



# XIX INTERNATIONAL TOURISM GEOGRAPHY COLLOQUIUM AGE-UGI



## RETHINKING

TOURIST DESTINATIONS  
IN TIMES OF GLOBAL CHANGE

Cullera, June 6th to 8th, 2024

## SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

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## XIX INTERNATIONAL TOURISM GEOGRAPHY COLLOQUIUM AGE-UGI



### SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

The current tourism development model and the climate emergency have positioned themselves as two of the most significant challenges for the tourism industry. At this moment, climate change is evident as a global and undeniable threat. This phenomenon is not only a real threat but has currently become a serious problem, a reality confirmed by the declaration of over 11,000 scientists worldwide (Ripple et al., 2020). Climate change represents a fundamental environmental concern with negative repercussions both socially and economically. For the tourism industry, this poses significant threats, including an increase in the risk of species extinction, a decrease in freshwater resources, growing concerns in terms of health and safety, an increase in wildfires-related accidents, an escalation of extreme heat episodes, and an elevated risk of disease spread. Unfavorable weather conditions could even discourage travelers from choosing attractive tourist destinations (López Palomeque et al., 2022a; Olcina and Vera, 2016; Siddiqui and Imran, 2019).

Therefore, climate change has become a global emergency, presenting an increasingly concerning threat to tourism activity. The climate is one of the main attractions in a wide variety of destinations in different latitudes. In the case of Spain, as is also the case in many other countries, the predominant tourism model is sun and beach, and the climate represents a top-level tourist attraction. This circumstance makes the tourism system heavily dependent on weather conditions and coastal areas, implying that climate change could have a very significant impact (López Palomeque et al., 2022a). However, this is a global problem, and tourism activity is particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change in different tourism regions. Consequently, this phenomenon could lead to changes in competitiveness conditions in certain global tourism areas for some modalities, such as the aforementioned sun and beach tourism or snow tourism (Simancas, 2020).

On the other hand, the influence of tourism on climate change is undoubtedly one of the most significant environmental impacts of this activity, with a scope of global repercussions. It is estimated that tourism is responsible for 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and this figure is projected to double by the year 2050 (United Nations Environment Programme, 2019). Of these emissions, over 50% are attributed to transportation, encompassing both mobility to reach the destination and internal mobility at the location, while the rest is related to accommodation and activities undertaken (López Palomeque et al., 2022a).

Consequently, tourism will be impacted and will suffer the inconveniences of a phenomenon it has contributed to generate and is currently helping to worsen. Therefore, the relationship between tourism and climate change is bidirectional and complex. Tourism activity affects and exacerbates climate change through the emission of gases (including aviation, road transport, and energy generation at destinations) and territorial changes (involving alterations in the natural conditions of the environment and an increase in urbanized areas). On the other hand, climate change affects tourism due to the modification of climatic conditions, a decrease in well-being (changes in destination preferences), and an increase in threats (extreme weather events and health risks, among others) (Olcina, 2012).



In this situation, the need to adopt measures that effectively contribute to combating climate change becomes evident. Some tourist spaces are particularly vulnerable to climate change, and the sector's limited resilience was highlighted by the COVID-19 crisis (Pitarch, 2020; Gössling et al., 2021). The pandemic should have led us to a process of critical evaluation of the global tourism growth model, due to interconnected issues including the risks associated with international travel and the sector's contribution to climate change (Gössling et al., 2021). The growing concern of the tourism industry regarding climate change demands dedication, research, and the implementation of comprehensive management measures to mitigate its long-term impact (Siddiqui and Imran, 2019).

Given this scenario, the XIX International Colloquium on Tourism Geography AGE-UGI emerges as a space open to reflection and contributions from the latest research, approaches, methodologies, advancements, and innovations. The goal is to enhance the adaptation possibilities of tourist destinations to address the array of challenges posed by these new dynamics of global change and climate crisis. The tourism industry has the potential to assume a significant part in the fight against climate change and must take on a leadership role to drive transformative actions and achieve adaptation and mitigation. For this reason, "*committing to sustainability in tourism is not so much a necessity as an urgent obligation*" (Pulido and López Sánchez, 2023, p.27). Sustainability is crucial for tourism, not only to reduce the negative impacts generated by the sector but also because tourism presents opportunities to positively contribute to environmental, social, and economic solutions.

