



## TOURISM SHAPING PLACES:

Mobilities and tourism destination evolution

Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia  
Vila-seca Campus, 18th-21st October 2017



## Conference report: Major Commission Meeting in Spain, October 2017

This year's main commission event was hosted by the Research Group on Territorial Analysis and Tourism Studies (GRATET) of the Department of Geography, Faculty of Tourism and Geography, Universitat Rovira i Virgili supported by the MOVETUR project (CSO2011-23004/GEOG), the URV Science and Technology Park for Tourism and Leisure of Catalonia (PCT) and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) represented by Prof. Salvador Anton-Clavé, Antonio Paolo Russo and commission member Julie Wilson, respectively.

The workshop in Catalonia, organized during politically turbulent times, discussed the ways in which tourism destinations are transformed by the multiple mobilities inherent in contemporary societies, as well as understanding the urbanisation and other effects of these mobilities on the development, attractiveness and urban competition of places at different scales.

The conference was organized in an excellent matter by the colleagues in Catalonia. Not least Salvador Anton-Clavé, Antonio Paolo Russo and commission member Julie Wilson deserve great gratitude for an excellent scientific and social program and Meritxell Fuguet, Parc Científic i Tecnològic de Turisme i Oci, for all practical support.

As a first keynote speakers Kevin Hannam (Middlesex University Dubai) presented on the topic of mobilities, bodies and borders. Szilvia Gyimóthy (Aalborg University, Denmark) addressed alternative economies within tourism and highlighted not least various aspects of the recent Airbnb phenomenon. The final keynote speaker Mathis Stock (University of Lausanne, Switzerland) discussed the urbanization of tourism destinations. Approximately 50 delegates from Europe including Russia and Israel, Asia, Oceania, Africa, and North America and Latin America attended the event and could listen to the keynotes and many other paper presentations, that overall were of a high scientific quality. Field trips to Tarragona, Reus, and Barcelona added to illustrating the topic of the conference further and contributed to making the conference a great success.

For those not able to attend the conference, the organizers have made the [keynote presentations](#) and the closing session available online.



*From the field trip in historical Tarragona*

## Sponsored activities 2017

The commission was through its members also active in sponsoring meetings or sessions within meetings of other organizations. A selected list indicates the wide range of activities.

- **AAG Boston, April, 5th – 9th 2017**

Sessions on the following topics were organized

- Lifestyle Mobilities and Local Communities (Xu Honggang & Kou Lirong)
  - Tourism and the Politics of Wilderness Management and Governance (Jarkko Saarinen, Elizabeth Vidon, & C. Michael Hall)
  - Transnational Cultural and Natural Heritage in Asia: Contours of Boundary-Transgressing Memoryscapes (Rudi Hartmann, & Dietrich Soye)
  - Using qualitative methodology in tourism research (Anne-Marie d’Hautesserre)
  - What tourism development for developing areas/regions/ countries (Anne-Marie d’Hautesserre)
- **6<sup>th</sup> Nordic Geographers Meeting, Stockholm, June 18th–21st 2017.**
    - Critical geographies of tourism development in the Nordic peripheries (Gunnar Thór Jóhannesson, Edward H. Huijbens, Dieter K. Müller & Jarkko Saarinen)
    - The Inequalities of Tourism: The Unequal Distribution of the Costs and Benefits of Tourism and Mobility Capital in the Twenty-First Century (C. Michael Hall & Jarkko Saarinen)
- **Annual Meetings of the Canadian Association of Geographers in Toronto, May 29th – June, 2nd**
    - Integrated approaches to tourism and regional development (Dieter Müller and Patrick Brouder).
- **11th International Symposium on Tourism Frontiers Co-organized by Chinese tourism geography commission, 19-21 May, 2017. Capital Normal University, Beijing**
- **EUGEO-conference in Brussels, September 4th-6th, 2017.**
    - Integrated approaches to tourism and regional development (Dieter Müller and Carolin Funck).
- **Institute of Australian Geographers Conference, 11-14 July 2017 in Brisbane, Australia.**
    - Revisiting, Reframing and Reaffirming Tourism Geographies: Critical Post-Disciplinarity Perspectives (Joseph M. Cheer and Alan A. Lew)

