

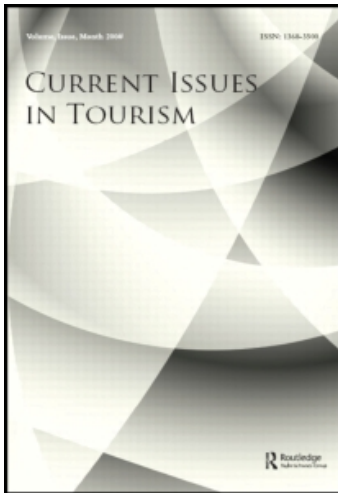
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Call for Papers: Special Edition of Current Issues in Tourism

Social Tourism

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Social tourism can be described as “the relationships and phenomena in the field of tourism resulting from participation in travel by economically weak or otherwise disadvantaged elements in society” (Hunzinger 1985:45). It encompasses a variety of different initiatives, commercial and non-commercial, governmental and private, that aim to offer holiday experiences to groups that would otherwise not have them. It has been defined as “tourism with an added moral value, which aims to benefit either the host or the visitor in the tourism exchange” (Minnaert, Maitland and Miller 2006:9). Examples of social tourism range from holiday initiatives for people with disabilities and charity holidays for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, to the development of community-based tourism in economically underdeveloped areas.

This call for papers aims to draw together research on this important element of tourism studies. The editors would be pleased to receive papers demonstrating examples of social tourism from different countries accompanied by discussion of the political, economic and social systems that supports this form of tourism. Evidence of benefits from social tourism, as well as discussion of the challenges in enabling social tourism are welcomed. With the evidence base for social tourism so under-developed, this special edition of *Current Issues in Tourism* hopes to encourage papers from a range of disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches to the subject. Through this special edition it is hoped to be able to identify researchers interested in the topic and also to generate an agenda for future researchers.

The journal *Current Issues in Tourism* is designed to be accessible to both new and experienced researchers and practitioners on a global basis. The principal aims of the journal are to: encourage the full disciplinary and interdisciplinary range of approaches which are available to the study of tourism; bring together researchers from different subject backgrounds for interdisciplinary debate; develop the theoretical base on which the study of tourism is built; provide a basis for the development of critical approaches to the study of tourism; disseminate new approaches, concepts, frameworks and models which may be developed in the study of tourism; promote new research; assist in the creation of new networks of researchers; encourage young researchers.

All papers submitted for the special edition of *Current Issues in Tourism* will be subject to double blind peer reviewed before publication and should conform with all formatting requirements as described at:

www.informaworld.com/rcit

Full papers should be submitted by June 2009, but abstracts and expressions of interest need to be sent to the editors by Feb 28th, 2009. Abstracts, expressions of interest and full papers, as well as any enquiries, should be sent to Dr Lynn Minnaert (L.Minnaert02@westminster.ac.uk)