

PETER MASON

# GEOGRAPHY OF TOURISM

IMAGE, IMPACTS AND ISSUES



SECOND EDITION



# **Geography of Tourism**

**Image, Impacts and Issues**

**Second Edition**

**Peter Mason**



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As with all such creations however, any remaining blemishes are my responsibility.

*Peter Mason,*

Catfield, Norfolk, September, 20123

## Preface

The first edition of this book was aimed primarily at undergraduate students, and this remains the intention of this second edition. The early chapters present largely factual material on geography and tourism and later ones discuss and analyse theories, as well as considering critical concepts and issues. It uses a large number of case studies (several based on my own research) at different scales, focusing on locations from many areas of the world, including England, Scotland, Spain, France, Italy, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Asia and Antarctica.

The book is divided into four sections.

- Introduction to the Geography of Tourism
- Impacts of Tourism
- Issues in Tourism
- Planning and Managing Tourism

The first section is concerned with the rationale for the geographical study of tourism, the key motivations for tourism and the resources for tourism. A whole chapter is devoted to an understanding of weather and climate. These can be considered as 'resources' for tourism, but are more important than this, being the context in which so much tourism takes place. Without an understanding of the nature and causes of variations in climate globally, it is very difficult to understand how and why climate is changing today, and the issue of climate change is discussed in detail in the third section of the book. However, the final chapter of the first section is concerned with the nature of tourism destinations, as it is here that impacts and issues are particularly significant and can be readily observed and researched. This chapter additionally focuses on the image of destinations, as this can be a major factor in the long-term sustainability of tourism locations.

The second section of the book considers tourism impacts and its chapters focus respectively on environmental, socio-cultural and economic impacts. It also shows how these impacts, in reality, are frequently multifaceted, and this section also sets tourism in a wider socio-economic context.

The third section discusses and critically evaluates four major issues facing tourism, but where, in some cases, tourism is also a significant contributor to these issues. Global development, climate change and crises and disasters are the topics discussed at length, with each the focus of a separate chapter. The final chapter investigates the relationship between the aims of conserving landscape, and allowing recreation and tourism uses, through a discussion of protected areas.

The need to manage tourism is the major concern of two of the chapters in the fourth section of the book, one of which considers the nature of tourism planning and management and the other is focused on an evaluation of concepts of sustainability and sustainable tourism. The final chapter presents, for critical analysis, a number of possible scenarios for the future direction of tourism.

