



Tourism in the Muslim World

Bridging Tourism Theory and Practice, Volume 2

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Synopsis

Muslims make up around 25 per cent of the world's population with significant numbers in practically all countries of the world. From a tourism perspective, there are many significant reasons to study tourism and the Muslim world. The annual religious pilgrimage, the Hajj, performed in Saudi Arabia, is obligatory at some point in the life of every Muslim of sufficient means. In many nations, Islam is the foundation of society and order of law and its principles underpin considerations of tourism. This industry has been increasingly embraced by developing countries as a means of economic diversification and Islamic countries seek the same end. This leads to the interaction of religious beliefs and choices about the types of tourism that may be desirable, resulting in its development potentially becoming a political issue. Many countries, including Muslim, use tourism to become a more visible member of the global village. Moreover, the

economic development of Muslim countries has created a new market for out-bound tourism. Here professionals and researchers worldwide are engaging with Muslim visitors whose religion proscribes activities that may be actively sought by other tourists. Ensuring that both groups experience satisfactory levels of hospitality is an important concern for those engaged in tourism. Further flows of Muslim visitors are affected by global issues such as the New York September 11 event and consequent changes to travel security arrangements.



Research you can use

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