CLAIMS

1) A method (200) for reserving a journey, within the context of an installation (100) for the automated rental of vehicles, comprising a plurality of sites (104), each capable of being in an available or unavailable state, said method (100) comprising a step (202) of selecting an arrival position (322) among at least one arrival position stored beforehand, said selection step (202) automatically initiating the following steps:

- automated determination (206) of data relating to at least one position (308), called departure position;
- automated identification (208) as departure site (310), of an available site that is the closest to said departure position among said plurality of sites in order to rent a vehicle there; and
- automated identification (210) as arrival site (324), of an available site that is the closest to said arrival position (322) among said plurality of sites in order to return a rented vehicle thereto; and

said method (200) also comprising a step (212) of storing at least one reservation data for said departure site (310) and at least one reservation data for said arrival site (324);

wherein said arrival position is a geographical arrival address that is not a rental site.

2) The method (200) according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a step (202) of storing location data relating to at least one arrival position, carried out prior to the selection step (204).

3) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the arrival position is selected manually by the user.

4) The method (200) according to claim 3, characterized in that it comprises a display of at least one arrival position (332) on a display screen (300), in particular on a touch screen, of:

- a fixed user device, such as a desktop computer,

- a portable user device, such as a laptop computer, a smartphone, a tablet, a phablet, etc.,
- a terminal or any device, personal or public;

the selection of the arrival position (322) being carried out by pointing, in particular by touch, on said screen (300).

5) The method (300) according to any one of claims 3 or 4, characterized in that at least one arrival position (322) is displayed in the form of a selection button (336) representing, or associated with, said position or in a list or in a menu, in particular a dropdown or scrolling list.

6) The method (300) according to any one of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the arrival position (322) is selected in an automated fashion depending on at least one predetermined parameter, and on a value of said parameter at the time of the reservation, in particular the current time, said method (200) also comprising a step of determining said value.

7) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the departure position (308) corresponds to the current position, the step (206) of determining the departure position in an automated fashion (308) comprising reading current location data supplied by a geolocation means.

8) The method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises a display of at least one departure position, stored beforehand, on a display screen, in particular a touch screen, of:

- a fixed user device, such as a desktop computer,
- a portable user device, such as a laptop computer, a smartphone, a tablet, a phablet, etc.,
- a terminal or any device, personal or public;

in the form of a selection button representing, or associated with, said position or in a list or in a menu, in particular a dropdown or scrolling list, such that the departure position determined in an automated fashion can be modified by the user by pointing on said screen.

9) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that step (208) of identifying the departure site (310), respectively step (210) of identifying the arrival site (324), can be carried out progressively in (a) phase(s) of increasing distance segments from the departure position (308), or the arrival position (322) respectively.

10) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the storage step (212) comprises:

- for the departure site (310), storing a user identification data in association with an identification data of a vehicle that is available at said departure site (310); and/or
- for the arrival site, storing a user identification data in association with an identification data of a parking space that is available at said arrival site (324).

11) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it also comprises a step (218) of calculating a vehicle journey duration/distance between said departure site (310) and said arrival site (324).

12) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it also comprises:

- a step (218) of calculating a journey duration/distance between the departure position (308) and the departure site (310), and/or
- a step (218) of calculating a journey distance/duration between the arrival site (324) and the arrival position (322).

13) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises a display (216, 218), in a display window (302, 304) on a display screen (300) of a user device, of display data of at least one journey and/or at least one duration and/or at least one distance relating to a journey between:

- the departure site (310) and the arrival site (324);

- the departure position (308) and the departure site (310); and/or
- the arrival site (324) and the arrival position (322).

14) The method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it also comprises a display (216) in a display window (302, 304) on a geographical map, of:

- the departure position (308) and the position of the departure site (310); and/or
- the arrival position (322) and the position of the arrival site (324).

15) The method (300) according to the preceding claim, characterized in that it comprises a simultaneous display (216) in two display windows (302, 304) on a geographical map, in particular on two display windows (302, 304) arranged one below the other, of:

- the departure position (308) and the position of the departure site (310) in the first (302) of said two display windows (302, 304); and
- the arrival position (322) and the position of the arrival site (324), in the second (304) of said two display windows (302, 304).

16) A computer application for:

- a portable device (150), in particular of the smartphone, tablet or phablet type, or
- a fixed device, of the desktop computer or terminal type,

private or public, comprising the instructions that can be executed by said device (150) in order to implement all the steps of the method (200) according to any one of the preceding claims.