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## THEMATIC AREAS

**1. Tourism Activity in the Face of Global Change and Climate Emergency.** The tourism industry must adapt and respond to current environmental and global challenges, exploring strategies for adapting to and mitigating climate change.

**2. Tourism Resilience.** Tourist destinations must adapt and recover effectively in the face of challenges such as crises, pandemics, climate change, and other global factors. This involves developing strategies and practices to ensure the resilience and recovery capacity of the tourism industry.

**3. Tourism, Sustainability and Circular Economy.** It is crucial to seek a balance between tourism growth and the protection of the environment and well-being of local communities. Exploring practices and strategies that promote responsible and sustainable tourism based on a circular production model becomes essential in a constantly changing world.

**4. Tourism in Coastal Areas.** Coastal spaces must confront the challenges of global change, emphasising the vulnerability of coastal tourist destinations to the impacts of climate change, coastal erosion, among others. This involves exploring adaptation and resilience strategies to protect and preserve these environments while promoting sustainable tourism.

**5. The Sunshine Urbanism. Tourism and Urbanization.** Urban growth in tourist destinations and territorial planning and management pose significant challenges, considering factors such as infrastructure expansion, the balance between tourism and residents' quality of life, and the creation of more sustainable urban environments. This is particularly relevant in coastal tourist settings.

**6. New Approaches and Tools for Destination Planning and Management.** The focus would be on identifying innovative strategies and planning tools to help design and manage tourist destinations more effectively and sustainably. This involves considering emerging challenges in a context of global change.

**7. Smart Tourist Destinations.** The application of new technologies related to the intelligent management of tourist destinations aims to create more efficient, sustainable, and resilient places in the face of climate change. Leveraging digitisation and connectivity, the goal is to enhance the tourist experience and residents' quality of life while promoting environmental sustainability.

## THEMATIC AREAS

**8. Tourism and Artificial Intelligence. Big Data. Netnography and Hypermediation Networks (Instagram, Facebook, etc.).** Technology, including artificial intelligence and data analysis, is transforming decision-making in tourism. Social media interactions help understand and enhance the traveler's experience while facilitating destination management in a rapidly changing global environment.

**9. New Forms of Tourism Governance.** New forms of governance are essential to address climate change and promote sustainability in tourist destinations. The focus is on exploring innovative strategies and management models to tackle current challenges in the tourism industry, including public-private collaboration and the involvement of local communities.

**10. Tourism and Social Movements.** Social dynamics and civic movements influence the planning and development of tourist destinations, often in tense territories. It is important to explore the interaction between tourism and social demands, promoting an inclusive and sustainable approach in a context of constant change.

**11. Leisure and Tourism in Protected Natural Areas.** Tourism and recreational activities associated with protected areas can bring considerable benefits to both the areas themselves and the communities involved. However, if not done appropriately or overlooked, tourism can contribute to the deterioration of this natural and cultural heritage, leading to the loss of essential environmental goods and services crucial for the development and sustainability of human societies.

**12. Gastronomy and Tourism.** Culinary traditions and gastronomy have become integral to the tourist experience. Examining how gastronomy can enrich the identity of destinations, promote sustainability, and attract travelers in the changing landscape of the tourism industry can be a promising strategy for the future.

**13. Cultural Heritage and Tourism.** The preservation, promotion, and sustainable management of cultural assets in tourist destinations can contribute to the appreciation of cultural heritage while addressing challenges related to protection and authenticity.

## THEMATIC AREAS

**14. Tourism in Rural Areas.** Tourism has the potential to revitalise depopulated rural areas. Nevertheless, they must confront the challenges of global change, emphasising the vulnerability of their ecologically fragile spaces. Therefore, exploring adaptation and resilience strategies becomes crucial to protect and preserve these environments while promoting more sustainable tourism.

