



Tourism, Urban Culture and Local Development

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

31 August 2024

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The rapid and sustained growth of tourism has had an uneven impact on cities, countries, and regions around the world, but there are today few places left on the planet that are not subject to what the sociologist John Urry refers to as the "tourist gaze." Photo-clicking tourists can now be found just about everywhere, including in war zones, the most remote rainforests, far beneath the surface of the Earth's oceans and seas, and even in outer space. Indeed, given the development and growth of space tourism, the tourism industry can now be said to have transcended the moniker of a global industry.

For this special edition of *Societies*, the editors are seeking theoretically informed articles that highlight the many links among tourism, culture, and local economic development. Individual case studies of specific neighborhoods, cities, regions, or countries are welcome, as are those that underline the dilemmas local officials may face as they attempt to harness the benefits of tourism while minimizing the industry's more problematic effects.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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