



Newsletter of the International Association for Tourism Economics

Vol. 3, No 2, 05 February 2020

Message from the President

Welcome to 2020!

It is a pleasure for me to write the first words in the first newsletter of our Association in a new decade. I am excited about the new year and decade and the initiatives we have to strengthen the association.

When Haiyan Song and I were elected in sharing the presidency for the term 2017-2021, we shared a vision to expand IATE and improve the value we offer to our members. This speaks directly towards the aims of IATE, in particular (i) to improve communication and contacts between teachers, researchers and students in tourism economics all over the world, and (ii) to develop and encourage cooperation between university-level teaching institutions and research institutions.

The development of the quarterly newsletter was one of the main instruments through which we aimed to increase communication and visibility of the association. With the assistance of Mondher Sahli, the newsletter is widely distributed and information is shared among members of the association as well as other private and public institutions. I trust that all of you will continue to contribute to the newsletter to strengthen the tourism economics community and I am thankful to Serena Volo who is taking over responsibility in compiling the newsletter.

Our second main instrument through which we reach the aims of our association is the bi-annual conference. While the conference is only scheduled for next year, we are

already in the preparation phase, with the proposals of universities to host the conference due end of January 2020. We are happy to inform you that a number of universities have indicated their intention to host the 2021 IATE conference. Once all the proposals have been received, the IATE council will vote to determine the winning proposal and the decision will be communicated to you as soon as the results are available.

Since it is not a conference year, IATE also supports workshops and other events hosted by members that address the aims of our association. We urge you to take part in these initiatives, which are often advertised in the newsletters. We also welcome proposals and can offer support for these events in terms of limited sponsorships and/or association with IATE. We are especially excited to see that there is an increase in activities in regions where we hope to grow interest in our association.

A number of other initiatives are also taking shape with the assistance of members of council, such as increasing our industry partners and improving the relevance of the association to practitioners, as well as improving the website. We are thankful for the continued support that we receive from Tourism Economics (Sage) and the STR SHARE Center and we believe that we add value to them through our activities.

I trust that you are just as excited about the new decade and the future of IATE! I am looking forward to working with and for you over the next two years.

Andrea Saayman
IATE President
North-West University, South Africa

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News from the journal, Tourism Economics

Thea Sinclair Award for Journal Excellence – We are pleased to announce that the winner of the Thea Sinclair Award for Journal Article Excellence 2019, for papers published in 2018 is: ‘Geographical mapping of visitor flow in tourism: A user-generated content Approach’, written by Ljubica Knezevic Cvelbar, Mojca Mayr and Damjan Vavpotic (Volume 24, Issue 6, September 2018, pp. 701–719).

February 2020 issue – The latest issue of Tourism Economics includes the following topics:

- Regional economic development and tourism
- Taiwan’s opening policy to Chinese tourism
- Fuel prices at petrol stations in touristic cities
- Tourism receipts and the associated risks
- ICT, infrastructure and tourism development in Africa
- Voluntary contributions and mixed pricing strategies in museums
- Significance bias in the tourism-led growth literature
- The economic value and determinants of tourists’ counterfeit purchases
- The influence of foreign institutional investors, institutional directors and the share pledge ratio of directors on financial performance of tourism firms.

As usual, we would like to thank all contributors, in particular the IATE members, and we look forward to receiving your future submissions!

Albert Assaf and Raffaele Scuderi
TOURISM ECONOMICS
<https://journals.sagepub.com/home/teu>

Call for Papers

Special issue of Tourism Economics

**Advances in tourism economics: the 7th
International Conference of IATE**

DEADLINE EXTENSION

Guest Editors:

**Natalia Porto, Universidad de la Plata
(Argentina)**

**Vicente Ramos, Universidad de las Islas
Baleares (Spain)**

Call for papers

SAGE pub. will publish a special issue of Tourism Economics, including a selection of papers presented at the 7th Biennial Conference of the International Association for Tourism Economics (IATE), held at Universidad de la Plata, Argentina, 3-6 September 2019.

Submissions are open and limited to contributions accepted and presented at the IATE 2019 Conference.

Since the special issue is only one among the many possibilities for seeking publication out of the Conference, we encourage authors with multiple papers presented at La Plata to limit their submissions to only one paper per author.

