



## Impacts of COVID-19 on Tourism

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (31 January 2024)**

### **Message from the Guest Editors**

The COVID-19 pandemic created an unprecedented shock to the tourism sector. Before the pandemic, tourism was one of the main sources of economic growth and job creation. Tourism was among the first sectors affected by the pandemic; due to the travel restrictions, limited availability of services (e.g., restaurant and hotel closures), social distancing, the broader economic problems caused by the pandemic and the perceived travel risks have led to the fall of tourist arrivals worldwide. The crisis has put millions of businesses and jobs at risk and caused macro-economic problems as well. The availability of vaccines made the pandemic more or less manageable, but the crisis is not over yet; new virus variants emerge, and the vaccination levels are varying across populations. Thus, the future of the tourism sector remains uncertain.

- changing travel preferences and patterns
- national, regional and local policies supporting the survival and recovery of tourism
- crisis management in tourism
- planning and forecasting in tourism
- analysis of tourism indicators
- innovative data sources and analysis
- innovations in tourism in relation to the pandemic





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**Journal Rank:** JCR - Q2 (*Environmental Studies*) / CiteScore - Q1 (Geography, Planning and Development)

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