

Toronto and New York Cultural Hot Spots

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1. Introduction

The project will analyze different venues located in the neighborhoods in Toronto, Canada and New York City, New York. Both cities are well known for being one of the most multicultural cities in the world. But what if you're interested in moving to the city or creating a new business, which city would fit your interest? For this project I'll be comparing the cultural venues of these multicultural giants.

2.Data

The data I will be looking at data on New York and Toronto Neighborhoods, boroughs, latitude, longitude, and cultural venues such as: restaurants, art, music venue, museum, concert hall, opera house, religious buildings. The venues were selected as cultural venues based on obvious cultural relevance. Some venues that had ambiguous cultural relevance were not included, such as skate parks which could be an argument for "skate culture". While that is a culture, I went for a more traditional definition of culture such as food, art, music, and religion.

New York City data containing the neighborhoods and boroughs, latitudes, and longitudes will be obtained from the data source: https://cocl.us/new_york_dataset

Toronto data will be scrapped from canada's postal code wiki:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_postal_codes_of_Canada:_M

Venue data from both cities are created by using the foursquare developer API

3.Methodology

3.1 Retrieve dataset

Using a dataset already given to me with the latitude and longitude of New York's neighborhoods I would create a https request for all the venues located in the neighborhood using foursquare's API and put it into a python dataframe. Then scrape canada's zip code wiki and merge that dataframe with another dataset given to me with all the corresponding longitude and latitude to the zip codes.

3.2 Subset the dataset

Looking at the different venue categories given to me by the foursquare API I would select the ones most relevant venues to culture. Then filter both datasets to only include those venues.

3.3 Compare cities

Using matplotlib python library I graphically represented both datasets as bar graphs grouped by the number of venues Located in each neighborhood. And to keep things simpler and cleaner I only focused on the top 5 (based on count) neighborhoods. Then

create a visual representation with a map created by folium, another python library, to give more insight into the pattern found in the bar graphs.

4.Results

New York has a large spread of multicultural venues all throughout its neighborhoods, a large quantity of them are located on the manhattan island. If you were looking for a high cultural residence New York would be your choice. While in Toronto the closer you get to the college and business district the more cultural venues there, leaving room for more opportunities outside the cities for new business owners or existing chain owners. The absence of culture creates a market for potential entrepreneurs.

5.Discussion

When I first created the dataset and looked at the unique venue categories I noticed the large number of restaurants, especially in the New York residences, which I thought could skew the results. But food is a sure sign of culture, also I noticed the large numerical difference between Toronoto and New York. So when I graphed it I was surprised to find even the largest neighborhood in New York was very close to that of Toronto. I had concluded that most of New York's venues are spread throughout the different neighborhoods. To show that I figured using the points as a sort of heat map to represent the high density areas.

6.Conclusion

The amount of culture in New York is substantial and can be found spread throughout New York. Moving to New York would give you more diversity in venues if you were a new home owner or resident. While Toronto's cultural venues are more centralized in the middle of Toronto and have more opportunities for business and less saturation in the cultural market.