Submission guidelines

Full papers must be submitted online through the SAGE Publication system at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/teu>.

Please select “Special Issue: IATE 2019 conference” for your submission. Full author publication guidelines may be found at <https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/tourism-economics/journal202562#submission-guidelines>.

All full papers submitted will be referred through a double-blind review process. Based on the reviewers’ recommendation, the editors will decide whether a particular submission should be accepted as it is, revised and re-submitted, or rejected. Submission implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

Schedule

The tentative schedule for submission, review, and publication is:

- Submission of full papers **EXTENDED TO MARCH 17th**;
- Completion of the review process by **September 3, 2020**;
- Tentative publication date: **early-mid 2021**. (All accepted papers will be published as Online First, before being inserted in an issue).

Natalia Porto
Universidad de la Plata, Argentina
Vicente Ramos
Universidad de las Islas Baleares, Spain

Global hospitality industry overview

The hotel performance reports for 2019 are currently available from STR. In this newsletter, the 2019 developments in four regions of the world are shared with the IATE community.

Asia-Pacific

According to STR data, hotels in the Asia Pacific region reported negative results in the three key performance metrics during 2019. The following statistics summarise the Asia-Pacific performances:

- Occupancy: -1.3% to 69.3%
- Average daily rate (ADR): -2.0% to US\$98.73
- Revenue per available room (RevPAR): -3.2% to US\$68.38

Sydney performance had been trending downward for most of the year, largely due to a combination of a growth in supply (+2.0%) accompanied by an overall flat demand and the devastating bushfires in Australia that created an added burden on performance. The worst drop in December RevPAR occurred in Sydney Drive Regional (-29.5%), a submarket within a two-hour-drive radius of Greater Sydney.

Delhi recorded its fifth consecutive year of RevPAR growth, and the absolute occupancy level was the market’s highest for any year since 2007. STR analysts point to a 7.1% jump in demand as the driver of that performance.

Central/South America

Hotels in the Central/South America region reported positive performance results during 2019.

The following statistics summarise Central/South America performances:

- Occupancy: +1.2% to 58.8%
- Average daily rate (ADR): +8.0% to US\$96.25
- Revenue per available room (RevPAR): +9.3% to US\$56.55

STR analysts note that Rio de Janeiro hotels are recovering from lower levels of performance in the time that followed the 2016 Summer Olympics. A number of international events also helped boost Rio's performance throughout the year. Bogotá records highest occupancy level since 2013, also helped by events, but negatively affected by hosting the local and regional elections.

Europe

Europe's hotel industry reported positive results in the three key performance metrics during 2019, respectively:

- Occupancy: +0.4% to 72.2%
- Average daily rate (ADR): +1.8% to EUR 113.36
- Revenue per available room (RevPAR): +2.2% to EUR 81.90

Top performers in 2019 were Saint Petersburg and Tel Aviv, achieving respectively the highest hotel occupancy of the decade and a record-breaking RevPAR level. According to the Israeli Ministry of Tourism, the country welcomed in 2019 more than 4.55 million tourists registering an 11% increase from 2018.

Middle East and Africa

Hotels in the Middle East reported mixed 2019 performance results, while hotels in Africa posted positive results across the three key performance metrics.

Middle East

- Occupancy: +2.3% to 66.2%
- Average daily rate (ADR): -7.2% to US\$143.70
- Revenue per available room (RevPAR): 5.1% to US\$95.09

Africa

- Occupancy: +1.1% to 61.3%
- Average daily rate (ADR): +1.5% to US\$109.33
- Revenue per available room (RevPAR): +2.6% to US\$67.01

STR analysts note that protests and subsequent political turmoil in Lebanon negatively affected performance near the end of the year and pulled down total-year numbers in the market.

STR analysts note that double-digit demand growth in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt (+10.3%) was coupled with flat supply comparisons, continuing the consistent occupancy growth and lifting pricing confidence.

For more information, contact the STR SHARE Center, sharecenter@str.com.