## Upcoming IGU Meetings



## Tourism Geographies.

**Pre IGU-regional conference meeting**

**2-5 August 2018, Saint-Joseph-de-la-Rive, Charlevoix, Quebec, Canada**

The IGU Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change, the CAG Tourism and Recreation Study Group and the AAG Recreation, Tourism and Sports Specialty Group, in cooperation with the Department of Geography, Université Laval, are happy to invite the global community of tourism geographers to Charlevoix and Quebec.

Tourism is inherently a geographical phenomenon with social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental significance. Tourism creates links between people and places, and connects different cultures and environments. Moreover, tourism is a major force for global change. It creates geographical imaginations, human mobilities and flows of culture, ideas, values, commodities, and capitals, and influences society far beyond the immediate tourism industry. At the same time, tourism is embedded in other global processes creating constraints and opportunities for its development. Furthermore, tourism is an important cause of, and target for, global environmental change. All this justifies the academic study of tourism and indeed, makes it an imperative endeavour for achieving a more sustainable future.

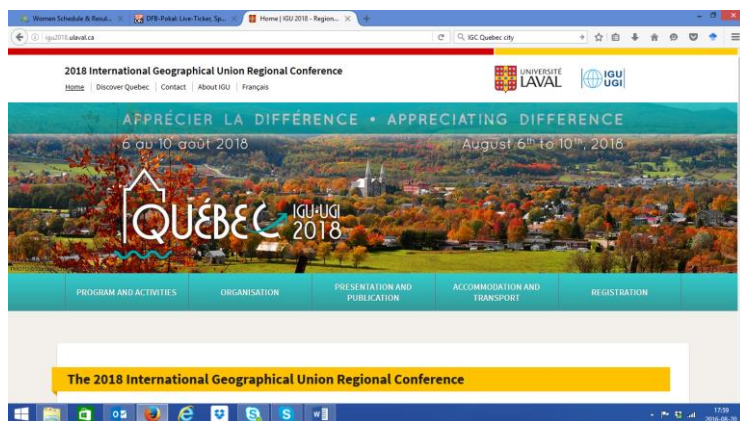
The central aim of this conference is to provide a platform for debating current research in tourism geographies. The conference has no particular topic and its ambition is to be inclusive. We encourage various perspectives on all issues addressed within tourism geographies. We also hope for a wide attendance in order to fulfill one of the purposes of the IGU, i.e. to facilitate learning by not only comparing different places, but also different approaches and traditions.

Canada with its outstanding tradition of research within tourism geographies, is an excellent place for such a conference. Roy Wolfe, Peter Murphy, Jan Lundgren, Richard Butler, Geoff Wall and Alison Gill, are all among the pioneers of the discipline and hence, celebrating and discussing

previous achievement, current results and future research agendas is an appropriate undertaking.

Please also note that the conference is organized as a pre-event to the IGU Regional Conference and the Annual Conference of the CAG in Quebec City, 6-10 August 2018. Hence, delegates are encouraged to take part at this event, too.

**Further information on how to submit papers and register will be made available as soon as possible.**



## 2018 IGU Regional Conference and Annual Meeting of the CAG,

**Quebec City, August 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Quebec City provides the venue for the biannual IGU conference. According to the conference webpage “The conference theme, Appreciating Difference, or Apprécier la différence, is a Quebec expression that invites participants to consider the world as a blank canvas that we must first decide how to depict before putting down images and words. Surely, the choice of those images and words is a matter of appreciation. To appreciate is not only a question of what we find significant and of value, it is also an awareness of differences and the ability to recognize them as meaningful to a more inclusive interpretation of the diverse world in which we live.”