**15. Product Diversification and Tourism.** Exploring strategies to expand the tourist offerings in destinations, promoting activities and services beyond traditional approaches. The aim is to strengthen the resilience of tourist destinations in the face of global changes by diversifying their offerings and experiences to attract a more diverse audience.

**16. Destination Identity and Image.** Tourist destinations can define and manage their unique identity while enhancing their image in terms of sustainability. Analysing the promotion of cultural authenticity, aligned with sustainability, as a key tool for tourism success and long-term preservation can be a valuable differentiation strategy for the destination.

**17. Social Inclusion and Tourism Sustainability.** Promoting tourist practices that integrate social inclusion as a fundamental pillar of sustainability should be a key element for the future of our society. Tourism can serve as an engine for equity, supporting local communities and ensuring that all sectors of society benefit fairly and sustainably in a context of global change.

**18. Gender and Tourism.** Gender issues impact and are impacted by the tourism industry. Examining gender equity in access to opportunities and benefits of tourism, as well as promoting inclusive and gender-sensitive practices, should be a standard practice in destination management.

**19. Academic Training and Professional Profiles for Tourism Management.** In the current context of global change, efforts should be made to respond through the adaptation of various professional profiles, analysing how these factors condition the training of future tourism technicians. Similarly, it is necessary to examine the measures being taken by educational institutions in this field, the new competencies demanded, and the profiles emerging in tourism.





## PROVISIONAL PROGRAM OF THE COLLOQUIUM

### FIRST DAY. 6TH JUNE 2024.

- 9,30 h. Accreditation of attendees.
- 10,15 h. Official opening of the colloquium
- 10,45 h. 1st Presentation.
- 11,45 h. Coffee break
- 12,15 h. Presentation of communications
- 14,00 h. Lunch
- 16,00 h. Presentation of communications
- 19,00 h. Guided tour of Cullera (Rice Museum and Castle)

### SECOND DAY. 7TH JUNE 2024

- 9,00 h. 2nd Presentation.
- 10,00 h. Presentation of communications
- 12,00 h. Coffee break
- 12,30 h. 3rd Presentation.
- 13,30 h. Lunch
- 16,00 h. Presentation of communications
- 18,00 h. Closing
- 18,30 h. General Assembly of the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Recreation group of the AGE.
- 21,30 h. Gala dinner

### THIRD DAY. 8TH JUNE 2024

- 9,30 h. Field trip to Valencia



## ORGANISED BY

Catedra Ciutat de Cullera by the Cullera City Council and the University of Valencia

Inter-university Institute for Local Development and the Department of Geography at the University of Valencia

Tourism Geography Group of the AGE

## SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

Abstracts may be in English, French, Portuguese, or any of the official languages of the Spanish State, and must adhere to the following guidelines: a maximum length of 500 words; clearly reflect their theoretical and methodological foundations, objectives, and preliminary results; conform to the downloadable template provided in this 2nd Announcement ([download template](#)); and send them to the email address [catedracullera@uv.es](mailto:catedracullera@uv.es)

## KEY DATES

Deadline for abstract submission: January 15, 2024.

Notification of abstract evaluation results: January 31, 2024.

Deadline for full paper submission: March 31, 2024.

Notification of full paper evaluation results and possible revision guidelines: April 20, 2024.

Deadline for submission of the revised and final paper: May 20, 2024.



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE COLLOQUIUM

The papers presented and evaluated by the Scientific Committee of the XIX International Tourism Geography Colloquium AGE-IGU will be published in a PROCEEDINGS BOOK of the conference with an ISBN in the Studies and Documents series of the [Territorial Development](#) collection by the publisher Publicaciones de la Universitat de València (It holds the Quality Editorial distinction from FECYT-ANECA and indexing in SPI Q1).

Furthermore, the selected papers will also have the opportunity to publish in a Special Issue of the [TERRA](#) journal (indexed in Dialnet Catalog, MIAR, Google Scholar, Latindex, Dulcinea, CIRC, or Scientific Journal Impact Factor (SJIF), among others).

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