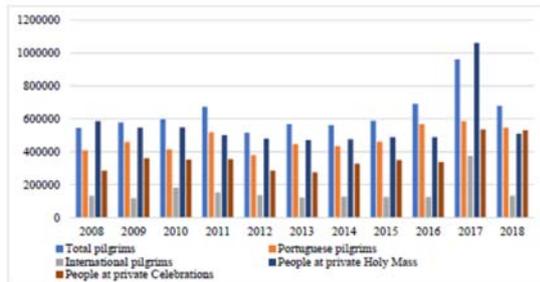
Steve Hood
Smith Travel Research
<https://str.com/>

Research projects to follow

The highlight of Marian religious tourism in Portugal

In recent years, Portugal has experienced a rise in the tourism sector. According to data from the Portuguese government, in 2018, there was a growth of over 18% in revenues from travel and tourism activities. In this scenario, religious tourism in the country stands out. In the search for more visibility, Portugal has intensified its policies aimed at tourism. The Portuguese government has implemented action plans aimed at the country's tourism development, which have helped its international visibility. In 2019 Portugal earned the World Travel Awards for the best tourist destination in the world and was highlighted as the best official tourism organisation.

In religious tourism, much is said about pilgrims and religious tourists. Belucio and Fuinhas (2019) emphasise that believers and unbelievers can make tourist-religious visits. Among the official information of the Shrine Fatima are the number of pilgrims (Portuguese and foreigners), which can be seen in the following figure.



The statistical data of the Portuguese shrine refer to official pilgrims; that is, those who register with the Pilgrim Service of the Shrine of Fatima.

To follow: Between February and March 2020, the Shrine of Fatima regularly provides a compilation of statistical data for the previous year. The data are available on the official website <https://www.fatima.pt/en/>

Further reading: Belucio, M., & Fuinhas, J. A. (2019). Fatores que influenciam as visitas turístico-religiosas ao Santuário de Fátima: uma perspectiva econômica. *Estudos de Religião*, 33(2), 159-180.

Matheus Belucio
University of Coimbra, Portugal
Manoela Nogueira
University of Beira Interior, Portugal
José Alberto Fuinhas
University of Coimbra, Portugal

Upcoming events

Europe

**THE 4TH HOSPITALITY FINANCE &
 ECONOMICS CONFERENCE**
24–25 June 2020
Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne,
Switzerland

CALL FOR PAPERS

The **Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL), Switzerland**, invites you to submit papers to be considered for presentation at its **4th Hospitality Finance & Economics Conference**. We welcome submissions from all areas related to general finance, real estate, and economics. In addition, hospitality - or tourism - focused papers are encouraged. This selective, high quality conference will ensure an informal atmosphere conducive to open and lively discussions and offer a platform for academics and practitioners alike. All papers will be reviewed by the scientific committee. Presenters of accepted papers agree to act as discussants.

Deadline for abstract submission:
 February 15, 2020

Abstracts must be submitted at:
<https://easychair.org/account/signin?l=FUjHQXhTAR5Pq7HZPpqvcl#>

Yong Chen
Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne,
Switzerland

**12th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON ISLAND TOURISM 2020 ICIT
1-4 July 2020
Catania, Sicily – ITALY**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

OTIE is pleased to announce the **12th OTIE International Conference on Islands Tourism – 2020 (ICIT)**, which will be held in **Catania, Sicily (Italy) from 1 to 4 July 2020**.

The OTIE's 2020 12th International Conference on Island Tourism will promote the scientific and technical exchange between international academics and experts on insular contexts in order to discuss efficient strategies for insular development by promoting a wide-ranging cooperation. This conference is part of the Island Economy Working Group – IEWG, which aims to encourage the institution of an International Network of Island Contexts.

Papers and presentations will address both the theoretical, methodological and practical aspects related to various themes, including: Business cooperation, Branding, Planning, Impacts, Policy, Climate changes, Seasonality, Religious, Events, Local development, Transport, Nautical, Cruise tourism, Relational, Accessibility, Sustainable Development, Industry, Innovation, Big data, Culture, Language, Geography, Dark, Movie, Volcanoes.

