

Adventure tourism: environmental impacts and management

by David Huddart and Tim Stott, Cham, Springer Nature (Palgrave Macmillan), 2020, pp. +490., 54,99 € (Softcover), ISBN: 978-3-030-18622-7; 46,00 € (e-book), ISBN: 978-3-030-18623-4

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BOOK REVIEW

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The book, entitled *Adventure Tourism: Environmental Impacts and Management*, authored by David Huddart and Tim Stott, provides a collection of book chapters on the different aspects of adventure tourism. The two authors offer very informative and comprehensive managerial recommendations for practitioners related to adventure tourism emphasizing on how to reduce its adverse impacts on the environment. The text will be extremely helpful for students and academics in tourism, ecology, outdoor education, natural resource management, and geography disciplines. In more than 490 pages, the book comprises 13 chapters supported by 204 colourful figures and 45 tables.

Chapter 1 includes a broad overview of the subject of adventure tourism, its categories, the trends and demands, and some other types of tourism with the same characteristics. Chapter 2 deals with Antarctic tourism and the impact of adventure tourism activities on the environment, such as the breeding and survival of the penguins, behavioural modification of whales and seal population. The chapter also discusses the role of tour operators in the management of the destination. Chapter 3 refers to the adventure tourism activities that are carried out in the Arctic islands of Svalbard and Iceland along with their environmental impacts; it also explains the impact of climate change on Svalbard tourism. Furthermore, adventure tourism activities in Iceland are described through their historical development with the possible environmental impacts of these activities on the destination. Some important environment-related managerial suggestions were also offered for Svalbard and Iceland to reduce negative impacts of adventure tourism. In a similar way, Chapter 4, 5, 6 and 7 deal with the impacts of adventure tourism on some regions within the Arctic circle such as the Russian and Canadian Arctic, Greenland, and Alaska.

Chapter 8 deals with adventure tourism in the Himalayas by providing details on the environmental impacts related to tourism, such as erosion on the trail, waste issues, non-native plants, deforestation, and so on. The authors emphasized that effective measures should be taken to manage adventure tourism activities, such as restricting some tourism activities, setting up committees run by locals to address environmental issues, providing environmental education to locals and tourists, developing some institutional arrangements, and listing several ethics code of conducts for tourists to avoid environmental degradation. Chapter 9 considers the adventure tourist attractions of the countries within the borders of the Andes. The possible

adverse environmental impacts are discussed based on the existing literature review as there is not enough research on the ecological impacts of adventure tourists' activities. The authors suggested that adventure tourism can be considered as a source of financial support to conserve the protected areas in the region.

Chapter 10 deals with East Africa and presents some case studies related to the impacts of adventure tourism on soil and vegetation. It is suggested that ecotourism-based adventure activities should be practice in East Africa to ensure wildlife protection. Chapter 11 discusses the environmental impacts of adventure tourism activities in Australia and New Zealand. Furthermore, Chapter 12 deals with adventure tourism activities in Scotland's mountains. The implications of climate change for some types of adventure tourism activities (such as coastal adventure tourism, mountaineering, skiing and snowboarding), which depend closely on the weather, snow, sea level, or ice conditions, were successfully covered in the final chapter. It has been mentioned that the ski industry is perhaps the most vulnerable to climate change among all adventure tourism activities as they reduce both natural snow cover and opportunities for snowmaking.

As to the strengths of this book, authors compiled a diverse collection of the environmental impacts of adventure tourism on a global scale and contribute with up-to-date material on the adventure tourism literature. The previous works so far have covered definitions, typologies, marketing from the demand and supply side, management and future direction with a brief discussion on sustainability, environment management and, the environmental impacts of adventure tourism (Buckley, 2006, 2010; Jenkins, 2019; Swarbrooke et al., 2003). However, details about the environmental impacts of adventure tourism within a regional context are limited in all prior studies. Hence, this book makes a major contribution to the literature because of its strong suggestions for the management of adventure tourism on a global scale. This perspective allows us to see how destinations can be better managed and how the negative environmental impacts of adventure tourism can be mitigated. This book also includes a good collection of thoughts on adventure tourism by some eminent scholars in outdoor recreation.

The authors should be applauded for presenting and discussing the environmental impacts of adventure tourism by providing managerial suggestions for destination managers in a global context. Since environmental impacts of adventure tourism are mostly caused by tourists, a comprehensive discussion on tourist behaviour could add more value to the book. Similarly, a separate chapter on sustainable destination management strategies, a preface and a conclusion could be added to make the structure of book more logical. There are some minor niggles with this volume that authors may consider in the next edition. Preface would have been very helpful for readers to have had a brief information what

they will encounter in the book. Moreover, readers could have a clear inference with a conclusion by authors after reading the whole book. Given the shared price point of other books targeting the adventure tourism, this book seems a little expensive owing to multiple coloured illustrations in each chapter. Except for Chapter 1 which carries only text, all the remaining chapters have multiple illustrations (Chapter 11 contains 50 colourful figures) adding to its cost.

Each chapter is well discussed and evaluated in terms of how destination can minimize the negative environmental impacts of numerous adventure tourism activities in their respective regions. Overall, the book presents a very useful and comprehensive reference literature on adventure tourism and recreation industry. This will be definitely of great help for those who have interest in adventure tourism by any means.

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