

Universitat Rovira i Virgili  
Department of Geography / University School of Tourism and Leisure (EUTO)  
Research Group on Socio-Spatial Analysis and Tourism Studies (GRATET)

### *International Seminar:*

## European Regional Perspectives on Tourism Geographies – Contrasting Research Approaches and Linguistic Traditions

**Date:** Thursday 14th October 2010

**Venue:** Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia (room tbc).

**Organisers:** Dr Julie Wilson, Professor Salvador Anton Clavé, Dr Antonio Paolo Russo

### **In conjunction with:**

- Association of Tourism and Leisure Education ATLAS Tourism Geographies Special Interest Group

### **And the collaboration of:**

- Association of Spanish Geographers (AGE) (Working Group in Geography of Tourism Leisure and Recreation – Grupo 10)
- International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change.

Calling all geographers (and sociologists, anthropologists, urban studies scholars, architects and anyone else) interested in tourism spaces!

In this seminar, hosted in the Costa Daurada region of Catalonia's Mediterranean coast, we aim to examine and contrast origins, different perspectives on and approaches to the geography of tourism from across European regions and language traditions. Authors such as Coles (2004), Gibson (2008) and Page and Hall (2009) have noted the general dominance of Anglo-Saxon voices in research on tourism geographies – not just in linguistic terms – but also in relation to the framing and theorizing of space, place and tourism appearing largely based on Anglo-Saxon research contexts, not least due to the dominance and accessibility of English language literature. This is a tendency also observed across the whole spectrum of research in human geography (see for example Gutiérrez and López-Nieva, 2001).

In an attempt to redress this imbalance, twelve internationally renowned speakers from across Europe have been invited to share their knowledge and experiences of research and scholarship in their respective regional contexts, plus an overview keynote presentation which will be provided by C. Michael Hall, editor of the journal *Tourism Geographies*. We hope to map out the past and present of the tourism geographies sub-discipline within and beyond the English language contributions and learn from the historical trajectories as well as experiences of tourism geographers working in different cultural and linguistic contexts. We hope this will allow us to look to a future with increased complementarity between research in different language and more dialogue between researchers across different cultural spheres.

We invite participation from across and beyond Europe to come and debate different regional perspectives as well as to discuss future research trajectories and potential for transcending linguistic barriers in the study of tourism geographies.

### **Pre-registration:**

To pre-reserve your place for this seminar or for further information, please send an email to [Julie.Wilson@urv.cat](mailto:Julie.Wilson@urv.cat)

**Programme:**

- 09.30 Opening session  
Julie Wilson, Department of Geography, Rovira i Virgili University  
  
Yolanda Pérez, Department of Geography, Rovira i Virgili University  
Diego López Olivares, Association of Spanish Geographers – Working Group in Geography of Tourism Leisure and Recreation
- 09.40 Keynote: C. Michael Hall (University of Canterbury, NZ)
- 10.30 Scandinavian: Jarkko Saarinen (University of Oulu, Finland)  
Francophone: Remy Knafou and Carine Fournier Remy Knafou and Carine Fournier (Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne i Université de Brest, France)  
Italian: Alessia Mariotti and Fiorella Dallari (Università de Bologna, Italy)
- 12.00 Coffee
- 12.30 Anglo-Saxon: Tim Coles (University of Exeter, England)  
Greek: Harry Coccossis (University of the Aegean, Greece)  
Dutch/Flemish: Myriam Jansen Verbeke (Catholic University Leuven, Belgium)
- 14.00 Lunch
- 16.00 Hispanic: Salvador Anton Clavé (Rovira i Virgili University)  
Eastern Europe: Nicolae Cianga (University of Cluj, Romania)  
Germanic: Nicolai Scherle (Catholic University of Eichstätt, Germany)
- 17.30 Concluding remarks
- 18.00 Meeting of the ATLAS Tourism Geographies Special Interest Group (SIG)
- 20.00 Dinner

**Registration**

Registration options	ATLAS members / IGU members /Socios AGE	All other participants
Early bird registration (before 1st August 2010 inclusive) <i>Includes seminar documentation, two coffee breaks and lunch</i>	75€	85€
Normal registration (after 2nd August 2010) <i>Includes seminar documentation, two coffee breaks and lunch</i>	90€	100€
Seminar dinner	€35	

## Accommodation

Guests may wish to take advantage of our special 4\* hotel rates for the seminar. **More information to follow soon.**

## How to get there

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.

<http://www.euto.urv.cat/centre/com-arribar/index.html>

Trains to Vila-seca, Tarragona or Reus from Barcelona [www.renfe.es](http://www.renfe.es)

Reus Airport

<http://www.aena.es/csee/Satellite?MO=0&SMO=-1&SiteName=REU&c=Page&cid=1048858949294&pagename=Estandar%2FPage%2FAeropuerto>

## About the hosts

### **GRATET**

The research group on socio-spatial analysis and tourism studies (Grup de Recerca d'Anàlisi Territorial i Estudis Turístics – GRATET) of the Department of Geography at the Rovira i Virgili University Tarragona is a consolidated research group supported by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Catalan Government), contract number 2009 SGR 744. The group's research activities are centred on the spatial analysis of social and economic development processes and the socio-spatial impacts of tourism. Group members carry out research under the following headings:

Tourism studies:

Coastal tourism planning

Tourism, local development and sustainability

Tourism, culture, creativity and urban development

GIS applications and environmental / spatial analysis of tourism activity.

Spatial analysis of development:

Spatial planning and strategy

Regional development

Geodemographic studies

History of geographical analysis and territorial governance systems

Cartography and GIS

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

### **EUTO, Rovira i Virgili University**

The University School of Tourism and Leisure (EUTO) is situated in the Universitat Rovira i Virgili Tarragona's campus in Vila-Seca, at the centre of one of the most important tourism areas on the Mediterranean – Catalonia's Costa Daurada. Based on a strong core of tourism and leisure-focused academics from different departments of the University, EUTO offers undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses in tourism, as well as opportunities for postgraduate research.

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

### ***ATLAS Tourism Geographies Special Interest Group***

Established in 2008, the special interest research group is open to members of ATLAS with a focus on the socio-spatial aspects of tourism studies. Following an inaugural seminar in March 2008, the Tarragona symposium will be the second event for the group, which currently has around 25 members. For further information about the ATLAS Tourism Geographies SIG or to join the group please visit the website below. We would be delighted to hear from any ATLAS members with an interest in the geographical / spatial / mobilities aspects of tourism or indeed from those who would like to be involved in this new SIG in some way.

[http://www.atlas-euro.org/SIG/GeoResearch/georesearch\\_introduction.htm](http://www.atlas-euro.org/SIG/GeoResearch/georesearch_introduction.htm)

### **Other links of interest**

International Geographical Union

Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change

<http://temp.tourismgeography.com.officelive.com/default.aspx>

Association of Spanish Geographers - Working Group on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Recreation (Grupo de Trabajo de Geografía del Turismo, Ocio y Recreación)

<http://age.ieg.csic.es/turismo/>

Tourism Catalonia

[www.catalunyatourisme.com](http://www.catalunyatourisme.com)

Costa Daurada

[www.costadaurada.info](http://www.costadaurada.info)