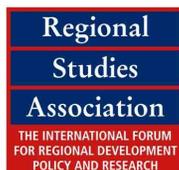


An international workshop of the Regional Studies Association Research Network on Tourism and Regional Development, supported by the GLOBATUR project (CSO2011-23004/GEOG):



# Evolution and transformation in tourism destinations: Revitalisation through innovation?



**Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia**  
**Vila-seca Campus, 10-13<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

*Organised by the Research Group on Territorial Analysis and Tourism Studies of the Department of Geography, Faculty of Tourism and Geography, Rovira i Virgili University*

## Call for Papers

This RSA research network workshop in Catalonia, Spain, aims to discuss the ways in which established tourism destinations might become spaces where social innovation and regional development progress through revitalisation, as well as how the development of global responsible tourism policies might be fostered in this process. Within the meeting programme / content, we would seek to:

- \* evaluate the role of revitalisation policies on the economic competitiveness of destinations;
- \* study the responses that these policies elicit when faced with the challenges of global change
- \* identify and evaluate potential impacts of the broader residential mobility associated with tourism activity.

Well-established tourism destinations are now tending to acquire new economic, social and cultural functions, whilst simultaneously turning into places for innovation and urban development. In turn, they are generating new opportunities for the regions where they are located, and even facing new risks derived from the dynamics of global change, making this a highly pertinent area for research. As such, this RSA network event also aims to place tourism destination revitalisation at the core of the debate on the effects of globalisation and its limitations at different scales.

This workshop-style meeting is part of a series of RSA events on tourism and regional development, which aim to examine tourism diversity from the perspective of regional development in order to identify current challenges and opportunities in a systematic manner, and hence provide the basis for a more well-informed integration of tourism in regional development strategies and move beyond political short-termism and buzzword fascination. The Catalonia workshop is the first of three planned (including the Reggio Calabria, Italy in late 2014 and Budapest, Hungary in the spring of 2015). The Tourism and Regional Development research network is now well-established as a meeting place for people with an interest in issues relating to tourism in a regional development perspective.



Within this context, the RSA workshop in Catalonia welcomes paper presentations on tourism evolution and regional development topics, including:

- Evolutionary approaches to tourism development and policy
- Innovation, destination development and economic / spatial transformation processes
- Destination governance (i.e. public-private partnerships, policy networks, destination management organisations, clusters and innovation systems)
- Creativity as a transformative strategy
- Political economy of tourism and regional development
- Cultural approaches to tourism and regional development
- The position of tourism in overall strategies and plans for local and regional development
- Tourism destinations and attractiveness for new residents and new economic sub-sectors
- Cross-sector analyses: synergetic inter-linkages between tourism and related sectors, such as the creative industries, smart manufacturing and advanced services.

Papers are also invited on any other aspect of tourism and regional development.

The workshop is open to academic researchers and practitioners at any career stage with an interest in tourism and regional development. It is organised by [GRATET](#) (Research Group on Territorial Analysis and Tourism Studies) at the Faculty of Tourism and Geography of the Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia and is partially supported by the GLOBALTUR project (funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness). The workshop will take place at the Vila-seca Campus of the Rovira i Virgili University beginning with the opening plenary late afternoon on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February, and end at noon Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

This Catalonia workshop takes place in one of the major tourism regions on the Mediterranean coast – the Costa Daurada (45-60 minutes from Barcelona by train) – home to a number of major beach resorts (e.g. Salou, Cambrils, Vila-seca), historic cities (e.g. Tarragona, Reus, Tortosa), wine regions (e.g. Priorat, Montsant, Terra Alta, Tarragona, Penedès, Conca de Barberà), artistic heritage towns (linked to Picasso, Miró, Gaudí and Pau Casals) and natural parks (e.g. the Ebre River Delta, Montsant, Ports).

**Abstracts (300 words maximum)** should be submitted to

Dr Julie Wilson at [Julie.Wilson@urv.cat](mailto:Julie.Wilson@urv.cat)  
Deadline: **10<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

Details of the scientific and organizing committees will follow shortly. Abstracts will be blind-reviewed by at least two members of the scientific committee.

