



The Dark Tourism Symposium 2012



The world's first academic centre for dark tourism research will soon open at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan, Preston, England). The **Institute for Dark Tourism Research (iDTR)** aims to become the global hub for dark tourism scholarship.

The iDTR aims to advance knowledge about the contemporary nature and consequences of visitation to tourist sites of death, disaster or the seemingly macabre. It will bring together scholars who seek to deliver internationally recognised research that contributes to the ethical and social scientific understanding of dark tourism and heritage, as well as to the appropriate development, management, interpretation and promotion of dark tourism sites, attractions and exhibitions.

The iDTR will be launched at a special one-day symposium at UCLan's Westleigh conference centre (Preston, England) on **24 April 2012**. The event will comprise of seven internationally renowned keynote speakers on dark tourism:

Dr Philip Stone (University of Central Lancashire, UK)

"Mediating Mortality: Dark Tourism and the Significant Other Dead at Ground Zero"

Dr Gilly Carr (The University of Cambridge, UK)

"Self and Other: neglected dark legacies and accepted dark heritage in the Channel Islands"

Dr Tony Johnston (Kings College, London)

"The Dominion of the Dead: Thanatourism and (Other) Worldly Encounters"

Emeritus Prof. Tony Seaton (University of Limerick, Ireland / University of Bedfordshire, UK)

"Flags of Convenience, Rocks of Reification, and Quicksands of Theory: Charting Thanatourism in 2012"

Prof. Richard Sharpley (University of Central Lancashire, UK)

"Shining Light on Dark Tourism: an introduction to themes, issues and consequences" (title TBC)

Major Holt (Major and Mrs Holt's Battlefield Guides and Tours)

"Pioneering the Modern Battlefield Tour"

Tony Openshaw (Director of Marketing - Lancashire & Blackpool Tourist Board, UK)

"Dark Tourism: a public sector perspective" (title TBC)

Tickets cost **£89 (delegate rate)** and **£59 (student delegate rate)** and includes:

- Full access to the symposium event and speakers, including a copy of presentation slides
- Symposium pack (including a collection of articles, working papers, & electronic resources for teaching and learning)
- Morning coffee
- Hot buffet lunch
- Afternoon tea
- Conference table refreshments
- Plenary session and exhibition space for networking

For further details and booking information, please visit:

www.dark-tourism.org.uk / www.facebook.com/darktourism / www.twitter.com/dark_tourism

For general enquiries, please contact Dr Philip Stone at pstone@uclan.ac.uk