

The Future of Dark Tourism: Enlightening New Horizons

Philip R. Stone & Daniel M. Wright (Eds)

An International CALL for Book Chapters

[Channel View Publications and Multilingual Matters](#) (United Kingdom) have commissioned us to compile the **first-ever** book on the **future of dark tourism**. We are very keen for **established, emerging and new scholars** from across the world to **contribute chapters** to this exciting tome.

This edited volume will form part of Channel View Publication's [The Future of Tourism Series](#) (by Drs Ian Yeoman and Una McMahon-Beattie)

If you would like to be part of this book project and to contribute a chapter, then please **contact us** with a **brief bio** and a **synopsis** of your proposed chapter. All contributory chapters should fall with the broad realms of the book's purpose, aims and themes.

Background to the Book

As 'ghosts' of our significant Other dead return to the touristic feast, we are inexplicably drawn to sites of pain and shame. The tourist experience of visiting places of death or encountering the morbid has brought 'dark tourism' into academic and public imaginations. Consequently, the provocative act of travelling to places of fatality can mediate a sense of our own mortality through the stories of people who came before us.

Dark tourism is concerned with remembering (and forgetting) specific deaths, by whom, and how our noteworthy dead are (re)presented in global visitor economies. Sadly, the world is littered with sites of tragedy. Our mistakes and misfortunes are exposed by landscapes of adversity, accidents, and calamity. Of course, visiting and remembering our dead is a cultural phenomenon whereby we attach importance to certain kinds of death. In turn, the dead become significant to the living and give warning of our fragility and fallibility. Yet, dark tourism is challenged by political remembrance, commercialism, and conflict in memorialization, as well as the ethics of

interpretation. Dark tourism is further challenged by culture as well as consumer behaviour and visitor experiences of emotion and affect.

Difficult heritage of the present will be played out within dark tourism of the future. Indeed, future concerns of memory management, conceptions of death and thanatology, technological influences, economics and commodification of atrocity, dissonant heritage and interpretations, politics of remembrance, cross-cultural aspects of mortality, as well as generational visitor experiences of tomorrow, will form some of the key themes, issues, and consequences of this book.

Book Aims & Purpose

Adopting **post-disciplinary futurology** perspectives, this edited book will be the first-ever academic text to critically explore **dark tourism futures**. In so doing, the Editors invite established, emerging, and new scholars from across the world to contribute to a **philosophical** and **scenario-based** volume on the future of global dark tourism.

The target audience would be primarily aimed at international undergraduate and postgraduate students and academics. These may include the subject fields of heritage, museology, sociology, history, philosophy and religion, human geography, thanatology and death studies, cultural studies, futurology, tourism studies, business management, anthropology, and the broader humanities.

The book will be **thematic**, with each book section offering a brief overview of its key themes, as well as individual chapters being stand-a-lone. The book will also offer an introductory chapter by the Editors to provide a rationale and to outline key topics, as well as providing a synthesis of each contributing chapter. An epilogue will close the book. The **purpose** of this book is to **disturb the present** by examining how and why dark tourism can **enlighten the future**.

Indicative Content & Book Structure

Contributing chapters will be from a mix of writers, including the editors, invited scholars, as well as this **CALL for new authors**. The latter is intended to be competitive and selective, and to inject ‘new blood’ into the dark tourism literature base.

The emphasis for selecting authors will be on **global and cross-cultural perspectives**, as well as authors who adopt **imaginative multidisciplinary** approaches. Chapters should be a **blend of conceptual** and/or **case-based studies**, including contributing authors from Asia, Africa, and South America, as well as North America, Europe, and Australasia.

Each chapter should be in the region of **6,000 to 8,000 words** (including a reference list). A chapter abstract is also required (150-200 words). Figures, schematics, and photographs (with relevant permissions) are also encouraged.

A **thematic book structure** will resemble:

Preface

Chapter 1. An Introduction to Dark Tourism Futurology: The Problem of a (Dark) Future

SECTION I Future Making and Origins of Dark Tourism Places

This section will focus on historical accounts of dark tourism to set scenarios for dark tourism futures. The section will consist of two chapters that will critically explore the historical evolution of dark tourism. Consequently, the section will offer critical perspectives on how dark tourism history will shape its future.

Chapter 2. *Title TBC*

Chapter 3. *Title TBC*

SECTION II Dark Tourism and Thanatological Futures

This section will focus on future cross-cultural and societal conceptions of death and the deathbed as underpinning for the treatment of mortality within visitor economy representations. The section will consist of two chapters that will critically evaluate cross-cultural thanatological considerations that will influence the future of dark tourism as the (re)presentation of death in global economies. Consequently, the section will offer critical perspectives on future death mentalities and its fundamental interrelationship with dark tourism.

