between strangers and people with mobility restrictions.

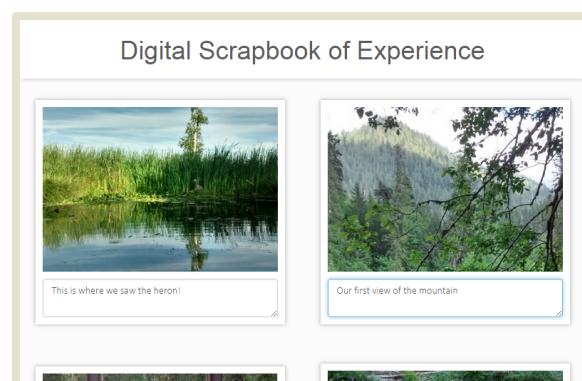
Goals

- Offer windows to the world outside the walls someone is bound to
- Make the experience immersive and personalized
- Increase a sense of social connection for those who may feel isolated

Virtual Scrapbooking



Button for capturing pictures of experiences during video calls.



Digital scrapbook of experience images captured during experience.

Display Relevant Information

Space Needle

The Space Needle is an observation tower in Seattle, Washington, a landmark of the Pacific Northwest, and an icon of Seattle. It was built in the Seattle Center for the 1962 World's Fair, which drew over 2.3 million visitors, when nearly 20,000 people a day used its elevators.

Address: 400 Broad Street, Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: (800) 937-9582
Opened: April 21, 1962
Height: 605 feet (184.41 m)
Floors: See opening and closing times on official site

Related people

People also search for

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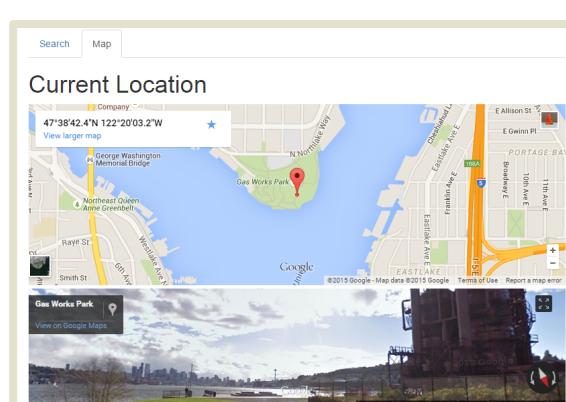
Display relevant information about a topic from manual searches or implicit automatic searches using phrases extracted from speech recognition, activity descriptions, or remote participant location.

Background Replacement



Replace background with image from remote location.

Real-Time Map



Display map and Street View of remote participant location.

Matching System

Future work: automatically match participants for different experiences using shared interests and scheduling constraints, and optionally GPS location. Also enable manually initiated matches from browsing listed activity ideas.

Evaluation

Future work: study the experience for participants with mobility restrictions to investigate whether and how specific features

- improve or detract from feelings of immersion (i.e. whether they were helpful or distracting).
- influence the sense of social connection.
- improve a sense of purpose.
- engage participants in a more active or passive role.
- influence overall enjoyment and satisfaction.