Deadline for abstract submission:
March 30, 2020

Expressions of interest & abstracts must be submitted by mail to: research@otie.org

For more information visit <http://www.otie.org/events.html> or contact research@otie.org

Patrizia Calò and Giovanni Ruggieri
OTIE
<http://www.otie.org/>

South America

**12TH WORKSHOP TOURISM:
ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT
TOURISTS AS CONSUMERS, VISITORS
AND TRAVELERS**

Innovation in the tourism sector

4-5 June 2020

Universidade Federal

Fluminense

Niterói – Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 12th edition of the workshop on **“Tourism: Economics and Management. Tourists as Consumers, Visitors and Travelers”**: **Innovation in the tourism sector** aims to provide a platform for experienced scholars in tourism and allied fields. The purpose of the workshop is to build a network between young scholars and experts contributing to the research agenda from tourism and transport economics points of view. Most welcome are contributions from scholars in social sciences – particularly economics and management, as well as practitioners concerned with spatial modelling, tourism economic behaviour (transportation and travelling in tourism) and perspectives into tools and frameworks for tourism. This edition of the workshop will be particularly concentrated on the topic “Innovation in Tourism” and on presenting works related to the development of strategies to boost the business environment.

Workshop themes: Business environment and tourism economic growth, Impacts of innovation on tourism economics, Big data in tourism management and research, behavioural economics and tourism, Economic modelling of tourism.

Deadline for abstract submission:
April 15, 2020

Expressions of interest & abstracts must be submitted by mail to: elbrida@gmail.com

For more information visit <https://tourismeconomicsandmanagement.wordpress.com/>

Verônica Mayer
Universidade Federal Fluminense
Brazil

Publications and other information shared

NEW EDITION TOURISM ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Larry Dwyer, Peter Forsyth and Wayne Dwyer

Hello IATE members. A happy 2020 to all.

A new edition of the textbook Tourism Economics and Policy by Larry Dwyer, Peter Forsyth and Wayne Dwyer, has just been published by Channel View Publications, UK. As well as addressing the standard topics in tourism economics (supply, demand, pricing, economic impacts, investment, taxation, valuing the environment etc.), we have done our best to incorporate new approaches and ideas influencing tourism economics and policy. As examples, this edition contains discussions of the implications of the sharing economy, affecting industry structure in accommodation and transport, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) techniques that are being increasingly employed in tourism forecasting. The chapter on tourism transport devotes more attention to surface and marine transport, than in the first edition, while the chapter on destination competitiveness now devotes much more

attention to resident quality of life issues. The revised edition also adds material that addresses gaps in the first edition. Additional chapters include the Price Mechanism, Economic Contribution of Tourism, Tourism and Economic Growth and Tourism and Sustainable Development (that relies on many of the theses of ecological economics). The book remains an accessible text for students, researchers and practitioners in tourism economics and policy. Channel View Publications has a special 50% discount offer. Please see the publisher blurb. For all information, please contact your bookstore or the publisher directly. I am just the messenger.

Best wishes to all, and happy reading. Larry

Channel View Publications, Channel View Publications Ltd/Multilingual Matters - Bristol, UK
<http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?K=9781845417345>

Authors' information

Larry Dwyer is Visiting Research Professor at University of Technology, Sydney, Australia. He is also Adjunct Professor at Griffith University, Australia and University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Peter Forsyth is Adjunct Professor, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

Wayne Dwyer is a former Senior Lecturer in Economics and Finance at the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

Larry Dwyer
Griffith University
Australia

CBTS2019 Congratulations to award winners

The 12th edition of CBTS, Consumer Behavior in Tourism Symposium, which was held in Bruneck (Italy), in December 2019 gathered about 70 international scholars working in the field of “Emotions in Tourism Research” discussing theoretical and applied research and reflecting on methodological approaches.

Our congratulations go to the Best Conference Paper Awards recipients:

Elli Vento and Raija Komppula, University of Eastern Finland, Finland. Paper presentation: *Effects of a social holiday from the perspective of a social holiday participant.*

Eva Vroegop and Rico Maggi, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland. Paper presentation: *Post-vacation trip emotions? It is about smileys.*

Serena Volo and Oswin Maurer
Free University of Bozen
Italy

A note from the editors

Thanks to all our contributors! We call on all of you to keep sending news, updates, research projects, conference and other calls to include in the IATE newsletter. These can be sent to Serena Volo (Serena.Volo@unibz.it) and/or Mondher Sahli (Mondher.Sahli@vuw.ac.nz).