

Journal of Tourism Challenges and Trends

Volume II, No. 1,
2009

Mountain Tourism

Editor-in-chief: **Prof. dr. Mihaela Sofia Dinu** (Romanian-American University, Romania)

Address: jtct.office@gmail.com; <http://journalTCT.wordpress.com>
ISSN: 1844-9742

CONTENTS

- 11 TOURISM IN MOUNTAIN AND REMOTE REGIONS
Joseph LEMA, Jerome AGRUSA, Wendy AGRUSA
- 27 RELIGIOUS AND PILGRIMAGE TOURISM AS A SPECIAL SEGMENT OF MOUNTAIN TOURISM
Tamás POHNER, Tibor BERKI, Tamara RÁTZ
- 43 MOUNTAIN TOURISM IN ROMANIA AND ITS ATTRACTIVENESS ON STUDENTS
Alexandra ZBUCHEA, Olivia RADU
- 65 THE ANALYSIS OF MOUNTAIN TOURIST TRAILS WITH GIS METHODS. IN THE RED LAKE REGION, HASMAS MOUNTAINS (ROMANIA)
Zsolt MAGYARI-SÁSKA, Ștefan DOMBAY
- 75 AERO SPORT TOURISM IN HIMACHAL HIMALAYAS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
Vinay CHAUHAN
- 99 IMPORTANCE OF MOUNTAIN RESERVOIRS FOR TOURISM
CASE STUDY: PIENINY MOUNTAINS
Katarzyna DUDA-GROMADA, Lóránt DÁVID
- 111 TOURISM-RELATED IMPACTS ON MOUNT KILIMANJARO, TANZANIA: IMPLICATIONS FOR TOURISM MANAGEMENT ON MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS
James WAKIBARA, Kimaro NDESARI, Nyamakumbati MAFURU
- 125 TOURIST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SLEEPING VALLEY (MUGLA-MILAS) ACCORDING TO THE OPINIONS OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE
Raziye OBAN (CAKICIOGLU)
- 137 MOUNTAIN BIKING IN INDIA: A NEW DEFINITION TO ADVENTURE SPORT
Shweta TANWAR
- 143 MOUNTAIN TOURISM IN ROMANIA BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE
Octavian ARSENE
- 153 MOUNTAIN TOURISM: CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY
Krisztina UJVÁRI

TOURISM IN MOUNTAIN AND REMOTE REGIONS

Joseph LEMA^{}, Jerome AGRUSA^{**}, Wendy AGRUSA^{**}*

Abstract. *Alpine regions offer tourists unique experiences and opportunities to enjoy the fresh air, water, and diverse landscapes of the mountain terrains. With an increasing competitive tourism environment, even the most remote destinations are faced with the challenge of market differentiation. Mountain regions that relied on snow sports and event will have to consider alternatives due to shorter winter recreational seasons. Many mountain communities must examine alternative forms of economic activities in order to extend their tourism season. Transitioning a region beyond the traditional mainstay of tourism activities also requires a unique and concentrated approach that involves the support of the local residents.*

One location that can differentiate itself from a winter Alpine tourism location is Sappada, Italy. Opportunities exist for Sappada, a remote mountain community located in the Dolomites of Italy, to promote a sustainable tourism management system along with practical strategies that can help to highlight the unique natural, cultural, and historical attributes of this mountain region. This paper examines a number of case studies that demonstrate the success of the Bottom-up Approach for sustainable tourism development and how it can be applied in practice to Sappada and other remote areas.