Against this background the IGU Commission is offering a great smorgasbord of sessions within the main conference: Currently the following sessions are at offer:

- Gender in Tourism Geography (collaboration with the gender commission)
- Tourism and Difficult Heritage
- Tourism, public policies and the production of space

- Tourism Spaces and Collaborative Economies
- Revisiting the nexus of tourism and migration: Bridging lifecycle of tourist destinations and life courses of tourists and labour migrants (collaboration with globility commission)
- Indigenous peoples and tourism
- Tourism, environmental change and sustainability
- Overtourism and Tourism-phobia: Excesses, discontents and measures in global destinations
- Modern Slavery in the Global Tourism Supply Chain: Unveiling Practices and Finding Solutions
- Nowhere \* Else: Rethinking Marginal Spaces and their Attractiveness

### OPEN SESSION

The call for papers is open and papers should be submitted until **March, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Information on the IGU Regional Conference in Quebec City can be accessed on <http://igu2018.ulaval.ca/>

### Other supported meetings



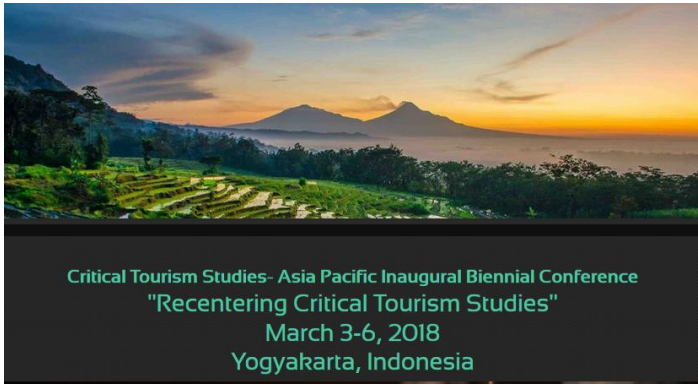
Even in 2018, commission members offer a number of sessions at the [AAG Annual Meeting](#) 2018, New Orleans, April 10-14, 2018:

- Peripheral and Emerging Tourism Destinations: Challenges and Opportunities (Alan Lew & Dallen Timothy)
- Revisiting Tourism in Sustainable Development (Jarkko Saarinen)
- Tourism, Communities and Development (Jarkko Saarinen & Sanjay Nepal)

***Please feel free to disseminate this newsletter to interested colleagues!***

***For joining the IGU Commission’s email list and for receiving continuous information on the Commission’s activities visit the commission web page:***

[www.igutourism.org](http://www.igutourism.org)



The IGU Commission is supporting the inaugural biannual Critical Tourism Studies - Asia Pacific Conference [Recentering Critical Tourism Studies](#), March 4-6, 2018, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Commission members Joseph Cheer and Honggang Xu are part of the organizing and scientific committee of the conference.



FIFTH  
 GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON  
 ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY 2018  
 COLOGNE GERMANY  
 24-28 JULY 2018

For the first time the IGU commission is sponsoring a session at the [5th Global Conference on Economic Geography](#) 2018 in Cologne, Germany, July 24 – 28, 2018. The session offered is on "Evolutionary Approaches in the Economic Geographies of Tourism: State of the Art and New Avenues for Research" (Marius Mayer and Patrick Brouder). Abstract submission is open until **March, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**.



**IGU meetings beyond 2018**

Currently the IGU-calendar comprises the following events;

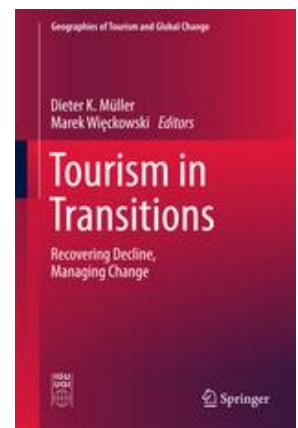
- 2020 IGU International Geographical Congress Istanbul, Turkey
- 2022 IGU International Geographical Congress (100 year anniversary), Paris, France
- 2024 IGU International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland

