Social media influencers in travel and tourism

EIAT 2012 Mady Keup











Mady Keup

- Conference Executive
- British Tourist Authority (now VisitBritain): Spain, Portugal, Central Europe

Visit London (now London & Partners): Head of London Convention Bureau

- Chief Executive of British-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce
- SKEMA Business School: Lecturer and Course Director
- Trainer: MPI and DMAI accredited
- Consulting: Saudi Arabia, Athens, Estonia, Ireland, EU projects on European regions, Nice, Scotland

















Skema Social Media is...









Skema Social Media Influencers are...

Thought leaders through their extensive and informed use of social media networks and blogs.

They can multiply and accelerate the effect and reach of your social media marketing.

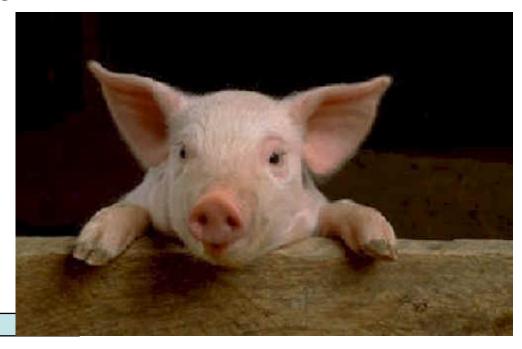


Image source: all-creatures.org



User Generated Content

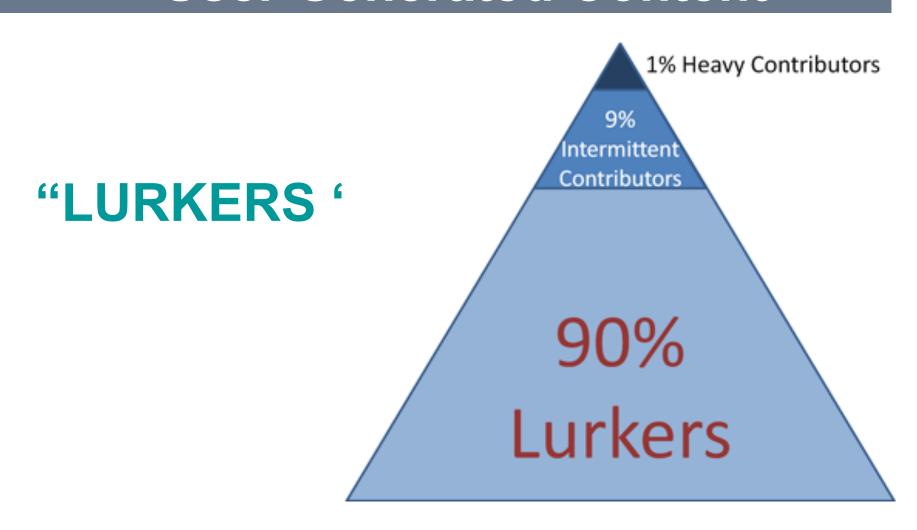


Image source: http://www.useit.com/alertbox/participation_inequality.html

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ACT Human Brochure

- Campaign by Australian Capital Tourism
- "A World First"
- Budget : AUS\$1million
- Proposition: a free holiday in Canberra in return for promoting the city through social media.

"Then all we ask is that you blog, post, tweet and share your experience before you arrive, while you're here and when you get home. People can then follow you online and learn first-hand what it's like here."

 A panel of judges will choose who wins. The promoters ask for details of entrants' Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and Foursquare accounts, how often they use them and what they use them for.

Source: http://www.canberratimes.com.au/travel/capital-tourism-looks-to-go-viral-20120813-2457y.html#ixzz271cA1hrl









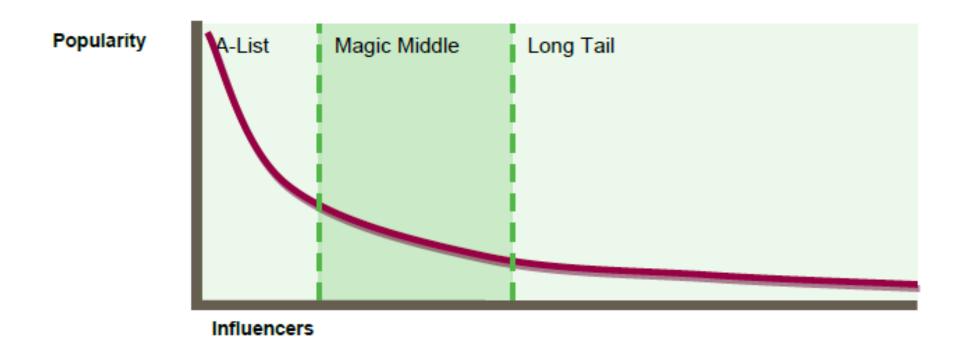








It's a Popularity Contest



Source: freshnetworks.com



Influence

" It's the gold standard of what we think the social media world will show us plain and simple, and yet, the rules and algorithms are still shifting and still uncertain. My opinion is that it takes three pieces:

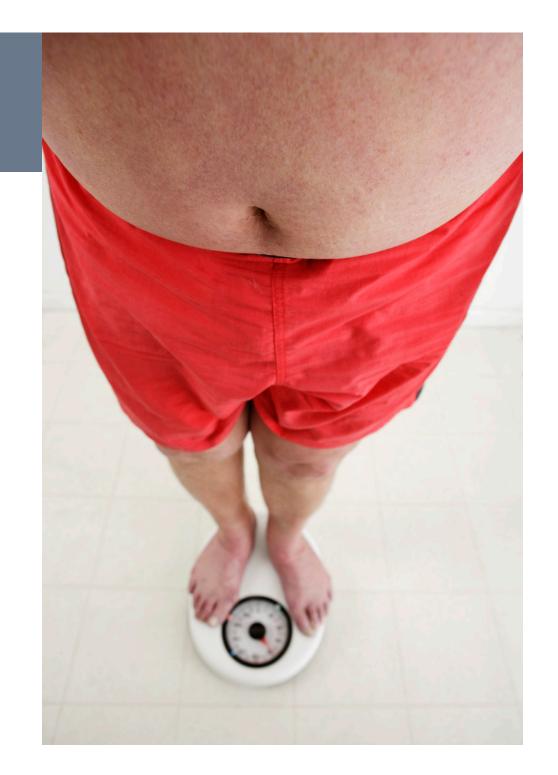
- **Listening** tools to understand who's talking about those things you find interesting,
- Measuring tools to determine who's responding to those people doing the talking,
- An understanding of how influence drives (or doesn't) calls to action."

Chris Brogan, President New Marketing Labs



"With a disproportionate ability to spread information and add credibility, influencers are human TV stations and magazines."

Jay Baer, Founder of Convince & Convert, Co-author The NOW Revolution quoted in the Social Media Influencers Report by FreshNetworks



How to measure influence

- Viewers per month (vpm). The number of visits to the blog per month.
- Linkages. The popularity of blog post links inbound and outbound.
- Post frequency. Volume of posts per given time.
- Media citation score. Volume and level of media that cites blogger.
- Industry score. Number of industry guru points based on industry events such as key notes, bylines and panel participation.
- Social aggregator rate. Level of participation in the social web (e.g. Twitter, other bloggers/blog communities, LinkedIn, etc.).
- Engagement index. Reader response and the quantity of comments.
- Subject/topic-related posts. Volume and immediacy of subject/topic-related posts.
- Qualitative subject/topic-related posts. Qualitative review of subject/ topic-related posts.
- Index score. Identification and rank of influencer in the social web based on above variables.

Source: Booth and Matic (2011)

Social Media Monitoring Tools

Attensity 360

Brandwatch

Radian6

Alterian

Scoutlabs

Sysomos

Synthesio

Social Radar

PeerIndex

Market leaders that offer comprehensive, cross-platform social media monitoring and influencer identification

AT A PRICE



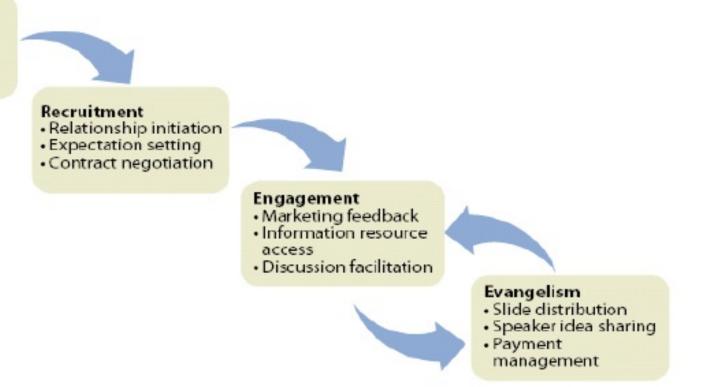


The Klout Score measures a person's overall online influence on a scale of one to 100, with 100 being the most influential. Klout's system analyzes variables across multiple social networks based on your engagement.



Identification

- Influence mapping
- Network analysis
- Publication/ speech tracking



Key Opinion Leader (KOL) management cycle (Forrester Research)





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Brand Squad Perks

2 Days In Seattle:

Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau gave influencers, plus one guest, a two-day, expenses-paid trip to Seattle.





NOW BORROING TORONTO

Virgin America worked with Klout to offer top "Twitter influencers" one free, round-trip flight from Los Angeles or San Francisco to Toronto.

- In order to qualify, users had to create a Klout account and link it to their Twitter profile.
- Those with the most influential Klout score (which is based on a number of factors including number of Twitter followers, how often their updates were being retweeted, etc) were offered free return flights.