Key words: *Sustainable tourism, remote regions, mountain tourism, niche marketing, Dolomites, Brazil, Italian Riviera, Montserrat*

^{*} Hospitality Management, Drexel University, Philadelphia, USA

^{**} Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, USA

RELIGIOUS AND PILGRIMAGE TOURISM AS A SPECIAL SEGMENT OF MOUNTAIN TOURISM

Tamás POHNER, Tibor BERKI*, Tamara RÁTZ**

Abstract *Mountain and hill sites have played a key role as pilgrimage and religious tourism destinations for thousands of years. Mountain areas with traditional sacred cultural and natural values can particularly benefit from the stimulation of religious tourism, in the forms of improved service supply, employment creation and revenue generation. First, the paper provides an overview of the relationship between religion and tourism, and the role of religious tourism and pilgrimages in the great world religions. In the second part, the authors assess the environmental factors as well as the various scenes and places of religious tourism developed in mountain areas, with special emphasis on meta-spaces and spatial metaphors.*

Key words: *mountain, sacred site, pilgrimage, religious tourism*

* Kodolanyi Janos University of Applied Sciences, Tourism Institute, Hungary

MOUNTAIN TOURISM IN ROMANIA AND ITS ATTRACTIVNESS ON STUDENTS

*Alexandra ZBUCHEA**, *Olivia RADU***

Abstract: *Mountain tourism is considered to be one of the most popular forms of tourism, especially among young and dynamic people. In the last years many shifts registered in terms of diversification of activities that could be developed while into the mountains. In the same time, mountains are increasingly more associated with eco-tourism. There are no different typologies of tourists preferring the mountains, but people preferring mountain tourism tend to be allocentrics and interactional. Various ways of segmenting mountain tourists are discussed in the paper. The investigation is mainly dedicated in observing the tourism behavior of the Romanian students, both college and master degrees. The main dimensions investigated are: sources of information used when planning the vacation, destination selection, forms of mountain tourism preferred by students, length of travel, motives for mountain tourism, activities developed during the travel, preferences and companionship.*

Key words: *tourist typology, mountain tourism, motives, segmentation, student travel, Romania*

* College of Communication and Public Relations, National School of Political and Administrative Studies, Bucharest, Romania

** Romanian-American University, Bucharest, Romania

THE ANALYSIS OF MOUNTAIN TOURIST TRAILS WITH GIS METHODS. IN THE LACUL ROȘU (RED LAKE) REGION, HĂȘMAS MOUNTAINS (ROMANIA)

Zsolt MAGYARI-SÁSKA, Ștefan DOMBAY**

Abstract. *Almost all tourist trails in Romania were marked in the first decades of the last century. Nowadays these routes are remarked, and represent an important segment of touristic offer. Our research is concentrated on verifying some of the routes characteristics such as length, time. For this we developed a GIS system, which calculates these values, based on region DEM and tourist routes positions. The developed system has a friendly interface developed in Borland Delphi and a powerful GIS background using IDRISI modules. The results obtained from the system are quite surprising, values of the walk time differ very much in some cases from those specified in route descriptions. After verifying the base data and calculation methods in Hășmas Mountains we concluded, that historical route description holds some errors and our analysis system can be a valuable tool in tourist route analysis.*

Key words: *GIS, Lacul Roșu, programming environment, tourist trail*

* Babes-Bolyai University, Gheorghieni University Extension, Romania

TOURISM IN HIMACHAL HIMALAYAS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

*Vinay CHAUHAN**

Abstract. *Sport Tourism as an emerging segment of the world's largest and fastest growing industry has broadened its scope due to the growing interest for unusual holiday different from the conventional, which has been accompanied with wide variety and availability of travel products. With regard to adventure sport tourism, the basic spatial reference is a site, mainly influenced by destination technical factors. Himalayas being an ideal adventure sport destination, Billing in the Kangra Valley of Himachal Himalayas, due to its technical supportive strength, is recognised by Fédération Internationale de l'Aviation (FAI), who have also granted it a category - II status in international ranking for aero spots. The International hang-gliding Competition was held in the year 1984, since then a number of events have been organised, some of the international level competitions were held in the year 1992, 1995 and 1998. Since 2002, the pre-world cup have been successfully organised in a row. In light of growing demand and popularity of the site, an attempt through this study has been made to evaluate Billing as an aero sport tourism destination from the pilot's perspective. The conclusions suggest that presence of various aero sport technical factors is a prerequisite for an ideal aero sport tourist destination. The study offers strategies, ways and options to improve the existing support structure for developing aero sport tourism.*