#### **About the RSA Research Network on Tourism and Regional Development**

The *Regional Studies Association Research Network on Tourism and Regional Development* is supported financially by the Regional Studies Association and is organised by

Henrik Halkier, Aalborg University, Denmark - [halkier@ihis.aau.dk](mailto:halkier@ihis.aau.dk)  
Marek Kozak, University of Warsaw, Poland - [m.w.kozak@uw.edu.pl](mailto:m.w.kozak@uw.edu.pl)

#### **Student Bursaries**

The RSA has kindly provided bursaries of up to 200 euros to support travel of postgraduate students or other delegates with limited financial means of their own in order to encourage as wide a participation in the working group as possible.

#### **Fees**

Attendants will be charged a fee (around 100€, to be confirmed) to cover refreshments (coffee breaks, lunch) during the event, but postgraduate students may attend for free (coffee breaks included, lunch not included). There will also be an optional dinner event.

#### **Publications**

Following this workshop, the intention is to produce one or more publications, in the form of special issues of peer reviewed journals or edited books.

#### **Registration**

The registration form will soon be available to download from the **workshop website**, along with details of how to pay the workshop fee.

## **Additional information:**

#### **Venue:**

The workshop will take place at (or close to) the URV campus in the town of Vila-seca, which is easily reached by train or bus from Tarragona, Reus and Barcelona.

**Address:** Faculty of Tourism and Geography, Rovira i Virgili University Vila-seca campus, C. Joanot Martorell 15, 43480 Vila-seca, Catalonia (tel 0034 977395294)

**Map of the venue:** <http://www.urv.cat/localitzacio/14/facultat-de-turisme-i-geografia>

**Accommodation** – more details to follow, a special rate will become available at participating hotels.

#### **Travel to the workshop venue**

The closest airport to the Costa Daurada is REUS, which is served principally by Ryanair. BARCELONA airport is approximately 1.5 hours away and is also a good option.

#### **Reus Airport**

<http://www.aena-aeropuertos.es/csee/Satellite/Aeropuerto-Reus/en/Home.html>

#### **Barcelona Airport**

[www.aena-aeropuertos.es/csee/Satellite/Aeropuerto-Barcelona/en/Home.html](http://www.aena-aeropuertos.es/csee/Satellite/Aeropuerto-Barcelona/en/Home.html)

**Trains** to Vila-seca from Tarragona, Reus or Barcelona  
<http://www.renfe.com/EN/viajeros/index.html>

**Buses** to Vila-seca from Tarragona or Reus  
[http://autocaresplana.pesvalencia.com/servicios\\_linea.asp?i=1](http://autocaresplana.pesvalencia.com/servicios_linea.asp?i=1)

**Taxi** Radio Taxi Vila-seca (0034) 977393911

#### **About the host**

##### **GRATET – Research Group on Socio-spatial Analysis and Tourism Studies**

The research group on socio-spatial analysis and tourism studies (Grup de Recerca d'Anàlisi Territorial i Estudis Turístics – GRATET) at the Department of Geography in the Faculty of Tourism and Geography at the Rovira i Virgili University is a consolidated research group supported by the Generalitat de Catalunya (the Catalan Government) under the contract number 2009 SGR 744. The group's research activities are centred on the spatial analysis of social and economic development processes and impacts of tourism. It is led by Dr. Salvador Anton Clavé (salvador.anton@urv.cat) and members are currently working on the major project *Tourism, residential mobility and territorial competitiveness. Local responses to dynamics of global change* (GLOBALTUR / CSO2011-23004) funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness  
[http://www.urv.cat/dgeo/gratet/en\\_index.html](http://www.urv.cat/dgeo/gratet/en_index.html) .

#### **Other links of interest**

Rovira i Virgili University  
[http://www.urv.cat/en\\_index.html](http://www.urv.cat/en_index.html)

Faculty of Tourism and Geography  
[http://www.ftg.urv.cat/en\\_index.html](http://www.ftg.urv.cat/en_index.html)

Department of Geography  
[http://www.urv.cat/dgeo/en\\_index.html](http://www.urv.cat/dgeo/en_index.html)

Catalonia Tourism Info  
<http://www.catalunya.com/?language=en>

Costa Daurada Tourism Info  
[http://www.costadaurada.info/d1/index.php?idioma=EN\\_EN](http://www.costadaurada.info/d1/index.php?idioma=EN_EN)

Vila-seca Tourism Info  
<http://www.lapinedaplatja.info/index.php?idm=en>

Barcelona Tourism Info  
<http://www.barcelonaturisme.com>