Source: http://www.umpf.co.uk/blog/tag/social-media-campaigns-hall-of-fame/





On http://www.mon-aventure-australienne.fr/, Tourism Australia invites Generation Y travellers (between the ages of 18-30) in France to participate in a blogging competition about their imaginary year-long working visa visit to Australia. Their prize — a 10 day trip to Australia in the company of 3 of France's best known youth bloggers:

Hugo Tout seul

Youtube: 21 million views

Facebook: 465,000 fans

Twitter: 73,000 followers

Le Kemar

Youtube: 2.7 million views

Facebook: 71,500 Fans

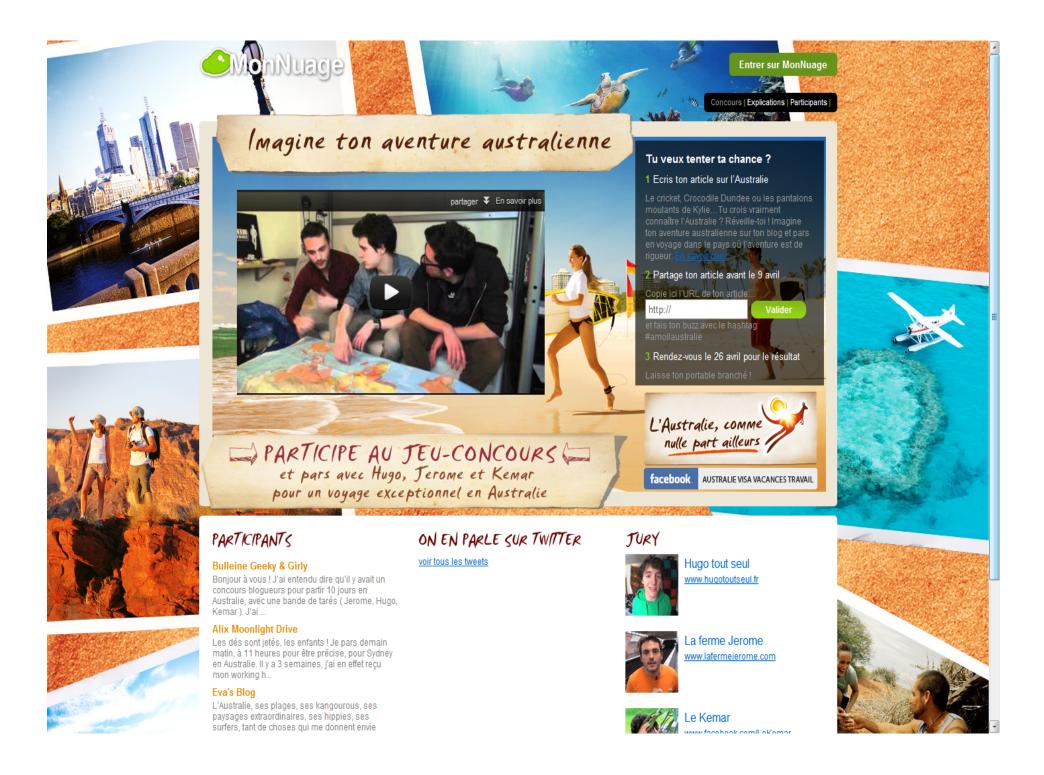
• Twitter: 11,500 followers

La ferme Jerome:

Youtube: 6.8 million views

Facebook: 157,000 fans

Twitter: 14,000 followers



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Expedia Snow Companion Blogtrip

Objective:

"To experience Expedia's snow travel planning tools and ski holiday options, but also to come back with fun snow related content, our personal views, experiences and tips from the trip including the destination and what it has to offer.



This blogtrip was planned entirely using Expedia's Snow Companion application. The facebook application allowed us to explore a number of seven day flight and accommodation packages across a range of ski destinations featured on the app, which enables users in the UK (only) to plan and book a ski holiday for a group, all within Facebook where we could each vote for our preferred package."

http://travellIII.com/2012/03/06/expedia-snowboard-blog-trip-report/

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Palms Casino Resort

The resort has created a 'Klout Klub' which will allow high ranking guests access to its amenities in the hope that they share their experiences with their followers.

The hotel is already referring to Klout (a social-analytics firm) as part of its reservation process.

http://www.umpf.co.uk/blog/tag/socialmedia-campaigns-hall-of-fame/





True Greece

How to manage a crisis with the use of social media influencers.

 The debt crisis from 2011 and subsequent negative media coverage about Greece has resulted in an estimated decrease of around 15% of tourism income for the country in 2012. Launched in June 2012, the Greek National Tourist Office is searching for

'True Supporters', a "team of volunteers responsible for monitoring and responding to online comments and mentions regarding Greece as a tourist destination (Brand Monitoring)."

Volunteers can sign up on the web platform http://truegreece.org and will be selected according to their English language skills and their familiarity

with social media.