Chapter 3. *Title TBC*

Chapter 4. *Title TBC*

SECTION III Dark Tourism and Moral Futures

This section will focus on constructing socio-secular mores and mortality and how dark tourism will influence ethics of the experience economy. The section will consist of two chapters that will critically examine how future morality and dark tourism are intertwined – both by cultural shifts and evolving moral paradigms as well as new dark tourism experiences. Consequently, the section will offer philosophical perspectives on future moral boundaries and fundamental ethical relationships with dark tourism.

Chapter 4. *Title TBC*

Chapter 5. *Title TBC*

SECTION IV

Dark Tourism and Remembrance Futures

This section will focus on the future of memory management within dark tourism. The section will consist of two chapters that will critically explore how political conflicts in dissonant heritage(s) may influence the plurality of remembrance and memorialization. Consequently, the section will offer cross-cultural perspectives on the future of remembrance management within dark tourism.

Chapter 6. *Title TBC*

Chapter 7. *Title TBC*

SECTION V

Dark Tourism and Technological Futures

This section will focus on the nature of future interpretation and (re)presentations of dark tourism, with a specific focus on technology. The section will consist of two chapters that will illustrate how technology will impact on the interpretation and the visitor experiences. Consequently, the section will outline how the future of technological forces can portray our significant dead for contemporary consumption.

Chapter 8. *Title TBC*

Chapter 9. *Title TBC*

SECTION VI

Dark Tourism and Commodification Futures

This section will focus on how death and atrocity are commodified and the future role of business in commercialising our significant dead. The section will consist of two chapters that will critically examine the business of future dark tourism. Consequently, the section will examine how commercialisation and commemoration collide, and how the mercantile ‘packaging’ of our noteworthy dead might look in the future.

Chapter 10. *Title TBC*

Chapter 11. *Title TBC*

SECTION VII

Dark Tourism and Future Scenarios

This section will focus on dark tourism and future scenarios. The section will consist of two chapters that will examine potential scenarios that may consist of utopian or dystopian examples. In particular, the section will outline creative and imaginative approaches to future dark tourism across the world, within a variety of technological and experiential approaches.

Chapter 12. *Title TBC*

Chapter 13. *Title TBC*

SECTION VIII Dark Tourism and Future Challenges

This section will focus on future challenges of dark tourism management, including governance, political dilemmas, visitor experiences, and site interpretation. Consequently, the section will highlight future ethical considerations and managerial quandaries, as well as technological questions that dark tourism may encounter.

Chapter 14. *Title TBC*

Chapter 15. *Title TBC*

Epilogue

Timescales & Milestones

- **Register your initial interest** in contributing a chapter by **30 January 2022** (include a 150-word synopsis of your proposed chapter, plus a brief bio and/or CV). State the section of the book where you think your contributing chapter might be best suited. Please email your expression of interest (with attachments) to **Dr Philip Stone at pstone@uclan.ac.uk**
- Successful candidates to be **appointed/notified** by **30 February 2022**.
- **Draft manuscripts** to be submitted to Editors by **30 November 2022**.
- **Revised manuscripts** (after Editor comments) to be submitted by **30 January 2023**.
- **Final manuscript** submitted to Publisher by **30 February 2023**.
- Expected **publication** – **Summer 2023**.

About the Editors

Dr Philip Stone*

Philip is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of 'dark tourism' and 'difficult heritage.' He has published extensively about the subject in the academic literature and has presented his work at conferences across the world. Philip is also a media consultant on dark tourism, with clients including the BBC, CNN, *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and *The Washington Post*. His latest book, the first-ever tourist guidebook dedicated to dark tourism – *111 Dark Tourism Places in England You Shouldn't Miss* (Emons, 2020) – brings dark tourism scholarship to the public market. Philip's forthcoming book will be the first-ever academic text to examine children's experiences of dark tourism and painful heritage – *Dark Tourism and Childhood Encounters* (Routledge, In Press).

Dr Daniel Wright

Daniel has published widely about tourism futures in the academic literature. He uses futurology as a transdisciplinary field of study to forecast, anticipate, and provoke the future of tourism in global visitor economies. Daniel is a member of the Institute for Dark Tourism Research (iDTR), as well as an Editorial Board member for the *Journal of Tourism Futures*. He also teaches tourism futures at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

**Corresponding Editor*

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