

A Month of Adventures: Reimagining a Tourism Future

Adventure Tourism Research Association Webinars

3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th November 2021

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



Regular attendees of ATRA's International Adventure Conference, members of the organisation and those who follow our activities will know that the eighth IAC was due to be held in Queenstown, New Zealand in December 2020, co-hosted with our friends and colleagues at the University of Otago.

2020 was clearly both an unforgettable year and a year to forget and the decision was made at an early stage to not only postpone the event but delay its rescheduling to December 2022 to allow for what we hope by then will be a full recovery to normality, even if many aspects of the world may well have changed irreversibly, not least across the tourism sector.

In order to keep the valuable, and valued, relationships between members of the ATRA community alive, and to forge and cement relationships with academics, and practitioners, new to the adventure tourism realm, we are pleased to announce that ATRA will be hosting four online events, across consecutive weeks, in November 2021.

Under the strapline *A Month of Adventures*, these concise, two-hour sessions will showcase exciting new research and allow us to debate and discuss emergent contemporary adventure tourism themes. Each week we will be exploring a different concept, as detailed below. We will conclude the series with a webinar to provide a platform and support for PhD students and early career researchers (ECRs) to develop their research ideas.

We are now seeking abstracts for succinct ten-minute presentations that will contribute to scholarly understanding and facilitate lively debate.

There will be NO CHARGE for participation.

The members of the ATRA steering group hope that you will be able to join us in November. It will be great to see new faces and old friends alike, and keep the flame alive until we are hopefully able to meet again in person next year.

Webinar Themes

- *Unequal Adventures*

Whilst there are many benefits to be had from adventurous activity for humankind, this track asks the critical questions in two sub-themes. First, questions about mobility, privilege, class and exploitation which often inhere in situations where those with free time and significant economic advantage encounter those who are less fortunate, poor, vulnerable, and/or less mobile. Second, studies focusing on levelling access to outdoor adventure via enabling technology, interventions amongst urban poor populations and interventions helping to balance access opportunities for those with mental or physical challenges to their access to and enjoyment of nature.

- *Micro-adventures: Exploring Your Own Backyard*

In times when travel has been restricted to fewer destinations and closer to home, Alastair Humphrey's concept of 'micro-adventures' has been celebrated by the adventure tourism scholarship (Mackenzie & Goodnow, 2020). Such localised explorations may contain crucial elements of 'grand adventures' however, they are much cheaper, far more simplified, shorter, and are claimed to have multiple positive health and wellbeing effects. Furthermore, they allow us to learn more about what is in our backyard, discover secret corners of our neighbourhood or nearby forests. This session explores how these 'micro-spaces' in the vicinity of our homes can be utilised, consumed and interacted with in more mindful and considerate ways.

- *Staying with the Trouble: Adventure in the Anthropocene, Capitalocene & Chthulucene*

Inspired by the work of Donna Haraway and others, this track encourages serious philosophical debate on the marginal place of human beings in the world, with particular focus upon how different ways of seeing and thinking about being, ontology and the more-than-human-world might inform our actions as agents in that world.

Staying with the Trouble is a critique of or response to the Anthropocene, in which human beings have a substantial and deleterious effect upon our planet. Haraway encourages us to think of a thickened now - one with a past and a responsible future, and its attendant implications. So for adventure participants that is beyond the 'self-in-adventure', where adventure is an identity ingredient, a social media project.

- *New Horizons: Postgraduate research in Adventure Tourism*

This final session provides PhD students and ECRs researching any topic related to adventure tourism an opportunity to share their research in either a ten-minute presentation or a shorter three-minute 'pitch'. This session will also give insights from a supervisor perspective on the journey of a doctoral project, including preparing for a viva. How research contributes to knowledge will also be covered, and we will explore some strategies you might use when explaining your academic contribution.

Submission of Abstracts and Posters

Abstracts of up to 600 words are invited for peer review (250 words for PhD "pitches"). They should therefore clearly state the objective of the presentation, the findings and their significance to one of the three themes, and how they help advance our knowledge of outdoor adventure. Please use this template (also available at <https://atra.global/webinar/>) and include: *title, keywords, introduction, method, findings/discussion and conclusion.*



Please note: all abstracts should be submitted to j.farkic@gre.ac.uk.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 15th September 2021.

Note: All accepted abstracts will be published in a book of abstracts, and will be available on the ATRA web site.

The Adventure Tourism Research Association

ATRA is a membership organisation which is assembling a worldwide academic community, and helping to facilitate knowledge exchange and the creation of new relationships in the field of outdoor leisure and adventure tourism. The organisation has worked with local partners to host the annual international adventure conference, and, circumstances permitting, will be working with the University of Otago and other local partners to host the next event in Queenstown, New Zealand in December 2022. The association's website, www.atra.global, is a shared portal for ATRA members' news.

Further Information

If you would like to learn more, please contact Jelena Farkic (ATRA) at j.farkic@gre.ac.uk.