



Curtin University

School of Marketing
Visiting Professor

Is all tourism dark? A personal perspective

A Presentation By Adjunct Professor John Tunbridge Hosted by the Tourism Research Cluster

*John Tunbridge is Adjunct Professor at Curtin and Emeritus Professor of Geography at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. He came to Carleton in 1969, by way of Cambridge, Bristol and Sheffield Universities in the UK, and has made visiting contributions at UNE (Armidale, NSW), Portsmouth (UK) and Kwazulu-Natal/Pietermaritzburg (South Africa). He has written on heritage and related tourism issues for 40 years, notably co-authoring *The Tourist-Historic City* (1990, 2000), *Dissonant Heritage* (1996), *Geography of Heritage* (2000) and *Pluralising Pasts* (2007), variously with Gregory Ashworth and Brian Graham.*

Date: Wednesday, 25 March
Time: 12.30 - 1.30pm
Location: School of Marketing Boardroom
Room 2024, Level 2, Building 408

ABSTRACT:

'Dark tourism' and kindred concepts originated in the 1990's, their timing significantly related to the end of the Cold War. The original association with very sombre and macabre sites has since been both diluted and widened, as more marginal cases have been argued and darkness potential has been recognised on the tourism consumption/demand side, i.e. 'in the eye of the beholder'. The seminar outlines these developments, discusses three cases which variously illustrate the close proximity of 'darkness' to 'normal' tourism, and proposes further conceptual extensions that argue the potential ubiquity of darkness in tourism. In conclusion, the applicability of the arguments to TRC's Australian concerns is queried.

Please RSVP to the Tourism Research Cluster
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