Key Words: *Aero Sport, Tourism, Himalayas and Billing.*

* Centre for Hospitality & Tourism Management, The Business School, University of Jammu, India

IMPORTANCE OF MOUNTAIN RESERVOIRS FOR TOURISM CASE STUDY: PIENINY MOUNTAINS

Katarzyna DUDA-GROMADA^{}, Lóránt DÁVID^{**}*

Abstract: *Mountain regions are valuable in respect of tourism, and have always enjoyed great interest. The creation of an artificial reservoir usually raises the attractiveness of a region. Above all, it makes new forms of tourism possible – such as water tourism. In this paper, opportunities for the development of tourism in the vicinity of mountain reservoirs are presented. The issue is discussed on a selected example from Poland.*

Key words: *active tourism, mountains, reservoirs, Pieniny*

^{*} Department of Tourism Geography and Recreation, Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland

^{**} Department of Tourism and Regional Development, Faculty of Economics, Karoly Robert College, Hungary

TOURISM-RELATED IMPACTS ON MOUNT KILIMANJARO, TANZANIA: IMPLICATIONS FOR TOURISM MANAGEMENT ON MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS

James WAKIBARA**, *Kimaro NDESARI, *Nyamakumbati MAFURU****

Abstract: *Waste disposal, trail erosion, water contamination and porter head loads were investigated on Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, from 2003-2005. Generated waste was identified and quantified, trail erosion measured, water sources examined for coliform contamination and head loads for Porters re-weighed against official limits. Waste on trails comprised mainly of fluffy items. Trail erosion was directly related to hiking pressure whereas water was contaminated mainly at lower elevation. Porters removed up to 98% of waste from the mountain but carried excessive luggage of up to 15.1Kg. These results are discussed in view of tourism impact management on this and other mountainous destinations.*

Key words: *Kilimanjaro Mount, trail erosion, water contamination, waste management, porters*

* Tanzania National Parks, Arusha, Tanzania

** Pangani Basin Water Organization, Arusha, Tanzania

TOURIST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE *SLEEPING VALLEY* (MUGLA-MILAS) ACCORDING TO THE OPINIONS OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE

Raziye OBAN (CAKICIOGLU)*

Abstract: *Recently, tourism demand turned its face towards rural areas. Tourism is an important opportunity for rural areas, which are extremely affected by the low income of the inhabitants. The aim of rural tourism is to take advantage of the resources, at the same time enhancing the living standards of the local people. The success of tourism in the rural areas depends very much on the resources, such as natural beauties, cultural elements and traditional handmade products. At the same time it depends on the attitude of local people towards tourist developments in their region. That is why investors in the field of tourism should be aware of the opinions of local people. The aim of this study is to analyze the opinions of the villagers in the Sleeping Valley (Mugla-Milas) regarding tourist developments. We have come up with a questionnaire consisting of 54 questions, which we used for the field research in the Gökçeler village. The findings of this study will be presented in the form of tables, bearing titles such as: infrastructure features or cultural infrastructure, as well as people's opinion regarding the developments in the field of tourism. Sleeping Valley is not a well known location, in terms of tourism, and that is why local people living there have positive opinions about tourism development. For this reason, the place should be advertised and investors should consider it as a new opportunity.*

Key Words: *Sleeping Valley, questionnaire, local people, opinions and assessment, Turkey*

* University of Dokuz Eylul, Faculty of Buca Education, Department of Geography, Yzmyr, Turkey

MOUNTAIN BIKING IN INDIA: A NEW DEFINITION TO ADVENTURE SPORT

Shweta TANWAR*

Abstract: *Mountain biking is one of most prominent and widely used adventure tourism. It is a way for challenging ones' own self and testing in times of great danger. When we talk in terms of India, this mountain biking tourism becomes all the more important. As India is a land of diverse geographical area. It provides a lot of different experiences in the terrain of Himalayas. This tourism is a feast for eyes and at the same time a test for the physical fitness. It is very dangerous as the hilly region is very slippery and there are no proper roads. The drive is also on elevated slopes where a lot of energy is needed to drag the machine of steel to higher altitudes. But the result of this is very memorable and the overtaxing of energy and tiredness is gone away the moment when one find himself in the lap of nature which is so divine. In this paper, we are trying to deal with mountain biking tourism in India and what all uniqueness are associated with it in India.*