As usual, the commission will try to organize committed pre-meetings adjacent to these events. For more and updated information on general IGU events please consider the new webpage of IGU [igu-online.org](http://igu-online.org)

Furthermore the IGU has started to organize thematic meetings. For 2018 the IGU is co-organizing an IGU Thematic Conference dedicated to the centennial of the Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences on the topic of Challenges, 4-6 June 2018, Moscow, Russia

## New Publications

As announced earlier a new book series connected to the IGU Commission has been launched earlier this year. A first publication presenting some of the contributions given at the IGU Pre-conference in the Pieniny Mts, Poland in 2014. The book edited by Dieter K. Müller and Marek Więckowski is available from [Springer](#).

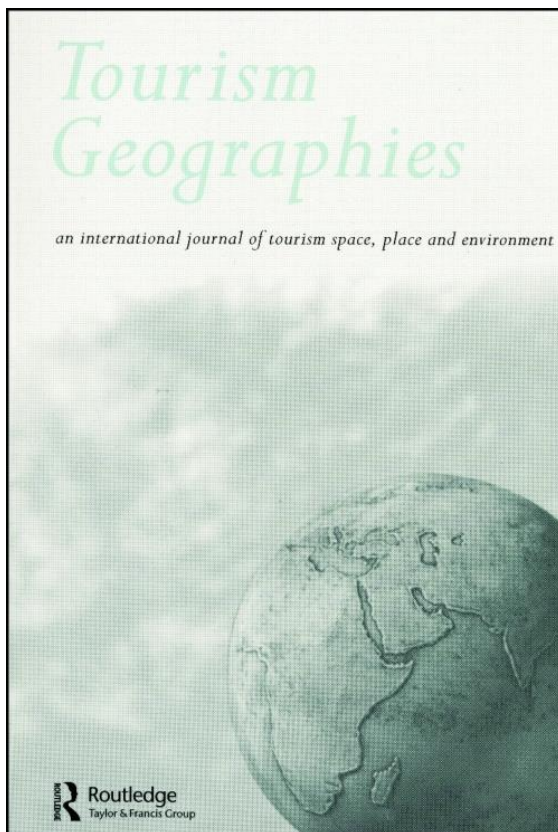


Müller, D.K., & Więckowski, M. (Eds.) (2017). *Tourism in Transitions: Recovering Decline, Managing Change*. Cham: Springer.

Currently two more publication, on rural tourism and tourism and borders, respectively, are in preparation. The editors of the book series Jarkko Saarinen (University of Oulu), Carolin Funck (University of Hiroshima) and Dieter Müller (Umeå University) are now looking for new exciting proposals for the series. Edited and single authored volumes are equally welcomed. In order to submit a proposal, potential authors should get into contact with a member of the editorial team; [dieter.muller@umu.se](mailto:dieter.muller@umu.se), [jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi](mailto:jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi), or [funck@hiroshima-u.ac.jp](mailto:funck@hiroshima-u.ac.jp).

**Seasonal Greetings and  
 A Happy New Year 2018**





## Tourism Geographies

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Volume Commentaries

Year 2018 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the journal *Tourism Geographies*, which is closely related to the IGU tourism commission and edited by honorary member Alan Lew. This is celebrated with a set of commentaries authored by various tourism geographers on the state of tourism geographies.

A first set of commentaries on the topic of “Tourism Geographies Today” including contributions from Deborah Che (Australia), David Crouch (UK), Sanette Ferriera (South Africa), Carolin Funck (Japan), Alison Gill (Canada), Dieter Müller (Sweden), Piotr Niewiadomski (UK), Theano Terkenli (Greece) and Dallen Timothy (USA) is now [available](#).

[www.igutourism.org](http://www.igutourism.org)

**International Geographical Union –  
Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change**  
[www.igutourism.org](http://www.igutourism.org)

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