

BOOK REVIEW

Understanding and Managing Tourism Impacts: An Integrated Approach

by

C. Michael Hall and Alan A Lew
(Routledge London – 2009)

Reviewed by John Barnes¹

This book is both a synthesis of an update of Alister Mathieson and Geoff Wall's *Tourism: Economic, Physical and Social Impacts* (1982) and C. Michael Hall's experience in public policy and global perspective on environmental, economic and social change to create an outline that attempts to: (1) Encompass tourism-related impacts at different geographic scales and (2) recognizes the complexity and interrelatedness of tourism-related change-inducing forces.

Understanding and Managing Tourism Impacts; an Integrated Approach is comprehensive, yet compact. The volume comprises 365 pages and is divided into 7 chapters; each beginning with a short list of learning objectives for that chapter. Each chapter is supported with numerous photographs, tables, charts, and several short cases provide students the opportunity to apply the theory contained in each chapter and discuss the application in small groups within class. Each chapter ends with a Summary, Conclusion, End of chapter questions prompt student deeper enquiry and check understanding of the chapter material. Finally, each chapter concludes with a list of suggested further reading.

This book is clearly the work of dedicated tourism academics; C. Michael Hall is Professor of social and services marketing and tourism at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand and a Visiting Professor at Baltic Business School, Kalmar University and Docent in the department of Geography, University of Oulu and co-editor of the journal *Current Issues in Tourism*.

Alan A. Lew is Professor in the Department of Geography, Planning and Recreation at Northern Arizona University, where he teaches geography, urban planning and tourism development. He is editor-in-chief of the journal *Tourism Geographies*.

1. John Barnes, Ph.D. lectures at Assumption University, Graduate School of Business.

This book explores a wide variety of topics covering the macro or broad perspective of tourism impacts.

The front of the book contains an extensive index of photographs, Figures, Case Studies and a list of Acronyms. Other chapter titles are:

- Chapter 1, *Introduction: Conceptualizing Tourism* (pages 1-410);
- Chapter 2, *Understanding Impacts* (pages 42-85);
- Chapter 3, *Tourism and its Economic Impacts* (pages 86-140);
- Chapter 4, *Tourism and its Socio cultural Impacts* (pages 141-185);
- Chapter 5, *Tourism and its Physical Environmental Impacts* (pages 186-228)
- Chapter 6, *Planning and Managing Tourism Impacts* (pages 229-283)
- Chapter 7, *Futures of Tourism* (pages 284-328)
- References, (pages 329-358)
- Index, (pages 359-365)

This book is commended to you as a useful resource at both the Tourism MBA and PhD HTM levels of study both in terms of theory application through case study and for the valuable end of chapter suggested list of additional readings.