Key words: *Adventure, natural beauty, physical fitness, high altitude, cultural diversity, India*

* Amity Business School, Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur, India

MOUNTAIN TOURISM IN ROMANIA BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE

*Octavian ARSENE**

Abstract: *The article analysis the mountain tourism infrastructure according to the legislation, both for winter and summer season, in correlation with the natural potential of Romania, a country with 33% mountain areas of the total surface. It also refers to the role of the local and central public authorities in developing the tourist potential of mountain areas, in cooperation with NGOs such as the National Association of Mountain Rescuers from Romania (Salvamont). Further on, statistical data are used to highlight the relationship between the number of ski slopes, number of Salvamont units, the mountain massifs operated for, and between these data and the mountain tourist routes existing in the counties with mountain areas. The most important tourism indicators are presented for 2008, in order to compare their value for the total tourism sector in Romania with the values for mountain tourism. At the end of the article, conclusions are drawn, related to the way the mountain tourist potential is valorised in Romania taking into consideration the legislative framework.*

Key words: *mountain tourist routes, ski slopes, mountain rescue units, tourist destination*

* Ministry of Tourism, Bucharest, Romania

MOUNTAIN TOURISM: CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

*Krisztina UJVÁRI**

Abstract. *Mountainous areas may tend to occupy a marginal position on present day economic priority lists, but they are runner-up favorites as touristic destinations. Due to climate change these areas used up earlier by ski resorts will diversify and open towards other, land- and waterbased, snowless services. The central challenge is maintaining a triangle of sustainability: ecological, economic and socio-cultural elements must be balanced in order to keep tourism sustainable.*

Key words: *mountain tourism, climate change, sustainable tourism*

* Institute of Geography, University of Pecs, Hungary

Presentation

Journal of Tourism Challenges and Trends (JTCT) aims at providing both professionals and academics with an overview of theories and practices in the tourism industry, while focusing on challenges and trends currently manifest throughout the world. Equal interest and attention will be given to both established tourism destinations and to areas only now making a name for themselves on the market.

JTCT is a bi-annual publication of the Romanian-American Association of Project Managers for Education and Research. The Journal accepts for peer revision both papers presented at international events which have not been yet submitted for publishing, and original article proposals submitted directly to the editorial board.

Subject coverage

Topics suitable for JTCT cover a wide range of issues, among which but not exhaustively, the following:

- In the field of tourism studies: ecotourism; rural tourism and agro-tourism, cultural tourism, event and sports tourism, mountain tourism, etc.
- In related or cross-disciplinary areas: sustainable development and globalization; human resource management and training; PR, advertising and branding in tourism; innovation and technological advances in the hospitality industry, etc.
- Case studies and best practices, specific national policies and legislation, analysis of regional and resort development.

Evaluation and acceptance

- Sound academic grounding: use of consistent and appropriate methodology, based on the latest sources and published research in the respective fields;
- Originality and innovation: innovative and original approaches are favoured in a comprehensive perspective encompassing imitation, assimilation, experimentation, continuous improvement and research-based activities;
- Correlation with current practices in the field: articles should tackle urgent and up-to-date issues and challenges currently manifest in the respective fields, as well as identify relevant trends and developments in this respect;
- Practical focus and bearing: submissions are encouraged to be practice-oriented and be applicable in the respective fields, they should be both descriptive and have a relevance and scope beyond the specific situations under analysis;
- Relevance to the topic of the issue: each call for papers shall comprise a new topic for every issue, as well as the submission guidelines to be observed.

Application procedure

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. All papers are refereed through a peer review process. Authors are kindly invited to send their papers to jtct.office@gmail.com, pending revision and refereeing from board members. For any additional information you may contact the board at e-mail addresses specific in each call for papers. For further details check our website: <http://JournalTCT.wordpress.com>.