



BOOK REVIEW

Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism

Maximiliano E. Korstanje, Hugues Seraphin & Vanessa Gowreesunkar (eds). Palm Bay, CRC & Apple Academic Press, 2024.

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Biographical note: Dr. Peter E. Tarlow is a world-renowned speaker and expert specializing in the impact of crime and terrorism on the tourism industry, event and tourism risk management, and tourism and economic development. Since 1990, Tarlow has been aiding the tourism community with issues such as travel safety and security, economic development, creative marketing, and creative thought.

1 INTRODUCTION

Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism is not just another anthology dealing with the post Covid-19 tourism world. This is a book that goes far beyond twenty-first century's greatest challenge and takes us into not only the realm of the what-was but also the realm of what-might-be. It is a look into the apparent and the hidden behind the apparent.

Maximiliano Korstanje, Hugues Seraphin, and Vanessa GB Gowreesunkar are the book's editor. The fact that the book's editors represent three distinct and different parts of the world, give this work not only an international flavor, but helps the reader to understand tourism from a global perspective.

Korstanje, who is one of Latin America's leading academic tourism scholars, sets the book's tone by moving past disaster management to recovery management. One of the important aspects of Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism is that it combines the best of both the applied world of tourism with the principles and insights of academic. As Korstanje notes: "the present book, explores a third way of filling the gap between the theory product by Academia and the necessities of the sector. The authors who took part in this book are well-versed scholars who worked as experts in post-disaster and post-conflict tourism" (page xiv)

This third-way of viewing tourism recovery and resiliency is essential for a field that is too often divided between the practical and the theoretical, and whose practitioners on both sides of the applied-theoretical divide often fail to communicate effectively with each other. In Post-Disaster

and Post-Conflict Tourism the reader will find that the authors took the time to provide clear definitions of even what many believe to be common terminology, and thus assure effective and precise communication. For example, throughout the book we find that terms such as disaster are not only addressed but clearly defined.

Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism and goes beyond what is now becoming the all too mundane Covid-19 recovery book. Instead, it seeks to address many of the underlying problems within an industry dedicated not merely to travel but also to helping its clients move beyond world, national, and personal disasters. The book helps us to understand how in a world plagued by disasters we can still find the joie-de-vivre that makes life worth living. To accomplish such a goal, readers need to go beyond the superficial and combine capitalism's need for profit with the ethics of an industry that often borders on the verge of economic failure. One of the book's strengths is its ability to address these challenges by examining the ethics of post disaster marketing and expanding its scope to tourism's pre-visit stages. Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism helps its readers better understand that tourism is such a multilayered industry, and as David Emile Durkheim would have us understand tourism cannot be studied as a series of independent parts but must rather it must be viewed as the complex interlocking system that it is. In reading Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Tourism we come to understand that not to do so misses the industry's complexity and its influence that reaches every aspect of society. Scholars and practitioners alike will benefit from reading this book and the book's editors are to be congratulated for a job well-done.



Once again, the editors and authors are to be congratulated for aiding tourism scholars not only now but also in the future to come.

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