

Special Issue

Rethinking Destination Planning Through Sustainable Local Development

Message from the Guest Editors

Tourism destination planning began in the mid-20th century with a focus on infrastructure improvement, business development, and marketing. However, since the mid-2010s, the role of destination planning has evolved to encompass a wide range of issues including environmental sustainability, innovation, culture, and social equity. In addition, the climate crisis and building resilience for destinations have become critical components of effective tourism planning. One of the most significant theoretical implications of this evolution is the shift towards a more integrated approach to tourism planning. This suggests that existing theories that have historically considered tourism planning in isolation need to be re-evaluated and possibly expanded. There is now a clear need to consider tourism planning within the broader context of sustainability and local development. This will enrich the interdisciplinary nature of the field. Furthermore, tailored approaches to different types of destinations are needed to make tourism planning flexible and adaptable to the unique challenges and opportunities of each destination.

Guest Editors

Dr. Efthymia Sarantakou

Department of Tourism Management, University of West Attica, Egaleo, Greece

Dr. Alkmini Gkritzali

Department of Tourism, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece

Dr. Sotirios Varelas

Department of Tourism Studies, University of Piraeus, Piraeus, Greece

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2025)



Tourism and Hospitality

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

CiteScore 3.7



mdpi.com/si/217833

Tourism and Hospitality
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
tourismhosp@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
tourismhosp](https://mdpi.com/journal/tourismhosp)





Tourism and Hospitality

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

CiteScore 3.7



[mdpi.com/journal/
tourismhosp](https://mdpi.com/journal/tourismhosp)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

I am honored to serve as Editor-in-Chief of *Tourism and Hospitality*, a platform for sharing insights, trends, and solutions to global challenges in our industry. We welcome relevant, evidence-based, and forward-thinking research that fosters a sustainable and resilient future. I look forward to collaborating with our team and authors to make the journal engaging, inclusive, and impactful.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lewis Ting On Cheung

York Business School, York St. John University, York, UK

Author Benefits

Open Access

– free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, EBSCO, and other databases.

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 5.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).